

Q1. For the first time in India, a senior defence personnel in a newly created position of "Chief of Defence Staff" was installed on 1st January, 2020, who will be above all the three Chiefs of the three wings, viz., Army, Navy and Air Force. Who is the first incumbent in this position?

- (a) General Bipin Rawat
- (b) General Bikram Singh
- (c) General Manoj Naravane
- (d) Admiral Karambir Singh

Ans: a

Sol: Bipin Rawat was the first Chief of Defence Staff, serving until his untimely death on December 8, 2021. The Chief of Defence Staff is a four-star general or officer who serves as the single-point military advisor to the government, defence ministers, and the Prime Minister of India. He heads the tri-service command structures. The Chief of Defence Staff is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet and serves a term of three years or until the age of 65. The post was recommended for creation by the Kargil Review Committee and officially announced by Prime Minister Modi on August 15, 2019.

Q2. During 1540 and 1587, King Naranarayana ruled over the undivided Koch Kingdom of Kamata, and subsequently subjugated the entire Brahmaputra Valley, including the Ahom, Kachari, Tripura and Manipur Kingdoms. What was the real name of King Naranarayana?

- (a) Nara Singh
- (b) Sukladhvaj
- (c) Malla Deb
- (d) Parikshit

Ans: c

Sol: The real name of King Naranarayana was Malla Deb. He was the second son of Biswa Singha, the founder of the Koch dynasty of the Kamata Kingdom. Malla Deb ascended to the throne in 1540 and took over the title of 'Naranarayana'. He is regarded for Koch dynasty to reach the apex in cultural and political potential. He was succeeded by his son Lakshmi Narayan.

Q3. The founder of the Ahom Kingdom, Chaolung Sukapha ruled Assam from 1228 to 1268. After his death, who succeeded him?

- (a) Suteuphaa
- (b) Sukhaangphaa
- (c) Subinphaa
- (d) Sut

upha

Ans: a

Sol: Suteuphaa succeeded Chaolung Sukapha who founded the Ahom Dynasty and ruled over Assam from 1228 to 1268. Sukapha is known as the "Architect of Greater Assam" or Bor Asom. Every year December 2nd is celebrated as "Asom Diwas" in Assam to commemorate Sukapha and his efforts to assimilate various communities in his kingdom. His son Suteuphaa ruled the kingdom from 1268 to 1281 and expanded the kingdom to greater lengths.

Q4. As a great patron of Shakta Hinduism, an Ahom King built the Umananda Temple on Peacock Island of Guwahati around 1694 AD. Who was he?

- (a) Siva Singha
- (b) Rudra Singha
- (c) Gadadhar Singha
- (d) Rajeswar Singha

Ans: c

Sol: Gadadhar Singha was the Ahom King who built the Umananda Temple on Peacock Island of Guwahati around 1694 AD. He was patron of Shakta Hinduism. He is also known as Supaatpha and he is known to have established the Tungkhungia clan of Ahom kings. He ruled from 1681 to 1696. Shakta Hinduism or Shaktism is one of the major forms of Hinduism.

Q5. King Siva Singha entrusted Krishnaram Bhattacharya, a Shakta priest from Nawadwip in West Bengal, to manage the Kamakhya Temple. How do we know him more popularly?

- (a) Kamrupiya Gosain
- (b) Kamakhya Gosain
- (c) Parbatiya Gosain
- (d) Nawadwipor Gosain

Ans: c

Sol: Krishnaram Bhattacharya was popularly known as Parbatiya Gosain. He settled in the Kamakhya hills and was a priest in the Shakta clan. He was entrusted to manage Kamakhya temple by Ahom King Siva Singha. King Siva Singha is also known as Sutanphaa and he ruled from 1714 to 1744. The Kamakhya temple is a Hindu temple situated in Nilachal hills of Assam and is dedicated to Goddess Kamakhya.

Q6. Chao Suhungmung was the first Ahom King to adopt a Hindu title indicating a move towards an inclusive polity. Which Hindu name did he take?

- (a) Swarganarayana
- (b) Durlavnarayana
- (c) Udayaditya Singha
- (d) Jayadhvaj Singha

Ans: a

Sol: Swarganarayana was the Hindu name adopted by Chao Suhungmung (1497-1539) when he became the first Ahom king to adopt a Hindu title, indicating a move towards an inclusive polity. The Ahom dynasty ruled the Brahmaputra valley in Assam for over six centuries during the late medieval period. Suhungmung established a multi-ethnic polity and is also known as Dihingia Roja.

Q7. The best passing out cadet of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla (Pune) is conferred the

- (a) Chatrapati Shivaji Gold Medal
- (b) Lachit Borphukan Gold Medal
- (c) Rani Laxmibai Gold Medal
- (d) President's Gold Medal

Ans: d

Sol: The President's Gold Medal is awarded to the passing-out cadet who tops the overall merit list. In 2022, Academy Cadet Adjutant Abhimanyu Singh won the President's Gold Medal at the National Defence Academy (NDA) in Khadakwasla, Pune, Maharashtra. The National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla is the world's

first tri-service academy, where cadets from all three services - the Indian Army, the Indian Navy, and the Indian Air Force - are trained together

Q8. Who was the ruler of Kashmir at the time of India's Independence?

- (a) Farooq Abdullah
- (b) Karan Singh
- (c) Sheikh Abdullah
- (d) Hari Singh

Ans: d

Sol: Hari Singh was the ruler of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir at the time of Indian Independence in 1947. He wanted his princely state to remain independent post 1947 but due to the invasion in his state, he acceded to making the princely state a sovereign state in India. He remained titular Maharaja until 1952. He died on 26th April, 1961

Q9. The brave Assamese lady warrior Mula Gabharu died fighting against

- (a) Mir Jumla
- (b) Det Chung
- (c) Turbak Khan
- (d) Mirza Nathan

Ans: c

Sol: Mula Gabharu died fighting against Turbak Khan in 1532. Also known as Nang Mula, she was a warrior of the Tai-Ahom Kingdom. Wife of Phrasengmung, she went to war with Turbak Khan after her husband died fighting Khan. Her death is said to have inspired Ahom soldiers under the leadership of Kanseng Barapatra Gohain and defeated Turbak in Mokh. Turbak Khan was a Gaur Commander who advanced against the Ahom Kingdom in 1532.

Q10. Who was the first Assamese to fight against the British?

- (a) Kushal Konwar
- (b) Piyoli Phukan
- (c) Maniram Dewan
- (d) Gomdhar Konwar

Ans: d

Sol: Gomdhar Konwar fought the first battle

against the British in Assam in 1828. However, the British had already annexed Assam in 1826. Gombard, the son of nobleman Phena Konwar, led the resistance. He was arrested and sentenced to seven years in jail in Rangpur, which is now in Bangladesh.

Q11. Bhogeswar Baruah was the first Arjuna Award winner from Assam in 1966. Who was the second Assamese to win this coveted award of Indian sports in 1987?

- (a) Tayabun Nisha
- (b) Monalisa Baruah Mehta
- (c) Madalasa Hazarika
- (d) Toshen Bora

Ans: b

Sol: Monalisa Baruah Mehta received the Arjuna Award in 1987. She is a table tennis player from Assam and was the second Assamese person to receive this coveted award.

Q12. Which Assamese film won the first-ever National Film Award (the President's Certificate of Merit) for regional language category in 1955?

- (a) Piyoli Phukan
- (b) Maniram Dewan
- (c) Indramalati
- (d) Ronga Police

Ans: a

Sol: Piyoli Phukan was the first Assamese film to win the National Film Award for regional language in 1955. It was directed by Phani Sharma. Piyoli Phukan is a black and white Assamese language film and was based on the life and struggle of a historical character of Assam named Piyoli Phukan.

Q13. Great footballer Dr. Talimeren Ao was born in undivided Assam (in Naga Hills district) and went on to study at Cotton College and R. G. Kar Medical College for his degree in medicine. He holds a unique status in Indian football history. What is that?

- (a) He scored the first goal for India in international matches
- (b) He was the first captain of Indian football team in 1948 London Olympics
- (c) He was the flag-bearer of Indian contingent in

1948 London Olympics
(d) Both (b) and (c)

Ans: d

Sol: Both statements (b) and (c) are correct.

