

PRELIMSURE 2020 TEST 2 Detailed Answer Key

1. A

- The imperial palace is constructed chiefly of timber. The palace stood in an extensive park full of shady groves, a multitude of fish-ponds and trees. The gilded pillars of the palace were adorned with golden vines and silver birds. In the parks tame peacocks and pheasants were kept.
- The king employed a large body of spies, called overseers by Megasthenes, who transmitted secret and confidential reports to the king. The overseers in turn employed courtesans as their collaborators
- Megasthenes described the castes of Indian society according to their professions often mingling caste with occupation

2. C

- Although Sher Shah Suri's rule lasted for five years, he organized a brilliant administrative system. The central government consisted of several departments. The king was assisted by four important ministers:
 - Diwan –i- Wizarat– also called as Wazir- in charge of Revenue and Finance.
 - Diwan-i-Ariz– in charge of Army.
 - Diwan-i-Risalat- Foreign Minister.
 - Diwan-i-Insha- Minister for Communications.
- Sher Shah's empire was divided into forty seven sarkars. Chief Shiqdar and Chief Munsif were the two officers in charge of the administration in each sarkar. Each sarkar was divided into several parganas. Shiqdar (military officer), Amin (land revenue), Fotedar (treasurer) Karkuns (accountants) were in charge of the administration of each pargana. There were also many administrative units called iqtas.

3. B

- **Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)** was launched in December 2014 on an outlay of Rs. 500 crore (2014-15 to 2016-2017) for developing and conserving indigenous breeds through **selective breeding** and genetically upgrading 'nondescript' bovine population.
- The RGM aims to develop 'Gokul Gram' cattle care centres for indigenous breeds of high "genetic merit" as well as breeds that aren't as gifted.
- The RGM is managed by the Department of Animal Health and Husbandry (DAHD).
- The RGM doesn't address the issue of cattle past their reproductive or useful age
- <https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/750-crore-to-nurture-native-cow-breeds/article26155987.ece>

4. D

- Around 12,000 years ago, there were major changes in the climate of the world, with a shift to relatively warm conditions. This gradually led to the transformation into Mesolithic period. In many areas, this led to the development of grasslands and correspondingly animal rearing practises.

- It is not logical to say that early stone age tools was completely absent in the southern parts of India especially because there are several Paleolithic sites like Hunsgi, Kurnool etc.

5. C

- **Punjab** declared the endangered Indus river dolphins - one of the world's rarest mammals - as the state's aquatic animal.
- The Indus river dolphin is the second most endangered freshwater river dolphin. At present, there are only around 1,800 of these in the Indus in Pakistan. Their population in the Beas is between eight and 10.
- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/indus-river-dolphin-is-punjab-state-aquatic-animal/articleshowprint/67800897.cms>

6. D

- Statement 1 is true because Early Vedic Period is associated with pastoral culture where as the Later Vedic Period is marked by the second phase of urbanisation where a settled pattern of life emerges.
- Statement 2 is true because Painted Grey Ware culture was prevalent during the Vedic period . It is a **Vedic Age Indian culture** which extended towards the western Gangetic plain and the Ghaggar-Hakra valley on the Indian subcontinent.
- Statement 3 is true because Sabha which denotes the assembly in early Rig-Vedic was prominent. They had decision making powers. When the transformation began to the Later Vedic Period, the kings or the royal power started to exert more powers thus assemblies lost its significance.

7. D

- **Know My India Programme** is a unique programme initiated by the **National Foundation for Communal Harmony** (NFCH) to bring together financially assisted children of the Foundation from different States/Regions of the country to promote oneness, fraternity and national integration.
- The programme is all about familiarization with the environment, family life, social customs, etc. of the people living in different parts of the country; developing an understanding of the common historical and cultural heritage of the country
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1562467>

8. A

- One of the most important department in Mughals was the judicial department headed by the **chief qazi**. This post was sometimes combined with that of the **chief sadr** who was responsible for all charitable and religious endowments.

9. D

- Statement 1 is true because Jain doctrines believed that all the living beings has a soul and it is viewed in distinction with the body.

- Statement 2 is false because Jainas did not encourage image worship. Even Buddhists also did not encourage it in the initial period where as the later Buddhists and Jainas stressed on image worship.
- Statement 3 is false because Jainas do not recognise God as the supreme being. They place Jinas above the God.

10. A

- Statement 1 can be logically answered because during the Harappan period, except iron all the other metals were present. The alloys of bronze were used in lost wax techniques etc.
- Kalibangan is located in the state of Rajasthan and from our basic information, we know several sites in the state of Punjab and Haryana. So Kalibangan will not be the northern most site of Harappan. Northern most site is located in Jammu and Kashmir.

11. C

- The Mauryan empire was divided into four provinces, each under a viceroy-in-council. The four provinces were **Uttarapatha** (capital—Taxila), **Avantiratha** (Ujjain), **Dakshinapatha** (Suvamagiri) and **Kalinga** (Tosali or Dhauli).
- The viceroy was responsible for the maintenance of law and order, and collection of taxes for the centre. But neither Kautilya nor Asokan edicts disclose the amount of autonomy enjoyed by the provinces, if at all they had any.
- The council of ministers at the provincial level acted as a check on the local governor. This is apparent from two events before and during the reign of Asoka. The revolt in Taxila during the reign of Bindusara was against the local ministers and officers and not against the prince or governor

12. D

- Under the **New Framework for External Commercial Borrowing** (ECB), all entities eligible to receive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) are permitted to **raise ECBs up to USD 750 million** or equivalent per financial year under automatic route subject to certain terms and conditions prescribed in the Guidelines, replacing the system of sector-wise limits.
- The **Minimum Average Maturity Period** (MAMP) has been kept at **3 years** for all ECBs, irrespective of the amount of borrowing in lieu of various layers of MAMPs as under the earlier framework, except the borrowers specifically permitted in the circular to borrow for a shorter period.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1563553>

13.A

- Akbar gave complete religious freedom to his Hindu wives, and gave an honoured place to their parents and relations in the nobility. Bhara Mal was made a high grandee. His son, Bhagwan Das, rose to the rank of 5000 and his grandson, Man Singh, to the rank of 7000. This rank was accorded by Akbar to only one other noble, Aziz Khan Kuka, his foster-brother.

- Akbar emphasised his special relationship with the Kachhawaha ruler in other ways as well. The infant prince, Danyal, was sent to Amber to be brought up by Bhara Mal's wives
- In 1572, when Akbar dashed to Gujarat, **Bhara Mal** was placed in charge of Agra where all the royal ladies were residing, a signal honour given only to noble who were either relations or close confidants of the emperor.
- Akbar's Rajput policy proved extremely successful for Mughal Empire and is considered as the best examples of his diplomatic skills. He formed strong and stable empire with the help of Rajputs.

14. D

- The scheme for **Cultural Heritage Youth Leadership Programme (CHYLP)** envisaged enriching awareness of Indian culture and heritage amongst the youth in order to promote, understand and develop a fondness for India's rich cultural heritage, with a view to develop appropriate leadership qualities amongst youth.
- The focus of the programme was to be on less privileged children residing in backward areas by interacting with them in vernacular languages for their better understanding.
- The programme is implemented by the **Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT)**, an autonomous organization working under the purview of the Ministry of Culture.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1563761>

15. A

- Lomas Rishi Caves is located in the Barabar Hills of Bihar.
- Asoka and his grandson Dasaratha got several such cave-dwellings built in the Barabar Hills near Bodh Gaya, and donated them to the monks of Buddhism and the Ajivika sect. The details of two famous Barabar Caves (Sudama and Lomas Rishi Caves) show a clear influence of wooden architecture on rock-cut architecture.

