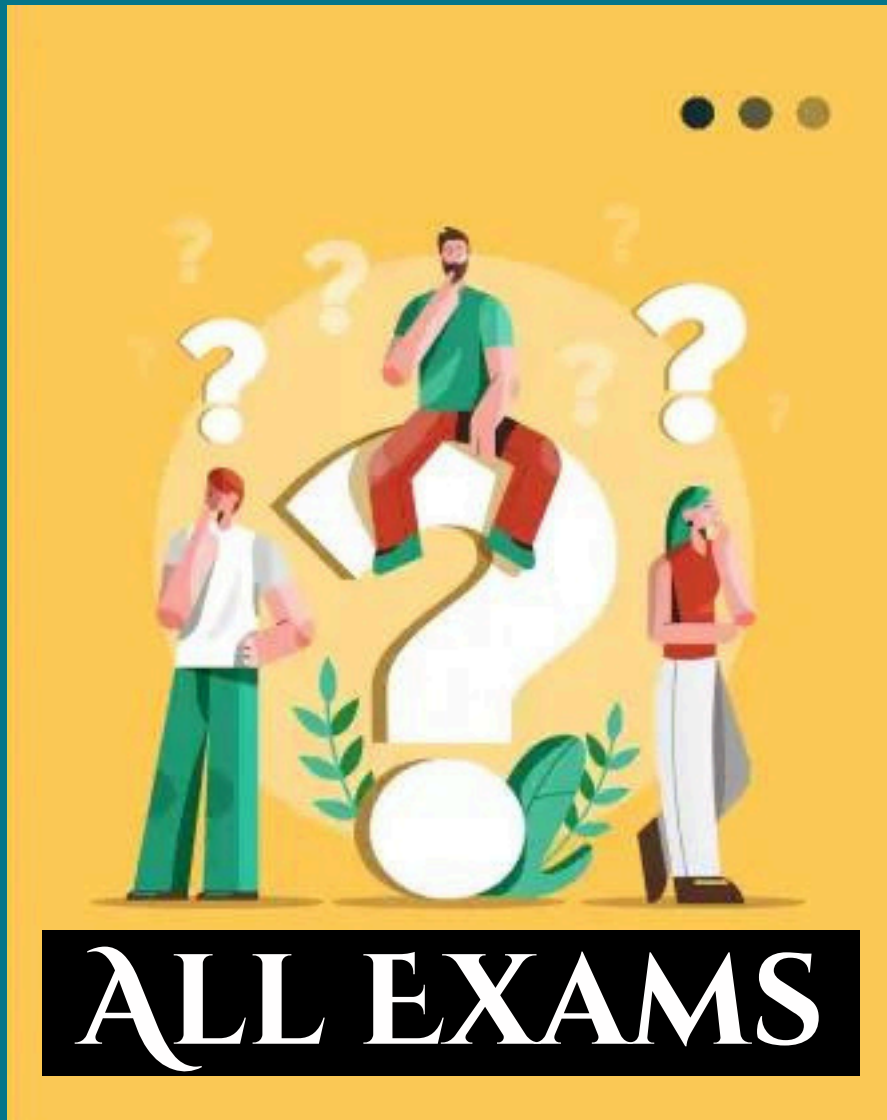# Weekly Quiz Compilation

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ALL EXAMS

Q.1

Where is the Mahabodhi Temple Complex located?

1. Lumbini
2. Sarnath
3. Bodh Gaya
4. Kushinagar

Answer:

C

Sol:

Mahabodhi Temple Complex:
• **Significance**: **One of the four holy sites related to Lord Buddha's life**, marking the spot of his **Enlightenment**.
• **Location**: **Bodh Gaya**, central **Bihar**, on the **banks of the Niranjana River**.
• **Historical Importance**: • **First temple built by Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century B.C**.
• Present temple dates from the **5th or 6th centuries**.
• Surviving example of early brick structures from the late **Gupta period**.
• Influential in the development of **brick architecture**.

• **Architecture**: • Grand temple's pyramidal **shikhara (tower) with layers of niches, arch motifs, and fine engravings**.
• Four smaller identical towers at the corners, topped with umbrella-like domes.
• **Yellow sandstone statue of the Buddha** inside the shrine.

• **Bodhi Tree**: • Supposed **direct descendant of the original Bodhi Tree where Buddha attained enlightenment**.
• Ashoka's stone slab marks the exact spot of Buddha's enlightenment, known as **Buddha's**

vajrasana ("diamond throne" or "thunder seat").

• **UNESCO World Heritage Site**: Recognized in **2002**.

Q.2

When was the Mahabodhi Temple Complex recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

1. 1980
2. 1995
3. 2000
4. 2002

Answer:

D

Sol:

Mahabodhi Temple Complex:
• **Significance**: **One of the four holy sites related to Lord Buddha's life**, marking the spot of his **Enlightenment**.
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• Ashoka's stone slab marks the exact spot of Buddha's enlightenment, known as **Buddha's vajrasana ("diamond throne" or "thunder seat")**.

• **UNESCO World Heritage Site**: Recognized in **2002**.

Q.3

Which ministry is spearheading the e-office platform initiative?

1. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
2. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
3. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
4. Ministry of Law and Justice

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Government of India**, as part of its 100-day agenda, has announced a **plan to implement the e-office platform** in 133 attached, subordinate offices, and autonomous bodies.
About e-office Platform:
• **Initiative Overview**: • Aimed to **streamline operations and enhance efficiency across 133 identified offices**.
• Spearheaded by the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions**.
• **Implementation by**: National Informatics Centre **(NIC)** as the knowledge partner for e-Office

implementation.

• **Key Components of e-Office**: • **File Management System (eFile)**: Workflow-based system extending manual file handling to an efficient electronic system.
• **Knowledge Management System (KMS)**: • Central repository for organizational documents.
• Allows users to create, manage, and track electronic documents, including version history.

• **Work from Anywhere (WAW) Portal**: A virtual office gateway enabling secure access to office functions from anywhere.
• **Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window (SPARROW)**: • Web-based application for processing **Annual Performance Appraisal Reports (APAR)**.
• Enables employees to fill, report, and review APARs within the official hierarchy.

Q.4

How many offices are targeted for the e-office platform implementation as part of the 100-day agenda?

1. 89
2. 100
3. 133
4. 146

Answer:

C

Sol:

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e-office platform in 133 attached, subordinate offices, and autonomous bodies.

About e-office Platform:

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• Enables employees to fill, report, and review APARs within the official hierarchy.

Q.5

What is the primary purpose of the CHAPEA project?

1. To develop new spacecraft technology
2. To simulate year-long stays on Mars
3. To study the effects of microgravity on plants
4. To test new space suits

Answer:

B

Sol:

CHAPEA project:

• **Purpose**: **Simulate year-long stays on Mars** to **assess NASA's food system** and **physical and behavioral health in humans** for **future space missions**.

• **Features**: • Four private crew quarters

• Dedicated workstations

• Dedicated medical station

• Common lounge areas

• Galley and food-growing stations

• **Mission Environment**: **Simulates realistic Mars conditions with environmental stressors** such as: • Resource limitations

• Isolation

• Equipment failure

• Significant workloads

• **Activities**: • Conduct simulated spacewalks.

• Provide data on physical and behavioral health and performance.

