

**PRELIMSURE TEST-13 DETAILED ANSWER KEY**

1. C

- On the 150th birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog's Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) India has launched 'the Gandhian Challenge'.
- This innovation challenge provides a platform for every child across India to ideate innovative solutions for a sustainable India of their dreams, using Gandhi's principles.
- The contest – open for every child in India from 2 October to 20 October – also celebrates 70 years of partnership between the Government of India and UNICEF India to enable Every Right for Every Child.
- The most innovative, sustainable solutions/ideas will be showcased as a symbol of a larger movement by children taking root in every district of India.

2. A

- The process of becoming a WTO member is unique to each applicant country, and the terms of accession are dependent upon the country's stage of economic development and current trade regime. The process takes about five years, on average, but it can last longer if the country is less than fully committed to the process or if political issues interfere.
- The WTO has 164 members (including European Union) and 23 observer governments (like Iran, Iraq, Bhutan, Libya etc). WTO members do not have to be fully independent states; they need only be a customs territory with full autonomy in the conduct of their external commercial relations. 12 UN member states have no official affiliation with the WTO.

3. C

- Youth Co:Lab was co-created in 2017 by UNDP and the Citi Foundation, and operational in 25 countries across the Asia Pacific region, the Youth Co:Lab initiative aims to create an enabling ecosystem to promote youth leadership, innovation, and social entrepreneurship.
- In the latest initiative to recognize young people as critical drivers of sustainable development, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India launched Youth Co:Lab which aims at accelerating social entrepreneurship and innovation in young India.
- AIM and UNDP, as part of UNSDF signed between NITI Aayog and UN India, are collaborating to spread awareness about different issues pertaining to youth, the future of work and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through Youth Co:Lab.

4. A

## Prelimsure 2020

- Gross Cropped Area (GCA) is the total area sown once as well as more than once in a particular year. When the crop is sown on a piece of land for twice, the area is counted twice in GCA. On the other hand, Net Sown Area is the area sown with crops but is counted only once.
- The net sown area is 140.1 million hectares and the gross cropped area is 198.4 million hectares with a cropping intensity of 142 percent. The average cropping intensity has increased to about 25% since Independence. Also, with the advent of Green Revolution since 1960's it is logical to conclude that the cropping intensity will not reduce in India.

5. A

- India's first private train, Tejas Express, was recently flagged off on the Lucknow-Delhi-Lucknow corridor. Indian Railways' commercial tourism and catering arm, IRCTC has been given the task of operating two premium trains as a private entity. 2 nd private train will soon be run on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Mumbai sector.
- Golden quadrilateral is a road highway and not related to the Railways. Also, India's First Semi High Speed Train is "Vande Bharat Express".

6. D

**Public Expenditure in India: as per cent of GDP (%)**

	1990-91	2000-01	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
<b>Developmental Expenditure (including loans &amp; advances: gross)</b>											
- Education, Art & Culture	2.96	2.93	2.85	3.11	3.20	3.24	3.22	3.17	2.86	3.19	3.24
- Healthcare	1.12	1.12	1.08	1.17	1.11	1.09	1.09	1.07	1.08	1.31	1.38
- Social & Community Services	5.28	5.24	5.93	6.39	6.36	6.43	6.61	6.34	5.80	6.95	7.26
- General Economic Services	0.85	0.20	0.35	0.28	0.51	0.43	0.36	0.39	0.27	0.66	0.65
<b>Total Dev. Expenditure</b>	<b>14.32</b>	<b>11.55</b>	<b>14.15</b>	<b>14.17</b>	<b>14.18</b>	<b>14.47</b>	<b>14.23</b>	<b>13.50</b>	<b>12.82</b>	<b>15.52</b>	<b>15.69</b>
<b>Revenue Expenditure</b>	<b>20.97</b>	<b>22.29</b>	<b>22.92</b>	<b>23.80</b>	<b>22.92</b>	<b>23.09</b>	<b>22.85</b>	<b>22.53</b>	<b>21.71</b>	<b>23.73</b>	<b>24.38</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>4.21</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.76</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>4.72</b>

7. D

- Recently China and Russia have inaugurated cross border gas pipeline named "Power of Siberia". It is the first cross-border gas pipeline between Russia and China.

