



2025 Prelims Report Card

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Total Questions = 100
Hits = 74
Miss = 26

PrepMate IAS

Subject	Total	Hits
Polity	14	13
Modern History	8	7
Ancient, Medieval History & Culture 202	7	6
Geography	12	11
Economics	9	8
Environment	11	4
International Organisations & Relations	3	3
Science & Technology	8	4
General Science	2	1
Current Affairs	21	13
Prelims Questions from Mains Subjects	4	4
Miscellaneous	1	0
	100	74



2025 Prelims Indian Polity Report Card

**Contact 75979-00000
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IAS Classes and Study Material**



**Total Questions = 14
Hits = 13
Miss = 1**

PrepMate IAS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

- I. Panchayats at the intermediate level exist in all states.
- II. To be eligible to be a member of a panchayat at the intermediate level, a person should attain the age of thirty years.
- III. The chief minister of a state constitutes a commission to review the financial position of panchayats at the intermediate levels and to make recommendations regarding the distribution of net proceeds of taxes and duties, leviable by the state, between the state and panchayats at the intermediate level.

Which of the statements given above are not correct?

- a. I and II only
- b. II and III only
- c. I and III only
- d. I, II and III

Correct Option: (d) All the statements are incorrect.

Statement I is incorrect.

Indian Polity, Page 376

However, a State with a population upto 20 lakh may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level. Thus, it is optional for such a State to constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.

The Panchayat at the village level is usually called Gram Panchayats; the Panchayat at the Block or Tehsil level is usually called Panchayat Samiti or Block Samiti; and the Panchayat at the district level is usually called Zila Parishad. However, the names of Panchayats at the three levels may vary from State to State.

Statement II is incorrect.

Page 377

However, person who is less than twenty-five years of age, but if he has attained the age of twenty-one years is not disqualified. In other words, the minimum age for being a member of State legislature is 25 years, but **minimum age** for being member of Panchayats is **21** years.

2. If the person is disqualified under any law made by the Legislature of the State, then also he is disqualified to be member of Panchayats in the State.

Also, if any question arises as to whether a member of a Panchayat has become subject to any of the disqualifications, the question shall be referred for the decision of such authority as the Legislature of a State provides by law.

Statement III is incorrect.

State Finance Commission

The **Governor** of a State is required to constitute a finance commission after every five years to review the financial position of the Panchayats and to make recommendations to the Governor.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Miss
Q2. Consider the following statements about Lokpal: I. The power of Lokpal applies to public servants of India, but not to the Indian public servants posted outside India. II. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a Member of the Parliament or a Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, and only the Chief Justice of India, whether incumbent or retired, has to be its Chairperson. III. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a person of less than forty-five years of age on the date of assuming office as the Chairperson or Member, as the case may be. IV. Lokpal cannot inquire into the allegations of corruption against a sitting Prime Minister of India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? a. III only b. II and III c. I and IV d. None of the above statements is correct Correct Option: (a)	Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect: This Act the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013. extends to the whole of India. It shall apply to public servants in and outside India. Statement 2 is incorrect: A person who is or has been a Chief Justice of India or is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court. Statement 3 is correct: As per Section 3 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 ,which contains the qualification - The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a person of less than forty-five years of age, on the date of assuming office as the Chairperson or Member, as the case may be. Statement 4 is incorrect: In terms of Section 14 of the Act, a complaint can be filed against Any person who is or has been a Prime Minister.

Q3. Consider the following statements with regard to pardoning power of the President of India:

- I. The exercise of this power by the president can be subjected to limited judicial review.
- II. The president can exercise this power without the advice of the central government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. II only
- c. Both I and II
- d. Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (a)

Statement I is correct.

Indian Polity, Page 109

Judicial review is part of basic structure.

The Supreme Court has neither defined basic structure nor given any exhaustive list as to what comprises the basic structure of constitution. However, Supreme Court, in its various judgments, has mentioned that following provisions are a part of the basic structure of constitution:

1. Sovereignty of India
2. Secularism
3. Democracy
4. Republic
5. Free and fair elections
6. Judicial Review
7. Balance between Fundamental rights and Directive Principles
8. Limited power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution

Statement II is incorrect.

Indian Polity, Page 163

Nature of Pardoning Powers

It is an executive power exercised by the President on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. Thus, it is not a discretionary power of the President.

Moreover, Union executive does not arrange a Court of appeal while listening to pardoning matters. Thus, the petitioner has no right of oral hearing before the Union Executive. The petition for seeking pardon is submitted in form a file. Union executive usually Home Ministry takes the decision on the submitted file.

Most of the pardoning petitions filed with the President pertain to revocation of death penalty. President does not need to specify reasons for granting or refusing pardon.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

- I. On the dissolution of the house of the people, the speaker shall not vacate his/her office until immediately before the first meeting of the house of the people after the dissolution.
- II. According to the provisions of the constitution of India, a member of the house of the people on being elected as speaker shall resign from his/her political party immediately.
- III. The speaker of the house of the people may be removed from his/her office by a resolution of the house of the people passed by a majority of all the then members of the house, provide that no resolution shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a. I and II only
- b. II and III only
- c. I and III only
- d. I, II and III

Correct Option: (c)

Statement I is correct.

Polity, Page 211

Tenure: The tenure of Speaker is the same as that of Lok Sabha. Thus, the Speaker continues in office till the life of the Lok Sabha. There is a need of small clarification here. Even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha, the Speaker continues in office until immediately before the first meeting of the newly elected Lok Sabha. Such an arrangement has been

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Statement II is incorrect.

Polity, Page 214

Speaker In India and United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, the convention of 'once a speaker, always a speaker' is followed. As soon as the Speaker is appointed in the UK, there is a convention that the Speaker has to resign from the political party. Thus, the Speaker of House of Commons (equivalent to Lok Sabha in India) is a non-party person. This convention helps Speaker in maintaining his independence and impartiality.

However, the resignation from the parent political party act against the political career of the speaker as he would not get the support of the parent political party in the next elections. In order to overcome this limitation, Speaker can contest the next elections and, in such elections, he is unopposed by the major political parties, including the original party of which he was member. The major political parties do not field candidate against the Speaker. Thus, the Speaker's constituency virtually remains unchallenged in the election. Therefore, it is easier for the Speaker to get elected again to the house as member. After being elected as member, since the person has prior experience of serving as Speaker and is already a non-party person, he is often considered by members of the house for being elected as Speaker. Thus, the convention of not fielding candidate against the Speaker in the elections is called 'once a speaker, always a speaker'.

However, in India, it depends upon the speaker itself. The Speaker may or may not resign from his political party. Thus, the convention of Speaker resigning from political party is not firmly established in India. It is to be noted that if Speaker decides to resign from political party, he is not disqualified under anti-defection law.

Statement III is correct.

Polity Page 213

1. Security of Tenure: Speaker is provided with a security of tenure. Speaker can be removed only by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha by an effective majority (i.e. a majority among then members of the House). The motion of removal can be considered only when it has the support of at least 50 members. Further, the motion can be moved only after 14 days' advance notice.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q5. Consider the following statements: I. If any question arises as to whether a member of the house of the people has become subject to disqualification under the 10th schedule, the president's decision in accordance with the opinion of the council of union ministers shall be final. II. There is no mention of the word 'political party' in the constitution of India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? a. I only b. II only c. Both I and II d. Neither I nor II Correct Option: (b)	Statement I is incorrect. Polity, Page 502 Application of the law: The presiding officer of the house is responsible for the application of anti-defection law. The law provides that if any question arises as to whether a member of a House has become subject to disqualification under this Schedule, the question shall be referred for the decision of the Chairman or, as the case may be, the Speaker of such House and his decision shall be final. Moreover, the law does not prescribe the time frame within which the presiding officer is required to decide the fate of the legislator accused under this law. Statement II is correct: There is no mention of the word 'political party' in the Constitution of India.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q6. Consider the following statements: Statements I: In India, state governments have no power for making rules for grant of concessions in respect of extraction of minor minerals even though such minerals are located in their territories. Statements II: In India the central government has the power to notify minor minerals under the relevant law. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? - Both statement I and Statement II are correct and statement II explains statement I - Both statement I and Statement II are correct but statement II are correct but statement II does not explain statement I - Statement I is correct but statement II is not correct - Statement I is not correct but statement II is correct Correct Option: (d)	Statement I is incorrect. Once we identify Statement I is correct, answer is option (d). Mines fall under State List 19. (Omitted) 20. (Omitted) 21. Fisheries 22. Courts of wards 23. Regulation of mines and mineral development 24. Industries other than those mentioned in Union list 25. Gas and gas-works 26. Trade and commerce within the state subject to the provisions of entry 33 of List III 27. Production, supply and distribution of goods subject to the provisions of entry 33 of List III 28. Markets and fairs Statement 1 is incorrect and Statement 2 is correct August 24 Edition

And why did the court find that states have the power to tax 'mineral development'?

The second aspect that the court considered was whether states have the power to tax mineral development activities, or whether such taxes are the sole province of the Centre under the MMDRA. This friction can be traced to the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Under the **State List**, states are given the exclusive power to make laws relating to "Taxes on mineral rights subject to any limitations imposed by Parliament by law relating to mineral development" (Entry 50). However, **Entry 54 of the Union List** gives the Centre the power over "Regulation of mines and mineral development to the extent to which... is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest".

According to the India Cement position, the royalty collected by state governments under the MMDRA would be in the form of a tax which "covers the field", barring any further taxes from being imposed. However, the court in Mineral Area Development Authority held that royalty is not a tax. As a result, "royalty would not be comprehended within the meaning of the expression 'taxes on mineral rights'" (under Entry 50 of the State List). Effectively, the court held that the MMDRA only gives states another revenue stream through royalties, and does not interfere with states' powers to impose taxes under Entry 50.

The court also held that Parliament's powers under Entry 54 of the Union List do not extend to imposing taxes, as that power exclusively rests with state legislatures. However, Entry 50 allows Parliament to place "any limitations" on states' power to impose taxes, which the court held "may include even a 'prohibition'" against imposing taxes.

The court did not limit states' power to tax mineral development activities to Entry 50, though. It held that the state also had the power to tax the land where mines and quarries are located as it includes "(i) all types of lands; and (ii) covers everything under or over land". These taxes, the court held, "will not be affected by the MMDRA Act".

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q7. With reference to the Indian polity, consider the following statements: I. An ordinance can amend any central act. II. An ordinance can abridge a fundamental right. III. An ordinance can come into effect from a back date. Which of the statements given above are correct? a. I and II only b. II and III only c. I and III only d. I, II and III Correct Option: (c)	Statements I and III are correct. Polity, Page 250 Power of an Ordinance An Ordinance shall have the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament. Thus, an ordinance has same power as that of a law passed by the Parliament. This has two implications: 1. Ordinance can be issued only on those matters on which Parliament can make laws. Thus, like law by Parliament, an ordinance can have retrospective effect. In other words, an ordinance can come into effect from back date. An ordinance can even modify or repeal the law passed by Parliament. However, Ordinance cannot be passed to undertake Constitutional amendment. 2. Ordinance cannot be issued on those matters on which Parliament does not has power to make laws. Thus, ordinance cannot violate the fundamental rights because Article 13 provides that a law which abridges or takes away fundamental rights is void.

Q8. Consider the following pairs:

State	Description
1. Arunachal Pradesh:	The capital is named after a fort, and the State has two national parks
2. Nagaland:	The state came into existence on the basis of a constitutional amendment act
3. Tripura:	Initially a part 'C' State, it became a centrally administered territory with the reorganization of states in 1956 and later attained the status of a full-fledged state

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All the three
- d. None

Correct Option: (c)

Pair I is correctly matched.

Pair II is correctly matched

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Special provisions with respect to Nagaland

The 13th amendment act of 1962 introduced the Article 371A to provide for special provisions with respect to Nagaland.

Article 371A makes following provisions for Nagaland:

1. The acts of Parliament related to following matters would not apply to Nagaland unless State Legislative Assembly approves:

- (a) Religious or social practices of Nagas.
- (b) Naga customary law and procedure.
- (c) Administration of civil and criminal justice according to Naga customary law and procedure.
- (d) Ownership and transfer of land and its resources.

2. Governor of Nagaland shall have special responsibility for law and order in the state so long as internal disturbance caused by hostile Nagas continue.

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Pair III is correctly matched.

Page 27, India After Independence

Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura were formed as full-fledged states in 1972. Before this, in 1969 Meghalaya was carved out of Assam with semi-autonomous status. It had complete control over administration except for law and order. Meghalaya was converted into full-fledged state in 1972. At the same time, UT of Manipur and Tripura were also given statehood.

Q9. With reference to India consider the following:

1. The inter-state council
2. The national security council
3. Zonal councils

How many of the above were established as per the provisions of the constitution of India?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All the three
- d. None

Correct Option: (a)

Only Statement 1 is correct.

Polity, Page 418

not let tribunal members complete their work.

- These tribunals are headed by retired Supreme Court judges. Sometimes these judges avoid delivering unpopular judgements.

- State Governments often do not agree to decisions given by tribunal and approach the Supreme Court on one pretext or the other.

2. Inadequacy related to structure

-The working of inter-states water disputes Tribunals also suffers due to lack of infrastructure such as office space and staff with the tribunal.

- Unlike regular courts, the adhoc water disputes tribunals lack the mechanism to enforce their decisions.

Interstate council

Art. 263 authorizes President to establish interstate council to secure coordination among states and between Centre and states.

President can define the nature of duties to be performed by such council and also organization and procedure of such council.

secretariat of zonal councils.

Zonal Councils

These are statutory (and not constitutional) bodies as they were created under **Parliamentary law**. Five Zonal Councils were created under States Reorganization Act, 1956, namely, Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western, and Central Zonal Council. A separate North-East Zonal Council was created in 1971.

Zonal Councils also act as deliberative and advisory bodies on National integration, Law and order, Execution of development projects, Exchange of ideas, and so on.

The composition of each Zonal Council is as follows:

- (a) Union Home Minister is the chairperson
- (b) Chief Ministers of all states in the zone.
- (c) Two other ministers from each state in the zone.
- (d) Administrator of each Union Territory in the zone.

However, the composition of North East Council is different.