Q.6

The Crew Health and Performance Exploration Analog is a series of missions conducted by

1. National Aeronautics and Space Administration
2. Indian Space Research Organisation
3. China National Space Administration
4. European Space Agency

Answer:

A

Sol:

CHAPEA project:
• **Purpose**: **Simulate year-long stays on Mars** to **assess NASA's food system** and **physical and behavioral health in humans** for **future space missions**.
• **Features**: • Four private crew quarters
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• Dedicated medical station
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• Isolation
• Equipment failure
• Significant workloads

• **Activities**: • Conduct simulated spacewalks.
• Provide data on physical and behavioral health and performance.

Q.7

What is India's projected population in 2024 according to the World Population Prospects 2024 report?

1. 1.25 billion
2. 1.35 billion
3. 1.45 billion
4. 1.55 billion

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)** recently released the **World Population Prospects 2024 report**.
About World Population Prospects Report 2024:
• **India's Population**: • Projected to be **1.45 billion in 2024**.
• Expected to peak at 1.69 billion in 2054.

• **Global Population Growth**: • Expected to peak at around 10.3 billion people in the mid-2080s, up from 2 billion in 2024.
• Projected to decline gradually after peaking, falling to 10.2 billion by the end of the century.

• **Fertility Rate**: • **Currently stands at 2.25 live births per woman**, down from 3.31 births in 1990.
• **More than half of all countries** and areas have fertility rates **below the replacement level of 2.1 live births per woman**.

• **Life Expectancy**: • Reached **73.3 years globally in 2024**, an increase of 8.4 years since 1995.
• Projected to rise to an average of **77.4 years globally by 2054**.

Q.8

What is the current global fertility rate as per the 2024 report?

1. 2.25 live births per woman
2. 2.50 live births per woman
3. 2.75 live births per woman
4. 3.00 live births per woman

Answer:

A

Sol:

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About World Population Prospects Report 2024:
• **India's Population**: • Projected to be **1.45 billion in 2024**.
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• **Life Expectancy**: • Reached **73.3 years globally in 2024**, an increase of 8.4 years since 1995.
• Projected to rise to an average of **77.4 years globally by 2054**.

Q.9

What is the main objective of the Agri-SURE initiative?

1. To provide loans to small farmers
2. To support start-ups and agripreneurs in agriculture and allied sectors
3. To provide insurance facility to small and marginal farmers
4. To reduce interest rates on agricultural loans

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has recently announced the **Agri-SURE (Agri fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises)** initiative.
About Agri-SURE initiative:
• **Objective**: **Supports start-ups and agripreneurs** in agriculture and allied sectors.
• **Funding**: • Total: ₹750 crore Category-II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).
• **Contributions**: • NABARD: ₹250 crore.
• Ministry of Agriculture: ₹250 crore.
• Other institutions: ₹250 crore.

• **Investment Support**: • Provides investments through sector-specific, sector-agnostic, and debt AIFs.
• **Direct equity support to agricultural start-ups**.

• **Target**: • Support approximately 85 agri start-ups.
• Investment sizes of up to ₹25 crore each.

• **Focus Areas**: • Promote innovative, technology-driven agricultural initiatives.
• **Enhance farm produce value chain**.
• **Create new rural ecosystem linkages** and **infrastructure**.
• Generate employment.
• Support **Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs)**.
• Encourage IT-based solutions and machinery rental services for farmers.

• **Management**: NABVENTURES, a fully owned subsidiary of NABARD, **will act as the fund manager**.

Q.10

Which entity is managing the Agri-SURE initiative fund?

1. Ministry of Agriculture
2. ICAR
3. NABVENTURES
4. SBI

Answer:

C

Sol:

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• **Management**: NABVENTURES, a fully owned subsidiary of NABARD, **will act as the fund manager**.

Q.11

How many religious sites have been identified under the Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana?

1. 42
2. 80
3. 112
4. 139

Answer:

D

Sol:

• The **Maharashtra government** has identified 139 religious sites, under the **Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana**.
About Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana:
• **Objective**: Free pilgrimages for senior citizens above 60 years.
• **Number of Sites**: 139 religious sites identified. •
National Sites: 73 from across the country.
• **Within Maharashtra**: 66 sites.

• **Prominent National Sites**: • Vaishno Devi temple
• Amarnath Caves
• Golden Temple, Amritsar
• Char Dham Yatra

• Ram Temple, Ayodhya
• Somnath Temple, Dwarka
• Jagannath Puri, Odisha

• **Additional Locations**: • Religious places in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka
• Significant Buddhist and Jain sites

• **Prominent Sites within Maharashtra**: • **15 locations in Mumbai, including**: • Siddhivinayak temple
• Chaityabhoomi (associated with B.R. Ambedkar)
• Vipassana pagoda
• A synagogue
• Mount Mary Church, Bandra
• St Andrews Church

• Jain Temple in Nashik
• Dikshabhoomi, Nagpur (where Ambedkar embraced Buddhism)

• **Eligibility**: • Annual income up to Rs 2.5 lakh
• Entitled to Rs 30,000 for travel, accommodation, and food expenses.

Q.12

How much amount is entitled to eligible senior citizens for travel, accommodation, and food expenses under the Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana?

1. Rs 20,000
2. Rs 30,000
3. Rs 40,000
4. Rs 50,000

Answer:

B

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• **Eligibility**: • Annual income up to Rs 2.5 lakh
• Entitled to Rs 30,000 for travel, accommodation, and food expenses.

Q.13

Which organization is responsible for organizing the 'Maha Connect' Rally 2024?

1. Indian Army
2. Indian Air force
3. Indian Navy
4. Indian Coast Guard

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The **'Maha Connect' Rally 2024**, organized by the **Maharashtra Naval Area** of the **Indian Navy's Western Naval Command**.
Key points:
• The rally, which **aims to inspire and encourage youth to join the Indian Navy**.
• This **initiative not only promotes the Indian Navy and its values but also fosters a sense of maritime awareness** and **environmental consciousness** among the youth of Maharashtra, especially in the Vidarbha region.

Q.14

What are green municipal bonds primarily issued for?

1. To finance green corridors in urban areas
2. To fund afforestation in urban areas
3. To finance projects that provide environmental benefits and promote sustainability
4. To increase renewable energy potential of cities

Answer:

C

Sol:

Green municipal bonds:
• **Green municipal bonds** are **debt securities** issued by **municipalities to finance projects** that **provide environmental benefits and promote sustainability**.
• **Environmental Focus**: • **Funds are typically allocated to projects related to** • Renewable energy,
• Energy efficiency,
• Pollution prevention,
• Sustainable water,
• Wastewater management, and
• Sustainable transportation.

• **Financial Advantages**: • Often come with **tax incentives**, making them attractive to investors.
• Can result in **lower borrowing costs** for the issuing municipality due to investor demand for sustainable investments.

Q.15

Into which river does the Indrayani River merge?

1. Godavari River
2. Krishna River
3. Tapi River
4. Bhima River

Answer:

D

Sol:

Indrayani River:
• **Location and Origin**: • The Indrayani River is located in **Maharashtra**.
• It originates near **Lonavala** in the **Western Ghats**.

• **Course**: Flows through important towns such as **Dehu** and **Alandi** before joining the **Bhima River near Tulapur**.
• **Cultural and Religious Significance**: • Holds significant **religious importance for the followers of Saint Tukaram, a renowned Marathi saint**.
• The **towns of Dehu and Alandi**, situated along its banks, are major pilgrimage sites.

• **Length and Tributaries**: • The river stretches over a length of approximately 80 kilometers.
• Key tributaries include the **Pavana River**.

• **Environmental Issues**: • Faces pollution challenges due to industrial discharge, domestic sewage, and religious activities.
• Efforts are ongoing to clean and rejuvenate the river.

