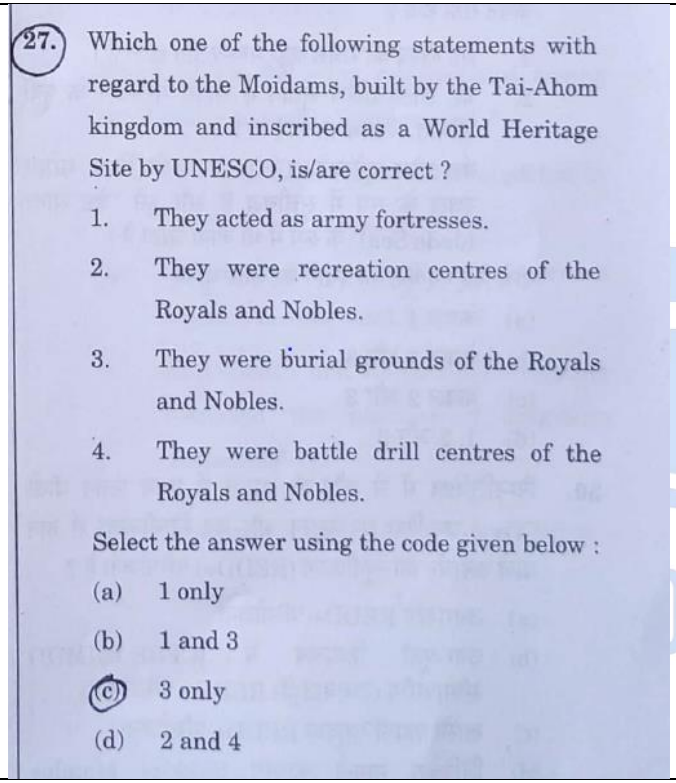
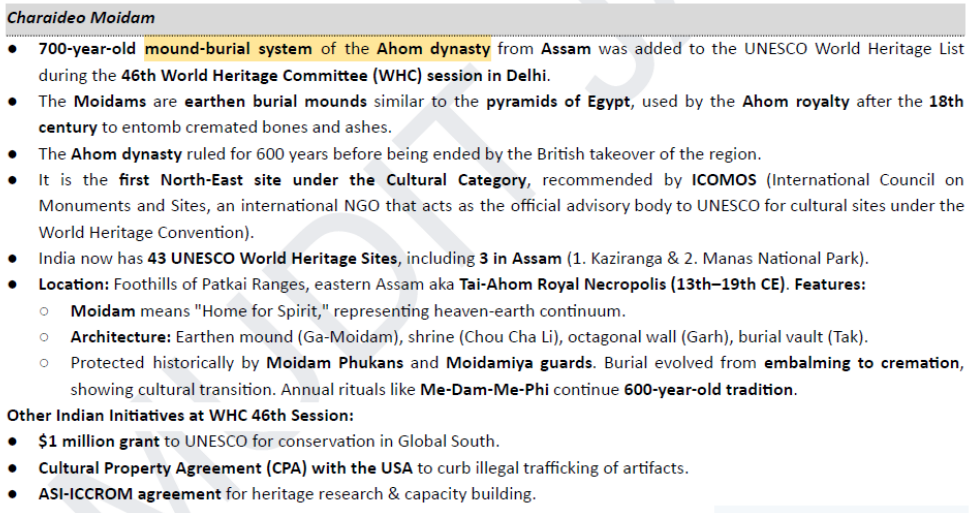
UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2026 REFERENCES

SET – D

FULLY SOLVABLE QUESTIONS	30 (5 FROM LAST YEAR)
PARTIALLY SOLVABLE QUESTIONS	10 (3 FROM LAST YEAR)
REFLECTIONS / NEAR MISS QUESTIONS	6 (1 FROM LAST YEAR)

DECODE CIVILS

FULLY SOLVABLE QUESTIONS

S.No.	Q. No.	Question's Screenshot	"Decode Current Affairs" Reference Screenshot & File-Page No.
1	27		**Contemporary Affairs: July 26, 2024**  **Last Year's File: Pg-62**

27. Which one of the following statements with regard to the Moidams, built by the Tai-Ahom kingdom and inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is/are correct ?

1. They acted as army fortresses.
2. They were recreation centres of the Royals and Nobles.
3. They were burial grounds of the Royals and Nobles.
4. They were battle drill centres of the Royals and Nobles.

Select the answer using the code given below :

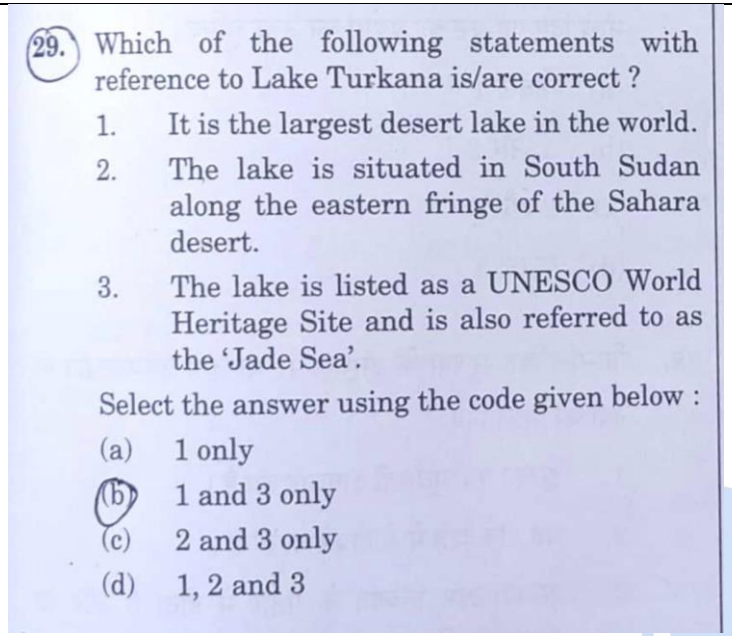
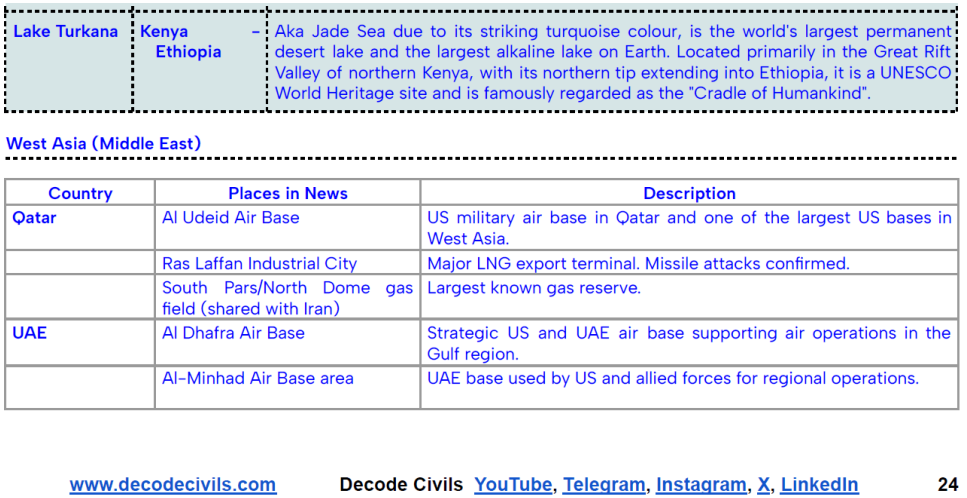
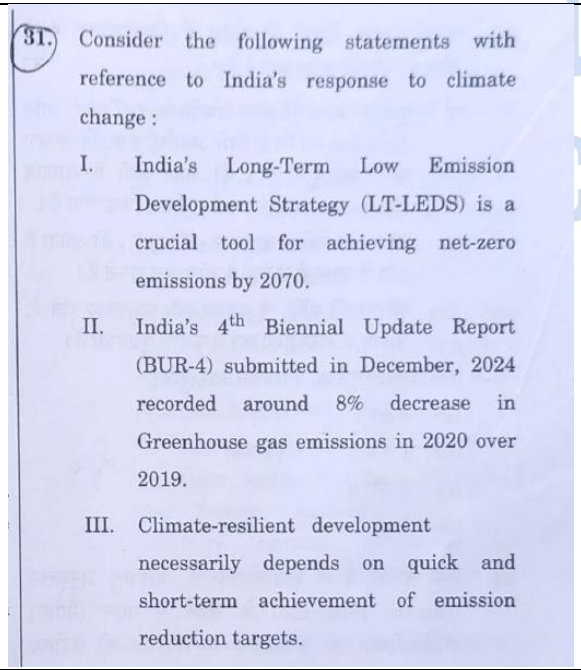
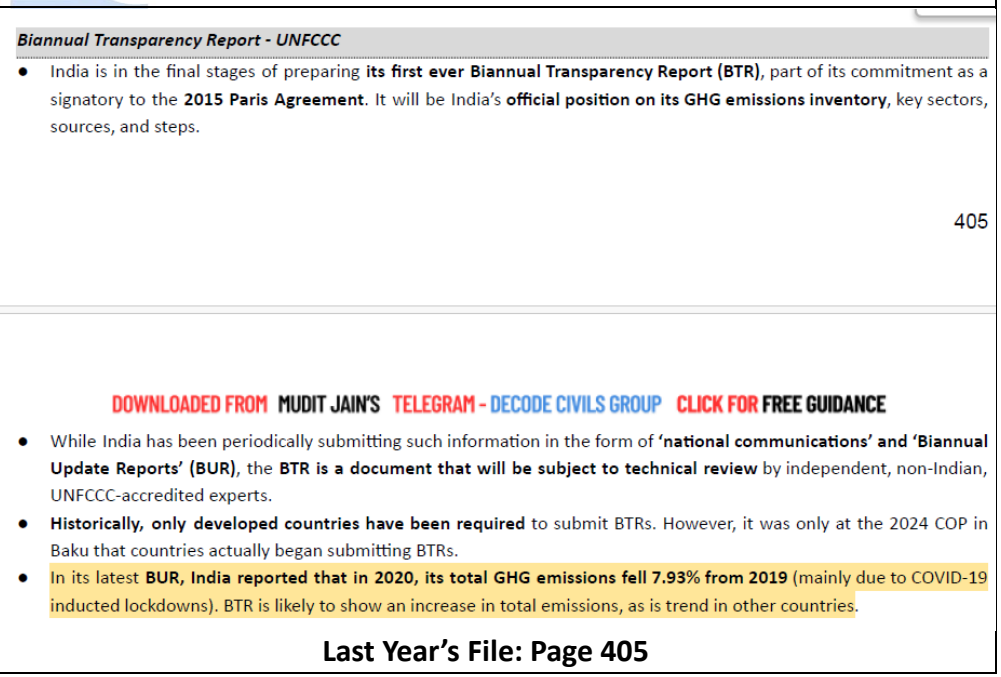
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 4

Charaideo Moidam

- **700-year-old mound-burial system** of the **Ahom dynasty** from **Assam** was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List during the **46th World Heritage Committee (WHC) session in Delhi**.
- The **Moidams** are **earthen burial mounds** similar to the **pyramids of Egypt**, used by the **Ahom royalty** after the **18th century** to entomb cremated bones and ashes.
- The **Ahom dynasty** ruled for 600 years before being ended by the British takeover of the region.
- It is the **first North-East site under the Cultural Category**, recommended by **ICOMOS** (International Council on Monuments and Sites, an international NGO that acts as the official advisory body to UNESCO for cultural sites under the World Heritage Convention).
- India now has **43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, including **3 in Assam** (1. Kaziranga & 2. Manas National Park).
- **Location:** Foothills of Patkai Ranges, eastern Assam aka **Tai-Ahom Royal Necropolis (13th–19th CE)**. **Features:**
  - **Moidam** means "Home for Spirit," representing heaven-earth continuum.
  - **Architecture:** Earthen mound (Ga-Moidam), shrine (Chou Cha Li), octagonal wall (Garh), burial vault (Tak).
  - Protected historically by **Moidam Phukans** and **Moidamiya guards**. Burial evolved from **embalming to cremation**, showing cultural transition. Annual rituals like **Me-Dam-Me-Phi** continue **600-year-old tradition**.

Other Indian Initiatives at WHC 46th Session:

- **$1 million grant** to UNESCO for conservation in Global South.
- **Cultural Property Agreement (CPA) with the USA** to curb illegal trafficking of artifacts.
- **ASI-ICCROM agreement** for heritage research & capacity building.

2	29		
3	31		

Lake Turkana	Kenya – Ethiopia	Aka Jade Sea due to its striking turquoise colour, is the world's largest permanent desert lake and the largest alkaline lake on Earth. Located primarily in the Great Rift Valley of northern Kenya, with its northern tip extending into Ethiopia, it is a UNESCO World Heritage site and is famously regarded as the "Cradle of Humankind".

West Asia (Middle East)

Country	Places in News	Description
Qatar	Al Udeid Air Base	US military air base in Qatar and one of the largest US bases in West Asia.
	Ras Laffan Industrial City	Major LNG export terminal. Missile attacks confirmed.
	South Pars/North Dome gas field (shared with Iran)	Largest known gas reserve.
UAE	Al Dhafra Air Base	Strategic US and UAE air base supporting air operations in the Gulf region.
	Al-Minhad Air Base area	UAE base used by US and allied forces for regional operations.

File – 1: Page 24

Biannual Transparency Report - UNFCCC

- India is in the final stages of preparing **its first ever Biannual Transparency Report (BTR)**, part of its commitment as a signatory to the **2015 Paris Agreement**. It will be India's **official position on its GHG emissions inventory**, key sectors, sources, and steps.

405

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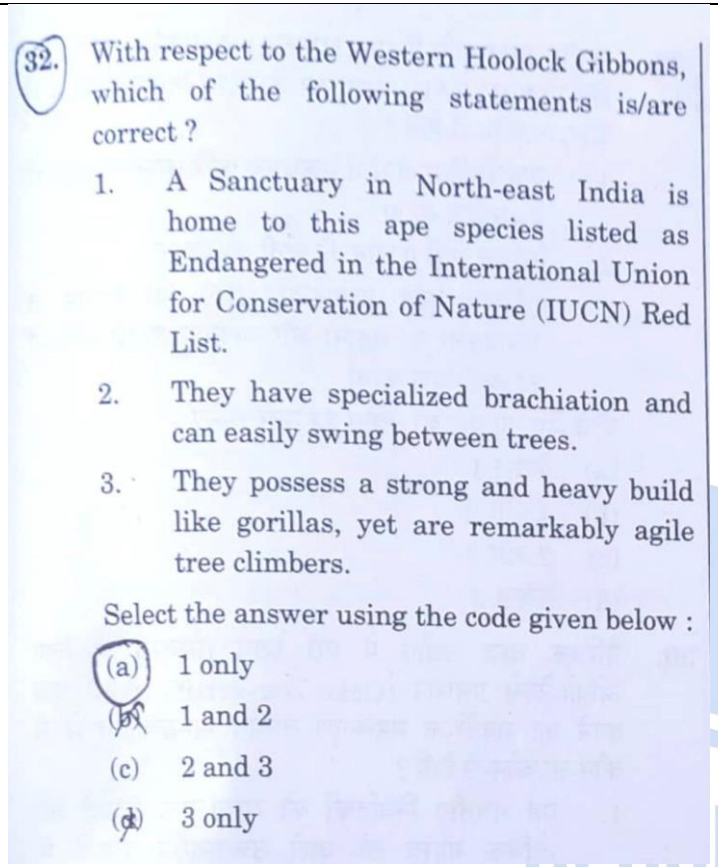
- While India has been periodically submitting such information in the form of **'national communications' and 'Biannual Update Reports' (BUR)**, the **BTR is a document that will be subject to technical review** by independent, non-Indian, UNFCCC-accredited experts.
- **Historically, only developed countries have been required** to submit BTRs. However, it was only at the 2024 COP in Baku that countries actually began submitting BTRs.
- In its latest **BUR, India reported that in 2020, its total GHG emissions fell 7.93% from 2019** (mainly due to COVID-19 inducted lockdowns). BTR is likely to show an increase in total emissions, as is trend in other countries.

Last Year's File: Page 405

4	32		

32. With respect to the Western Hoolock Gibbons, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. A Sanctuary in North-east India is home to this ape species listed as Endangered in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
2. They have specialized brachiation and can easily swing between trees.
3. They possess a strong and heavy build like gorillas, yet are remarkably agile tree climbers.

Select the answer using the code given below :

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Schedule I. **Conservation Programme:** Silent Valley National Park initiatives, Western Ghats conservation.

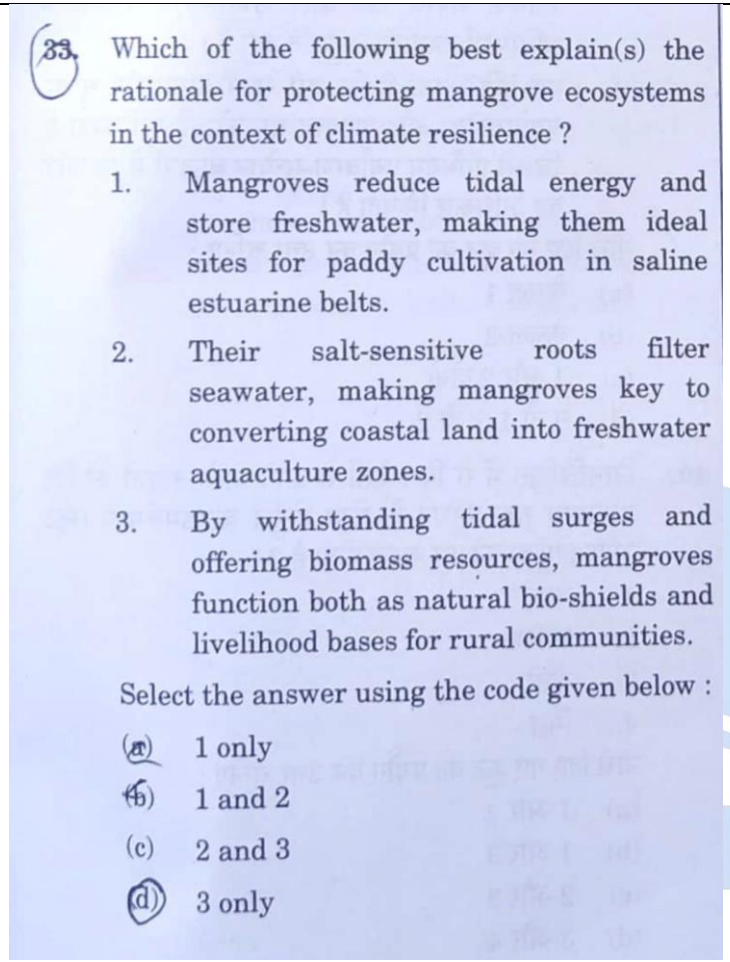
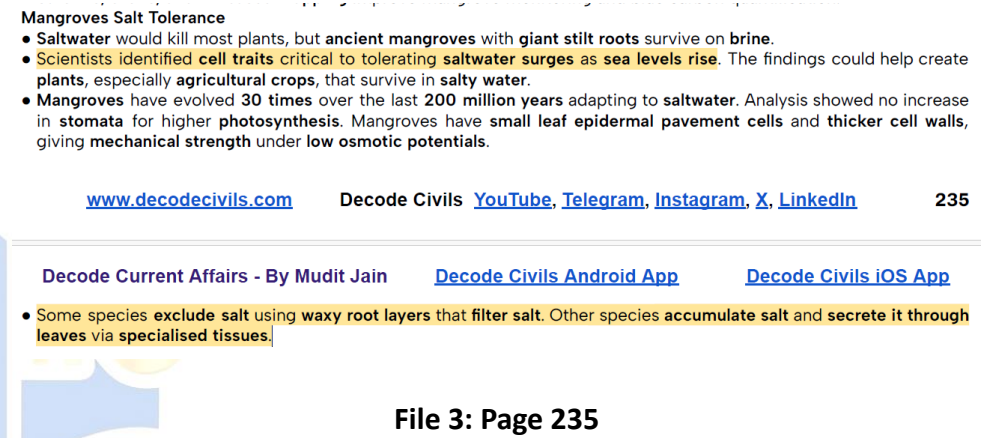
Hoolock Gibbon

- **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** approved oil & gas exploration in the **eco-sensitive zone** of **Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam**. Proposal submitted by **Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil and Gas**.
- Assam's **Principal Chief Conservator of Forests** and **Chief Wildlife Warden** recommended clearance in **2023**, citing **"national interest." Forest Advisory Committee** of **MoEF** gave in-principle approval. **About:**
  - **India's Only Ape**: Hoolock gibbon is the only ape species found in India, primarily in the forests of Assam.
  - **Western and Eastern Species**: Assam hosts both Western and Eastern Hoolock gibbons.
  - **Habitat**: Prefers dense, evergreen forests; major populations in **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary**.
  - **Arboreal & Diurnal**: Lives in trees and is active during the day, moving via brachiation.
  - **Western Hoolock Gibbon**: *Endangered* (IUCN) **Eastern Hoolock Gibbon**: *Vulnerable* (IUCN).

