

Himalai IAS Classes Since 1998

TEST BOOKLET

General Studies - I

Preparatory Exam - 1

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately after the commencement of the examination, you should check that this test booklet does not have any unprinted or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a complete test booklet.
2. You have to enter you Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside **DO NOT** write **anything else** on the Test Booklet.
3. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item
4. **All** items carry equal marks
5. After you have completed filling in all you responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator only the Answer Sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
6. **Penalty for wrong answer:**
THREE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
 - i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one-third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty
 - ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question
 - iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question

1. Recently Ashalim Project was in news. It is related to which of the following?
 - a) It is Israel's largest solar power station in the Negev desert.
 - b) It is a tribal development project for the Ashalim tribe of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - c) It is a French project of Geo-Engineering to mitigate effects of Climate Change.
 - d) It is a Youth Self Employment Programme launched in the North-Eastern States of India.
2. A team of Indian astronomers has discovered an astronomical phenomenon named "Saraswati". What is "Saraswati"?
 - a) It is an extrasolar planet approximately 50 light-years away in the constellation of Pegasus.
 - b) It is a star in the constellation of Aquila.
 - c) It is a small natural satellite of Pluto, about 12 km in its longest dimension.
 - d) It is an extremely large supercluster of galaxies and is as big as 20 million billion suns.
3. e-Shakti initiative was recently launched by NABARD. What is e-Shakti initiative?
 - a) It is a zero - interest credit programme to promote rural women entrepreneurship.
 - b) It is a programme for direct subsidy transfer to dairy farmers.
 - c) It is an initiative to promote transfer of land titles to women tillers.
 - d) It is an initiative for digitization of Self Help Groups (SHGs).
4. In 2017, the bicentenary celebration of the Paika Rebellion was organized by the Union Ministry of Culture. Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding Paika Rebellion?
 - a) The Paika Rebellion was an armed rebellion against the British East India Company's rule in Odisha in 1817.
 - b) It took place under the leadership of Baxi Jagabandhu Bidyadhara, who was the Gajapati King of Odisha.
 - c) An official announcement was done to the effect that Rebellion will be renamed as "First War of Independence".
 - d) The Rebellion was ruthlessly suppressed by the British and Baxi Jagabandhu was arrested in 1825.
5. Which of the following option describes "Agri Udaan" most appropriately?
 - a) It is a special zero interest loan scheme for small and marginal farmers.
 - b) It is a program launched by Atal Innovation Mission for rapid agricultural growth by linking Producers Organizations with technological institutes like IITs etc.
 - c) It is a program where Food and Agri-business start -ups will get incubation space to run their business and have access to research laboratories and libraries.
 - d) It is an e-auction portal for selling agricultural produce developed by Joint Initiative of state run auctioneer MSTC and CRWC (Central Railside Warehouse Company)
6. Consider the following characteristics of a geographical region:
 - 1) 'Sagar Vani' is an Integrated Information Dissemination System (IDS) to communicate and help the coastal community, especially fishermen.
 - 2) It is a system that can send information in Hindi and English languages only through various platforms including radio, television, voice calling etc.

- 3) It aims at timely dissemination of ocean information and advisory services that includes Potential Fishing Zone (PZF) advisories, Ocean State Forecast (OSF),
a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1 and 3 only
7. India signed financing agreement with World Bank for Tejaswini project in 2017. Which of the following is NOT true about Tejaswini Project?
a) It is the first World Bank project in India that is solely focused on the welfare of adolescent girls and young women.
b) It supports market-driven skills training, secondary education and broader socio-economic empowerment for adolescent girls and young women.
c) It supports adolescent girls and young women between the ages of 14 and 24 to complete their secondary level education.
d) It is a pan India project which will start from Uttar Pradesh.
8. The team "AmbuSens" which was in news recently is related to which of the following?
a) It is a wireless technology for remote monitoring of patients' condition ferried in ambulances.
b) It is a bacteria, recently found which demonstrates a great deal of metabolic diversity and consequently is able to colonize a wide range of niches.
c) It is a mobile operating system based on a modified version of the Linux kernel and other open source software and designed primarily for touch screen mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets.
d) It is a name of a financial malware which mostly affected Germany.
9. Consider the following statement in respect of "the Pradhan Mantri Swasthyasuraksha Yojana".
1) It envisages setting up of AIIMS-like institutes and upgradation of existing Government Medical colleges.
2) It aims at providing free healthcare facilities to BPL families.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. The Election Commission of India, for the first time launched a nationwide "Voter Registration Reminder". Consider the following statements in this context:
1) The Election Commission has collaborated with Facebook to launch the campaign
2) Facebook has developed a 'Register Now' button to encourage and remind the Indian citizens to register themselves with the Election Commission of India.
3) Facebook has started the reminder service in only 2 languages – Hindi and English.
4) In 2016 and 2017, Chief Electoral Officers made such efforts at State level during their respective State legislative elections.
a) 1 only b) 1, 2 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
11. Consider the following statements regarding green bonds:
1) Green bonds can mobilize resources from domestic and international capital markets for climate change adaptation, renewable and other environment-friendly projects.
2) Blue Bonds are a type of green bonds which specifically invest in climate resilient water management and water infrastructure.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

