

Highly Recommended

For 2024 Exam

 **OSWAAL BOOKS®**
LEARNING MADE SIMPLE

UPSC CSE PRELIM

15

MOCK TEST PAPERS

GENERAL STUDIES PAPER - I

ENGLISH MEDIUM

Get the Oswaal Edge!

1

**100%
Updated**

with Latest Pattern
of UPSC CSE

2

**Extensive
Practice**

with 2 Previous Years'
CSE Papers (2022-23)

3

**Expert
Guidance**

with Expert Tips to
solve Mock Papers

4

**Valuable
Exam Insights**

with Authentic & Detailed
Explanations with
OMR Sheets

5

**Concept
Clarity**

with UPSC CSE (Pre)
2014-23 Subject-wise
Trend Analysis

Highly Recommended

For 2024 Exam

 **OSWAAL BOOKS®**
LEARNING MADE SIMPLE

UPSC CSE PRELIM

15

MOCK TEST PAPERS

GENERAL STUDIES PAPER - I

ENGLISH MEDIUM

Get the Oswaal Edge!

1

**100%
Updated**

with Latest Pattern
of UPSC CSE

2

**Extensive
Practice**

with 2 Previous Years'
CSE Papers (2022-23)

3

**Expert
Guidance**

with Expert Tips to
solve Mock Papers

4

**Valuable
Exam Insights**

with Authentic & Detailed
Explanations with
OMR Sheets

5

**Concept
Clarity**

with UPSC CSE (Pre)
2014-23 Subject-wise
Trend Analysis



3rd EDITION

YEAR 2024



ISBN

"9789357286688"



**SYLLABUS
COVERED**

UPSC

(UNION PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION)



**COPYRIGHT
RESERVED
BY THE PUBLISHERS**

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without written permission from the publishers. The author and publisher will gladly receive information enabling them to rectify any error or omission in subsequent editions.



PUBLISHED BY



**OSWAAL BOOKS &
LEARNING PVT. LTD.**



1/11, Sahitya Kunj, M.G. Road,
Agra - 282002, (UP) India



1010, Cambourne Business Centre
Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
CB 236DP, United kingdom



0562-2857671



contact@oswaalbooks.com



www.OswaalBooks.com

DISCLAIMER

This book is published by Oswaal Books and Learning Pvt Ltd ("Publisher") and is intended solely for educational use, to enable students to practice for examinations/tests and reference. The contents of this book primarily comprise a collection of questions that have been sourced from previous examination papers. Any practice questions and/or notes included by the Publisher are formulated by placing reliance on previous question papers and are in keeping with the format/pattern/guidelines applicable to such papers.

The Publisher expressly disclaims any liability for the use of, or references to, any terms or terminology in the book, which may not be considered appropriate or may be considered offensive, in light of societal changes. Further, the contents of this book, including references to any persons, corporations, brands, political parties, incidents, historical events and/or terminology within the book, if any, are not intended to be offensive, and/or to hurt, insult or defame any person (whether living or dead), entity, gender, caste, religion, race, etc. and any interpretation to this effect is unintended and purely incidental. While we try to keep our publications as updated and accurate as possible, human error may creep in. We expressly disclaim liability for errors and/or omissions in the content, if any, and further disclaim any liability for any loss or "damages in connection with the use of the book and reference to its contents

Kindle Edition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

● Latest Syllabus	4 - 8
● Oswaal Expert Tips to solve mock papers	9 - 9
● Trend Analysis	10 - 10
● General Studies Paper-I : 2023	13 - 35
● General Studies Paper-I : 2022	36 - 56
<hr/>	
● Mock Test Paper - 01 (with Solutions)	1 - 21
● Mock Test Paper - 02 (with Solutions)	22 - 39
● Mock Test Paper - 03 (with Solutions)	40 - 57
● Mock Test Paper - 04 (with Solutions)	58 - 76
● Mock Test Paper - 05 (with Solutions)	77 - 96
● Mock Test Paper - 06 (with Solutions)	97 - 116
● Mock Test Paper - 07 (with Solutions)	117 - 136
● Mock Test Paper - 08 (with Solutions)	137 - 155
● Mock Test Paper - 09 (with Solutions)	156 - 175
● Mock Test Paper - 10 (with Solutions)	176 - 195
● Mock Test Paper - 11 (Online Solutions)	196 - 202
● Mock Test Paper - 12 (Online Solutions)	203 - 209
● Mock Test Paper - 13 (Online Solutions)	210 - 216
● Mock Test Paper - 14 (Online Solutions)	217 - 223
● Mock Test Paper - 15 (Online Solutions)	224 - 230
● Answer Key (Mock Test Paper 11-15)	231 - 232

□□



LATEST SYLLABUS

Scheme And Subjects For The Preliminary And Main Examination

A. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION:

The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Note:

- (i) Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions) and each will be of two hours duration.
- (ii) The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.
- (iii) The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English.
- (iv) Details of the syllabi are indicated in Part A.

B. MAIN EXAMINATION:

The Written Examination will consist of the following papers:—

Qualifying Papers:

Paper-A

(One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution). **300 Marks**

Paper-B

English **300 Marks**

Papers to be counted for merit :

Paper-I

Essay **250 Marks**

Paper-II

General Studies - I **250 Marks**

(Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)

Paper-III

General Studies - II **250 Marks**

(Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations)

Paper-IV

General Studies - III **250 Marks**

(Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)

Paper-V

General Studies - IV **250 Marks**

(Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)

Paper-VI

Optional Subject -Paper 1 **250 Marks**

Paper-VII

Optional Subject -Paper 2 **250 Marks**

Sub Total (Written test) 1750 Marks

Personality Test 275 Marks

Grand Total 2025 Marks

General knowledge of the candidates has been already tested through their written papers. Candidates are expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in their special subjects of academic study but also in the events which are happening around them both within and outside their own State or Country as well as in modern currents of thought and in new discoveries which should rouse the curiosity of well-educated youth.

SYLLABUS

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I –(200 marks)

Duration: Two hours

- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.
- Indian and World Geography-Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

Paper II –(200 marks)

Duration: Two hours

- Comprehension;
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability;
- Decision making and problem solving;
- General mental ability;
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level), Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. – Class X level).

Note 1: Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

Note 2: The questions will be of multiple choice, objective type.

Note 3: It is mandatory for the candidate to appear in both the Papers of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination for the purpose of evaluation. Therefore a candidate will be disqualified in case he/she does not appear in both the papers of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination.

Part B—Main Examination

The main Examination is intended to assess the overall intellectual traits and depth of understanding of candidates rather than merely the range of their information and memory.

The nature and standard of questions in the General Studies papers (Paper II to Paper V) will be such that a well-educated person will be able to answer them without any specialized study. The questions will be such as to test a candidate's general awareness of a variety of subjects, which will have relevance for a career in Civil Services. The questions are likely to test the candidate's basic understanding of all relevant issues, and ability to analyze, and take a view on conflicting socio-economic goals, objectives and demands. The candidates must give relevant, meaningful and succinct answers.

The scope of the syllabus for optional subject papers (Paper VI and Paper VII) for the examination is broadly of the honours degree level i.e. a level higher than the bachelors' degree and lower than the masters' degree. In the case of Engineering, Medical Science and law, the level corresponds to the bachelors' degree.

Syllabi of the papers included in the scheme of Civil Services (Main) Examination are given as follows :—

QUALIFYING PAPERS ON INDIAN LANGUAGES AND ENGLISH

The aim of the paper is to test the candidates' ability to read and understand serious discursive prose, and to express ideas clearly and correctly, in English and Indian language concerned.

The pattern of questions would be broadly as follows :

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Comprehension of given passages | (ii) Precis Writing |
| (iii) Usage and Vocabulary | (iv) Short Essays |

Indian Languages :—

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| (i) Comprehension of given passages | (ii) Precis Writing |
| (iii) Usage and Vocabulary | (iv) Short Essays |
| (v) Translation from English to the Indian Language and vice-versa | |

Note 1 : *The papers on Indian Languages and English will be of Matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature only. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.*

Note 2 : *The candidates will have to answer the English and Indian Languages papers in English and the respective Indian language (except where translation is involved).*

PAPER-I

Essay: Candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion, and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues.
- The Freedom Struggle – its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.— their forms and effect on the society.
- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
- Effects of globalization on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
- Salient features of world's physical geography.
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

-
- Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.
 - Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
 - Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.
 - Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary—Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity.
 - Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.
 - Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.
 - Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
 - Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
 - Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
 - Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
 - Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
 - Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
 - Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
 - Role of civil services in a democracy.
 - India and its neighborhood- relations.
 - Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
 - Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.
 - Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.

PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- Government Budgeting.
- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, - different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
- Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System-objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing.
- Food processing and related industries in India-scope' and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.

-
- Land reforms in India.
 - Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
 - Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
 - Investment models.
 - Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
 - Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
 - Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, biotechnology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
 - Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
 - Disaster and disaster management.
 - Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
 - Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
 - Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; moneylaundering and its prevention.
 - Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
 - Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

PAPER-V

General Studies-IV: Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude

- This paper will include questions to test the candidates' attitude and approach to issues relating to integrity, probity in public life and his problem solving approach to various issues and conflicts faced by him in dealing with society. Questions may utilise the case study approach to determine these aspects. The following broad areas will be covered :
- Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics - in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
- Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.
- Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and nonpartisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker-sections.
- Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
- Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
- Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.
- Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- Case Studies on above issues.



OSWAAL EXPERT TIPS TO SOLVE MOCK PAPERS

Introduction

Exam preparation involves meticulous planning, time management, and rigorous practice. Especially for high-stakes examinations like UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE), no amount of preparation is enough. It is here that the role of mock papers becomes extremely important. Not only do they apprise candidates of the question structure, but also the type of questions and marking scheme. It also informs candidates about their level of preparation, giving them ample scope for revisiting topics that are not their strength areas, while continuing to advance their skills in topics that they are confident about.

Here are some tips to solve mock papers

1. Examination conditions

Ensure that you attempt mock papers in an environment that resembles the test environment as closely as possible. Be mindful of the time and the potential challenges that you might face during the examination.

2. Scoring strategy

You need to prepare for the mock examination with the same zeal and fervor as you would for the main examination. Taking mock tests seriously enables you to optimize your exam strategy, helps you refine your scoring strategy, and gives you a perspective of where you stand concerning your preparation.

3. Examination strategy

You may want to explore the below framework for maximizing your score:

Step 1: Always read the question paper fully and begin with the easiest questions. Not only will this increase your confidence but also reduce the pressure of attempting more questions in time.

Step 2: Next, you may want to attempt those questions in which you can eliminate the options to reach the correct options.

Step 3: In the last attempt, you may want to approach the toughest questions. As these questions will demand the most use of logic, elimination, and guesswork, you should approach them after you have worked your way through the other questions.

4. Performance analysis

Mocks help you analyse your performance and point you towards topics that you need to prepare better. Try to make a chart of your scores of mock papers so that you can track your progress. Identify the topics where you are repeatedly getting stuck and try to devote more time to those topics.