Chimpanzees

- **Chimpanzees in Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania**, exhibit **engineering behaviour** while making tools. They **deliberately choose plant materials** that yield **more flexible tools** for **termite fishing**. **Termites** provide chimpanzees with **energy, fat, vitamins, minerals, and protein**.

Last Year's File: Page 417

5	33		

33. Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience ?

1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
2. Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
3. By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.

Select the answer using the code given below :

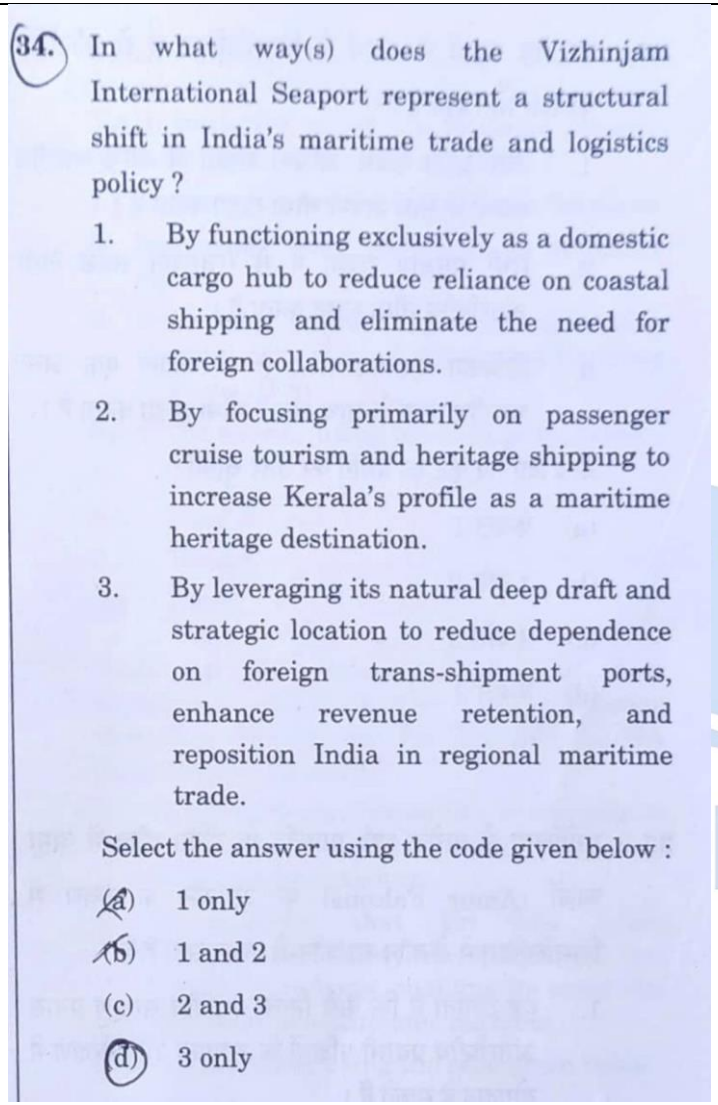
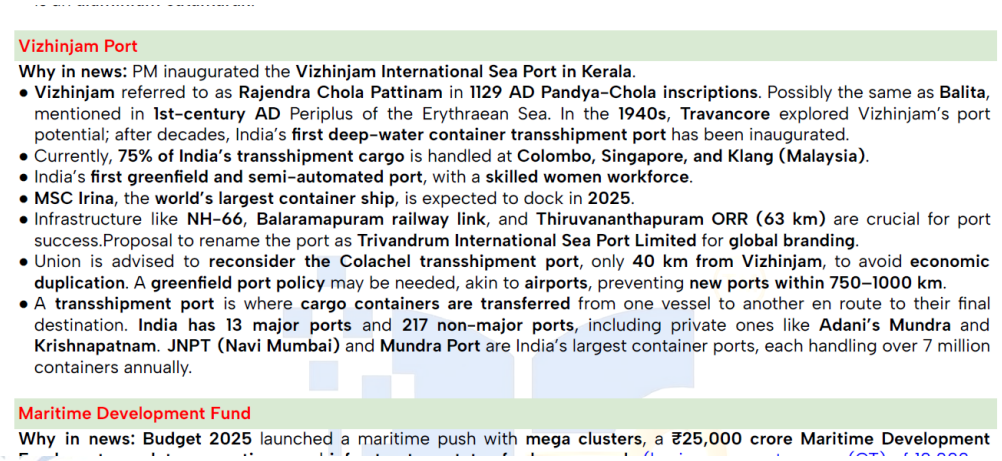
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Mangroves Salt Tolerance

- **Saltwater** would kill most plants, but **ancient mangroves** with **giant stilt roots** survive on **brine**.
- Scientists identified **cell traits** critical to tolerating **saltwater surges** as **sea levels rise**. The findings could help create **plants**, especially **agricultural crops**, that survive in **salty water**.
- **Mangroves** have evolved **30 times** over the last **200 million years** adapting to **saltwater**. Analysis showed no increase in **stomata** for higher **photosynthesis**. Mangroves have **small leaf epidermal pavement cells** and **thicker cell walls**, giving **mechanical strength** under **low osmotic potentials**.

- Some species **exclude salt** using **waxy root layers** that **filter salt**. Other species **accumulate salt** and **secrete it through leaves** via **specialised tissues**.

File 3: Page 235

6	34		

34. In what way(s) does the Vizhinjam International Seaport represent a structural shift in India's maritime trade and logistics policy ?

1. By functioning exclusively as a domestic cargo hub to reduce reliance on coastal shipping and eliminate the need for foreign collaborations.
2. By focusing primarily on passenger cruise tourism and heritage shipping to increase Kerala's profile as a maritime heritage destination.
3. By leveraging its natural deep draft and strategic location to reduce dependence on foreign trans-shipment ports, enhance revenue retention, and reposition India in regional maritime trade.

Select the answer using the code given below :

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Vizhinjam Port

Why in news: PM inaugurated the **Vizhinjam International Sea Port in Kerala**.

- **Vizhinjam** referred to as **Rajendra Chola Pattinam** in **1129 AD Pandya-Chola inscriptions**. Possibly the same as **Balita**, mentioned in **1st-century AD** Periplus of the Erythraean Sea. In the **1940s**, **Travancore** explored Vizhinjam's port potential; after decades, India's **first deep-water container transshipment port** has been inaugurated.
- Currently, **75% of India's transshipment cargo** is handled at **Colombo, Singapore, and Klang (Malaysia)**.
- India's **first greenfield and semi-automated port**, with a **skilled women workforce**.
- **MSC Irina**, the **world's largest container ship**, is expected to dock in **2025**.
- Infrastructure like **NH-66**, **Balaramapuram railway link**, and **Thiruvananthapuram ORR (63 km)** are crucial for port success.Proposal to rename the port as **Trivandrum International Sea Port Limited** for **global branding**.
- Union is advised to **reconsider the Colachel transshipment port**, only **40 km from Vizhinjam**, to avoid **economic duplication**. A **greenfield port policy** may be needed, akin to **airports**, preventing **new ports within 750–1000 km**.
- A **transshipment port** is where **cargo containers are transferred** from one vessel to another en route to their final destination. **India has 13 major ports** and **217 non-major ports**, including private ones like **Adani's Mundra** and **Krishnapatnam**. **JNPT (Navi Mumbai)** and **Mundra Port** are India's largest container ports, each handling over 7 million containers annually.

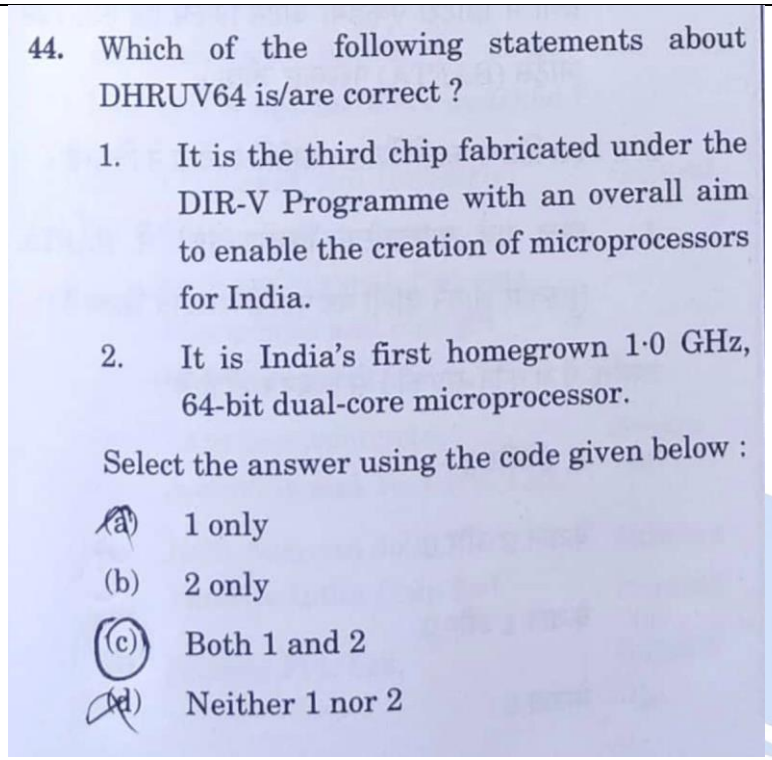
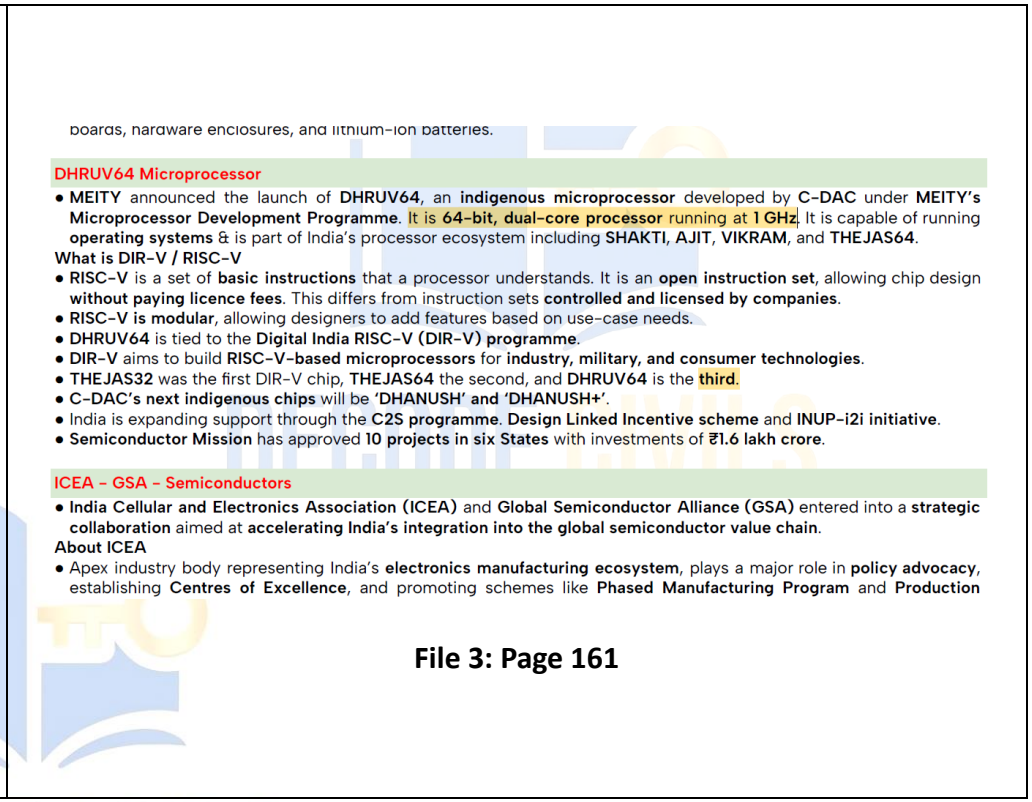
Maritime Development Fund

Why in news: Budget 2025 launched a maritime push with **mega clusters**, a **₹25,000 crore Maritime Development**

File 3: Page-80

7	38	38. Which among the following is/are the objective(s) of the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) initiative under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) ? 1. Encouraging monoculture in rainfed areas 2. Increasing rice cultivation in irrigated regions 3. Enhancing productivity and minimising climatic risks through Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only	 Decode Current Affairs - By Mudit Jain Decode Civils Android App Decode Civils iOS App **Climate Resilient Agriculture** • It uses a range of **biotechnology** and complementary technologies to guide farming practices and reduce dependence on **chemical** inputs, while maintaining or improving **productivity**. • These tools include **biofertilizers** and **biopesticides**, and **soil-microbiome** analyses. • Genome-edited crops can be developed to withstand **drought, heat, salinity, or pest pressures**. **AI-driven analytics** can integrate multiple environmental and agronomic variables to generate locally tailored strategies. • Around **51% of India's net sown area is rainfed**, and this land produces nearly 40% of the country's food. • In 2011, the ICAR launched a flagship network project 'National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture'. • The **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture** has been formulated to enhance agricultural productivity, especially in rainfed areas, focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management, and synergising resource conservation. **CROPIC** **Why in news: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** plans to launch **CROPIC**, a study to gather **crop information** **File-3 Page-106**
8	40	40. Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach out to the Indian Ocean ? 1. Bahrain 2. Syria 3. Qatar 4. Egypt Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 and 4	• The **Red Sea spans nearly 2,000 km** and connects the **Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean** via the **Suez Canal**. • Before **Suez Canal**, ships had to **navigate around Cape of Good Hope in South Africa** to travel b/w **Europe–Asia**. • The **Suez Canal**, a **193-km artificial waterway**, officially **opened in 1869**, connects the **Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea through the Isthmus of Suez**. Britain relinquished control to Egypt in 1956. • The canal **reduces the sea route between Asia and Europe by up to 7,000 km**. • It is one of the **world's busiest and most strategic maritime routes**. **Strait of Hormuz:** • Maritime channel (55–95 km wide) that connects the **Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and Arabian Sea**. • It lies between **Iran and the Arabian Peninsula** and facilitates oil and gas exports from **Persian Gulf nations.** **File-2 Page 161**

9	41	41. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists : List I (INTERPOL Notice) / List II (Description) A. Silver Notice — 1. To seek information on unidentified bodies B. Blue Notice — 2. To collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation C. Black Notice — 3. To provide warning about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety D. Green Notice — 4. To identify and trace criminal assets **Code :** (a) A 3 B 1 C 2 D 4 (b) A 3 B 2 C 1 D 4 (c) A 4 B 2 C 1 D 3 (d) A 4 B 1 C 2 D 3	**Terrorism and Organized Crime** **Multi Agency Centre** **Why in news:** MHA inaugurated the **er-terrorism grid** **rgil war in 2001.** **olice districts in** **500 crore.** **forces, and State** **time intelligence** **help combat the** **rime.** puts under heads , and coordinates districts. Home Minister, lytics and hotspot luding remote areas. **ized crime response** through a secure network and connects **NATGRID,** -mile connectivity. **File 3: Page 250**

10	44		

44. Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct ?

1. It is the third chip fabricated under the DIR-V Programme with an overall aim to enable the creation of microprocessors for India.
2. It is India's first homegrown 1·0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

boards, hardware enclosures, and lithium-ion batteries.

DHRUV64 Microprocessor

- **MEITY** announced the launch of **DHRUV64**, an **indigenous microprocessor** developed by **C-DAC** under **MEITY's Microprocessor Development Programme**. It is **64-bit, dual-core processor** running at **1 GHz**. It is capable of running **operating systems** & is part of India's processor ecosystem including **SHAKTI**, **AJIT**, **VIKRAM**, and **THEJAS64**.

What is DIR-V / RISC-V

- **RISC-V** is a set of **basic instructions** that a processor understands. It is an **open instruction set**, allowing chip design **without paying licence fees**. This differs from instruction sets **controlled and licensed by companies**.
- **RISC-V is modular**, allowing designers to add features based on use-case needs.
- **DHRUV64** is tied to the **Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) programme**.
- **DIR-V** aims to build **RISC-V-based microprocessors** for **industry, military, and consumer technologies**.
- **THEJAS32** was the first DIR-V chip, **THEJAS64** the second, and **DHRUV64** is the **third**.
- **C-DAC's next indigenous chips** will be **'DHANUSH' and 'DHANUSH+'**.
- India is expanding support through the **C2S programme**. **Design Linked Incentive scheme** and **INUP-i2i initiative**.
- **Semiconductor Mission** has approved **10 projects in six States** with investments of **₹1.6 lakh crore**.

ICEA - GSA - Semiconductors

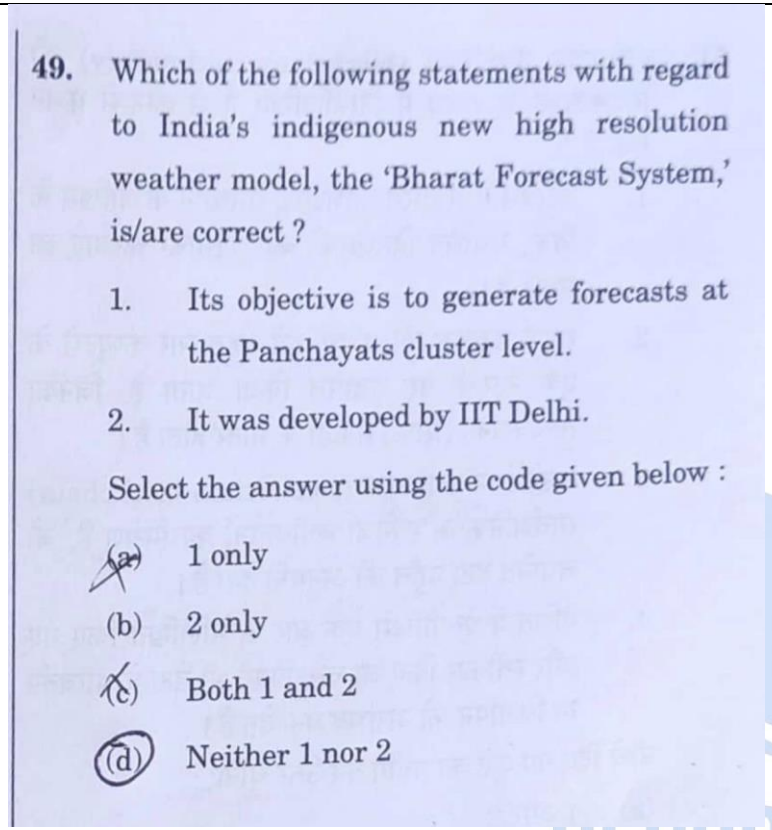
- **India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA)** and **Global Semiconductor Alliance (GSA)** entered into a **strategic collaboration** aimed at **accelerating India's integration into the global semiconductor value chain**.