12. Recently Petya ransomware cyber-attack has hit computer servers all across Europe, locking up computer data and crippling enterprise services in the corporate sector. Which of the following statement is NOT true regarding Petya Ransomware attack?
- It encrypts all the data and locks up a computer's files and demands Bitcoins as ransom to unlock the data.
 - The attack is believed to have started against an update used on a third-party Ukrainian software called MeDoc.
 - India was not affected by the attack.
 - Ukraine and Russia were the worst affected.
13. Which of the following statements is correct about "Express Wi-Fi" internet services?
- It is a low-cost, high bandwidth internet service launched by Facebook in India.
 - Hotspots were made available at 6 states – Gujarat, Uttarkhand, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Karnataka.
 - India is the first country where this service has been launched.
 - For country wide launch of the service Facebook has collaborated with Vodafone.
14. Recently the Indian Prime Minister attended the 14th International Vesak Day celebrations in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Which of the following statements is NOT correct about Vesak Day?
- It was the first time that Sri Lanka hosted the International Vesak Day, recognized by the UN.
 - Vesak Day marks only the birth and enlightenment of Lord Buddha.
 - The theme of the event was "Buddhist teachings for social justice and sustainable world peace".
 - In India, Vesak Day is celebrated as Buddha Purnima.
15. The Jharkhand Cabinet recently approved the Jharkhand Religious Independence Bill, 2017 that forbids religious conversion through allurement or coercion. Which of the following states is India's first state to launch anti-conversion law?
- Madhya Pradesh
 - Gujarat
 - Odisha
 - Chhattisgarh
16. Which of the following statements regarding the "Cyclone Ockhi" is/are correct?
- The name for the cyclone was given by Myanmar.
 - The origin of Ockhi can be traced back to an area of low pressure formed in the Arabian Sea.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
17. Which of the following statements is NOT correct about "Divya Nayan"?
- It is one of the most advanced reading machine for the visually challenged.
 - it is developed by the Central Scientific Instruments Organ(CSIO), under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
 - It is a non-portable device which is based on the principle of contact scanning of a printed document and converting it into speech.
 - Currently it only supports Hindi and English languages.
18. As per the Economic Survey 2017-18 decisive action was taken to grasp the Twin Balance sheet (TBS) challenge (arguably the festering, binding

- constraint on Indian growth prospects. The Survey had identified four R's of TBS. Which among the following are these R's?
- a) Recognition b) Reconstruction
c) Recapitalization d) Recovery
19. Recently 'Greyball' was in the news for wrong reasons. What is "Greyball"?
- a) It is a Trojan horse malware package that runs on versions of Microsoft Windows to carry out many malicious and criminal tasks and steals banking information by man-in-the-browser keystroke logging and form grabbing.
- b) It is a malware introduced in the systems of Hitachi Payments Services, which provide ATM services in India, enabling fraudsters to steal information allowing them to steal funds.
- c) It is the name of ransomware which targeted computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system by encrypting data and demanding ransom payments in the Bitcoin cryptocurrency.
- d) It is a software tool used by Uber to identify riders and bar certain customers from travelling with the app.
20. Consider the following statement regarding "Vision Zero Conference":
- 1) Vision Zero conference aims to focus on the occupational safety and health issues and challenges in the Manufacturing, Construction and Mining sectors.
- 2) It was organized in Mumbai in 2017 by India and Germany in association with International Social Security Association (ISSA).
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
21. "Operation Thunder Bird" is related to which of the following?
- a) It is an operation launched by the Indian government against Naxalism.
- b) It is a multi – forces operation launched to tackle militancy in the North-Eastern States of India.
- c) It is a multi-national and multi-species enforcement operation for wildlife protection.
- d) It is a multi – forces operation launched to tackle militancy in State of Jammu and Kashmir.
22. India's longest road tunnel was opened in Jammu and Kashmir for traffic in 2017. Consider the following statements in this context:
- 1) It is called the Patnitop tunnel and it connects Chenani in Udhampur with Nashri in Ramban district.
- 2) It has reduced the travel distance between Srinagar and Jammu by 30 kms as it provides an all-weather road connectivity to the Valley and avoids landslide-prone stretch.
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
23. First biggest river festival was held in India to celebrate the river Brahmaputra in 2017. Which of the following statements is NOT true regarding the festival?
- a) It was a five-day festival and was titled 'Namami Brahmaputra'.
- b) It was organized by the Assam Government.
- c) China refused to take part in the festival.
- d) Dalai Lama also attended the festival.
24. Consider the following statements regarding "Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs)":
- 1) These NWRs can be traded online.
- 2) Issued by registered warehouses the NWRs help farmers to seek loans from banks.