Dr. Talimeren Ao holds a unique place in Indian football history because he captained the Indian football team in their match against France at the 1948 London Olympics and was also the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent. A physician and Indian football player from the North-East state of Nagaland, he led the team in India's first international match after gaining independence from British rule. After Nagaland attained statehood in 1963, Dr. Ao became the state's first Director of Health Services, a position he held until his retirement in 1978

Q14. Aximat Jar Heral Xeema is a landmark in Assamese novel written by Kanchan Baruah and was first published in 1945. But Kanchan Baruah is the pen name. What is the author's real name?

- (a) Brajamohan Sarma
- (b) Bhubanmohan Baruah
- (c) Medini Choudhury
- (d) None of the above

Ans: b

Sol: Bhubanmohan Baruah wrote Aximat Jar Heral Xeema under the pen name of Kanchan Baruah. The book was published in 1945. The story conveys a humane message that perfection in life is a myth as the characters deal with themes of love, life, patriotism, valor and friendship. The novel has been translated into English by Shalim M Hussain. Some of the other popular works of Bhubanmohan Baruah include Puwoti tora, Mrita Bihanga, Joya Mohol, Ashanto Prohor, and Urmilar Sokulu.

Q15. The Tale of Nomadic Soul is the English translation of a famous novel by Syed Abdul Malik. Which is that novel among the following?

- (a) Parashmoni
- (b) Adharshila
- (c) Aghari Atmar Kahini
- (d) Ruptirhar Yatri

Ans: c

Sol: Aghari Atmar Kahini is the famous Assamese novel written by famous Assamese author and writer Syed Abdul Malik. The English translation of this novel is The Tale of Nomadic Soul. The book is famous in context of Assamese nationalist discourse, and conveys the message of the religious harmony, assimilation, and cultural plurality in Assam. Syed Abdul Malik won the Sahitya Akademi Award for the novel in 1972. The book was translated into English by R.P. Khaund.

Q16. The novel Abhijatri is based on the life and achievements of

- (a) Nalini Bala Devi
- (b) Aideu Handique
- (c) Chandraprabha Saikiani
- (d) Rajbala Handique

Ans: c

Sol: Abhijatri is based on the life of freedom fighter Chandraprabha Saikiani. It is an Assamese novel written by Indian novelist and journalist Nirupama Borgohain. The novel was originally published in 1996 and was translated into English "One Life Many Rivers" by Pradipta Borgohain. Chandraprabha Saikiani, whom the novel was based was born in 1901 and is well known in history as a freedom fighter, activist, writer, and social reformer and a pioneering figure in the feminist movement in Assam.

Q17. The 'English Education Act' made English language the medium of instruction in India as per decision of William Bentinck, and funds were allocated to the British East India Company to spend on education and literature in India. When was this Act passed?

- (a) 1835
- (b) 1838
- (c) 1840
- (d) 1842

Ans: a

Sol: The English Education Act was passed in 1835, reallocating funds from the British Parliament to the East India Company. This act led to English becoming one of the most widely spoken and regularly used languages in India. Thomas Babington Macaulay, a British historian and politician, presented his 'Minute on Indian

Education', which argued for the establishment of English education for Indians. His ideas were accepted by Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General of the East India Company. The Wood's Despatch (1854) further regularised education efforts by Britishers in India.

Q18. While Rabindranath Tagore conferred the title 'Mahatma' upon Gandhi, who conferred the title 'Half-Naked Fakir' on Gandhi?

- (a) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- (b) Sir Winston Churchill
- (c) President Roosevelt
- (d) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

Ans: b

Sol: Sir Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom remarked Gandhi to be a "Half-Naked Fakir" in 1931. This comment came as part of his dismissal for Gandhi's ideas, his participation at the Second Round Table Conference (1931) and ways of political movements. Gandhi's Civil Disobedience movement in 1930 irked the British Raj as they faced a united India as there was an upsurge in the call for freedom. Winston Churchill held the Prime Minister's office twice (1940-45, and 1951-55) in his life. He was the British Prime Minister at the time of World War 2 and Indian independence. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1953.

Q19. Who authored the famous book, Indica?

- (a) Alexander Cunningham
- (b) Faxian (Fa-Hien)
- (c) Megasthenes
- (d) Pliny

Ans: c

Sol: Written by Greek writer Megasthenes, Indica is a written account of India under the Mauryan rule. The author describes geography, history, flora and fauna, economy, food and clothing, society, administration, and Indian philosophy. Megasthenes was an ancient Greek historian and ethnographer who was the first Westerner who has left behind the first written description of India. He was the ambassador of Seleucus I Nicator and visited India in the court of Chandragupta Maurya in Pataliputra.

Q20. Aruna Asaf Ali was one of the prominent organisers of the underground activities during the

- (a) Civil Disobedience Movement
- (b) Quit India Movement
- (c) Swadeshi Movement
- (d) Temple Entry Movement

Ans: b

Sol: Aruna Asif Ali was a prominent organiser of the underground activities in Quit India Movement (1942). She was an Indian educator, publisher and is remembered for hoisting the Indian National flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay during the movement in 1942. She also participated during the Salt Satyagraha, was arrested under Gandhi-Irwin Pact and became the first Mayor of Delhi in 1958. She is the recipient of Padma Vibhushan (1992) and Bharat Ratna posthumously (1997).

The Quit India Movement was launched in August 1942 and in response to Gandhi's national call for Satyagraha. It is also known as August Kranti Movement or "Bharat Chodo Andolan".

Q21. Identify the national leader and efficient administrator who played an extraordinary role in the integration of the Indian States.

- (a) Chakravarti Rajagopalachari
- (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (c) Rajendra Prasad
- (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Ans: d

Sol: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, along with his secretary V.P. Menon, played a crucial role in integrating 562 princely states into the Union of India. He has been aptly given the titles of "Architect of Modern India" and "Iron Man of India" for his remarkable contributions. The Statue of Unity in Gujarat has been dedicated to Patel as a testament to his tireless efforts in uniting the geographical boundaries of the country.

Q22. The largest landlocked country in the world is

- (a) Republic of the Congo
- (b) Mongolia
- (c) Bolivia

(d) Kazakhstan

Ans: d

Sol: The largest landlocked country in the world is Kazakhstan with an area of 2,724,900 sq km. It is situated in Central Asia and was formerly part of the erstwhile USSR. is the ninth largest country in the world. Its capital Nur-Sultan which was previously named Astana. It shares its borders with China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan.

Landlocked countries which are entirely surrounded by land on all their sides. They do not have direct access to any oceans or sea. Except for North America and Oceania, every country has a landlocked country. The second largest landlocked country is its neighbour Mongolia and third is the African country of Chad. There are a total of 44 landlocked countries in the world.

Q23. Find out which of the following pairs is/are correct:

- 1. Khamti: Arunachal Pradesh
- 2. Ao: Nagaland
- 3. Melacheri:

Lakshadweep Choose the correct answer.

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) All are correct

Ans: d

Sol: The Tai-Khampti or Khampti tribe is one of the major tribes residing in the district of Namsai in the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh. The term "Khampti" literally means "a land full of gold." They are one of the 26 major tribes and 100 sub-tribes in the state, including 12 listed tribes such as Adi or Abor, Aka, Tagin, Nyishi, Apatani, Galo, Mishmi, Momba, Sherdukpen, and Singpho.

In contrast, the Ao Nagas tribe is native to the Mokokchung district of Nagaland. The village of Ungma is the oldest village for the Ao Nagas tribe. They follow the Ao religion, which is a form of animism. Nagaland has 17 major tribes and numerous sub-tribes. The other major tribes include Angami, Chakhesang, Chang, Dimasa, Kachari, Khamniungan, Konyak, Kuki, Lotha,

Phom, Pochury, Rengma, Sangtam, Sumi, Tikhir, Yimkhung, and Zeliang.

The Melacheris are the native tribe of the Lakshadweep islands and reside in the Amini islands. Collecting coconut nuts is a significant part of their main occupation. The term "Mela" refers to the western direction, and "Cheris" means a hamlet. Apart from the Melacheris, the archipelago, formed by a combination of 36 coral islands, is home to other ethnic groups like the Aminidivi, Malmis, and Koyas

Q24. Which country is the largest archipelago country in the world?