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- Under this pipeline project, Russia will deliver 1 trillion cubic meters of natural gas to China over the next 30 years. The pipeline will pass through the deltas of the Yangtze and Amur rivers of China.
- The new pipeline is an emblem of closer energy integration in Eurasia, with Russia and China as the key partners



8.C

- India and Pakistan have signed an agreement to operationalise the Kartarpur corridor that will facilitate pilgrims from India to visit the Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan.
- The corridor connects Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur with Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, the final resting place of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak, to commemorate his 550th birth anniversary celebrations.

## Prelimsure 2020

- The agreement is valid initially for five years and the corridor would be operational throughout the year. Persons of Indian origin holding OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) card too can visit the Kartarpur gurdwara through the corridor.
- It has been decided that 5,000 pilgrims could visit the shrine everyday and that additional pilgrims would be allowed on special occasions, subject to capacity-expansion facilities by the Pakistani side of Kartarpur
- The first guru of Sikhism, Guru Nanak, founded Kartarpur on the right bank of the Ravi River and established the first Sikh commune there.

9. B

- The World Trade Organization, as an institution was established in 1995. It replaced the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) which was in place since 1946. It was signed in Geneva by only 23 countries and by 1986, when the Uruguay round started (which was concluded in 1995 and led to the creation of WTO in Marrakesh, Morocco), 123 countries were already its members.
- Like its predecessor, the GATT, the WTO operates as a rules-based, member driven organization. All major decisions are made by the membership as a whole, with each member having an equal voice. Ordinarily, decisions are made by consensus. A consensus is reached if no member formally objects to a decision.
- India has been a member of GATT since 1948; hence it was party to Uruguay Round and a founding member of WTO. China joined WTO in 2001 and Russia had to wait till 2012.

10. D

- Make in India initiative was launched by Prime Minister in September 2014 as part of a wider set of nation-building initiatives. It was devised to transform India into a global design and manufacturing hub.
- It aims to enhance the share of manufacturing sector in GDP of India, this enables the transition of India into a industry led economy. However, statement 1 can be eliminated because it says complete import substitution strategy which is unrealistic.
- Similarly, capital intensive industries are also a vital part of the Make in India programme along with the labour intensive industries. There is no replacement of any of them. Only statement 2 is correct.

11. C

- The Department of Tourism in Manipur hosted the 3rd state level Shirui Lily Festival, starting from October 16, 2019. It was hosted in the Ukhrul district, where flowers are in full bloom during this time of the year. Shirui Lily was declared as the State Flower of Manipur in 1989. The flower is today considered an endangered species.

12. B

## Prelimsure 2020

- The new Economics Nobel laureates – Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer – are considered to be instrumental in using randomised controlled trials to test the effectiveness of various policy interventions to alleviate poverty.
- Randomised controlled trial is an experiment that is designed to isolate the influence that a certain intervention or variable has on an outcome or event. At any point in time, there are multiple factors that work in tandem to influence various social events. RCTs allow economists and other social science researchers to isolate the individual impact that a certain factor alone has on the overall event.

13. C

- Recently, the National Digital Health Blueprint (NDHB) Committee constituted to lay out the 'building blocks' for the implementation of the National Health Stack (NHS) submitted the final report. It was submitted by committee's chairman J Satyanarayanan. The Objectives of NDHB are aligned to the Vision of National Health Policy 2017 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relating to the health sector.
- A new entity, National Digital Health Mission (NDHM), is recommended to be established as a purely government organization with complete functional autonomy on the lines of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and Goods and Services Network GSTN.

14. B

- The inaugural session of India-ASEAN Track 1.5 Dialogue on Cyber Issues was held recently in New Delhi. India wants countries to find common ground on cyber norms, which encourage international cooperation toward security, while fostering equitable access to cyber space.
- Track 1 diplomacy – Official discussions typically involving high-level political and military leaders and focusing on cease-fires, peace talks, and treaties and other agreements.
- Track 2 diplomacy: Unofficial dialogue and problem-solving activities aimed at building relationships and encouraging new thinking that can inform the official process. It involve influential academic, religious, and NGO leaders and other civil society actors who can interact more freely than high-ranking officials.
- Track 1.5 diplomacy – Situation in which official and non-official actors work together to resolve conflicts.
- Track 3 diplomacy – People-to-people diplomacy undertaken by individuals and private groups to encourage interaction and understanding between hostile communities and involving awareness raising and empowerment within these communities.