16. D

- The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) recommends minimum support prices (MSPs) to incentivize the cultivators to adopt modern technology, and raise productivity and overall grain production in line with the emerging demand patterns in the country.
- Assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment is considered very important for increasing agricultural production and productivity since the market place for agricultural produce tends to be inherently unstable, which often inflict undue losses on the growers.
- Towards this end, MSP for major agricultural products is fixed by the government, each year, after taking into account the recommendations of the CACP.
- <https://cacp.dacnet.nic.in/content.aspx?pid=32>

17. B

- Option C can be eliminated because it refers to **chaityas** which is a space with a stupa and a rounded apse at the end opposite the entrance.

- Tripiṭaka is the traditional term for the Buddhist scriptures. **Sutta Pitaka** contains more than 10,000 suttas (teachings) attributed to the Buddha or his close companions. Option A can also be eliminated as a result.
- **Upasikas** are the title given to followers of Buddhism who are not monks, nuns, or novice monastics in a Buddhist order and who undertake certain vows to be part of the Buddhist sangas.

18. D

- Prohibition of animal sacrifices and festive gatherings and avoiding expensive and meaningless ceremonies and rituals.
- Efficient organisation of administration in the direction of social welfare
- Consideration and non-violence to animals and courtesy to relations and liberality to Brahmins, Sramanas, etc.
- Humane treatment of servants by masters and of prisoners by the government officials; it also mentions the appointment of **dhammamahamattas**). Tolerance among all the sects.
- Replacement of bherighosa (sound of war drums) by dhammaghosa (sound of peace), i.e., conquest through dhamma instead of through war.
- Maintenance of constant contact with the rural people through the system of **dhammayatras**.

19. C

- Earliest Tamil Works **Tolkappiyam, acknowledged as the earliest surviving Tamil literary work**, supposedly written by Tolkappiyar (one of the 12 disciples of saint Agastya), is a work on Tamil grammar of the aham or agam (love) and puram (war, government, etc.), orthography, construction, prosody, figures of speech, social practices, literary conventions, and the like. It is divided into three sections, each consisting of nine iyals (sub-chapters) and has a total of 1,612 sutras.
- **Pandyas were the first south Indian kingdom to be mentioned** by Megasthenes (the first literary evidence about the south Indian kingdoms). There is also mention of the three kingdoms—Pandyas, Cholas and Cheras—as neighbours in the Asokan inscriptions, particularly the Major Rock Edict II. The Hathi-gumpha inscription of Kharavela contains the only early epigraphic reference to the kingdoms of the Tamil country after the Asokan inscriptions

20. D

- **Cholas**
 - Chola kingdom of the Sangam period **extended from modern Tiruchi district to southern Andhra Pradesh**
 - **capital was first located at Uraiyur and then shifted to Puhar**
 - Karikala was a famous king of the Sangam Cholas.
 - **Pattinappalai portrays his early life and his military conquests.**
 - **In the Battle of Venni he defeated the mighty confederacy consisting of the Cheras, Pandyas and eleven minor chieftains.**

- **Vahaipparandalai was another important battle fought by him** in which nine enemy chieftains submitted before him. Karikala's military achievements made him the overlord of the whole Tamil country.
- **Trade and commerce flourished during his reign period.**
- **reclamation of forest lands and brought them under cultivation thus adding prosperity to the people.** He also built **Kallanai across the river Kaveri and also constructed many irrigation tanks.**

21. C

- The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) is an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
- It came into existence in January 1965.
- The recommendations of the CACP are NOT binding on the Union government.
- However, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) of the Union government takes a final decision on the level of MSPs based on the recommendations made by CACP.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1564053>

22. A

- **Palaolithic Age** spanned from 500,000 years ago till about 12,000 BC where the earliest evolution of humans began in India. It is generally a nomadic lifestyle characterised by hunting gathering for sustenance.
- The archaeological evidence of the Paleolithic period mainly comes from the Belan and Son valleys in the northern Vindhyas , Chota Nagpur plateau in Bihar, upland Maharashtra, Orissa and from the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh etc. It is generally absent in the alluvial plains of Ganga and Indus.
- When it comes to the tools used in the **Paleolithic**, they are the earliest designed tools so they will be **very rough and unpolished** unlike the Neolithic period where technology has advanced and more smooth tools have come up.

23. A

- As per the **Reserve Bank of India's** (RBI) Report on "Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2017-18", the proportion of persons joining the formal financial system in terms of an account at financial institutions has more than doubled since 2011 and by 2017 it had reached 80 per cent of the Indian population.
- As per the report, the number of brick-and-mortar branches and branches in business correspondent (BC) mode declined in rural areas partly due to the rationalisation of branches by banks through closing down of branches which were either unviable or located in close proximity to each other.
- Furthermore, some banks disengaged with corporate BCs due to non-performance.
- At the same time, the number of BCs in urban areas increased partly attributable to absorption of erstwhile pre-paid payment instruments (PPIs) providers into the BC fold.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1564085>

24. B

- **Sulvasutras** indicate the measurements required for construction of sacrifice altars. It marks the beginning of study of geometry and mathematics.
- They are the only sources of knowledge of **Indian mathematics** from the Vedic period. The four major Sulva Sutras are those attributed to Baudhayana, Manava, Apastamba and Katyayana

25. B

- **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium** (SFAC) is an exclusive Society focused on increasing incomes of small and marginal farmers through aggregation and development of agribusiness.
- SFAC is a registered society set up under the **Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860** under the administrative control of Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
- Its mandate is to link farmers to investment, technology and markets. SFAC is mandated to mobilize farmers into groups, called Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) and link these institutions to the market, for better returns.
- SFAC is also implementing the National Agriculture Market Electronic Trading (e-NAM) platform.
- The purpose is to provide for a single unified market for agricultural products with much higher price discovery for farmers.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1564355>

26. A

- The silver coins issued by the Guptas were called Rupaka. The silver coin was called Rupaka based on Sakas of Ujjaini weighing 32-36 grains. In Delhi Sultanate, gold coins were called Tanka which were equivalent to the Greek Drachm standard of 67 grains

27.D

- On 21st April 1526 the **first Battle of Panipat** took place between **Babur and Ibrahim Lodi**, who was killed in the battle. Babur's success was due his cavalry and artillery. Babur occupied Delhi and sent his son Humayun to seize Agra. Babur proclaimed himself as "**Emperor of Hindustan**".
- His subsequent victories over Rana Sanga and the Afghans secured his position as the ruler of India. Rana Sanga of Mewar was a great Rajput warrior.
- He marched against Babur and in the Battle of Khanua (near Agra) held in 1527 Babur won a decisive victory over him. Babur assumed the title Ghazi. In 1528, Babur captured Chanderi from another Rajput ruler Medini Rai. In the next year, Babur defeated the Afghans in the Battle of Gogra in Bihar.

28. C

- Option A is most definitely right. **Lothal and presence of dockyard** are known to us due to archaeological evidence found from the place.

- Except cash crops like sugarcane, every other normal crops were found to be grown in the Indus Valley civilisation.
- Option D which suggests that **big buildings** were found from the Harappa can also be right because of the presence of lower town and upper town separated by the citadel.
- Option C is interchanged as **male torso** is found from the Harappa whereas the priest king was excavated from the **Mohen jo daro**.