- 3) NWRs allow transfer of ownership of a commodity in a warehouse without having to deliver the physical commodity.
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
25. Researchers from the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI) have confirmed the multiple therapeutic properties of the Neurocalyx calycinus plant. The therapeutic properties of the plant were discovered based on traditional knowledge of a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) who call this plant's leaves by the local name – 'Pacha Chedi'. What is the name of this tribe which belongs to Kerala?
- a) Korumba b) Cholanaikkan
c) Koraga d) Thoti
26. India Air force has formally inducted the first indigenously built Airborne Early Warning and control System NETRA in February 2017. Which of the following statements is NOT correct about NETRA?
- a) It is developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
b) It has a range of around 200 km.
c) India is only the 5th country to have developed such technology after China, Russia, Israel and United State of America.
d) It is a robust monitoring system that provides 240 degree coverage.
27. Which of the statements is correct about VAJRA initiative?
- a) It is an "advanced shield of Indian army against missile attack".
b) It is a programme of CDAC to protect Indian Cyber infrastructure against cyber attack.
- c) It is a scheme to connect the Indian academic and research and development (R & D) systems to the best of global science and scientists for a sustained international collaborative research.
d) It is a project launched by Indian government in Antarctica for R & D in climate change and its impact on oceans.
28. Barren Island Volcano, India's only live volcano, became active again in January 2017. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Barren Island Volcano?
- 1) It had started showing activity in 1991 after lying dormant for over 150 years.
2) Situated in the Bay of Bengal, it is a part of Andaman Islands and is totally uninhabited by either humans or animals.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
29. The first ever "Investors Summit" exclusively for the North Eastern Region (NER) was organized in January, 2017. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Summit?
- 1) It was organized jointly by the Ministry of Textiles and the Ministry of Development of North East Region.
2) It was held at Guwahati, Assam
3) The theme of the Summit was "Exploring Opportunities in North East Region".
- a) 1, 2 and 3 b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1 and 3 only
30. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List – I

- A. Kalibangan
B. Lothal
C. Mohenjodaro
D. Dholavira

Codes: A B

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

List – II

1. Reservoir
2. Ploughed Field
3. Pasupati Seal
4. Bead factory

C D

- 2 4
3 1
3 4
1 2

31. Which of the following Rig Vedic God is associated with medicine and healing?

- a) Varun b) Agni
c) Asvins d) Surya

32. Consider the following religious concepts:

1. Aparigraha 2. Triratna
3. Syadavada 4. Kaivalya

Which of the above concepts are associated with Jainism?

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

33. Which of the following statements regarding Ashoka is Incorrect?

- a) Ashoka after Kalinga war declared that he will make on war in future.
b) His Dhamma was a universal code of social and moral conduct.
c) He donated rock cut caves to Ajivika Monks.
d) His peace policy was a major factor in the decline of the Mauryan empire.

34. The Buddhist Council that led to final division in Buddhism in two parts, Hinayana and Mahayana, was held at which of the following site?

- a) Rajagriha b) Srinagar
c) Vaishali d) Pataliputra

35. Consider the following statements:

1. The First Carnatic War came to an end after the defeat of the French forces in the battle of Wandiwash.

2. The Internal turmoil in Carnatic and Hyderabad provided the opportunities to the English and the French companies to meddle in their internal affairs and finally provoked the Second Carnatic War.