Though President can define nature of duties of such council, Art. 263 specifies that duties of following types can be assigned to the council:

1. Advising upon disputes which may arise between states.
2. Discussing matters in which states or center and the states have common interest.
3. Recommendations for coordination of policy and action among various states.

Under provisions of Art. 263, President has established Central Council of Health and Family Welfare, Central Council of Local Government and others.

In 1990, Central Government established interstate council dealing with general issues and it was named as Inter-Governmental Council to differentiate it from other councils established under Art. 263.

Composition of Inter-Governmental Council:

- (a) Prime Minister as Chairperson
- (b) Six cabinet ministers including Union Home Minister
- (c) Chief Ministers of all states and Union Territories
- (d) Administrator of Union Territories

The council is expected to meet at least thrice a year. There is also a standing committee associated with the

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As per the provisions of the North Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 2002, the North Eastern Council shall consist of the following members:

- (i) Governors of States
- (ii) Chief Ministers of States
- (iii) three members to be nominated by the President

Home Minister of India is not a member of North-East Council.

Articles related to Inter-State Relations at a glance

Article No.	Subject Matter
261	Public acts, records and judicial proceedings
262	Adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers or river valleys
263	Provisions with respect to an inter-State Council

Practice Questions

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Public Acts of one State are given respect throughout the territory of India.

Q10. Consider the following statements:

- I. The constitution of India explicitly mentions that in certain spheres the governor of a state acts in his/her own, discretion.
- II. The president of India can, of his/her own, reserve a bill passed by a state legislature for his/her consideration without it being forwarded by the governor of the state concerned.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. II only
- c. Both I and II
- d. Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (c)

Statement I is correct.

Polity, Page 313

Council of Ministers to aid and advise Governor (Art. 163)

As per Article 163 (1), there shall be a Council of Ministers headed by chief Minister to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, except when he is required to exercise the functions in his discretion.

Further, as per Article 163(2), if any question arises whether the matter falls under the discretionary power of the Governor or not, the decision of the Governor shall be final in this regard. Also, the validity of anything done by the Governor shall not be called in question on the ground that he ought or ought not to have acted in his discretion.

Also, on lines of Art. 74(2), as per Article 163(3), the question cannot be raised in any court on what advice was tendered by Ministers to the Governor.

If we compare the provisions of Article 74 and 163, which talk about the position of President and Governor vis-à-vis their respective Council of Ministers, then we identify the following differences:

1. Article 163(1) recognises that there are functions which the Governor is required to exercise in his discretion.
2. The 42nd amendment act added the clause 'who shall act in accordance with such advice' in Article 74(1). Thus, it was clearly spelt out that the President shall act according to the aid and advice of the Union Council of Ministers. However, no such insertion was made in Article 163(1), thus the scope for Governor's discretion was not reduced.
3. Article 163(2) clarifies that if any question arises whether the matter falls under the discretionary power of the Governor or not, the decision of the Governor shall be final in this regard.

Statement II is correct.
Polity, Page 344

Instructions required from President to promulgate ordinance on following matters

Governor cannot make an ordinance without the instructions from the President in three situations. To put in another way, Governor can promulgate ordinance in the following three situations only on the instructions of the President.

(a) A Bill containing the same provisions would have required the previous sanction of the President for its introduction in the State Legislature

(b) He would have deemed it necessary to reserve a Bill containing the same provisions for the consideration of the President

(c) An Act of the Legislature of the State containing the same provisions would have been invalid unless, the act had been reserved for the consideration of the President, and it had received the assent of the President.

Power of an Ordinance

An Ordinance shall have the same force and effect as an Act of State Legislature. Thus, an ordinance has same power as that of a law passed by the State Legislature. This has two implications:

Q11. Consider the following pairs:

	Provision in the Constitution of India	Stated under
I.	Separation of Judiciary from the Executive in the public services of the State	The Directive Principles of Policy
II.	Valuing and preserving of the rich heritage of our composite culture	The Fundamental Duties
III.	Prohibition of employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories	The Fundamental Rights

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- Only one
- Only two
- All the three
- None

Correct Option: (c)

Pair I is correctly matched.

Polity, Page 131

Article 50 declares that the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State.

In other words, Article 50 requires that judicial powers should not vest in the executive. Why? If both executive and judicial powers vest in a single body, then the chances of arbitrary use of powers increases and the check on the powers reduces. For instance, the wrongful act by the executive is questionable before the judiciary. However, if executive is conferred judicial powers as well, then executive will be judge in his own case.

Pair II is correctly matched.

Polity, Page 144

List of fundamental duties

The fundamental duties are applicable only to the citizens (not all individuals) of India. Thus, these duties are not applicable to foreigners in India.

The Article 51A declares that following are the fundamental duties of every citizen of India:

- (a) to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem
- (b) to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom
- (c) to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India
- (d) to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so
- (e) to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women
- (f) to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture

Pair III is correctly matched.

Polity, Page 95

...purchase can be for slavery, forced labour or for immoral activities such as prostitution. To check human trafficking and prescribe stringent punishments for those involved in human trafficking, parliament has passed Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

Article 24: Prohibits child labour

Article 24 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in any factory or mine or any other hazardous employment. Thus, Article 24 does not put complete ban on child labour. It only prohibits child labour in hazardous industries. In other words, Article

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q12. Consider the following statements: With reference to the Constitution of India, if an area in a State is declared as Scheduled Area under the Fifth Schedule I. the State Government loses its executive power in such areas and local body assumes total administration II. the Union Government can take over the total administration of such areas under certain circumstances on the recommendations of the Governor Which of the statements given above is/are correct? [A] I only [B] II only [C] Both I and II [D] Neither I nor II Correct Option: (d)	Statement I is incorrect. Polity, Page 400

Administration of Scheduled Areas

As mentioned above, the Administration of Scheduled Areas is undertaken as per the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. The Provisions of this Schedule are as follows:

1. Scheduled Areas

In this Constitution, the expression “Scheduled Areas” means such areas as the President declare by order to be Scheduled Areas.

Thus, the constitution authorizes the President to declare an area as Scheduled Area. At present (2023), the President has declared the Scheduled areas in 10 States. These States are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.

Further, the President is authorized to pass order increase or decrease a Schedules area, rectify the boundaries of a Scheduled area, rescind designation of a Scheduled Area or redefine an area to be Scheduled Area.

However, the President can pass order to increase a Schedule Area or redefine a Scheduled Area only in consultation of the State Governor concerned.

2. Executive Power over Scheduled Areas

The State government enjoys the Executive power over the Scheduled Areas. Further, The Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas is required to report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas. Such a report is submitted to the President either annually, or whenever so required by the President. The Union govt. can give directions to the State as to administration of Scheduled Areas.

Statement II is incorrect.

Polity Page 400

No provision of Union government taking over administration.

4. Law applicable to Scheduled Areas

The **Governor** of a State may by public notification direct that any particular Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State shall either not apply or apply with modifications to a Scheduled Area or any part thereof. Such a public notification may even have retrospective effect (effect from back date).

Also, Governor of a State may make **regulations** for the peace and good government of any Scheduled area in a State. Among other provisions, such regulations may cover the following matters:

- (a) prohibit or restrict the transfer of land by or among members of the Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) regulate the allotment of land to members of the Scheduled Tribes;
- (c) regulate the business of money-lending by persons who lend money to the Scheduled Tribes.

In order to make such regulations, the Governor may repeal or amend any Act of Parliament or of the State Legislature. The regulations made by Governor are submitted to the President. Such regulations do not come into effect without the assent of the President.

It is mandatory on the Governor to consult State Tribes Advisory Council for making such regulations.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q13. Consider the following subjects under the Constitution of India: I. List I-Union List, in the Seventh Schedule II. Extent of the executive power of a State III. Conditions of the Governor's office For a constitutional amendment with respect to which of the above, ratification by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States is required before presenting the bill to the President of India for assent? [A] I and II only [B] II and III only [C] I and III only [D] I, II and III Correct Option: (a)	Polity Page 228 If the constitutional amendment bill seeks to amend any of the provisions which relate to the division of powers between Centre and states, then the bill after being passed by both the houses of Parliament shall be ratified by at least half of the state legislatures before receiving the assent of the President. Thus, if distribution of powers between Centre and States is to be altered, then the approval of atleast half of the State legislatures is also required. As mentioned in the Constitution, the following matters involve division of powers between the Centre and the States: I. Executive matters: a. Election of President (Art. 54 & Art. 55) b. Art. 73 Extent of executive power of the Union c. Art. 162 Extent of executive power of a State II. Legislative matters: a. Centre-state legislative relations b. Lists in the Seventh Schedule III. Provisions related to Union and State Judiciary IV. Representation of States in Parliament V. Provisions of Art 368 itself

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q14. With reference to the Indian polity, consider the following statements: I. The Governor of a State is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his/her office. II. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted or continued against the Governor during his/her term of office. III. Members of a State Legislature are not liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said within the House. Which of the statements given above are correct? [A] I and II only [B] II and III only [C] I and III only [D] I, II and III Correct Option: (d)	Statements I and II are correct. Polity, Page 81 However, there are few exceptions to the principle of equality before law guaranteed by Article 14. These exceptions are given under Article 361 of the Constitution in respect of President and Governors: 1. The President or Governor is not answerable to the Court of Law in exercise of his or her executive powers. This exception is given because the President or Governor acts on the advice of the respective Council of Ministers.

2. No criminal proceedings can be undertaken against the President or Governor while they are in office. This is inspired from the maxim "rex non potest peccare", which means that the king can do no wrong. In the Indian context, it is applied to maintain the sanctity of the office and avoid undue pressure on the President or Governor while discharging their duties. However, it does not mean that the President or Governor is above law. Criminal proceedings are undertaken against the president or governor after their removal from office.

3. No civil proceedings can be initiated against the President or Governor without giving prior notice of two months. Civil proceedings against the President or Governor may generate pressure on them and hamper their functioning. Thus, a time period of two months is given for an adequate preparation to face civil proceedings.

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Statement III is correct.

Polity, Page 343

State Legislature Privileges

The Constitution extends the Parliamentary Privileges to State Legislatures, their committees and their members by incorporating Article 194 in the Constitution. In other words, the State legislatures, their committees and their members enjoy the same privileges as those enjoyed by the Parliament, its committees and its members respectively.

Article 194 extends these privileges to persons who have right to speak and take part in parliamentary proceedings. Thus, these privileges are also available to Advocate General and State Ministers.

However, these privileges are not applicable to Governor, though he is an integral part of State Legislature.

Sources of Parliamentary Privileges

Article 194 of the Constitution expressly mentions two privileges:

1. Freedom of speech and vote to members of Parliament
2. Right of publication of its proceedings

Apart from these two privileges, the original constitution provided that the other privileges were to be the same as those enjoyed by the British House of Commons, its committees and its members on the date of the commencement of the Constitution (i.e., 26 January 1950), until the Privileges are defined by State Legislature.



2025 Prelims Modern History Report Card

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**Total Questions = 8
Hits = 7
Missed = 1**

PrepMate IAS

Q1. Who provided legal defence to the people arrested in the aftermath of Chauri Chaura incident?

- [A] C. R. Das
- [B] Madan Mohan Malaviya and Krishna Kant
- [C] Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Khwaja Hasan Nizami
- [D] M. A. Jinnah

Correct Option: (b)

Modern History, Page 151

of Asia and one of the largest in the world, the Banaras Hindu University (BHU). For almost two decades he served as Vice Chancellor of the BHU.



He was a proponent of Hindu nationalism and remained a member of Hindu Mahasabha. He founded the Ganga Mahasabha in Haridwar. Malviya founded Ganga Mahasabha to oppose the dam construction over Ganga. He compelled the British Government to sign an agreement with Ganga Mahasabha and other Hindu religious leaders on uninterrupted flow of Ganges in Haridwar. This agreement is known as Aviral Ganga Raksha Samjhauta 1916 also known as Agreement of 1916.

Malaviya and other imminent Indian personalities established 'Scouting in India'. Scouting is the action of gathering information about enemy forces or an area.

He was an avid journalist and writer, he launched a Hindi language weekly, the Abhyudaya, in 1907, and an English newspaper, The Leader in 1909, as well as a Hindi monthly magazine called Maryada in 1910. He was the chairman of the board of Hindustan Times from 1924 to 1946, and facilitated the launch of its Hindi edition in 1936.

To dedicate fully to the cause of social work and education, Malaviya relinquished his well set up law practice in 1911 and vowed to lead a life of a Sanyasi. However, in 1924, following the Chauri-Chaura incident of 1922 he appeared before the Allahabad High Court to defend the 177 freedom fighters, who were sentenced to be hanged by the Sessions Court and became successful in getting 156 acquitted.

In 1912, he became a member of the Imperial Legislative Council and remained its member (even after it was transformed in 1919 into the Central Legislative Assembly) till 1926. He also published a manifesto insisting to concentrate on the 'Buy Indian' movement in the country.

People used to address him as Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya out of respect. He was conferred many titles—Rabindranath Tagore gave him the title 'Mahamana', Mahatma Gandhi called him a 'Pratah Smaraniyah' and 'Devata Purush'. He popularised the slogan 'Satyameva Jayate' (Truth alone will triumph) from the Mundak Upanishad expressing that it should be the slogan for the country.

Disenchanted with the 'Communal award', he split from the Congress along with Madhav Shrihari Aney and the duo founded Congress Nationalist Party in 1934. That year the party

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q2. "Sedition has become my religion" was the famous statement given by Gandhiji at the time of [A] the Champaran Satyagraha [B] publicly violating Salt Law at Dandi [C] attending the Second Round Table Conference in London [D] the launch of the Quit India Movement Correct Option: (b)	This question can be answered on basis of interpretation. Option (a) is incorrect. Champaran Satyagraha was one of the first movements during the political career of Mahatma Gandhi. He had just started political career in India. During this time period, he had faith in British politics. Option (c) is incorrect. Mahatma Gandhi attended the 2nd RTC after Gandhi-Irwin pact. While attending the Conference, he adopted cooperative attitude. There was no question of Sedition at this time. Option (d) is incorrect. Quit India movement was violent in nature, much more than sedition. Option (b) is correct answer. Modern History, Page 239

DANDI MARCH/SALT SATYAGRAHA (12 MARCH 1930-5 APRIL 1930)

Mahatma Gandhi, with his chosen 79 followers, started the Dandi March from Sabarmati ashram till the coast of Dandi, Gujarat. He reached the coast of Dandi on 5 April 1930 after marching a distance of 200 miles and on 6 April formally **launched the Civil Disobedience Movement** by breaking the salt laws.