- (a) Philippines
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Maldives
- (d) Malaysia

Ans: b

Sol: The largest archipelago country in the world is Indonesia. It consists of five main islands - Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, and Papua New Guinean. At the Equator, it divides the Pacific and Indian ocean. The capital of Indonesia is Jakarta.

An Archipelago is defined as a group of islands closely scattered in any body of water - usually an ocean but can also be a lake or a river. Most archipelagos are made of oceanic islands meaning thereby that they were formed by volcanic eruptions from the ocean floor.

Q25. Which of the following rivers has the largest river basin in the Indian subcontinent?

- (a) The Brahmaputra
- (b) The Indus
- (c) The Ganga
- (d) The Krishna

Ans: c

Sol: The Ganga basin is the largest river basin in India in terms of catchment area. It covers 26% of the country's landmass, spanning 861,404 square kilometers, and supports approximately 43% of India's population. About 79% of the Ganga basin is located within India. This vast basin encompasses 10 states and one Union Territory (UT): Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal

Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, and Delhi.

Q26. The boundary demarcation between India and Pakistan came into force on 17th August, 1947. Which line divides these two countries?

- (a) Durand Line
- (b) Radcliffe Line
- (c) McMahan McMohan Line
- (d) Gilbert Line

Ans: b

Sol: The Radcliffe Line separates India and Pakistan, and was revealed on August 17, 1947. It runs from the Rann of Kutch to Jammu and Kashmir. The line was named after Sir Cyril Radcliffe, who served as the Joint Chairman of the two boundary commissions for the two provinces. The western side of the Radcliffe Line serves as the Indo-Pakistani border, while the eastern side forms the India-Bangladesh border.

Other notable borders include:

- Durand Line: Divides Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- McMahan Line: Divides India and China.

Q27. The islands of Seychelles are located in the

- (a) Arctic Ocean
- (b) Atlantic Ocean
- (c) Indian Ocean
- (d) Pacific Ocean

Ans: c

Sol: Seychelles is situated in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Africa. It comprises 115 islands, forming an island republic. Located east of Kenya and northeast of Madagascar, its capital, Victoria, is situated on Mahé Island. As one of the smallest countries in the world, Seychelles is composed of two main island groups. The first group consists of 40 central, mountainous, granite islands, known as the Mahé group. The second group comprises over 70 flat, coralline islands

Q28. Which of the following Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Parks is located in the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh borders?

- (a) Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary

- (b) Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary
- (c) Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

Ans: d

Sol: The Namdapha National Park is located in the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh borders. It is the only park in the world to have four feline species of big cats, it is home to the Panthera Tigris (tiger), Panthera Pardus (leopard), Panthera Uncia (snow leopard), and Neofelis Nebulosa (clouded leopard). Surrounded by the Himalayas in the north and the Patkai hills in the south, it lies in the catchment area of the Noa-Dihing river. As the largest protected area in the Eastern Himalaya hotspot and the third-largest national park in India by area, it boasts an incredible array of flora and fauna.

Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, located along the foothills of the Himalayas in Assam, is a haven for diverse species of flora and fauna, including mammals, birds, and reptiles.

Bomadi Wildlife Sanctuary, situated across Udalguri and Baksa districts of Assam and nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas, borders Bhutan to its north. Established in 1980, it is renowned for its Hispid Hare and Pygmy Hog populations.

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, situated in the Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts of Assam, is surrounded by the Brahmaputra and Lohit rivers. It is celebrated for its rare White-Winged Wood Ducks and feral horses.

Q29. According to the most authentic geographical studies, when did life begin on the Earth?

- (a) 4-2 million years ago
- (b) 4-6 billion years ago
- (c) 3.8 million years ago
- (d) 3.8 billion years ago

Ans: d

Sol: The life on Earth is taken to have started approximately 3.8 billion years ago at the end of the Late Heavy Bombardment Period. The earliest known fossils are dated from around 3.5 billion years ago and there is evidence that biological activities took place even before that.

Q30. Which water resource project covers and extends the benefits to Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan?

- (a) Hirakud Dam Project
- (b) Sardar Sarovar Dam Project
- (c) Bhakra-Nangal Dam project
- (d) Tehri Dam Project

Ans: b

Sol: The Sardar Sarovar dam covers the states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan. It is situated on river Narmada in Gujarat and is the second largest concrete dam in the country. It was the vision of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The project has faced several oppositions such as the criticisms of Narmada Bachao Andolan owing to environmental damage and displacement of natives. It has two powerhouses the River Bed Power House and the Canal Head Power House. Hirakud Dam Project is situated on the river Mahanadi, north of Sambalpur in Odisha. The dam is the longest earthen dam. Its reservoir forms the largest artificial lake in Asia.

Bhakra-Nangal Dam Project is situated on river Sutlej in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh. It is the second highest dam in the country and the highest straight gravity dam in the world. Tehri Dam Project is the part of the Tehri Dam and multi-purpose river valley project. It is build on river Bhagirathi in the Tehri district of Uttarakhand. It is an earth and rock fill dam.

Q31. Which pair of extremely located Indian cities is connected by the East-West Corridor?

- (a) Silchar-Porbandar
- (b) Mumbai-Shillong
- (c) Nagpur-Siliguri
- (d) Mumbai-Kolkata

Ans: a

Sol: The East-West corridor extends stretches from Silchar in Assam (E) to Porbandar in Gujarat (W) part of the Golden Quadrilateral. It is a vast network of highways connecting all four sides of the country via Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, and Mumbai forming a quadrilateral. It is the largest highway project and was launched in 2001. The North-South corridor extends from Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir (N) to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu (S). They are

managed Both corridors are managed by the National Highway Authority of India.

Q32. As per the 2011 Census, how many Gaon Panchayats are there in Assam?

- (a) 2005
- (b) 2100
- (c) 2202
- (d) 2305

Ans: c

Sol: There are a total of 2,202 Gaon Panchayats in Assam. The term Gaon Panchayat is used in the states of Assam, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh. The Panchayati Raj system is a three-tier structure consisting of Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samiti, and Gram Panchayat. Gram Panchayat is further divided into two systems: Gram Sabha and Nyaya Panchayat. The Gram Panchayat comprises members elected by the Gram Sabha. It is an executive body with a temporary nature. Meetings are convened by the Sarpanch every month.

Q33. Which among the following cities is known as the "Tea City of India"?

- (a) Darjeeling
- (b) Dibrugarh
- (c) Siliguri
- (d) Nainital

Ans: b

Sol: Dibrugarh is known as the "Tea City of India". It is located on the banks of river Dibru in Assam and is the largest tea producer and exporting city in the country. About 50% of the total tea produced comes from the three main tea producing districts of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh and Jorhat in Assam. The city is located at the banks of river Brahmaputra.

Q34. The term 'Black Revolution' in the present context of India is associated with

- (a) higher export-ability of crude oil
- (b) self-dependence in the production of crude oil
- (c) improvement in the quality of black soil
- (d) self-dependence in milk production

Ans: b

Sol: The Black Revolution in India refers to the country's self-sufficiency in crude oil production. It was implemented as part of the Government of India's efforts to accelerate petroleum production domestically. By increasing ethanol production and blending it with petrol, the goal was to produce biodiesel. This process benefits farmers, reduces pollutants, and relies on renewable energy sources of energy such as ethanol which is the by-product of sugar production from molasses for the procedure.

Q35. Lieutenant Commander Ms. Karabi Gogoi is India's first woman Navy Officer to be posted as a Defence Attache in a foreign country (in her case Russia). What is her basic expertise?

- (a) Submarine technology
- (b) Rafale fighter jet operations
- (c) Aeronautical training with reference to MIG-29
- (d) Warship construction and maintenance

Ans: d

Sol: Warship construction and maintenance is the area of expertise for Lieutenant Commander Ms. Karabi Gogoi. She became the first woman Navy officer to be posted as Defence Attaché and has been posted in Moscow.

Q36. On 23rd March, 2019, the first Lokpal of India was appointed. Identify the first Lokpal from the options given below.