Q.1

What is a SIM swap scam?

1. When a carrier swaps a faulty SIM card for a new one
2. When a malicious actor convinces a mobile carrier to transfer a victim's phone number to a new SIM card in the actor's possession
3. When a victim voluntarily changes their SIM card
4. When a carrier upgrades a SIM card to do cyber fraud

Answer:

B

Sol:

SIM Swapping Scam:
• A **SIM swap scam occurs** when a **malicious actor convinces a mobile carrier to transfer a victim's phone number to a new SIM card** in the actor's possession.
• This **grants the actor access to the victim's calls, texts, two-factor authentication codes**, and **potentially financial accounts linked to the number**.
• **Modus Operandi**: • **Information Gathering**: Fraudsters obtain personal details such as phone numbers, bank account details, and addresses through phishing or vishing.
• **Visiting Retail Outlet**: • Using the gathered information, **fraudsters visit the mobile operator's retail outlet, posing as the victim with forged ID proof**.
• They **report a fake theft of the victim's SIM card** and/or mobile phone.

• **Obtaining Duplicate SIM**: • By reporting the theft, **fraudsters acquire a duplicate SIM**.
• Notably, they **can obtain a duplicate SIM even if the original is still functional**.

• **No Direct Communication with Victims**: • Unlike other scams, the SIM swap scam doesn't require direct communication with victims.
• Fraudsters may give missed calls to their victims, causing them to leave their phones and ignore the lost network connectivity.

• **Control Over SIM**: • Once the SIM is swapped, the fraudster gains control over the victim's SIM.
• **All calls and messages are directed to the fraudster's SIM**.

• **Access to Sensitive Information**: With control of the SIM, fraudsters can obtain passwords and

OTPs, allowing them to access the victim's bank accounts and other sensitive information.

Q.2

What is a unique aspect of SIM swap scams compared to other scams?

1. It doesn't require direct communication with victims
2. It requires direct communication with victims
3. It involves hacking into the victim's computer
4. It requires the victim's consent

Answer:

A

Sol:

SIM Swapping Scam:
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Q.3

Where is Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary located?

1. Maharashtra
2. Bihar
3. Kerala
4. Telangana

Answer:

D

Sol:

Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary:
• **Location**: Medak district, Telangana.
• **Original Purpose**: Established as a **crocodile sanctuary**.

- **Biodiversity**: • **Bird Species**: Over 70 species, including waterbirds.
- **Vulnerable Species**: Home to the mugger crocodile.

- **Geographical Features**: • **River**: Follows the course of river Manjeera, a **tributary of Godavari**.
- **Reservoir**: Manjeera reservoir, man-made, supports irrigation and provides drinking water to Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
- **Islands**: Contains nine small islands with extensive marshy fringes for nesting waterbirds and thick tree cover.

- **Vegetation**: • **Type**: Dry Savannah.
- **Flora**: Includes Typha, Babool, Prosopis, Ipomoea, Acacia, Vallisneria, Eichhornia, and Reeds.
- **Aquatic Vegetation**: Supports both submergent and emergent types.

- **Fauna**: • **Reptiles**: Mugger crocodile and freshwater turtles.
- **Aquatic Life**: Prawns, molluscs, and fishes like catla, rohu, murrel, eel, karugu, and chidwa.
- **Mammals**: Indian hare, wild boar, mongoose, and jackal.

Q.4

Which vulnerable species is found in Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary?

1. Saltwater crocodile
2. Gharial
3. Mugger crocodile
4. Olive ridley turtle

Answer:

C

Sol:

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- **Mammals**: Indian hare, wild boar, mongoose, and jackal.

Q.5

What is the primary objective of the e-FAST India initiative?

1. To promote electric vehicles in urban areas

---

2. To improve public transportation systems in rural areas
3. To enhance rail-based freight transportation in India
4. To decarbonize road-based freight transportation in India

Answer:

D

Sol:

• **NITI Aayog** has recently launched the '**NITI GearShift Challenge**' as part of the **e-FAST India initiative**.
About e-FAST India initiative:
• **Objective**: To **decarbonize road-based freight transportation in India** to meet the **2070 net zero commitments**.
• **Launch Date**: September 2022.
• **Goal**: Transition towards cleaner and greener freight transportation.
• **Platform Functions**: • Facilitates national and international collaborations.
• Supports ideation and development of scalable pilot programs.
• Explores technology integration and associated research.

• **Stakeholders**: Includes government, Original Equipment Manufacturers, Logistics Service Providers, Shippers, and industry experts.

Q.6

The e-FAST India initiative is a step towards meeting which significant commitment by India?

1. 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
2. 2050 Climate Neutrality Target
3. 2070 Net Zero Commitments

4. 2025 National Clean Air Program

Answer:

C

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Q.7

Where is the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) located?

1. Hyderabad
2. Bengaluru
3. Chennai
4. Mumbai

Answer:

A

Sol:

NGRI:

• **Organization**: National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), a constituent **research laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**.
• **Established**: 1961.
• **Location**: Hyderabad, Telangana.
• **Mission**: • Conduct **research** in multidisciplinary areas of **Earth's complex structure and processes**.
• **Focus on Earth's interlinked subsystems**.

• **Mandate**: • Conduct public-good science.
• Enable informed decision-making for government agencies, public, and private sector stakeholders.
• Promote **sustainable use of geo-resources**.
• **Improve preparedness and resilience to natural hazards**.

• **Research Themes**: • Geodynamics
• Earthquake Hazards
• Natural Resources.

Q.8

Which organization is NGRI a constituent research laboratory of?

1. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
2. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
3. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
4. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

Answer:

C

Sol:

NGRI:

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• **Research Themes**: • Geodynamics
• Earthquake Hazards
• Natural Resources.

Q.9

Which of the following institutions collaborated with NITI Aayog for the 'NITI GearShift Challenge'?

1. IIM Bangalore
2. IISc Bangalore
3. IIM Ahmedabad
4. IIT Bombay

Answer:

A

Sol:

• **NITI Aayog** has recently launched the '**NITI GearShift Challenge**' as part of the **e-FAST India initiative**.
About NITI GearShift Challenge:
• **Launched by NITI in collaboration with**: • IIM Bangalore
• Smart Freight Centre India
• CALSTART/Drive to Zero
• WRI India

• Pioneering hackathon **aimed at fostering innovative business models for zero-emission trucks (ZETs) in India**.
• **Addresses** pressing **economic and environmental challenges**.
• **NITI GearShift Challenge invites**: • Students
• Transport service practitioners
• Academics
• Researchers

• **Focus on developing business models for**: • Financial challenges
• Technical challenges
• Operational challenges

Q.10

The 'NITI GearShift Challenge' is part of which initiative?

1. e-FAST India Initiative
2. Digital India Initiative
3. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
4. Make in India Initiative

Answer:

C

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• Academics
• Researchers

• **Focus on developing business models for**: • Financial challenges
• Technical challenges
• Operational challenges

Q.11

Who developed the hyperlocal weather forecasting system for Mumbai?

1. Indian Meteorology Department (IMD)
2. Mumbai Municipal Corporation
3. NITI Aayog
4. Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B)

Answer:

D

Sol:

• **IIT Bombay** launches a hyperlocal **weather forecasting system** for **Mumbai**.
About Hyperlocal weather forecasting system for Mumbai:
• **Project Overview**: • Developed by a team from the **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B)**.
• **Hyperlocal weather forecasting system for Mumbai**.
• Collaboration with **MCGM Centre for Municipal Capacity Building and Research (MCMCR)**.