Gandhi ji violating Salt Law at Dandi, Gujarat

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q3. Consider the following statements about Raja Ram Mohan Roy: I. He possessed great love and respect for the traditional philosophical systems of the East. II. He desired his countrymen to accept the rational and scientific approach and the principle of human dignity and social equality of all men and women. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? a. I only b. II only c. Both I and II d. Neither I nor II Correct Option: (c)	Statement II is correct. PrepMate IAS Modern History Notes, Page 28 Brahmo samaj Brahmo Samaj was started in Calcutta on 20 August 1828 by Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Debendranath Tagore for reformation of the prevailing Brahmanism of the time. Raja Ram Mohan Roy is considered as the first modern man of India as he initiated social reform movements in modern India. Raja Ram Mohan Roy is also regarded as 'the bridge between the past and the future'. Atmiya sabha Atmiya Sabha was a philosophical discussion circle. The association was started by Ram Mohan Roy in 1815 in Kolkata to conduct discussion sessions on philosophical topics. The association was also used to promote free and collective thinking and social reform. The foundation of Atmiya Sabha is considered as the beginning of the modern age in Kolkata. However, the association became defunct in 1823. Statement I is incorrect. PrepMate IAS Modern History Notes, Page 33 Both Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Raja Ram Mohan Roy wanted to reform Hinduism by getting it rid of its futile practices. The major difference in their ideologies came from the fact that Raja Ram Mohan Roy drew inspiration from Christianity and Western European ideas of Humanism whereas Dayanand Saraswati was of the firm belief that only Vedic religion was the true religion.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q4. Consider the following subjects with regard to Non-Cooperation Programme: 1. Boycott of law-courts and foreign cloth 2. Observance of strict non-violence 3. Retention of titles and honours without using them in public 4. Establishment of Panchayats for settling disputes How many of the above were parts of Non-Cooperation Programme? a. Only one b. Only two c. Only three d. All the four Correct Option: (c)	Statement 1 is correct. Boycott of law-courts and foreign cloth This was a key part of the Non-Cooperation Movement. People were encouraged to boycott British institutions, including law courts and foreign-made goods like cloth. Statement 2 is Correct. Observance of strict non-violence Mahatma Gandhi emphasized strict adherence to non-violence (Ahimsa) as a foundational principle of the movement. Statement 3 is incorrect. Retention of titles and honours without using them in public This is incorrect. The Non-Cooperation Programme called for surrendering titles and honours conferred by the British government (like "Sir", "Rai Bahadur", etc.), not merely retaining them without public use. Statement 4 is correct. Establishment of Panchayats for settling disputes One of the constructive programs included setting up village panchayats as an alternative to British courts. PrepMate IAS Modern History Notes, Page 212

NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT

Non-cooperation Movement was launched on 1 August 1920 to fulfill two major demands:

1. Redressal of Jallianwala Bagh wrongs
2. Khilafat issue

Mahatma Gandhi laid elaborate program for Non-cooperation Movement. The program was twin- fold: positive and negative.

The negative program included boycott of titles, offices, schools, colleges, foreign goods, refusal to join military services, etc. Triple Boycott emerged as the most popular form of boycott comprising of boycott of elections, legislatures and courts.

The positive program included setting up of national educational institutions, popular courts, Charkha and Khadi popularization, raising volunteer cops, etc. Charkha was considered a symbol of self-reliance as Indians were able to produce their own cloth and were not

Spread of the Movement

Gandhiji and Ali brothers undertook a nation-wide tour. About 90,000 students left government schools and colleges, many lawyers gave up their practice, boycott of foreign cloth was practised and foreign cloth was even publicly burnt.

Shops selling liquor were picketed. Tilak Swaraj fund was oversubscribed. Ali brothers gave message to resign from the army but were arrested. However, Mahatma Gandhi continued to disseminate the message of Ali Brothers.

Some local Congress committees also gave call for Civil Disobedience Movement. Civil Disobedience Movement was organized at Midnapore in Bengal and at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh by non-payment of land revenue. Strikes were organized in Assam tea plantations and steamer services. The spirit of defiance led to local struggles such as Avadh Kisan Sabha Movement, Mappilla movement, Praja Mandal movement and SGPC movement.

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

Q5. consider the following statements in respect of the Non-Cooperation Movement:

- I. The Congress declared the attainment of 'Swaraj' by all legitimate and peaceful means to be its objective.
- II. It was to be implemented in stages with civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes for the next stage only if 'Swaraj' did not come within a year and the Government resorted to repression.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. II only
- c. Both I and II
- d. Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (c)

Both the Statements are correct.

Modern History, Page 211

Calcutta Session of Congress, September 1920

Calcutta Session was presided over by Lala Lajpat Rai. This session was held to approve the Non- Cooperation Movement. Gandhiji wrongly predicted the attainment of Swaraj within a year of launching Non-Cooperation Movement. His opinion was rebutted by C.R. Das and the resolution was not approved. Before this, On 1 August 1920, Gandhiji launched the Non-Cooperation Movement. On the same day, Bal Gangadhar Tilak died.

Nagpur Session, December 1920

In Nagpur Session, the resolution for Non-Cooperation Movement was approved and Congress emerged as a full-fledged political party because of the following reasons:

1. The organizational structure of Congress was laid down. Four-tier executive structure was adopted. All India Congress Working Committee was constituted as the central executive body, provincial or pradesh Congress committee was constituted as an executive body at provincial level, district Congress committees and taluka Congress committees were also set up. All India Congress Working Committee was to take directions from All India Congress Committee which was responsible for policy making and overall direction of the Congress.
2. Membership fee was prescribed at four anna.
3. Code of Conduct was laid down for the members of Congress which included Swadeshi hand spinning for production of cloth, Removal of untouchability, Hindu-Muslim unity, promotion of Hindi as national language, etc.
4. The goal of Congress was defined as attainment of Swaraj which Gandhiji interpreted as self- government either within or if possible even outside the British Empire.

Due to increased pressure on Mahatma Gandhi, he threatened British with Civil Disobedience Movement unless political prisoners are released and press controls are removed.

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

Q6. Subsequent to which one of the following events, Gandhiji, who consistently opposed untouchability and appealed for its eradication from all spheres, decided to include the upliftment of 'Harijans' in his political and social programme?

- [A] The Poona Pact
- [B] The Gandhi-Irwin Agreement (Delhi Pact)
- [C] Arrest of Congress leadership at the time of the Quit India Movement
- [D] Promulgation of the Government of India Act, 1935

Correct Option: (a)

Modern History, Page 245

2. Financial aid was promised for the upliftment of scheduled castes.

3. Social rights were also agreed to be recognized.

After Poona Pact, the Harijan issue became the central issue in the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

Note: Contribution of Mahatma Gandhi towards the cause of Harijans is discussed under Caste based reform movements.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q7. Consider the following fruits: I. Papaya II. Pineapple III. Guava How many of the above were introduced in India by the Portuguese in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? [A] Only one [B] Only two [C] All the three [D] None Correct Option: (c)	

Q8. Who among the following was the founder of the 'Self-Respect Movement'?

- a. 'Periyar' E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker
- b. B.R. Ambedkar
- c. Bhaskarrao Jadhav
- d. Dinkarrao Javalkar

Correct Option: (a)

Modern History, Page 41

6. Self-Respect Movement: The Self-Respect Movement was launched with the objective of attaining equal human rights and inculcating self-respect among Scheduled Castes. It was found in 1925 by E.V. Ramasamy (also called Periyar by his devoted followers) in Tamil Nadu. The journal published by E.V. Ramasamy was *Kudi Arasu*.

7. Gopal Baba Walangkar: Gopal Baba Walangkar, also known as Gopal Krishna walangkar,(1840–1904) is an early example of an activist working to release the untouchable people of India from their historic socio-economic oppression and is generally considered to be the pioneer of that movement. He developed a racial theory to explain the oppression and also published the monthly journal Vital-Vidhvansak, targeted at the Brahmanical Orthodoxy.



2025 Prelims Ancient & Medieval History Report Card

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PrepMate IAS

Ancient History

Prelims 2025 Questions

PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits

1. Who among the following rulers in ancient India had assumed the titles 'Mattavilasa', 'Vichitrachitta' and 'Gunabhara'?

- a. Mahendravarman I
- b. Simhavishnu
- c. Narasimhavarman I
- d. Simhavarman

Correct Option: (a)

PrepMate IAS Ancient and Medieval History & Culture, Page 165

Mahendravarman I composed the Sanskrit play **Mattavilasa**prahasanam. The Nayanmars and Alvars composed religious hymns in Tamil. The *Devaram* composed by Nayanmars and the *Nalayradivyaprabandam* composed by Alvars represent the religious literature of the Pallava period. Perundevanar was patronized by Nandivarman II and he translated the Mahabharata as Bharathavenba in Tamil. *Nandikkalambagam* was another important work but the name of the author of this work is not known.

Music and dance also developed during this period.

2. Fa-hien (Faxian), the Chinese pilgrim, travelled to India during the reign of

- a. Samudragupta
- b. Chandragupta II
- c. Kumaragupta I
- d. Skandagupta

Correct Option: (b)

PrepMate IAS Ancient and Medieval History & Culture, Page 144

Fa-Hien (c. 337–422)

Fa-Hien (also known as Faxian) was a Chinese pilgrim, who visited India during the reign of **Chandragupta II**. He came to India by the land route through North-West India. He visited Peshawar, Mathura, Kannauj, Sravasti, Kapilavastu, Kusinagara, Pataliputra, Kasi, and Bodh Gaya among other places. He returned by the sea route, visiting on the way Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka) and Java (Island of Indonesia). The main agenda of his visit was to know about origins of Buddhism and to collect Buddhist manuscripts from India.

He stayed in India for 9 years. Out of this stay, he spent 6 years in the Gupta Empire including 3 years stay in Pataliputra for studying Sanskrit and copying Buddhist texts.

His account provides the following information:

■ **Religion:** Fa-Hien's primary interest was religion. He assessed everything from the angle of Buddhism. The popular religions at that time were Buddhism and Hinduism. Hinduism was popular in North India, whereas Buddhism was flourishing in Western India. He even mentions about unsatisfactory state of some of the Buddhist holy places like Kapilavastu and Kusinagara in North India.

■ **Politics:** Fa-Hien did not even mention the name of Chandragupta II in his account. He was not interested in political affairs. However, it can be inferred from his account that the Gupta rulers were tolerant toward other religions. Economic condition of the empire was prosperous.

■ **Administration:** Fa-Hien characterizes the Gupta administration as kind and benevolent. There were no restrictions on movement of people. People enjoyed a large degree of

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

3. With reference to ancient India (600-322 BC), consider the following pairs:

Territorial region River flowing in the region

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| I. Asmaka : | Godavari |
| II. Kamboja : | Vipas |
| III. Avanti : | Mahanadi |
| IV. Kosala : | Sarayu |

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All the four

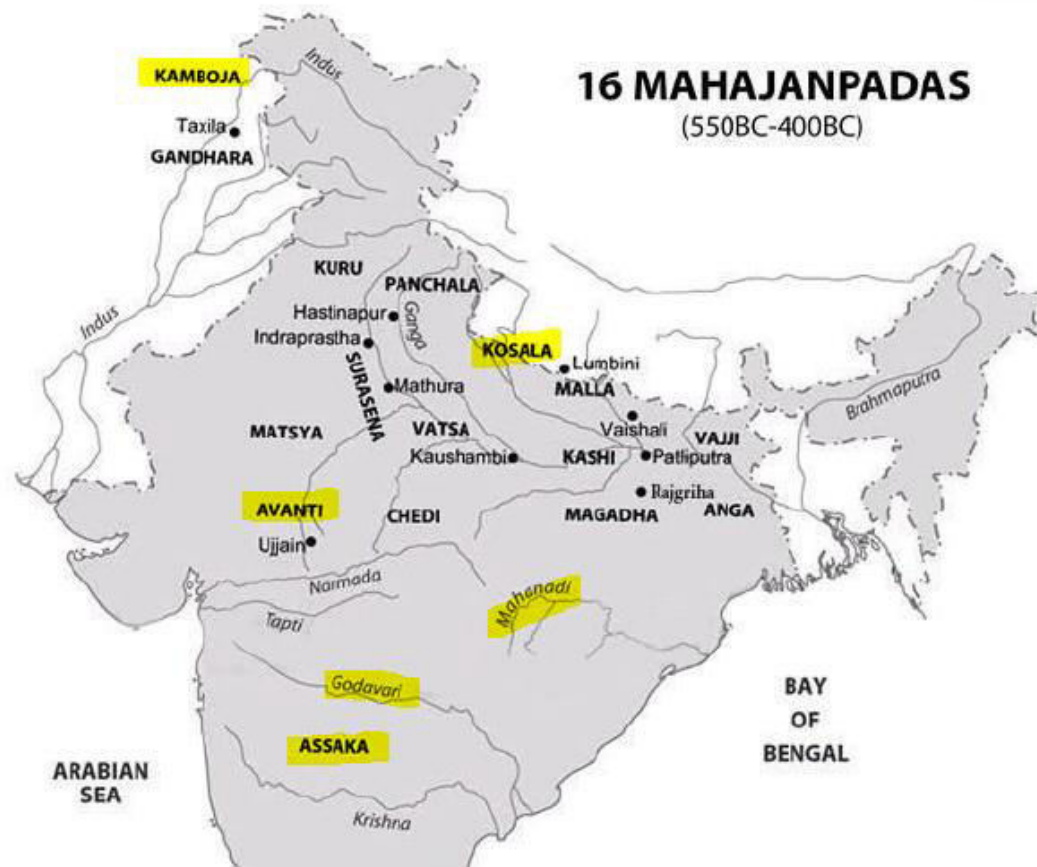
Correct Option: (b)

Pair I is correctly matched.

PrepMate IAS Ancient and Medieval History & Culture, Page 82

15. Assaka/Asmaka

- Located in the modern-day Maharashtra, bank of river Godavari,
- Capital: Potali/Podana,
- Vayu Purana recprds the kings of Assaka were descendants of Ikshvaku clan. Asmaka Jataka records supremacy of Kashi over Asmaka for some time,
- Only Mahajanapada to be situated South of Vindhaya Range (Dakshinpatha).