29. D

- The major cause of the rise of the new religions such as Buddhism is because of the rise of a new agricultural economy in north eastern India. Agricultural economy requires **reducing the practise of animal sacrifice**. Ban on animal sacrifice was encouraged by the non violent teachings of the Buddhism.
- The varna system divided society into several sections and automatically caused tensions. The shudras were used as domestic slaves, agricultural slaves etc. which caused discontent among the shudras as a whole.
- Vaishyas who became **economically prosperous** looked for a new religion which can help improve their social status. They **lend support** to Buddhist disciples causing growth and spread of the religion.

30. C

- Taxation based on **Significant Economic Process** will seek to widen the tax base in India by establishing a business connection and charging to tax income earned by digital businesses which operate out of jurisdictions with which India has not entered into a double taxation avoidance agreement (DTAA).
- However, where India has already entered into a DTAA, the SEP will only be effective after a renegotiation of such DTAA which will be based on international consensus.
- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/digital-tax-centre-rakes-in-moolah-with-equalisation-levy/article26260963.ece>

31.C

- A **khanqah** or khaniqah, also known as a ribat – among other terms – is a building designed specifically for gatherings of a Sufi brotherhood or tariqa and is a place for spiritual retreat and character reformation.

32. C

- On the dissolution of Loksabha, **all the matters pending before the house will lapse**.
- The Bills originated in the Rajyasabha and sent to Loksabha will lapse.
- But, the Bills introduced in the Rajyasabha which has not yet been passed by that house will not lapse. Also the Bill pending in Rajyasabha and not passed by Loksabha will not lapse.
- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/triple-talaq-and-citizenship-bills-lapse-as-rajya-sabha-adjourns-sine-die/article26256998.ece>

33.C

- Two brothers **Harihara (Hakka) I and Bukka Raya** laid the foundation of the Vijaynagar city, which was on the South bank of Tungabhadra River near Anegudi Fortress.
- They were also known as **Sangama brothers**. Vijaynagar Empire consolidated under Harihara I and began to expand and prosper under Bukka Raya which was more defensible and secure for its location between 14th and 16th century.
- It is said that a sage Madhav Vidyaranya and his brother Sayana were the inspirational source for this empire.
- The rulers were strict worshipers of the Hindu Gods and Goddess, but also tolerant towards the other religions.

34. C

- The **Global Innovation Policy Centre of the US Chamber of Commerce** compiles the annual 2019 Global Intellectual Property Index rankings and tracks 45 parameters concerning patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets for the index.
- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/blogs/et-commentary/how-much-down-the-trips-plus-path/>

35. A

- **Ibn Batuta** was from Morocco, who travel thirty years of his life from North Africa, West Africa, Southern Europe and Eastern Europe in the West, to the Middle East, Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and East China.
- He left an account of Harihara I's reign in his book Rehla.

36. A

- The village based societies which include the traces of huts or houses etc. are found at the sites like Burzahom, Mehrgarh etc. These evolved after humans started animal rearing practises and started agriculture. Archaeologists have also found cooking hearths even outside home during this period as well.
- The use of the sharp and polished neolithic tools made it easier to cultivate the soil. It was accompanied by the practice of domestication of animals. These changes in turn resulted in the emergence of settled agricultural communities. The Neolithic people also produced pottery for the purpose of storing grains.
- India is a vast land where uniform evolution of the Paleolithic culture is not possible.

37.A

The most learned men in Akbar's court were known as Navratnas.

- Abul Fazal.
- Faizi.
- Miyan Tansen.
- Raja Birbal.
- Raja Todar Mal.
- Raja Man Singh.
- Abdul Rahim Khan-I-Khana.
- Fakir Aziao-Din.

- Mirza Aziz Koka

38. C

- Brahmanical literature was particularly severe in the treatment of women and assigned to them a very low status in the society. Buddhist texts, on the other hand, were much more considerate in treating them.
- **Megasthenes testifies to the growing practice of polygamy; employment of women as palace guards, bodyguards to the king, spies, etc;** permission of widow remarriage and divorce. Thus, the position of women, though inferior to that of men and witnessing a downtrend, was not as bad as it came to be in the later periods such as the Gupta period.
- The economic changes of the period did not allow the Vedic four-fold system to function smoothly. There was a reduction of the gap between the Vaishyas (most of whom were now concentrating on trade though others continued cultivation) and the Sudras (quite a few of whom were now agriculturists others being artisans).
- There was improvement in their economic position, but no simultaneous improvement in their social status, which caused social tensions finally leading to the growth in the popularity of heterodox sects. The initial reaction of the Brahmins was to make the varna system more rigid. It is because of these social tensions that Asoka placed so much of emphasis on social harmony, and his dhamma was intended to infuse social responsibility and stability.

39. B

- Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences (ITSSO) is meant for Law Enforcement Agencies in the country.
- It is an online module available to law enforcement agencies at all levels- National, State, District and Police Station that allows State to undertake real- time monitoring and management for completion of investigation in rape cases in 2 months.
- It leverages the existing CCTNS database, which covers nearly 15000 police stations in the country.
- ITSSO is an initiative of the Ministry of **Home Affairs**.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1565023>

40. A

- The Satavahanas, who ruled over the Deccan, were equipped with all those material components which the Mauryas possessed in the earlier period in north India, namely the profuse use of coins and iron tools.
- They also used tiles and baked bricks as building material, as was the case in the north. Further, they benefited from the megalithic legacy which had created military, artisanal and agricultural preconditions for the formation of the Satavahana state, society and economy.
- What further distinguished their rule was the enormous trade with the Mediterranean region and the influx of the Roman money, coupled with the rise of urban settlements in the Deccan on a large scale. All these conditions facilitated the state formation in the Peninsula.

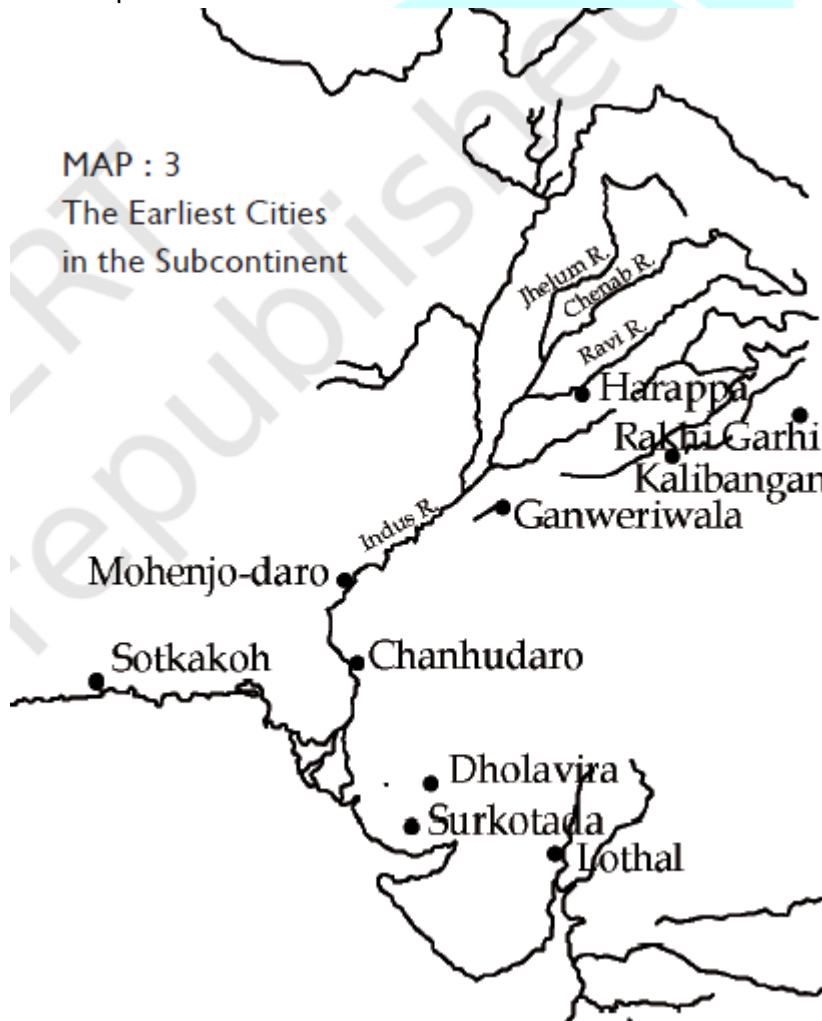
- **A non-Aryan people with matrilineal traces**, the Satavahanas were one of the earliest Deccan dynasties to be brahmanised.