About ICEA

- Apex industry body representing India's **electronics manufacturing ecosystem**, plays a major role in **policy advocacy**, establishing **Centres of Excellence**, and promoting schemes like **Phased Manufacturing Program** and **Production**

File 3: Page 161

11	48	48. Which one of the following pairs of semiconductor plants in India and their locations is ***not*** correctly matched ? (a) CG Power and Industrial Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in partnership with Renesas Electronics and STARS Microelectronics : Gujarat (b) Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Pvt. Ltd. : Assam (c) HCL-Foxconn Joint Venture India Chip Ltd. : Madhya Pradesh (d) SicSem Pvt. Ltd. : Odisha	 Click Here for More **Chip-making** **Why in news:** Cabinet approved a display driver chip manufacturing unit in Jewar, Uttar Pradesh. • The unit is a **joint venture between HCL (India) and Foxconn (Taiwan)**. • It is the **sixth semiconductor unit supported** under the **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) Phase 1**. • This will be the **first semiconductor plant in UP**. The plant is expected to meet **about 40% of India's display driver chip demand**, potentially enabling a **display panel plant** in India. **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** • Launched in December 2021 as part of the **Semicon India Programme**. **Nodal Agency:** It is a specialized, independent business division within the Digital India Corporation under **MeitY**. • The mission provides uniform **50% fiscal support** across most categories. • Support for setting up **silicon-based fabrication units** (focus on 28nm or below nodes). • **Display Fabs:** Incentives for establishing TFT LCD / AMOLED based display manufacturing. • 50% capital expenditure support for Compound Semiconductors, Silicon Photonics, Sensors (MEMS), and Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) units. • **Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme:** Provides financial support (up to ₹15 crore per application) and design infrastructure for domestic startups and MSMEs. **File 3 Page-160**

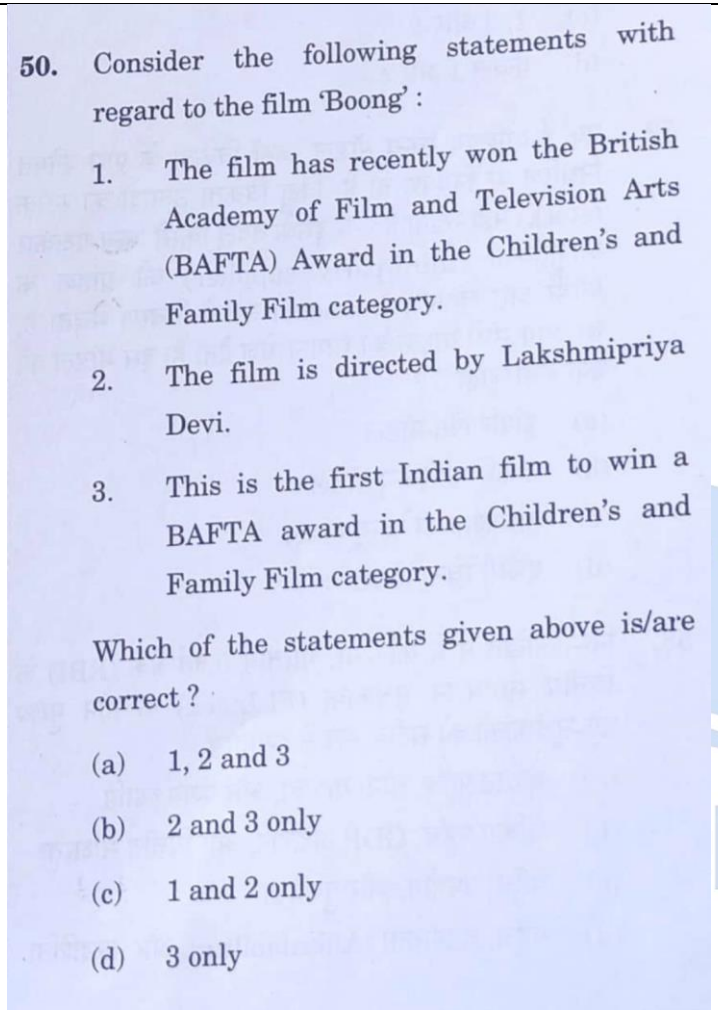
12	49		Bharat Forecasting System **Why in news:** The government **unveiled the new "Bharat Forecasting System" (BFS)** for improved weather prediction. The **BFS is developed by the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM).** • **IMD** was established in **1875** to centralise meteorological work, following the **Calcutta cyclone (1864)** and **monsoon failures (1866, 1871)**. **H. F. Blanford** was 1st Meteorological Reporter; **Sir John Eliot** became 1st **DG of Observatories** in **1889**. IMD's headquarters moved from **Calcutta → Shimla → Pune → New Delhi**. • IMD launched **Mission Mausam** to upgrade weather observation and modeling, with **Rs 2,000 crore** outlay till **2026**. • IMD's **forecast accuracy for severe weather** has improved by **50%** since 2014; cyclone prediction improved from **1–3 days (2014)** to **7 days (2024)**. Accuracy for **24-hour forecasts** now: **Heavy rainfall (80%)**, **Thunderstorms (86%)**, **Heat/Cold waves (88%)**. • In 2024, IMD launched **Panchayat Mausam Sewa**, **Mausam Gram**, and a new **decision support system** integrating weather and socio-economic data. • Doppler radar coverage increased from **13 in 2013** to **39 in 2024**. To exceed **50 radars** under **Mission Mausam**. **C-FLOOD (Unified Inundation Forecasting System)** • Web-based platform by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to enhance flood management capabilities. Provides two-day advance inundation forecasts down to the village level. • It uses advanced 2-D hydrodynamic modelling to simulate flood scenarios. & runs on High-Performance Computing infrastructure at C-DAC Pune as part of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). • 🟡 **Alert:** Inundation depth below 0.5m. 🟠 **Alert:** 0.5m and 1.5m. 🔴 **Alert:** Exceeding 1.5m. • **Developed by** CWC, C-DAC, and NRSC under guidance of MeitY and DST. **Coordination:** Integrates with the NDEM portal for emergency response. • It will provide **weather forecasts with a 6 km resolution**, the highest in the world. The older model used 12-km grids. India is the only country to offer operational weather forecasts at 6 km x 6 km resolution. • This will enable **accurate and localised prediction of small-scale weather features**. • The BFS was made possible due to **installation of the new supercomputer "Arka"**. • **Improvements will be in short and medium-term forecasts** (3 & 7 days), not in **long-range (monthly) forecasts** **File 1: Page 47**

49. Which of the following statements with regard to India's indigenous new high resolution weather model, the 'Bharat Forecast System,' is/are correct ?

1. Its objective is to generate forecasts at the Panchayats cluster level.
2. It was developed by IIT Delhi.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

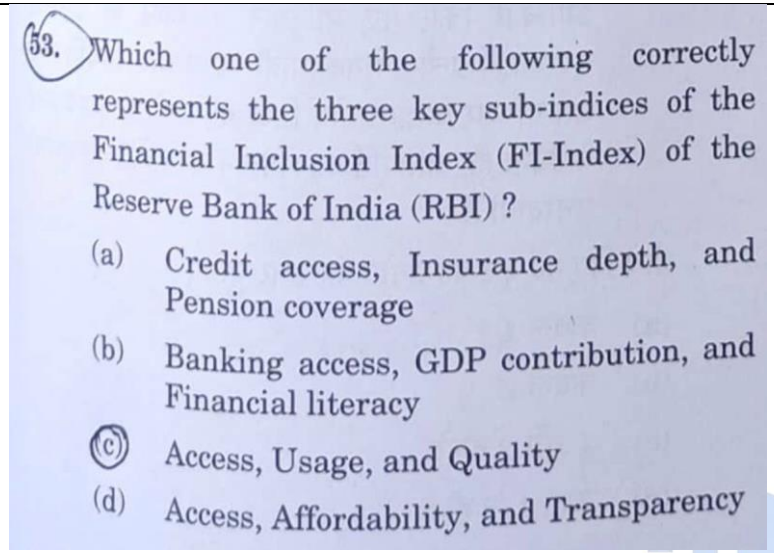
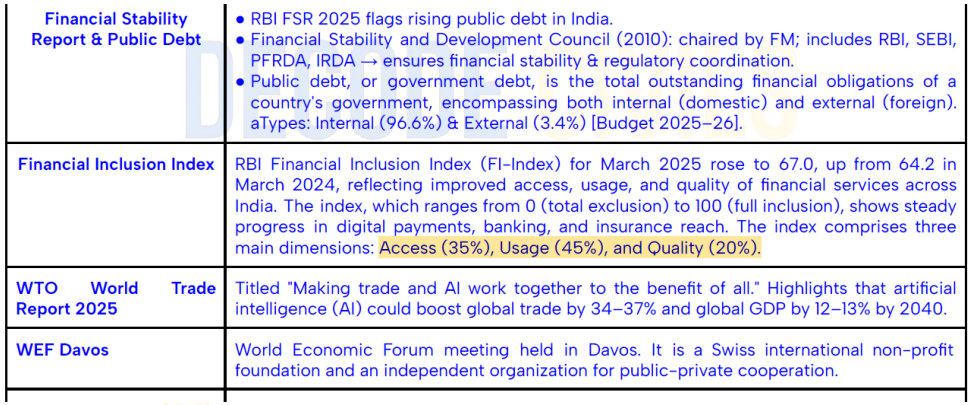
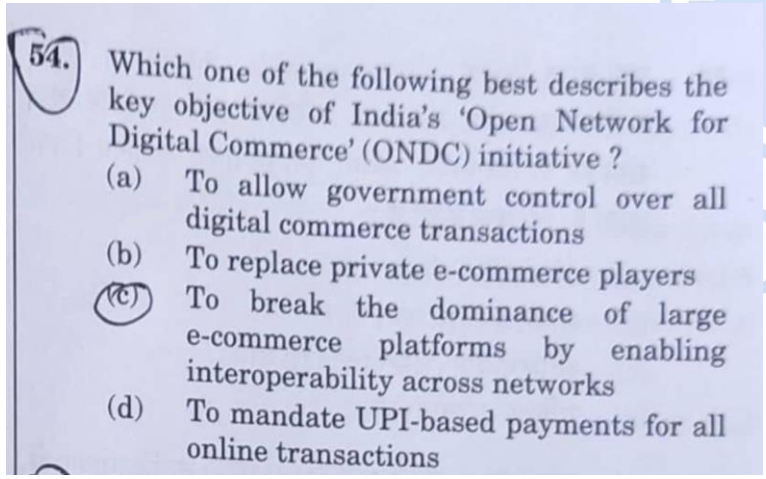
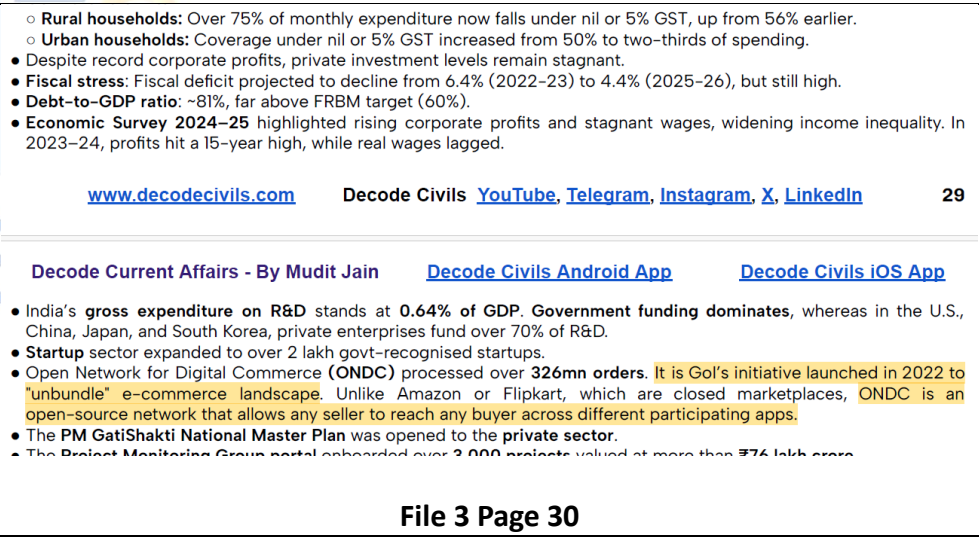
13	50		Oscar • **Paul Thomas Anderson's One Battle After Another** was crowned **best picture at the 98th Academy Awards**. • **Michael B. Jordan** won best actor. **Sinners cinematographer Autumn Durald Arkapaw** made Oscar history as the first female director of photography to win the award. • **One Battle After Another** won six Oscars, including best director and best adapted screenplay. The film also won the Oscars' first trophy for best casting. Boong • India created history at the **79th BAFTA** with **Boong**, a **Manipuri film** directed by Lakshmipriya Devi, winning the country's first award on the prestigious stage, considered the British equivalent of the Oscars. • The movie won the award in the **Best Children and Family Film category**. • Boong beat high-profile and popular contenders such as Lilo & Stitch, and Zootropolis 2 (Zootopia 2), and animated science fantasy Arco. Actor and producer Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani backed the movie. Dadasaheb Phalke Award **Why in news: Mohanlal** honoured with **Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023** for his **services to cinema**. • **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** was **constituted in 1969** to commemorate the contribution of **filmmaker Dadasaheb Phalke** to **Indian cinema**. **Dadasaheb Phalke** directed & produced India's **first full-length feature film**, **Raja Harishchandra**, in **File 1 Page 9851**

50. Consider the following statements with regard to the film 'Boong' :

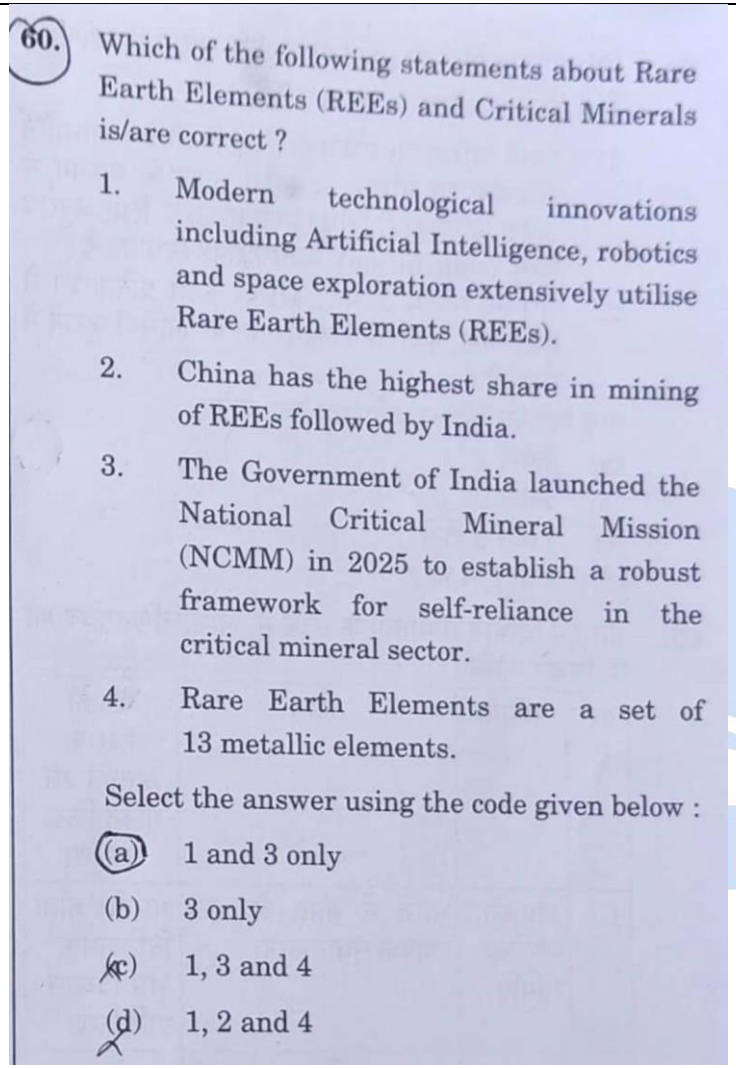
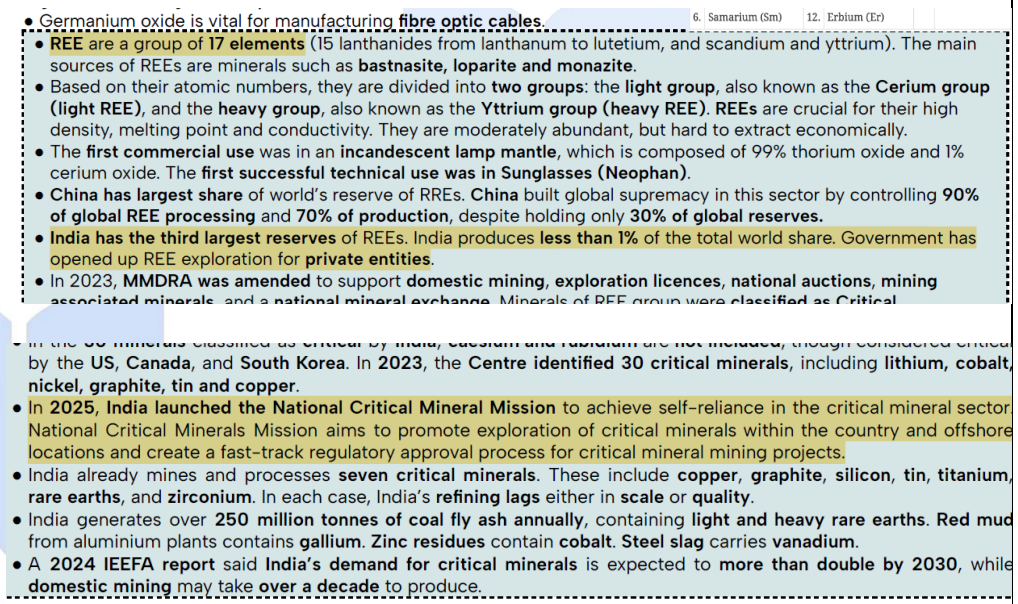
1. The film has recently won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Award in the Children's and Family Film category.
2. The film is directed by Lakshmipriya Devi.
3. This is the first Indian film to win a BAFTA award in the Children's and Family Film category.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