• **Features**: • **Provides precise predictions** for specific neighbourhoods, streets, and areas across Mumbai.
• **Augments existing weather data from Indian Meteorology Department's (IMD)** observatories in Colaba, Santacruz, and Marine Lines.
• **Utilizes data from over 60 automatic weather stations** and **rainfall monitoring stations** in Mumbai and its suburbs.
• **Offers hourly rainfall predictions** for the next 24 hours.
• Daily forecasts available for the following three days.

• **Additional Services**: • **Provides flood alerts** using water level measurements from sensors at critical locations (**e.g., Mithi River, Vakola Nala**).
• **Incorporates crowdsourced data from citizens**.

Q.12

What type of predictions does the system offer for rainfall?

1. Hourly rainfall predictions for the next 24 hours
2. Daily rainfall predictions for the next 7 days
3. Monthly rainfall predictions
4. Annual rainfall trends

Answer:

A

Sol:

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About Hyperlocal weather forecasting system for Mumbai:
• **Project Overview**: • Developed by a team from the **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B)**.
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• **Additional Services**: • **Provides flood alerts** using water level measurements from sensors at critical locations (**e.g., Mithi River, Vakola Nala**).
• **Incorporates crowdsourced data from citizens**.

Q.13

Which department established the 'Mukhya Mantri Warkari Sampradaya Mahamandal'?

1. Department of Tourism
2. Department of Social Justice
3. Department of Culture
4. Department of Finance

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Maharashtra government** has **announced a new initiative to provide pensions to senior citizens** participating in the age-old tradition of **Wari or Dindi pilgrimages to Pandharpur**.
About Mukhya Mantri Warkari Sampradaya Mahamandal:
• **Social justice department established** the '**Mukhya Mantri Warkari Sampradaya Mahamandal**' to **oversee the initiative**.
• **Corporation Details**: • **Headquartered**: Pandharpur
• Initial allocation of ₹50 crore.
• **Aim**: to support Kirtankars, Warkaris, and Bhajani Mandals.
• Manages Palkhi routes.

• **Annual Pilgrimage**: Lakhs of Warkaris participate in the pilgrimage to Pandharpur, culminating on **Ashadhi Ekadashi**.

Q.14

Where is the headquarters of the 'Mukhya Mantri Warkari Sampradaya Mahamandal' located?

1. Alandi
2. Mumbai
3. Paithan
4. Pandharpur

Answer:

D

Sol:

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• **Annual Pilgrimage**: Lakhs of Warkaris participate in the pilgrimage to Pandharpur, culminating on **Ashadhi Ekadashi**.

Q.15

In which district of Maharashtra is Vishalgad Fort situated?

1. Dharashiv
2. Kolhapur
3. Sangli
4. Satara

Answer:

B

Sol:

Vishalgad Fort:

• **Location**: • Vishalgad Fort is located in **Maharashtra**, India.
• Situated in the **Kolhapur district**, near the town of **Shahuwadi**.

• **Historical Significance**: • Originally known as **Khelna or Khilna Fort**.
• **Renamed Vishalgad by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** after its capture in 1659.
• Served as a **strategic fortification in the Maratha Empire**.

• **Architectural Features**: • The fort has a complex structure with strong walls and bastions.
• Includes several gateways, the most notable being the **Amruteshwar Gate**.

• **Notable Events**: • Famous for the **Battle of Vishalgad (1660)**, where Maratha forces under **Chatrapti Shivaji Maharaj successfully defended the fort against the Adilshahi forces**.

• It is maintained as a protected monument by the **Archaeological Survey of India**.

Q.1

Which organizations are jointly organizing the second APAC ministerial conference on civil aviation in India?

1. Air India and International Air Transport Association (IATA)
2. Indian government and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
3. Air India and United States Aviation Organization

4. ISRO and NASA

Answer:

B

Sol:

• **India will host** the second **Asia Pacific (APAC) ministerial conference on civil aviation**.
• This event will be **jointly organized by the Indian government and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)**.
About ICAO:
• **Establishment**: • Intergovernmental **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)**.
• Established in **1947** by the **Convention on International Civil Aviation (1944)**, known as the **Chicago Convention**.

• **Headquarters**: Montreal, Canada
• **Purpose**: • Promote safe and orderly development of international civil aviation
• **Set standards and regulations** for aviation safety, security, efficiency, and environmental protection
• **Serve as a forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation** among its 193 member states
• Promote regional and international agreements to liberalize aviation markets
• Help establish legal standards

• **Assembly**: • Delegates from all member countries
• Meets every three years

• **Air Navigation Commission**: Appointed by the Council to address technical matters.

Q.2

Where is the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) located?

1. New York
2. Geneva
3. London
4. Montreal

Answer:

D

Sol:

• **India will host** the second **Asia Pacific (APAC) ministerial conference on civil aviation**.
• This event will be **jointly organized by the Indian government and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)**.
About ICAO:
• **Establishment**: • Intergovernmental **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)**.
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• **Assembly**: • Delegates from all member countries
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• **Air Navigation Commission**: Appointed by the Council to address technical matters.

Q.3

What ministry is hosting the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum?

1. Ministry of Culture
2. Ministry of Tourism
3. Ministry of Education
4. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

Answer:

A

Sol:

• The **Ministry of Culture** is **hosting the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum** as part of the **46th session of the World Heritage Committee** and the **UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme**.
About World Heritage Young Professionals Forum:
• **Platform for Youth and Heritage Experts**: • Fosters **intercultural learning and exchange**
• Opportunity for youth to learn about each other's heritage
• Discuss common concerns in preservation
• Discover new roles in **heritage conservation**

• **Forum Focus**: • Specific topic linked to World Heritage
• Aligned with Host Country's World Heritage properties

• **Sub-Themes Tackled**: • Achievements and challenges of the **World Heritage Convention**
• **Climate change impact on World Heritage sites**
• Innovative technologies for promoting World Heritage
• **Sustainable tourism and development** through

young entrepreneurship.

Q.4

Which UNESCO programme is associated with the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum?

1. UNESCO Climate Action Programme
2. UNESCO Cultural Exchange Programme
3. UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme
4. UNESCO Youth Empowerment Programme

Answer:

C

Sol:

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About World Heritage Young Professionals Forum:
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challenges of the **World Heritage Convention**
• **Climate change impact on World Heritage sites**
• Innovative technologies for promoting World Heritage
• **Sustainable tourism and development** through young entrepreneurship.

Q.5

Which country is involved in the India Young Professional Scheme?

1. Australia
2. The United Kingdom
3. Canada
4. The United States

Answer:

B

Sol:

India Young Professional Scheme:
• **Conception and Launch**: • **Part of an India-U.K. Migration and Mobility** MoU signed in May 2021.
• Announced at the **G20 summit in Bali** in November **2021**.
• **Formally launched in February 2023**.

• **Key Features**: • **Permits up to 3,000 degree-holding citizens aged** to **live and work in each other's countries for two years**.
• **India is the first visa-national country** to benefit from this scheme.

• **Eligibility**: • Indian citizens aged between **18 and 30 years**.
• Must hold a **bachelor's degree or higher**.
• Must have £2,530 in savings.
• Must not have any children under 18 who live

with them or whom they financially support.
• Must be selected in the India Young Professionals Scheme ballot.
• **Cannot have previously been in the UK under this scheme or the Youth Mobility Scheme visa**.

Q.6

What is the age range for eligible participants in the India Young Professional Scheme?