15. B

- India and Saudi Arabia firmed their strategic partnership by signing an agreement to form a council headed by Prime Minister Modi and King Salman.
- This is a major development since Saudi Arabia is now only the fourth country with whom India has an intergovernmental mechanism headed by the prime minister. Germany, Russia and Japan are the other three.



16. B

- Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has released the 20th Livestock Census report. It has been conducted periodically since 1919-20 which covers all domesticated animals and its headcounts both in rural and urban areas.
- Various species of animals (Cattle, Buffalo, Yak, Sheep, Goat, Pig, Donkey Camel, Dog, Rabbit, Elephant etc.)/poultry birds possessed by the households, household enterprises/non-household enterprises and institutions are counted at their site.
- 20th Livestock Census was conducted in participation with all States and Union Territories. This census is a unique attempt as for the first time a major initiative has been taken to digitise household level data through online transmission from the field.
- National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed a mobile Application software and was used for data collection as well as online transmission of data from the field to the NIC server

17. D

- A soil may be rich in salts because the parent rock from which it was formed contains salts. Sea water is another source of salts in low-lying areas along the coast. A very common source of salts in irrigated soils is the irrigation water itself. Most irrigation waters contain some salts.
- Soil salinity is also a serious problem in areas where groundwater with high salinity is used for irrigation. Most serious salinity problem is being faced in those arid and semi-arid regions of the country, where canal irrigation is major source of irrigation.

18. A

- The WHO has embarked on its new 5-year strategic plan, with an ambitious triple billion target:
  - Ensuring 1 billion more people benefit from universal health coverage,
  - 1 billion more are protected from health emergencies
  - and 1 billion improve their overall health.

19. B

- UNCTAD was established in 1964, is one of the principal organ of United Nations General Assembly.
- It provides a forum where the developing countries can discuss the problems related to economic development. UNCTAD is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland and has 193 member countries.

20. C

## Prelimsure 2020

- The World Bank Group (WBG) is a family of five international organizations that make leveraged loans to developing countries. It is the largest and most famous development bank in the world and is an observer at the United Nations Development Group.
- Its five organizations are the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

21. B

- The C40 World Mayors' Summit was held recently in Copenhagen, Denmark. C40 is a network of the world's megacities, started in 2005, representing 700+ million citizens and one quarter of the global economy.
- C40 supports cities to collaborate effectively, share knowledge and drive meaningful, measurable and sustainable action on climate change. Six Indian cities are currently members of C40: Bengaluru; Chennai; Delhi NCT; Jaipur; Kolkata and Mumbai.

22. B

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade is the competent authority responsible for the government approval in the following cases:
  - FDI Proposals by Non Resident Indians
  - Trading(Single Brand, Multi brand and Food Product retail branding)
  - Applications relating to issue of equity shares under the FDI policy under the Government route.
- Department of Economic Affairs is the competent authority responsible for the government approval in case of:
  - Financial services activity which are not regulated by any Financial Sector Regulator
  - Applications for foreign investment into a Core Affairs Investment Company

23. A

- There are forests that are notified either with the forest department or revenue department. Then there are those areas that are like forests but are neither recorded, nor notified. The Supreme Court in a December 12, 1996 judgement had ordered that the states identify and classify these as deemed forests.
- Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) then decided to let states come up with a criterion to identify deemed forests, because there are a lot of regional variations between states.

24. B

- Eat Right Jhola – A Step Towards Plastic-Free India
- Plastic is regarded as the biggest hazard to mankind and the environment today.

- With the objective to save the world from plastic pollution, Lindström, in association with FSSAI, has launched 'Eat Right Jhola' – the returnable shopping bags that are perceived to revolutionise shopping experiences with sustainable development opportunities.