14	53	 53. Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) ? (a) Credit access, Insurance depth, and Pension coverage (b) Banking access, GDP contribution, and Financial literacy (c) Access, Usage, and Quality (d) Access, Affordability, and Transparency	 **Financial Stability Report & Public Debt** • RBI FSR 2025 flags rising public debt in India. • Financial Stability and Development Council (2010): chaired by FM; includes RBI, SEBI, PFRDA, IRDA → ensures financial stability & regulatory coordination. • Public debt, or government debt, is the total outstanding financial obligations of a country's government, encompassing both internal (domestic) and external (foreign). aTypes: Internal (96.6%) & External (3.4%) [Budget 2025–26]. **Financial Inclusion Index** RBI Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) for March 2025 rose to 67.0, up from 64.2 in March 2024, reflecting improved access, usage, and quality of financial services across India. The index, which ranges from 0 (total exclusion) to 100 (full inclusion), shows steady progress in digital payments, banking, and insurance reach. The index comprises three main dimensions: Access (35%), Usage (45%), and Quality (20%). **WTO World Trade Report 2025** Titled "Making trade and AI work together to the benefit of all." Highlights that artificial intelligence (AI) could boost global trade by 34–37% and global GDP by 12–13% by 2040. **WEF Davos** World Economic Forum meeting held in Davos. It is a Swiss international non-profit foundation and an independent organization for public-private cooperation. **File 3 Page 102**
15	54	 54. Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative ? (a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions (b) To replace private e-commerce players (c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks (d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions	 ○ **Rural households:** Over 75% of monthly expenditure now falls under nil or 5% GST, up from 56% earlier. ○ **Urban households:** Coverage under nil or 5% GST increased from 50% to two-thirds of spending. • Despite record corporate profits, private investment levels remain stagnant. • **Fiscal stress**: Fiscal deficit projected to decline from 6.4% (2022-23) to 4.4% (2025-26), but still high. • **Debt-to-GDP ratio**: ~81%, far above FRBM target (60%). • **Economic Survey 2024–25** highlighted rising corporate profits and stagnant wages, widening income inequality. In 2023–24, profits hit a 15-year high, while real wages lagged. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 29 Decode Current Affairs - By Mudit Jain Decode Civils Android App Decode Civils iOS App • India's **gross expenditure on R&D** stands at **0.64% of GDP**. **Government funding dominates**, whereas in the U.S., China, Japan, and South Korea, private enterprises fund over 70% of R&D. • **Startup** sector expanded to over 2 lakh govt-recognised startups. • Open Network for Digital Commerce **(ONDC)** processed over **326mn orders**. It is GoI's initiative launched in 2022 to "unbundle" e-commerce landscape. Unlike Amazon or Flipkart, which are closed marketplaces, ONDC is an open-source network that allows any seller to reach any buyer across different participating apps. • The **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan** was opened to the **private sector**. • The **Project Monitoring Group portal** onboarded over **2,000 projects** valued at more than **₹76 lakh crore** **File 3 Page 30**

16	55	55. Which one of the following statements about Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee) is *not* correct ? (a) UPI is a real-time payment system but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency. (b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet. (c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another. (d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.	***Central Bank Digital Currency*** • India launched CBDC in 2022, sparking discussions on privacy and anonymity in digital currencies. RBI Governor emphasized that permanent deletion of transactions could make central bank digital currency (CBDC) **as anonymous as paper currency.** India is working on making CBDC transferable in offline mode, expanding its usability. • **Electronic Trail:** Critics have raised concerns that electronic nature of CBDC will leave a trail, unlike cash. • **About CBDC:** It is a digital form of a country's fiat currency issued by its central bank. It serves as a digital counterpart to cash and is designed to enhance payment security and accessibility. CBDCs can be categorized into two main types: **Retail CBDCs**: Designed for everyday transactions by households and businesses, **Wholesale CBDCs**: Used by financial institutions for interbank settlements and other financial operations. They can help track transactions, prevent illicit activities, and enhance tax compliance. ***RBI bars 4 NBFCs*** • **RBI** has barred 4 NBFCs from sanctioning and disbursing loans due to rule violations, including excessive pricing. Companies may continue servicing existing customers. **Weighted Average Lending Rate (WALR)** shows the average interest rate that commercial banks charge on loans. • RBI's action is based on concerns regarding **Weighted Average Lending Rate** and non-adherence to **Fair Practices Code** on loan pricing and customer disclosure. **Last Year's File Page 327**
17	57	57. A bond whose proceeds are used only to finance or refinance a combination of both environmental and social projects is called : (a) Green Bond (b) Social Bond (c) Sustainability Bond (d) Sovereign Bond	**Solar Rise** **Why in news:** India added **24.5 GW of solar energy capacity in 2024**, becoming the **third-largest contributor globally** after **China and the US**. **UN Secretary-General's 2025 Climate Report** recognises India, alongside **Brazil and China**, as a leading developing country in scaling solar and wind energy. • According to IRENA, if India follows a 1.5°C-aligned pathway, it could achieve 2.8% average annual GDP growth through 2050, more than double the G-20 average. • By December 2024, India's cumulative **green, social, sustainability and sustainability-linked (GSS+)** debt issuance reached $55.9 billion, a 186% increase since 2021, with green bonds accounting for 83%. • **Green bond investment** crossed $45 billion in 2025, with sustainable finance targets aiming for $100 billion by 2030. The private sector contributed 84% of total green bond issuance. • **Successful examples** include solar energy auctions under the Solar Park Scheme, sovereign green bonds, and SEBI-regulated social bonds channeling funds into climate action, education, and health care. • Rajasthan holds the highest solar power potential in India, with an estimated capacity of over 142 GW, driven by its vast, arid land and high solar irradiance. Other top states include Gujarat, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu, which dominate in capacity. Conversely, Northeastern and Himalayan states like Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have lower potential due to rugged terrain and limited sunlight. **File 3 Page 67**

18	60		 File 1 Page 58 and 59

60. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct ?

1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.

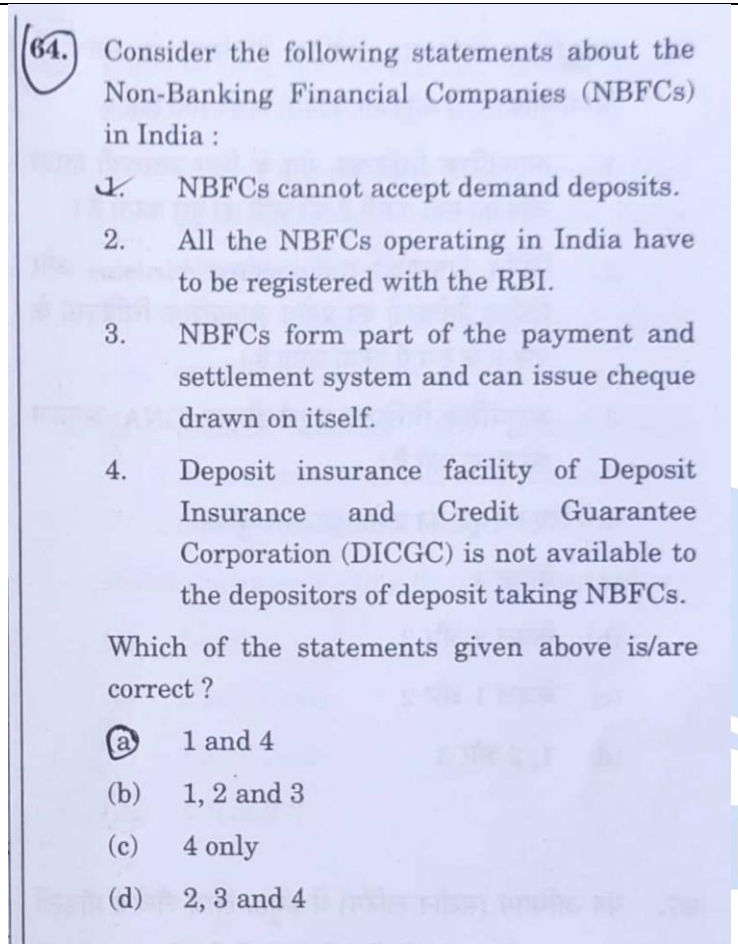
Select the answer using the code given below :

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

6. Samarium (Sm) 12. Erbium (Er)

- Germanium oxide is vital for manufacturing **fibre optic cables**.
- **REE** are a group of **17 elements** (15 lanthanides from lanthanum to lutetium, and scandium and yttrium). The main sources of REEs are minerals such as **bastnasite, loparite and monazite**.
- Based on their atomic numbers, they are divided into **two groups**: the **light group**, also known as the **Cerium group (light REE)**, and the **heavy group**, also known as the **Yttrium group (heavy REE)**. **REEs** are crucial for their high density, melting point and conductivity. They are moderately abundant, but hard to extract economically.
- The **first commercial use** was in an **incandescent lamp mantle**, which is composed of 99% thorium oxide and 1% cerium oxide. The **first successful technical use was in Sunglasses (Neophan)**.
- **China has largest share** of world's reserve of RREs. **China** built global supremacy in this sector by controlling **90% of global REE processing** and **70% of production**, despite holding only **30% of global reserves.**
- **India has the third largest reserves** of REEs. India produces **less than 1%** of the total world share. Government has opened up REE exploration for **private entities**.
- In 2023, **MMDRA was amended** to support **domestic mining**, **exploration licences**, **national auctions**, **mining associated minerals**, and a **national mineral exchange**. Minerals of REE group were **classified as Critical**

- In the **30 minerals** classified as **critical** by **India**, **caesium and rubidium** are **not included**, though considered critical by the **US**, **Canada**, and **South Korea**. In **2023**, the **Centre identified 30 critical minerals**, including **lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, tin and copper**.
- In **2025**, **India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission** to achieve self-reliance in the critical mineral sector. National Critical Minerals Mission aims to promote exploration of critical minerals within the country and offshore locations and create a fast-track regulatory approval process for critical mineral mining projects.
- India already mines and processes **seven critical minerals**. These include **copper**, **graphite**, **silicon**, **tin**, **titanium**, **rare earths**, and **zirconium**. In each case, India's **refining lags** either in **scale** or **quality**.
- India generates over **250 million tonnes of coal fly ash annually**, containing **light and heavy rare earths**. **Red mud** from aluminium plants contains **gallium**. **Zinc residues** contain **cobalt**. **Steel slag** carries **vanadium**.
- A **2024 IEEFA report** said **India's demand for critical minerals** is expected to **more than double by 2030**, while **domestic mining** may take **over a decade** to produce.

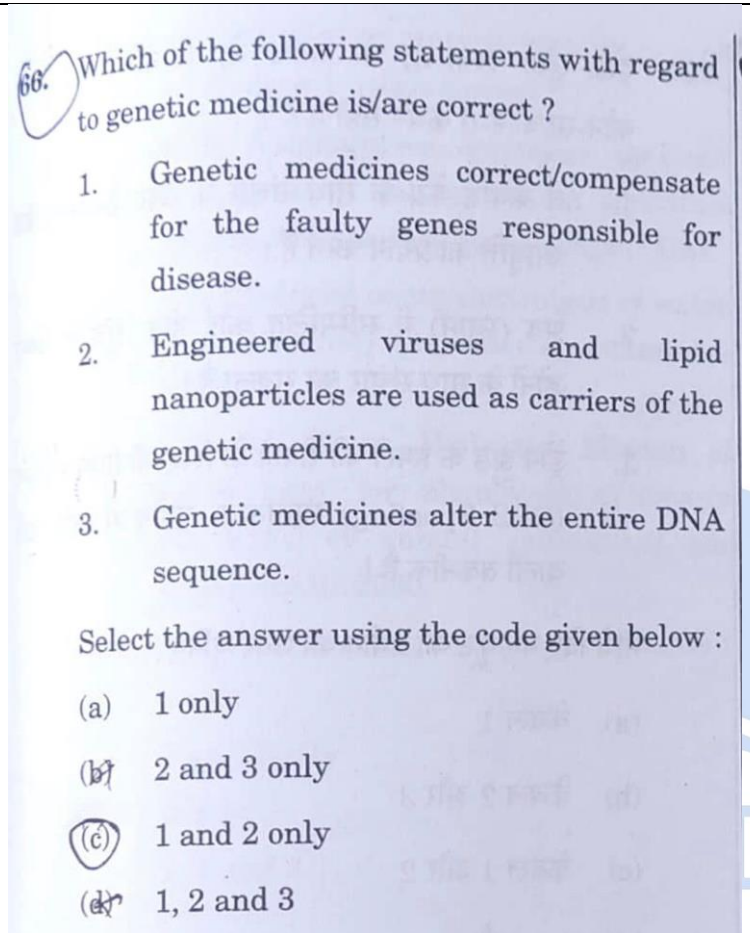
19	64		3.Net profit in last two financial years + Gross NPA ≤ 3% and Net NPA ≤ 1% (last two years). 4.Must meet prescribed **CRAR requirements** for SFBs. • **NBFC (Non-Banking Financial Company):** company registered under **Companies Act, 1956/2013**. • Engaged in **loans & advances, acquisition of securities** (shares, stocks, bonds, debentures, govt/local authority securities), leasing, hire-purchase as principal business. • **Excludes** institutions engaged in agriculture, industry, trade (other than securities), services, real estate sale/purchase/construction. **Residuary NBFC:** company whose **principal business = accepting deposits** (lump sum/installments/contributions/other manner). • **Difference between Banks & NBFCs:** NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits; NBFCs not part of payment & settlement system, cannot issue cheques on itself; No DICGC insurance facility for NBFC depositors. • **NBFCs & NRIs:** Can accept deposits from **NRIs**; Must comply with **FEMA (Deposit) Regulations, 2016 (as amended)**; **Interest rate ceiling** = cannot exceed **RBI-specified rate for scheduled commercial banks**. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 28 Decode Current Affairs - By Mudit Jain Decode Civils Android App Decode Civils iOS App **File 3 Page 28 and 29**

64. Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India :

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
2. All the NBFCs operating in India have to be registered with the RBI.
3. NBFCs form part of the payment and settlement system and can issue cheque drawn on itself.
4. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is not available to the depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

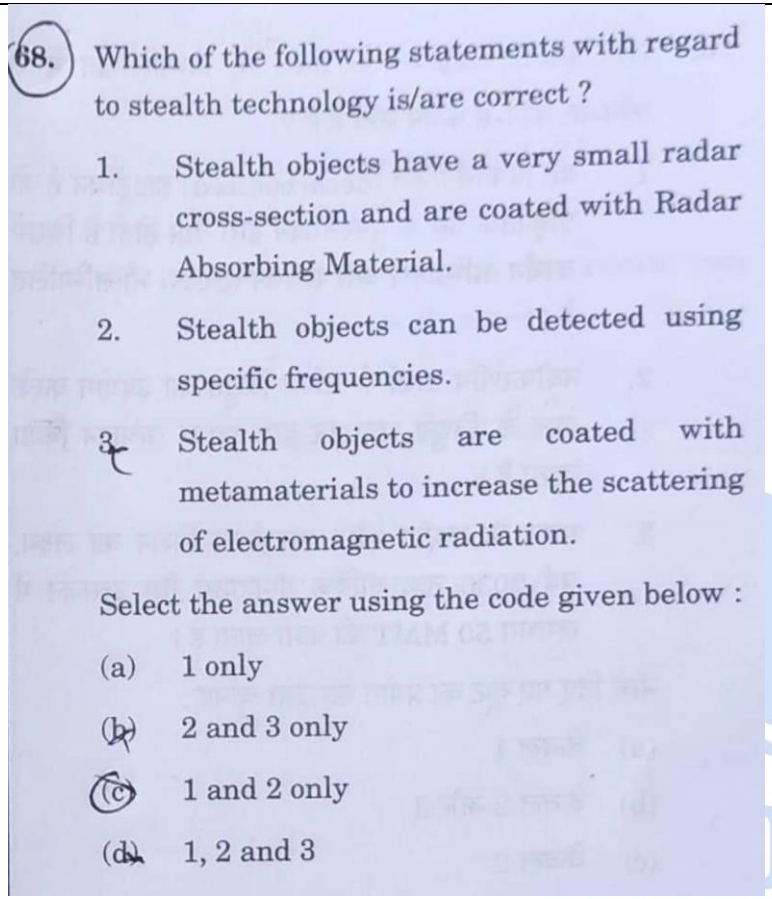
20	66		CAR T-cells **Why in news: Developed in the 1990s**, CAR T-cell therapy **reprograms patient T cells** to target specific markers (e.g. **CD19**) on cancer cells. Effective in **aggressive blood cancers** and **autoimmune diseases** like lupus. • Involves **T-cell extraction**, **genetic modification** using viral vectors, and **chemotherapy** for lymphodepletion. • Expensive and complex: **₹60–70 lakh per patient in India**. • Researchers from NIAMS developed in-body reprogramming of T cells. Delivered mRNA via lipid nanoparticles (LNPs), tagged with CD8-specific antibodies (CD8-tLNPs), to engineer CAR T cells inside the body. Resulted in B cell depletion and tumour regression. Avoids lab-based processing, viral vectors, and chemotherapy. • **Advantages Over Conventional CAR T-cell Therapy:** Uses mRNA, making changes temporary and safer, reducing risk of serious infections and hospitalisation., scalable and cost-effective. Introduces Lipid 829, a biodegradable carrier with fewer liver and inflammatory side effects. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 152 **File 3 Page 152**

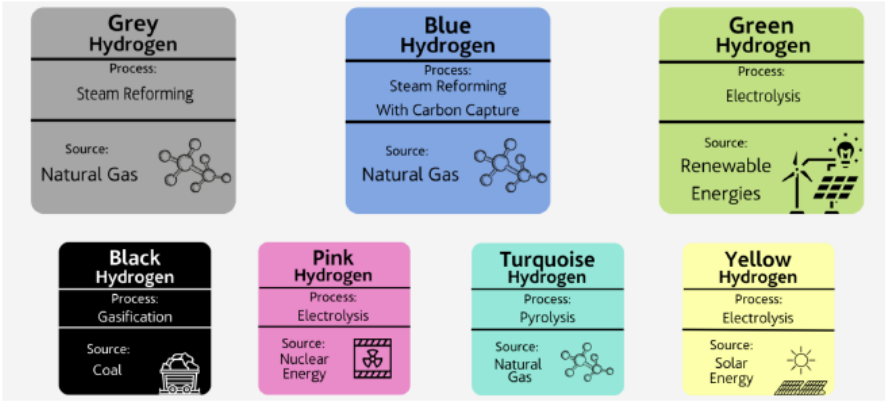
66. Which of the following statements with regard to genetic medicine is/are correct ?

1. Genetic medicines correct/compensate for the faulty genes responsible for disease.
2. Engineered viruses and lipid nanoparticles are used as carriers of the genetic medicine.
3. Genetic medicines alter the entire DNA sequence.