Pair II is incorrectly matched.

Vipas is Rigvedic name of Beas, which flows through Himachal Pradesh & Punjab. On the other hand, Kamboja was situated in Northern Part of Pakistan & Afghanistan.

Vedic Names of Popular Rivers

Rig Vedic Name	Modern Name
Sindhu	Indus
Vitase	Jhelum
Askini	Chenab
Parushni	Ravi
Vipasa	Beas
Sutudri	Sutlej
Gumal	Gomati
Krumu	Kurram
Drishadvati	Ghaggar
Naditarna	Saraswati

Pair III is incorrectly matched.

Avanti was located in Madhya Pradesh. Mahanadi flows through Chhattisgarh & Orissa.

Pair IV is correctly matched: the Kosala kingdom was located on the Saryu River. Ancient sources and historical records confirm that Kosala extended across both banks of the Saryu (modern Ghaghara) River, with its capital Ayodhya situated on its banks. The Saryu was the principal river of the Kosala region and played a central role in its geography and history

- Capital: Sravasti,
- Important cities: Ayodhya, Saketa, Banaras, Sravasti, etc.,
- Important kings: Lord Rama, Prithu, Harishchandra, Dilip. Dilip in Hindu mythology is said to have been one of the most righteous and chivalrous emperors that the Solar dynasty or the Ikshvaku dynasty had ever produced,
- King Prasenjit was the famous king. Cordial relations with Magadha due to matrimonial alliance (sister married to Bimbisara). Struggle for supremacy with Ajatasatru. Prasenjit was succeeded by Vidudabha,
- Annexed by Magadha (under Ajatasatru) after Vidudabha came to the throne.

4. Ashokan inscriptions suggest that the 'Pradeshika', 'Rajuka' and 'Yukta' were important officers at the

- a. village-level administration
- b. district-level administration
- c. provincial administration
- d. level of the central administration

Correct Option: (b)

PrepMate IAS Notes Ancient and Medieval History & Culture, Page 95

District administration

The provinces were divided into districts ruled by Sthanika. They were also assisted by clerks, officers, etc. They ran day-to-day administration independently but were expected to consult the king/provincial governors on important matters. The chief revenue officer at the district level was Pradeshika. He was assisted by Rajuka (Revenue Settlement Officer) and Yukta (Tax Collector).

5. The famous female figurine known as 'Dancing Girl', found at Mohenjodaro, is made of

- a. carnelian
- b. clay
- c. bronze
- d. gold

Correct Option: (c)

Ancient, Medieval and Culture, Page 21

Sculpture

Two main sculptures that were extracted from the ruins of Indus Valley are—(i) priest in limestone and (ii) a statue of a "Dancing Girl" in bronze. These sculptures exhibit the level of expertise that the artists of Harappan civilization had achieved in making sculptures.

The ornament on the forehead of the famous "priest-king" sculpture appears to represent an eye bead, possibly made of gold with steatite inlay in the center.



Sculpture of Priest-King found at Mohenjodaro



Dancing girl found at Mohenjodaro

Medieval History

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Miss
1. The irrigation device called 'Araghatta' was a. a water bag made of leather pulled over a pulley b. a large wheel with earthen pots tied to the outer ends of its spokes c. a larger earthen pot driven by bullocks d. a large water bucket pulled up by rope directly by hand Correct Option: (b)	Explanation: Araghatta is a Persian wheel, a mechanical water-lifting device used for irrigation in medieval India. It's a wheel with buckets or pots attached, rotated by animals like bullocks or camels, raising water from wells to irrigate fields. The name "Araghatta" comes from the Sanskrit words "ara" (spoke) and "ghatta" (pot), referring to the structure of the wheel.

2. Who among the following led a successful military campaign against the kingdom of Srivijaya, the powerful maritime State, which ruled the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java and the neighbouring islands?

- a. Amoghavarsha (rashtrakuta)
- b. Prataparudra (Kakatiya)
- c. Rajendra I (Chola)
- d. Vishnuvardhana (Hoysala)

Correct Option: (c)

PrepMate IAS Ancient and Medieval History & Culture, Page 181

Rajendra I (AD 1014–1044)

- Mahinda V attempted to recover the Northern part of Ceylon. Rajendra defeated him and made whole of Sri Lanka a part of the Chola Empire.
- His most famous expedition was to North India. The Chola army crossed the Ganges by defeating Mahipala I of Bengal. To commemorate his successful North-Indian campaign, he founded the city of Gangaikonda Cholapuram and constructed the famous Rajesvaram temple in that city.
- Rajendra I assumed various titles like Mudikondan, Gangaikondan, Kadaram Kondan, and Pandita Cholan.
- He built Gangaikonda cholapuram temple dedicated to Lord Shiva (presently in Ariyalur district of Tamil Nadu).

Current Affairs, October 2024 Edition, Page 31

Connection with Imperial Cholas and Srivijaya

1. Chola Empire's Naval Expeditions:

O Historical Records: The Andaman Islands were referenced in the context of Chola Empire expeditions during the reign of Rajendra Chola I in the 11th century. The Cholas are believed to have used the islands as a naval base for their campaign against the Srivijaya Empire, located in what is now Indonesia.



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PrepMate IAS

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

Q1. Consider the following pairs:

Country Resource-rich in

I. Botswana : Diamond

II. Chile : Lithium

III. Indonesia : Nickel

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All the three
- d. None

Correct Option: (c)

Pair I is correct.

Geography, Page 335

	▪ Source of the Blue Nile river
Katanga Plateau	▪ One of the largest copper and diamond producing regions of Zaire and Zambia
Drakensberg Range	▪ Located in South Africa

Pair II and III are correct.

Geography, Page 571

CHAPTER 26 WORLD ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY

MINERALS

Name	Leading country/other facts
Iron	▪ Producer: Australia, Brazil, China and India
Manganese	▪ Producer: South Africa ▪ Exporter: South Africa
Copper	▪ Chile
Bauxite	▪ Producer: Australia, China
Mica	▪ China, Russia
Tin	▪ Producer: China, Indonesia
Gold	▪ Producer: China, Australia, Russia
Silver	▪ Mexico, China, Peru
Lead	▪ Reserves: Australia ▪ Production: China
Zinc	▪ China
Nickel	▪ Indonesia, Philippines
Platinum	▪ South Africa, Russia
Cobalt	▪ Zaire
Diamond	▪ South Africa (Kimberley mines are the largest diamond mines in the world) ▪ Producer: Russia
Lithium	▪ Australia, Chile and China

September 2024 Edition, Page 130

10. Chile's Atacama salt flat sinking due to lithium mining: What a new study says

Introduction

According to a new study, Chile's Atacama salt flat is sinking at a rate of 1 to 2 centimetres per year due to lithium brine extraction — a process in which salt-rich water is pumped to the surface and into a series of evaporation ponds to eventually obtain lithium.

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Miss**

Q2. Consider the following countries:

I. United Kingdom

II. Denmark

III. New Zealand

IV. Australia

V. Brazil

How many of the above-countries have more than four time zones?

[A] All the five

[B] Only four

[C] Only three

[D] Only two

Correct Option: (a)

Explanation

Country	No. of time zones
Australia	9
United Kingdom	9
New Zealand	5
Brazil	4
Denmark	5

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

Q3. Consider the following statements:
I. Anadyr in Siberia and Nome in Alaska are a few kilometers from each other, but when people are waking up and getting set for breakfast in these cities, it would be different days.

II. When it is Monday in Anadyr, it is Tuesday in Nome.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

[A] I only

[B] II only

[C] Both I and II

[D] Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (a)

Statement I is correct, and II is incorrect.

Geography, Page 70

In other words, the International Date Line (IDL) is an imaginary line that runs mostly along the 180th meridian of longitude in the Pacific Ocean, from the North Pole to the South Pole. The line serves as a demarcation between two consecutive calendar days. When one crosses the IDL from west to east, one gains a day, and when one crosses the IDL from east to west, one loses a day.

The line was established by international agreement in 1884 at a conference held in Washington D.C. The Line is not a straight line, but rather zigzags around various island groups and territories in the Pacific Ocean in order to avoid splitting them into two different calendar days. For instance, the International Dateline zigzags from 180° meridian at the Bering Strait, Fiji and other islands so that it does not cross from them. If IDL in the mid pacific would have been straight, then it would have crossed from the centre of the islands located in Pacific Ocean and caused confusion of date in these islands. Moreover, in order to avoid confusion of date, some countries choose to observe the same calendar day across the entire country, regardless of where they fall on the line.



Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q4. Consider the following statements: Statement I: Scientific studies suggest that shift is taking place in the Earth's rotation and axis. Statement II: Solar flares and associated coronal mass ejections bombarded the Earth's outermost atmosphere with tremendous amount of energy. Statement III: As the Earth's polar ice melts, the water tends to move towards the equator. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? - Both Statements II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I - Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I - Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I	Statement II: Solar flares and associated coronal mass ejections bombarded the Earth's outermost atmosphere with tremendous amount of energy. However, Solar flares affect Earth's magnetosphere and ionosphere, not the rotation or axis shift. Geography, Page 40 • Solar Flares: A Solar flare is a sudden, extreme brightening of a Sun region that lasts between minutes and hours. It occurs due to massive discharges of electromagnetic radiations from the atmosphere of the Sun. Flares arise when the Sun's powerful magnetic fields become excessively entangled. Like a rubber band snaps after it is too much twisted, the magnetic fields that become excessively entangled release energy when they break. The energy emitted by a solar flare is more than one million times as that of a volcanic eruption on Earth!

d. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Sol. (c) This question can be handled through conventional Geography. To answer this question, we need to determine accuracy of Statements II and III. As statement II is incorrect, the answer is option (c).

• **Solar Prominences:** A solar prominence is a big, luminous structure that protrudes from the Sun's surface. These protrusions originate in the photosphere and extend into the corona (the Sun's outer atmosphere). When stable, a prominence can persist for several months and extend thousands of kilometres into space.

Solar Prominence is composed of Plasma, a mixture of charged hydrogen and helium particles in a heated, gaseous state. Solar Prominence gets its meandering shape under the influence of the Sun's magnetic field.

The primary distinction between solar prominences and solar flares is that solar prominences do not pose a threat to Earth.

A solar prominence remains within the Sun's magnetic field, whereas a flare escapes the Sun's grasp and disperses waves throughout the solar system.

• **Solar Winds:** The Solar Winds are a constant flow of charged particles from the corona, the sun's outermost atmosphere. These charged particles travel through the solar system at speeds between 400 and 800 kilometers per second.

When the solar winds reach Earth, charged particles are deflected towards the poles (of Earth) by our planet's magnetic field. These charged particles also interact with the layer of upper atmosphere called ionosphere. The interaction of these particles with ionosphere produce aurora displays over polar regions.

So, Statement II is correct but doesnot explain Statement I.

Statement III: As the Earth's polar ice melts, the water tends to move towards the equator. Melting polar ice redistributes mass from the poles to lower latitudes (closer to the equator). This shift in mass affects Earth's moment of inertia, leading to changes in its rotation and axis — similar to a figure skater extending their arms.

	So, Statement III is correct and it explains Statement I. Thus, Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I.
--	--

Q5. Consider the following countries:

1. Bolivia
2. Brazil
3. Colombia
4. Ecuador
5. Paraguay
6. Venezuela

Andes mountains pass through how many of the above countries?

- a. Only two
- b. Only three
- c. Only four
- d. Only five

Correct Option: (c)

Geography, Chapter 16 Continents, Page 328

Mountains

Name	Information
The Andes mountain system	▪ Second highest mountain system in the world after the Himalayas ▪ Part of seven countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Chile, and Argentina

328

Q6. Consider the following water bodies:

1. Lake Tanganyika
2. Lake Tonle Sap
3. Patos Lagoon

Through how many of them does the equator pass?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All the three
- d. None

Correct Option: (d)

Geography, Chapter 16 Continents, Page 332

Lakes: South to North

Name	Information
Lake Kariba	▪ Located on the Zambezi river in Zambia ▪ Famous for commercial fishing
Lake Victoria	▪ Largest lake of Africa ▪ Located in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania ▪ Source of the White Nile river ▪ Equator passes through this lake.

Lake Tanganyika is south of Lake Victoria.

Q7. Which of the following are the evidences of the phenomenon of continental drift?

- I. The belt of ancient rocks from Brazil coast matches with those from Western Africa.
- II. The gold deposits of Ghana are derived from the Brazil plateau when the two continents lay side by side.
- III. The Gondwana system of sediments from India is known to have its counterparts in six different landmasses of the Southern Hemisphere.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a. I and III only
- b. I and II only
- c. I, II and III
- d. II and III only

Correct Option: (c)

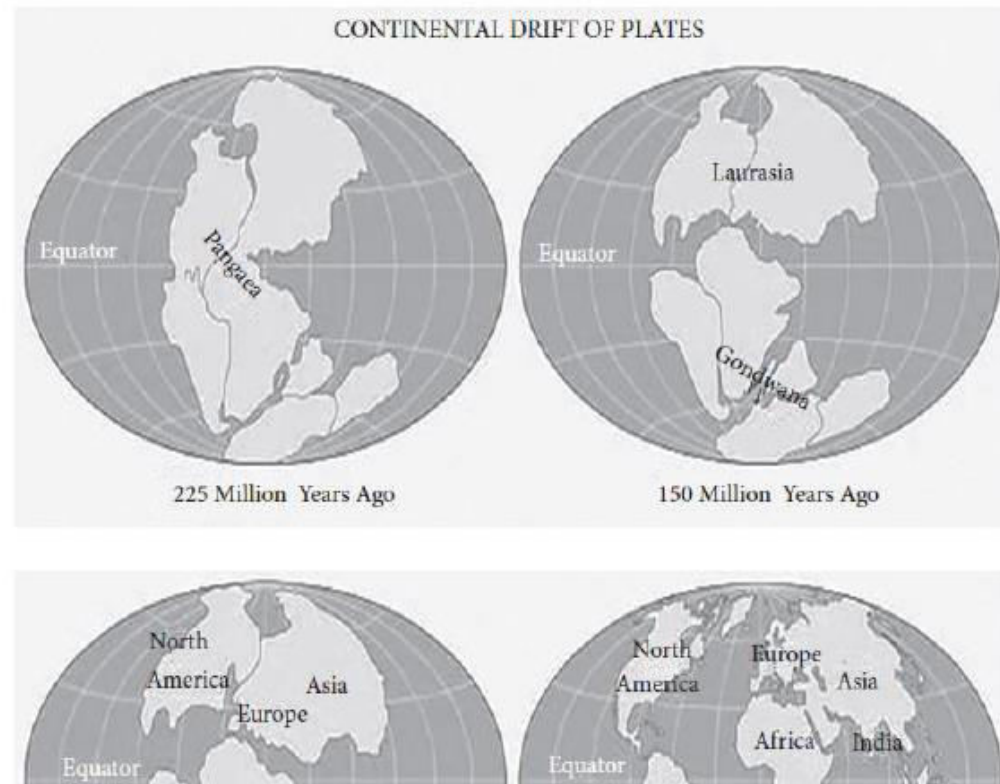
Statement III is correct.