5. Be balanced

Don't get disheartened by your mock scores. Mock tests exist for a reason – to help you identify your strengths and weaknesses. Don't be overconfident about your strengths and don't get demotivated by your weakness. Success comes as a result of what we repeatedly do. Hence practice often and always conduct post-test analysis.

Conclusion

Mock test papers help students understand the depth of their preparation and become aware of their weaknesses. It helps students improve time management, perfect their examination strategies, helps them understand the exam pattern and marking scheme. These are an invaluable source of insights for every student preparing for competitive examinations and students should take them with utmost seriousness.

Aashirvad Kumar
UPSC Consultant – **Oswaal Books**
7+ years of experience
3 UPSC interviews

TREND ANALYSIS 2023-2014

Trend Analysis of 10 years of UPSC CSE GS Papers										
Subject	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Ancient History	6	1	4	7	3	-	2	2	-	1
Medieval History	1	4	3	1	5	1	1	4	4	2
Modern History	2	4	9	8	6	12	6	5	6	5
Art and Culture	3	7	4	2	3	5	5	3	5	14
Science and Tech	7	14	17	10	7	7	4	8	7	11
Geography	15	12	15	10	14	8	7	7	14	8
Ecology & Environment	19	17	12	10	11	13	11	18	10	21
Polity	17	13	18	17	15	13	22	7	13	11
Economy	21	17	14	15	14	16	8	18	13	10
Current Affairs	9	11	4	20	22	25	34	28	28	17
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Exclusive School Books Suppliers

VIJAYAWADA	ANDHRA PRADESH Sri Vikas Book Centre, 9848571114, 9440715700,	PUNE	MAHARASHTRA Madhusheela Books & Stationery, 787589892
WEST KAMENG	ASSAM Dutta Book Stall, 8729948473	JALNA	Anil Paper Mart, 9422722522, (02482) 230733
BANGLORE	KARNATAKA Satish Agencies, 8861630123	CHENNAI	TAMIL NADU Bookmark-IT, 7305151653
RAJKOT	GUJRAT Royal Stationers, 9824207514	HYDERABAD	TELANGANA Sri Balaji Book Depot , 9676996199, (040) 27613300
		KOLKATA	WEST BENGAL United Book House, 9831344622
Our Distributors			
VISAKHAPATHAM	ANDHRA PRADESH JBD Educational, 9246632691, 9246633693, Sri Rajeshwari Book Link, 9848036014	INDORE	Bhaiya Industries, 9893326853, Sushil Prakashan,(0731) 2503333, 2535892, 9425322330, Bhaiya Store, 9425318103, Arun Prakashan, 9424890785,
VIJAYAWADA	Akshaya Books Corner, 9666155555		Bhaiya Book Centre, 9424081874, Seva Suppliers, 9826451052
PORTBLAIR	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLAND Krishna Book Centre, 9474205570, Kumar Book Depot, 9932082455, Kumar Book Depot, 9932082455, Sree aditya Book Centre, 8332972720, 7013300914	JABALPUR	Vinay Pustak Sadan, 8962362667, Anand Books and Stationers, 9425323508
GUWAHATI	ASSAM Book Emporium, 9675972993, 6000763186, Ashok Publication, 7896141127, Kayaan Enterprises, (0361) 2630443, Orchid Book house, 9864624209, Newco, 9864178188	SAGAR	Princi Book Depot, Sagar, 9977277011
PATNA	BIHAR Nova Publisher & Distributors, (0612) 2666404, Shri Durga Pustak Mandir, 9334477386, Sharda Pustak Bhandar, 9334259293, Vikas Book Depot, 9504780402, Alka Book Agency, 9835655005, Metro Book(E&C), Ishu Pustak Bhandar, 8294576789, Gyan Ganga Limited, 6203900312, Ishu Pustak Bhandar, (E & C), 9334186300/8294576789	KATNI	Shri Mahavir Agency, 9425363412
MUZAFFARPUR	Pustak Bhandar, 7870834225	UJJAIN	Shreenath Book Depot, 9827544045
AMBIKAPUR	CHATTISGARH Saini Brothers, 9425582561, M.P Department Stores, 9425254264	BHOPAL	Gupta Brother, 9644482444
BOKARO	Bokaro Student Friends Pvt. Ltd, Bokaro, 7277931285		MAHARASHTRA Natraj Book Depot, (020) 24485054, 9890054092, Vikas Book House, 9921331187, Pravin Sales, 9890663475, New Saraswati Granth Bhandar, 9422323859, Akshar Books & Stationary, 7385089789, Vardhaman Educational, 9860574354, Yash Book Centre, 9890156763, Pragati Book Centre, (ISC), 9850039311, Praveen Sales, Pragati Book Centre, Pune (E & C), 9850039311
BHILAI	Anil Book Depot, 9425234260	AURANGABAD	Shree Sainath Agencies, 7350294089, Maya Book Centre, (ISC), 9372360150
DURG	Bhagwati Bhawani Book Depot, 0788-2327620, 9827473100	MUMBAI	Vidyarthi Sales Agencies, 9819776110, New Student Agencies, 7045065799, Shivam Books & Stationery, 8619805332
KORBA	Kitab Ghar, Korba (E & C), 9425226528	JALGAON	Sharma Book Depot & Stat. (ISC), 9421393040
RAIPUR	Shri Ramdev Traders, 9981761797, Gupta Pustak Mandir, 7974220323, Anil Publication, 9691618258/7999078802	LATUR	Yash Book House, 9637936999, Shri Ganesh Pustakalay, 9730172188
RAIGARH	Sindhu Book Deopt, 9981935763	KOLHAPUR	Granth the Book World, 9922295522
DELHI	DELHI Mittal Books, (011) 23288887, 9899037390, Singhania Book & Stationer, 9212028238, AoneBooks, New Delhi, 8800497047, Radhey Book Depot, 9818314141, Batheja Super Store, 9871833924, Lov Dev & Sons, Delhi (E & C), 9811182352, Zombozone, 9871274082, LDS Marketing, 9811182352/9999353491	NAGPUR	Laxmi Pustakalay and Stationers, (0712) 2727354, Vijay Book Depot, 9860122094
	GUJARAT Patel Book, 9898184248, 9824386112, 9825900335, Zaveri Agency, 9979897312, 9979890330, Hardik Book Agency, (ISC) 079-24110043, 9904659821	NANDED	Renuka Book distributor, 9765406133, Novelty Book Depot, 9657690220, Karamveer Book Depot, 9923966466, Arun Book & Stationers, 9423110953
AHMEDABAD	Samir Book Stall, Bhavnagar (ISC) 9586305305	NASHIK	Abhang Pustakalaya, 9823470756/9175940756
BHAVNAGAR	Collegian Book Corner, 9925501981	DHULE	Rahul Book Centre, 9970849681, New India Book House, 9623123458
DAHOD	Goutam Book Sellers, 9081790813	YAVATMAL	Navjeevan Book Stall, 7020525561
VALSAD	Mahavir Stationers, 9429474177	VASAI	Shri Ganesh Pustkalaya, 9423131275
NAVSARI	College Store, (ISC) NO CALL 02637-258642, 9825099121		Prime Book Centre, Vasai, 9890293662
SURAT	Shopping Point, 9824108663	ODISHA	
VADODARA	Umakant Book Sellers & Stationer, 9624920709	CUTTACK	A. K. Mishra Agencies, 9437025991, 9437081319
ROHTAK	HARYANA Manish Traders, 9812556687, Swami Kitab Ghar, 9355611088, Babu Ram Pradeep Kumar, 9813214692	BHUBANESHWAR	M/s Pragnya, 8847888616, 9437943777, Padmalaya, 9437026922, Bidyashree, 9937017070, Books Godown, 7894281110
REWARI	Sanjay book depot, 9255447231	BARIPADA	Trimurti Book World, 9437034735
BALLABGARH	Kashi Ram Kishan Lal, 9289504004, 8920567245	KEONJHAR	Students corner, 7008435418
HISAR	Natraj Book Distributors, 7988917452		PUNJAB
BHUNA	Khurana Book Store, 9896572520	AMBALA	Bharat Book Depot, 7988455354
	JAMMU Sahitya Sangam, 9419190177	PATIALA	Goel Sons, 9463619978, Adarsh Enterprises, 9814347613
BOKARO	JHARKHAND Bokaro Student Friends, (0654) 2233094, 7360021503, Bharati Bhawan Agencies, 9431740797	JALANDHAR	Cheap Book Store, 9872223458, 9878258592, City Book Shop, 9417440753, Subhash Book Depot, 9876453625, Paramvir Enterprises, 9878626248
RANCHI	Crown Book Distributor & Publishers, (0651) 2213735, 9431173904, Pustak Mandir, 9431115138, Vidyarthi Pustak Bhandar, 9431310228	FEROZPUR	Sita Ram book Depot, 9463039199, 7696141911
DUMKA		LUDHIANA	Amit Book, 9815807871, Gupta Brothers, 9888200206, Bhatia Book Centre, 9815277131
	KARNATAKA Renuka Book Distributor, (0836) 2244124, Vidyamandir Book Distributors, 9980773976	CHANDIGARH	Mohindra Book Depot, 9814920226
HUBLI	Krishna book house, 9739847334, Hema Book Stores, 9986767000,		RAJASTHAN
BANGLORE	Sapna Book House Pvt. Ltd., 9980513242, Hema Book World, (Chamrajpet) (ISC) 080-40905110, 9945731121	AJMER	Laxmi General Store, Ajmer, 0145- 2428942 9460652197
BELLERI	Chatinya book centre, 9886064731	KOTA	Vardhman Book Depot, 9571365020, 8003221190 Raj Traders, 9309232829
ERNAKULAM	KERALA Academic Book House, (0484) 2376613, H & C Store, 9864196344, Surya Book House, 9847124217, 9847238314	BHILWARA	Nakoda Book Depot, (01482) 243653, 9214983594, Alankar Book Depot, 9414707462
KOTTAYAM	Book Centre, (0481) 2566992	JAIPUR	Ravi Enterprises, 9829060694, Saraswati Book House, (0141) 2610823, 9829811155, Goyal Book Distt., 9460983939, 9414782130
TRIVANDRUM	Academic Book House, (0471) 2333349, 9447063349, Ponni Book Stall, 9037591721	UDAIPUR	Sunil Book Store, 9828682260
CALICUT	Aman Book Stall, (0495) 2721282,	JODHPUR	Second Hand Book Stall, 9460004745
	MADHYA PRADESH Pustak Bhawan, (E & C), 8982150100		TRIPURA
CHHINDWARA	Agarwal Book Depot, 9425116210	AGARTALA	Book Corner, 8794894165, 8984657146, Book Emporium, 9089230412
GWALIOR		COIMBATORE	TAMIL NADU Majestic Book House, (0422) 2384333, CBSC Book Shop, 9585979752
		CHENNAI	Arraba Book Traders, (044) 25387868, 9841459105, M.R. Book Store (044) 25364596, Kalaimagal Store, (044) 5544072, 9940619404, Vijaya Stores, 9381037417, Bookmark It-Books & Stat. Store, 7305151653, M.K. Store, 9840030099, Tiger Books Pvt. Ltd., 9710447000, New Mylai Stationers, 9841313062, Prince Book House, Chennai, 0444-2053926, 9952068491, S K Publishers & Distributors, 9789865544, Dharmma Book Shop, 8667227171
		PUDUCHERRY	Sri Lakshmi Book Seller, 7871555145
		SALEM	Pattu book centre, 9894816280
		TRICHY	P.R.Sons Book Seller, 9443370597, Rasi Publication, 9894816280
		THENI	Maya Book Centre, 9443929274
		MADURAI	Selvi Book Shoppe, 9843057435, Jayam Book Centre, 9894658036
		VELLORE	G.K book centre and collections, 9894517994
			TELANGANA Sri Balaji Book Depot, (040) 27613300, 9866355473, Shah Book House, 9849564564
		HYDERABAD	Vishal Book Distributors, 9246333166, Himalaya Book World, 7032578527