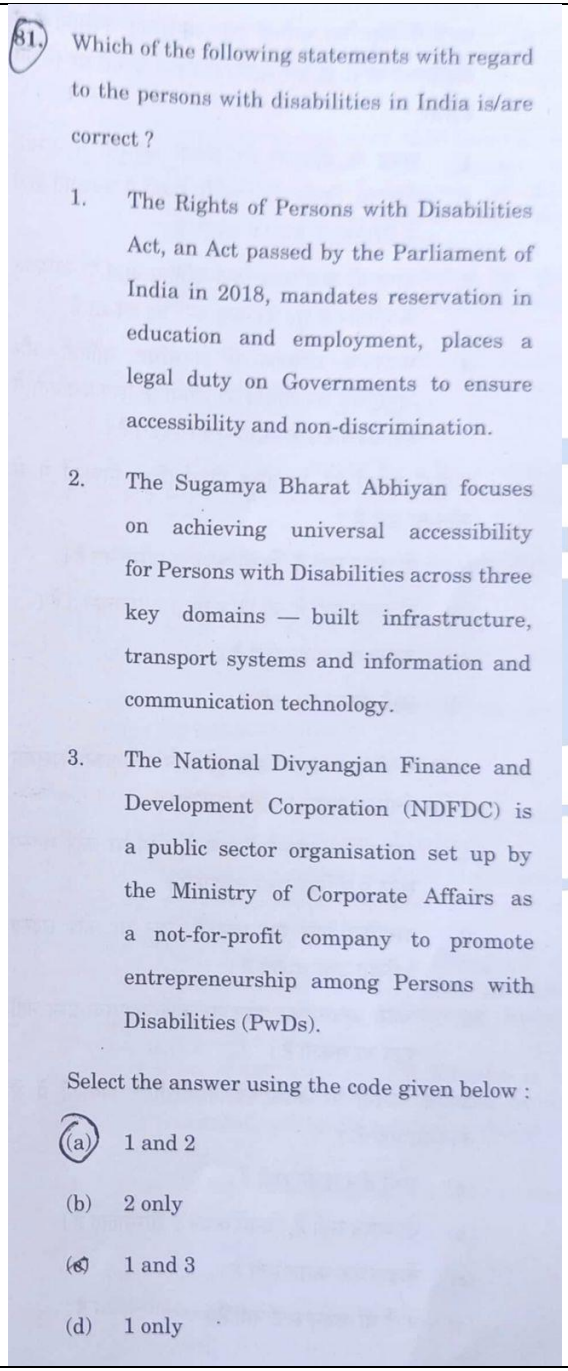
Select the answer using the code given below :

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

21	68		engine longevity, ADA is exploring alternatives with **Safran** and **Rolls-Royce**, but no outcomes yet. • **India's AMCA project** will make it one of the few nations with **fifth-generation fighter aircraft**, alongside the **US (F-22, F-35)**, **China (J-20)**, and **Russia (Su-57)**. • **Stealth** is achieved through **low electromagnetic signature**, making it **difficult for enemy radar to detect**. The aircraft will feature **advanced sensors** and **next-gen weapons** to **detect and neutralise enemy aircraft** signatures. • **Stealth components** include an **internal weapons bay** and a **larger internal fuel tank**, allowing a payload of **1,500 kg**, including **four long-range air-to-air missiles** and **precision-guided munitions**. • **External fuel tanks and weapons** increase radar detectability, whereas **special radar-absorbing material** on the AMCA will **divert radar waves**, enhancing stealth. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 263 Decode Current Affairs - By Mudit Jain Decode Civils Android App Decode Civils iOS App • **Rafale**, a **4.5th generation fighter**, is also used by **Egypt, Qatar, UAE, Greece, Indonesia, Croatia, and Serbia**. • **Tata Advanced Systems Limited** is a major Indian player in **aerostructures, aero-engines, airborne systems, defence, and land mobility**. Key TASL project: **Final assembly of Airbus C295 tactical airlift aircraft** for the **Indian Air Force**, highlighting deep **global joint ventures** in defence. **The 'generation' in the fighter jet engine** • **1st Gen (1943–1955)**: Introduced during WWII; mostly **subsonic**, with **basic avionics** and **no self-protection**. Examples: Messerschmitt Me 262, MiG-15, F-86 Sabre, Hawker Hunter. • **2nd Gen (1955–1970)**: Achieved **transonic/supersonic speeds**, featured **early fire-control radars** and **semi-active guided missiles**. Examples: MiG-21F, SU-9, F-104 Starfighter, F-105 Thunderchief, SU-7B. • **3rd Gen (1960–1970)**: Introduced **multi-role design** and **beyond visual range (BVR) air combat** capabilities. Examples: F-4 Phantom, MiG-23, Harrier. • **4th Gen (1970–2000s)**: **True multi-role capabilities**, **fly-by-wire systems**, and **enhanced maneuverability**. Examples: F-14 Tomcat, F-16, F/A-18 Superhornet, Su-35, Eurofighter Typhoon, HAL Tejas, Dassault Rafale. • **5th Gen (2000+)**: Features **full stealth**, **integrated avionics**, **network-centric warfare**, and **battlefield awareness**. Operational Examples: **F-22, F-35 (US)**, **Su-57 (Russia)**, **J-20 (China)**. Under Development: **India's AMCA** • **Sukhoi Su-57 (Felon)** is Russia's fifth-generation stealth multirole fighter, featuring supercruise (Mach 1.3 without afterburners), supermaneuverability via thrust-vectoring, and Mach 2 top speed. For stealth, it incorporates reduced radar cross-section through airframe design and internal weapons bays. Powered by twin engines. **File 3 Page 263 and 264**

22	70	70. Which of the following statements with regard to Green Hydrogen is/are correct ? 1. It is decarbonized hydrogen obtained from natural gas reforming combined with carbon capture and storage (CCS). 2. It is produced using electrolysis of water with electricity generated by renewable energy. 3. National Green Hydrogen Mission of India aims for abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	iron-containing rocks); **Radiolysis of water** by radioactive rocks; Fr **History of its Extraction**  ○ Ultramafic/mafic and basaltic assemblages; Andaman & Himalaya ○ Greenstone sequences in Dharwar and Singhbhum; Sedime Chhattisgarh); Fractured basement rocks and hot springs the purchase of foreign carbon credits to cover 5% of the cuts. **India's Climate Action: 4 Billion Tonne CO_2 Reduction Plan (2020–2030)** • **National Green Hydrogen Mission:** World's largest mission targeting 5 MMT production by 2030. • **Green Steel Taxonomy:** First country to develop comprehensive green steel framework. • **Mission LiFE:** Promoting sustainable lifestyle and Green Credit Programme. • **Indian Carbon Market** Launch planned for early 2026 to trade carbon credits. **File 3 Page 149 and 178**

23	75	75. Which of the following statements with regard to India's Deep Ocean Mission is/are correct ? 1. It was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India. 2. Matsya-6000 has been designed to carry 3 people for deep sea exploration. 3. Samudrayaan is a project under this mission. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	Samudrayaan • India's **first manned-submersible dive** facing **delay in procuring syntactic foam cladding from France**. • The Samudrayaan consists of a **sphere capable of plunging to 6,000 metres** into the ocean. • Scientists from **NIOT, Chennai**, have built a **steel replica** of the submersible to be used as a **simulator** for tests. • Ministry of Earth Sciences said the syntactic foam **should be delivered by the end of the year**. Once these tests are done, the **final titanium hull** will make the **6,000-metre dive**. ISRO is making **two titanium hulls** for NIOT. • The **PM** also mentioned **India's Deep Ocean Mission.** It is aimed at exploring **resources under the sea**. • Two Indian **aquanauts** recently completed trips up to **5,000 metres** in the **Atlantic Ocean**. ◦ **Cdr (Retd) Jatinder Pal Singh** and **R Ramesh** dived to **5,002 metres** and **4,025 metres** respectively in the **Frenc submersible Nautile**. This is the **deepest an Indian has ever gone underwater**. ◦ Most **Indian submarine dives** were limited to **500 metres**, with the previous record of **670 metres** held by **Cd Singh**. The dives gave Indian aquanauts exposure to **mission protocols, vessel handling, and recovery operations**. ◦ The dives are part of the preparation for **Samudrayaan**, India's **first manned deep-sea mission** aiming to sen **three aquanauts to 6,000 metres** in the **indigenously developed Matsya6000 submersible** by **2027**. ◦ So far, only **five countries — USA, Russia, China, France, and Japan** — have successfully carried out **crewe deep-ocean missions**; **India is set to join this club**. • Nations manage their **maritime territory and exclusive economic zones**, while the **high seas and international ocea floor** are governed by **UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas)**. • **UNCLOS applies to states regardless of ratification** or signing. **File 1 Page 72; File 2 Page 62**

24	81		Fundamental Rights Right to Digital Access **Why in news: Inclusive and meaningful digital access** to **e-governance and welfare delivery systems** is a part of the **fundamental right to life and liberty – Article 21**, the **Supreme Court** held in **Rajive Raturi vs UoI (2024)**. • **Bench** heard a **petition** highlighting the difficulties **people with disability** face in completing the **digital KYC process**. • Court stated that **state has an obligation** to provide an **inclusive digital ecosystem** for the **marginalised, underprivileged, vulnerable, disabled, and historically excluded sections** of society. • The **right to digital access** is an **instinctive component of the right to life and liberty**. • **Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles** mandate inclusive policy and infrastructure for PwDs. Citing **Articles 14, 15, 21, and 38**, the Court expanded the right to life to include **equal digital access** for **PwDs, rural populations, the elderly, the poor, and linguistic minorities**. • **RPwD Act, 2016 Section 42** mandates **accessible audio, print, and electronic media**, and **universal-design principles** for everyday electronic goods. • Under **PLMA**, KYC verification is **mandatory** for financial services like **banking, insurance, pensions, SIM access**. • **RBI's 2016 Master Direction on KYC** introduced **Video-based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP)** requiring users to complete tasks like **OTP verification, facial capture, digital signature, reading codes** on screen. **File 2 Page 31**

81. Which of the following statements with regard to the persons with disabilities in India is/are correct ?

1. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, an Act passed by the Parliament of India in 2018, mandates reservation in education and employment, places a legal duty on Governments to ensure accessibility and non-discrimination.

2. The Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan focuses on achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities across three key domains — built infrastructure, transport systems and information and communication technology.

3. The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) is a public sector organisation set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a not-for-profit company to promote entrepreneurship among Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

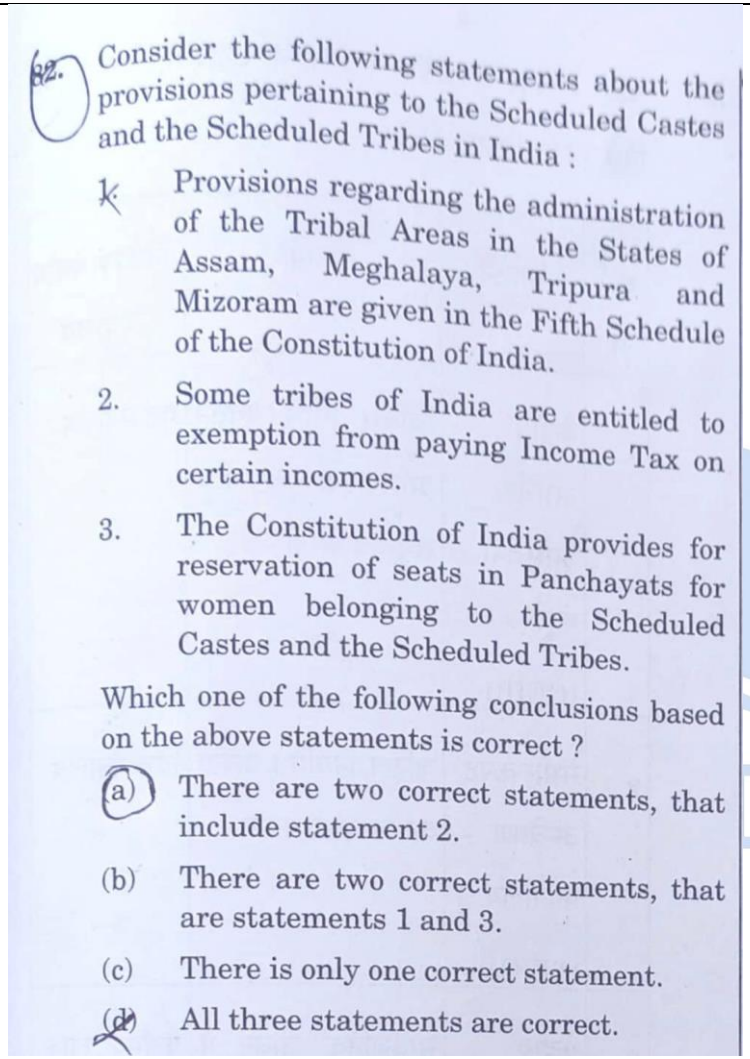
Select the answer using the code given below :

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 2 only

(c) 1 and 3

(d) 1 only

25	82		Goa, Sikkim, and Karnataka. • The **Sixth Schedule** contains provisions regarding the **administration of 10 tribal areas** in the states of **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram**. Inclusion under the **Sixth Schedule** would allow **Ladakh** to create **Autonomous District Councils (ADCs)** and **Autonomous Regional Councils (ARCs)**. • **Fifth Schedule** is applicable to '**scheduled areas**', declared **by President**. Guiding norms for declaring an area as a 'scheduled area' include preponderance of tribal populations, compactness of area, a viable administrative unit like a district or block, and economic backwardness. At present, **10 States** have such 'scheduled areas.' **Features and Powers of Fifth Schedule Areas**: • **Tribes Advisory Councils (TAC):** Set up in specific states with max 20 members, 3/4th tribal MLAs. • **Role:** TAC advises on welfare and advancement of Scheduled Tribes (STs). **Features and Powers of Sixth Schedule Areas**: • **Autonomous District Councils (ADCs):** Formed in tribal areas; 30 members (up to 4 nominated by Governor, rest elected). • **Legislative Powers:** Can make laws on land management, shifting cultivation, inheritance, marriage/divorce, and social customs (with Governor's approval). www.decodecivils.com **Decode Civils** YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 43 • **Online complaint system:** The commission provides an online platform, NCSTGRAMS Network. **Sikkim 50 Years** • Made a full-fledged State (22nd) under the Constitution (36th Amendment) Act, 1975. • Earlier, Constitution (35th Amendment) Act, 1974 granted Sikkim the status of an "Associate State" u/a 2A. **PESA Act, 1996** • 30 years of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. Extends Panchayati Raj (Part IX) to Scheduled Areas under Article 243M(4)(b) in 10 states: Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana • 9 states have notified PESA rules, Odisha – draft rules prepared. • Recognizes rights of tribals over: Customary laws, Social practices, Community resource management. • Seats reserved for STs, SCs as per population. STs minimum 50% seats. All Chairperson posts reserved for STs. **File 2 Page 43 and 44**

82. Consider the following statements about the provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India :

1. Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. Some tribes of India are entitled to exemption from paying Income Tax on certain incomes.
3. The Constitution of India provides for reservation of seats in Panchayats for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

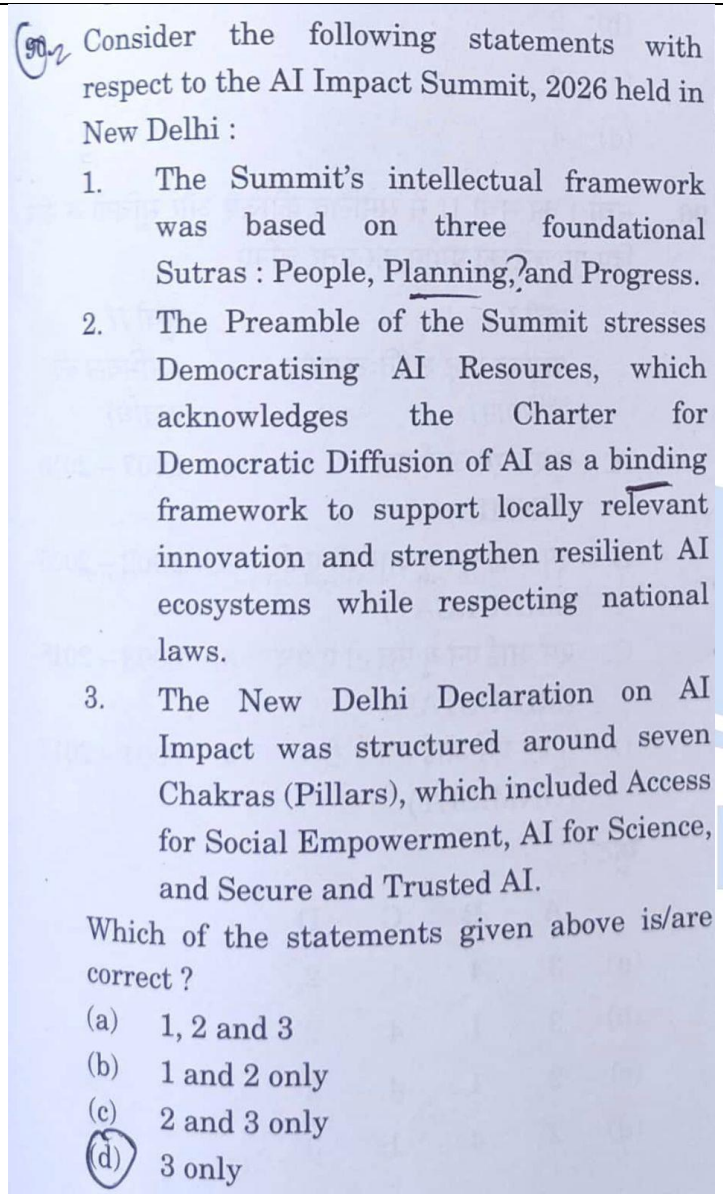
Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct ?

(a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
(b) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
(c) There is only one correct statement.
(d) All three statements are correct.

26	85	85. Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra of India : 1. It aims to enhance India's air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities. 2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence responses, reinforcing India's strategic autonomy. 3. One of the aims of this Mission is to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield by 2035. Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 only	**PM's Independence Day Address** **Why in news:** PM announced **Mission Sudarshan Chakra** (an indigenous air defence system by 2035), and warned of a **conspiracy to alter India's demographic composition**. • **Announced Mission Sudarshan Chakra:** Fully **indigenous air defence system** by **2035**. Inspired by **Lord Krishna's shield** for **neutralising and retaliatory strikes** to secure **strategic & civilian infrastructure** (hospitals, railways, centres of faith). • Project Kusha, or Extended Range Air Defence System, is a programme under DRDO for IAF and Indian Navy. The programme was also previously referred to as XRSAM. The goal is to design a mobile long-range surface-to-air missile system by 2028-30. **File 2 Page 61**

DECODE CIVILS

27	87	87. Which of the following statements about a Zero First Information Report (Zero FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is/are correct ? 1. A Zero FIR can be lodged at a police station, even though the place of commission of a cognizable/non-cognizable offence is outside the territorial jurisdiction of that police station. 2. The Officer-in-Charge of the police station where a Zero FIR has been lodged may, with the permission of the competent authority, initiate a preliminary enquiry. 3. Under Zero FIR, it is obligatory for the informant to furnish information electronically. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 only (d) 2 only	the Bharatiya Sakshya (BS): submission of search and seizure recordings to courts. • **CCTNS Integration:** FIRs to be filed via the CCTNS under NCRB. • **e-FIR and Zero FIR:** Citizens can file complaints online without visiting police stations, irrespective jurisdiction. • CCTNS software now supports FIR registration in multiple regional languages. • **Data Security:** The cloud-based e-sakshya will store forensic and case-related data. • Laws are available in all 8 Schedule languages with proceedings also conducted in these languages. • Laws aim to prioritize **justice over punishment**, ensuring **resolution** within **three years** of FIR registration. • **State-Level Autonomy:** Centre has allowed States to make their own amendments; however, there is uncertainty over timeline for Presidential assent. • New provision undermines fundamental rights by allowing police custody beyond first 15 days of arrest. • **Jurisdiction:** Police cannot refuse FIR registration due to lack of jurisdiction; must file a **zero FIR** and transfer to respective station (Section 173, BNSS). **Crime and punishment** The new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita has 358 Sections against the 511 in the Indian Penal Code that it replaces. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita replaces the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam comes in place of the Indian Evidence Act ISTOCKPHOTO **What is new?** ■ Provision for **Zero FIR** allowing filing of a first information report at any police station, regardless of jurisdiction ■ **Online registration** of police complaints and mandatory videography of crime scenes for all heinous crimes ■ A person can now report incidents by **electronic communication**, without the need to visit a police station ■ Judgment in criminal cases has to come **within 45 days** of completion of the trial ■ Provisions against false promise of marriage, gang rape of minors and **mob lynching** ■ Statement of a woman rape victim will be recorded by a woman police officer **in the presence of her guardian or relative** ■ Death sentence or life imprisonment for **gang rape of a minor** ■ **Sedition** has been replaced with 'secession' or 'act against the country's sovereignty, unity and integrity' • **Modes of Filing:** FIR can be given orally, in writing, or electronically (signed within three days). • **Electronic Filing:** Must be facilitated through CCTNS, police websites, or official email IDs. • Info available to judiciary, prosecution, forensic experts under Inter-operable Criminal Justice System. • **Restrictions on Arrest:** Approval required for arresting infirm or elderly individuals (above 60 years) for offences with punishment under three years (Section 35(7)). 188 **Last Year's File Page 188**

