

Prelimsure Test-10 Answerkey

1. B

- New Agenda Coalition is a geographically dispersed group of middle power countries seeking to build an international consensus to make progress on nuclear disarmament, as legally called for in the nuclear NPT.
- It is composed of member countries like Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand and South Africa joined together for the cause of nuclear disarmament.

2. C

- The NRC has its roots in the Memorandum of Settlement or the Assam Accord signed between the Assam State Students Union and the Government of India in 1985. The accord was an outcome of the violent anti-migrant movement of the 1980s and contained various clauses to curb illegal migration.
- The Citizenship Act of 1955 was amended after the Assam Accord for all Indian-origin people who came from Bangladesh before January 1, 1966 to be deemed as citizens. o Those who came between January 1, 1966 and March 25, 1971 were eligible for citizenship after registering and living in the State for 10 years while those entering after March 25, 1971, were to be deported. However, nothing much happened over the decades.
- In 2014, the Supreme Court asked the state government to update the 1951 NRC in a time-bound manner. Present exercise has been conducted under the supervision of the Supreme Court.
- The National Register of Citizens is a list of all the legal citizens of Assam, the only state so far with such a document. It is governed by the Citizenship Act, 1955, and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003 (amended in 2009) and a 2010 order of the Ministry of Home Affairs, published in the Gazette of India.

3. B

- India have 28 states and 9 union territories. Kashmir and Ladakh.
- No states currently have a constitution after the Jammu and Kashmir reorganisation in August and repealing of Article 370
- Currently no states have recognised the state flags. Though states like karnataka has proposed the state flags.

4. C

- TRAFFIC is a leading non-governmental organisation working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.
- It was founded in 1976 as a strategic alliance of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).



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- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is an American animal rights organization. It is one of the largest animal rights organisations in the world and it is in the news because of the Jallikattu controversy.

5. A

- Shillong Declaration on e-governance was adopted at the 22nd National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG).

6. D

- The World Economic Forum is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.
- It was established in 1971 as a not-for-profit foundation and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. India ranked 60th in the Inclusive Development Index.

7. B

- In 2005, the government enacted the Disaster Management Act, which envisaged the creation of National Disaster Management Authority, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, headed by the Prime Minister, and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) headed by respective Chief Ministers, to spearhead and implement a holistic and integrated approach to disaster management in the country.

8. C

- It is an initiative by six countries – India and five ASEAN countries, namely, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam for cooperation in tourism, culture, education, as well as transport and communications.
- It was launched in 2000 at Vientiane, Laos.
- Both the Ganga and the Mekong are civilizational rivers, and the MGC initiative aims to facilitate closer contacts among the people inhabiting these two major river basins. It is also indicative of the cultural and commercial linkages among the member countries of the MGC down the centuries.

9. A

- The Himalayas comprise three almost parallel ranges interspersed with large plateaus and valleys, some of which, like the Kashmir and Kullu valleys, are fertile, extensive and of great scenic beauty. Some of the highest peaks in the world are found in these ranges.
- The high altitudes allow travel only through a few passes, notably the Jelep La and Nathu La on the main Indo-Tibet trade route through the Chumbi valley, north-east of Darjeeling and Shipki La in the Satluj valley, north-east of Kalpa (Kinnaur).



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- The mountain wall extends over a distance of about 2,400 km with a varying depth of 240 to 320 km. In the east, between India and Myanmar and India and Bangladesh, hill ranges are much lower.

10. B

- The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was founded in Baghdad, Iraq, with the signing of an agreement in September 1960 by five countries namely Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. They were to become the Founder Members of the Organization.
- These countries were later joined by Qatar (1961), Indonesia (1962), Libya (1962), the United Arab Emirates (1967), Algeria (1969), Nigeria (1971), Ecuador (1973), Gabon (1975), Angola (2007), Equatorial Guinea (2017) and Congo (2018).
- Qatar recently terminated its membership on 1 January 2019.

11. D

- IFAD is an international financial institution and specialized United Nations agency based in Rome, the UN's food and agriculture hub.
- IFAD works where poverty and hunger are deepest and in the most remote regions of developing countries. India is a founding member of IFAD.

12. B

- Last year, RBI formed a committee under the chairmanship of Bimal Jalan to review the provisions under the Economic Capital Framework.
- Recently, based on the recommendations of the committee, the RBI Central Board has decided to increase its net transfer to the government.
- The recent transfer includes Rs 1.23 lakh crore of surplus for 2018-19 and Rs 52,637 crore of excess provisions identified under a revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF) adopted by the RBI board.
- The committee has given the recommendations on the principle that the alignment of the objectives of the government and the RBI is important.

13. D

- The National Calendar based on the Saka Era, with Chaitra as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from March 22, 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for the following official purposes.
- National Anthem and National Song of India were adopted on January 24, 1950. State Emblem of India was adopted on January 26, 1950. The design of the National Flag was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on July 22, 1947.