Exclusive School Books Suppliers

	UTTARAKHAND		GORAKHPUR	Central Book House, 9935454590, Friends & Co., 9450277154, Dinesh book depot, 9125818274, Friends & Co., 9450277154
DEHRADUN	Inder Book Agencies, 9634045280, Amar Book Depot , 8130491477, Goyal Book Store, 9897318047, New National Book House, 9897830283/9720590054		JHANSI	Bhanu Book Depot, 9415031340
MUSSORIE	Ram Saran Dass Chanda kiran, 0135-2632785, 9761344588		KANPUR	Radha News Agency, 8957247427, Raj Book Dist., 9235616506, H K Book Dis-tributors, 9935146730, H K Book Distributors, 9506033137/9935146730
	UTTAR PRADESH		LUCKNOW	Vyapar Sadan, 7607102462, Om Book Depot, 7705871398, Azad Book Depot Pvt. Ltd, 7317000250, Book Sadan, 9839487327, Rama Book Depot(Retail), 7355078254, Ashirwad Book Depot, 9235501197, Book.com, 7458922755, Universal Books, 9450302161, Sheetla Book Agency, 9235832418, Vidyarthi Kendra Publisher & Distributor Pvt Ltd, (Gold), 9554967415, Tripathi Book House, 9415425943
AGRA	Spash Book Agency, 9412257817, Om Pustak Mandir, (0562) 2464014, 9319117771, Sanjay Publication, 8126699922 Arti book centre, 8630128856, Panchsheel Books, 9412257962, Bhagwati Book Store, (E & C), 9149081912		MEERUT	Ideal Book Depot, (0121) 4059252, 9837066307
ALLAHABAD	Mehrotra Book Agency, (0532) 2266865, 9415636890		NOIDA	Prozo (Global Edu4 Share Pvt. Ltd), 9318395520, Goyal Books Overseas Pvt.Ltd., 1204655555 9873387003
AZAMGARH	Sasta Sahitya Bhandar, 9450029674		PRAYAGRAJ	Kanhaiya Pustak Bhawan, 9415317109
ALIGARH	K.B.C.L. Agarwal, 9897124960, Shaligram Agencies, 9412317800, New Vimal Books, 9997398868, T.I.C Book centre, 9808039570		MAWANA	Subhash Book Depot, 9760262264
BULANDSHAHR	Rastogi Book Depot, 9837053462/9368978202			WEST BENGAL
BALRAMPUR	Universal Book Center, 8933826726		KOLKATA	Oriental Publishers & Distributor (033) 40628367, Katha 'O' Kahini, (033) 22196313, 22419071, Saha Book House, (033), 22193671, 9333416484, United Book House, 9831344622, Bijay Pustak Bhandar, 8961260603, Shawan Books Distributors, 8336820363, Krishna Book House, 9123083874
BAREILLY	Siksha Prakashan, 9837829284		RENUKOOT	Om Stationers, 7007326732
HARDOI	Mittal Pustak Kendra, 9838201466			COOCH BEHAR
DEORIA	Kanodia Book Depot, 9415277835			S.B. Book Distributor, Cooch behar, 9002670771
VARANASI	Gupta Books, 8707225564, Bookman & Company, 9935194495/7668899901		KHARAGPUR	Subhani Book Store, 9046891334
MATHURA	Sapra Traders, 9410076716, Vijay Book House , 9897254292		SILIGURI	Agarwal Book House, 9832038727, Modern Book Agency, 8145578772
FARRUKHABAD	Anurag Book Agencies, 8844007575		DINAJPUR	Krishna Book House, 7031748945
NAJIBABAD	Gupta News Agency, 8868932500, Gupta News Agency, (E & C), 8868932500		MURSHIDABAD	New Book House, 8944876176
DHAMPUR	Ramkumar Mahaveer Prasad, 9411942550			

Entrance & Competition Distributors

	BIHAR		CUTTAK	A.K.Mishra Agencies, 9437025991
PATNA	Metro Books Corner, 9431647013, Alka Book Agency, 9835655005, Vikas Book Depot, 9504780402		BHUBANESH-WAR	M/s Pragnya, 9437943777
	CHATTISGARH		PUNJAB	
KORBA	Kitab Ghar, 9425226528, Shri Ramdev Traders, 9981761797		JALANDHAR	Cheap Book Store, 9872223458, 9878258592
	DELHI		RAJASTHAN	
DELHI	Singhania Book & Stationer, 9212028238, Radhey Book depot, 9818314141, The Book Shop, 9310262701, Mittal Books, 9899037390, Lov Dev & Sons, 9999353491		KOTA	Vardhman Book Depot, 9571365020, Raj Traders, 9309232829
NEW DELHI	Anupam Sales, 9560504617, A ONE BOOKS, 8800497047		JAIPUR	Goyal Book Distributors, 9414782130
	HARYANA		UTTAR PRADESH	
AMBALA	Bharat Book Depot, 7988455354		AGRA	BHAGWATI BOOK STORE, 9149081912, Spash Book Agency, 9412257817, Sanjay Publication, 8126699922
	JHARKHAND		ALIGARH	New Vimal Books, 9997398868
BOKARO	Bokaro Student Friends Pvt. Ltd, 7360021503		ALLAHABAD	Mehrotra Book Agency, (532) 2266865, 9415636890
	MADHYA PRADESH		GORAKHPUR	Central Book House, 9935454590
INDORE	Bhaiya Industries, 9109120101		KANPUR	Raj Book Dist, 9235616506
CHHINDWARA	Pustak Bhawan, 9827255997		LUCKNOW	Azad Book Depot PVT LTD, 7317000250, Rama Book Depot(Retail), 7355078254 Ashirwad Book Depot , 9235501197, Book Sadan, 8318643277, Book.com , 7458922755, Sheetla Book Agency, 9235832418
	MAHARASHTRA		PRAYAGRAJ	Format Center, 9335115561, Garg Brothers Trading & Services Pvt. Ltd., 7388100499
NAGPUR	Laxmi Pustakalay and Stationers, (0712) 2727354		UTTAR PRADESH	
PUNE	Pragati Book Centre, 9850039311		DEHRADUN	Inder Book Agancies, 9634045280
MUMBAI	New Student Agencies LLP, 7045065799		WEST BENGAL	
	ODISHA		KOLKATA	Bijay Pustak Bhandar Pvt. Ltd., 8961260603, Saha Book House, 9674827254 United Book House, 9831344622, Techno World, 9830168159
BARIPADA	Trimurti Book World, 9437034735			

UPSC Civil Services

(Pre) Examination

General Studies

Paper-I

2023

Time : 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

1. In which one of the following regions was Dhanyakataka, which flourished as prominent Buddhist centre under the Mahasanghikas, located?

(a) Andhra (b) Gandhara (c) Kalinga (d) Magadha

2. With reference to ancient India, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Stupa is Buddhist in origin.
2. Stupa was generally a repository of relics.
3. Stupa was a votive and commemorative structure in Buddhist tradition.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

3. With reference to ancient South India, Korkai, Poompuhar and Muchiri were well known as:

- (a) capital cities
(b) ports
(c) centres of iron-and-steel making
(d) shrines of Jain Tirthankaras

4. Which one of the following explains the practice of Vattakirutal' mentioned in Sangam poems?

- (a) Kings employing women bodyguards.
(b) Learned persons assembling in royal courts to discuss religious and philosophical matters.
(c) Young girls keeping watch over agricultural fields and driving away birds and animals.
(d) A king defeated in a battle committing ritual suicide starving himself to death.

5. Consider the following dynasties:

1. Hoysala
2. Gahadavala
3. Kakatiya
4. Yadava

How many of the above dynasties established their kingdoms in early eighth century AD?

(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) None

6. With reference to ancient Indian History, consider the following pairs:

	Literary work	Author
1.	Devichandragupta	Bilhana
2.	Hammira-Mahakavya	Nayachandra Suri
3.	Milinda-panha	Nagarjuna
4.	Nitivakyamrita	Somadeva Suri

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

7. "Souls are not only the property of animal and plant life, but also of rocks, running water and many other natural objects not looked on as living by other religious sects".

The above statement reflects one of the core beliefs of which one of the following religious sects of ancient India?

- (a) Buddhism (b) Jainism
(c) Shaivism (d) Vaishnavism

8. Who among the following rulers of Vijayanagara Empire constructed a large dam across Tungabhadra River and a canal-cum-aqueduct several kilometres long from the river to the capital city?

- (a) Devaraya I (b) Mallikarjuna
(c) Vira Vijaya (d) Virupaksha

9. Who among the following rulers of medieval Gujarat surrendered Diu to Portuguese?

- (a) Ahmad Shah (b) Mahmud Begarha
(c) Bahadur Shah (d) Muhammad Shah

10. By which one of the following Acts was the Governor General of Bengal designated as the Governor General of India?

- (a) The Regulating Act (b) The Pitt's India Act
(c) The Charter Act of 1793 (d) The Charter Act of 1833

11. In essence, what does, Due Process of Law' mean?

- (a) The principle of natural justice
(b) The procedure established by law
(c) Fair application of law
(d) Equality before law

12. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, prisons are managed by State Governments with their own rules and regulations for the day-to-day administration of prisons.