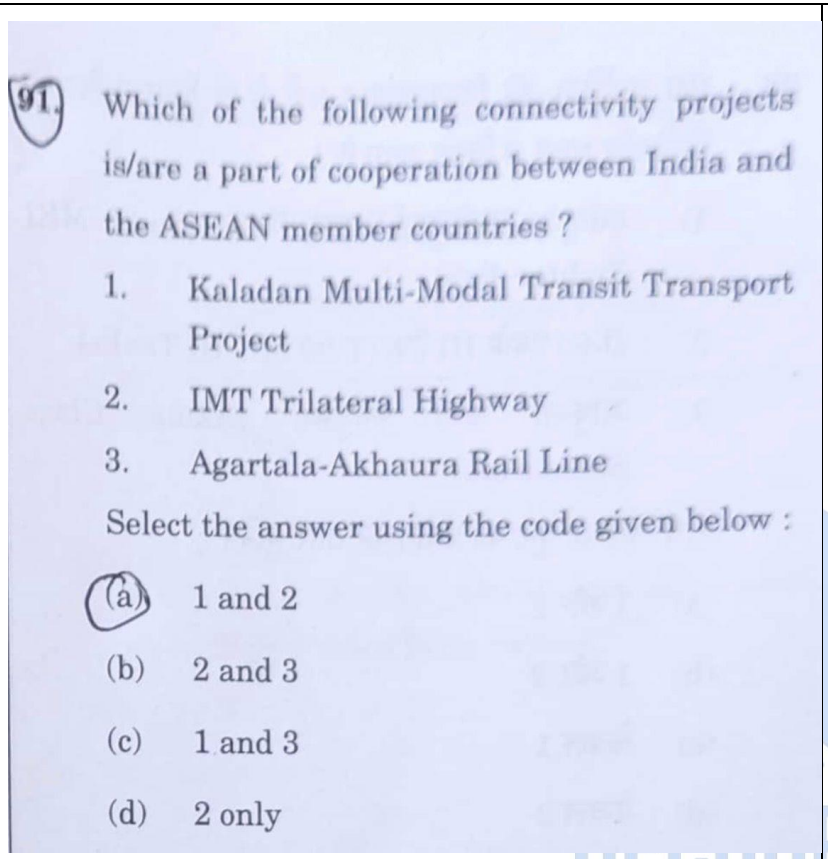
28	90		AI Impact Summit 2026 • **PM** inaugurated the **India AI Impact Expo 2026**, which includes pavilions from **13 countries**. • Event was hosted at the **Bharat Mandapam** complex in **Delhi** where **G-20 Summit** was hosted in 2023. • It marks the **fourth AI Summit** after summits in the **U.K.**, South Korea, and France. • AI Impact event's thematic **chakras** — **People**, Planet and Progress. • The heads of **18 countries** are attending. They range from European countries such as **Switzerland**, Spain, Serbia, Slovakia, Croatia, Estonia, Netherlands, Finland and Greece, to Mauritius, Bhutan and Sri Lanka in the neighbourhood and Kazakhstan, two countries from South America (Bolivia and Guyana) and one from Africa (**Seychelles**). • **Crown princes** of **Liechtenstein** and the **UAE** will also attend as heads of their delegations as will some prominent former leaders such as former British Prime Ministers **Tony Blair** and **Rishi Sunak**. • **UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres**, whose tenure ends this year, will also attend. • **NPCI** has announced the extension of the **UPI One World** wallet services for **international visitors** from over **40 countries** attending the **India AI Impact Summit 2026**. • **IndiaAI Mission** will add **20,000 GPUs** to the government-run **common compute** cluster, which is open for **local firms**, **researchers** and academia to use. • At the **India AI Impact Summit 2026**, a set of **AI Impact Casebooks** were released describing **real time artificial intelligence deployment** benefiting **farmers, students, patients and physically challenged** in the **Global South**. AI Summit Investment Commitments • **AI Impact Summit** attracted **$250 billion** investments in **AI infrastructure** and saw **5 lakh visitors**. • Summit also got **$20 billion** in **deep tech** venture commitments. • **Eighty-five countries** and **three international organisations** signed the **New Delhi Declaration**. • Guided by the principle of **Sarvajan Hitaya**, **Sarvajan Sukhaya** (Welfare for all, Happiness for all), the Declaration underscores that the **benefits of AI** must be equitably shared across humanity. • Major participants, including the **United States** and **China**, endorsed the **document**. • As with the **2023 G20 Summit**, the road to **consensus** was paved with **non-binding** and voluntary commitments. While the Declaration does mention **AI safety** and **trust** — issues that the U.S. in particular rejected during last year's Paris discussions — its commitments lean heavily on **knowledge sharing**. • The **900-word statement** offers a **Charter** for the Democratic Diffusion of AI as a **voluntary framework** to promote access to **foundational AI resources**, support locally relevant innovation, and strengthen **AI ecosystems** while respecting national laws. • It also introduces a **Global AI Impact Commons**, voluntary initiative to exhibit **AI use cases** for governments to draw inspiration from. • On **security** and **trust**, the statement says, advancing **trustworthy AI** is foundational to building trust and maximising societal and economic benefits. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 145 **File 3 Page 145**

Consider the following statements with respect to the AI Impact Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi :

1. The Summit's intellectual framework was based on three foundational Sutras : People, Planning, and Progress.
2. The Preamble of the Summit stresses Democratising AI Resources, which acknowledges the Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI as a binding framework to support locally relevant innovation and strengthen resilient AI ecosystems while respecting national laws.
3. The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was structured around seven Chakras (Pillars), which included Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, and Secure and Trusted AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

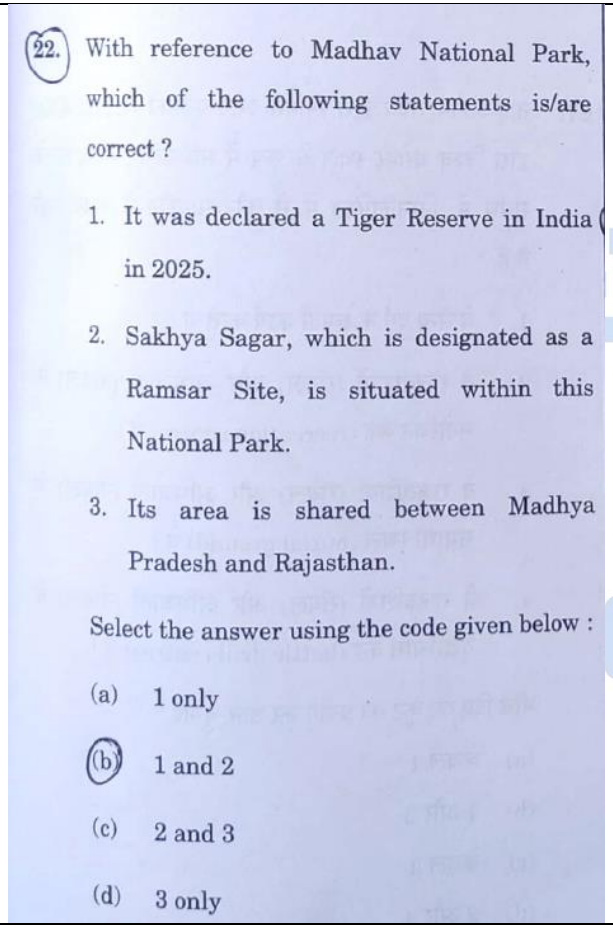
(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

29	91		BIMSTEC **Why in news:** In **April 2025**, India withdrew transshipment access for **Bangladeshi exports via Indian ports**. • **BIMSTEC Maritime Transport Cooperation Agreement** signed to reduce regulatory barriers and port costs. • **BIMSTEC integration efforts** risk being undermined by **perceived politicisation of trade routes**. • **BIMSTEC** = Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation. **Established**: **1997** via **Bangkok Declaration**. **BIST-EC** with **four founding members** – Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand. • **Myanmar joined** in **1997** → renamed **BIMST-EC**. **Nepal-Bhutan joined in 2004** → renamed **BIMSTEC** (7 members). • **Current members**: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand. • **Headquarters**: Dhaka, Bangladesh. • Acts as a **bridge between South Asia & Southeast Asia**. Supports India's **Neighborhood First** & **Act East Policy**. **What is the Act East Policy?** • Launched in **2014 by PM Modi**, building on **1991 Look East Policy** to make **Northeast India gateway to ASEAN**. • Achievements: **10,000+ km highways, 800 km railway tracks, 8 airports, inland waterways**. • Key projects: **Dimapur-Zubza (Nagaland), Imphal-Moreh (Manipur), Asian Highway 1**. • **Agartala-Akhaura railway (Tripura-Bangladesh)** and **Kaladan Multi-Modal Project (Myanmar)** delayed. • RCEP covers **one-third of the global population** and about **30% of global GDP**. • **Malaysia hosted an RCEP summit in Kuala Lumpur**, the **first in five years**. • **ASEAN** = Association of Southeast Asian Nations. **Headquarters**: Jakarta, Indonesia. • **Established**: 1967 via ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) in Bangkok, Thailand. • **Founding members**: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand. • **New**: Brunei (1984), Vietnam (1995), Laos & Myanmar (1997), Cambodia (1999), Timor Leste (2025). **AITIGA** • The agreement was signed in 2009 (Bangkok) and officially entered into force on January 1, 2010. • Current Status: A formal review began in February 2024 and is currently ongoing. • **Key sectors promoted:** Agriculture, food processing, textiles, handlooms, sports, tourism, healthcare, IT, energy, infrastructure, and logistics. • **Infrastructure focus:** India–Myanmar–Thailand Trilateral Highway and the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Project. • **PM Modi** is set to visit **Manipur** for the first time since **ethnic violence erupted in 2023**. • **The two locations represent the region's divide**: Churachandpur – Kuki-Zo majority; Imphal – Meitei stronghold • The PM will inaugurate projects worth **₹8,500 crore** across **hill and valley districts**. **File 2 Page 193 and 194** **File 3 Page 243**

30	93	100. Which of the following countries are members of the European Union ? 1. Belarus 2. Poland 3. Germany 4. Switzerland Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1, 2 and 4 (b) 1 and 4 only (c) 2 and 3 (d) 2 and 4 only	 EFTA – TEPA **Why in news:** The four countries of the **European Free Trade Association** will meet the target of investing **$100 billion in India** well before the **15-year deadline** in the trade deal. • **TEPA** b/w India and **Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland** was signed in **2024** and came into force in **2025**. • The **dedicated EFTA desk** set up by the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** to reduce **regulatory friction** for companies from EFTA countries. **File 2 Page 175**

DECODE CIVILS

PARTIALLY SOLVABLE QUESTIONS

S.No.	Q. No.	Question's Screenshot	"Decode Current Affairs" Reference Screenshot & File-Page No.
1	22		FILE-3 PAGE 220

22. With reference to Madhav National Park, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in India in 2025.
2. Sakhya Sagar, which is designated as a Ramsar Site, is situated within this National Park.
3. Its area is shared between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Select the answer using the code given below :

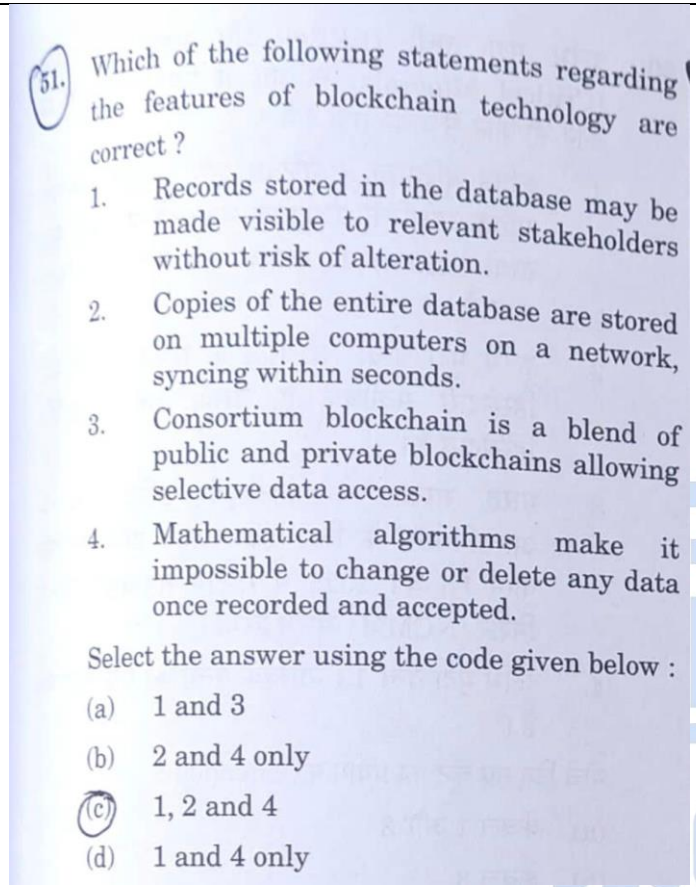
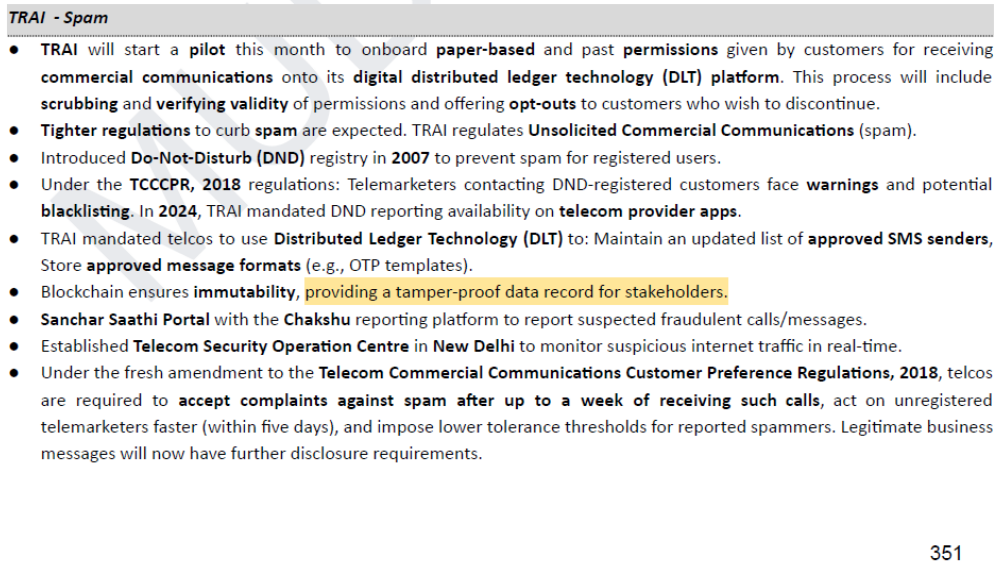
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

- India has **58 tiger reserves**, with the newest addition identified as the Madhav National Park in Madhya Pradesh (or, in some reports, the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve). The total count has increased to 58, with Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra leading in numbers. **Largest Reserve:** Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve (Andhra Pradesh) is the largest by area. **Smallest Reserve:** Bor Tiger Reserve (MH) is the smallest. Orang, aka "Mini Kaziranga" has the smallesti core area. **State with Max Reserves:** MP. Sundarbans Tiger Reserve is now India's second largest after expansion of area. NBWL, led by the Union minister of MoEFCC, approved the West Bengal government's proposal.
- The headquarters agreement ratified during the assembly allows IBCA to establish its HQ and offices in India.
- **NTCA** is a **statutory body** under the **MoEF, WPA 1972. NTCA** conducts the **All India Tiger Estimation** every **four years**. As per the **5th cycle summary report of 2022**, India has a **minimum of 3,167 tigers**, accounting for **more than 70% of the world's wild tiger population**. **IUCN: Endangered**. Schedule 1 WPA.

Pench National Park

- Between Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Shared borders facilitate genetic exchange among tigers — a factor critical to long-term population health. Landscapes immortalised by Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book.

2	35	35. Identify the river of the Indian sub-continent on the basis of the following information : 1. It has an antecedent drainage system. 2. It flows through three countries. 3. It originates in the Tibetan Plateau and is an important river for irrigation. 4. It does not form distributaries. Select the answer from the following : (a) Brahmaputra (b) Indus (c) Sutlej (d) Teesta	from India but not Bangladesh. • As **India and Bangladesh** prepare to **renew the Ganga Water Treaty in 2026**, the IWT episode may **strain talks**. **Indus River system**: • It consists of **six rivers**: **Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej**. • **Indus and Sutlej** are **antecedent rivers**, originating in **Tibet** and cutting **deep gorges through the Himalayas**. • **Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, and Beas** originate in **India**. • The **Indus Basin spans China, India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan**. • In India, it covers **Ladakh, J&K, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan**. • **Drainage area** of Indus in India is **approx 3,21,289 sq. km**, accounting for **9.8% of India's geographical area**. **Indus Water Treaty:** • It was signed in **1960** in **Karachi** by **Nehru** and **Ayub Khan**. **Broker & Signatory:** World Bank. • **India controls 3 eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej)**. **Pak controls 3 western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab)**. • About **80% of the water volume** is allocated to **Pakistan** and **20% to India**. **India's rights on western rivers:** Limited to **non-consumptive uses** such as **hydropower, navigation, irrigation**, without substantially altering the flow. • The treaty established a **Permanent Indus Commission** with representatives from both countries to **exchange data and resolve routine issues**. • A **3-tier dispute resolution mechanism: Commission → Neutral Expert → Court of Arbitration**. **About Court of Arbitration:** • **International tribunal** to resolve disputes between parties (usually **states**) through **binding arbitral process** instead of traditional court litigation. It assists in appointing arbitrators, supervises arbitral proceedings, and ensures arbitral awards are enforceable under international law. **Permanent Court of Arbitration** was **established in 1899**. **HQ**: Hague. Facilitates arbitration in **territorial, maritime, and investment disputes**. **File 2: Page-144**

3	51		

51. Which of the following statements regarding the features of blockchain technology are correct ?

1. Records stored in the database may be made visible to relevant stakeholders without risk of alteration.
2. Copies of the entire database are stored on multiple computers on a network, syncing within seconds.
3. Consortium blockchain is a blend of public and private blockchains allowing selective data access.
4. Mathematical algorithms make it impossible to change or delete any data once recorded and accepted.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

TRAI - Spam

- **TRAI** will start a **pilot** this month to onboard **paper-based** and past **permissions** given by customers for receiving **commercial communications** onto its **digital distributed ledger technology (DLT) platform**. This process will include **scrubbing** and **verifying validity** of permissions and offering **opt-outs** to customers who wish to discontinue.
- **Tighter regulations** to curb **spam** are expected. TRAI regulates **Unsolicited Commercial Communications** (spam).
- Introduced **Do-Not-Disturb (DND)** registry in **2007** to prevent spam for registered users.
- Under the **TCCCPR, 2018** regulations: Telemarketers contacting DND-registered customers face **warnings** and potential **blacklisting**. In **2024**, TRAI mandated DND reporting availability on **telecom provider apps**.
- TRAI mandated telcos to use **Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)** to: Maintain an updated list of **approved SMS senders**, Store **approved message formats** (e.g., OTP templates).
- Blockchain ensures **immutability**, providing a tamper-proof data record for stakeholders.
- **Sanchar Saathi Portal** with the **Chakshu** reporting platform to report suspected fraudulent calls/messages.
- Established **Telecom Security Operation Centre** in **New Delhi** to monitor suspicious internet traffic in real-time.
- Under the fresh amendment to the **Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018**, telcos are required to **accept complaints against spam after up to a week of receiving such calls**, act on unregistered telemarketers faster (within five days), and impose lower tolerance thresholds for reported spammers. Legitimate business messages will now have further disclosure requirements.