14. D



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- International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The ICJ's primary functions are to settle international legal disputes submitted by states and give advisory opinions on legal issues referred to it by the UN.
- International Criminal Court established through the Rome Statute tries the individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression. It is not under the European Union.
- The verdicts of the ICJ are binding and no appeals are possible. Also, the permanent court of arbitration is established to resolve cases through arbitration process. Second statement is wrong as well.

15. B

- The National Calendar is based on the Saka Era, with Chaitra as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from March 22, 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for the following official purposes: (i) Gazette of India, (ii) news broadcast by the All India Radio, (iii) calendars issued by the Government of India and (iv) Government communications addressed to the public.

16. D

- Development banks are financial institutions that provide long-term credit for capital-intensive investments spread over a long period. These banks also extended useful services such as in-house technical expertise, underwriting new capital issuance and creating confidence in other lenders.
- They performed a counter-cyclical role to ensure investment flows even during economic downturns and actively supported regional integration and the internationalisation of domestic companies.
- In India, development banking was started immediately after independence. Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) is the first development bank in India. It started in 1948 to provide finance to medium and large-scale industries in India.
- After 1991, following the Narasimham Committee reports on financial sector reforms, development finance institutions were disbanded and got converted to commercial banks.

17. C

- Recently, a coalition of more than 60 donor and borrower governments agreed to ratchet up the fight against extreme poverty with a record \$75 billion commitment for the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's fund for the poorest countries.
- It aims to reduce poverty by providing loans (called "credits") and grants for programs that boost economic growth, reduce inequalities, and improve people's living conditions.
- IDA complements the World Bank's original lending arm—the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

18. B



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- The South Asia Growth Quadrangle (SAGQ) was launched in April 1997 by the Foreign Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal (BBIN).

19. A

- The Mid-Day Meal Scheme covers children of classes I-VIII studying in government, government-aided schools, special training centres (STC) and madrasas/ maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Finances.
- The central and state governments share the cost of the Midday Meal Scheme, with the centre providing 60 percent and the states 40 percent. The central government provides grains and financing for other food. Costs for facilities, transportation, and labour is shared by the federal and state governments.

20. B

- Bhutan is a founder member of SAARC. In 2005, Afghanistan began negotiating their accession to SAARC and formally applied for membership on the same year. The SAARC member states imposed a stipulation for Afghanistan to hold a general election; the non-partisan elections were held in late 2005.
- Despite initial reluctance and internal debates, Afghanistan joined SAARC as its eighth member state in April 2007. States with observer status in SAARC include Australia, China, the European Union, Iran, Japan, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Korea and the United States. All SAARC members are members of ADB

21. B

- India and Brazil are the largest producers of sugar including traditional cane sugar sweeteners, khandsari and Gur equivalent.. Sugarcane provides raw material for the second largest agro-based industry after textiles.
- The sugar industry is instrumental in generating the sizable employment in the rural sector directly and through its ancillary units. Broadly there are two distinct agro-climatic regions of sugarcane cultivation in India, viz., tropical and subtropical

22. C

- The International Labour Organization (ILO) celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2019. IT was established in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles as an affiliated agency of the League of Nations.
- It became the first affiliated specialized agency of the United Nations in 1946 with its headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland

23. C

- Bali Fintech Agenda is a set of 12 policy elements established to help member countries harness the benefits and opportunities of rapid advances in financial technology.
- International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group today launched the Bali Fintech Agenda.



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- Bali Fintech Agenda provides a framework to support the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in low-income countries, where access to financial services is low.

24. B

- UNESCO together with UNICEF, the World Bank, UNFPA, UNDP, UN Women and UNHCR organized the World Education Forum 2015.
- The Incheon Declaration constitutes the commitment of the education community to Education 2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recognizing the important role of education as a main driver of development.

25. C

- The new Act, which would replace the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, is not an amendment to the 1986 law, but a new consumer protection law. It aims to address consumer vulnerabilities to new forms of unfair trade and unethical business practices in the fast-changing new-age economy
- A consumer is defined as a person who buys any good or avails a service for a consideration. It does not include a person who obtains a good for resale or a good or service for commercial purpose. It covers transactions through all modes including offline, and online through electronic means, teleshopping, multilevel marketing or direct selling
- Central Consumer Protection Authority will be set up to promote, protect and enforce consumer rights. It can issue safety notices for goods and services, order refunds, recall goods and rule against misleading advertisements

26. A

- Myanmar is the only ASEAN country having land boundary with India. Laos is the only landlocked ASEAN country. HDI of ASEAN countries varies from medium to very high, Myanmar having the lowest(0.578) Singapore having the highest(0.932).