Geography Notes, Chapter 6 Lithosphere, Page 119

CONTINENTAL DRIFT THEORY ALFRED WEGENER, 1922

According to the Continental Drift Theory, in the beginning, a single landmass called Pangaea was surrounded by a huge ocean called Panthalassa. A sea named Tethys divided Pangaea into two huge landmasses: Laurasia in the north and Gondwanaland in the south. Laurasia consisted of the present continents of Asia, Europe, and North America. Gondwanaland consisted of the continents of Africa, South America, Antarctica, Australia, and the Indian subcontinent.

According to Wegener, the single landmass began to break and the various parts formed drifted away from each other 200 million years ago.



Statements 1 and 2 are also correct.

- **Similarity of physical features:** The bulging part of Brazil seems to fit into the Gulf of Guinea (part of Africa), suggesting that South America and Africa were part of a single landmass.
- Far landmasses such as Australia, India, and South Africa share similar rocks and plant species.
- The drift of continents is also proved by the fact that old magnetic rocks show different directions of magnetism compared to newly formed magnetic rocks.

Q8. Consider the following statements:
Statements I:

The amount of dust particles in the atmosphere is more in subtropical and temperate areas than in equatorial and polar regions.

Statement II:

Subtropical and temperate areas have less dry winds.

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

- a. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- b. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- c. Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct
- d. Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

Correct Option: (c)

Geography, Chapter 8 The Atmosphere, Page 169

Dust Particles

The **highest concentration** of dust particles is in the **subtropical and temperate regions**. Within these regions, deserts have the highest concentration on account of negligible rainfall and dry winds. The **concentration** of dust particles is **low in the equatorial regions** because **continuous rainfall** makes dust particles to settle down on the surface of the Earth.

Dust particles act as the nuclei/centre around which water vapour condense to form clouds. They originate from various sources, including soil, ash, sea salts, etc. The density of dust particles is high in the lower layers of the atmosphere.

Q9. Consider the following statements:
Statement I:

In January, in the Northern Hemisphere, the isotherms bend equatorward while crossing the landmasses, and poleward while crossing the oceans.

Statement II:

In January, the air over the oceans is warmer than that over the landmasses in the Northern Hemisphere.

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

- Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct
- Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

Correct Option: (a)

Statement I is correct.

Chapter 9 Insolation and Temperature, Page 180

DISTRIBUTION OF TEMPERATURE

The distribution of temperature is shown on a map with the help of isotherms, which are imaginary lines joining places having the same temperature. They are generally parallel to the latitudes. However, there are deviations from the normal trend, especially in the months of January and July.

Such deviations are larger in the northern hemisphere because of the presence of a large proportion of land. In the southern hemisphere, deviation is very less because of the presence of more water and lesser land. The deviation is less in the southern hemisphere because water has moderating influence on temperature.

In the northern hemisphere, during the month of January, the isotherms shift northwards over the oceans and southwards over continents; while in July, isotherms shift southwards over the oceans and northwards over continents.

Statement II is also correct and is explanation of Statement I.

Chapter 10 Air Circulation and Winds, Page 204

Monsoon

Monsoon refers to the "seasonal reversal in the direction of winds". In other words, winds that change their direction with the change in seasons are called Monsoon. Monsoon winds arise on account of differential heating of land and water.

Differential heating of land and water arises because the specific heat capacity of water is higher than the specific heat capacity of land. Thus, more heat is required by water, as compared to the heat required by land to raise its temperature. Also, once heated, water takes longer time to release heat. Thus, the variability of temperature is higher on land than on a waterbody.

In summers, the temperature on land is higher than the temperature at sea; thus, a low-pressure belt emerges over land and winds blow from sea to land. Consequently, moisture-laden winds blow from sea towards land and thus bring rainfall over land.

In winters, land is colder than sea. A low-pressure belt emerges over sea and thus winds blow from land to sea. These winds are dry and thus do not bring rainfall over land or sea.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q10. Consider the following statements: Statement I: In the context of effect of water on rocks, chalk is known as a very permeable rock whereas clay is known as quite an impermeable or least permeable rock. Statement II: Chalk is porous and hence can absorb water. Statement III: Clay is not at all porous. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? - Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I - Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I - Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I - Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct	Statement II is correct. It is a commonly known fact. We have seen in our childhood that chalk is using for blotting purposes. Statement III is incorrect. It is incorrect to say that clay is not at all porous. If clay would not at all been porous, then black soil made of it would not swell. Geography, Chapter 20, Page 439 The black soils are generally clayey, deep, and impermeable. These soils swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So during the dry season, the soil develops wide cracks. Thus, there occurs a kind of "self-ploughing". The black soil absorbs moisture, which evaporates from the soil at a very low rate. Because of this character of slow absorption and loss of moisture, the black soil retains moisture for a very long time. This moisture helps crops, especially the rain-fed ones, to sustain even during the dry season.

Correct Option: (c)

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q11. Consider the following statements: - Without the atmosphere, temperature would be well below freezing point everywhere on the Earth's surface. - Heat absorbed and trapped by the atmosphere maintains our planet's average temperature. - Atmosphere's gases, like carbon dioxide, are particularly good at absorbing and trapping radiation. Which of the statements given above are correct? - I and III only - I and II only - I, II and III - II and III only Correct Option: (c)	Statement I is incorrect. Atmosphere has moderating effect on temperature. On account of atmosphere, the earth does not heat up and cools down gradually. In case the earth does not have temperature, then it will heat up as well as cools down rapidly. The side facing the Sun will be very hot and the other side will be very cold. This can be implied from the Mercury, which has no atmosphere and Mars, has very thin atmosphere. Geography Notes, Chapter 2 Solar System, Page 43 1. Mercury No atmosphere - It is the smallest planet in the solar system. Thus, this planet has the weakest gravitational pull among all the planets. Due to weak gravitational pull, this planet does not have atmosphere. As there is no atmosphere, this planet is characterized by highest diurnal range of temperature (the difference between the maximum and minimum temperature of the day). Statements II and III are correct. Geography Notes, Page 180

HEAT BUDGET OF THE EARTH

The Earth receives all its heat in the form of insolation from the Sun. The heat received by the Earth in the form of insolation is reflected back in the form of terrestrial radiation.

Of the 100 insolation units received from the Sun, 35 units are reflected back to space. The remaining 65 units are absorbed—14 units within the atmosphere and 51 units by the Earth's surface. Of the 35 units reflected back to space, 27 units are reflected back from the clouds.

The Earth radiates back 51 units in the form of terrestrial radiation. Of these 51 units, 17 units are directly radiated back to the space and the remaining 34 units are absorbed (19 through latent heat of condensation, 9 via convection, and 6 on account of direct contact) by the atmosphere.

The atmosphere radiates back 48 units (34 units received from the Earth and 14 units directly absorbed from insolation).

Thus, there is continuous inflow and outflow of heat on the Earth. Global warming occurs on account of increasing concentration of greenhouse gases such as CO₂, which trap the terrestrial radiation and prevent it from going outside into the space.

Q12. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

Some rare earth elements are used in the manufacture of flat television screens and computer monitors.

Statement II

Some rare earth elements have phosphorescent properties.

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

- a. Both statement I and statement II are correct and statement II explains statement I
- b. Both statement I and Statement II are correct but statement II does not explain statement I
- c. Statement I is correct but statement II is not correct
- d. Statement I is not correct but statement II is correct.

Correct Option: (a)

May 2025 Edition, Page 57

These elements are crucial for manufacturing high-value goods, including in the fields of defence and clean energy, as well as everyday items like smartphones and electronic displays. Since the 1990s, China has held an unrivalled dominance over rare earths, supplying 85 to 95 per cent of the world's demand.



What are rare earths?

Rare Earth Elements or Rare Earth Metals are a set of 17 chemical elements in the periodic table — cerium (Ce), dysprosium (Dy), erbium (Er), europium (Eu), gadolinium (Gd), holmium (Ho), lanthanum (La), lutetium (Lu), neodymium (Nd), praseodymium (Pr), promethium (Pm), samarium (Sm), scandium (Sc), terbium (Tb), thulium (Tm), ytterbium (Yb), and yttrium (Y). All have similar chemical properties and appear silver-coloured.

Geography, Page 523

Detailed Uses

Cerium, lanthanum, and neodymium have a multitude of applications. They serve as valuable glass additives in optical lenses and display screens, act as catalysts in automotive systems to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions, and find use in multilayer capacitors. When combined with yttrium, they become essential components in magnesium, aluminum, and hydrogen storage alloys. Mischmetal, an alloy of cerium with small quantities of other rare earth metals, is employed in various applications, including lighter flints, desulfurization in steel and foundry processes, and, when blended with lanthanum alloys, in batteries and hydrogen storage systems designed for electronics and hybrid vehicles. Cerium oxide plays a pivotal role in the glass polishing industry.

Lanthanum oxide and neodymium compounds are integral to the production of specialized glass. Lanthanum is employed in X-ray films as phosphors, while yttrium contributes to advanced ceramics, such as nitrides and Y-stabilized ceramics. Gadolinium is a key component in magnet alloys, while yttrium, europium, and terbium function as phosphors in computer and TV displays. These elements, in conjunction with lanthanum, cerium, and gadolinium, also serve as phosphors in fluorescent and halogen lamps.



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**Total Questions = 9
Hits = 8
Missed = 1**

PrepMate IAS

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q1. With reference to investments, consider the following: 1. Bonds 2. Hedge Funds 3. Stocks 4. Venture Capital How many of the above are treated as Alternative Investment Funds? a. Only one b. Only two c. Only three d. All the four Correct Option: (b)	An Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) is an option for investors seeking investment avenues beyond stocks and bonds. AIFs pool money from their investors and invest it in private equity, hedge funds, real estate and other investments. Shares (Stocks) and Bonds are mainstream financial instruments of capital market. Hedge Funds and Venture Capital fall under Alternate Investment Funds. Economics, Chapter 12 Capital Market Page 205

CAPITAL MARKET

A capital market is a financial market where exchange of funds is for a period of 1 year or more. Various capital market instruments are as follows:

■ **Long-term loans:** These loans are taken for a period of more than 1 year.

■ **Shares:** A share is one of the equal parts into which a company's capital is divided, entitling the holder to a proportion of the profits. Shareholders are owners of the company. Shares are of two types: equity and preference.

Equity shareholders are given share out of profits or repayment of capital on liquidation only after settling the claims of preference shareholders. Thus, they are the primary risk bearers in the company.

Preference shares are called so because their claim in profits and repayment of capital on liquidation is settled before payment is made to equity shareholders.

■ **Debentures:** These refer to the unit of debt or loan. Debentures are issued at a fixed rate of interest by the company. Debenture holders are the lenders of the company. The interest on debenture is required to be paid even if the company suffers losses.

■ **Bonds:** Bonds, like debentures, carry fixed rate of interest. Usually bonds are issued by the government to collect money to carry out its expenditure. For example, the Government of India launched infrastructure bonds to raise funds for infrastructure development in India.

Venture Capital

Venture capital refers to finance provided by investors to start-up companies and small businesses that are believed to have long-term growth potential. For start-ups without access to capital markets, venture capital is an essential source of money. Risk is typically high for investors, but the potential for above-average returns is an attractive payoff.

Venture capital does not always take a monetary form; it can be provided in the form of technical or managerial expertise. For new companies or start-up ventures that have a limited operating history, venture capital funding is increasingly becoming a popular capital raising source, as funding through loans or other debt instruments is not readily available.

Q2. Which of the following are the sources of income for the Reserve Bank of India?

- I. Buying and selling Government bonds
- II. Buying and selling foreign currency
- III. Pension fund management
- IV. Lending to private companies
- V. Printing and distributing currency notes

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a. I and II only
- b. II, III and IV
- c. I, III, IV and V
- d. I, II and V

Correct Option: (d)

Statements I, II and V are correct. Statement III is incorrect. There is a separate Pension fund regulatory development authority in India. RBI does not have any role in Pension Fund Management. Statement IV is also incorrect. RBI is engaged in lending to banks, but not private companies.

Economics, Chapter 5 Monetary Policy Page 82

The RBI is an independent apex monetary authority that also regulates banks and provides important financial services such as storage of foreign exchange reserves, availability of credit, accept deposits from government and banks. Specifically, the RBI performs the following important functions:

1. Issue of bank notes: The RBI has the sole right to issue currency notes except one-rupee notes, which are issued by the Ministry of Finance.

This function of the RBI has a number of advantages: (i) it brings uniformity in issue of notes; (ii) it makes possible effective state supervision; (iii) it is easier to control and regulate credit in accordance with the requirements in the economy.

2. Banker to the government: As banker to the government, the RBI manages the banking needs of both Central and State Governments. It has to maintain and operate the government's deposit accounts. It collects receipts of the funds and makes payments on behalf of the government. It issues and manages government securities. It represents the Government of India as the member of the IMF and the World Bank.

3. Custodian of cash reserves of commercial banks: The commercial banks hold deposits in the Reserve Bank, and the latter has the custody of the cash reserves of the commercial banks.

4. Custodian of country's foreign currency reserves: The Reserve Bank has the custody of the country's reserves of international currency, and this enables the Reserve Bank to deal with crisis connected with adverse balance of payments position.

5. Lender of last resort: The commercial banks approach the Reserve Bank in times of emergency to tide over financial difficulties, and the Reserve Bank comes to their rescue though it might charge a higher rate of interest.