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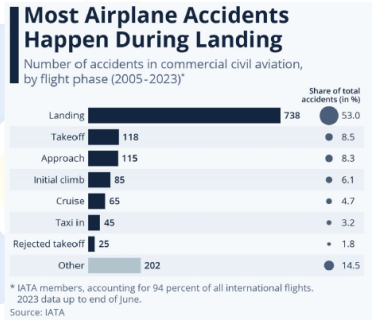
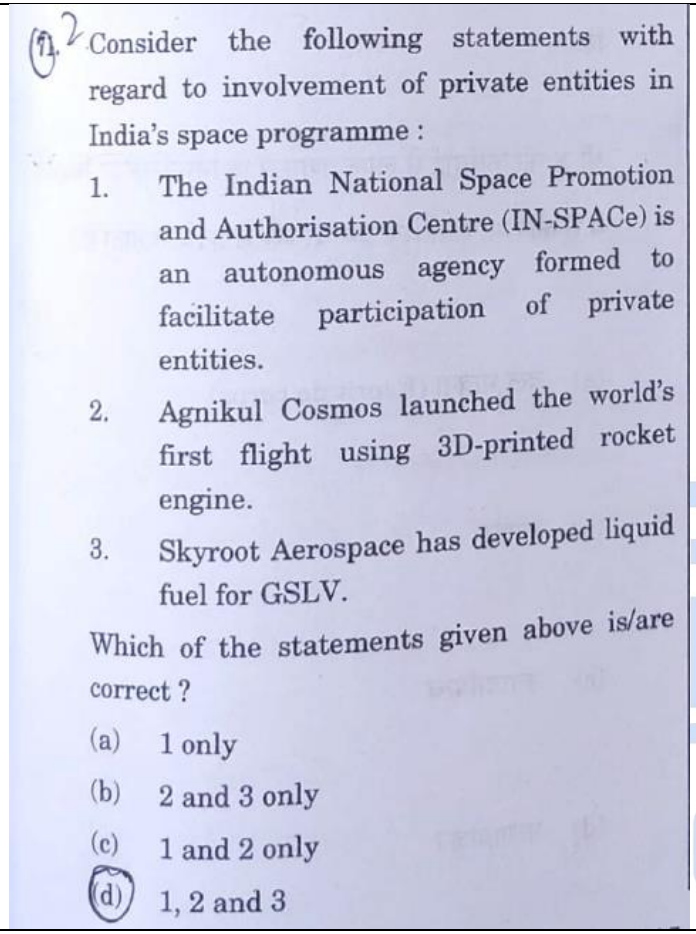
Last Year's File Page-351

4	65	65. Consider the following statements about Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) : 1. MPI is calculated using Alkire-Foster methodology. 2. MPI calculated by NITI Aayog has a total of twelve indicators. 3. Maternal Health and Bank Account are common indicators in the MPI of NITI Aayog and MPI of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 only	**Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme** • On its **69th Formation Day (November 1, 2025)**, **Kerala declared the eradication of extreme poverty**. • The achievement follows a four-year, state-led programme under the Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme (EPEP) launched in **2021**, driven by the **LSG** & **extensive community participation**. • As per **NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index (2023)**: Kerala recorded only 0.55% multidimensionally poor population — lowest in India, compared to the national average of 14.96%. (UNDP MPI 10 indicators are Nutrition, Child Mortality, Years of Schooling, School Attendance, Cooking Fuel, Sanitation, Drinking Water, Electricity, Housing, Assets. Niti Aayog uses 12 including bank account and maternal health.) **Implementation** • Around 4 lakh trained enumerators, including Kudumbashree workers and local officials, identified extremely poor households through field surveys, avoiding self-enrolment errors. (Kudumbashree Mission, a globally recognised self-help group model, promoted women's empowerment and community participation). • A total of 64,006 extremely poor families were identified and verified through Grama Sabhas. Each family received a www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 100 Decode Current Affairs - By Mudit Jain Decode Civils Android App Decode Civils iOS App **File 3 Page 100 and 101**

DECODE CIVILS

5	69	69. Which of the following statements with regard to Black Boxes used in modern aircrafts is/are correct ? 1. They carry a beacon emitting red light pulses to facilitate underwater detection. 2. They record both the cockpit voice and flight data. 3. Their memory units are made using either stainless steel or titanium. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	**AI-171 Dreamliner** **Why in news: Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner** (Flight **AI-171**) crashed shortly after take-off from **Ahmedabad to London**. • Both **fuel control switches shifted to CUTOFF three seconds after take-off**, shutting down both engines. This led to **fuel starvation**, **loss of thrust**, and eventual **crash** of the Boeing 787-8. • This is the **first-ever crash involving a Boeing 787 variant**. • The accident draws parallels with **Air India Flight AI-855** ("Emperor Ashoka") in **1978**, which crashed near Bandra. • Other incidents include **AI 182 ("Emperor Kanishka") mid-air bombing in 1985**, and **Air India Express AI 1344** skid-off in 2020. • Boeing 787 can fly 330 min on one engine—dual failure odds ≈ **1 in 1 bn**. **Black Boxes:** • **Black boxes**, painted bright orange, include the **Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR)** and **Digital Flight Data Recorder (DFDR)**. They record flight parameters and audio for **post-crash reconstruction**. • Use **solid-state memory**, are **water-resistant**, and have **locator beacons**. • Despite **ICAO Annex 13** mandating a **30-day preliminary report**, India has **no legal deadline**. **DGCA's 360° evaluation** involves **flight operations**, **infrastructure**, **ATC**, **airworthiness**, **licensing**, **aerodrome standards**, and **training**. **Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)**  **File 3 Page 86**

6	71		**May 30, 2024**

71. Consider the following statements with regard to involvement of private entities in India's space programme :

1. The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is an autonomous agency formed to facilitate participation of private entities.
2. Agnikul Cosmos launched the world's first flight using 3D-printed rocket engine.
3. Skyroot Aerospace has developed liquid fuel for GSLV.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Indian Private Sector - Start-up Agnikul

- **Agnibaan SOrTeD** 'Suborbital Tech Demonstrator' is the world's **first rocket** with a **single-piece 3D-printed engine**. Launched by **Agnikul Cosmos Private Ltd.**, a Chennai-headquartered space start-up.
- It is India's **first launch from a private launchpad** named **'Dhanush'**, established by Agnikul.
- The launch marks **India's first semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket**.
- It is the **first-ever controlled flight of a semi-cryogenic liquid engine achieved** through **additive manufacturing**.
- 'Agnibaan' is a **two-stage,** 14-tonne launch vehicle designed **for small satellite** launches to **low-earth orbit**s, powered by **semi-cryogenic engines.** It benefits from technical know-how and physical systems shared by ISRO, cutting down time and costs. Startups like Agnikul can potentially accelerate ISRO's innovation, as seen in ISRO's semi-cryogenic engine tests.

IN-SPACe

- GOI, as part of its **2020 space sector reforms**, established **IN-SPACe** to promote private sector participation in space activities. IN-SPACe had proposed a Rs.1000 crore Venture Capital Fund.
- IN-SPACe, an **autonomous nodal agency** under **Department of Space**, serves as a single-window facilitator for **private participation** in India's space sector. Promotes, authorizes, and supervises private space activities, including building satellites/launch vehicles, providing space-based services, sharing ISRO infrastructure, and establishing new facilities.
- **Interface Role:** Acts as a bridge between ISRO and Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs), optimizing space resource utilization and boosting space-based activities. Assesses private players' needs (including educational/research institutions) and integrates them into ISRO's plans. Headquartered in Ahmedabad.

Venus Mission (2nd Inter-planetary Mission After MOM)

- **Departure:** Scheduled on March 29, 2028, and arrival date on Venus is July 19, 2028.
- **Launch** by **LMV-3** which will place spacecraft in an **Elliptical Parking Orbit (EPO).**
- To carry out proposed science studies for a period of 5 years. 19 payloads will be onboard VOM, of which 16 are Indian payloads, two are Indian and international collaborative payloads, and there would be one international payload.
- Explore planet's atmosphere, surface and its interaction with the sun, examining dust in Venusian atmosphere, mapping its topography in high resolution, studying solar X-ray spectrum near Venus, analysing Venusian airglow, and

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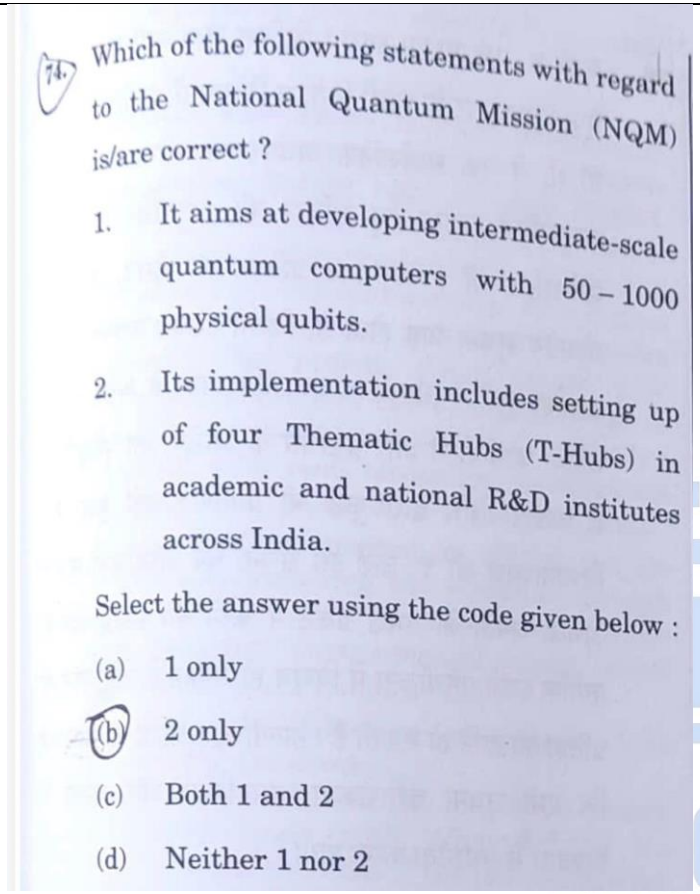
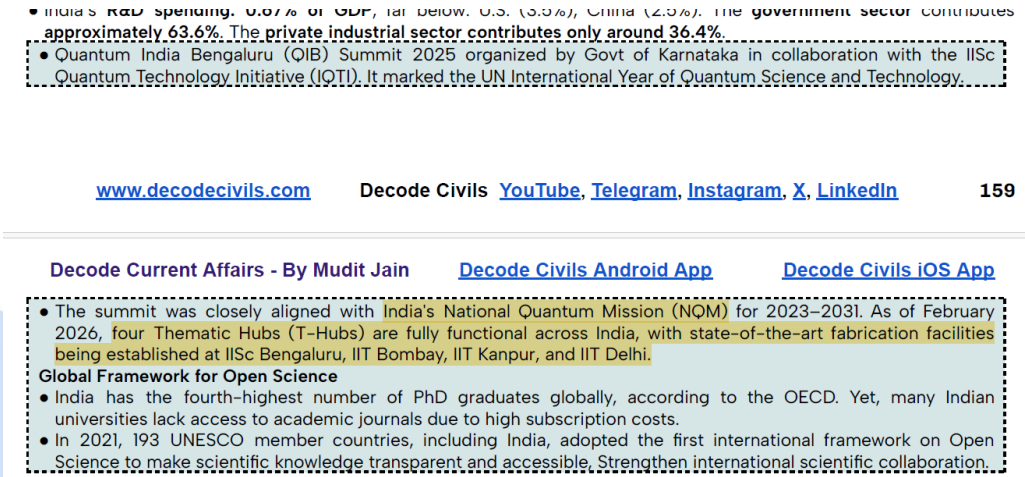
7	72	72. Which of the following statements with regard to drone swarms is/are correct ? 1. They use Terahertz band of frequency to communicate with the command centre. 2. Individual drones in the swarm can communicate with other drones in the swarm. 3. GPS Spoofing is a commonly used technique to counter drone swarm attack. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	GPS Spoofing • **Aircraft flying over Delhi** have been experiencing **"severe" GPS spoofing**, causing **false navigation data** such a incorrect aircraft positions and misleading terrain warnings. • **GNSS spoofing involves transmitting counterfeit satellite signals**, leading to **incorrect aircraft position data**, highe pilot workload, and potential safety risks despite onboard redundancies. • Such interference is **rare over inland metropolitan airspace** and is seen in **border areas or conflict zones**. • While it was common to experience **GPS spoofing over India's border with Pakistan**, such incidents over **Delhi wer unusual**. • **Spoofing** is a **type of cyberattack** that transmits **false GPS signals** to mislead navigation systems. • Delhi has emerged among the **top 10 global hotspots** for such incidents. • **GPS spoofing** doesn't hamper **safety of aircraft**, as systems are built with **several redundancies**, including **Inertial Reference System**, which continues to operate safely for **up to 5 hours** even if primary system fails. GPS SPOOFING: Transmitting counterfeit signals to deceive aircraft location systems, causing incorrect position and navigation data GNSS JAMMING: Overpowering satellite signals with strong radio interference to disrupt navigation systems **File 3 Page 249**

8	74		

74. Which of the following statements with regard to the National Quantum Mission (NQM) is/are correct ?

1. It aims at developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50 – 1000 physical qubits.
2. Its implementation includes setting up of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in academic and national R&D institutes across India.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

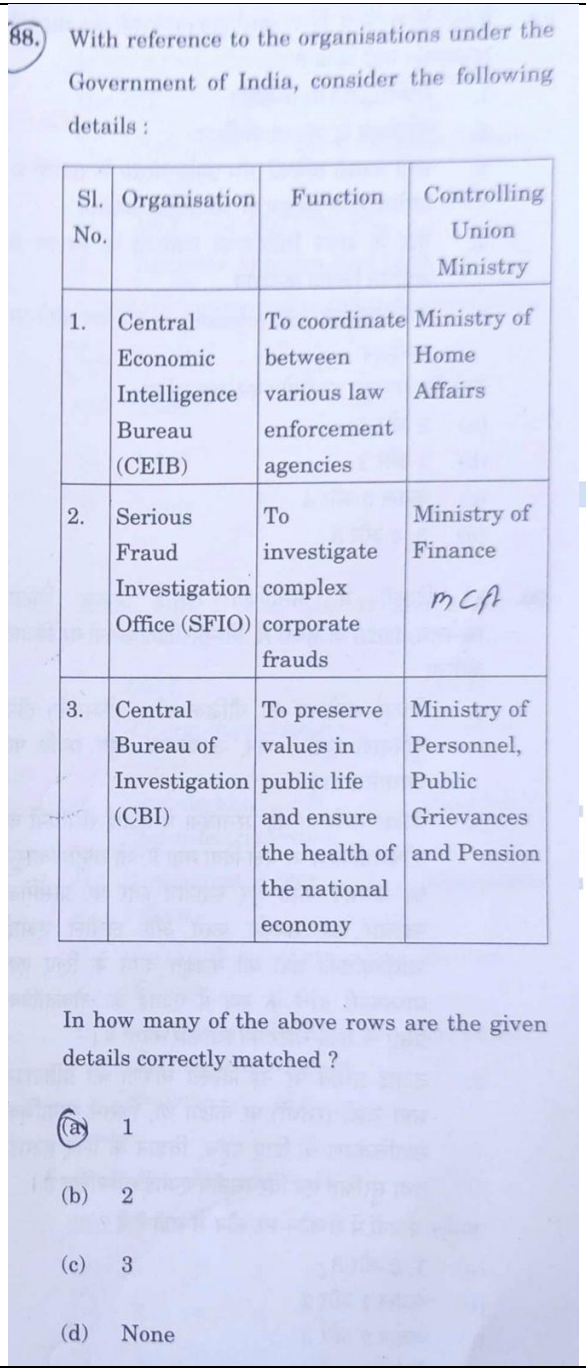
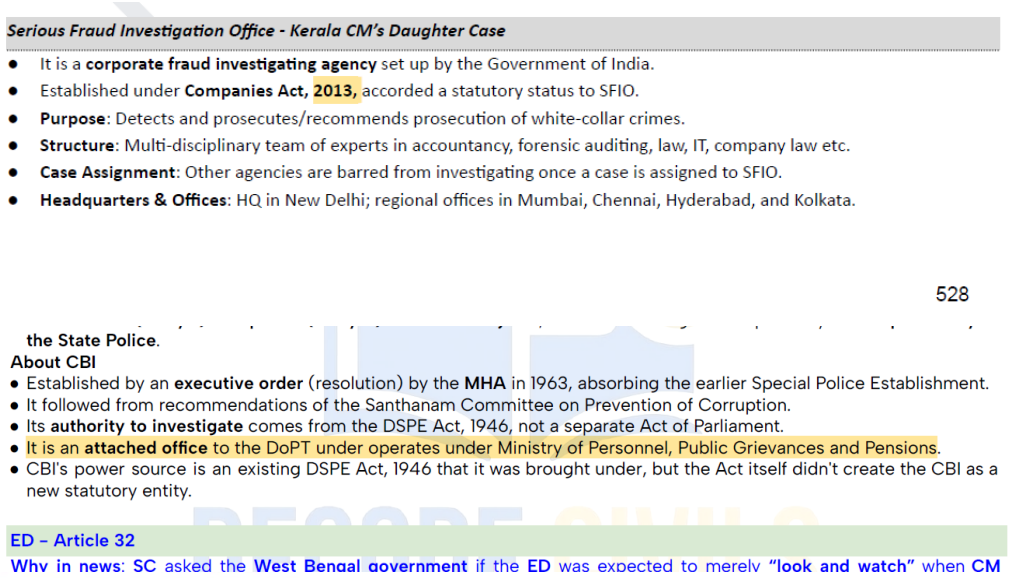
• India's **R&D spending: 0.67% of GDP**, far below: U.S. (3.5%), China (2.5%). The **government sector** contributes **approximately 63.6%**. The **private industrial sector contributes only around 36.4%**.
• Quantum India Bengaluru (QIB) Summit 2025 organized by Govt of Karnataka in collaboration with the IISc Quantum Technology Initiative (IQTI). It marked the UN International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.

• The summit was closely aligned with India's National Quantum Mission (NQM) for 2023–2031. As of February 2026, four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) are fully functional across India, with state-of-the-art fabrication facilities being established at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, and IIT Delhi.

Global Framework for Open Science

• India has the fourth-highest number of PhD graduates globally, according to the OECD. Yet, many Indian universities lack access to academic journals due to high subscription costs.
• In 2021, 193 UNESCO member countries, including India, adopted the first international framework on Open Science to make scientific knowledge transparent and accessible. Strengthen international scientific collaboration.

File 3 Page 160

9	88		

88. With reference to the organisations under the Government of India, consider the following details :

Sl. No.	Organisation	Function	Controlling Union Ministry
1.	Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)	To coordinate between various law enforcement agencies	Ministry of Home Affairs
2.	Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)	To investigate complex corporate frauds	Ministry of Finance MCA
3.	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	To preserve values in public life and ensure the health of the national economy	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension

In how many of the above rows are the given details correctly matched ?

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

Serious Fraud Investigation Office - Kerala CM's Daughter Case

- It is a **corporate fraud investigating agency** set up by the Government of India.
- Established under **Companies Act, 2013,** accorded a statutory status to SFIO.
- **Purpose**: Detects and prosecutes/recommends prosecution of white-collar crimes.
- **Structure**: Multi-disciplinary team of experts in accountancy, forensic auditing, law, IT, company law etc.
- **Case Assignment**: Other agencies are barred from investigating once a case is assigned to SFIO.
- **Headquarters & Offices**: HQ in New Delhi; regional offices in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Kolkata.

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the State Police.