27. A

- Recently, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCCL) This report presents the most recent evidence on how the different uses of land like forests, agriculture, urbanisation are affecting and getting affected by climate change.
- The report's full name is Climate Change and Land, an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems
- It is part of a series of special reports. The aim of these special reports is to provide "an assessment on a specific issue". They complement the main "assessment reports" that the IPCC published every five or six years.

28. B



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- Eastern Economic Forum is an international forum held each year in Vladivostok, Russia, for the purpose of encouraging foreign investment in the Russian Far East.
- It broadly discusses about following goals: creating new economic regimes and improving the investment climate, passing legislative initiatives and changing legal framework, putting new social infrastructure in place and helping regions reach their potential.
- India announced in the EEF its commitment in the development of the Far East region of Russia and announced a USD 1 billion line of credit for the development of the resource-rich region.

29. D

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation formed by the Shanghai five.
- The SCO comprises eight member states: namely the Republic of India, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- Peace Mission 2018 was conducted by the SCO with military contingents of the all eight member nations participating in this exercise

30. D

- Ocean energy is mostly exploited by just a few technologies: Wave, tidal, current energy and ocean thermal energy.
- Tidal Energy The tidal cycle occurs every 12 hours due to the gravitational force of the moon. The difference in water height from low tide and high tide is potential energy. Similar to traditional hydropower generated from dams, tidal water can be captured in a barrage across an estuary during high tide and forced through a hydro-turbine during low tide
- Wave Energy- is generated by the movement of a device either floating on the surface of the ocean or moored to the ocean floor
- Current Energy- Marine current is ocean water moving in one direction. Tides also create currents that flow in two directions. Kinetic energy can be captured from marine and other tidal currents with submerged turbines that are very similar in appearance to miniature wind turbines. Similar to wind turbines, the movement of the marine current moves the rotor blades to generate electric power
- Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC)- uses ocean temperature differences from the surface to depths lower than 1,000 meters, to extract energy

31. C

- India is the second largest fish producer in the world with a total production of 13.7 million metric tonnes in 2018-19 of which 65 per cent was from inland sector.
- Freshwater aquaculture showed an overwhelming ten-fold growth from 0.37 million tonnes in 1980 to 4.03 million tonnes in 2010; with a mean annual growth rate of over 6 percent. Freshwater aquaculture contributes to over 95 percent of the total aquaculture production.



32. C

- Recently, the NITI Aayog released the Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) 2.0 to assess and improve the performance in efficient management of water resources.
- The CWMI 2019 measures the performance of States on a comprehensive set of water indicators and reports relative performance in 2017-18 as well as trends from previous years (2015-16 & 2016-17).
- States and Union Territories (UTs) have been scored on the Index which comprises nine themes, and a total of 28 indicators across themes, and have been divided into three categories: non-Himalayan states, North-Eastern and Himalayan states, and Union Territories (UTs).
- A majority of Indian states are demonstrating progress- 80% of the states (19 out of 24) have shown improvement in their water management scores over the last three years

33. C

- The Right to Information Act, 2005 empowers citizens, promotes transparency and accountability in the working of the government, combat corruption and make democracy work for people in real sense.
- RTI includes information relating to any private body which can be accessed by the public authority under any law for the time being in force. The right includes inspection of work, documents and records, taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records, taking certified samples of material held by the public authority or held under the control of the public authority.
- It also includes information relating to any private body which can be accessed by the public authority under any law for the time being in force.

34. D

- The African Development Bank Group or Banque Africaine de Développement is a multilateral development finance institution. The AfDB was founded in 1964.
- Apart from the members from the African continent, there are non regional member countries as well such as India, USA, UK etc.
- 2017 Annual Meetings of the African Development Bank was held on May 22-26, 2017 in Ahmedabad, India.

35. A

- Established in 1930, the BIS is owned by 60 central banks, representing countries from around the world that together account for about 95% of world GDP. The Reserve Bank of India is a member of Bank for International Settlement. It aims to serve the central banks in their pursuit of monetary and financial stability.

36. A



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- United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements (UNISA) is also known as Singapore Convention on Mediation. It was adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2018.
- The Convention is an instrument for the facilitation of international trade and the promotion of mediation as an alternative and effective method of resolving trade disputes. Being a binding international instrument, it is expected to bring certainty and stability to the international framework on mediation

37. A

- With a view to ensuring compliance of the constitutional and legal provisions regarding official language and to promote the **use of Hindi for official purposes of the Union**, the Department of Official Language was set up in 1975 as an independent department of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Act lays down under Section 3 (3) that both Hindi and English shall compulsorily be used for certain specified purposes such as resolutions, general Orders, Rules, Notifications, Administrative and other Reports, Press Communiques; Administrative and other reports and official papers to be laid before a House or the Houses of Parliament; contracts, agreements, licences, permits, tender notices and forms of tender, etc.