41. C

- The objective of the Regional Maritime Safety conference is to deliberate on issues related to assuring maritime safety in the **India-ASEAN sub-region**, safeguarding our shores and promoting trade along the sea routes.
- The conference addressed a wide range of issues that affect regional maritime safety, including transport safety, maritime law, shipbuilding, transportation of hazardous goods, marine oil spill, pollution and environmental safety.
- The inaugural edition was organised by the **National Maritime Foundation (NMF)** in coordination with the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of External Affairs.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1564970>

42. D

- All the options are correct.



43. D

- Nuclear Radiation Technologies are used in Nuclear Medicine and Radiation therapy, Food Irradiation, developing improved seeds varieties, water purification technologies, urban waste management technologies, industrial application of radioisotopes and radiation technologies particularly in the petroleum industry for monitoring process lines, breakdown maintenance, dredging operations in seaports etc.
- Recently, the Ministry of External Affairs and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) organised the 'Parmanu Tech 2019' conference. The conference discussed issues and applications of Nuclear Energy and Radiation Technologies.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1562888>

44.C

- Sawai Raja Jai Singh was a Hindu Rajput ruler of the kingdom of Amber. Sawai Raja Jai Singh was a man of science. Jai Singh had a great interest in mathematics, architecture and astronomy.
- He built observatories at Jaipur, Delhi, Varanasi, Ujjain and Mathura. He later founded the fortified city of Jaipur and made it his capital.

45.C

- Iqta system was prevalent particularly during the period of Khilji and Tughlaq dynasty. Later on, Mughals also adopted a similar system like iqta known as mansabdar system in their administration.
- The features of iqta system are laid down below:
 - Kings appointed military commanders as governors of territories of varying sizes. Thus the land assigned was not fixed in size.
 - These lands are called as iqtas and their holder are known as iqtadar or muqti.
 - The duty of the muqtis was to lead military campaigns and to maintain law and order in the territory assigned to them.
 - In exchange for these military services, the muqtis collected the revenues for their assignments as salary. The iqtadars paid their soldiers through these revenue as well.
- Alauddin Khilji and Muhammad Bin Tughlaq made the iqta system inheritable to have greater efficiency and to reduce the complacency of the chosen iqtadars.

46. D

- Direct question. Both the travellers were very eager to know about the Buddhist principles and even visited many of the Buddhist places as pilgrims as well.
- Huien Tsang even visited Nalanda university at that time to learn Buddhist principles.

47. D

- Terracotta figurines are normally modelled through earthen clay models by basic handcrafts.
- Some of the options can be eliminated such as the cire perdue technique or the lost wax methodology.

- Soft Stones like steatites are used for creation of seals which were used by the Harappans in case of trade with neighbouring countries.
48. C
- The revenue-yielding land administered directly by the imperial Revenue Department was known as khalisa.
 - Ordinarily the most fertile and easily administered lands were brought within the khalisa. The extent of such lands varied from time to time
49. D
- Direct question. The basic principle of Jainism revolves around the notion of the soul – jīva. The ultimate objective of the Jain religion is for the soul to attain self-realisation, from the cycle of births. Jains believe that there is an infinite number of individual souls.
 - Jainism follows the practise of Sallekhana which is a form of extreme asceticism whereas Buddhism follows a middle path in almost all aspects and does not follow extreme asceticism. It focuses on attaining nirvana without doing such extreme steps.
50. C
- Kushana periods introduced the kshatrapas and mahakshatrapas which was the governance of provinces by dividing it into smaller provinces like satraps.
 - After the decline of the Mauryan kingdom, the North-west India had to pass through several waves of foreign invasions—Greeks, ParthoScythians and Yuehchis or Kushanas—who founded kingdoms in India and left ineffaceable memories on India’s social and political life.
 - Kushanas migrated from the Central Asian parts and they are not indigenous. Their most important rulers like Kanishka adopted the term Devaputra.
51. A
- Kabir and Guru nanak were contemporaries. Kabir (1440-1518) ; Guru Nanak(1469-1539) ; Dadu Dayal (1544-1603) ; Tukaram (1608-1649)
52. B
- Zabti System was introduced under the reign of Akbar to put a check on the problems that were arising due to fixing prices each year and revenue settlement of the last year. This system was basically developed by Raja Todarmal who was the finance minister at that time during Mugal Empire in India.
 - The revenue system was patterned on the **Kathi system** of Malik Amber. According to this system, every piece of land was measured by Rod or Kathi. He replaced the Jagirdari system with the Ryotwari system.
 - **Sardeshmukhi** was an additional levy of 10 percent demanded from areas outside from the kingdom. It was levied in addition to the **chauth tax**.
53. B

- The Upanishads are a collection of texts of religious and philosophical nature written during 6th-4th century BC during a time when Indian society started to question the traditional Vedic religious order.
- Upanishads develop some basic general principles. Some of these principles are samsara, karma, dharma and moksha.
- The concept of Samsara is reincarnation, the idea that after we die our soul will be reborn again in another body. It is mentioned first in the oldest Upanishad namely **Brihadaranyaka Upanishad**.

54. B

- Tawariqs are the histories or records written normally in Persian which was the language of the administration under the Delhi Sultanate. The authors of tariq are the learned men like secretaries, poets, courtiers, administrators etc.
- **Nastaliq style and Shikaste styles** are 2 styles of Persian calligraphy used to depict the records written during this period of time.
- Soldiers or warriors who fight wars against each other mounted on horseback are known as **sadars** in the context of medieval history.
- Leader or protector of the fort of a small or large town under the kingdom are referred to as kotwals in the context of medieval history.

55. D

- **Target of 3% of fiscal deficit** to be achieved by 2020-21
- Fiscal deficit brought down to 3.4% in 2018-19 RE from almost 6% seven years ago
- Allocation for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) increased by over 18% to Rs. 27,584 crore in BE 2019-20
- Substantial increase in allocation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes –
 - Allocation for SCs increased by 35.6% – from Rs. 56,619 crore in BE 2018-19 to Rs. 76,801 crore in BE for 2019-20
 - Allocation for the STs increased by 28% – from 39,135 crore in BE 2018-19 to Rs. 50,086 crore in 2019-20 BE
- Also, even the new education policy has an objective of 6% spending of the share of GDP.