Statement-II: In India, prisons are governed by the Prisons Act, 1894 which expressly kept the subject of prisons in the control of Provincial Governments.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
- 13. Which one of the following statements best reflects the Chief purpose of the 'Constitution' of a country?**
 (a) It determines the objective for the making of necessary laws.
 (b) It enables the creation of political offices and a government.
 (c) It defines and limits the powers of government.
 (d) It secures social justice, social equality and social security.
- 14. In India, which one of the following Constitutional Amendments was widely believed to be enacted to overcome the judicial interpretations of the Fundamental Rights?**
 (a) 1st Amendment (b) 42nd Amendment
 (c) 44th Amendment (d) 86th Amendment
- 15. Consider the following organizations/ bodies in India:**
 1. The National Commission for Backward Classes
 2. The National Human Rights Commission
 3. The National Law Commission
 4. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission
 How many of the above are constitutional bodies?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
- 16. Consider the following statements:**
 1. If the election of the President of India is declared void by the Supreme Court of India, all acts done by him/her in the performance of duties of his/her office of President before the date of decision become invalid.
 2. Election for the post of the President of India can be postponed on the ground that some Legislative Assemblies have been dissolved and elections are yet to take place.
 3. When a Bill is presented to the President of India, the Constitution prescribes time limits within which he/she has to declare his/her assent.
 How many of the above statements are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
- 17. With reference to Finance Bill and Money Bill in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:**
 1. When the Lok Sabha transmits Finance Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it can amend or reject the Bill.
 2. When the Lok Sabha transmits Money Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it cannot amend or reject the Bill, it can only make recommendations.
 3. In the case of disagreement between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, there is no joint sitting for Money Bill, but a joint sitting becomes necessary for Finance Bill.
 How many of the above statements are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
- 18. Consider the following statements:**
Once the Central Government notifies an area as a 'Community Reserve'
 1. the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State becomes the governing authority of such forest.
 2. hunting is not allowed in such area.
 3. people of such area are allowed to collect non-timber forest produce.
 4. people of such area are allowed traditional agricultural practices.
 How many of the above statements are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
- 19. With reference to 'Scheduled Areas' in India, consider the following statements:**
 1. Within a State, the notification of an area as Scheduled Area takes place through an Order of the President.
 2. The largest administrative unit forming the Scheduled Area is the District and the lowest is the cluster of villages in the Block.
 3. The Chief Ministers of the concerned States are required to submit annual reports to the Union Home Ministry on the administration of Scheduled Areas in the States.
 How many of the above statements are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
- 20. Consider the following statements:**
Statement-I: The Supreme Court of India has held in some judgements that the reservation policies made under Article 16(4) of the Constitution of India would be limited by Article 335 for maintenance of efficiency of administration.
Statement-II: Article 335 of the Constitution of India defines the term 'efficiency of administration'.
 Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
 (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
- 21. Consider the following statements:**
Statement-I: India, despite having uranium deposits, depends on coal for most of its electricity production.
Statement-II: Uranium, enriched to the extent of at least 60%, is required for the production of electricity.
 Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
 (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
- 22. Consider the following statements:**
Statement-I: Marsupials are not naturally found in India.
Statement-II: Marsupials can thrive only in montane grasslands with no predators.
 Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
 (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

23. 'Invasive Species Specialist Group' (that develops Global Invasive Species Database) belongs to which one of the following organizations?

- (a) The International Union for Conservation of Nature
(b) The United Nations Environment Programme
(c) The United Nations World Commission for Environment and Development
(d) The World Wide Fund for Nature

24. Consider the following fauna:

1. Lion-tailed Macaque 2. Malabar Civet
3. Sambar Deer

How many of the above are generally nocturnal or most active after sunset?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

25. Which of the following organisms perform waggle dance for others of their kin to indicate the direction and the distance to a source of their food?

- (a) Butterflies (b) Dragonflies
(c) Honeybees (d) Wasps

26. Consider the following statements:

1. Some mushrooms have medicinal properties.
2. Some mushrooms have psycho-active properties.
3. Some mushrooms have insecticidal properties.
4. Some mushrooms have bioluminescent properties.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

27. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian squirrels:

1. They build nests by making burrows in the ground.
2. They store their food materials like nuts and seeds in the ground.
3. They are omnivorous.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

28. Consider the following statements:

1. Some microorganisms can grow in environments with temperature above the boiling point of water.
2. Some microorganisms can grow in environments with temperature below the freezing point of water.
3. Some microorganisms can grow in highly acidic environment with a pH below 3.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

29. Which one of the following makes a tool with a stick to scrape insects from a hole in a tree or a log of wood?

- (a) Fishing cat (b) Orangutan
(c) Otter (d) Sloth bear

30. Consider the following:

1. Aerosols 2. Foam agents
3. Fire retardants 4. Lubricants

In the making of how many of the above are hydrofluorocarbons used?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

31. Consider the following statements:

1. Jhelum River passes through Wular Lake.
2. Krishna River directly feeds Kolleru Lake.
3. Meandering of Gandak River formed Kanwar Lake.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

32. Consider the following pairs:

	Port	Well known as
1.	Kamarajar Port	First major port in India registered as a company
2.	Mundra Port	Largest privately owned port in India
3.	Visakhapatnam Port	Largest container port in India

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs
(c) All three pairs (d) None of the pairs

33. Consider the following trees:

1. Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*)
2. Mahua (*Madhuca indica*)
3. Teak (*Tectona grandis*)

How many of the above are deciduous trees?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

34. Consider the following statements:

1. India has more arable area than China.
2. The proportion of irrigated area is more in India as compared to China.
3. The average productivity per hectare in Indian agriculture is higher than that in China.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

35. Which one of the following is the best example of repeated falls in sea level, giving rise to present-day extensive marshland?

- (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves (b) Marakkanam Salt Pans
(c) Naupada Swamp (d) Rann of Kutch

36. Ilmenite and rutile, abundantly available in certain coastal tracts of India, are rich sources of which one of the following?

- (a) Aluminium (b) Copper (c) Iron (d) Titanium

37. About three-fourths of world's cobalt, a metal required for the manufacture of batteries for electric motor vehicles, is produced by:

- (a) Argentina
(b) Botswana
(c) The Democratic Republic of the Congo
(d) Kazakhstan

38. Which one of the following is a part of the Congo Basin?

- (a) Cameroon (b) Nigeria
(c) South Sudan (d) Uganda

39. Consider the following statements:

1. Amarkantak Hills are at the confluence of Vindhya and Sahyadri Ranges.
2. Biligirirangan Hills constitute the easternmost part of Satpura Range.
3. Seshachalam Hills constitute the southernmost part of Western Ghats.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

40. With reference to India's projects on connectivity, consider the following statements:

1. East-West Corridor under Golden Quadrilateral Project connects Dibrugarh and Surat.
2. Trilateral Highway connects Moreh in Manipur and Chiang Mai in Thailand via Myanmar.
3. Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor connects Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh with Kunming in China.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

41. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Interest income from the deposits in Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) distributed to their investors is exempted from tax, but the dividend is taxable.

Statement-II: InvITs are recognized as borrowers under the 'Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002'.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

42. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In the post-pandemic recent past, many Central Banks worldwide had carried out interest rate hikes.

Statement-II: Central Banks generally assume that they have the ability to counteract the rising consumer prices via monetary policy means.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

43. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Carbon markets are likely to be one of the most widespread tools in the fight against climate change.

Statement-II: Carbon markets transfer resources from the private sector to the State.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

44. Which one of the following activities of the Reserve Bank of India is considered to be part of 'sterilization'?

- (a) Conducting 'Open Market Operations'
 (b) Oversight of settlement and payment systems
 (c) Debt and cash management for the Central and State Governments
 (d) Regulating the functions of Non-banking Financial Institutions

45. Consider the following markets:

1. Government Bond Market 2. Call Money Market
 3. Treasury Bill Market 4. Stock Market

How many of the above are included in capital markets?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

46. Which one of the following best describes the concept of 'Small Farmer Large Field'?

- (a) Resettlement of a large number of people, uprooted from their countries due to war, by giving them a large cultivable land which they cultivate collectively and share the produce.
 (b) Many marginal farmers in an area organize themselves into groups and synchronize and harmonize selected agricultural operations.
 (c) Many marginal farmers in an area together make a contract with a corporate body and surrender their land to the corporate body for a fixed term for which the corporate body makes a payment of agreed amount to the farmers.
 (d) A company extends loans, technical knowledge and material inputs to a number of small farmers in an area so that they produce the agricultural commodity required by the company for its manufacturing process and commercial production.

47. Consider the following statements:

1. The Government of India provides Minimum Support Price for niger (*Guizotia abyssinica*) seeds.
2. Niger is cultivated as a Kharif crop.
3. Some tribal people in India use niger seed oil for cooking.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

48. Consider the investments in the following assets:

1. Brand recognition 2. Inventory
3. Intellectual property 4. Mailing list of clients

How many of the above are considered intangible investments?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

49. Consider the following:

1. Demographic performance

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

2. Forest and ecology
3. Governance reforms
4. Stable government
5. Tax and fiscal efforts

For the horizontal tax devolution, the Fifteenth Finance Commission used how many of the above as criteria other than population area and income distance?

- (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) All five

50. Consider the following infrastructure sectors:

1. Affordable housing
2. Mass rapid transport
3. Health care
4. Renewable energy

On how many of the above does UNOPS Sustainable Investments in Infrastructure and Innovation (S3i) initiative focus for its investments?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

51. With reference to Home Guards, consider the following statements:

1. Home Guards are raised under the Home Guards Act and Rules of the Central Government.
2. The role of the Home Guards is to serve as an auxiliary force to the police in maintenance of internal security.
3. To prevent infiltration on the international border/coastal areas, the Border Wing Home Guards Battalions have been raised in some States.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

52. With reference to India, consider the following pairs:

Action	The Act under which it is covered
1. Unauthorized wearing of police or military uniforms	The Official Secrets Act, 1923
2. Knowingly misleading or otherwise interfering with a police officer or military officer when engaged in their duties	The Indian Evidence Act, 1872
3. Celebratory gunfire which can endanger the personal safety of others	The Arms (Amendment) Act, 2019

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

53. Consider the following pairs:

Regions often mentioned in news	Reason for being in news
1. North Kivu and Ituri	War between Armenia and Azerbaijan
2. Nagorno-Karabakh	Insurgency in Mozambique
3. Kherson and Zaporizhzhia	Dispute between Israel and Lebanon

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

54. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Israel has established diplomatic relations with some Arab States.

Statement-II: The 'Arab Peace Initiative' mediated by Saudi Arabia was signed by Israel and Arab League.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 (d) Statement-I incorrect is but Statement-II is correct

55. Consider the following pairs with regard to sports awards:

List I	List II
1. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award	For the most spectacular and outstanding performance by a sportsperson over period of last four years
2. Arjuna Award	For the lifetime by achievement a sportsperson
3. Dronacharya Award	To honour eminent coaches who have successfully trained sportspersons or teams
4. Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar	To recognize the contribution made by sportspersons even after their retirement

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

56. Consider the following statements in respect of the 44th Chess Olympiad, 2022:

1. It was the first time that Chess Olympiad was held in India.
2. The official mascot was named 'Thambi'.
3. The trophy for the winning team in the open section is the Vera Menchik Cup.
4. The trophy for the winning team in the women's section is the Hamilton-Russell Cup.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

57. Consider the following pairs:

Area of conflict mentioned in news	Country where it is located
1. Donbas	Syria
2. Kachin	Ethiopia
3. Tigray	North Yemen

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

58. In the recent years Chad, Guinea, Mali and Sudan caught the international attention for which one of the following reasons common to all of them?