38. C

- The 48-nation NSG granted the waiver to India on September 6, 2008 allowing it to access civilian nuclear technology and fuel from other countries. This was under the diplomatic pressure of USA.
- The special waiver does not ensure that India gets NSG membership automatically. Also, it does not compel India to stop its nuclear programme.

39. D

- Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all". It was adopted in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and intended to be achieved by the year 2030.
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are not legally binding. While SDG are not legally binding, governments are expected to take ownership and establish national frameworks for the achievement of the 17 Goals.

40. B

- The Conference on Disarmament is a multilateral disarmament forum established by the international community to negotiate arms control and disarmament agreements based at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.
- It was established by 1979 where as the Treaty of Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons came into existence by the 1960's itself. So statement 1 is wrong.



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- The CD has a special relationship with the United Nations. Its secretary is appointed by the UN Secretary-General. It reports to the General Assembly annually or more frequently, as appropriate. The budget of the CD is included in that of the United Nations, the CD meets on UN premises and is serviced by UN personnel.

41. A

- Union HRD Ministry launched NISHTHA to build capacities of 42 Lakh government teachers across the country. NISHTHA is the world's largest teachers' training programme of its kind in the world. It has been launched to improve Learning Outcomes at the Elementary level. The basic objective of this massive training programme is to motivate and equip teachers to encourage and foster critical thinking in students.
- The initiative is first of its kind wherein standardized training modules are developed at national level for all States and UTs. However, States and UTs can contextualize the training modules and use their own material and resource persons also, keeping in view the core topics and expected outcomes of NISHTHA.

42. A

- Interpol is global police cooperation agency. It was established as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) in 1923. Its headquarters is located in Lyon, France.
- It is the world's largest international police organization, with 194 member countries (including India). It is the second-largest international organization after the United Nations in terms of international representation.

43. D

- The burning of African rainforests have been in news immediately after the Amazon forest fire. Out of the given options, option d suits the most as all of those countries lie within the Central and West African ranges.
- The countries like Morocco, Algeria, Egypt etc. have an arid climate. And also South Africa is more of a temperate grassland type.

44. B

- Leveraging Urbanization in South Asia is about the state of South Asia's urbanization and the market and policy failures that have taken the region. The report is published by the World bank.

45. C

- Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sahitya Akademi, Lalit Kala Akademi, Archaeological Survey of India etc are funded by the Ministry of Culture. While Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and Council of Architecture comes under the Ministry of Human Resource development.

46..B



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- The National Archives of India is the custodian of the non-current records of the Government of India and is holding them in trust for the use of the records creators and users at large.
- The National Archives of India functions as an attached office of the Ministry of Culture entrusted with the preservation of the documentary heritage of the nation.
- The major activities of the National Archives of India include: making public records accessible to various Government agencies and research scholars, an online search portal “www.abhilekh-patal.in” now facilitates to access records; rendering technical assistance to individuals and institutions in the field of conservation of records; the Department through its regular diploma courses are being conducted by the School of Archival Studies imparts training in various disciplines of archival sciences.

47. C

- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was established in 1964 as a permanent intergovernmental body. UNCTAD is the part of the United Nations Secretariat dealing with trade, investment, and development issues. In the annual summits, it publishes the Trade and Development Report.
- Least Developed Countries Report provides a comprehensive and authoritative source of socio-economic analysis and data on the world’s most impoverished countries.
- The World Investment Report supports policymakers by monitoring global and regional foreign direct investment trends and documenting national and international investment policy developments.
- World Trade Report is an annual publication of the World Trade Organisation.

48. D

- Agreement on Reciprocal Logistics Support (ARLS) is negotiated between India and Russia. They are finalising a defence agreement that will simplify interoperability and enable military platforms to receive support and supplies across bases in both nations.
- It will allow access to India and Russia, to each other’s military facilities for supplies and fuel, expanding the logistics support and operational turnaround of the Indian military, similar to the LEMOA agreement with USA.

49. B

- WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) with 193 Member States and Territories. Geneva in Switzerland is the HQ.
- WMO originated from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), which was founded in 1873 to facilitate the exchange of weather information across national borders.
- Established in 1950, the WMO became a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1951. Its mandate is in the areas of meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.



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- Since its establishment, WMO has played a unique and powerful role in contributing to the safety and welfare of humanity. It has fostered collaboration between the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of its Members and furthered the application of meteorology in many areas.

50. C

- Recently, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change released the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) in public domain.
- The draft Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is part of a World Bank-funded project named ENCORE (Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency Program) which aims to strengthen integrated coastal zone management in all coastal States and Union Territories of India.
- The ESMF has been prepared with an objective to manage the social and environment impacts through appropriate measures during the planning, design, construction and operation of various sub-projects of ENCORE.
- ESMF Adoption Framework- which include various steps like: Screening and initial environmental and social examination, Environment and social review, implementation of environmental and social measures etc.
- Resettlement Policy Framework- Every Project Authority shall undertake a survey for identification of the persons and their families likely to be affected by the project.