3. The Treaty of Paris provided that English factories would be returned to them, which they had earlier lost in the 3rd Carnatic War.

Which of the statement given above are incorrect?

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3

36. Which among the following were the measures adopted by the East India Company, after the battle of Plassey, the ruined the economy of Bengal?

1) The Company used its political power to dictate terms to the weavers of Bengal who were forced to sell their products at a cheaper price.

2) The Company eliminated its rival traders, both Indian and foreign, and prevented them from offering higher wages.

3) The East India Company imposed heavy duties on Indian goods in England.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3

37. Which among the following are reflected in Moderate's ideology?

1) They believed in constitutional and legal means.

2) They dissociated themselves from social reforms, within the Congress.

3) Absence of mass-mobilization.

4) They believed in the providential nature of the British Rule.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

38. Which among the following pairs is/are correctly matched?
1. Sambad Kaumudi - Raja Rammohan Roy
 2. Amrit Bazar Patrika - Motilal and Sishir Kumar Ghosh
 3. Tuhfat-ul-Muwaideen - Syed Ahmad Khan
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 3 only
 - b) 1 and 2 only
 - c) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - d) None of the above
39. Which among the following statements is / are correct?
- 1) Dayanand Sarawati was originally born as Moolshankar in a Brahmin family of Gujarat.
 - 2) He established a revivalist movement known as Arya Samaj in 1875 at Bombay.
 - 3) To preach his ideas, he published Satyarth Prakash in 1875 in Hindi.
 - 4) The Arya Samaj was one of the most influential movements in Northern and Central India against Caste-Orthodoxy.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1,2 and 3 only
 - b) 2,3 and 4 only
 - c) 1,3 and 4 only
 - d) 1,2,3 and 4
40. India celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Sister Nivedita in 2017. Consider the following statements about her-
- 1) Originally born as Margaret Elizabeth Noble in Ireland, she came to India in the late 19th century after being impressed by Swami Vivekananda's work.
 - 2) She was a lifelong member of Ramkrishna Mission and was closely associated with activities throughout India.
 - 3) She encouraged and supported Jagdish Chandra Bose to carry out scientific research.
- Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) 3 only
 - d) None of the above
41. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Geographical Feature | Region |
| a) Kalahari Desert | - North Africa |
| b) Atlas Mountains | - Northwest Africa |
| c) Guiana Highlands | - Southwest Africa |
| d) Okavango Basin | - Patagonia Desert |
42. Consider the following statements:
- 1) The cirrus cloud is composed largely of ice-crystals.
 - 2) Drizzle is associated with low and thin stratus clouds.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) Both 1 and 2
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2
43. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Kigali Agreement?
- 1) It aims to phase down the use of hydrofluro carbons (HFCs)
 - 2) It is the first legally binding climate treaty of 21st century.
 - 3) It was held at 27th Meeting of Parties of the Montreal Protocol
 - 4) Under the agreement, the developed countries will start reducing the use of HFCs first.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- a) 1 and 4 only
 - b) 1,2 and 4 only
 - c) 1,3 and 4 only
 - d) 1,2,3 and 4
44. Which of the following statements are correct?
- 1) United Nations Conversation to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is

the only internationally legally binding framework to address desertification.

2) UNGA has declared 2010-2020 as United Nations Decade for Deserts

3) Desertification refers to expansion and encroachment of deserts into marginal lands.

4) Desertification takes place due to natural reasons only

Select the correct answer using the code given below;

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

45. Recently, for the first time in our country, which of the following States has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with California-based Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HTT) to develop India's first Hyperloop route in that state?

- a) Maharashtra b) Andhra Pradesh
c) Haryana d) Karnataka

46. With reference to 'the Zero Hunger Programme', consider the following statements:

- 1) The programme works to make India free from malnutrition by 2022 and attaining Zero Hunger.
2) The Programme has been launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

47. Recently which one of the following cities has been accorded the status of India's first World Heritage City by UNESCO?

- a) Jaipur b) Kolkata
c) Ahmedabad d) Varanasi

48. 'India RAP programme' an initiative launched by the Government of India, stands for which of the following?

a) Road Assessment Programme to evaluate highway's safety levels, and seek to eliminate the most unsafe roads.

b) Rapid Ambulance Programme to promote access to emergency health.

c) Rural Access Programme, an e-Governance initiative programme by the GOI.

d) Resourceful Adolescent Programme to provide sex education to school children.