1. 18-30 years
2. 20-35 years
3. 25-40 years
4. 21-29 years

Answer:

A

Sol:

India Young Professional Scheme:
• **Conception and Launch**: • **Part of an India-U.K. Migration and Mobility** MoU signed in May 2021.
• Announced at the **G20 summit in Bali** in November **2021**.
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Q.7

What is the primary function of the U-WIN portal?

1. Provide digital health insurance
2. Maintain a digital record of routine immunizations
3. Track patient visits to hospitals
4. Monitor out of pocket healthcare expenditures

Answer:

B

Sol:

U-WIN portal:
• **Electronic Registry for Immunizations**: • Maintains a **digital record of routine immunizations**.
• Currently in **pilot mode** across **all states and Union Territories, except for West Bengal**.

• **Target Population**: • Captures vaccination events for pregnant women and children under the **Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)**.
• Records vaccination events for **children aged 0-5 years and pregnant women**.

• **Timely Administration of Vaccines**: • Ensures timely administration of vaccine doses.
• Digitally records every vaccination event.

• **E-Vaccination Certificate**: • Generates a

uniform QR-based, digitally verifiable **e-vaccination certificate**.
• **Accessible anytime by citizens** through a single click, similar to the Covid vaccination certificate.

• **Single Source of Information**: • **Records pregnancy details and outcomes, newborn registration, and immunizations at birth**.
• **Updates vaccination status** and delivery outcomes in real-time.

• **Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) IDs**: Facilitates the creation of ABHA IDs for comprehensive health record maintenance.
• **Support for Frontline Workers**: • Enables frontline workers to digitally record all vaccination events for children and pregnant women.
• Ensures complete, accurate, and easy record maintenance.

Q.8

Which population groups does the U-WIN portal primarily target?

1. Elderly individuals
2. Children aged 6-18 years and adults
3. Pregnant women and children aged 0-5 years
4. Patients of Non communicable disease

Answer:

C

Sol:

U-WIN portal:
• **Electronic Registry for Immunizations**: • Maintains a **digital record of routine**

immunizations.
• Currently in **pilot mode** across **all states and Union Territories, except for West Bengal**.

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• **Support for Frontline Workers**: • Enables frontline workers to digitally record all vaccination events for children and pregnant women.
• Ensures complete, accurate, and easy record maintenance.

Q.9

Which organization did FishMIP collaborate with to understand long-term impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems and fisheries?

1. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
2. World Health Organization (WHO)
3. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
4. International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Answer:

A

Sol:

• The **Ecosystem Model Intercomparison Project (FishMIP) report** projects that **exploitable fish biomass will decline by more than 10%** by mid-century in many regions, especially under high-emissions scenarios.

About FishMIP Initiative:

• **The Fisheries and Marine Ecosystem Model Intercomparison Project (FishMIP)** was officially launched in **2013**.

• **Provides knowledge to industry and governments** for effective planning of **adaptive and resilient seafood sectors under climate change**.

• Collaborated with the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to understand long-term impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems and fisheries** using state-of-the-art numerical models.

• **In 2024, FishMIP 2.0 was established to**: • Increase the reliability of modelling projections.

• Address a broader set of policy-related questions relevant to food security and marine resource management.

• **Maintain climate change as the overarching theme**.

Q.10

What is the overarching theme that FishMIP 2.0 maintains?

1. Economic growth
2. Sustainable tourism
3. Climate change
4. Marine pollution reduction

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The **Ecosystem Model Intercomparison Project (FishMIP) report** projects that **exploitable fish biomass will decline by more than 10%** by mid-century in many regions, especially under high-emissions scenarios.

About FishMIP Initiative:

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• **In 2024, FishMIP 2.0 was established to**: • Increase the reliability of modelling projections.

• Address a broader set of policy-related questions relevant to food security and marine resource management.

• **Maintain climate change as the overarching theme**.

Q.11

Which Maratha leader is famously associated with using the Wagh Nakh?

1. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
2. Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj
3. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj
4. Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj

Answer:

A

Sol:

• **State government clarifies** that '**wagh nakh**' from London's museum **belonged to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**.
About Wagh Nakh:
• The **Wagh Nakh**, also known as the **tiger claw dagger**, is a **unique weapon originating from the Indian subcontinent**.
• **Designed to fit over the knuckles or be concealed under the palm**, it consists of four or five curved blades affixed to a crossbar or glove.
• The term "wagh nakh" itself means "**tiger's claw**" in marathi, reflecting its inspiration from the armament of big cats.
• **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**, the first Maratha leader, famously used a bichuwa (another type of dagger) and the Wagh Nakh to **kill the Bijapur general Afzal Khan**.

Q.12

Under which Article of the Indian Constitution is preventive detention provided?

1. Article 20
2. Article 21
3. Article 22
4. Article 23

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The **Bombay High Court** recently asked authorities to pass **preventive detention** orders with extreme care as "any casual approach may deprive citizens of a most precious fundamental **right of liberty**".
About Preventive detention:
• Preventive detention refers to the **act of detaining an individual to prevent them from committing a potential crime or threat to national security**.
• It is **not based on a specific offense** already committed but on the **anticipation of potential harm**.
• **Constitutional Provision**: • **Article 22** of the Indian Constitution provides for preventive detention.
• It lays down the **rights of individuals who are detained under such laws**.

• **Grounds for Detention**: Preventive detention can be **invoked for reasons related to national security, public order, maintenance of supplies and services** essential to the community, **defense, foreign affairs, and security of India**.
• **Maximum Period of Detention**: • Initially, an individual can be detained for a maximum period of **three months without** obtaining the **opinion of an Advisory Board**.
• This **period can be extended if the Advisory Board**, consisting of judges or persons qualified to be judges of a High Court, **reports sufficient cause for the extension**.

• **Advisory Board**: • The Advisory Board must consist of persons who are, or have been, or are **qualified to be appointed as judges of a High Court**.
• **The detainee must be provided the opportunity**

to make a representation against the detention.

• **Right to Representation**: • The **detained individual** has the **right to be informed of the grounds for detention** as soon as possible and has the **right to make a representation against the order of detention**.

• **Exceptions**: • The rights under **Article 22(1) and 22(2)** (to be informed of the grounds of arrest and to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner) **are not available to persons detained under preventive detention laws**.

• **Judicial Review**: Although the judiciary generally does not interfere with the subjective satisfaction of the detaining authority, it **can review whether the procedural safeguards under Article 22 have been followed and whether the detention is mala fide (in bad faith)**.

Q.13

For how long can an individual be initially detained under preventive detention without obtaining the opinion of an Advisory Board?

1. One month
2. Two month
3. Three month
4. Four month

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Bombay High Court** recently asked authorities to pass **preventive detention** orders with extreme care as "any casual approach may deprive citizens of a most precious fundamental right of liberty".

About Preventive detention:

• Preventive detention refers to the **act of detaining an individual to prevent them from committing a potential crime or threat to national security**.

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Q.14

Under which ministry does the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) function?

1. Ministry of Defense
2. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
3. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
4. Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer:

D

Sol:

NDRF:
• **Establishment**: • The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) was established in **2006**.
• It was constituted under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**.

• **Purpose**: • The NDRF is **responsible for responding to natural and man-made disasters**.
• It aims to **provide specialized response during disasters**.

• **Structure**: • The NDRF is composed of **12 battalions**.
• Each battalion is equipped with specialized equipment and trained personnel for disaster

response.