51. C

- Under Adopt a Heritage scheme the government invites entities, including public sector companies, private sector firms as well as individuals, to develop selected monuments and heritage and tourist sites across India.

52. D

- KUSUM was launched in February which has provision for the decentralised renewable energy plants, Solar agriculture water pumps and solarisation of existing Grid connected Agriculture pumps.
- The scheme aims to provide energy security along with financial and water security to farmers. It would encourage farmers to generate solar power in their farms and use the clean energy to replace their diesel water pumps.
- It targets to add decentralised solar power capacity of 25,750 megawatt by 2022. The approved scheme comprises three components:
 - Component A: setting up of 10,000 megawatt of decentralised ground/ stilt mounted grid connected solar or other renewable energy-based power plants.
 - Component B: Offgrid solar pump
 - Component C: Solarization of grid-connected electric pumps

53. A



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- ICAO is a specialised agency of the UN and it was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world.
- The representatives from all contracting states meet every three years, reviewing in detail the work of the organisation and for setting the policy for the coming years.

54. A

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an international alliance that consists of 8 member states and 3 observers from Eurasia. India and Pakistan became members during 2017.
- SAARC comprises of eight Member States: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an inter governmental forum for 21 Pacific Rim Countries where both India and Pakistan are not members.
- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum held annually by leaders of ASEAN + 6 countries which does not have Pakistan. The 6 countries are India, Japan, China, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. Now USA and Russia are also a part of the grouping.

55 B

- Tele-density, which denotes the number of telephones per 100 population is an important indicator of telecom penetration in any country.
- Tele-density in India was 91.64 per cent at the end of November 2017.
- The rural tele-density is now 56.58 per cent while that in urban areas it is 167.50 per cent.
- Amongst the service areas, Himachal Pradesh (153.96 per cent) had the highest tele-density followed by Tamil Nadu (124.38 per cent), Punjab (123.62 per cent), Kerala (118.58 per cent)

56. A

- The World Economic Forum's Global Future Councils are the world's foremost interdisciplinary knowledge network dedicated to promoting innovative thinking to shape a sustainable and inclusive future for all.
- The network convenes more than 700 of the most relevant and knowledgeable thought leaders from academia, government, business etc.

57. D

- Recently, Gogabeel, has been declared as Bihar's first 'Community Reserve'
- Community reserve is a category of protected areas which was introduced in the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002.
- It is an inhabited area which typically act as a buffer zone to or connectors and migration corridors between established national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and reserved and protected forests of India. Parts of the land in this area are privately owned.
- 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



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- These categories were added because of reduced protection in and around existing or proposed protected areas due to private ownership of land, and land use.
- State Government after consulting with the central government and the local communities, declare any area as community or conservation reserve.
- Currently there are 127 community reserves in India and maximum in the state of Meghalaya.

58. B

- ITU is the UN specialised agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs). It has 193 countries as its members and also 800 private-sector entities and academic institutions. It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- India was elected as member of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council for another 4-year term from 2019 to 2022. The elections to ITU Council were held during ongoing ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 at Dubai, UAE. India got elected to Council from Asia-Australasia region by securing 165 votes and was among 48 countries elected to Council globally

59. A

- Rajasthan assembly recently passed antimob lynching bill. Apart from Rajasthan, West Bengal government has also introduced bill against mob lynching. Till now there is no national law on anti-mob lynching.

60. A

- The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (established in 1966) is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law. UNCITRAL's business is the modernization and harmonization of rules on international business.
- The Commission comprises 60 member States elected by the United Nations General Assembly for a term of six years. Membership is structured to ensure representation of the world's various geographic regions and its principal economic and legal systems.
- The International Trade Law Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs provides substantive secretariat services to UNCITRAL, such as conducting research and preparing studies and drafts

61. A

- Common Service Centres is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics & IT. CSCs are the access points for delivery of various electronic services to villages in India.
- The CSCs provide high quality and cost-effective video, voice and data content and services, in the areas of e-governance, education, health, telemedicine, entertainment as well as other private services.
- Under CSC 2.0 scheme launched in 2015 seeks to set up at least one CSC in each of the 2.5 lakh GPs across the country by 2019. It forms a part of Digital India programme.



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- The CSCs: 1. cater to regional and linguistic diversity of the country, thus enabling the Government's mandate of a socially, financially and digitally inclusive society. 2. promote rural entrepreneurship and builds rural capacities and livelihoods. 3. increase community participation and collective action which would lead to sustainable socio-economic development through bottom up approach. 4. help to decrease the digital divide in India.

62. C

- Reporters Without Borders or Reporters Sans Frontières, is an international non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Paris that conducts political advocacy on issues relating to freedom of information and freedom of the press. They release the report World Press Freedom Index.