- (a) Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
- (b) Ms. Reema Saud
- (c) Shri N. R. Modi
- (d) Shri Pinaki Chandra Ghose

Ans: d

Sol: The first Lokpal was Pinaki Chandra Ghosh. He completed his term in 2022. The office is now being held by Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty as an additional charge. The Lokpal was established under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 which came into force on January 16th, 2014 and has been amended once in 2016. The basic motto behind this was to promote democracy and rule of people thrive by holding public institutions accountable on charges of corruption. The jurisdiction spans over the Prime Minister, Minister of the Union Government, MP, officials in Group A, B, C, D

services under the union government and chairpersons, members, officers and directors of a body established by an Act of Parliament or are funded wholly or partly by Union or State Governments. The Chairperson and eight members are appointed by the President of which 50% are judicial members. They serve the term for five years or until they attain the age of 70, whichever is earlier. There are two branches - administrative and Judicial branch.

Q37. When was Assam detached from Bengal Presidency and was made a separate Chief Commissionership?

- (a) 1870
- (b) 1872
- (c) 1874
- (d) 1876

Ans: c

Sol: In 1874, Assam was detached from Bengal and made a separate Chief Commissionership. Assam came under British rule after the First Burmese War and the Treaty of Yandabo in 1826. Following its separation, it was established as the North-Eastern Frontier non-regulation province, with Shillong as its capital. However, in 1905, after the partition of Bengal, Assam was merged with Eastern Bengal to form the Eastern province, and thus came under the rule of a Lieutenant Governor. It was re-established as a separate province in 1912, following the reunion of Bengal.

Q38. Which of the following Articles empowers the Governor to appoint the Chairman and other members of a State Public Service Commission?

- (a) Article 314
- (b) Article 315
- (c) Article 316
- (d) Article 317

Ans: c

Sol: Article 316 of the Indian Constitution places the President to appoint Chairman, members of the UPSC and Joint Commission while it extends the same powers to the Governor of the state in appointing SPSC.

Q39. Who was the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha

of the Indian Parliament?

- (a) Hukum Singh
- (b) K. S. Hegde
- (c) M. A. Ayyangar
- (d) G. V. Mavalankar

Ans: d

Sol: Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar was the first speaker and held the office of the Lok Sabha Speaker from May 1952 to February 1956. The speaker was titled "Father of the Lok Sabha" by PM Jawaharlal Nehru. M.A. Ayyangar was the first Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.

Q40. Who was India's Prime Minister when the government introduced the modern Panchayati Raj system by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act and gave it a constitutional status?

- (a) P. V. Narasimha Rao
- (b) Vishwanath Pratap Singh
- (c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- (d) Chandra Shekhar

Ans: a

Sol: PV Narasimha Rao was the Indian Prime Minister when the government introduced the modern Panchayati Raj system through the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992. This act added Part IX, consisting of 16 articles, and the 11th Schedule to the Constitution. It established a three-tier Panchayat Raj system at the village, intermediate, and district levels, which came into effect on April 24, 1993. Earlier attempts to introduce this amendment were made by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi through the 64th Amendment Bill in 1989, but it failed to pass in the Rajya Sabha. PV Narasimha Rao became Prime Minister in 1991 and served until 1996. He is widely regarded as the "Father of Indian Economic Reforms

Q41. Which among the following Schedules of the Indian Constitution is related with the distribution of powers between the Union and States?

- (a) Schedule VIII
- (b) Schedule VII
- (c) Schedule XI
- (d) Schedule XIV

Ans: b

Sol: The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution defines and allocates the powers, functions, and subject jurisdictions between the Union and States. It further consists of three lists-(a) Union list wherein the centre has the ultimate authority to make decisions for instance defence, (b) State List wherein the states have the right to make decisions like water resources, and (c) the Concurrent list which falls under the ambit of both the centre and state. Both the Centre and State Government can make laws on the subject falling under this list such as education, forest.

Q42. The concepts of 'Integral Humanism' and 'Antyodaya' were associated with which of the following visionary thinkers of India?

- (a) Shyama Prasad Mukherjee
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi
- (c) Deendayal Upadhyaya
- (d) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Ans: c

Sol: Deendayal Upadhyaya is renowned for propounding and promoting the concepts of Integral Humanism and Antyodaya. An Indian politician, writer, and editor, Deendayal Upadhyaya defined Integral Humanism as a hierarchical structure of human attributes, comprising the body, mind, intellect, and soul. These attributes correspond to the four universal objectives of dharma (duty), artha (wealth), kama (pleasure), and moksha (liberation). Antyodaya, another concept he advocated, focuses on uplifting the most disadvantaged sections of society.

Q43. When did the first amendment of the Indian Constitution take place?

- (a) 18th June, 1951
- (b) 18th June, 1952
- (c) 18th July, 1953
- (d) 18th July, 1954

Ans: a

Sol: The first amendment to the Indian Constitution was made on 18th June, 1951. The

amendment was tabled in provisional parliament as the Rajya Sabha was not in existence. It was brought in for the welfare of the scheduled castes, tribes, and backward classes. It empowered the states to make special provisions for the advancement of the above-mentioned sections. It also added the ninth schedule to protect the land reforms. In addition, three more grounds of restrictions on freedom of speech and expression were added and "reasonable" restrictions were identified. At the last, the amendment also provided clarity that state trading and nationalisation of trade and business is not invalid.

Q44. Which freedom fighter earned the sobriquet 'the Nightingale of India'?

- (a) Annie Besant
- (b) Pushpalata Das
- (c) Sarojini Naidu
- (d) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit

Ans: c

Sol: Sarojini Naidu was given the title of "Nightingale of India" ("Bul Bule Hind", or ". Bharat Kokila") by Mahatma Gandhi. He tilted her because her poetry has been deemed lyrical, colourful and full of imagery. One of her famous poems include "The Golden Threshold" written in 1905 and "In the Bazaars of Hyderabad" published in 1912. Sarojini Naidu was an integral part of the Indian National Congress and a follower of Mahatma Gandhi. She was arrested for her participation in the Salt March and was a major leader in the Civil Disobedience movement and Quit India Movement. She was appointed the President of INC in 1925 and became the first woman to hold the office of Governor in Dominion of India serving in the United Provinces.

Q45. Under Article 368, the Parliament has no power to repeal the Fundamental Rights because they are

- (a) integral part of basic structure of the Constitution
- (b) integral part of human rights
- (c) enshrined under Part III
- (d) All of the above

Ans: a

Sol: Under Article 368, the Parliament has no power to repeal the Fundamental rights because they are an integral part of the basic structure of the Constitution. In Supreme Court's 1973 landmark judgement of Kesavananda Bharati V/S. State of Kerala, it clearly defined that although every part of the Constitution including Fundamental Rights was in Parliament's power to amend, it cannot do so as the "the basic structure of the Constitution could not be abrogated even by a constitutional amendment".

Q46. The concept of Dual Citizenship in the Union of India to 'the Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), belonging to some specified countries was recommended by the

- (a) Ashok Mehta Committee
- (b) L. M. Singhvi Committee
- (c) Rajamannar Committee
- (d) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee

Ans: b

Sol: The L.M. Singhvi Committee recommended the concept of dual citizenship in the Union of India for 'Persons of Indian Origin' (PIO) belonging to specified countries. The Committee on the Indian Diaspora, established in 2002, recommended amending the Citizenship Act (1955)

Q47. Equal opportunity in matters of public employment is guaranteed under Article

- (a) 14
- (b) 15
- (c) 16
- (d) 17

Ans: c

Sol: Article 16 of the Indian Constitution lays down rules for employment. As per the article, there shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. It further prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of religion, race, sex, caste, descent, place of birth, or residence. The State is also empowered to make laws and provisions for the reservation of appointments and promotions. It was adopted in the constitution with some amendments on 30th November, 1948.

Q48. Which of the following Fundamental Rights are available only to the citizens of India?

- 1. Right to equality of opportunity in matters of public employment
- 2. Equality before law
- 3. Right to freedom of religion
- 4. Right to freedom under Article 19

Choose the correct answer.