• **Organization**: • The force **functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs**, Government of India.
• Each battalion consists of 1149 personnel and is capable of dealing with all types of disasters.

• **Training**: • Training includes specialized courses in **collapsed structure search and rescue, flood rescue, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) emergencies**.

• **Operations**: • The NDRF has been **actively involved in rescue and relief operations** during **major disasters like earthquakes, cyclones, floods, and landslides**.
• Notable operations include the **Uttarakhand floods (2013), Nepal earthquake (2015), Kerala floods (2018), and more**.

Q.15

Which organization launched the "Bhag Machchar Bhag" campaign?

1. Pune Municipal Corporation
2. Kolhapur Municipal Corporation
3. Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation
4. Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation

Answer:

D

Sol:

• The **Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC)** launches '**Bhag Machchar Bhag**' **campaign** to combat **dengue**.
Key points:
• **Campaign Launch**: • The Brihanmumbai

Municipal Corporation (BMC) has initiated a special campaign, "Bhag Machchar Bhag," **to raise awareness about mosquito control measures**.

• **Disease Surge**:

• There has been a **significant increase in mosquito-borne diseases** like **dengue, leptospirosis, and H1N1** in Mumbai in the first half of July 2024.

Q.1

Which framework is developed for quality assurance in PM SHRI Schools?

1. School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF)
2. School Performance Evaluation Framework (SPEF)
3. Educational Quality Benchmark Framework (EQBF)
4. School Quality Improvement Framework (SQIF)

Answer:

A

Sol:

PM SHRI Scheme:
• **Objective**: • Establish over **14,500 PM SHRI Schools**.
• Overseen by Central Government, State/UT Governments, local bodies, KVS, and NVS.
• Create an **inclusive and welcoming environment for all students**.
• Ensure well-being, security, and enriching learning experiences.
• Provide **good physical infrastructure and appropriate resources**.

• Nurture students into engaged, productive, and contributing citizens.

• **Alignment**: • Aligns with **National Education Policy 2020**.
• Aims to **build a society characterized by equity, inclusivity, and pluralism**.

• **Features**: • Focus on **cognitive development** and **holistic growth**.
• **Equip students with key 21st-century skills**.
• Experiential, holistic, integrated, play/toy-based pedagogy.
• Inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centred, discussion-based, flexible, and enjoyable learning.
• **Upgraded with labs, libraries, and art rooms**.
• Developed as **green schools with water conservation, waste recycling, and energy-efficient infrastructure**.
• **Integration of organic lifestyle into the curriculum**.

• **Quality Assurance**: • Development of a **School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF)**.
• Regular **quality evaluations** to ensure standards.
• **Key performance indicators to measure outcomes**.

Q.2

Which policy does the PM SHRI Scheme align with?

1. National Education Policy 2015
2. National Education Policy 2017
3. National Education Policy 2019
4. National Education Policy 2020

Answer:

D

Sol:

PM SHRI Scheme:
• **Objective**: • Establish over **14,500 PM SHRI Schools**.
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• **Quality Assurance**: • Development of a **School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF)**.
• Regular **quality evaluations** to ensure standards.
• **Key performance indicators to measure**

outcomes.

Q.3

What is the primary objective of the ASMITA Project?

1. Translate foreign books into Indian languages
2. Develop 22,000 books in Indian languages within five years
3. Promote English language learning in India
4. Digitize all Indian language books

Answer:

B

Sol:

ASMITA Project:
• **Initiative**: ASMITA (**Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing**)
• **Objective**: **Develop 22,000 books in Indian languages** within five years.
• **Collaborative Effort**: • **UGC** (University Grants Commission)
• **Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti** (High-powered committee under the Ministry of Education)

• **Primary Goal**: **Promote and integrate Indian languages into the education system** to enrich learning and enhance inclusivity.
• **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)**: Created by UGC for the book-writing process in each assigned language. • Identification of nodal officers and authors.
• Allocation of title, subject, and programme.
• Writing and editing.

• Submission of the manuscript.
• Review and plagiarism check.
• Finalisation.
• Designing.
• Proofreading.
• E-publication.

Q.4

Which organizations are collaborating on the ASMITA Project?

1. UGC and AICTE
2. AICTE and Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti
3. UGC and Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti
4. UGC and NITI Aayog

Answer:

C

Sol:

ASMITA Project:
• **Initiative**: ASMITA (**Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing**)
• **Objective**: **Develop 22,000 books in Indian languages** within five years.
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• Allocation of title, subject, and programme.
• Writing and editing.
• Submission of the manuscript.
• Review and plagiarism check.
• Finalisation.
• Designing.
• Proofreading.
• E-publication.

Q.5

Which department notified the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL)?

1. Department of Economic Affairs
2. Department of Defence Production
3. Department of Science and Technology
4. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Department of Defence Production (DDP)**, Ministry of Defence, has recently **notified the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL)**, which includes 346 items.
• These **items will be exclusively procured from the Indian industry** following the indigenisation timelines specified on the **Srijan portal**.
About Srijan portal:
• **Indigenization Portal**: • Developed by the **Department of Defence Production**.
• **Provides information on items suitable for indigenization** by the private sector.
• Allows DPSUs/OFB/SHQs to **display items currently imported or planned for import**.
• Enables Indian Industry to **design, develop, and**

manufacture these items.

• **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Defence.

Q.6

What is the primary purpose of the Srijan portal?

1. To facilitate the export of defence equipment
2. To import advanced defence technologies
3. To manage defence procurement contracts
4. To provide information on items suitable for indigenization by the private sector

Answer:

D

Sol:

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• Enables Indian Industry to **design, develop, and manufacture these items**.

• **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Defence.

Q.7

Jerdon's Courser is endemic to which region?

1. Eastern Ghats
2. Western Ghats
3. Himalayas
4. Thar Desert

Answer:

A

Sol:

Jerdon's Courser:
• **Common Name**: Eastern Ghats Courser
• **Scientific Name**: Rhinoptilus bitorquatus
• **Habitat**: Open patches within **scrub forests**
• **Distribution**: • **Endemic to the Eastern Ghats** of India
• **Found only in Andhra Pradesh** and **Telangana**

• **Diet**: Insectivorous, hunting invertebrates by sight
• **Conservation Status**: • IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered

• **Rediscovery**: Considered extinct since the early 20th century, rediscovered in 1986

Q.8

What is the IUCN Red List status of Jerdon's Courser?

1. Vulnerable
2. Near Threatened
3. Endangered
4. Critically Endangered

Answer:

C

Sol:

Jerdon's Courser:
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• **Rediscovery**: Considered extinct since the early 20th century, rediscovered in 1986

Q.9

In which district is the Bhojshala Complex located?

1. Dhar
2. Indore
3. Ujjain
4. Bhopal

Answer:

A

Sol:

• The **Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) scientific survey report** states that the existing structure at the **Bhojshala complex was constructed using remains from an earlier temple at the site**.

About Bhojshala Complex:
• **Location**: Dhar district, **Madhya Pradesh**.
• **Construction**: Built by **Raja Bhoja** (1000-1055 A.D.) in 1034 AD, greatest monarch of the **Paramara dynasty**.
• **Purpose**: Served as a **university teaching music, Sanskrit, astronomy, yoga, Ayurveda, and philosophy**.
• **History**: • 1305 AD: **First attacked by Alauddin Khilji**.
• 1514 AD: **Mehmudshah Khilji II attacked and attempted to convert the complex into a dargah**; built 'Kamal Moulana' Makbara encroaching on land outside Saraswati Temple.