49. Recently, India proposed to set up its first 'Mega Coastal Economic Zone (CELZ)' in which of the following States?

- a) Gujarat b) Andhra Pradesh
c) Maharashtra d) Tamil Nadu

50. Consider the following statements regarding Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana:

- 1) The Scheme has been launched by Ministry of Science & Technology.
2) The Scheme has been started in Uttarkhand.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

51. With reference to the "Bharat QR Code", consider the following statements:

1. Bharat QR code is an interoperable payment acceptance solution that supports Visa, Master Card, Amex and RuPay cards and BHIM-UPI.
2. It is a P2M (Person to Merchant) Mobile payment solution
3. It makes a PoS (Point of Sale) swiping machine redundant.

- a) 1 Only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 2 only d) 1, 2 and 3

52. India's first dedicated space observatory, ASTROSAT has captured the rare phenomenon of a "Blue

Straggler” Star in 2017. What is a “Blue Straggler” star?

a) It is a star which feeds off its companion star by sucking out its mass and energy, causing its eventual death

b) It is a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits a beam of electromagnetic radiation

c) It is a type of compact exotic star, where extremely high temperature and pressure has forced nuclear particles to form a continuous state of matter that consists primarily of free quarks

d) It is star with distinctly unusual metal abundances, at least in their surface layers

53. With reference to the BBIN Agreement, consider the following statements:

1. The Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA) signed in June 2015 has been ratified by Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

2. Bhutan has opted out of the agreement due to Chinese pressure following the Doklam issue. Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

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

54. With reference to the “UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites”, consider the following statements:

1. Gujarat has no site in the list
2. Assam boasts of two sites in this list.

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

55. Consider the following statements regarding Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI):

1. The Centre has constituted a four-member Board.

2. The main activity of the Board would be to regulate the functioning of insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies and information utilities under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016.

3. It is to be directly administered by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

- a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 3 only d) None of the above

56. Postal Life Insurance was in news with reference to the Sampurna Bima Gram (SBG) Yojana. In this context consider the following statements:

1. Postal Life Insurance (PLI) was introduced in 1884 and is the oldest life insurance scheme in India.

2. Under the Sampurna Bima Gram Yojana all households in at least ten villages (having minimum 1000 households per village) in a revenue district are to be covered compulsorily with a Rural PLI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

57. With reference to the “Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)”, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme was originally launched in 2007 to achieve 4% annual growth in agricultural sector during 11th five-year plan.

2. The scheme has been extended by three years i.e., 2017-18 to 2019-20 and has been renamed as RKVY-RAFTAAR.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

58. In the context of Ashgabat Agreement, consider the following statements:

1. It is a recently concluded agreement to counter ISIS in Central Asia.

2. India is a founding member of the Ashgabat Agreement.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
59. With reference to the “Hydrocarbons Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)”, consider the following statements:
1. It provides independent license for different types of hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, coal bed methane, etc.
2. Exploration phase for the onshore areas have been decreased from 7 to 5 years.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
60. With reference to the “Independent Debt Management Office”, suggested by the NITI Aayog, consider the following statements:
1. Presently the RBI performs dual roles as Banker and Manager of Central Government’s borrowings.
2. According to NITI Aayog, it could lead to substantial reduction in India’s interest payment.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
61. Consider the following statements regarding shell companies:
1. The Companies Act, 2013 has defined what a ‘shell company’ is and gives guideline to identify a shell company.
2. The Double Tax Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) is used sometimes as loophole by shell companies to avoid tax.
Which of the statements given above is / are correct?
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
62. Consider the following statements regarding the Kigali Agreement:
1. It amends the 1987 Montreal Protocol to include gases responsible for global warming and will be binding on countries from 2019.
2. India forms part of the third group, where in it has to reduce its hydro fluorocarbon (HFC) usage to about 15% of 2012 levels by 2025 and has to put a complete stop to HFC usage by 2028.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
63. With reference to “INS Karanj”, which was in the news, consider the following statements:
1. It is the first Indian submarine which can be operated only in the tropical climate.
2. It has been built with the help of French naval defence and energy company DCNS.
3. It is equipped with the Air Independent Propulsion System which enables it to stay underwater for longer duration.
a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 3 only
64. What is “GeM 3.0”, recently in the news?
1. It is an online platform to provide information on Genetically Modified Crops in India.
2. It functions under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
65. A joint initiative taken by the Assam State Government and the Armed Forces under the guidelines of National Disaster Management Policy 2016, is better known by the name of
a) Exercise Jalrahat
b) Exercise Malhar
c) Exercise Prakampana
d) Exercise Sahayata