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (b) 1 and 4
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) 2 and 4

Ans: b

Sol: Of the Fundamental Rights available under the Indian constitution, some are universal while some are restricted to Indian citizens. Articles 16 and 19 are rights which are only enjoyed by Indian citizens. Article 16 guarantees and protects the right to employment opportunity while Article 19 protects six basic rights pertaining to freedom namely - (a) of speech and expression; (b) to assemble peaceably and without arms; (c) to form associations or unions; (d) to move freely throughout the territory of India; (e) to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India; and (f) to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Q49. In the Indian Constitution, the method of election of the President of India is taken from which country?

- (a) Ireland
- (b) England
- (c) USA
- (d) Australia

Ans: a

Sol: The system of indirect presidential elections was taken from the Constitution of Ireland.

As per the Indian Constitution the President of India is indirectly elected by an electoral college in accordance to the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. The electoral college consists of (i) elected members of both the Houses of Parliament and (b) the elected members of the Legislative assemblies of the states including Delhi and

Puducherry. The college does not include nominated members of either Houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies including Delhi and Puducherry.

Q50. As per the Tripartite Assam Accord signed among the Government of India, the Government of Assam and the Leaders of the Assam Agitation (AASU and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad) on 15th August, 1985, what was set up as the cut-off date for detection and deportation of illegal migrants to Assam?

- (a) 1st January, 1951
- (b) 15th August, 1967
- (c) 26th January, 1970
- (d) 24th March, 1971

Ans: d

Sol: 24th March, 1971 was set as the cut-off date for detection and deportation of illegal migrants to Assam. The cut-off date was established as per the Tripartite Assam Accord whose signatories included the Government of Assam, Leaders of the Assam Agitation, and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad.

Q51. The four districts under the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) are

- (a) Kokrajhar, Barpeta, Chirang and Baksa
- (b) Kokrajhar, Baksa, Chirang and Udalguri
- (c) Kokrajhar, Baksa, Sonitpur and Udalguri
- (d) Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri and Nalbari

Ans: b

Sol: Kokrajhar, Baksa, Chirang and Udalguri are four of the five districts under the Bodoland Territorial Council. The fifth district is Tamulpur. The BTC was constituted under the provisions of the sixth schedule in 2003 after signing MoS between the Government of India, the Government of Assam, and Bodo Liberation Tigers on February 10, 2003. The aim is to bring accelerated progress by focusing on economic, education boost, linguistic aspiration, preservation of social, cultural, and ethnic identities and land-rights.

The BTC is constituted of not more than 14 executive members including Chief and Deputy Chief. The BTC legislative assembly consists of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and other elected members. Six members are nominated by the Governor of Assam of which two seats are

reserved for women.

Q52. Which statement among the following is not true about the GST Council?

- (a) It is a statutory body.
- (b) It is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
- (c) It decides the rates of taxes on goods and services except some items.
- (d) It was constituted by the President of India.

Ans: a and b

Sol: Both statements (a) and (b) are not true. The GST Council was setup under The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016 thus making GST a constitutional body and not a statutory body. The GST Council and its meetings are chaired by the Finance Minister of India. The Union Finance Minister is the de-facto Chairperson. Statement (c) is true because the council decides the tax rates on goods and services except for those exempted. Statement (d) is also true as per Article 279 (1), the GST Council is to be constituted by the President of India within 60 days of commencement of the said article.

Q53. The National Bamboo Mission strives to

- i. increase the area under bamboo plantation in non-forest areas
- ii. rejuvenate the underdeveloped bamboo industry in India
- iii. take over the sick paper mills in India
- iv. explore the export market for bamboo

Choose the correct answer.

- (a) (i) and (ii)
- (b) (i) and (iii)
- (c) (i), (ii) and (iii)
- (d) (i), (ii) and (iv)

Ans: a

Sol: The National Bamboo mission strives to increase the area under bamboo plantation in non-forest areas and rejuvenate the under-developed bamboo industry in India. The scheme was started in the year 2006-07. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare implements the central scheme. Karnataka is the focus state for the NBM.

Q54. Which one of the following correctly describes the 'Angel Tax'?

- (a) A tax imposed on the super-rich people
- (b) A tax relief given for doing social work
- (c) A type of capital gains tax imposed when start-ups receive funding, which is higher than their fair market value of the shares sold
- (d) A tax relief given to start-ups for doing innovative work

Ans: c

Sol: Angel Tax is a type of capital gains tax imposed on start-ups when they receive funding which is higher than their fair market value of the shares sold. In India, the tax is levied under Section 56(2) (viib) of the Income Tax Act 1961. This is one of the anti-abuse provisions introduced by the government to prevent acts of money laundering.

Q55. Name the Indian citizen, who is also a Nobel Laureate in Economics.

- (a) Abhijit Banerjee
- (b) Amartya Sen
- (c) Jagdish Bhagwati
- (d) Har Gobind Khorana

Ans: b

Sol: Amartya Sen is an Indian citizen who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1998 for his contributions to welfare economics.

Abhijit Banerjee is of Indian origin but holds American citizenship. He won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2019.

Jagdish Bhagwati and Har Gobind Khorana have not won the Nobel Prize in Economics. Har Gobind Khorana won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1968

Q56. Under which scheme given below, a programme has been launched by the Government of India to train youths on GST and related matters?

- (a) Digital India Programme
- (b) INSPIRE Programme
- (c) National Social Assistance Scheme
- (d) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)

Ans: d

Sol: The Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in 2015 to train youths on GST and related matters. It is the flagship programme of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and implemented by National Skill Development Corporation. It aims at enabling Indian youth to take up industry-level relevant skill training that will help them secure a better livelihood.

Q57. The 7-member Committee for revitalisation of Assam economy in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic was headed by

- (a) Shri M. P. Bezbaruah, IAS (Retd.)
- (b) Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS (Retd.)
- (c) Late (Dr.) Jayanta Madhab
- (d) Shri Bhaskar Baruah, IAS (Retd.)

Ans: b

Sol: Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS (Retd.) headed the seven-member committee established for revitalisation of Assam economy in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic by CM Sarbananda Sonowal. The committee was charged with assessing macro-economic and socio-economic impact along with sector-specific impact of COVID-19 on state's vital economic pillars. The committee submitted its report on 1st June, 2020.

Q58. We often hear the term 'CTC' in the context of Assam Tea. What does CTC stand for?

- (a) Crush, Tear, Curl
- (b) Curl, Tear, Crush
- (c) Check, Thrash, Curl
- (d) Check, Tear, Curl

Ans: a

Sol: Crush, Tear, Curl (CTC) is a method used in processing black tea. Under this procedure, the tea leaves are passed through a series of cylindrical rollers with hundreds of sharp teeth that crush, tear and curl the tea into small, hard pellets. Tea produced using CTC is called CTC tea or Mamri Tea.

Q59. The Department of Act East Policy Affairs (AEPA) under the Government of Assam was set up in

- (a) 2012
- (b) 2015
- (c) 2017
- (d) 2020

Ans: c

Sol: In 2017, the Department of Act East Policy was setup by the Government of Assam headed by CM Sarbananda Sonowal. It was setup to take forward Centre's Act East, Policy. It aims to facilitate an environment for investment and rapid Industrialisation in the state.

To ensure the implementation of Act East Policy

To prepare policies and plans for achieving business relations with South East Asia

To prepare policies and plans for achieving economic and cultural connections with Southeast Asian countries

To explore the fresh opportunities presented by the Act East Policy for the northeast region

To develop a strategic framework for enhancing economic and cultural connections with Southeast Asian countries

Q60. Which Ministry of India is carrying out special scientific schemes like KIRAN-IPR and Vigyan Jyoti for women scientists of India?

- (a) The Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (b) The Ministry of Science and Technology
- (c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (d) The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ans: b

Sol: The Ministry of Science and Technology is the mother ministry spearheading schemes such as KIRAN-IPR and Vigyan Jyoti.

KIRAN IPR is an acronym for Knowledge 'Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing. It aims at mainstreaming the women having qualifications in science and technology who have not been able to pursue their careers due to domestic compulsions.

Vigyan Jyoti aims to address the under-representation of women in different fields

of STEM.