- (a) Discovery of rich deposits of rare earth elements
 (b) Establishment of Chinese military bases
 (c) Southward expansion of Sahara Desert
 (d) Successful coups

59. Consider the following heavy industries:

1. Fertilizer plants
2. Oil refineries
3. Steel plants

Green hydrogen is expected to play a significant role in decarbonizing how many of the above industries?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

60. Consider the following statements about G-20:

1. The G-20 group was originally established as a platform for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss the international economic and financial issues.
2. Digital public infrastructure is one of India's G-20 priorities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

61. With reference to the Indian History, Alexander Rea, A. H. Longhurst, Robert Sewell, James Burgess and Walter Elliot were associated with:

- (a) archaeological excavations
- (b) establishment of English Press in Colonial India
- (c) establishment of Churches in Princely States
- (d) construction of railways in Colonial India

62. Consider the following pairs:

	Site	Well known for
1.	Besnagar	Shaivite cave shrine
2.	Bhaja	Buddhist cave shrine
3.	Sittanavasal	Jain cave shrine

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

63. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: 7th August is declared as the National Handloom Day.

Statement-II: It was in 1905 that the Swadeshi Movement was launched on the same day.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

64. Consider the following statements in respect of the National Flag of India according to the Flag Code of India, 2002:

Statement-I: One of the standard sizes of the National Flag of India is 600 mm x 400 mm.

Statement-II: The ratio of the length to the height (width) of the Flag shall be 3:2.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

65. Consider the following statements in respect of the Constitution Day:

Statement-I: The Constitution Day is celebrated on 26th November every year to promote constitutional values among citizens.

Statement-II: On 26th November, 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India set up a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar to prepare a Draft Constitution of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

66. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Switzerland is one of the leading exporters of gold in terms of value.

Statement-II: Switzerland has the second largest gold reserves in the world.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

67. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Recently, the United States of America (USA) and the European Union (EU) have launched the 'Trade and Technology Council'.

Statement-II: The USA and the EU claim that through this they are trying to bring technological progress and physical productivity under their control.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

68. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India accounts for 3.2% of global export of goods.

Statement-II: Many local companies and some foreign companies operating in India have taken advantage of India's 'Production-linked Incentive' scheme.

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

69. Consider the following statements:

The 'Stability and Growth Pact' of the European Union is a treaty that

1. limits the levels of the budgetary deficit of the countries of the European Union.
2. makes the countries of the European Union to share their infrastructure facilities.
3. enables the countries of the European Union to share their technologies.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

70. Consider the following statements:

1. Recently, all the countries of the United Nations have adopted the first-ever compact for international migration, the 'Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)'.
2. The objectives and commitments stated in the GCM are binding on the UN member countries.
3. The GCM addresses internal migration or internally displaced people also in its objectives and commitments.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

71. Consider the following countries:

1. Bulgaria
2. Czech Republic
3. Hungary
4. Latvia
5. Lithuania
6. Romania

How many of the above-mentioned countries share a land border with Ukraine?

- (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) Only five

72. With reference to the Earth's atmosphere, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) The total amount of insolation received at the equator is roughly about 10 times of that received at the poles.
- (b) Infrared rays constitute roughly two-thirds of insolation.
- (c) Infrared waves are largely absorbed by water vapour that is concentrated in the lower atmosphere.
- (d) Infrared waves are a part of visible spectrum of electromagnetic waves of solar radiation.

73. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The soil in tropical rain forests is rich in nutrients.

Statement-II: The high temperature and moisture of tropical rain forests cause dead organic matter in the soil to decompose quickly.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

74. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The temperature contrast between continents and oceans is greater during summer than in winter.

Statement-II: The specific heat of water is more than that of land surface.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

75. Consider the following statements:

1. In a seismograph, P waves are recorded earlier than S waves.
2. In P waves, the individual particles vibrate to and fro in the direction of wave propagation whereas in S waves, the particles vibrate up and down at right angles to the direction of wave propagation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

76. With reference to coal-based thermal power plants in India, consider the following statements:

1. None of them uses seawater.
2. None of them is set up in water-stressed district.
3. None of them is privately owned.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

77. 'Wolbachia method' is sometimes talked about with reference to which one of the following?

- (a) Controlling the viral diseases spread by mosquitoes.
- (b) Converting crop residues into packing material.
- (c) Producing biodegradable plastics.
- (d) Producing biochar from thermochemical conversion of biomass.

78. Consider the following activities:

1. Spreading finely ground basalt rock on farmlands extensively.
2. Increasing the alkalinity of oceans by adding lime.
3. Capturing carbon dioxide released by various industries and pumping it into abandoned subterranean mines in the form of carbonated waters.

How many of the above activities are often considered and discussed for carbon capture and sequestration?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

79. 'Aerial metagenomics' best refers to which one of the following situations?

- (a) Collecting DNA samples from air in a habitat at one go.

- (b) Understanding the genetic makeup of avian species of a habitat.
 (c) Using air-borne devices to collect blood samples from moving animals.
 (d) Sending drones to inaccessible areas to collect plant and animal samples from land surfaces and water bodies.
- 80. 'Microsatellite DNA' is used in the case of which one of the following?**
 (a) Studying the evolutionary relationships among various species of fauna.
 (b) Stimulating 'stem cells' to transform into diverse functional tissues.
 (c) Promoting clonal propagation of horticultural plants.
 (d) Assessing the efficacy of drugs by conducting series of drug trials in a population.
- 81. Consider the following statements in relation to Janani Suraksha Yojana:**
 1. It is a safe motherhood intervention of the State Health Departments.
 2. Its objective is to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality among poor pregnant women.
 3. It aims to promote institutional delivery among poor pregnant women.
 4. Its objective includes providing public health facilities to sick infants up to one year of age.
 How many of the statements given above are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
- 82. Consider the following statements in the context of interventions being undertaken under Anaemia Mukh Bharat Strategy:**
 1. It provides prophylactic calcium supplementation for pre-school children, adolescents and pregnant women.
 2. It runs a campaign for delayed cord clamping at the time of child- birth.
 3. It provides for periodic deworming to children and adolescents.
 4. It addresses non-nutritional causes of anaemia in endemic pockets with special focus on malaria, hemoglobinopathies and fluorosis.
 How many of the statements given above are correct?
 (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
- 83. Consider the following statements:**
 1. Carbon fibres are used in the manufacture of components used in automobiles and aircrafts.
 2. Carbon fibres once used cannot be recycled.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 84. Consider the following actions:**
 1. Detection of car crash/collision which results in the deployment of airbags almost instantaneously.
 2. Detection of accidental free fall of a laptop towards the ground which results in the immediate turning off of the hard drive.
 3. Detection of the tilt of the smart- phone which results in the rotation of display between portrait and landscape mode.

In how many of the above actions is the function of accelerometer required?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

85. With reference to the role of biofilters in Recirculating Aquaculture System, consider the following statements:

1. Biofilters provide waste treatment by removing uneaten fish feed.
2. Biofilters convert ammonia present in fish waste to nitrate.
3. Biofilters increase phosphorus as nutrient for fish in water.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

86. Consider the following pairs:

Objects in space		Description
1.	Cepheids	Giant clouds of dust and gas in space
2.	Nebulae	Stars which brighten and dim periodically
3.	Pulsars	Neutron stars that are formed when massive stars run out of fuel and collapse

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

87. Which one of the following countries has its own Satellite Navigation System?

- (a) Australia (b) Canada (c) Israel (d) Japan

88. Consider the following statements:

1. Ballistic missiles are jet-propelled at subsonic speeds throughout their flights, while cruise missiles are rocket-powered only in the initial phase of flight.
2. Agni-V is a medium-range supersonic cruise missile, while BrahMos is a solid-fuelled intercontinental ballistic missile.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

89. Consider the following statements regarding mercury pollution:

1. Gold mining activity is a source of mercury pollution in the world.
2. Coal-based thermal power plants cause mercury pollution.
3. There is no known safe level of exposure to mercury.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

90. With reference to green hydrogen, consider the following statements:

1. It can be used directly as a fuel for internal combustion.
2. It can be blended with natural gas and used as fuel for heat or power generation.
3. It can be used in the hydrogen fuel cell to run vehicles.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

91. Consider the following statements with reference to India:

1. According to the 'Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006', the 'medium enterprises' are those with investments in plant and machinery between ₹ 15 crore and ₹25 crore.
2. All bank loans to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises qualify under the priority sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

92. With reference to Central Bank digital currencies, consider the following statements:

1. It is possible to make payments in a digital currency without using US dollar or SWIFT system.
2. A digital currency can be distributed with a condition programmed into it such as a time- frame for spending it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. In the context of finance, the term 'beta' refers to:

- (a) the process of simultaneous buying and selling of an asset from different platforms.
(b) an investment strategy of a portfolio manager to balance risk versus reward.
(c) a type of systemic risk that arises where perfect hedging is not possible.
(d) a numeric value that measures the fluctuations of a stock to changes in the overall stock market.

94. Consider the following statements:

1. The Self-Help (SHG) programme was originally initiated Group by the the State Bank of India by providing microcredit to the financially deprived.
2. In an SHG, all members of a group take responsibility for a loan that an individual member takes.
3. The Regional Rural Banks and Scheduled Commercial Banks support SHGs.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

95. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's public sector health care system largely focuses on curative care with limited preventive, promotive and rehabilitative care.

Statement-II: Under India's decentralized approach to health care delivery, the States are primarily responsible for organizing health services.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

96. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: According to the United Nations' 'World Water Development Report, 2022', India extracts more than a quarter of the world's groundwater withdrawal each year.

Statement-II: India needs to extract more than a quarter of the world's groundwater each year to satisfy the drinking water and sanitation needs of almost 18% of world's population living in its territory.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

97. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Constitution of India, the Central Government has a duty to protect States from internal disturbances.
2. The Constitution of India exempts the States from providing legal counsel to a person being held for preventive detention.
3. According to the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002, confession of the accused before the police cannot be used as evidence.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None

98. Which one of the following countries has been suffering from decades of civil strife and food shortages and was in news in the recent past for its very severe famine?

- (a) Angola (b) Costa Rica
(c) Ecuador (d) Somalia

99. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the Biodiversity Management Committees are key to the realization of the objectives of the Nagoya Protocol.
2. The Biodiversity Management Committees have important functions in determining access and benefit sharing, including the power to levy collection fees on the access of biological resources within its jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

100. Consider the following statements in respect of election to the President of India:

1. The members nominated to either House of the Parliament or the Legislative Assemblies of States are also eligible to be included in the Electoral College.
2. Higher the number of elective Assembly seats, higher is the value of vote of each MLA of that State.
3. The value of vote of each MLA of Madhya Pradesh is greater than that of Kerala.
4. The value of vote of each MLA of Puducherry is higher than that of Arunachal Pradesh because the ratio of total population to total number of elective seats in Puducherry is greater as compared to Arunachal Pradesh.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four

ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION

1. Option (a) is correct

Dharanikota is a village in Palnadu district of Andhra Pradesh. Its old name was Dhanyakataka, or Dhanyakatakam. Many historical sources attest that Gautama Buddha visited Andhaka country and gave his sermons. Archaeological excavations at Dharanikota revealed viharas in Dharanikota and nearby areas. It is the site of the ancient Dhanyakataka which was the capital of the Satavahana kingdom which ruled in the Deccan around the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D. It was the site of a great Buddhist Stupa built in pre-Mauryan times, ruled by Satavahana kings.