66. With reference to the Draft Guidelines for Stem Cell Research 2017, consider the following statements:
1. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in association with the Department of Biotechnology drafted these guidelines.
 2. It prohibits areas for stem cell research including human germ line gene therapy and reproductive cloning.
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
67. The CarbFix2 Project captures CO₂ directly from ambient air, dissolves it in water and then pumps it into an injection site, where the CO₂ reacts with basaltic bedrock, forming solid carbonate minerals. This project is functioning in:
- a) Ireland b) Greenland
c) Iceland d) Denmark
68. Which of the following countries conducted the bi-annual multilateral exercise 'Blue Flag-17' in which India has participated for the first time?
- a) Israel b) U.S.A
c) Iceland d) Denmark
69. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning to launch the first solar mission, Aditya L1. Aditya – L1 mission is aimed at studying the Sun from an orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrangian point 1 (L1). What is Lagrangian point?
- a) It is a point on the outer layer of the Sun, extending to thousands of km above the disc (photosphere) having very high temperature.
- b) It is the point where the combined gravitational force of two large bodies is equal to the centrifugal force that is felt by a third body which is relatively smaller
- c) It is a point in near Sun at which the solar wind meets the interstellar medium or solar wind from other stars.
- d) A point which is equidistant from the Sun and the Earth.
70. The first edition of the International Symposium to Promote Innovation and Research in Energy Efficiency (INSPIRE 2017) was held on Jaipur. Which of the following statements is/are correct about INSPIRE 2017?
1. It was organized by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) in partnership with The World Bank, and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE).
 2. It was a global conference which aims to bring together various stakeholders like policy makers, innovators, financiers to showcase best practices in the sector.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
71. Consider the following statements in relation to the Chief Justice of India (CJI) being recognized as the "Mater of the Roster".
1. It is tenet of judicial discipline in India and a principle of Justice delivery system.
 2. It is a rule framed by the Supreme Court to conduct its business.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
72. Recently the state of West Bengal has changed its name to Bangla. In this context consider the following statements:
1. A Bill giving effect to change the name of any State shall only be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

2. A prior recommendation of the President is required for the introduction of the Bill.
3. The Parliament is bound to act on the views expressed on that Bill by the State legislature.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 3 only
73. With reference to the 'Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM)', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:
1. It is a constitutional body constituted to give economic advice to the Government of India.
 2. With the resignation of the Prime Minister the EAC-PM also needs to resign.
 3. The Economic Survey which is presented every year in the Parliament is prepared by the EAC-PM.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 3 only
74. Which of the following fundamental rights has /have been held by a constitutional bench of the Supreme Court as a natural right(s) recently?
1. Right to Life
 2. Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression
 3. Right to Privacy
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 3 only d) 1 and 3 only
75. Recently the Government of India has made Aadhaar mandatory for which of the following?
1. Filing of income tax returns.
 2. Opening of bank accounts
 3. All welfare schemes of the central government.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
76. Which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) measures both Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India.
 2. From January 2015 GDP at market price is headline GDP of India.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
77. Which institution replaced Disinvestment Commission in 2016?
- a) Niti Aayog Investment Authority
 - b) NCLT
 - c) DIPAM
 - d) Department for Reorganisation and Planning Management of Public Asset
78. The Committee set up in 2016 to review FRBM Act has recommended, inter alia, that
1. Fiscal expansion and contraction should be aligned with monetary expansion and contraction
 2. Total Debt as percentage of GDP should be the principal target for fiscal consolidation.
 3. Primary deficit should replace fiscal deficit as a major indicator.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 2 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 and 3
79. Of every rupee collected in the Union Budget 2017-18, the highest share belongs to:
- a) Service Tax
 - b) Excise Duty
 - c) Custom Duty
 - d) Corporate Tax