56. B

- It is **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** aims to promote enrollment of girl child in the age group of 14-18 at secondary stage, especially those who passed Class VIII and to encourage the secondary education of such girls.
- State/ UT Governments, Schools controlled and managed by State Governments, Local Bodies and Aided Private Schools and Panchayati Raj Institutions will be the implementing partners.
- The amount of incentive may be released to the State/ UT Governments for depositing, the same in favour of the eligible girls.
- Features of the scheme:
 - According to the scheme, an amount of Rs.3000/- is deposited in the name of eligible unmarried girls as fixed deposit on enrolment in class IX, who are entitled

to withdraw it along with interest thereon reaching on 18 years of age and passing class 10th class examination.

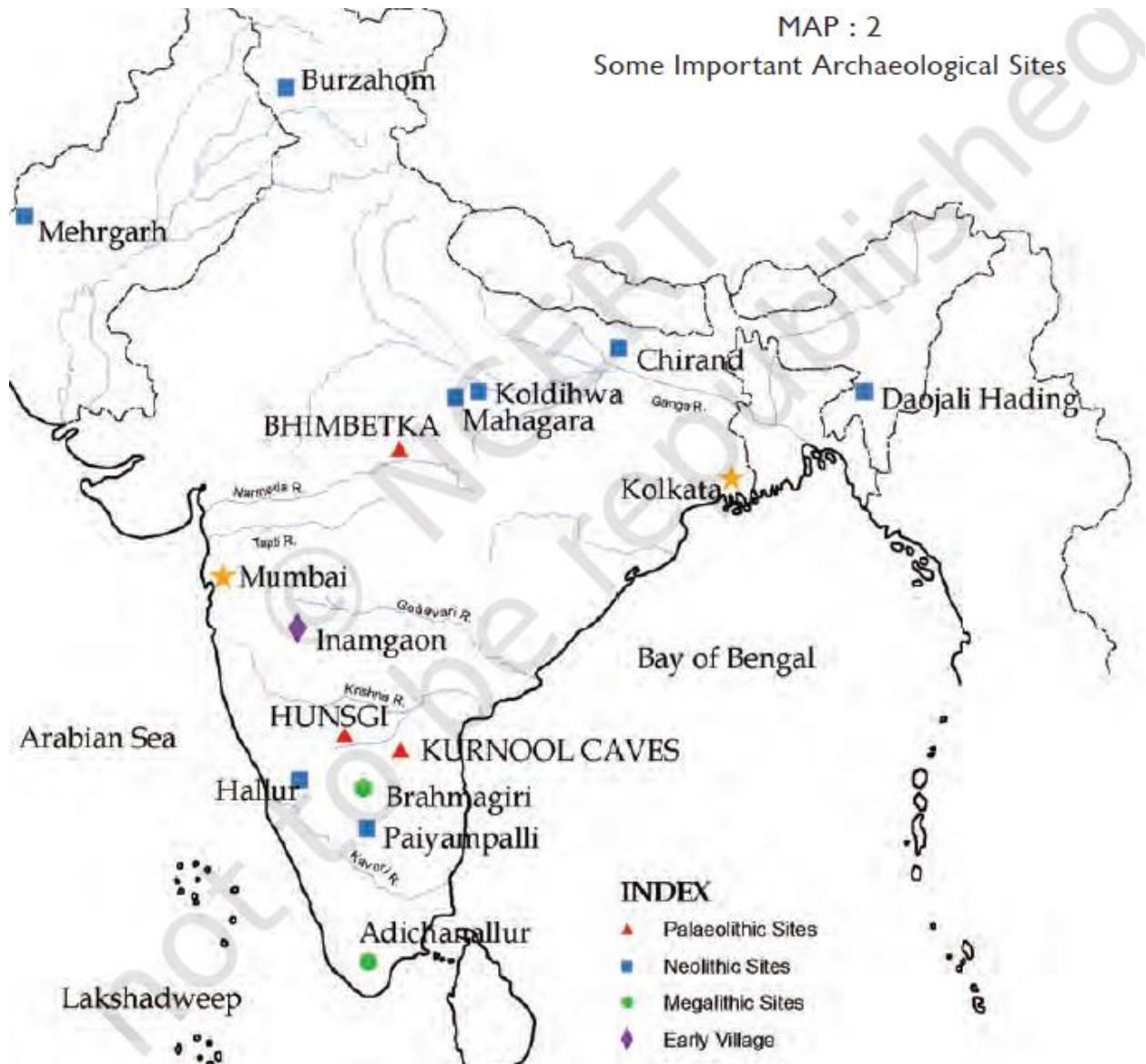
- The scheme is covered under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme.
- The scheme is on-boarded on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) since 2015-16.
- The scheme covers:
 - All girls belonging to SC/ST communities who pass class VIII and
 - All girls who pass class VIII examination from Kasturba Gandhi BalikaVidyalayas (irrespective of whether they belong to SC/ ST) and enroll in class IX in State/ UT Government, Government-aided and Local Body schools.

57. C

- **National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP):** To attract talent and strengthen higher agricultural education in the country
- It is a Rs 1100 crore ambitious project to attract talent and strengthen higher agricultural education in the country.
- This project will be **funded by the World Bank and the Indian Government** on a 50:50 basis.
- In addition, a four year degree in Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries and Forestry has been declared a professional degree.

58. C

CIVILS360



- As seen from the diagram, Inamgaon is an early village. **Early village sites are not paleolithic sites.**

59. C

- The Mansabdari System was introduced by Mughal emperor Akbar as new administrative machinery and revenue system.
- The term mansab literally means position, status or rank, but in context of the structure of the Mughal administration it indicated the rank of mansabdar- that is holder of mansab - in the official hierarchy.

60. A

- With the Gupta dynasty (~4th to 6th century), the growth in ritualistic Mahayana Buddhism, and the adoption of Buddhist ideas into Hindu schools, the differences between Buddhism and Hinduism blurred.
- Vaishnavism, Shaivism and other Hindu traditions became increasingly popular, and Brahmins developed a new relationship with the state.
- As the system grew, Buddhist monasteries gradually lost control of land revenue.
- In parallel, the Gupta kings built Buddhist temples such as the one at Kushinagara, and monastic universities such as those at Nalanda, as evidenced by records left by three Chinese visitors to India.

61. B

- Option C like specialists in Vedic rituals can be normally eliminated because in medieval India, such specialists are less in general.
- In medieval India, the designations '**Mahattara**' and '**Pattakila**' were used for village headmen. A village headman is the community leader of a village or a small town.
- He has several official duties in the village, and acts as a mediator in disputes relating to village or individuals

62. A

- Almost after a decade, India is set to participate in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and
- Development (OECD) that evaluates educational systems by measuring scholastic performance of 15-year-old students in Mathematics, Science and their reading abilities.
- PISA is a **triennial international survey** (every three years) which aims to evaluate the education system worldwide by testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students.
- Students are assessed in reading, mathematics, science and collaborative problem-solving.
- Participation in PISA allows benchmarking performance against a wide range of countries.
- PISA uses test items aligned with international benchmarks. Test items are adapted to the local context and language, pilot tested and validated before being used for the test.
- OECD has agreed to contextualize the questions for Indian students.
- <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=187830>

63. A

- Sher Shah issued a coin of silver which was termed '**Rupaya**'. This weighed 178 grains and was the precursor of the modern rupee.
- It remained largely unchanged till the early 20th Century. Together with the silver Rupaya were issued gold coins called the Mohur weighing 169 grains and copper coins called Dam.