Q61. Which of the following became the first State/UT in India to present an e-budget and stream it live on social media as well?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Assam
- (d) Delhi

Ans: c

Sol: Assam became the first state in India to present an e-budget and live-stream it on social media in 2018. The budget was presented by Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma. It was also the first time for the state budget to have different chapters of gender, child, SDGs, and outcome budgeting.

Andhra Pradesh also presented an e-budget but it was not available for public domain and was restricted to legislators.

Q62. The maximum number of individuals that can be supported by a given environment is called

- (a) carrying capacity
- (b) population size
- (c) biotic potential
- (d) environmental resistance

Ans: a

Sol: Carrying Capacity is defined as the maximum number of individuals that can be supported by a given environment. It implies namely two things- (i) the rate of resource extraction should be lower than the rate of resource generation. And (ii) generation of waste should remain within the absorption capacity of the environment.

Q63. Plants growing under direct sunlight are known as heliophytes. What do we call the plants growing under shades?

- (a) Psammophytes
- (b) Sciophytes
- (c) Monocots
- (d) Dicots

Ans: b

Sol: Sciophytes are plants which grow under shades i.e. lowered light intensity. They are characterised by having larger photosynthetic units as compared to heliophytes. They are also known as Photophobous. Some examples are Java Moss.

Q64. Which among the following Protocols/ Conventions is dedicated for protecting biodiversity from the potential risks caused by Living Modified Organisms (LMO) from modern technology?

- (a) Cartagena Protocol
- (b) Nagoya Protocol
- (c) Bonn Convention
- (d) Vienna Convention

Ans: a

Sol: The Cartagena Protocol is dedicated to protecting biodiversity from the potential risks caused by Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) formed modern technology. It is an international agreement which aims to ensure the safe handling, transport, and the use of LMOs. The protocol was adopted in 2000 in Montreal and came into force in 2003. It completed its 20th year in 2020 with the latest countries to ratify the agreement include Sierra Leone (2020), and Uzbekistan (2019). The total parties as of now are 173.

Q65. Which among the following types is a non-material pollution?

- (a) Air pollution
- (b) Water pollution
- (c) Thermal pollution
- (d) Soil pollution

Ans: c

Sol: Thermal Pollution is a type of Non-Material Pollution. Thermal pollution is caused when there is a sudden increase or decrease in water temperatures. This happens when hot water from industrial plants, factories, or by human activity is released in the water body, be it a river, lake, or an ocean. The use of water as a cooling agent in power plants and manufacturing industries is the main cause for thermal pollution. This leads to destruction of aquatic life and biodiversity. The other types of non-material pollution are

Radiation pollution and Noise pollution.

Q66. The two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Assam are

- (a) Nameri National Park and Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
- (b) Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park
- (c) Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park and Hollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary
- (d) Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary and Dibru-Saikhowa National Park

Ans: b

Sol: Kaziranga Wildlife Sanctuary and Manas Wildlife Sanctuary are the two designated UNESCO World Heritage sites. Kaziranga and Manas sanctuaries were declared a world heritage site in 1985. The former is home to Assam's state animal the One-Horned Rhino while the latter is known for elephants and tiger populations. Manas was declared a national park in 1990 and is the only Protected Area in India to gold five different national and international designations including Biosphere Reserve, Tiger reserve, IBA, WHS, Elephant Reserve and National Park.

Q67. Match the following persons and their activities in the field of environmental conservation and development.

List I	List II
A. Medha Patkar	1. Centre for Science and Environment
B. M.S. Swaminathan	2. Narmada Bachao Andolan
C. Anil Agarwal	3. Ornithology and Conservation
D. Salim Ali	4. Rice Research and Biodiversity Conservation

Codes:

A B C D

- (a) 2 4 1 3
- (b) 2 1 3 4
- (c) 2 4 3 1
- (d) 3 1 4 2

Ans: a

Sol: Medha Patkar is an Indian social activist

who formed Narmada Bachao Andolan or NBA with the aim of being against the construction of or the process of constructing large dams on river Narmada. The movement came in support of the farmers, Adivasis, and people who were displaced due to the dam construction.

M.S Swaminathan is an Indian agronomist, agricultural scientist and plant geneticist. He is known as the "Father of Indian Agriculture" and his leading role in bringing the Green Revolution to India. He developed and introduced high-yielding wheat and rice varieties in India at the time when the country was facing high famine chances during the 1960s. He was also the first recipient of the World Food Prize Awards.

Anil Agarwal was an Indian journalist and writer working towards covering scientific research and environmental conservation. He founded the Centre for Science and Environment and was awarded the Padma Shri in 1986 and Padma Bhushan in 2002 for his work on environment and development. He broke and covered the Chipko Andolan (1973) thus bringing the efforts of common people to national and global attention. Salim Ali was the pre-eminent ornithologist in India and continues to be known as the "Birdman of India". He headed the BNHS in post Independent India and saved the organisation from shutting down. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1958 and Padma Vibhushan in 1976 among other world recognitions and was nominated to the Rajya Sabha in 1985. He is credited with saving the Keoladeo Ghana Bird Sanctuary in Bharatpur and Silent Valley National Park in Kerala.

Q68. All species of Lemur are endemic to

- (a) New Caledonia
- (b) Seychelles Islands
- (c) Galapagos Islands
- (d) Madagascar

Ans: d

Sol: All species of Lemur are endemic to the biodiversity hotspot of Madagascar. The island is situated off the coast of West-Africa in the Indian Ocean and is home to 111 species and subspecies of lemurs as per IUCN. Lemurs are integral to the ecosystem of the island nation as they participate in seed dispersal and pollination and maintaining forest structure. Ankarafantsika

National Park is one of the vital habitats to these endangered species.

Q69. Which among the following is the State Tree of Assam?

- (a) Titachapa
- (b) Nahor
- (c) Hollong
- (d) Segun

Ans: c

Sol: Hollong (*Dipterocarpus macrocarpus*) is the official State Tree of Assam. It is a medium hardwood, timber tree and grows naturally in the forests of upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. It is sacred for the Moran community and is heavily used in plywood industries. These are also found in parts of Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos.

The state flower is Foxtail Orchid or Kopou Phool while the state bird is White-winged Duck or White winged wood duck and the official state animal for Assam is the One-Horned Rhino.

Q70. Among the marine ecosystems, the most species-rich ecosystem is

- (a) mangrove
- (b) coral reefs
- (c) open water
- (d) None of these

Ans: b

Sol: Coral reefs are the most species-rich ecosystem among marine ecosystems. They are colonies of tiny creatures found in oceans and are formed of coral polyps which are held intact due to calcium carbonate. These are also known as the "tropical rainforest of the sea". Home to 25% of marine species, they form a mere 0.1% of the total ocean's surface. The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is the longest in the world while the latest reef to be discovered is the Giant Pristine Coral reef off the coast of Tahiti, French Polynesia. India is home to a few coral reefs namely the Palk Bay, Gulf of Mannar, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands.

Q71. Biodiversity hotspots are among the richest and most important ecosystems in the world. How many such hot spots are presently there in the world?

- (a) 25
- (b) 34
- (c) 36
- (d) 42

Ans: c

Sol: There are 36 biodiversity hotspots across the globe. In totality they form just 2.4% of the earth's surface while supporting nearly 43% of the world's endemic species including mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. A biodiversity hotspot is classified on the basis of (i) It must be threatened and have 30% or less of its original habitat. In other words, 70% or more of its habitat would be lost to human interference and (ii) It should have a high degree of endemism i.e. it must have at least 1500 vascular plants as endemics. A hotspot is therefore, irreplaceable. In India, four biodiversity hotspots have been defined namely the Himalayas, The Western Ghats, The Sundaland (including Nicobar Islands), and the Indo-Burma region.

Q72. Wooden doors often swell up and get stuck during the rainy season. This is due to the phenomenon of

- (a) endosmosis
- (b) imbibition
- (c) endocytosis
- (d) capillarity

Ans: b

Sol: The swelling of wooden doors is caused by the process of imbibition. Imbibition is the absorption of water by solid particles of substance without forming a solution. The two essential things for imbibition are absorbed (wooden frame) and liquid imbibed (water).

Q73. Who won the Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of the 'law of photoelectric effect'?