63. D

- 100 Resilient Cities initiative is pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation, and it is dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century.
- Global Smart Cities Alliance on Technology is not related to UNHABITAT. It is in fact co organised by the organisations such as G-20 and World Economic Forum. It will create global norms and policy standards for the use of connected devices in public spaces

64. D

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank is headquartered at Beijing. The bank aims to support the building of infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region. The bank currently has 74 members as well as 26 prospective members from around the world.
- It expects an investment of 100 million USD in India in a year. The foreign investment is to enter India through the bank in Wind and solar projects. With the total project portfolios of US\$4.4 Billion, India has been the largest borrower of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) lending

65. C

- Global Financial Stability Report is a semiannual report by the IMF that assess the stability of global financial markets and emerging market financing.

66. B

- Gravitational lensing is a phenomenon, which occurs when a huge amount of matter, such as a massive galaxy or cluster of galaxies, creates a gravitational field that distorts and magnifies the light from objects behind it, but in the same line of sight.
- These large celestial objects will magnify the light from distant galaxies that are at or near the peak of star formation. So, in a way these objects act as natural, cosmic telescopes and are called gravitational lenses



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- As a result, the galaxies appear much, much brighter than they actually are, because they've been highly magnified up to 50 times

67. A

- One Billion Rising is a global campaign, founded by Eve Ensler, to end rape and sexual violence against women. It was started in 2012 as part of the V-Day movement.
- The "billion" refers to the UN statistic that one in three women will be raped or beaten in her lifetime, or about one billion.

68. D

- Recently, new menhirs were found on the Pothamala hills on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border. Pothamala hills are situated in the Udumbunchola region is Kerala-Tamil Nadu border Pothamala hills houses hundreds of cobbled stone structures, pointing to the existence of a structured graveyard of a prehistoric civilisation dating back around 3,000 years.
- These menhirs are the largest-ever recorded Menhirs in Kerala. Menhirs are monolithic slabs that are erected above the ground and may be small or gigantic in height. Menhirs are endemic to certain regions only and are a feature of megalithic culture.

69. C

- Iran agreed a long-term deal on its nuclear programme with a group of world powers known as the P5+1 - the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany in 2015.
- Under the accord, known as Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Iran agreed to limit its sensitive nuclear activities and allow in international inspectors in return for the lifting of crippling economic sanctions.
- Under the JCPOA, Iran said it would redesign the reactor so it could not produce any weapons-grade plutonium, and that all spent fuel would be sent out of the country as long as the modified reactor exists.

70. C

- Menhirs are monolithic slabs that are erected above the ground and may be small or gigantic in height.
- Menhirs are endemic to certain regions only and are a feature of megalithic culture.
- <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/pothamala-menhirs-stand-guard-on-ancient-necropolis/article28391940.ece/amp/>

71. C

- The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations.
- It operates a global system of trade rules, it acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements, it settles trade disputes between its members and it supports the needs of developing countries



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- The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade traces its origins to the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, which laid the foundations for the post-World War II financial system and established two key institutions, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

72. D

- Project SU.RE was recently launched by the Union Textile Minister, along with Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI), United Nations in India, and IMG Reliance.
- Project SU.RE is Indian apparel industry's largest commitment to move towards sustainable fashion. SU.RE stands for 'Sustainable Resolution' – that contributes to a clean environment.
- It aims to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030, especially SDG-12 for responsible consumption and production.
- It will address the needs of an increasingly conscious consumer who would prefer to buy from a brand that is environmentally conscious and engages in environmental protection.

73. D

- The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the principal source of industrial statistics in India. It provides statistical information to access and evaluate, objectively and realistically, the change in the growth, composition and structure of the organized manufacturing sector.
- The ASI extends to the entire country. The IIP is based on a much smaller sample of factories as compared to that of ASI.

74. A

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for measures to improve the safety and security of international shipping and to prevent marine pollution from ships. The IMO sets standards for the safety and security of international shipping.
- International Seabed Authority is an autonomous international organization under UNCLOS which deals with the ocean resources in the sea floor.
- Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf regulates the procedure of Establish the outer limit of continental shelf for coastal countries.

75. B

- Currency manipulation happens when governments try to artificially tweak the exchange rate to gain an “unfair” advantage in trade.

76. A

- Recently, the Ministry of Earth Sciences and Ministry of Agriculture have launched a mobile application MEGHDOOT that will provide location, crop and livestock-specific weather-based agro advisories to farmers in local languages.



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- The app would provide information in the form of images, maps and pictures. It has been integrated with WhatsApp and Facebook as well to help farmers share advisories among themselves.
- It has been developed by experts from the India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical meteorology and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

77. D

(a) Mining: There shall be a complete ban on mining, quarrying and sand mining in Ecologically Sensitive Area and all existing mines shall be phased out within five years from the date of issue of the final notification or on the expiry of the existing mining lease, whichever is earlier.