64. A

- Harappan civilization developed the **first accurate system of standardized weights and measures**. They used weights and measures for commercial as well as building purposes.

- The **Ochre Coloured Pottery** culture is a 4th to 2nd millenium BC Bronze Age culture of the **Indo-Gangetic Plain** which extends from eastern Punjab to northeastern Rajasthan and western Uttar Pradesh. It was a contemporary neighbor to Harappan civilization

65. A

- The market reform of **Alauddin Khilji** was one of the most effective and far reaching economic regulations of the Sultanate period.
- It did not remain confined to rural economy but extended to urban market as well. He issued a set of seven regulations which came to be known as market control measures.
- These measures were enacted to regulate the activities of the traders who brought grain to Delhi.
- The Sultan fixed the prices of all commodities from grain to cloths, slaves, cattle etc.
- A controller of market intelligene officers and secret spies (munhiyan) were appointed. The grain merchants were placed under such officers..

66. D

- **ICT SCHEMES IN SCHOOLS**
- ICT in Education Curriculum for School System – ICT curriculum for teachers and students has been developed by NCERT. Students’ curriculum was piloted in 588 Navodaya Vidyalayas for one year.
- **e-pathshala** –Developed by NCERT for showcasing and disseminating all educational e-resources including textbooks, audio, video, periodicals and a variety of other print and non-print materials.
- National Repository of Open Educational Resources (NROER) – is an initiative to bring together all digital and digitisable resources across all stages of school education and teacher education. States/ UTs are motivated to contribute resources on NROER and create OERs for their own State/ UT.
- **SWAYAM**– The ‘Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds’ (SWAYAM) is an integrated platform for online courses, using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and covering school (9th to 12th) to Post Graduate Level. It offers online courses for students, teachers and teacher educators.
- **SWAYAM PRABHA**– A programme for utilization of satellite communication technologies for transmission of educational e-contents through 32 National Channels i.e. SWAYAM PRABHA DTH-TV has been launched.
- CBSE initiatives- SARANSH is a tool for comprehensive self review and analysis for CBSE affiliated schools and parents. It enables them to analyse students’ performance in order to take remedial measures.
- KVS initiatives– ICT Skills are imparted in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas to the students of classes III to XII
- **Operation Digital Board**– An initiative has been taken by Government of India to provide interactive digital boards to nearly 15 lakh classrooms across the country for 9th standard to post graduate level, where they can receive lectures from best teachers/professors and access quality e-content, in order to enhance overall learning process and experience of the students.

- **NO MORE TENSION APP AND SUGAM PORTAL ARE PART OF HEALTH INITIATIVES.**

67. B

- Mughal Empire was essentially military in nature where the word of the emperor was law.
- The administrative structure was highly centralized as viewed by historians like Irfan Habib, Athar Ali, etc. Mughal Empire was divided into Suba; **Suba was further divided into Sarkar, Pargana and Village**

68. C

- Under the Scheme, EPCG Authorizations are issued with actual user condition and import validity of 24 months to import capital goods (except those specified in negative list) for pre-production, production and post-production at zero customs duty, and subject to fulfilment of specific Export Obligation equivalent to 6 times of duties, taxes and cess saved on capital goods, to be fulfilled in 6 years from date of issue of Authorization.
- In addition, the Authorization holder is required to fulfil Average Export Obligation achieved by him in the preceding three licensing years for the same and similar products.
- However, if minimum 75% of specific Export Obligation and 100% of Average Export Obligation is fulfilled within half the original export obligation period, remaining export obligation can be condoned.
- Further, in case of indigenous sourcing of capital goods and for exports of Green Technology products, specific EO is only 75%.
- For Units located in North East Region and Jammu & Kashmir, specific EO is only 25%.
- Presently, capital goods imported for physical exports are also exempt from IGST and Compensation Cess up to 31.03.2019.

What is EPCG?

- EPCG is a zero duty scheme which allows the import of capital goods such as machinery for preproduction, production and post-production of export items.
- The duty free import by an exporter has to be paid back in the form of an export obligation equivalent to 6 times of duty saved on capital goods imported under EPCG scheme, to be fulfilled in 6 years reckoned from Authorization issue-date.
- EPCG Scheme Eligibility – Applicant
- Manufacturer exporters with or without supporting manufacturer(s), merchant exporters tied to supporting manufacturer(s) and service providers are eligible under the EPCG scheme. EPCG scheme also covers Common Service Provider (CSP)

69. A

- Babur, the first Mughal ruler, wrote his autobiography Baburnamah or Tuzuk-i-baburi in Turki or Turkish language which was his native tongue.
- Baburnamah, Wakai or Wakiat-i-Baburi, or Tuzak-i-Baburi as Babur's Memoirs are variously known, is the main source of information about his life and career.

70. D

- They are large brown algae seaweeds. They grow in "underwater forests" (kelp forests) in shallow oceans.
- Generally speaking, kelps live further from the tropics than coral reefs, mangrove forests, and warm-water seagrass beds.
- Although kelp forests are unknown in tropical surface waters, a few species have been known to occur exclusively in tropical deep waters.
- They are considered as Keystone Species and their removal is likely to result in a relatively significant shift in the composition of the community and perhaps in the physical structure of the environment.
- It provides as an important source of food for many marine species. In some cases, up to 60% of carbon found in coastal invertebrates is attributable to kelp productivity. It may be consumed directly or colonised by bacteria that in turn are preyed upon by consumers.
- Also, the rich fauna of mobile invertebrates in kelp beds makes this an important habitat in the diet of fish species.
- They provide a foraging habitat for birds due to the associated and diverse invertebrate and fish communities present.
- It increases productivity of the near shore ecosystem and dumps carbon into that ecosystem. Kelp primary production results in the production of new biomass, detrital material etc.
- It slows down the flow of the water which is important in situations where animals are spawning and releasing their larvae.
- They are natural breakwaters and prevent coastal erosion.
- They can influence coastal oceanographic patterns and provide many ecosystem services.
- It is an important source of potash and iodine. Many kelps produce algin, a complex carbohydrate useful in industries such as tire manufacturing, ice-cream industry.

71. D

- **First Buddhist Council** was held soon after the death of the Buddha dated by the majority of recent scholars around 400 BCE under the patronage of the **king Ajatashatru** with the monk Mahakasyapa presiding at Sattapanni caves Rajgriha.
- **Bimbisara was the contemporary of Buddha and Mahavira.** The Fourth Buddhist council which was held under the patronage of Kushana King Kanishka.
- It was in this council that buddhism was divided into two sects namely Mahayana and Hinayana sects.

72. D

- Direct question. As known, Harappan civilisation were the earliest form of cities. These cities developed near the banks of Indus river system.



-
- Several kingdoms like Avanti, Asmaka etc. are located south of the banks of Ganga.

73.C

- Bhakti was accepted as a means to attain moksha along with jnana and karma.
- The development of this cult took place in South India when the Nayanars and Alwars moved against the austerities propagated by the Buddhist and Jain schools and professed that ultimate devotion to god was the means to salvation.
- People were no longer satisfied with a religion which emphasized only ceremonies. The cult is the combined result of the teachings of various saints, through the then times.
- Each of them had their own views, but the ultimate basis of the cult was a general awakening against useless religious practices and unnecessary strictness. The cult also emerged as a strong platform against casteism.