- (a) Wilhelm Roentgen
- (b) Albert Einstein
- (c) Isaac Newton
- (d) Ernest Rutherford

Ans: b

Sol: The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded to Albert Einstein for his services to Theoretical Physics and specially for his discovery of the law

of photoelectric effect. The law of photoelectric states that the number of emitted electrons is directly proportional to the intensity of light incident.

Q74. The filament string of an electric bulb is made of

- (a) copper
- (b) silver
- (c) platinum
- (d) tungsten

Ans: d

Sol: Filament of bulb is made up of Tungsten. Tungsten has a highest melting point, making it ideal for light bulbs Tungsten is used to make filament of an electric bulb because it has the lowest vapour pressure and greatest tensile strength of any metal.

Q75. Which among the following is the chief constituent of biogas?

- (a) Carbon dioxide
- (b) Hydrogen
- (c) Ethane
- (d) Methane

Ans: d

Sol: Biogas mainly comprises three main gases. It has a mixture of methane, hydrogen and carbon dioxide. Biogas can be produced by agricultural waste, food waste, animal dung, manure and sewage. The major constituents of biogas with three percentage are-Methane 50 to 75% carbon dioxide 25 to 50%, nitrogen→ 20 to 10% and hydrogen 0 to 1%.

Q76. Which of the following is an egg-laying mammal?

- (a) Platypus
- (b) Bat
- (c) Whale
- (d) Seal

Ans: a

Sol: Among the following. Platypus is an egg laying mammal. The platypus sometimes referred to as the duck-billed platypus is a semi-aquatic, egg-laying mammal endemic to

eastern Australia, including Tasmania. Bat, whale and seals reproduce by giving birth to their young ones and are viviparous.

Q77. Which of the following diseases is not caused by a virus?

- Influenza
- Anthrax
- AIDS
- Dengue fever

Ans: b

Sol: Among the following, Anthrax is not caused by Virus. Anthrax is a rare infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. Anthrax occurs naturally around the world in wild and domestic hoofed animals.

There are three main forms of anthrax:

- Cutaneous anthrax (skin infection)
- Inhalation anthrax (lung infection)
- Gastrointestinal anthrax (intestinal infection)

Anthrax is typically spread through:

- Direct contact with infected animals or their products (e.g., wool, hides)
- Inhalation of spores from contaminated soil, water, or animal products
- Infected insect bites (rarely)

Symptoms vary depending on the form of the disease, but may include:

- Skin lesions or ulcers
- Fever, chills, and fatigue
- Cough, difficulty breathing, and chest pain (inhalation anthrax)
- Nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain (gastrointestinal anthrax)

Q78. A washing machine works on the principle of

- gravitation
- acceleration
- centrifugation
- linear motion

Ans: c

Sol: A washing machine works on the principle of centrifugal force. It uses the centrifugal force to move the particles to the bottom of the tube.

Centrifugal is a machine process which uses the action working principle to promote accelerated settling of particles in a solid liquid mixture.

Here's how it works:

- Agitation:** The machine uses an agitator or impeller to move the clothes around, helping to loosen dirt and stains.
- Buoyancy:** Water is added to the machine, and the clothes are submerged, allowing them to float and move around freely.
- Centrifugation:** During the spin cycle, the machine uses centrifugal force to remove water from the clothes. The drum rotates rapidly, forcing water out of the clothes and into the drain.

Q79. Raindrops are spherical in shape because of the phenomenon called

- Viscosity
- velocity
- residual pressure
- surface tension

Ans: d

Sol: Raindrops start to form in a roughly spherical structure due to surface tension of water. The surface tension is the skin of a body that makes the molecules stick together because of weak hydrogen bonds that occur between water molecules.

Q80. Name the clinical procedure in which blood is transfused from recovered COVID-19 patients to a COVID-19 affected patient in critical condition.

- Dialysis therapy
- Plasma therapy
- Solidarity technique
- Hydroxychloroquine administration

Ans: b

Sol: The clinical procedure which is used for treating covid patients is plasma therapy. Plasma therapy involves introducing the blood plasma of a recovered coronavirus patient into the body of the patient who is presently affected by the virus. The plasma of the recovered person has antibodies present that were created by the immune system to fight the virus.

Q81. A man suddenly encounters a tiger in the jungle and his heartbeat goes up, blood pressure increases and gets nervous. Which

hormone is released more at this point in his body?

- (a) Thyroxine
- (b) Insulin
- (c) Adrenaline
- (d) Aldosterone

Ans: c

Sol: At this point, Adrenaline hormone is released in his body. Adrenaline also known as epinephrine is a stress hormone. An adrenaline rush can feel like anxiousness, nervousness or pure excitement when a body or mind are preparing for an event. There are certain activities like skydiving and bungee jumping that give you an adrenaline rush.

1. Increased heart rate and blood pressure
2. Rapid breathing and increased oxygen supply
3. Increased glucose release from energy stores for quick energy
4. Improved focus, concentration, and mental clarity
5. Reduced pain perception
6. Increased muscle strength and endurance
7. Improved circulation and blood flow

Adrenaline is used medically in various situations, such as:

1. Cardiac arrest (to restart the heart)
2. Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions)
3. Asthma attacks
4. Certain medical emergencies

Q82. Largest the Prime Minister of India kick-started the vaccination drive in Indian history against the COVID-19 virus on

- (a) 14th January, 2021
- (b) 16th January, 2021
- (c) 18th January, 2021
- (d) 20th January, 2021

Ans: b

Sol: India began its vaccination program on 16 January, 2021 by providing 3006 vaccination centres on the onset.

Q83. The biggest vaccine manufacturer, by volume, in the world is

- (a) Codagenix

- (b) Spy Biotech
- (c) Serum Institute of India
- (d) Novavax

Ans: c

Sol: Serum Institute of India is the biggest vaccine manufacturer by volume. It is based in Pune and was founded by Cyrus Poonawalla in 1966.

- World's largest vaccine manufacturer by number of doses produced and sold globally (over 1.5 billion doses)
- Produces vaccines for measles, malaria, COVID-19, and more
- Accredited by the World Health Organization and used in over 170 countries
- Estimated that 65% of the world's children receive at least one vaccine manufactured by SII
- Has developed an intranasal swine flu vaccine and a fast-acting anti-rabies agent
- Partners with AstraZeneca to produce COVID-19 vaccines for India and other countries

Q84. Which city has been conferred the Swachh Survekshan, 2020 Award as the cleanest city in the North-East Region and the State under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan?

- (a) Sivasagar
- (b) Jorhat
- (c) Tezpur
- (d) Lakhimpur

Ans: c

Sol: Tezpur was conferred the Swachh Survekshan 2020 Award as the cleanest city in the North-East region and the State under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. In 2019, the award went to Silchar.

In 2020, Indore ranked first for the fourth consecutive year in the category of cities with more than 10 lakh population. The report is managed and published by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Q85. Which country on 19th July, 2020 launched its first mission to the Mars?

- (a) India
- (b) Malaysia

- (c) United Arab Emirates
(d) Iran

Ans: c

Sol: The United Arab Emirates became the first Arabic country to reach Mars. The Hope spacecraft was launched successfully on 19th July, 2020. It was aboard Japanese rocket H-IIA rocket. The country marked its 50th anniversary in 2019. UAE has become the fifth country after India, US, Russia, China and the EU to reach the red planet.

- Q86.** The much discussed 'Line of Actual Control (LAC)' is a disputed borderline between
(a) India and China
(b) China and Pakistan
(c) India and Pakistan
(d) China and Nepal

Ans: a

Sol: The Line of Actual Control (LAC) is a disputed borderline between India and China. The border is disputed over the two countries' varying consideration of length. India considers the LAC to be 3,488 km long. On the contrary China only measures it to be around 2,000 km. It is further divided into three sectors-eastern (Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim), middle (Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh) and western sector (Ladakh).

- Q87.** The Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on climate change is to limit global warming well below (benchmark of pre-industrial level)
(a) 1.0°C
(b) 2.0°C
(c) 2.5 °C
(d) 3.0°C

Ans: b

Sol: The Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on climate change is to limit global warming well below 2.0°C. The preferred limit has been defined as 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels.