6. Central clearance and accounts settlement: Since commercial banks have their surplus cash reserves deposited in the Reserve Bank, it is easier to settle the claim of these banks on each other through entries in the books of the Reserve Bank. The clearing of accounts has now become an essential function of the Reserve Bank.

7. Controller of credit: Since credit money forms the most important part of supply of money, and since the supply of money has important implications for economic stability, the importance of control of credit becomes obvious. Credit is controlled by the Reserve Bank in accordance with the economic priorities of the government.

8. Regulator of banks and non-banking financial companies: Opening a bank or a non-banking financial company (NBFC) requires a license from the RBI. It ensures that financial interest of the depositors is not hampered. It also keeps checks that the banks and NBFCs adhere to capital adequacy norms, etc.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

Statements I:

In India, income from allied agricultural activities like poultry farming and wool rearing in rural areas is exempted from any tax.

Statement II:

In India, rural agricultural land is not considered a capital asset under the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

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

- a. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- b. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- c. Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct
- d. Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

Correct Option: (d)

Q4. Consider the following statements:
Statements I:

As regards returns from an investment in a company, generally, bondholders are considered to be relatively at lower risk than stockholders.

Statement II:

Bondholders are lenders to a company whereas stockholders are its owners.

Statement III:

For repayment purpose, bondholders are prioritized over stockholders by a company.

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

- Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II
- Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Economics, Chapter 12 Page 205

■ **Shares:** A share is one of the equal parts into which a company's capital is divided, entitling the holder to a proportion of the profits. Shareholders are owners of the company. Shares are of two types: equity and preference.

Equity shareholders are given share out of profits or repayment of capital on liquidation only after settling the claims of preference shareholders. Thus, they are the primary risk bearers in the company.

Preference shares are called so because their claim in profits and repayment of capital on liquidation is settled before payment is made to equity shareholders.

■ **Debentures:** These refer to the unit of debt or loan. Debentures are issued at a fixed rate of interest by the company. Debenture holders are the lenders of the company. The interest on debenture is required to be paid even if the company suffers losses.

■ **Bonds:** Bonds, like debentures, carry fixed rate of interest. Usually bonds are issued by the government to collect money to carry out its expenditure. For example, the Government of India launched infrastructure bonds to raise funds for infrastructure development in India.

Correct Option: (a)

Difference between Bonds and Debentures

Debentures and bonds are types of debt instruments that can be issued by a company. In some markets (India, for instance), the two terms are interchangeable, but in the United States, they refer to two separate kinds of debt-based securities.

Debentures have a more specific purpose than bonds. Both can be used to raise capital, but debentures are typically issued to raise short-term capital for upcoming expenses or to pay for expansions.

Another important difference is that debentures are never asset backed (they are not secured by any collateral) and are only backed by the credit of the issuer. On the other hand, bonds are secured by particular collateral.

However, as mentioned above, debentures and bonds are used almost interchangeably in India.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

- I. Capital receipts create a liability or cause a reduction in the assets of the Government.
- II. Borrowings and disinvestment are capital receipts.
- III. Interest received on loans creates a liability of the Government.

Which of the statements give above are correct?

- a. I and II only
- b. II and III only
- c. I and III only
- d. I, II and III

Correct Option: (a)

Economics, Chapter 6 Fiscal Policy, Page 106

Capital Receipts

These receipts have implications of more than 1 year. Examples include loans from the public. If the government takes loan, it is required to repay the loan along with interest.

Revenue Receipts

These receipts have implications of less than or equal to 1 year. Examples are tax collected by the government. The government is not liable for anything in the future for the tax collected in the current year.

Economics, Chapter 6 Fiscal Policy, Page 123

11. (c) Government receipts which either (i) create liabilities (e.g., borrowing) or (ii) reduce assets (e.g., disinvestment) are called capital receipts. Disinvestment by government means selling a part or whole of its shares of public sector undertakings (e.g., HMT, LIC, and FCI). Funds raised from disinvestment reduce government assets.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Interest received on loans given does not create a liability for the government.

Q6. Suppose the revenue expenditure is Rs. 80,000 crores and the revenue receipts of the government are Rs. 60,000 crores. The government budget also shows borrowings of Rs. 10,000 crores and interest payments of Rs. 6,000 crores. which of the following statement are correct?

- I. Revenue deficit is Rs. 20,000 crores.
- II. Fiscal deficit is Rs. 10,000 crores.
- III. Primary deficit is Rs. 4,000 crores.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a. I and II only
- b. II and III only
- c. I and III only
- d. I, II and III

Correct Option: (d)

Statement 1 is correct

Economics, Page 106

Revenue Deficit

Revenue deficit is the difference between revenue expenditure and revenue receipts.

$$\text{Revenue expenditure} - \text{Revenue receipts} = \text{Revenue deficit}$$

Revenue deficit indicates that the government's revenue expenditure exceeds the government's revenue receipts. On the other hand, revenue surplus indicates that the government's revenue receipts exceed the government's revenue expenditure.

Statement 2 is correct

Fiscal Deficit

Fiscal deficit refers to the excess of total expenditure over total receipts (excluding borrowings) during a given financial year.

$$\text{Fiscal deficit} = \text{Total expenditure} - \text{Total receipts, excluding borrowings}$$

Fiscal deficit includes not just revenue expenditure and receipts but also capital expenditure and receipts, except borrowings.

The extent of fiscal deficit is an indication of how far the government is spending beyond its means. In other words, fiscal deficit indicates the level of **borrowings** of the government.

Fiscal Deficit; The Government budget shows borrowing of Rs 10,000 crore

Statement 3 is correct

from fiscal deficit. Interest payment is the payment that a government makes on its borrowings.

Primary deficit = Fiscal deficit – Interest payments

Interest payments are excluded from the calculation of primary deficit because interest payments are made on account of borrowings made in the past. Thus, primary deficit specifies the net impact of present transactions (and excludes the impact of transactions undertaken in the past).

Primary Deficit: Fiscal Deficit – Interest Payment (10,000 crore - 6,000 crore = 4,000 crore)

Q7. A country's fiscal deficit stands at Rs. 50,000 crores. It is receiving Rs. 10,000 crores through non-debt creating capital receipts. The country's interest liabilities are Rs. 1,500 crores. What is the gross primary deficit?

- a. 48,500 crores
- b. 51,500 crores
- c. 58,500 crores
- d. None of the above

Correct Option: (a)

Economics, Page 107

from fiscal deficit. Interest payment is the payment that a government makes on its borrowings.

Primary deficit = Fiscal deficit – Interest payments

Interest payments are excluded from the calculation of primary deficit because interest payments are made on account of borrowings made in the past. Thus, primary deficit specifies the net impact of present transactions (and excludes the impact of transactions undertaken in the past).

Q8. Consider the following statements in respect of the International Bank for reconstruction and development (IBRD):

- I. It provides loans and guarantees to middle income countries.
- II. It works single-handedly to help developing countries to reduce poverty.
- III. It was established to help Europe rebuild after the World war II.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a. I and II only
- b. II and III only
- c. I and III only
- d. I, II and III

Correct Option: (c)

Statement II is incorrect.

IBRD is not single handedly involved in reducing poverty.

Economics Page 476

Criticism of IMF

1. IMF puts severe restrictions on expenditure by its borrowers. Reduction in expenditure by the government leads to slowdown in the economy.
2. The United States and Western Europe have strong dominance in IMF. Thus, IMF promotes values supported by these nations such as free trade and capitalism.
3. It is alleged that IMF is under the domination of developed nations though developing nations require more assistance from the IMF.
4. IMF charges market determined interest rate (and not subsidised rate) from borrowing nations.
5. There is a continuous demand by developing economies to bring reform in IMF quota so that IMF quota reflects the contemporary status of global economy. IMF was formed in 1945. However, global economy has undergone significant transition after that. The share of developing companies in the global economy has increased. Though IMF quota has been revived from time to time, still the quotas do not reflect the present global economy.

To overcome some criticism, IMF initiated Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility Program in 1999 to provide financial assistance to poor countries for long term at low interest rates.

International Development Association (IDA)

IDA was established in 1960 to complement the functioning of IBRD. IDA provides loans at concessional rates for long term to poor nations. Loan at concessional rates is called soft credit. These loans are given for undertaking social welfare projects. IDA also advises on implementation of social welfare projects. IDA has 173 nations as its members.

Q9. Consider the following statements in respect of RTGS and NEFT:

- I. In RTGS, the settlement time is instantaneous while in case of NEFT, it takes some time to settle payments.
- II. In RTGS, the customer is charged for inward transactions while that is not the case for NEFT.
- III. Operating hours for RTGS are restricted on certain days while this is not true for NEFT.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. I and II
- c. I and III
- d. III only

Correct Option: (a)

Economics, Page 396

Statement I is correct and III is incorrect.

Comparison among NEFT, RTGS, and IMPS at a glance

Features	NEFT	RTGS	IMPS
Introduced by	RBI	RBI	NPCI
Settlement type	Half-hourly batches	One-on-one settlement	One-on-one settlement
Service timings	24×7, 365 days	24×7, 365 days	24×7, 365 days
Minimum transfer limit	Rs. 1	Rs. 2 lakh	Rs.1
Maximum transfer limit	No limit	No limit	Rs. 5 lakh
Funds transfer speed	2 hours	Immediately	Immediately
Mode	Online/offline	Online/offline	Online only

Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)

RTGS was introduced by the RBI in 2004. RTGS system, as the name indicates, involves settlement of transactions in "real time" and on a "gross" basis. RTGS is called a "Real Time" system as the transactions are processed at the exact time as and when they are received. RTGS is also called a "Gross Settlement" system because the transactions are processed on a one-on-one basis and are not bundled with other transactions as in the case of NEFT.

The minimum transfer limit for RTGS is Rs. 2 lakh whereas there is no maximum transfer limit. Therefore, for transfer of large funds of Rs. 2 Lakh and above, RTGS is the preferred system. Like Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) and NEFT, it is also available round the clock.

Statement 2 is incorrect: With effect from July 01, 2019, RBI has waived the processing charges levied by it for RTGS transactions. Banks may pass on the benefit to its customers. NEFT does not levy charges for inward transactions, i.e., when funds are credited to the beneficiary's account. This makes it cost-effective for receiving money while RTGS is chargeable for most customers.



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Total Questions = 11
Hits = 4
Missed = 7

PrepMate IAS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

Circular economy reduces the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Statement II:

Circular economy reduces the use of raw materials as inputs.

Statement III:

Circular economy reduces wastage in the production process.

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

- a. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- b. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II
- c. Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- d. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Correct Option: (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I

Environment Notes, Chapter 8 Sustainable Development, Page 241

Circular economy approach is based on sharing, leasing, reducing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling of resources. It is called 'circular' as the resources are used in a near closed loop with minimal leakage. When the same resource is used in a circular manner, the demand for new resources is minimised. The circular economy approach treats waste as a resource and focuses on a restorative industrial system. In other words, at the end of the lifecycle of the product, efforts are made to keep the materials within the production loop, instead of discarding the product.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

Statements I:

Activated carbon is a good and an attractive tool to remove pollutants from effluent streams and to remediate contaminants from various industries.

Statements II:

Activated carbon exhibits a large surface area and a strong potential for adsorbing heavy metals.

Statements III:

Activated carbon can be easily synthesized from environmental wastes with high carbon content.

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

- a. Both Statements II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- b. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- c. Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- d. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Correct Option: (a)

Q3. Consider the following statements:

Statements I:

Studies indicate that carbon dioxide emissions from cement industry account for more than 5% of global carbon emissions.

Statements II:

Silica-bearing clay is mixed with limestone while manufacturing cement.

Statement III:

Limestone is converted into lime during clinker production for cement manufacturing.

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

- a. Both Statements II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- b. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- c. Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- d. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Correct Option: (b)

Q4. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

At the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28), India refrained from signing the 'Declaration on Climate and Health'.

Statement II:

The COP28 Declaration on Climate and Health is a binding declaration; and if signed, it becomes mandatory to decarbonize health sector.

Statement III:

If India's health sector is decarbonized, the resilience of its health-care system may be compromised.

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

- Both Statements II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Correct Option: (d)

Source: Monthly Current Affairs January 2024 Edition, Page 117

How did India fare at COP-28?

The UAE declaration on climate and health came into being at COP-28 through a partnership of the COP-28 Presidency with the World Health Organization. It recognises the growing health impacts of climate change and acknowledges the benefits of climate action, including a reduction in air pollution and lowering the cost of healthcare. The declaration, signed by 123 countries, has collectively committed \$1 billion to address the growing climate-health crisis. However, India didn't sign this declaration because reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the health sector would mean reduction in emissions from gases used for cooling. As India's healthcare

infrastructure is still growing, such a commitment could compromise the healthcare requirements of a growing population, particularly rural.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change is frequently discussed in the global discussions on sustainable development and climate change.

Statement II:

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change sets out the principles of carbon markets.

Statement III:

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change intends to promote inter-country non-market strategies to reach their climate targets.

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

- a. Both Statements II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- b. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- c. Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- d. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Correct Option: (a)

Q6. Regarding Peacock tarantula (Gooty tarantula), consider the following statements:

- I. It is an omnivorous crustacean.
- II. Its natural habitat in India is only limited to some forest area.
- III. In its natural habitat, it is an arboreal species.

Which of the statements give above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. I and III
- c. II only
- d. II and III

Correct Option: (d)

Q7. Consider the following statements:

- I. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in India are less than 0.5 t CO₂/capita.
- II. In terms of CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion, India ranks second in Asia-Pacific region.
- III. Electricity and heat producers are the largest sources of CO₂ emissions in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- I. I and III only
- II. II only
- III. II and III only
- IV. I, II and III

Correct Option: (c)

Q8. Consider the following pairs:

Plant	Description
1. Cassava :	Woody shrub
2. Ginger :	Herb with pseudostem
3. Malabar spinach:	Herbaceous climber
4. Mint :	Annual shrub
5. Papaya :	Woody shrub

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

a. Only two

b. Only three

c. Only four

d. All the five

Correct Option: (b)

Q9. With reference to the planet Earth, consider the following statements:

- I. Rain forests produce more oxygen than that produced by oceans.
- II. Marine phytoplankton and photosynthetic bacteria produce about 50% of world's oxygen.
- III. Well-oxygenated surface water contains several folds higher oxygen than that in atmospheric air.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I and II
- b. II only
- c. I and III
- d. None of the above statements is correct

Correct Option: (b)

Q10. Artificial way of causing rainfall to reduce air pollution makes use of

- a. Silver iodide and potassium iodide
- b. Silver nitrate and potassium iodide
- c. Silver iodide and potassium nitrate
- d. Silver nitrated and potassium chloride

Correct Option: (a)

Environment, Page 47

What Is Cloud Seeding?