Some of the important leaders of the movement are:

- Namadeva and Ramananda (Maharashtra and Allahabad) – Both of them taught the concept of bhakti to all the four varnas and disregarded the ban on people of different castes cooking together and sharing meals.
- Sankara and Ramanuja – The propounders of Advaita (non-duality) and vishishta adwaitha (qualified non-duality) respectively. They believed god to be nirguna parabrahma and satguna parabrahma respectively.
- Vallabhacharya – propounder of shuddha adwaitha or pure non-duality.
- Chaitanya (Bengal) – relied on the use of music, dance and bhajans to get in touch with God. 'love' was the watchword of the chaitanya cult.

- Kabir – was a disciple of Ramananda, and was raised by a Muslim weaver. He stood for doing away with all the unnecessary customs and rituals in both religions and bringing union between these religions.
- Guru Nanak.
- Nimbakacharya – founder of the Radha-Krishna cult. He expressed this relation to substantiate the importance of marriage. It was also used as an example of God's love to the people.

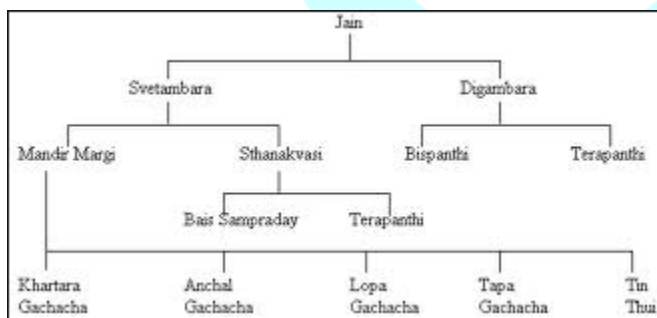
74. C

- **Gupta and Post-Gupta period** marks the revival of brahmanism and social inequalities. So growing importance of women and reduction in untouchability cannot happen.
- Also, revival of Buddhism has not happened after the Mauryan period.
- So one can reach the safe option very soon.

75. C

- The main objective of the FAME India scheme is to encourage Faster adoption of Electric and hybrid vehicle by way of offering upfront Incentive on the purchase of Electric vehicles and also by way of establishing a necessary charging Infrastructure for electric vehicles.
- The scheme will help in addressing the issue of environmental pollution and fuel security.
- The FAME India Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
- The Union cabinet has approved the proposal for implementation of FAME India Phase II for the promotion of Electric Mobility in the country.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1566757>

76. B



- The above picture shows the major classification of Jainism such as Svetambara and Digambara traditions.
- Svetambara or "white-clad" is a term describing its ascetics' practice of wearing white clothes, which sets it apart from the Digambara "sky-clad" Jainas, whose ascetic practitioners go naked.
- The subdivisions of the Digambara traditions are Bispanthi and Terapanthi.

77. A

- In order to protect the migratory species throughout their range countries, a Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), has been in force, under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme.
- Also referred to as the Bonn Convention, it provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats and brings together the States through which migratory animals pass, the Range States, and lays the legal foundation for internationally coordinated conservation measures throughout a migratory range.
- India has been a Party to the CMS since 1983.
- The 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS) is going to be hosted by India during 15th to 22nd February 2020 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1563577>

78. C

- Chauth (from Sanskrit meaning one-fourth) was a regular tax or tribute imposed, from early 18th century, by the Maratha Empire in India. It was an annual tax nominally levied at 25% on revenue or produce, hence the name.
- It was levied on the lands which were under nominal Mughal rule.
- The sardeshmukhi was an additional 10% levy on top of the chauth. It is a tribute paid to the king. It was started by Raja Som Shah of Ramnagar State.

79. A

- Rail Drishti dashboard encompasses all the digitization efforts in Indian Railways and promotes transparency and accountability.
- It brings information from various sources on a single platform and gives access to key statistics and parameters to every citizen of the country.
- This dashboard can be accessed using a desktop/laptop or a mobile device such as a phone or tablet.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1566211>

80. D

- The Hathigumpha Inscription consists of seventeen lines in Central-Western form of Prakrit incised in a deep-cut Brahmi script on the overhanging brow of a natural cavern called Hathigumpha in the southern side of the Udayagiri hill, near Bhubaneswar in Odisha.
- Kalinga at the time of Kharavela included the districts of Puri and Cuttack and possibly a portion of the Visakhapatnam district, besides Ganjam.
- The Hathigumpha inscription in the Udayagiri hill describes the achievements of Kharavela.
- The Hathigumpha inscription, being undated and badly mutilated has been the source of much speculation. The inscription of 17 lines of which only four are legible records the first 13 years of the reign of Kharavela.

81. B

- Dara Shikoh, an extraordinarily learned and erudite prince, was the first to translate the Upanishads into Persian. The Mughal court was a microcosm of the contemporary Indian society.
- During Akbar's time, his court chronicler, Abul Fazl, translated texts like the Mahabharata and Ramayana into Persian.

82. B

- Early Vedic period which came into existence after the decline of Indus Valley Civilisation was predominantly a pastoral society. The pastoral society had seen cattle as the most important source of wealth.
- People even engaged in cattle raids to enhance their wealth. The cattle also were used to improve agriculture activities in general as well. Thus there is a coexistence of the agriculture and pastoralism.
- The practise of erecting megalithic burials was prevalent in India about 3000 years ago itself. This coincides with the Early Vedic period.

83. D

- A monolithic statue of Bahubali referred to as "Gommateshvara" was built by the Ganga dynasty minister and commander Chamundaraya is a 60 feet (18 m) monolith and is situated above a hill in Shravanabelagola, in the Hassan district of Karnataka. It was built in the 10th century AD.

84. C

- France, Germany and the UK established INSTEX (Instrument for supporting Trade Exchanges) as a special purpose vehicle to allow them to bypass US sanctions on trade with Iran.
- The INSTEX has been set up to enable non-dollar trade between Europe and Iran, and as a mechanism, will deal with food and medicine (humanitarian non-sanctioned categories by the US).
- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/article26381780.ece>

85.A

- A Peshwa was the equivalent of a modern Prime Minister in the Maratha Empire of the Indian subcontinent. Originally, the Peshwas served as subordinates to the Chhatrapati, but later, they became the de facto leaders of the Marathas, and the Chatrapati was reduced to a nominal ruler.

86. D

- The National Mineral Policy 2019 proposes to grant the status of the industry to mining activity to boost the financing of mining for the private sector and for acquisitions of mineral assets in other countries by the private sector.
- NMP 2019 aims to attract private investment through incentives while the efforts would be made to maintain a database of mineral resources and tenements undermining tenement systems.

- The new policy focuses on use of coastal waterways and inland shipping for evacuation and transportation of minerals and encourages dedicated mineral corridors to facilitate the transportation of minerals.
- NMP 2019 proposes a long term export-import policy for the mineral sector to provide stability and as an incentive for investing in large scale commercial mining activity.
- The 2019 Policy also introduces the concept of Inter-Generational Equity that deals with the well-being not only of the present generation but also of the generations to come and also proposes to constitute an inter- ministerial body to institutionalize the mechanism for ensuring sustainable development in mining.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1566733>

87. D

- Mahavira was contemporary to Buddha
- Bimbisara was contemporary of both Mahavira and Buddha. The Jain texts mention that he was a disciple of Lord Mahavira. The Buddhist texts mention that he met Buddha before enlightenment. Buddha promised him to visit his capital after he gets enlightenment.