2. Option (c) is correct

A stupa is a reliquary, a shrine containing the remains of a holy or sainted person and/or relics associated with them, originating in India prior to the 5th century BCE as tombs of holy men and evolving afterwards into sacred sites dedicated to the Buddha. It is a hemispherical structure, with a spire at the top, sometimes situated on a base that varies in shape and size (depending on the designated purpose of that particular stupa) surrounded by a walkway for visitors.

Later, stupas were also raised to honour Buddhist arhats (saints), bodhisattvas (enlightened ones), other saintly figures, or local deities.

According to Buddhist sources, the remains of the Buddha's body (relics) were divided into eight parts and placed under the stupas.

According to **A. Cunningham**, Maisey and Foucher the Stupas can be classified in to five categories

- **Relic stupas:** These are those in which the relics of Buddha and other religious persons are buried. - SANCHI.

- **Object stupas:** They are those in which the objects belonging to the Buddha or his disciples are buried. - VAISHALI.

- **Commemorative stupas:** These are those which are built to commemorate events in the life of Buddha and his disciples. - ANURADHAPURA

- **Symbolic stupas:** They are those which are built to symbolise various aspects of Buddhist theology. - LEH

- **Votive stupas:** They are constructed to commemorate visits or gain spiritual benefits. can be made from metal, stone, glass, etc

3. Option (b) is correct

Poompuhar is a town in the Mayiladuthurai region in the southern Indian province of Tamil Nadu. It was a thriving old port city known as Kaveri Poompattinam and Kaveripattinam (not to be mistaken for current Kaveripattinam), which for some time filled in as the capital of the early Chola rulers in Tamilakam.

Korkai was the capital of Pandya Kingdom. This city was centre of trade and important port of early Pandya Kingdom. Earlier, it was situated on the banks of the Tamiraparani Stream and at the ocean coast, making a natural harbour. Because of

extreme sedimentation, the ocean has reduced around 6 km in the past 2000 years, leaving Korkai well inland today.

Muchiri found notice in the Periplus of the Erythraean Ocean, the bardic Tamil sonnets and various old style sources. It was the significant port city of Cheras. Center of the city is arranged in the present day Kodungallur, North Paravoor region.

4. Option (d) is correct

Vatakkiruttal was a Tamil ritual of fasting till death which was especially widespread during the Sangam age. It was a Tamil martial art. This was either done alone, or as a group with the supporters of the captured king. In order to save their honour, and prestige the Tamil kings were prepared to meet their death facing North ('Vatakkiruttal') and never would they turn their back in battle.

5. Option (d) is correct

The Hoysala Empire was a Kannadiga power originating from the Indian subcontinent that ruled most of what is now Karnataka between the 10th and the 14th centuries.

The Kakatiya dynasty was a Telugu dynasty that ruled most of the eastern Deccan region in present-day India between the 12th and 14th centuries.

The Seuna, Sevuna, or Yadavas of Devagiri was a Medieval Indian dynasty, (12th and 13th century) which at its peak ruled a kingdom stretching from the Narmada river in the north to the Tungabhadra river in the south. The Yadava kingdom reached its peak under Simhana II, and flourished until the early 14th century, when it was annexed by the Khalji dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate in 1308 CE.

The Gahadavala dynasty was a Rajput dynasty that ruled parts of the present-day Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, during 11th and 12th centuries.

6. Option (b) is correct

Devi-Chandraguptam or Devi-Chandragupta is an Indian political drama in Sanskrit-language which is attributed to Vishakhadeva, who is generally identified with Vishakhadatta.

Hammira Mahakavya is a 15th-century Indian Sanskrit epic poem which is written by the Jain scholar Nayachandra Suri.

Milinda-panha is a Buddhist text between 100 BC and 200 AD written by Nagasena.

It consists of dialogue between the Indian Buddhist sage Nagasena, and the Indo-Greek king Menander of Bactria, who reigned in the 2nd century BC.

Nitivakyamrita was the work of Jaina writer Somadeva of tenth century A.D. He writes a treatise on niti which is called Nitivakyamrta. He quotes fragments of the metrical works on polity attributed to Atri, Angiras, Kausika, Garga, Devala, Narada, Parasara, Bhaguri, Bharadvaja, Bhrgu, Brihaspati, Sukra, Vyasa etc.

7. Option (b) is correct

Jainism is an ancient Indian religion that places a strong emphasis on non-violence, compassion, and the principle of

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

ahimsa (non-harming). One of the fundamental teachings in Jainism is the belief in the existence of souls (jivas) in all living beings, including humans, animals, and plants. However, Jain philosophy goes beyond this and extends the concept of souls to non-living entities as well, including rocks, water, and other natural objects. According to Jainism, all entities possess a soul, regardless of whether they are traditionally considered living or not.

This belief in the inherent presence of souls in various natural objects is a unique aspect of Jainism's worldview and distinguishes it from other major Indian religions such as Buddhism, Vaishnavism, and Shaivism.

8. Option (a) is correct

Krishna Deva Raya was one of the most famous rulers of the Vijayanagara Empire, and he undertook numerous infrastructure projects to improve the irrigation and agricultural capabilities of his kingdom.

The credit for making the capital city of the Vijayanagara Empire one of the biggest cities in the 15th century goes to Deva Raya I. In 1410 CE he had a barrage constructed across the Tungabhadra river and commissioned a 24 km long aqueduct from the Tungabhadra river to the capital.

9. Option (c) is correct

In 1535, after a long siege, Sultan Bahadur Shah was compelled to surrender the island of Diu to the Portuguese led by Nuno da Cunha. This event marked as the beginning of Portuguese control and influence in the region, particularly in the maritime trade routes of the Indian Ocean.

In 1538 Siege of Diu resulted in the permanent occupation of Diu by Portuguese which lasted till 1961.

10. Option (d) is correct

The office of the Governor General of Bengal was designated as the Governor General of India through the Government of India Act of 1833. This act, was also known as the Charter Act of 1833. It was passed by the British Parliament and granted expanded powers to the Governor General of Bengal, transforming the position into the Governor General of India. Lord William Bentinck was the first Governor General of India under this new designation, serving from 1833 to 1835.

Features of Charter Act of 1833

The Governor-General of Bengal became the Governor-General of India with exclusive legislative powers. The Governor-General of India was given civil and military powers.

The presidencies of Bombay and Madras were deprived of their legislative powers.

The Government of India was created for the first time having the authority over the entire territorial area possessed by the British in India.

The members of the Governor General's council were reduced by the Pitt's India act 1784 was again increased to 4 and the fourth member had very limited powers, he was not entitled to act as a member of the council except for legislative purposes.

The Governor General Council had the authority to amend, repeal or alter any law in the entire length and breadth of India for any British, Foreigner or Indian.

The activities of East India Company as a commercial body came to an end and it purely became an administrative body.

The act attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection in Civil Services. It stated that Indians should not be debarred from holding any place, office and employment under the company but this was nullified after opposition from the Court of Directors.

The concept of a merit based modern Civil Service in India was introduced on the recommendations of Lord Macaulay's Report in 1854.

The Act permitted the English to settle freely in India this effectively legalised British Colonisation of India.

The act provided for the mitigation of slavery in India. The slavery was abolished by British Parliament in Britain and all its possessions in 1833.

The Indian Law Commission was established in 1833 through this act and Lord Macaulay was made its first chairman. It aimed to codify all kinds of law in India.

11. Option (c) is correct

Due process refers to just, rational and fair treatment under the regular judicial process. For instance, the accused must be given the chance to present their own defence before being sentenced. "Due Process of Law" is a doctrine that not only checks if there is a law to deprive the life and personal liberty of a person but also ensures that the law is made fair and just.

Procedure Established by Law means that a law approved by Parliament would be valid if it had followed the proper procedure. It originates from the British Constitution. The legal scope of procedure is more limited.

12. Option (a) is correct

The Prisons of 1894 Act dealt with provisions for accommodation, food, clothing, bedding segregation, and the discipline of prisoners, including solitary confinement. It also laid down provisions for the prisoners' employment, health, and visits.

'Prisons' is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. So, the management and administration of Prisons fall exclusively in the domain of the State Governments.

The responsibility of prison management and prisoners administration solely vested in hand with State Governments who alone are competent to make appropriate legislative provisions in this regard.

13. Option (c) is correct

The main purpose of a constitution is to establish the framework for governance and define the structure of the government. It defines and outlines the powers and functions of various branches of government, such as the executive, legislative, and judiciary.

14. Option (a) is correct

The main objectives of the 1st Constitutional Amendment were, accordingly to amend article 19 for the purposes indicated above and to insert provisions fully securing the constitutional validity of zamindari abolition laws in general and certain specified State Acts in particular. the opportunity

has been taken to propose a few minor amendments to other articles in order to remove difficulties that may arise.

15. Option (a) is correct

The National Commission for Backward Classes is a constitutional body under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It is established through 102nd Amendment Act, 2018 by inserting article 338B in the Indian Constitution.

The National Human Rights Commission of India is a statutory body established in 1993. It was given a statutory basis through the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body and is constituted by a notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice.

The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission of India is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. It is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.

16. Option (d) is correct

If the election of the President of India is declared void by the Supreme Court, it does not render all acts done by the President in the performance of their duties before the date of the decision as invalid. The President's actions and decisions taken during their tenure remain valid unless specifically declared otherwise.

The election of the President follows a specific schedule and process outlined in the Constitution.

The elections for the post of the President of India cannot be postponed solely on the ground that some Legislative Assemblies have been dissolved and elections are yet to take place.

The Constitution of India does not prescribe specific time limits within which the President has to declare their assent when a bill is presented to them. The President has the power to return a bill for reconsideration, withhold their assent, or give their assent based on their discretion.

17. Option (a) is correct

The Question asks about Finance bill and not financial bill. Finance bill is an example of money bill. It is passed during the budget for enacting tax proposals.

Statement 1 is incorrect because Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject the finance bill but only can recommend changes which the Lok Sabha can accept or not.

Statement 2 is correct as After a money bill is passed by the Lok Sabha, it is transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its consideration. The Rajya Sabha has restricted powers with regard to a money bill. It cannot reject or amend a money bill. It can only make the recommendations.

Statement 3 is incorrect because finance bill is a money bill and there is no provision for holding joint sitting for a money bill.

18. Option (c) is correct

When an area is notified as a 'Community Reserve', the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State or a designated authority becomes responsible for the management and governance of the reserve.

In a Community Reserve, hunting is strictly prohibited to protect and conserve the wildlife.

Such areas are designated as conservation areas if they are uninhabited and completely owned by the Government of India but used for subsistence by communities and community areas if part of the lands are privately owned. Thus, people of such areas are allowed to collect non-timber forest produce.