About CBI

- Established by an **executive order** (resolution) by the **MHA** in 1963, absorbing the earlier Special Police Establishment.
- It followed from recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
- Its **authority to investigate** comes from the DSPE Act, 1946, not a separate Act of Parliament.
- It is an **attached office** to the DoPT under operates under Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- CBI's power source is an existing DSPE Act, 1946 that it was brought under, but the Act itself didn't create the CBI as a new statutory entity.

ED – Article 32

Why in news: SC asked the **West Bengal government** if the **ED** was expected to merely **"look and watch"** when **CM**

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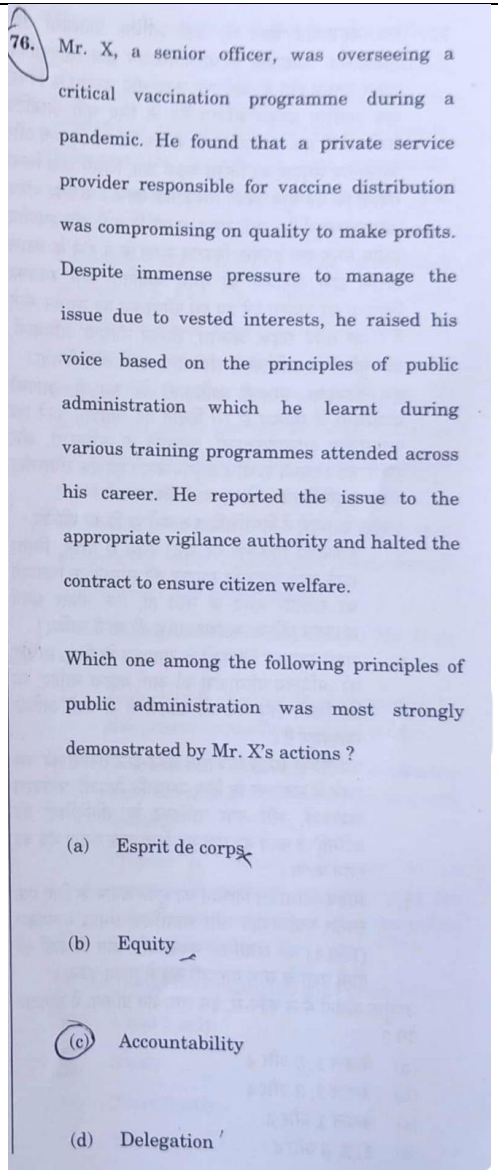
File 2 Page 29

10	92	92. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists : *List I (Project Supported by India)* — *List II (Country)* A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project — 1. Maldives B. Restoration of Stor Palace — 2. Afghanistan C. District Hospital at Dickoya — 3. Bhutan D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies — 4. Sri Lanka **Code :** (a) 1 4 2 3 (b) 3 2 4 1 (c) 3 4 2 1 (d) 1 2 4 3	**Bhutan–India Rail Link** **Why in news:** The **Centre announced two new rail links** between **India and Bhutan** with a **total distance of 89 km**. • The routes are **Kokrajhar–Gelephu (Assam)** and **Banarhat–Samtse (West Bengal)**. • These are the **first rail connectivity projects** between **India and Bhutan**. • **India is Bhutan's largest trading partner**, and most of **Bhutan's EXIM trade** passes through **Indian ports**. • **Bhutan** will also benefit from the **Jogighopha Inland Waterways Transport Terminal (Assam)**. The two nations have collaborated on **five major hydropower projects** — Chukha, Tala, Mangdechhu, Kurichhu, and Punatsangchhu II. **Nepal** **Transit Treaty** • **India and Nepal** have amended the **Treaty of Transit** to facilitate **rail-based freight movement** between **Jogbani (India)** and **Biratnagar (Nepal)**. The amendment covers the movement of **bulk cargo**. **File 2 Page 154**

DECISION MAKING / ETHICS QUESTIONS

S.No.	Q. No.	Question's Screenshot	"Decode Current Affairs" Reference Screenshot & File-Page No.
1	76		

76. Mr. X, a senior officer, was overseeing a critical vaccination programme during a pandemic. He found that a private service provider responsible for vaccine distribution was compromising on quality to make profits. Despite immense pressure to manage the issue due to vested interests, he raised his voice based on the principles of public administration which he learnt during various training programmes attended across his career. He reported the issue to the appropriate vigilance authority and halted the contract to ensure citizen welfare.

Which one among the following principles of public administration was most strongly demonstrated by Mr. X's actions ?

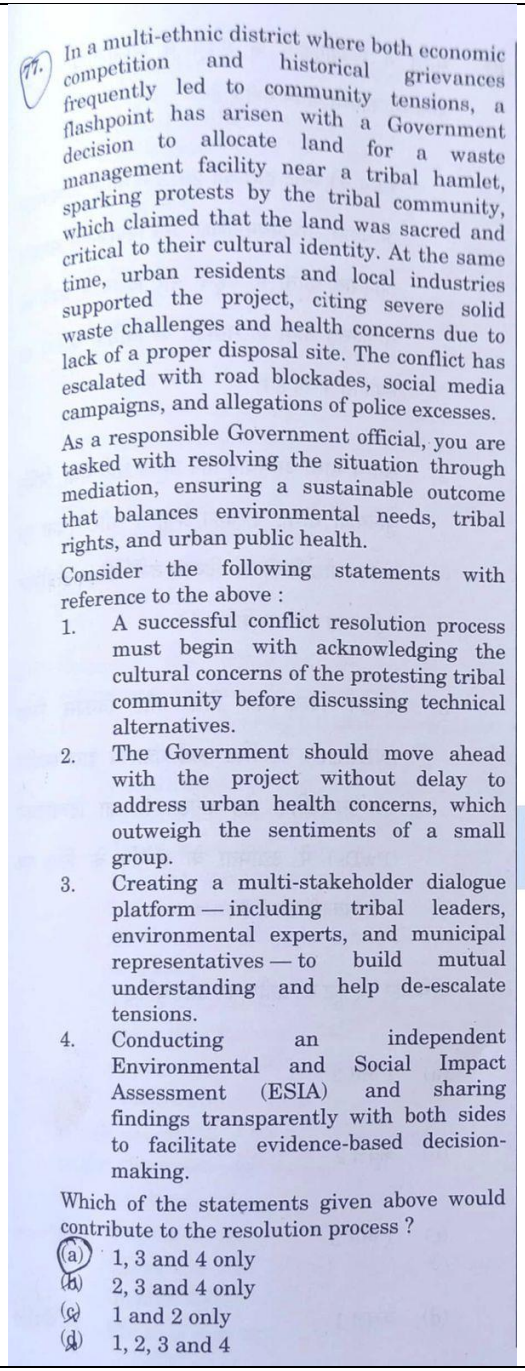
(a) Esprit de corps

(b) Equity

(c) Accountability

(d) Delegation

DECODE CIVILS

2	77			

77. In a multi-ethnic district where both economic competition and historical grievances frequently led to community tensions, a flashpoint has arisen with a Government decision to allocate land for a waste management facility near a tribal hamlet, sparking protests by the tribal community, which claimed that the land was sacred and critical to their cultural identity. At the same time, urban residents and local industries supported the project, citing severe solid waste challenges and health concerns due to lack of a proper disposal site. The conflict has escalated with road blockades, social media campaigns, and allegations of police excesses.

As a responsible Government official, you are tasked with resolving the situation through mediation, ensuring a sustainable outcome that balances environmental needs, tribal rights, and urban public health.

Consider the following statements with reference to the above :

1. A successful conflict resolution process must begin with acknowledging the cultural concerns of the protesting tribal community before discussing technical alternatives.
2. The Government should move ahead with the project without delay to address urban health concerns, which outweigh the sentiments of a small group.
3. Creating a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform — including tribal leaders, environmental experts, and municipal representatives — to build mutual understanding and help de-escalate tensions.
4. Conducting an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and sharing findings transparently with both sides to facilitate evidence-based decision-making.

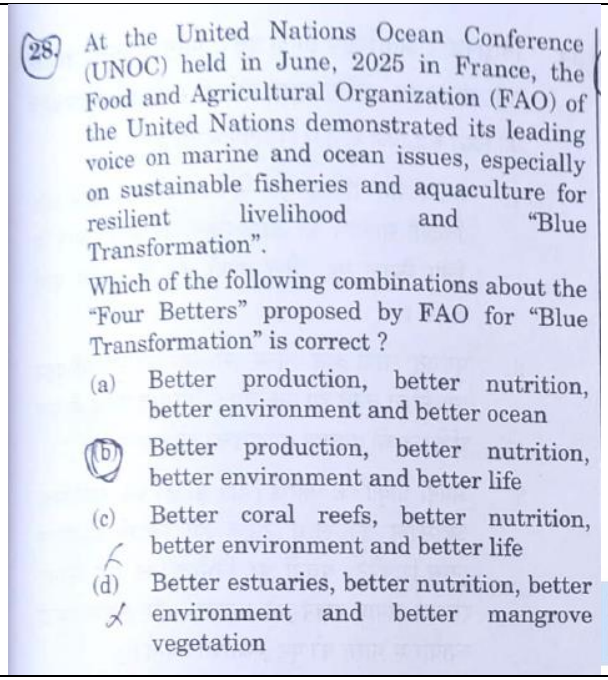
Which of the statements given above would contribute to the resolution process ?

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

DECODE CIVILS

3	78	78. Ms. X is a mid-level civil service official working in the urban development department of a major city. Recently, she was involved in approving a contract for a public infrastructure project — a new community park. During the approval process, she received a piece of confidential information indicating that one of the shortlisted contractors had a history of poor workmanship and allegations of corruption in other cities, though nothing had been legally proven. The Head of the Department, Mr. Y, advised her not to disclose this information to the project committee or the public because it could delay the project and damage the city's reputation. However, Ms. X believed that withholding such information compromised transparency and public trust. What amongst the following should Ms. X do now ? 1. Immediately disclose the information to the project committee and the public 2. Recommend removing the contractor from the shortlist to protect the project's integrity 3. Propose a 'limited disclosure' to an oversight committee, while keeping the information confidential from the public for the time being Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	

NEAR MISS QUESTIONS / REFLECTIONS

S.No.	Q. No.	Question's Screenshot	"Decode Current Affairs" Reference Screenshot & File-Page No.
1	28		FILE-2 PAGE 199

28. At the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) held in June, 2025 in France, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations demonstrated its leading voice on marine and ocean issues, especially on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for resilient livelihood and "Blue Transformation".

Which of the following combinations about the "Four Betters" proposed by FAO for "Blue Transformation" is correct ?

(a) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better ocean

(b) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life

(c) Better coral reefs, better nutrition, better environment and better life

(d) Better estuaries, better nutrition, better environment and better mangrove vegetation

The Indian Ocean

- The **Indian Ocean** is home to **one-third of humanity**. **India's Blue Ocean Strategy** should rest on **three pillars**: **stewardship of the commons**, **resilience**, and **inclusive growth**.
- At the **Blue Economy and Finance Forum (BEFF)** in Monaco, stakeholders highlighted a $25 billion pipeline of ocean investments and announced $8.7 billion in new commitments.
- At **COP30 in Belém**, the **One Ocean Partnership** committed to mobilise $20 billion for ocean action by 2030.
- **Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing**, coral reef degradation, and intensifying storm surges erode livelihoods and undermine social stability.
- **3rd United Nations Ocean Conference** (UNOC3) held in Nice, France, co-hosted by France and Costa Rica. Focused on accelerating action for SDG 14, this summit aims to bolster marine protection, enhance blue economy sustainability, and address climate impacts on oceans.

2	43	43. The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany visited India in January, 2026. Which of the following is/are ***not*** correct in terms of outcomes of this visit ? 1. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the All India Institute of Ayurveda and the University of Hamburg 2. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Hockey Development between Hockey India and the German Hockey Federation 3. Establishment of a bilateral dialogue mechanism on the Indo-Pacific 4. Opening of an Honorary Consul of Germany in Lucknow Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 4 (c) 3 and 4 (d) 1 only	**Germany-India** **Why in news:** India and Germany are celebrating **25 years of strategic partnership**. • **Defence cooperation** has expanded significantly, highlighted by the **Tarang Shakti Exercise (2024)**. **Joint military exercises** and **port calls by the German Navy** have anchored the **Indo-Pacific in Germany's strategic thinking**. • **Delhi-Meerut Rapid Rail**, operated in partnership with **Deutsche Bahn** and staffed by young Indian professionals. • In the backdrop of **Operation Sindoor after the Pahalgam terror attack**, the two leaders had agreed that **terrorism constitutes a major threat to peace and stability in the world**. • Since **May 2000**, **India and Germany** have had a '**Strategic Partnership**' which has been further strengthened with the launch of Inter-Governmental Consultations in 2011 at the level of Heads of Government. • Both sides have also acknowledged the need to further deepen **bilateral security and defence cooperation to jointly address global security challenges**. • Engagement focused on creating new axes of international stability and a fresh strategic geography termed **"Indo-Europe"**, amid disruptions from **US renewed unilateralism** and **Chinese assertive statecraft**. • Germany is India's **largest trading partner within EU**, though its trade with China is five times larger. **Defence and Security Cooperation** • Both agreed to develop a **joint roadmap for defence industrial cooperation**. • Germany has emerged as the **world's fourth-largest defence spender**, after the US, China, and Russia. **People-to-People** • Strengthening **skilled labour mobility** was a key focus, given Germany's labour shortage and ageing population. • The **Joint Declaration of Intent on the Global Skills Partnership** was highlighted. • In **2014**, around **27% of the German population was 60 and above**, a number that is expected to touch **35% by 2030**, as per statistics. Last year, **India and Germany** decided to increase the number of **visas for skilled Indians from 20,000 to 90,000 per year**. **File 2: Page 175**
3	46	**46.** 'X', born in the UK, was conferred the Nobel Prize in 2025. He was a professor in an American university when this prize was announced. Identify 'X' : (a) Michel H. Devoret (b) Richard Robson (c) John Clarke (d) Joel Mokyr	ensure tolerance to self-tissues. • In **transplantation**, engineered Tregs are being infused to improve graft acceptance. In **cancer**, selective depletion or reprogramming of tumor-associated Tregs is being explored to enhance immunity without triggering autoimmunity. **Quantum Tunnelling** • **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** awarded the **2025 Nobel Prize in Physics** to **John Clarke, Michel Devoret, and John Martinis** for experiments on **quantum tunnelling** — a phenomenon where **particles pass through barriers** that are **impenetrable in classical physics**. **Example:** A **cricket ball burrowing into the ground** instead of bouncing off — a metaphor for tunnelling at the quantum scale. • Experiments used an **electrical circuit** comprising **two superconductors** separated by an **ultrathin insulating barrier** called a **Josephson junction**. In **classical physics**, current through such a system remains in a **zero-voltage state** unless it has sufficient energy to cross the barrier. • At **temperatures near absolute zero**, the scientists observed **current tunnelling through the barrier**, demonstrating a **uniquely quantum phenomenon**. The system **behaved like a single large particle** with **discrete energy levels**, instead of a continuous range. **Superconducting phase difference** — a collective property of **trillions of electron pairs** — acted as a **single quantum variable**. • **Applications:** Superconducting qubits used in quantum computers; Ultrasensitive magnetometers for detecting weak magnetic fields; Quantum voltage standards ensuring measurement precision; Single-photon detectors used in astronomy and biomedical imaging. **File 3: Page 158**

4	61	**61.** Which of the following statements about insurance in aviation sector is/are correct ? 1. 'Aviation Hull Insurance' covers the physical aircraft, including the body, engine, and on-board equipment. 2. Under the Montreal Convention, adopted in 1999 by over 130 countries, including India, airlines are strictly liable to pay compensation to the family/nominee of every deceased passenger without requiring the family to prove fault. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	international flights: 1% blending in 2027 and 2% blending in 2028. • Feedstock: Oils and fats, oil-rich seeds, algae oils, animal fats, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Agricultural & forestry residues: wood waste, sugarcane bagasse, corn stover, husks, straw, sugars & starches. **Montreal Convention 1999 (MC99)** • India is the third-largest domestic aviation market globally, after the US and China. Montreal Convention 1999 (MC99) is a treaty for the unification of rules governing international air carriage, finalized under ICAO. • It provides a comprehensive legal framework for the carriage of passengers, baggage, and cargo by air, balancing the interests of travelers, cargo shippers, and the aviation industry. • India became the 91st member of the Montreal Convention by signing it in 2009. • In India, its provisions are implemented via the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Act, 2009, covering international carriage by airlines. **ICAO** • UN agency, established by the Chicago Convention of 1944 to ensure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation worldwide. ICAO officially came into existence on 4 April 1947, after sufficient ratifications of the Chicago Convention. The first official ICAO Assembly was held in May 1947 in Montreal. www.decodecivils.com Decode Civils YouTube, Telegram, Instagram, X, LinkedIn 86 **File 3 Page 86**
5	67	67. Which of the following statements with regard to Large Language Models (LLMs) used in machine learning is/are correct ? 1. LLMs assign probabilities to the next possible words and then pick the one with the highest probability. 2. LLMs process data through mathematical optimization to minimise prediction errors. 3. LLMs produce unbiased outputs. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	**Sarvam and IndiaAI Mission** **Why in news: Sarvam, Bengaluru start-up**, selected to build **India's first indigenous LLM** under **IndiaAI Mission**. • Sarvam's LLM will be **capable of reasoning, designed for voice**, and **fluent in Indian languages**. The model will not be open-sourced; compute support will come via government-backed AI data centres. • Sarvam is building **three LLM variants**: Sarvam-Large: for advanced reasoning and generation; Sarvam-Small: for real-time interactive applications; Sarvam-Edge: for on-device tasks • LLM will be **built, trained, and deployed entirely in India.** **IndiaAI Mission** • To **democratise compute**, improve **data access & quality**, develop **indigenous AI**, promote **ethical-impactful AI use**. • **Objectives**: Apply AI to health, education, agriculture, mobility, infra, smart cities; Improve decision-making, generate new applications, and boost productivity. **Seven Pillars:** Compute Capacity, Foundational Models, Datasets, Application Development, Future Skills, Startup Financing, Safe and Trusted AI. • India is a **founding member** of **GPAI**, an **OECD-supported initiative** for responsible AI development and cooperation. • Comes under the **MeitY** to: Build a high-end AI computing infrastructure with over **10,000 GPUs**; Create an AI marketplace for pre-trained models and resources. • **IndiaAI Datasets Platform (AI Kosha):** Provide access to high-quality, non-personal datasets for startups in Indian languages to reduce biases. • **LLMs** are general-purpose AI models trained to solve language-related tasks like text classification, summarisation, question answering, and text generation. The term **'Large'** refers to both the **huge volume of training data** and the **high number of parameters (model knowledge)**, which define its **problem-solving skill**. • **'General Purpose'** implies that LLMs can handle **a wide range of language tasks** without being trained for each one. **File 3 Page 141**

6	73	73. Which of the following statements with regard to GenomeIndia Project is/are correct ? 1. It is a part of the Human Genome Project. 2. The project is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India. 3. Its primary aim is to build a catalogue of genetic diversity of the Indian population. Select the answer using the code given below : (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	***Genome India*** • India has completed a **compilation** of **10,000 human genomes** representing **83 population groups**, about **2%** of the country's **4,600 population groups**. • The **'Genome India' database** will serve as a template for future investigations into **disease** and **drug therapy**. The database is housed at the **Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC)** in **Faridabad, Haryana**. It will be made available to **researchers worldwide** for further investigation. The **Indian genome database** focuses on **disease study**, with potential for **targeted clinical interventions** and advancing **precision medicine** for better healthcare. • The database will store data **numerically coded** without classification by **caste or tribe**. ***How Genes are Made*** • **Identical twins** are genetically identical, while **non-identical twins share 50% of their genes. Genes define individuality** by **Last Year's File Page 478**