(b) Thermal power plants: No new thermal power projects and expansion of existing plants shall be allowed in the Ecologically Sensitive Area.

(c) Industry: All new 'Red' category of industries as specified by the Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board and the expansion of such existing industries shall be banned. The list of 'Red' category of industries shall be as specified by the Central Pollution Control Board:

- - 4. Implementation and Monitoring mechanism.– (1) The responsibility for monitoring and enforcement of provisions of this notification shall be with the concerned State Governments of Western Ghats region and the State Governments shall ensure placing of required mechanisms for effective monitoring and enforcement of restrictions in the Eco-sensitive area and while placing such mechanisms, the State Governments shall inter-alia ensure strengthening of existing regulatory institutions and processes, and participation and involvement of local communities in decision making and the details of such mechanisms shall be shared by the concerned State Governments with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change .
- While Karnataka has about 20000 sq.km ESA, Maharashtra has about 17000, and then followed by Tamilnadu at about 7000 sq. km.

78. B

- The G20 is the premier forum for international cooperation on the most important aspect of the international economic and financial agenda
- It includes 19 country members from the European Union which together represent around 90 percent of global GDP and 80 percent of global trade.
- The member countries include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, European Union, Turkey, UK and US.

79. B

- Department of Revenue coordinates matters relating to all the Direct and Indirect Union Taxes through two statutory Boards namely, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), and the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) constituted under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963. Matters relating to the levy and collection of GST are looked after by the CBIC.
- GST ushered in a tax structure in which the same good or service has been subjected to same tax rate across the States. There are a few products where the goods or services of same nature (i.e. same HSN / SAC code) attract multiple tax rates depending on the nature of the product or the



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unit value of the product. For example, footwear below 1000 rs have only 5 percent tax and those above it has 12 percent.

80. C

- The post office savings bank operates savings accounts, recurring deposit (RD), time deposit (TD), monthly income scheme (MIS), public provident fund (PPF), national savings certificate (NSC), kisan vikas patra (KVP), senior citizens savings scheme (SCSS) and sukanya samridhi account.
- However, they cannot offer loans, or issue credit cards.

81. D

- The Nuclear Energy Agency is an intergovernmental agency that is organized under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- The International Energy Agency is made up of 30 member countries. In addition, thanks to its successful open door policy to emerging countries, the IEA family also includes eight association countries. India is an associate country.
- The membership to IEA has certain prerequisites such as:
 - Crude oil and/or product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year's net imports, to which the government has immediate access.
 - demand restraint programme to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%
 - legislation and organisation to operate the Co-ordinated Emergency Response Measures etc.

82. C

- Ministry of Textiles signed a Memorandum of Understanding with 16 State governments to offer skill training programmes under the Samarth scheme (Scheme for capacity building in the textiles sector).
- The Scheme would target to train 10.00 lakh persons (9 lakhs in organised & 1 lakh in traditional sector)
- Implementing Agencies include Textile Industry, Institutions/Organization of the Ministry of Textile/State Governments having training infrastructure and placement tie-ups with textile industry, Reputed training institutions/ NGOs etc.

83. D

- The Swiss Formula is a mathematical formula designed to cut and harmonize tariff rates in international trade. Several countries are pushing for its use in World Trade Organization trade negotiations.

84. D



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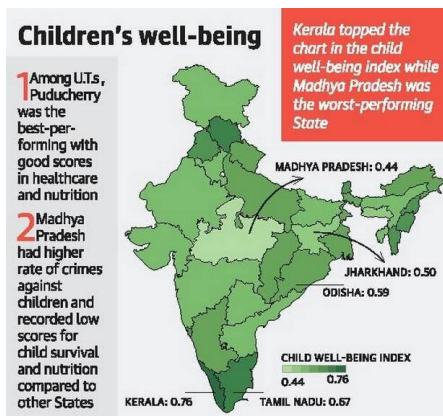
- Angikaar has been launched for social behaviour change, focusing on issues such as water & energy conservation, waste management, health, tree plantation, sanitation and hygiene for beneficiaries of completed houses under PMAY (U), through community mobilisation and IEC activities
- For this purpose, the campaign will converge with schemes and Missions of other Ministries dealing with these subjects. The convergence would especially focus on Ujjwala for gas connection and Ayushman Bharat for health insurance to the beneficiaries of PMAY (U).
- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1583534>

85. A

- A conference held in Almaty, Kazakhstan in the year 1978 brought together health experts and world leaders to commit to health for all. Endorsed at that conference, the declaration formed the foundation for the last 40 years of global primary health care efforts.
- The Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Astana, Kazakhstan in October 2018 endorsed a new declaration emphasizing the critical role of primary health care around the world. The declaration aims to refocus efforts on primary health care to ensure that everyone everywhere is able to enjoy the highest possible attainable standard of health.