The Paris agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 192 member nations in Paris on 12th December, 2015. The treaty came into effect on 4th November, 2016. The aim is to reach global

peaking greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible in order to achieve a climate neutral world by the middle of the 21st century.

- Q88.** Against 232 Electoral Votes won by Donald Trump, how many Electoral Votes were bagged by Joe Biden in the November 2020 US Elections?
(a) 300
(b) 306
(c) 310
(d) 315

Ans: b

Sol: Joe Biden won the USA presidential elections 2020 by attaining 306 electorates as opposed to 232 electoral vote for Trump. For a candidate to win with clear mandate in the Presidential elections, she or he must get 270 or more votes. The number of electors assigned to each state is equal to its total number of senators and representatives in Congress. 53 electors form the Electoral college and each elector casts one vote in the general elections.

- Q89.** The Nobel Prize in Literature for the year 2020 was won by
(a) Louise' Gluck
(b) Peter Handke
(c) Alice Munro
(d) Kazuo Ishiguro

Ans: a

Sol: The Nobel Prize in Literature 2020 was won by American poetess Louise Gluck. She was awarded the honour for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal. In 2019, the Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Peter Handke. The Nobel Prize is awarded in the fields of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature, and peace Each year the Norwegian Nobel Committee selects eligible candidates. The committee is appointed by the Norwegian parliament, the Storting.

- Q90.** Sittwe Port in Myanmar, which is being financed by India, is a part of which project?
(a) Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport project
(b) Sagarmala Project

- (c) Prayagraj-Haldia Inland Waterway Project
(d) Talcher-Dhamra Inland Waterway Project

Ans: a

Sol: Sittwe project in Myanmar is a part of the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project. The project is a joint effort between India and Myanmar to connect the two countries by sea. The project connects Kolkata port with Sittwe port by the way of sea, Sittwe to Paletwa through river Kaladan, Paletwa to the Indian border, and Myanmar road to Lawngtlai, Mizoram. The project was launched as part of the 1991 "Look East Policy" which has remodeled "Act East" policy by the Modi government.

Q91. On 26th January, 2020, we lost an all-time great basketball player who used to play for Los Angeles Lakers in the National Basketball Association for two decades. Who was he?

- (a) Michael Jordan
(b) Kevin Durant
(c) Shaquille O'Neal
(d) Kobe Bryant

Ans: d

Sol: Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna along with several other passengers died in a helicopter crash in California. The basketball star used to play for Los Angeles Lakers in the NBA. Bryant won Olympic Gold Medals in 2008 and 2012.

Q92. The FIFA World Cup Football, 2022 will be hosted by

- (a) Argentina
(b) Russia
(c) Qatar
(d) Germany

Ans: c

Sol: Qatar will become the first Arab state to host the FIFA 2022 Football World Cup. The country won its bidding rights to host the tournament twelve years ago.

Q93. Which among the following removed the pro-democracy books from its public libraries recently?

- (a) China

- (b) Hong Kong
(c) Malaysia
(d) Russia

Ans: b

Sol: Pro-democracy books were removed from public libraries in Hong Kong after the new security law has been announced. The law aims to give Beijing overarching powers over Hong Kong. China has stood against the "One Country, Two System" set-up with Hong Kong after it was given back to the Asian country by Britain in 1997. The law makes way for closed-door trials, wire-tapping of suspects, and for the trial of potential suspects in Mainland China.

Q94. On 25th May, 2020, few Officers of Minneapolis police mercilessly killed a black man, who was charged of using a counterfeit \$20 note after buying cigarettes from a convenience store. The name of this man, whose death rocked the US political and social systems for a long time, is

- (a) Mike Freeman
(b) Thomas Lane
(c) Derek Chauvin
(d) George Floyd

Ans: d

Sol: George Floyd was a black man who was mercilessly killed on 25th May, 2020 by the officers of Minneapolis Police and accused him of counterfeiting a 20 dollar note. His last words were "I cannot breathe" which became the slogan for a world-wide protest against racial oppression of blacks, natives, and Asians in the West. His death reignited the Black Lives Matter movement in USA, Canada, and the UK predominantly.

Q95. The National Education Policy, 2020 was approved by the Union Cabinet on 29th July, 2020. This visionary policy that aims to touch upon every aspect of education from elementary to higher education will replace the

- (a) National Curriculum Framework, 2005
(b) National Policy on Education, 1968
(c) National Policy on Education 1986
(d) None of the above

Ans: c

Sol: The National Policy on Education 1986 is being replaced by the National Education Policy 2020 as approved by the Union Cabinet on 29th July, 2020. The 1986 policy was introduced by the PM Rajiv Gandhi with the aim on "special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalise educational opportunity" with a special focus on women, STs, and SC communities. The 2020 educational policy emphasises on the development of the creative potential and overall development of students, ensuring they are equipped with valuable life skills along with educational knowledge. It also aims at increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education.

Q96. On 9th November, 2019, the Supreme Court of India gave the historic verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case, popularly called the Ayodhya Verdict. Which High Court in India referred this case to the Supreme Court after 2010?

- (a) Lucknow High Court
- (b) Allahabad High Court
- (c) Delhi High Court
- (d) Patna High Court

Ans: b

Sol: The Allahabad High Court referred the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case to Supreme court after 2010. The Lucknow bench of the HC had directed the division of 2.77 acres among three parties. The Supreme Court delivered its final verdict on 9th November, 2019.

Q97. Three Agriculture Bills were signed by the President of India, after both Houses of the Parliament had passed earlier, on 27th September, 2020. Which of the following is not a part of this package?

- (a) The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act
- (b) The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act
- (c) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act
- (d) The Farmers Subsidy and Insurance Act

Ans: d

Sol: The three agriculture bills which were signed by the President of India after both Houses of the Parliament had passed on 27th September, 2020 are: (i) The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, (ii) The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act and (iii) The Farmers Subsidy and Insurance Act. The laws were repealed 2021 through the Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021

Q98. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) partnered with which company to launch a curriculum on Digital Safety and Augmented Reality for students and educators?

- (a) Facebook
- (b) Google
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) Apple

Ans: a

Sol: Facebook and the Central Board of Secondary Education have partnered to launch a curriculum on digital safety and augmented reality for students and educators. The aim behind launching the shared curriculum is to ensure well-being of the students and simultaneously prepare them for the future of work. It covers a range of topics such as safety privacy, mental health, and Instagram's guide for building healthy digital habits. This is the first instance of CBSE to bring AR under the ambit of a curriculum.

Q99. Which tribe of Assam organised the Judima Festival in the middle of December 2020 to promote its art and culture, performing arts and ethnic practices?

- (a) The Bodo tribe
- (b) The Dimasa tribe
- (c) The Karbi tribe
- (d) The Mising tribe

Ans: b

Sol: The Dimasa tribe of Assam organised the Judima festival in the middle of December 2020 to promote its art, and culture, performing arts, and ethnic practices in Gujung. The Judima festival was started in 2016.

The Dimasas reside in parts of Assam and

Nagaland. They are an indigenous and ethnolinguistic community. One of their specialties is Judima which is a home-made rice wine. It is made of sticky rice, steamed and mixed with Thembra which are traditional herbs in the region. The wine became the first traditional brew to bag the Geographical Indication (GI) Tag in North-East India.

Q100. During 27th September, 2020 and 10th November, 2020, a fierce battle was fought between two countries for the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. Which are the two countries?

- (a) Armenia-Iran
- (b) Armenia-Azerbaijan
- (c) Turkey-Iran
- (d) Azerbaijan-Russia

Ans: b

Sol: The two countries who fought a battle over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh are Armenia and Azerbaijan. The region has been a site for long-standing conflict which can be dated all the way back to the pre-Soviet era. It is located in Azerbaijan but with majority of Armenian ethnicity and Christians as opposed to Shia Muslim majority in Azerbaijan.

Both countries became independent states in 1921 and Russia handed over the territory to Azerbaijan but also offered autonomy to the said region. Separatist forces gained momentum in the region when USSR power was on decline. In 1988, the national assembly voted to join Armenia. A war between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh region broke out in 1991 while the latter were supported by Armenia. The Minsk Group of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) co-chaired by USA, Russia, and France were able to negotiate a cease fire agreement between the two nations.