Traditional agricultural practices are generally not allowed within a Community Reserve. The main focus of a Community Reserve is to conserve biodiversity and natural habitats, so restricting agricultural activities is done to protect the ecological integrity of the area.

19. Option (b) is correct

The notification of an area as a Scheduled Area within a State is done through a Presidential Order. The President has the authority to declare certain areas as Scheduled Areas based on the criteria specified in the Constitution.

In a Scheduled Area, the administrative units are organised from the district level to the cluster of villages in the Block. The District is the largest administrative unit, and within the District, there are smaller administrative units such as Blocks and Clusters of villages.

The Governor of the concerned State is responsible for submitting annual reports to the President of India, and not the Chief Ministers.

The Governor acts as the representative of the President in the State and is responsible for reporting on the administration and development activities in the Scheduled Areas to the President through the Union Home Ministry.

20. Option (c) is correct

The Supreme Court has held in certain judgments that while reservation policies can be implemented under Article 16(4) to provide opportunities to backward classes, they should also be balanced with the consideration of maintaining the efficiency of administration, as stated in Article 335 of the constitution of India.

Article 335 states that the claims of the SC/ST candidates should be taken into consideration in appointments and posts under the State, but without compromising the efficiency of administration.

Article 335 does not provide a specific definition of 'efficiency of administration'. Instead, it emphasises the need to balance the claims of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) with the maintenance of efficiency in administration.

21. Option (c) is correct

India does have significant uranium deposits, but its reliability on coal for electricity production is higher compared to uranium. Coal continues to be the primary source of energy for electricity generation in India due to its abundant availability and existing infrastructure.

Uranium is used as a fuel for nuclear power generation, the level of enrichment required for electricity production is not fixed at 60%. The enrichment level can vary depending on the type of reactor and its design. Typically, for light-water reactors, the enrichment level is around 3-5% uranium-235, not 60%.

22. Option (c) is correct

Marsupials, a group of mammals which is characterised by carrying their young in a pouch, are not naturally found in India. They are primarily found in Australia and surrounding regions.

While some marsupials, such as kangaroos and wallabies, are known to inhabit grassland habitats, they are not limited to montane grasslands. They can be found in a variety of habitats, including forests, woodlands, and even deserts. Their survival is not limited to areas without predators, as marsupials have evolved various adaptations to coexist with predators.

23. Option (a) is correct

The 'Invasive Species Specialist Group' (ISSG), which develops the Global Invasive Species Database, belongs to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The ISSG, as a specialist group within the IUCN, focuses specifically on invasive species and their impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems. It works to raise awareness, conduct research, and develop tools and resources related to invasive species management. The Global Invasive Species Database is providing valuable information on invasive species worldwide.

24. Option (b) is correct

- **Lion-tailed Macaque:** Lion-tailed Macaques (*Macaca silenus*) are diurnal primates, that means they are active during the day and rest at night. They are not generally nocturnal or most active after sunset.

- **Malabar Civet:** The Malabar Civet is a nocturnal mammal found in the Western Ghats of India. It is primarily active during the night, making it nocturnal.

- **Sambar Deer:** The Sambar Deer is a large deer species found in various habitats across India. They are generally crepuscular, which means they are most active during dawn and dusk. While they may be active during the night, they are not strictly nocturnal.

25. Option (c) is correct

Honeybees are well known to perform a waggle dance as a means of communication within their colony. This dance is performed by worker bees to indicate the direction and distance to a source of food, such as nectar or pollen. By observing the direction and intensity of the waggle dance, other worker bees can determine the location of the food source and navigate to it. This behaviour is a Unique example of how honeybees communicate and share information within their colony.

26. Option (d) is correct

Some mushrooms possess bioactive compounds that exhibit medicinal properties. For ex: species like Reishi (*Ganoderma lucidum*) and Turkey Tail (*Trametes versicolor*).

Some mushrooms contain psychoactive compounds like psilocybin and psilocin, which can induce hallucinogenic effects. These are often referred to as “magic mushrooms” or “psilocybin mushrooms”.

Some mushrooms contain natural insecticidal compounds that can be used as a natural alternative to the synthetic

insecticides like the entomopathogenic fungus *Beauveria bassiana* is used as a biocontrol agent against insect pests.

Some mushrooms have bioluminescent properties such as the Jack-O'-Lantern mushroom (*Omphalotus olearius*), have bioluminescent properties. These mushrooms emit a faint greenish glow in the dark because of the presence of luciferin-luciferase reaction.

27. Option (c) is correct

Indian squirrels, such as the Indian palm squirrel, do build nests by making burrows in the ground. They usually build nests called “dreys” in tree branches or tree hollows.

They store their food materials like nuts and seeds in the ground. They create small caches in various locations, such as tree hollows or crevices, to store their food.

Indian squirrels, including the Indian palm squirrel, are primarily herbivorous and they feed on a diet consisting mainly of plant material such as fruits, seeds, nuts, and tree bark.

28. Option (c) is correct

Some microorganisms can grow in environments with temperatures above the boiling point of water and are known as “thermophilic” and can withstand and thrive in extreme heat, such as hot springs or deep-sea hydrothermal vents.

Some microorganisms can grow in environments with temperatures below the freezing point of water and are known as “psychrophiles or cryophiles”. They can survive and reproduce in extremely cold conditions, such as glaciers or Arctic regions.

Some microorganisms can grow in highly acidic environments with a pH below 3 and are known as “acidophilus”.

29. Option (b) is correct

Orangutans are known to use tools in their natural behaviour, including making tools with sticks to scrape insects from holes in trees or logs of wood. They demonstrate unique problem-solving abilities and tool use in their foraging activities. This kind of behaviour is observed in both wild and captive orangutans and is a demonstration of their intelligence and adaptability.

30. Option (d) is correct

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are used in the making of all four substances that are mentioned above:

- **Aerosols:** HFCs are commonly used as propellants in aerosol products, for ex: sprays for personal care, household cleaning, and automotive applications.

- **Foam agents:** HFCs are used as blowing agents in the production of foam materials, which includes foam insulation, foam packaging, and foam cushions.

- **Fire retardants:** HFCs are also used in fire extinguishing systems and fire retardant formulations.

- **Lubricants:** HFCs are used as lubricants, especially in the aerospace industry.

31. Option (b) is correct

The main source of water is River Jhelum for Wular Lake . Wular lake also has a small island in its centre called the ‘Zaina Lank’.

Krishna river does not feed the kolleru lake directly. The Krishna is the second-largest east-flowing river of the Peninsula.

The Kanwar Taal or Kabar Taal Lake or Kabartal Wetland located in Begusarai district of Bihar, India, is Asia's largest freshwater oxbow lake. The Kanwar lake draws water from the confluence of the river Gandak, the Bia and the Kareh river, and is situated near Manjhaul.

32. Option (b) is correct

Kamarajar Port is located on the Coromandel Coast about 24 km north of Chennai Port, Chennai. It is the 12th major port of India, and the first port in India which is a public company.

The mega port at Mundra is a major economic gateway that caters to the northern hinterland of India with multimodal connectivity. The deep draft, all-weather port is the largest commercial port in India with state of the art infrastructure.

Mundra Port is India's biggest commercial port by volumes. It has overtaken state-run Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) to become the country's largest container gateway by handling 5.65 mn twenty-foot equivalent units in FY21.

33. Option (b) is correct

Jackfruit is an evergreen tree characterised by its dense foliage and exudation of latex from above ground plant parts including fruits when injured.

Mahua tree is known as Indian Butter Tree. It is a medium to large sized deciduous tree with a large rounded crown.

Teak is a tropical hardwood tree species in the family Lamiaceae. It is large, deciduous tree that occurs in mixed hardwood forests.

34. Option (b) is correct

Irrigated area accounts for nearly 48.8% of the 140 million hectare of agricultural land in India. China's irrigation cover is 41% of cultivated area, and India's irrigation cover is 48%. China's productivity in most crops is 50 - 100% which is higher than India's.

35. Option (d) is correct

The Rann of Kutch was formed due to multiple instances of fluctuations in sea level and geological processes over millions of years, resulting in the deposition of salts and minerals in the region.

The Rann of Kutch is a large seasonal salt marsh located in the Thar Desert of Gujarat, India. It has a unique ecosystem featured by the vast stretches of saline marshland that gets flooded during monsoon season and dries up during rest of the year.

Bhitarkanika Mangroves, Marakkanam Salt Pans, and Naupada Swamp, are also wetland ecosystems but they don't exhibit the same characteristics because of extensive marshland resulting from repeated falls in sea level.

36. Option (d) is correct

India has large resources of heavy minerals which occur mainly along coastal stretches of the country and also in inland places.

Heavy mineral sands consists of a group of seven minerals, such as, ilmenite, leucoxene (brown ilmenite), rutile, zircon, sillimanite, garnet and monazite. Ilmenite (FeO.TiO_2) and rutile (TiO_2) are the two main minerals of titanium.

37. Option (c) is correct

About three-fourths of the world's cobalt, is produced by Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is the largest producer of cobalt globally. Cobalt is a metal required for the manufacture of batteries for electric motor vehicles, Cobalt is a critical component in the production of lithium-ion batteries, which are widely used in electric vehicles and various electronic devices.

38. Option (a) is correct



This map is not to scale and is for reference only.

Figure: Congo Basin

Cameroon is a part of the Congo Basin. The Congo Basin is a vast region in Central Africa that encompasses several countries, including Cameroon. It is the world's second-largest river basin next to that of the Amazon.

Countries wholly or partially in the Congo region:

- Angola
- Gabon
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Republic of the Congo
- Rwanda
- Tanzania
- Zambia

39. Option (d) is correct

Amarkantak are at the confluence of the Vindhya and Satpura mountain ranges.

Seshachalam Hills are hilly ranges which are parts of the Eastern Ghats.

The Biligirirangana Hills or Biligirirangan Hills is a hill range situated in south-western Karnataka, at its border with Tamil Nadu.

40. Option (d) is correct

The East-West Corridor under the Golden Quadrilateral Project connects Silchar in Assam to Porbandar in Gujarat, and not Dibrugarh and Surat.

The Trilateral Highway connects Moreh in Manipur, India, with Mae Sot in Thailand via Myanmar, not Chiang Mai.

The Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM EC) connects Kolkata in India with Kunming in China, not Varanasi to Kunming.

40. Option (d) is correct

The East-West Corridor under the 'Golden Quadrilateral Project' a part of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in India, connects Silchar in Assam to Porbandar in Gujarat, and not Dibrugarh and Surat.

The Trilateral Highway connects Moreh in Manipur, with Mae Sot in Thailand via Myanmar.

The Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM EC) connects Kolkata in India with Kunming in China with Kolkata in India, passing through Myanmar and Bangladesh.

41. Option (d) is correct

In Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), both interest income and dividend income distributed to the investors are taxable. There is no exemption from tax for interest income.

InvITs are recognized as borrowers under the 'Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002'. The act mainly deals with the securitization and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interests in relation to the loans and borrowings.