Seeding involves spraying chemicals into clouds. Cloud seeding is a form of weather modification. It is a way of changing the amount or type of precipitation that falls from clouds, by dispersing substances into the air that serve as cloud condensation or ice nuclei, which alter the microphysical processes within the cloud. The usual intent is to increase precipitation (rain or snow), but hail and fog suppression are also widely practiced in airports.

How Does It Work?

The most common chemicals used for cloud seeding include silver iodide, potassium iodide and dry ice (solid carbon dioxide). Liquid propane, which expands into a gas, has also been used. This can produce ice crystals at higher temperatures than silver iodide. After promising research, the use of hygroscopic materials such as table salt, is becoming more popular.

Introduction of a substance such as silver iodide, which has a crystalline structure similar to that of ice, induces freezing nucleation (molecules gathering in clusters). In mid-latitude clouds, the usual seeding strategy has been based on the fact that the equilibrium vapour pressure is lower over ice than over water. The formation of ice particles in super-cooled clouds allows those particles to grow at the expense of liquid droplets. If sufficient growth takes place, the particles become heavy enough to fall as precipitation from clouds that otherwise would produce no precipitation. This process is known as 'static' seeding.

Beginning of Cloud Seeding

China used this technique during the 2008 Olympics to steer rain away from the inaugural venue and now it has a full-fledged department that blasts rockets into clouds to induce rain and control pollution.

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits**

Q11. The World Bank warned that India could become one of the first places where wet-bulb temperatures routinely exceed 35°C. Which of the following statements best reflects(s) the implication of the above-said report?

- I. Peninsular India will most likely suffer from flooding, tropical cyclones and droughts.
- II. The survival of animals including humans will be affected as shedding of their body heat through perspiration becomes difficult.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a. I only
- b. II only
- c. Both I and II
- d. Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (c)

Usual effects of climate change



2025 Prelims International Organisations & Relations Report Card

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**Total Questions = 3
Hits = 3**

PrepMate IAS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Austria
2. Bulgaria
3. Croatia
4. Serbia
5. Sweden
6. North Macedonia

How many of the above are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization?

- a. Only three
- b. Only four
- c. Only five
- d. All the six

Correct Option: (b)

International Organisations & Bilateral Relations, Chapter 6 Cold War, Page 167

	Hungary (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991)		
	Poland (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991)		
	Bulgaria (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991)		
	Estonia (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991 as part of the Soviet Union)		
	Latvia (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991 as part of the Soviet Union)		

PrepMate IAS

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2004	Lithuania (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991 as part of the Soviet Union)	Fifth
	Romania (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991)	
	Slovakia (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1991 as part of Czechoslovakia)	
	Slovenia (Previously part of Yugoslavia 1945–1991 (Non-aligned))	
2009	Albania (Member of the rival Warsaw Pact 1955–1968)	Sixth
	Croatia (Previously part of Yugoslavia 1945–1991 (Non-aligned))	
2017	Montenegro (Previously part of Yugoslavia 1945–2006 (Non-aligned))	Seventh
2020	North Macedonia (previously part of Yugoslavia till 1991 and thereafter, known as the Republic of Macedonia until 2019)	Eighth
2023	Finland	Ninth
2024	Sweden	Tenth

Current Affairs May 2024 Edition

Who are NATO's members today?

Apart from the original 12, members include Greece and Turkey (1952); West Germany (1955; later as Germany); Spain (1982); the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland (1999); Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (2004); Albania and Croatia (2009); Montenegro (2017); North Macedonia (2020); Finland (2023); and Sweden (2024).

There was a wave of new entrants in 1999, a few years after the Soviet Union disintegrated in 1991. Concerns were raised then about the alliance possibly becoming obsolete, given its original purpose of establishment no longer existed.

Why NATO is still surviving?

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q2. Consider the following statements in respect of BIMSTEC: - It is a regional organization consisting of seven member states till January 2025. - It came into existence with the signing of the Dhaka declaration, 1999. - Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Nepal are founding member states of BIMSTEC. - In BIMSTEC, the subsector of 'tourism' is being led by India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? - I and II - II and III - I and IV - I only	Statements I is correct, and Statements II and III are incorrect. International Organisations and Bilateral Relations, Page 50 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) BIMSTEC is the grouping of countries from South Asia and South East Asia. In 1997, a sub-regional grouping was formed in Bangkok and given the name BIST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand Economic Cooperation). Myanmar attended the inaugural June, 1997 Meeting as an observer and joined the organization as a full member at a Special Ministerial Meeting held in Bangkok in the same year, upon which the name of the grouping was changed to BIMST-EC. Nepal was granted observer status by the second Ministerial Meeting in Dhaka in December 1998. Subsequently, full membership has been granted to Nepal and Bhutan in February 2004. BIMSTEC headquarters is situated in Dhaka, Bangladesh. So far only four summits have taken place after the inaugural meeting, namely 2004 in Bangkok, Thailand; 2008 in New Delhi, India; 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar; and 2018 in Kathmandu, Nepal. Members: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.
Correct Option: (c)	Current Affairs May 2025 Edition, Page 42

WHAT IS BIMSTEC?

BIMSTEC includes countries of the Bay of Bengal region and seeks to act as a bridge between South and Southeast Asia. Originally formed as BIST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand Economic Cooperation) in 1997, it became BIMST-EC after Myanmar joined, and BIMSTEC in 2004 with Nepal and Bhutan.

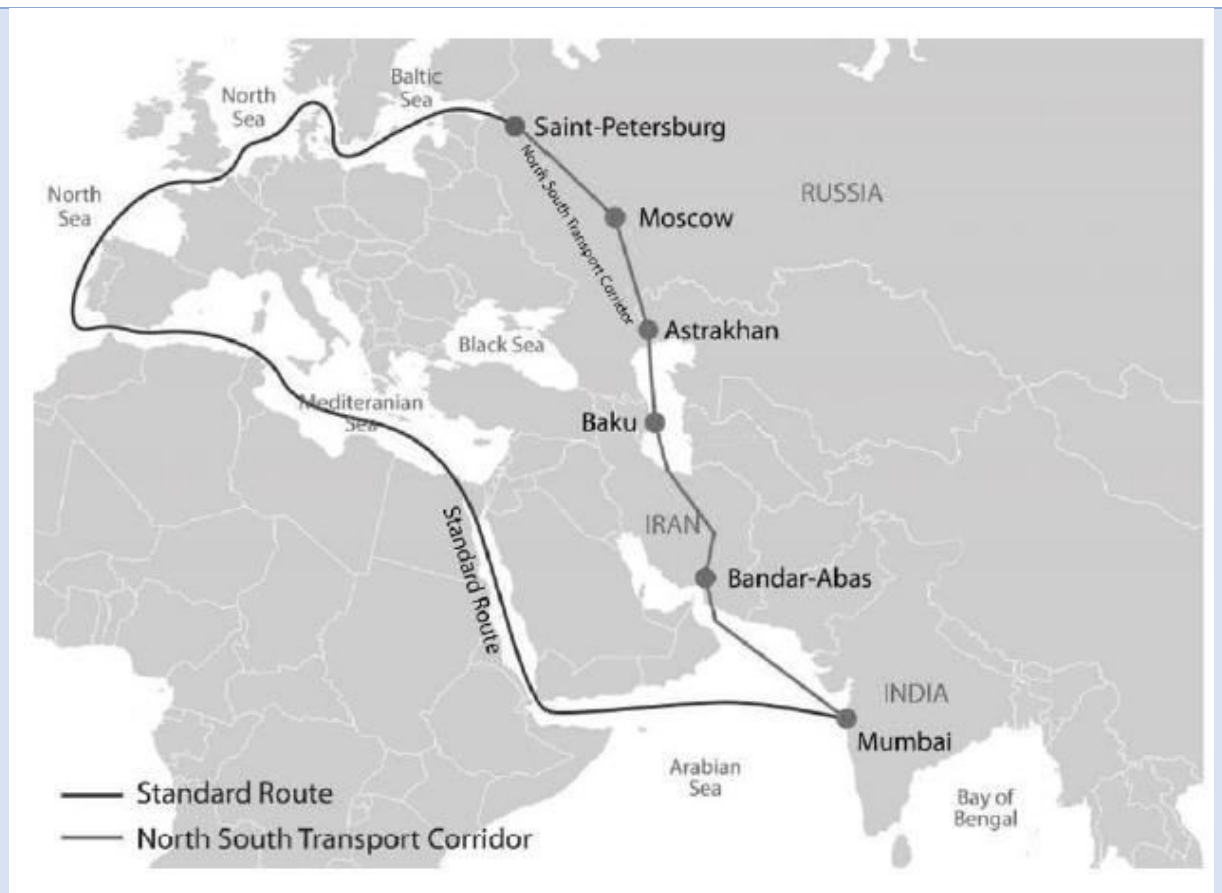
WHAT IS THE AIM BEHIND BIMSTEC?

For one, it provides a common platform for countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia at a time when the SAARC is more or less defunct. While the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is seen as one of more cohesive groupings in the world, the lack of forward movement in the fraught India-Pakistan relationship has left few options for South Asian countries. Landlocked countries, Nepal and Bhutan, may also benefit from access to the Bay of Bengal as a result of better ties with BIMSTEC countries.

Statement IV is correct.

Neither covered in PrepMate Current Affairs nor conventional material.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q3. India is one of the founding members of the International North-South Transport corridor (INSTC), a multimodal transportation corridor, which will connect - India to Central Asia to Europe via Iran - India to Central Asia via China - India to south-east Asia through Bangladesh and Myanmar - India to Europe through Azerbaijan Correct Option: (a)	International Organisations & Bilateral Relations, Page 312 International North–South transport Corridor (INSTC) The International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is considered as gateway for India to expand trade and investment links with Central Asia and Eurasia. It is a multi-modal trade transport network that includes strategic rail, road and water transport connecting India with Central Asian and Eurasian Countries. Route: It will connect Mumbai (India) via Chabahar and Bandar Abbas ports of Iran with Baku (Azerbaijan) to Moscow (Russia) and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe via the Caspian Sea.





2025 Prelims Science & Technology Report Card

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**Total Questions = 8
Hits = 4
Missed = 4**

PrepMate IAS

Q1. Consider the following types of vehicles:

1. Full battery electric vehicles
2. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles
3. Fuel cell electric hybrid vehicles

How many of the above are considered as alternative powertrain vehicles?

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

Correct Option: (c) All the three

The **powertrain** refers to all the components that generate power and move a vehicle. Alternative powertrain vehicles are those that utilize propulsion systems other than the conventional internal combustion engine (ICE) that runs on gasoline or diesel.

Statement 1 is correct. Full battery electric vehicles are alternative powertrain vehicles.

Science & Technology Notes, Chapter 19 Transportation Technologies, Page 434

Battery electric Vehicles (BeVs)

Battery Electric vehicles, as the name indicates, use electricity from a battery to power

Shubham's IAS

434

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an engine. The term Electric Vehicle is generally used to refer to a Battery Electric Vehicle.

The conventional vehicles use combustion of fossil fuels to generate the energy needed to power the engine. The combustion of fossil fuels releases pollutants and GHGs. Electric vehicles, on the other hand, are environment friendly as they are emission-free. Moreover, since electric vehicles do not generate emissions, there are no carbon deposits on their parts. Thus, unlike fossil fuel-based vehicles, electric vehicles do not require regular service, and hence, their maintenance cost is negligible.

Unlike, the internal combustion engine of conventional vehicles, electric vehicles have an electric motor. This electric motor drives the wheels of the vehicle. The vehicle consists of a battery pack that can be charged by plugging into a charging outlet. The battery powers the electric motor.

Statement 3 is also correct. Both Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and Fuel cell electric hybrid vehicles are alternative powertrain vehicles.

Science & Technology Notes, Chapter 19 Transportation Technologies, Page 437

Hydrogen cars or Fuel cell electric cars

Hydrogen cars are also known as fuel cell electric cars. These vehicles use hydrogen as fuel to generate electricity. The electricity is used to power the electric motor of the car. A major difference between electric vehicles and hydrogen cars is that while electric vehicles use electricity from an external power source (battery is charged by plugging into an outlet), hydrogen cars generate their own electricity. They are called fuel cell electric vehicles to differentiate them from the regular Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs).

Hydrogen cars use fuel cell technology to generate electricity. The hydrogen fuel in the tank reacts with oxygen from the air. The reaction takes place inside a fuel cell. As a result of this chemical reaction, electric energy is produced along with heat and water. Hence, water vapour is emitted as a by-product. The electricity generated is used to power the electric motor in the vehicle. Alternatively, hydrogen cars can also be equipped with a battery (called Peak Power battery), which is charged by the electricity from the fuel cell. Compared to batteries in electric vehicles, peak power batteries are smaller and lighter.

Current Affairs

Statements 2 and 3 are correct.

April 2024 Edition, Page 121

How do hydrogen fuel cells work?

A **hydrogen fuel cell** generates electricity by utilising the chemical energy contained in hydrogen. It releases only pure water, not discharging pollutants. Hydrogen is loaded into cells. The energy within the hydrogen is converted into electricity and heat, which is then used to power the vessel's propulsion mechanism. In the fuel cell, the hydrogen reacts with the oxygen in the air to produce electricity. Unlike batteries, hydrogen fuel cells do not require recharging. Provided uninterrupted supply of fuel and oxygen, these cells would work continuously.