• **Inscriptions Found**: • **Prakrit Hymns**: Two hymns of the Karmavatar or crocodile incarnation of Vishnu engraved in rocks.
• **Sanskrit Grammar**: Two Sarpabandha pillar inscriptions, one with the Sanskrit alphabet and noun/verb endings, and the other with individual declensions of the ten tenses and moods.

Q.10

What was the primary purpose of the Bhojshala Complex?

1. A palace
2. A university
3. A fort
4. Astronomical centre

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) scientific survey report** states that the existing

structure at the **Bhojshala complex was constructed using remains from an earlier temple at the site**.

About Bhojshala Complex:

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• **Sanskrit Grammar**: Two Sarpabandha pillar inscriptions, one with the Sanskrit alphabet and noun/verb endings, and the other with individual declensions of the ten tenses and moods.

Q.11

What is the age range for eligibility under the Mukhya Mantri Yuva Karyaprashikshan Yojana?

1. 18 to 30 years
2. 21 to 30 years
3. 18 to 35 years
4. 21 to 40 years

Answer:

A

Sol:

• **State government clarifies** that '**wagh nakh**' from London's museum **belonged to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**.

About Wagh Nakh:

• The **Wagh Nakh**, also known as the **tiger claw dagger**, is a **unique weapon originating from the Indian subcontinent**.

• **Designed to fit over the knuckles or be concealed under the palm**, it consists of four or five curved blades affixed to a crossbar or glove.

• The term "wagh nakh" itself means **"tiger's claw"** in marathi, reflecting its inspiration from the armament of big cats.

• **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**, the first Maratha leader, famously used a bichuwa (another type of dagger) and the Wagh Nakh to **kill the Bijapur general Afzal Khan**.

Q.12

In which Indian state did Naxalism begin in the late 1960s?

1. Maharashtra
2. Andhra Pradesh
3. Kerala
4. West Bengal

Answer:

D

Sol:

Naxalism in Maharashtra:

• **Origin and Spread**: • **Naxalism**, also known as **Maoism**, is an **armed insurgency inspired by communist ideologies**.

• It **began in the late 1960s in West Bengal** and **spread to various states, including Maharashtra**.

• **Affected Regions**: • The **districts of Gadchiroli, Gondia, and Chandrapur in Maharashtra** are significantly **affected by Naxal activities**.
• These regions are **part of the larger "Red Corridor,"** which spans several Indian states.

• **Key Issues**: • Naxalism in Maharashtra is driven by **socio-economic issues, including poverty, land disputes, and tribal rights**.
• The **movement is fueled by the perceived neglect** and **exploitation of tribal and marginalized communities**.

Q.13

Which districts in Maharashtra are significantly affected by Naxal activities?

1. Gadchiroli, Gondia, and Chandrapur
2. Gadchiroli, Nagpur, and Wardha
3. Nandurbar, Dhule and Buldhana
4. Washim, Hingoli and Gondia

Answer:

B

Sol:

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• The **movement is fueled by the perceived neglect** and **exploitation of tribal and marginalized communities**.

Q.14

For which grades is Marathi language education being facilitated in the UK?

1. 1st to 3rd standard
2. 5th to 8th standard
3. 1st to 5th standard
4. 8th to 10th standard

Answer:

C

Sol:

• **Maharashtra government** to **promote Marathi language in the UK and Japan schools**.
Key points:
• **Objective**: • **Facilitate Marathi language education** for students **from 1st to 5th standard in the UK**.
• **Promote learning through the native language** for **Maharashtrian students living in Japan**.

• **Committee Formation**: • A **committee has been established to develop a curriculum** for teaching Marathi to students in the UK.
• The committee is **chaired by the Director of the Council for Educational Research and Training**.

• **Collaborations**: • The Government of Maharashtra has collaborated with the **Edogawa**

India Cultural Center in Japan.
• Partnership with the **Tokyo Marathi Mandal** to support Marathi language education in Japan.

Q.15

What is the full name of NITI Aayog?

1. National Institution to Transformation of India
2. National Institute for Training and Implementation
3. National Institutional Transformation of India
4. National Institution for Transforming India

Answer:

D

Sol:

NITI Aayog:
• **Full Name**: National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
• **Established**: January 1, **2015**
• **Predecessor**: Planning Commission of India
• **Objectives and Functions**: • **Policy Formulation**: Acts as a policy think-tank of the Government of India.
• **Strategic Planning**: Provides strategic and technical advice across various sectors.
• **Cooperative Federalism**: Promotes **cooperative federalism** by fostering collaboration between the central and state governments.
• **Innovation and Research**: Encourages innovation and research for sustainable development.
• **Monitoring and Evaluation**: Monitors and evaluates the implementation of government programs and initiatives.

• **Structure**: • **Chairperson**: The Prime Minister of India
• **Vice-Chairperson**: Appointed by the Prime Minister
• **CEO**: Appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure
• **Members**: Full-time and part-time members, including experts and specialists from various fields.

Q.1

Where was Asia's first "Pre-clinical Network Facility" for health research recently inaugurated?

1. New Delhi
2. Pune
3. Faridabad
4. Kochi

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The **Union Minister for Science & Technology** recently **inaugurated Asia's first "Pre-clinical Network Facility"** for health research in Faridabad.
• This facility is established under the **Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)**.
About CEPI:
• **Launch and Founders**: • Launched in **2017**.
• An **innovative partnership** between public, private, philanthropic, and civil organisations.

• **Founded in Davos, Switzerland by**: • Governments of Norway and India

• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
• Wellcome Trust
• World Economic Forum

• **Mission**: • **Accelerate the development of vaccines** and other **biologic countermeasures against epidemic** and pandemic threats.
• Ensure accessibility to all people in need.

• **Achievements**: • Supported the development of over 50 vaccine candidates or platform technologies.
• **Targets multiple known high-risk pathogens and potential future threats like Disease X**.

• **Pandemic-Beating Plan (2022-2026)**: • **Central goal**: '100 Days Mission.'
• **Aim**: Compress the time to develop safe, effective, globally accessible vaccines against new threats to just 100 days.

• **Ind-CEPI Mission**: • Implemented by the **Department of Biotechnology**, **Ministry of Science and Technology**.
• **Focus**: Epidemic preparedness through rapid vaccine development.

• **Program Management**: Managed through a dedicated Program Management Unit (PMU) at **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**.

Q.2

Which organization is associated with the establishment of the "Pre-clinical Network Facility" in Faridabad?

1. World Health Organization (WHO)
2. Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

4. United Nations (UN)

Answer:

B

Sol:

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Q.3

What is the primary power source for the MV Sea Change?

1. Diesel fuel
2. Solar panels
3. Wind turbines
4. Hydrogen fuel cells

Answer:

D

Sol:

• The **MV Sea Change**, the **world's first commercial passenger ferry powered entirely by hydrogen fuel**, was recently launched at the **San Francisco Ferry Building**.
About MV Sea Change:
• **World's First Zero-Emission Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ferry**: • The ferry is powered entirely by **zero-emission hydrogen fuel cells**.
• Built by **All American Marine Shipyard** for SWITCH Maritime.

• **Specifications and Performance**: • Capacity: 75 passengers.
• Hydrogen-powered fuel cells produce electricity for electric motors.
• Operational endurance: About 16 hours.
• Travel range: Around 300 nautical miles

between refueling.
• Maximum speed: 20 knots.
• Service speed: 8-12 knots.

• **Technology and Environmental Impact**: • **Uses H2 fuel cells combining hydrogen from storage tanks and oxygen from the ambient air** to generate electricity.
• **Byproducts**: Only heat and water vapor, no pollutants.