86. B

- The report is the collaborated work of a research institute IFMR LEAD & an NGO World Vision India.
- The NITI Aayog cited the report as crucial & significant in securing the rights of children and achieving the goal of child well-being, using a composite Child well-being Index.
- Child well-being Index is the tool to comprehensively measure & track children's well-being.



87. B

- Exercise Al Nagah III was the third in the series of bilateral joint exercise between India and Oman. It was held in the year 2019.
- India and Nepal army practised the bilateral annual military exercise 'Surya Kiran' at Nepal Army Battle School (NABS) in Nepal.



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- Indo – Mongolian joint military training is known as the Exercise Nomadic Elephant-XIV. It was conducted on October 2019.
- Yudh Abhyas is one of the largest running joint military training exercise between India and USA

88. C

- International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR * is an initiative launched by UNESCO in March 2004 to establish a network of cities interested in sharing experiences in order to improve their policies to fight racism, discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion.
- Regional coalitions are encouraged under the initiative. Under the coordination of a “Lead City” which is to be identified, each regional coalition will have its own Ten-Point Plan of Action.

89. C

- United Nations Capital Development Fund was established as an autonomous organisation within United Nations to assist the developing nations in their development plans.
- UNDP’s Executive Board serves simultaneously as UNCDF’s Executive Board. The Executive Board – formally the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board – meets three times a year and is made up of 36 member states from regional groupings, serving on a rotational basis.

90. A

- BRICS is an acronym for the grouping of the world’s leading emerging economies, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The BRICS Leaders’ Summit is convened annually. The 11th summit of the BRICS grouping comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa was held in Brasilia. In 2018, the summit happened in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- BRICS summit is organised as an annual summit between the supreme leaders of five nations.

91. A

- Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) is an International Monetary Fund standard to guide member countries in the dissemination of national statistics to the public. It was established in April 1996.

92. A

- ITER is an international nuclear fusion research and engineering megaproject, which will be the world's largest magnetic confinement plasma physics experiment.
- The ITER Members—China, the European Union, India, Japan, Korea, Russia and the United States—are now engaged in a 35-year collaboration to build and operate the ITER experimental device, and together bring fusion to the point where a demonstration fusion reactor can be designed.

93. D



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- IndEA, is a framework for developing a holistic architecture treating the Government as a single enterprise which are functionally inter-related.
- IndEA provides a generic framework, comprising a set of architecture reference models, which can be converted into an integrated architecture,
- With IndEA, there will be one personalised account for each individual and he or she can avail all government services from that account. This shall eliminate the need to visit separate sites and have separate logins on them to access government services.

94. B

- The post of UN Secretary General is appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council. There is no rotation basis in the case of UN Secretary General post.
- At the end of World War II, the U.S. and European powers created two financial institutions as part of the Bretton Woods Agreement: the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It was informally agreed that the U.S. would choose the head of the former who is also the largest shareholder of the group.

95. C

- United Nations report said that the Papua New Guinea has the highest number of living indigenous languages in the world with 840 where as India is at fourth with 453.
- Spanish, English, Hindi and Arabic are the most widely spoken languages worldwide when only first-languages are considered. These five languages account for what is spoken by over 40% of people worldwide.

96. B

97. D

- Almatti Dam is a hydroelectric project on the Krishna River in North Karnataka where as the Kadra dam is situated in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka state in India. The dam is constructed across river Kalinadi. The dam was primarily built as hydroelectric project for supply of water to turbines of electric power generating station.
- Babhali project / barrage is a reservoir project being constructed by Maharashtra across the river Godavari, disputed by Telangana.

98. D

- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage is a treaty that was adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Normally, this treaty protects all the underwater cultural heritages although some are protected by the 1972 World Heritage Convention.



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- The UNESCO 2001 Convention and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) regulate both matters in the ocean-space. It is hence important to understand their relationship.
- There is a complementary relationship between them and both underline the obligation to protect underwater cultural heritage. While UNCLOS focuses however on jurisdictional and economic matters, the UNESCO Convention focuses on heritage protection only.

99. D

- India will host the annual G-20 summit on the year 2022 for the first time in its history.
- In the G-7 grouping, India is not a member hence it does not host any summits regarding to the G-7 grouping.
- G-4 bloc of countries like India, Japan, Brazil and Germany aim to give a strong push to inter-governmental negotiations for achieving early UNSC reform. G-4 summit had been hosted by India in the year 2004 and 2015 as well.

100. C

- UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is an international human rights treaty, under the review of the United Nations, that aims to prevent torture and other acts of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment around the world.
- The member States or parties to the Convention are mandated to submit the measures undertaken or reforms taken in general. They shall submit it to the committee.
- Indian government has signed the treaty in 1997, however not yet ratified. Government of India is urged to ratify UN Convention against Torture by the Law Commission of India.