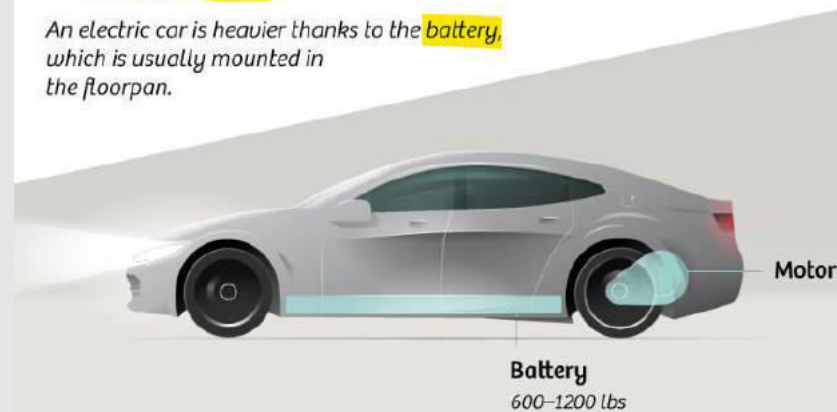
Statement 1 is correct.

June 2025 Edition, Page 112

Electric Vehicles (EVs) are celebrated for cutting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, helping fight climate change. But a new study warns of an overlooked environmental cost—pollution from tyre particles.

⚡ Electric car

An electric car is heavier thanks to the battery, which is usually mounted in the floorpan.



💧 Gasoline car

A traditional car weighs less, and manufacturing a gas tank is much cleaner than manufacturing a battery – but then we pour in gasoline.



Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q2. In the context of electric vehicle batteries, consider the following elements: 1. Cobalt 2. Graphite 3. Lithium 4. Nickel How many of the above usually make up battery cathodes? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four Correct Option: (c)	

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q3. Consider the following: 1. Cigarette butts 2. Eyeglass lenses 3. Car tyres How many of them contain plastic? a. Only one b. Only two c. All the three d. None Correct Option: (c)	

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q4. Consider the following substances: 1. Ethanol 2. Nitroglycerine 3. Urea Coal gasification technology can be used in the production of how many of them? a. Only one b. Only two c. All the three d. None Correct Option: (b)	

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
5. What is the common characteristic of the chemical substances generally known as CL-20, HMX and LLM-105, which are sometimes talked about in media? a. These are alternatives to hydro-fluorocarbon refrigerants b. These are explosives in military weapons c. These are high-energy fuels for cruise missiles d. These are fuels for rocket propulsion Correct Option: (b)	

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
6. Consider the following statements: I. It is expected that Majorana 1 chip will enable quantum computing. II. Majorana 1 chip has been introduced by Amazon Web Services (AWS). III. Deep learning is a subset of machine learning. Which of the statements given above are correct? a. I and II only b. II and III only c. I and III only d. I, II and III	Correct Option: (c) Statement 3 is covered in PrepMate Science & Technology, Chapter 16 Artificial Intelligence Deep Learning: Deep learning is an advanced type of machine learning. It can process a wide range of data sets and requires less data preprocessing by the humans. Data preprocessing refers to preparing and organizing raw data to make it suitable for a machine learning model. am's IAS 374 Contact - 75979-00000

7. GPS-Aided Geo augmented navigation (GAGAN) uses a system of ground stations to provide necessary augmentation. Which of the following statements is/are correct in respect of GAGAN?

- I. It is designed to provide additional accuracy and integrity.
- II. It will allow more uniform and high-quality air traffic management.
- III. It will provide benefits only in aviation but not in other modes of transportation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a. I, II and III
- b. II and III only
- c. I only
- d. I and II only

Correct Option: (d)

Science & Technology, Page 133

and Airports Authority of India (AAI). It is developed to provide enhanced navigation signals to the civil aviation sector to minimise accidents. With the help of GAGAN, pilots are able to fly even in bad weather conditions. Before GAGAN, air traffic in India was dependent upon the GPS.

GAGAN system is also interoperable with other international Satellite-based Augmentation Systems (SBAS), and hence can provide seamless navigation across the regional boundaries. The Signal-In-Space (SIS) of GAGAN system is available through the satellites-GSAT-8, GSAT-10, and GSAT-15.

According to ISRO, GAGAN though primarily meant for aviation, will provide benefits beyond aviation to many other user segments such as intelligent transportation, maritime, highways, railways, surveying, geodesy, security agencies, telecom industry, personal users of position location applications, etc.

April 2024 Edition, Page 146

What is the new proposed highway tolling system?

The global navigation satellite system is a term used to refer to any satellite-based navigation system, including the United States' Global Positioning System (GPS). It uses a large constellation of satellites to provide more accurate location and navigation information to users globally as compared to the GPS alone.

An official of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways explained that its implementation will involve an On-Board Unit (OBU), or a tracking device, fitted inside a vehicle whose location can be mapped using GAGAN, the Indian satellite navigation system with an approximate accuracy of 10 metres. The co-ordinates of the entire length of the country's national highways will have to be logged with the help of digital image processing, and software will be used to assign the toll rate on a particular highway, calculate the toll amount for a vehicle as per the distance travelled by it and then deduct it from a wallet linked to the OBU.

The Ministry official further explained that the aim of the technology is to provide users the benefit of paying toll only for the actual distance travelled on a highway, or pay-as-you-use. The government also hopes that it will eventually allow barrier-free movement.

8. With reference to india's defence, consider the following pairs:

Aircraft type: Description

1. Dornier 228 : Maritime patrol aircraft
2. IL-76 : Supersonic combat aircraft
3. C-17 Globe-master III : Military transport aircraft

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All the three
- d. None

Correct Option: (b)

Pair 1 is correct:

News Juice Monthly, April 2024 Edition, Page 58

The Maldives defence ministry said the first team of Indian civilians had arrived, and would take charge of the operation of a helicopter in Addu, the country's southernmost atoll. The two countries had agreed on February 2 that India would pull out 80-odd military personnel stationed in the Maldives between March 10 and May 10.

The Indian Ministry of External Affairs had said that the two helicopters and a Dornier aircraft in the Maldives would be operated by "competent Indian technical personnel" who would replace the "present personnel".

Statement 2 is incorrect and 3 is correct.

May 2025 News, Page 56

The base houses PAF transport aircraft such as Lockheed C-130 Hercules, Ilyushin Il-78 refuellers, and trainers such as Karakoram-8. With the Pakistan Army's General Headquarters and the Strategic Plans Division — the operational arm of the country's nuclear command — in the vicinity, the base lies at the heart of the Pakistani military establishment.

PAF Base Chaklala was renamed PAF Base Nur Khan in 2012, in honour of Air Marshal Nur Khan, the base's first Pakistani commander in 1947 who went on to lead the Pakistan Air Force from 1965 to 1969.

Science & Technology, Page 180

Important Transportation and Training Aircrafts and Helicopters

These aircrafts are not only used during wars for assistance purposes but also during the humanitarian, civilian, training, search, and rescue operations.

Ilyushin (IL)-78: Ilyushin-78 is manufactured by Russia. It is fitted with a mid-air refueling system (MARS). It has the ability to refuel three fighter jets at a time. It is presently in service.

C-17 Globemaster: C-17 Globemaster was inducted into the IAF in 2013. It is jointly manufactured by the U.S. companies Boeing and McDonnell Douglas. The aircraft is primarily meant for rapid airlifting and transporting troops, cargo, equipment and warfare materials, tanks, etc.



2025 Prelims General Science Report Card

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**Total Questions = 2
Hits = 1
Miss = 1**

PrepMate IAS

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Miss
Q1. With reference to monoclonal antibodies, often mentioned in news, consider the following statements: I. They are man-made proteins. II. They stimulate immunological function due to their ability to bind to specific antigens. III. They are used in treating viral infections like that of Nipah virus. Which of the statements given above are correct? a. I and II only b. II and III only c. I and III only d. I, II and III Sol. (d) None	

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q2. Consider the following statements: 1. No virus can survive in ocean waters. 2. No virus can infect bacteria. 3. No virus can change the cellular transcriptional activity in host cells. How many of the statements given above are correct? a. Only one b. Only two c. All the three d. None Sol. (d) None	Statement 1 is incorrect: Some Virus can survive in any environment including space. Statement 2 is incorrect. PrepMate Science Notes, Page 332 10. (d) Viruses are known to infect almost any kind of host that has living cells. Animals, plants, fungi and bacteria are all subject to viral infection. A bacteriophage is a virus that infects and replicates within a bacterium. Mycoviruses are viruses that infect fungi. A host of other viruses affect plants. Statement 3 is incorrect. PrepMate Science Notes, Page 316 On the other hand, virus is small capsules made of proteins containing DNA. Virus has no life and no metabolism on its own. There is nothing for us to stop or attack. When the virus infects its host, it injects its DNA into the host cell and uses the host cells metabolism to live and reproduce.



2025 Prelims Questions from GS Mains Subjects

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**Total Questions = 4
Hits = 4**

PrepMate IAS

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q1. Consider the following activities: I. Production of crude oil II. Refining, storage and distribution of petroleum III. Marketing and sale of petroleum products IV. Production of natural gas How many of the above activities are regulated by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board in our country? [A] Only one [B] Only two [C] Only three [D] All the four Correct Option: (d)	Governance, Page 33 Does not regulate Production natural gas sector in India. It ensures fair competition, protects consumer interests, and fosters a competitive and transparent market for petroleum and natural gas products. Key functions and responsibilities of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) include: i) Licensing and Regulation: PNGRB grants licenses to entities engaged in the downstream petroleum and natural gas sector, including entities involved in the transportation, distribution, storage, and marketing of petroleum and natural gas products. ii) Tariff Regulation: The board regulates tariffs for the use of common carrier and contract carrier systems for transportation of petroleum and natural gas. iii) Market Development: PNGRB encourages the development of a competitive market for petroleum and natural gas products to ensure availability and affordability for consumers.

- iv) **Quality and Safety Standards:** The board establishes and enforces quality and safety standards for the transportation, distribution, and marketing of petroleum and natural gas products.
- v) **Monitoring and Surveillance:** PNGRB monitors and conducts surveillance activities in the downstream petroleum and natural gas sector to prevent anti-competitive practices and ensure compliance with regulations.
- vi) **Dispute Resolution:** The board adjudicates disputes among stakeholders in the petroleum and natural gas sector, ensuring fair and transparent resolution.
- vii) **Consumer Protection:** PNGRB works to protect the interests of consumers by ensuring the availability of quality products and promoting fair practices in the market.
- viii) **Promotion of Natural Gas Usage:** The board promotes the use of natural gas as a cleaner and more sustainable fuel option for various sectors, including transportation and industries.

Prelims 2025 Questions	PrepMate IAS Notes - Hits
Q2. Consider the Following pairs: Region - Country I. Mallorca- Italy II. Normandy- Spain III. Sardinia- France In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched? Correct Option: (d)	World History, Page 76 2. Unification of Italy: Like Germany, Italy was also divided into number of states. During 19th century, the important states were Sardinia, Lombardy, Venetia, Sicily, Naples and so on. Of these

Q3. With reference to the Government of India, consider the following information:

	Organization	Some of its functions	It works under
I.	Directorate of Enforcement	Enforcement of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018	Internal Security Division-I, Ministry of Home Affairs
II.	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence	Enforces the Provisions of the Customs Act, 1962	Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
III.	Directorate General of Systems and Data Management	Carrying out big data analytics to assist tax officers for better policy and nabbing tax evaders	Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance

In how many of the above rows is the information correctly matched?

- Only one
- Only two
- All the three
- None

Row I is incorrectly Matched.

Economics, Chapter 7 Money Laundering, Page 405

Enforcement Directorate (Directorate General of Economic Enforcement)

The Directorate General of Economic Enforcement is a law-enforcement agency and economic intelligence agency responsible for enforcing and fighting economic crime in India. It is a part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. It comprises officers of the Indian Revenue Service, Indian Police Service, and the Indian Administrative Service.

It was set up in 1956 to deal with foreign exchange violations under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947. Presently, the prime objective of the Enforcement Directorate is the enforcement of two key acts of the Government of India: the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) 2002.

Economics, Page 369

The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA), 2018 is an Act of the Parliament of India. Under this act, a court (declared as 'Special Court' under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002) can declare a person as a Fugitive Economic Offender if the following two conditions are fulfilled:

1. The value of offences by a person exceeds Rs. 100 crore and an arrest warrant has been issued against the person.
2. The person has escaped from India and refuses to return to face prosecution.

Once a person has been declared fugitive economic offender (FEO), a special FEOA court can order the confiscation of his/her properties, including those which are benami, both within and outside India. Once properties are confiscated, the Union government has the right over them, and it can dispose them after 90 days.

Row II is correctly matched.

Correct Option: (a)

Internal Security, Chapter 11 Various Security Forces and Agencies, Page 115

6. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) is a premier intelligence agency in India responsible for tackling cases related to the violation of India's Customs, Central Excise, Narcotics, and Foreign Trade laws. It operates under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), which is part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

The DRI was established in 1957 to counter various forms of smuggling and illicit activities related to cross-border trade. Its primary objective is to combat economic crimes and safeguard India's economic interests by preventing the illegal import and export of goods, curbing smuggling activities, and detecting and investigating cases of customs duty evasion and tax fraud.

Row 3 is incorrectly matched:

The Directorate does manage large volumes of data and supports tax administration through technology, the specialized function of carrying out big data analytics to assist tax officers for better policy and nabbing tax evaders is mainly handled by the Directorate General of Analytics and Risk Management (DGARM), not by the Directorate General of Systems and Data Management.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the Rashtriya Gokul Mission:

- I. It is important for the upliftment of rural poor as majority of low producing indigenous animals are with small and marginal farmers and landless labourers.
- II. It was initiated to promote indigenous cattle and buffalo rearing and conservation in a scientific and holistic manner.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. I only
- b. II only
- c. Both I and II
- d. Neither I nor II

Correct Option: (c)

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b. Rashtriya Gokul Mission

Rashtriya Gokul Mission was launched in December 2014 for the conservation and development of indigenous breeds. The mission was launched under the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries (Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare). However, after formation of separate ministry of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the mission has been assigned to it.

Under this scheme, proposals from states for the conservation and development of indigenous breeds are approved and the funds are provided for these proposals. Among other initiatives, Rashtriya Gokul Mission also includes setting up of Gokul Gram. These Gokul Grams are Centres for development of indigenous breeds.

Prelims 2025 Questions**PrepMate IAS Notes - Miss**

1. The first Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, a music training school, was set up in 1901 by Vishnu Digambar Paluskar in

- a. Delhi
- b. Gwalior
- c. Ujjain
- d. Lahore

Correct Option: (d)