Q.4

The world's first commercial passenger ferry powered entirely by hydrogen fuel, was recently launched in

1. San Francisco
2. Mumbai
3. Shanghai
4. London

Answer:

A

Sol:

• The **MV Sea Change**, the **world's first commercial passenger ferry powered entirely by hydrogen fuel**, was recently launched at the **San Francisco Ferry Building**.
About MV Sea Change:
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• **Byproducts**: Only heat and water vapor, no pollutants.

Q.5

When was the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) established?

1. 2020
2. 2021
3. 2022
4. 2023

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **government aims to boost the capital base** of the **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)** to **1 trillion** with support from banks.

About NaBFID:

• **Establishment**: Set up in 2021 by the **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Act, 2021**.

• **Nature**: Specialized Development Finance

Institution in India.

• **Objectives**: • **Address gaps in long-term non-recourse finance** for infrastructure development.

• **Strengthen the development of bonds and derivatives** markets in India.

• Sustainably boost the country's economy.

• **Regulation**: Regulated and **supervised by the RBI** as an **All-India Financial Institution (AIFI)**.

• **Purpose**: Provide a dedicated and specialized institution focused on **addressing the long-term financing needs of the infrastructure sector in India**.

Q.6

Who regulates and supervises National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)?

1. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
2. Ministry of Finance
3. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
4. NITI Aayog

Answer:

C

Sol:

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Q.7

Under which ministry does the Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) operate?

1. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
2. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
3. Ministry of Finance
4. Ministry of Rural Development

Answer:

A

Sol:

Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle:

• **Initiative of MeitY**: • Incorporated under the **Companies Act, 1956**.

• Monitored by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.

• **Mission Mode Project**: • Part of the **Digital India Programme**.

• Ensures **systemic viability and sustainability of the scheme**.

• **Service Delivery**: • **Acts as front-end delivery points** for government, private, and social sector services.

• **Provides a centralized collaborative framework for service delivery** through **CSCs**.

• **Access Points**: • Delivers various **electronic services to villages**.

• Contributes to a **digitally and financially inclusive society**.

• Provides essential public utility services, social welfare schemes, healthcare, financial, education, and agriculture services.

• **Offers a range of B2C services to rural and remote areas**.

Q.8

The Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle was incorporated under which act?

1. Companies Act, 1956
2. Companies Act, 2013
3. Information Technology Act, 2000
4. Digital India Act, 2020

Answer:

A

Sol:

Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle:

• **Initiative of MeitY**: • Incorporated under the **Companies Act, 1956**.

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• **Offers a range of B2C services to rural and remote areas**.

Q.9

What environmental conditions favor the spread of Late Blight Disease?

1. Hot and dry weather
2. Cool and wet weather
3. Warm and humid weather
4. Cold and dry weather

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI)** has issued an advisory to potato farmers nationwide, **warning of a high risk** of **late blight**

disease in their crops **due to changing weather conditions**.
About Late Blight Disease:
• **Transmission**: • **Spread from infected transplants**, volunteer potato/tomato plants, and related weeds.
• **Airborne spores** can travel long distances in storms.
• **Rain deposits** spores on plants, leading to infection.
• **Favored by cool, wet weather** and cycles repeatedly under favorable conditions.

• **Symptoms**: • **Leaves, Petioles, and Stems**: • Lesions appear as round or irregular dark green to purplish-black areas, resembling frost injury.
• **Whitish growth of spore-producing structures** may be seen at lesion margins on under-leaf surfaces.

• **Potato Tubers**: • Rot up to 15 mm (0.6 inch) deep.
• **Secondary fungi and bacteria** (particularly Erwinia species) often invade, causing significant rotting and losses during storage, transit, and marketing.

• **Management**: • Timely application of fungicide is effective.
• Rapid epidemics can occur once crops are infected.

Q.10

Late blight disease infects which crops?

1. Potato
2. Tomato
3. Onion
4. Chilli

Answer:

A

Sol:

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Q.11

Under which article of the Constitution of India is the right to free elementary education guaranteed?

1. Article 19
2. Article 21-A
3. Article 22
4. Article 23

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The **Bombay High Court** has taken a significant **step in favor of education equity**.

Key points:

• It **stayed a recent amendment** to the **Maharashtra Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Rules, 2011**, which had **exempted private unaided schools located within a 1-km radius of government or aided schools** from **admitting 25% students from economically weaker and disadvantaged sections**.

• The court found this **amendment to be ultra vires the provisions of the RTE Act**, emphasizing that **Section 12 (1) of the RTE Act clearly mandates that private unaided schools should provide 25% reservation at entry point** to children from **weaker sections and disadvantaged groups**.

• The court's decision ensures that the **right to free elementary education**, guaranteed under **Article 21-A** of the Constitution of India, is upheld.

Q.12

Under which section of the RTE Act is the 25% reservation for children from weaker sections and disadvantaged groups mandated?

1. Section 10 (1)
2. Section 11 (1)
3. Section 12 (1)
4. Section 13 (1)

Answer:

C

Sol:

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• The court's decision ensures that the **right to free elementary education**, guaranteed under **Article 21-A** of the Constitution of India, is upheld.

Q.13

Where will the proposed net-zero building be located in Mumbai?

1. Bandra
2. Andheri
3. Colaba
4. Santacruz

Answer:

D

Sol:

• **BMC** plans a ₹116-cr **net-zero building** in **Mumbai** to achieve Centre's goal.
• It **will consume net-zero energy, water, and waste**, aiming to **reduce carbon footprint**.
Key points:
• **Objective**: To build a ₹116-crore net-zero building for BMC's H East ward office.
• **Location**: **Santacruz**, Mumbai.
• **Target**: Net-zero energy, water, and waste consumption.
• **Key Features**: • **Energy**: • Use of solar energy.
• Energy-efficient brushless direct current (BLDC) fans.
• Cavity walls for insulation.
• Energy-efficient construction techniques.

• **Water**: • Rainwater harvesting system.
• On-site sewage treatment plant (STP).

• **Waste**: • Composting and recycling of waste.
• Acceptance of contractor-proposed techniques if suitable.

• **Certifications**: • **LEED** (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).
• **IGBC** (Indian Green Building Council).

Q.14

What is the primary objective of the Street Vendors Act of 2014?

1. To eliminate street vending activities
2. To protect the rights of urban street vendors and regulate street vending activities
3. To increase street vending taxes
4. To ban street vendors from urban areas

Answer:

B

Sol:

Street Vendors Act of 2014:
• **Objective**: To **protect the rights of urban street vendors** and **regulate street vending activities**.
• **Legal Recognition**: Provides legal recognition and protection to street vendors across urban areas in India.
• **Town Vending Committees (TVCs)**: Establishes TVCs in each local authority, comprising representatives of street vendors, local authority, police, and community-based organizations.
• **Surveys and Certificates**: • Mandates periodic surveys of street vendors and issuance of certificates of vending to identified vendors.
• **No street vendor can be evicted until the survey is completed and the certificate is issued**.

• **Regulation of Vending Zones**: Defines vending zones, no-vending zones, and restricted vending zones by local authorities in consultation with TVCs.

Q.15

What is mandated under the Act regarding surveys and certificates for street vendors?

1. Random surveys without issuing any certificates
2. Monthly surveys and issuance of vending certificates
3. Annual surveys and issuance of eviction notices
4. Periodic surveys and issuance of certificates of vending to identified vendors

Answer:

D

Sol:

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