42. Option (a) is correct

In the post-pandemic period, as economies recover and inflationary pressures increase, some central banks had raised interest rates to manage inflation and stabilise their economies. These hikes in interest rate are implemented as a part of monetary policy measures.

Central banks assume that they have the ability to influence and control inflation through various monetary policy tools, including interest rate adjustments. By increasing interest rates, central banks (RBI in case of India) aim to curb inflationary pressures by reducing borrowing and spending, hence addressing the rising consumer prices.

43. Option (a) is correct

Carbon markets such as emissions trading or cap-and-trade systems, have emerged as significant tools in the fight against climate change. They provide economic incentives for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promoting the transition to cleaner technologies. Private sector entities in carbon markets are required to purchase/acquire emission allowances/credits to cover their emissions. The revenue generated from the sale of these allowances/credits can be used by the State for

various purposes, like funding climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

44. Option (a) is correct

'Sterilization' - An activity undertaken by the central bank (RBI in case of India) to offset the impact of its interventions in the foreign exchange market on the domestic money supply.

When the central bank intervenes in the foreign exchange (Forex) market by buying foreign currency, it increases the domestic money supply. Central bank conducts sterilisation operation to prevent the excess liquidity in the economy.

One of the methods of sterilization is 'Open Market Operations' (OMOs), particularly by the sale/purchase of government securities.

In case of intervention to buy foreign currency, the central bank can sterilize the increased money supply by selling government securities in the open market, and thus reducing the availability of money in the economy.

On the other side, if the central bank intervenes to sell foreign currency, it can sterilise the reduction in money supply by purchasing government securities.

Thus, conducting 'Open Market Operations' of settlement is considered as a part of 'sterilization' by the RBI.

45. Option (b) is correct

In the given options, only two of them are included in the capital markets. These are:

- **Government Bond Market:** It involves the buying & selling of government bonds, which are debt securities issued by the government to raise funds. It allows governments to borrow money from investors.

- **Stock Market:** Also called the equity market or share market, is a market where shares/ownership interests in publicly-traded companies are bought and sold. It's a crucial component of the capital market, allowing companies to raise capital through the issuance of shares and investors to trade in those shares.

The other two options are Call Money Market and Treasury Bill Market which, are part of money market rather than the capital market.

- **Call Money Market:** a segment of the money market where banks and financial institutions borrow and lend money for short durations, typically overnight.

- **Treasury bills (T-bills):** These are short-term government securities with a maturity period of less than one year. This Treasury Bill Market is a part of the money market where these T-bills are traded.

46. Option (b) is correct

The Small Farmers, Large Field (SFLF) model is founded on the same principles of aggregation and achieving economies of scale, through strengthening backward and forward integration along with the supply chain and lowering the costs by synchronizing key agricultural operations from field preparation to harvest.

47. Option (c) is correct

The Gond tribals of Satpura hill ranges in Madhya Pradesh traditionally grow niger (*Guizotia abyssinica*) on the top of the

plateau, where water does not stagnate. But due to amarbel - a twining parasitic plant, the productivity has declined rapidly due to which assured paddy cultivation has been trending.

48. Option (c) is correct

Inventory: It refers to the raw materials used in production as well as the goods produced that are available for sale.

A company's inventory represents one of the most important assets. The turnover of inventory represents one of the primary sources of revenue generation and subsequent earnings for the shareholders of the company. There are three types of inventory, which includes raw materials, work-in-progress, and finished goods. It is categorized as a current asset on a company's balance sheet.

Thus, Raw material is a tangible asset and other three are intangible.

49. Option (b) is correct

Governance reforms and Stable governments are not considered under horizontal tax devolution criteria.

Criteria and Weights Assigned for Horizontal Devolution.

Criteria	Weight (%)
Population	15.0
Area	15.0
Forest and Ecology	10.0
Income Distance	45.0
Demographic Performance	12.5
Tax Effort	2.5
	100.0

50. Option (c) is correct

UNOPS was founded in 1973 and became an integral part of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1995. Since then, it has gained autonomy and financial independence. The primary goal of UNOPS is to advance sustainable methods of implementation in the fields of peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance, and development. The creation of sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure is essential for all industries that contribute significantly to sustainable development.

- **Affordable housing:** The S3i initiative aims to invest in projects that promote affordable housing particularly in regions where there is a significant housing shortage or lack of adequate housing options.

- **Mass rapid transport:** Mass Rapid Transport is not included in the UNOPS S3i initiative.

- **Health care:** The initiative also focuses on investments in healthcare infrastructure, including the development of hospitals, clinics, and healthcare facilities, especially in underserved areas.

- **Renewable energy:** Renewable energy is another sector where the S3i initiative focuses on for its investments. It aims to support projects related to renewable energy generation, such as wind farms, solar power plants, and other sustainable energy initiatives.

51. Option (b) is correct

In order to assist the police in controlling riots and public unrest, the "Home Guards" voluntary forces was originally established in India in December 1946.

Home Guards are raised under the Home Guards Act and Rules of the States/Union Territories (not central Government). They are recruited from amongst all classes of people and walks of life, who give their spare time to the organisation for betterment of the community.

The role of Home Guards is to serve as an auxiliary Force to the Police in maintenance of internal security situations, help the community in any kind of emergency such as an air-raid, fire, cyclone, earthquake, epidemic etc., help in maintenance of essential services, promote communal harmony and assist the administration in protecting weaker sections, participate in socio-economic and welfare activities and perform Civil Defence duties.

Fifteen Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) Battalions have been raised in the border States viz. Punjab (6 Bns.), Rajasthan (4 Bns.), Gujarat (2 Bns.) and one each Battalion for Meghalaya, Tripura and West Bengal to serve as an auxiliary to Border Security Force for preventing infiltration on the international border/coastal areas, guarding of VA/VPs and lines of communication in vulnerable area at the time of external aggression.

52. Option (b) is correct

- Unauthorised people are not allowed to wear police or military uniforms, according to the Official Secrets Act of 1923. It is a terrible felony to wear military or police clothes without authorization.

- The Arms Amendment Act of 2019 outlaws celebratory gunfire that puts other people's personal safety in peril, and the Indian Evidence Act of 1872 forbids intentionally misleading or interfering with a police officer or military officer while they are performing their duty. It also forbids the use, ownership, and sale of firearms and ammunition, as well as the occasional celebratory use of firearms.

53. Option (d) is correct

North Kivu and Ituri are the Provinces of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**. Humanitarian Emergency in North Kivu, Ituri and South Kivu in 2023.

The landlocked mountainous region of **Nagorno-Karabakh** is the subject of an unresolved dispute between Azerbaijan, in which it lies, and its ethnic Armenian majority, backed by neighbouring Armenia.

Russia carried out so-called referendums on joining Russia in the Ukrainian regions of **Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson** – which represent 15 percent of Ukraine's territory and are controlled by Russia.

54. Option (c) is correct

A important new trend of the Middle East in the twenty-first century is the emergence of open, friendly relations between Israel and some Gulf Arab states.

Although the diplomatic agreements that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain signed with Israel in 2020 marked a milestone in ties, the Gulf states and Israel have long

General Studies Paper-I : 2023

maintained channels of contact and collaboration. After Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed the Oslo Accords in the 1990s, a number of nations in the region, including Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman, developed relations with Israel. Hence statement 1 is correct.

The Arab Peace Initiative is a comprehensive peace strategy that was put forth in 2002 by Saudi Arabia's then-Crown Prince Abdullah. In exchange for Israel's withdrawal from the territories it captured in the 1967 Six-Day War and a "just settlement" to the Palestinian refugee problem, the Initiative demands an end to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians and normalisation of ties between Israel and the entire Arab world. The plan was approved by the Arab League in March 2002 and again in March 2007.

The Middle East Quartet had supported the plan in 2003, but it was immediately rejected by the Israeli government, which labelled it a "non-starter". Hence statement 2 is not correct.

55. Option (b) is correct

● **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:** For most spectacular and outstanding performance by a sportsperson over a period of the last four years.

● **Arjuna Award:** It is officially known as Arjuna Awards for Outstanding Performance in Sports and Games and is the second-highest sporting honour of India.

● **Dronacharya Award:** To honour eminent coaches who have successfully trained sportspersons or teams.

● **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar:** The award recognizes the "involvement of corporates, voluntary organisations, and sports control boards, in the promotion and development of sports in the country" over the previous three years.

56. Option (b) is correct

● Recently, the Prime Minister declared the 44th Chess Olympiad at JLN Indoor Stadium in Chennai. The Chess Olympiad is a prestigious competition that has been organized since 1927. It is being hosted in India for the first time and in Asia after 30 years.

● The official mascot was named "Thambi", a chess knight dressed in the traditional Tamil male attire, vettri, with a white shirt. He was depicted with folded hands, extending the Tamil greeting "Vanakkam".

● The winner in the Open section was awarded the Hamilton-Russell Cup, while the winner in the Women's section received the Vera Menchik Cup.

57. Option (d) is correct

● The Donbas is a historical, cultural, and economic region in eastern Ukraine. It comprises two heavily industrialized regions: Donetsk and Luhansk, which were occupied by Russian forces last year.

● Kachin State is the northernmost state of Myanmar. In 2022, military airstrikes reportedly killed dozens of people, including civilians, in Kachin State.

● Tigray is Ethiopia's northernmost region. The region is at the center of an ongoing civil conflict involving ethno-regional militias, the federal government, and the Eritrean military. This conflict has attracted the concern of humanitarian

groups and external actors since November 2020. In October 2022, the first formal African Union-led peace talks between an Ethiopian government team and Tigray forces took place in South Africa.

58. Option (d) is correct

● The governments of Mali, Chad, Guinea, Sudan and Burkina Faso have been toppled by the military leaders in the past 18 months.

● In Mali and Guinea over the past 18 months, the army has overthrown administrations.

● In Chad, where President Idriss Deby lost his life fighting insurgents on the battlefield in the north of the country, the military similarly took over last year (2021).



This map is not to scale and is for reference only.

59. Option (c) is correct

Oil refineries, fertiliser manufacturers, and the chemical sector are likely to be the main targets for the adoption of green hydrogen. The main market potential for green hydrogen in the short- to medium-term include the oil refineries that use grey hydrogen for desulfurization, ammonia production for the fertiliser and chemicals industries, and the treatment of basic metals. In a proposed national transition to green energy, oil refineries, fertiliser industries, and steel producers may be required to fulfil a mandatory green hydrogen purchase obligation (GHPO).

60. Option (c) is correct

In order to provide Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors with a forum for discussing global economic and financial challenges, the G20 group of 19 nations plus the EU was founded in 1999. Together, the G20 nations make up over two-thirds of the world's population, 75% of its trade, and 85% of its gross domestic product. Hence statement 1 is correct.

At the G20, India is promoting its digital infrastructure as an open-access platform that may help to improve the results of development efforts. Hence statement 2 is correct.

61. Option (a) is correct

The rock-cut caves, stupas, chaityas, viharas, and silamandpas of Andhra Pradesh serve as examples of