88. D

- The thermal power plants running on coal are considered as a major source of air pollution in India. Some of the major pollutants emitted by such plants are suspended particulate matter, sulphur oxide, nitrogen oxide and mercury.
- Despite the Ministry of Environment notifying emission limits for these major pollutants in December 2015, the effort to clean up India's thermal power plants running on coal has never really taken off.
- Recently, the Power Ministry has proposed to provide the equivalent of over \$12 billion (about Rs. 88,000 crores), mainly to remove sulphur from coal plant emissions.
- <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/clean-power/article26314664.ece>

89. D

- Buddhist symbolism is the method of Buddhist art to represent certain aspects of life of the Buddha that are considered to be the most important in his life.
- The most common symbols of Buddhism are the stupa which represents the mahaparinirvana, the Dharmachakra or Dharma wheel which represents the first sermon, the Bodhi Tree which represents the enlightenment of the Buddha and the lotus flower which represents the birth of Buddha.

90. A

- The Committee of Experts (CoE) constituted by the Ministry of Defence under the chairmanship of Lt. Gen (Retd) DB Shekatkar to recommend measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the armed forces, submitted its report in December 2016.

91. C

- Anuvrata. The 'lesser vows' which Jain lay-people take, as a kind of parallel to the great vows of the ascetics.
- They are applied in the practice of daily life. The gunavratas are three supplementary vows, restricting unnecessary travel (in the light of (i) above, and counteracting self-indulgence and extravagance).

92. B

- The e-Tourist Visa which was introduced in September 2014 with 46 countries has now been made applicable for 166 countries. Recently, government has made series of amendments in e-visa regime, liberalizing it further and making it more tourist friendly.
- Important modifications made are highlighted as under:
 - Duration of stay in India of e-Tourist and e-Business Visas is maximum upto 1 Year with multiple entry subject to the stay stipulations.
 - Also, the existing restriction of allowing foreigner for a maximum of three times has also been removed.
- Changes in e-Tourist Visa
 - On e-Tourist Visa continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 90 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa except nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan.
 - In case of nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days. In all cases no registration will be required.
- Changes in e-Business Visa
 - Continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa
 - No registration will be required if the stay is for a period of less than 180 days. Other changes:
 - e-Visa is valid for entry through 2 (two) more designated Airports (Bhubaneswar and Port Blair) raising the total number of such airports to 28.
 - Attending Destination wedding under normal e-Tourist visa or Tourist visa- No separate category of Destination Wedding Visa
 - Foreign nationals who fall sick during their stay in India can now avail medical treatment without converting their visa into Medical Visa. This would take care of sudden medical emergencies.
 - Visa-on-Arrival facility extended to the nationals of Republic of Korea.

93. A

- The Women's Livelihood Bonds will enable individual women entrepreneurs in sectors like food processing, agriculture, services and small units to borrow around Rs 50,000 to Rs 3 lakh at an annual interest rate of around 13-14 per cent or less.
- The bonds, which will have tenure of five years, were launched by SIDBI with the support of World Bank and UN Women.
- SIDBI will act as the financial intermediary and channel funds raised to women entrepreneurs through participating financial intermediaries like banks, NBFCs or microfinance institutions.

- The WLBs will be unsecured, unlisted bonds and offer fixed coupon rate of 3 per cent per annum to bond investors.
- <https://indianexpress.com/article/business/world-bank-un-sidbi-launch-rs-300-crore-womens-livelihood-bond-5592031/>

94. C

- The City of Dholavira is peculiar out of the other Indus Valley cities because it has three distinct zones like the Upper, Middle and Lower Towns unlike the normal cities which have lower and upper towns.
- The middle town was characterised by a network of streets with defined hierarchy, intersecting at perfect angles.
- Beyond the middle town and enclosing it and the citadel was the lower town where commoners or the working population lived.

95. D

- Create eco-system for globally competitive ESDM sector: Promoting domestic manufacturing and export in the entire value-chain of ESDM.
- Provide incentives and support for manufacturing of core electronic components.
- Provide a special package of incentives for mega projects which are extremely high-tech and entail huge investments, such as semiconductor facilities display fabrication, etc.
- Formulate suitable schemes and incentive mechanisms to encourage new units and expansion of existing units.
- Promote Industry-led R&D and innovation in all sub-sectors of electronics, including grass root level innovations and early stage Start-ups in emerging technology areas such as 5G, IoT/ Sensors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, Virtual Reality (VR), Drones, Robotics, Additive Manufacturing, Photonics, Nano-based devices, etc.
- Provide incentives and support for significantly enhancing the availability of skilled manpower, including re-skilling.
- Special thrust on Fabless Chip Design Industry, Medical Electronic Devices Industry, and Automotive Electronics Industry and Power Electronics for Mobility and Strategic Electronics Industry.
- Create a Sovereign Patent Fund (SPF) to promote the development and acquisition of IPs in the ESDM sector.
- Promote trusted electronics value chain initiatives to improve national cybersecurity profile.
- <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1565285>

96. B

- Direct question. The Mahayana and Hinayana traditions differ in the fact that only Mahayana recognise the Bodhisattvas who delay their own salvation to help others attain it. Where as, the Hinayana does not recognise the Bodhisattvas at all.

- Mahayana believed in idol worship. They began to emphasise on building Buddhist sculptures and images for worship whereas the Hinayanas did not deviate from the initial worship styles.

97. D

- The Dard Aryans inhabit Dha, Hanu, Beema, Darchik and Garkone villages in Leh and Kargil districts. The villages are together called the Aryan valley.
- The people of this region are completely different from those in other parts of Ladakh. They have unique physical features, social life, ethnic culture, and language.
- They are not categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
- Dard Aryans', who are known for liberal customs, are struggling to preserve the cultural legacy. There are just 4,000 of them left in the world.
- <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/the-dard-aryans-of-ladakh-who-are-this-tribe-what-are-their-concerns-5574657/>

98. B

- The modern names of Sindhu is Indus, that of Vitasta is Jhelum, Asikini is Chenab, Iravati is Ravi, Vipasa is Beas and Sutudri is Satluj. The Sapta Sindhu refers to the region of the seven sacred rivers mentioned in the Rigveda and in the Zend Avesta. It comprises of the areas in Punjab and eastern Pakistan.

99. B

- NCSK is not a constitutional body
- The NCSK was established in the year 1993 as per the provisions of the NCSK Act 1993 initially for the period upto 31.3.1997.
- The NCSK Act ceased to have effect from 29.2.2004. After that the tenure of the NCSK has been extended as a non-statutory body from time to time. The tenure of the present Commission is upto 31.3.2019.
- With the enactment of "The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013", the mandate and scope of the Commission has also been enlarged.
- They can monitor the implementation of the Act, take suo motu cases related to the implementation of the matters related to the Act etc.

100. A

- Dasas or Dasyus were the rivals of Indo Aryans during the Vedic period.
- Option A is right because it is mentioned that the Aryans saw such group as opponents.
- Option B can also be eliminated because yajnas are normally performed by higher sections and not dasas.
- Option C is incorrect because rajasuya is performed mainly by the priest whereas the Ashwamedha practises are mainly practised by the kings.
- Option D is incorrect because the dasas are not within the group of Aryans.