80. A surcharge of 10 per cent has been imposed in the Union Budget 2017 on those individuals whose annual income
- Exceeds two crore
 - Is between 1 to 1.5 crore
 - Is between Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore
 - Is between Rs. 75 lakh to Rs. 1 crore
81. Which of the following is also known as CENVAT?
- Excise Duty
 - Custom Duty
 - Sales Tax
 - Service Tax
82. What is Codex Alimentarius Commission, which was in the news recently?
- Its main purpose is to protect the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.
 - It was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
83. In the context of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, consider the following statements:
- Abortion in India is legal only up to sixteen weeks of pregnancy
 - Abortion can only be performed by a registered medical practitioner based solely on a women's request
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
84. With reference to 'Global Conference on Cyber Space'. That was in the news, consider the following statements:
- India for the first time has hosted the Global Conference on Cyber Space.
 - It is for the first time that Global Conference on Cyber Space has been taken place outside OECD nations.
 - The Theme of GCCS 2017 is "Cyber 4 All: A Secure and Inclusive Cyberspace for Sustainable Development".
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
85. The term 'Innovate in India (i3) Program' is associated with which of the following?
- National Solar Mission
 - National Biopharma Mission
 - National Mission for a Green India
 - National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
86. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 'Hamburg Action Plan'?
- It is intended to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.
 - The Action Plan has been adopted by the G-20 Leaders in its 12th G-20 summit.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
87. Which of the following is a purpose of 'FAME' a scheme of the Government?
- Providing technical and financial assistance to start-up entrepreneurs in the field of renewable sources of energy.
 - Promoting entrepreneurship among SC/ST and women entrepreneurs.

- c) Providing incentives in the form of a reduced purchase price for buyers of hybrid and electric vehicles.
d) Providing for financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies.
88. Recently under which of the following programmes the Government of India has launched SANKALP and STRIVE schemes?
a) Make in India Programme
b) Skill India Mission
c) Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
d) National Rural Health Mission
89. 'Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana' and initiative of the Government of India, aims to achieve which of the following?
a) To cover 100% immunization of children and pregnant women.
b) To provide compensation for the wage loss of pregnant women and lactating mothers.
c) To promote entrepreneurship among women entrepreneurs.
d) To provide minimum guaranteed pension to women workers.
90. Regarding 'Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)' which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It is a Pension Scheme exclusively for the senior citizens aged 60 years and above.
2. The scheme is exempted from Service Tax/ GST.
3. On death of the pensioner during the policy term of 10 years, the Purchase Price shall be paid to the beneficiary.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
91. Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) which is Asia's longest tunnel to carry water is built in which one of the following states of India?
a) Telangana
b) Tamil Nadu
c) Karnataka
d) Andhra Pradesh
92. A disputed Island known as 'Triton Island', which was in the news recently is located in which one of the following Seas?
a) The Caribbean Sea
b) The Mediterranean Sea
c) The South China Sea
d) The Red Sea
93. The Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, Navelim Wetlands and Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary that have been recognized by Bridlife International as hotspots for protection are situated in which of the following States?
a) Goa
b) Arunachal Pradesh
c) Kerala
d) Uttarakhand
94. What is 'Delhi Dialogue', which was in the news recently?
1. It is an annual event to address the shared challenges and interests of Afghanistan and its neighbours and regional partners.
2. It is being organized by the Ministry of Defence in collaboration with USA.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
95. With reference to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. The expenditure for the implementation of Bharat Net is funded from USOF.

2. The fund given under USOF is a non-lapsable fund.
3. The fund is maintained by the government under the NITI Aayog.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 3 only
96. With reference to the 'Malabar Naval Exercise', which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. Malabar Exercise is held annually in the Indian Ocean.
2. It began as an Indo-US bilateral Naval drill in 2010.
3. Japan has formally joined the exercise as a permanent participant in 2017.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
97. Which one of the following became the first State in the country to recently open a blood bank for cattle?
- a) Gujarat b) Rajasthan
c) Madhya Pradesh d) Odisha
98. With reference to 'the Chakma and Hajong refugees', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:
1. Their main home state in India is Arunachal Pradesh
2. They came to India from Myanmar.
3. They have been granted citizenship and voting rights in India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 3 only
99. Consider the following statements:
1. A cyclone in tropical region is called a hurricane if its wind speed is more than or equal to 151 km per hour.
2. The hurricane Irma which affected the Caribbean region in 2017 was a Category- 5 hurricane.
3. The hurricane Harvey which affected the US in 2017 was a Category-5 hurricane.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
100. Consider the following statements:
1. Recently the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has removed the snow leopard from the Red List of Threatened Species.
2. IUCN has estimated the global population of snow leopard as more than 2500 but fewer than 10,000 mature individuals, and decline of at least 10 per cent over the three generations.
- Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2