25. B

- PRAKASH Portal aims at bringing better coordination for coal supplies among all stakeholders viz – Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal, Coal India, Railways and power utilities. This is an important step in ensuring adequate availability and optimum utilization of coal at thermal power plants.
- Benefits of Portal to the Stakeholders
  - The portal makes available following information on a single platform. Coal company will be able to track stocks and the coal requirement at power stations for effective production planning.
  - Indian Railways will plan to place the rakes as per actual coal available at siding and stock available at power stations.
  - Power stations can plan future schedule by knowing rakes in pipe line and expected time to reach stock at power generating station
- Ministry of Power /Ministry of Coal/ CEA/ POSOCO can review overall availability of coal at thermal power plants in different regions

26. C

- Economic institutions, such as WTO, IMF, and UNCTAD aim at promoting economic cooperation worldwide
- It is important to note that UNCTAD is a strategic partner of WTO. Both the organizations ensure that international trade helps the low developed and developing countries in accelerating their pace of growth
- UNCTAD's main objective is to formulate the policies related to areas of development, such as trade, finance, transport, and technology.

27. A

- The World Bank Group consists of five organizations:
  - The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) lends to governments of middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries.
  - The International Development Association: The International Development Association (IDA) provides interest-free loans — called credits — and grants to governments of the poorest countries. Together, IBRD and IDA make up the World Bank.
  - The International Finance Corporation: The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the private sector.



## Prelimsure 2020

- The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency: The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) was created in 1988 to promote foreign direct investment into developing countries to support economic growth, reduce poverty, and improve people's lives.
- The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes: The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) provides international facilities for conciliation and arbitration of investment disputes.

28. B

- Avoiding the cultivation of any crop is an extreme statement. Such an objective will not be there, in fact the mission aims to improve productivity by increase of acreage of orchards and plantation crops including bamboo and coconut.
- The other options are a part of the objectives of the mission. It encourages the promotion of FPO and links them with the market aggregators for efficient agricultural marketing. Similarly, it aims to improve productivity by way of quality germplasm, planting material and water use efficiency through micro irrigation

29. B

- The Index of Economic Freedom is an annual index and ranking created in 1995 by The Heritage Foundation and The Wall Street Journal to measure the degree of economic freedom in the world's nations.
- As per the 2018 report, India ranks at 130 around the world with a score of 54.5. It takes into account the indicators like Rule of Law, Government Size, Regulatory Efficiency, Open Markets etc.

30. B

- Objective of NICRA is to enhance the resilience of **Indian agriculture covering crops, livestock and fisheries to climatic variability** and climate change through **development and application of improved production and risk management technologies. Under this initiative, the site specific technology packages are demonstrated on the farmer's fields** so that they can be educated for adapting to current climate risks. Another objective is to enhance the capacity of scientists and other stakeholders in climate resilient agricultural research and its application.

31. D

- The statements are reversed
- Since the IMF was designed to provide temporary assistance in correcting the balance of payments difficulties, an institution was also needed to assist long-term investment purposes.
- Thus, IBRD was established for promoting long-term investment loans on reasonable terms.

32. A

- Recently, the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have signed an agreement to set up the country's first e-waste clinic in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- It would enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units. The clinic is a three-month pilot project. If it would be a success, then the same would be replicated throughout the country.
- The CPCB will provide technical support at the unit. The hazardous waste will be sent to Bengaluru for recycling. The clinic is being conceived in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

33. D

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched the Food Safety Mitra (FSM) scheme. The scheme aims to support small and medium scale food business houses to follow the laws on food safety and facilitate hygiene ratings, licensing and registration and training.

The role of the Safety Mitra will be four-fold:

- Digital Mitra: This Mitra will help establishments and individuals apply for licenses or registrations, look into issues of suspended licenses and registrations, among others.
- Hygiene Mitra: This mitra will conduct various audits at outlets to check if they are meeting all the safety and hygiene standards. They will also be responsible for training food safety supervisors and food handlers in safe and hygienic practices of handling food.
- Currently, according to official records, there are only 32 lakh establishments, with licenses or are registered. With the introduction of this scheme the aim is to double this number.
- Trainer Mitra: This Mitra will help train food safety supervisors and conduct training at FSSAI certified 'Eat Right' campuses. As of now, there are about 1.55 lakh trainers and with this scheme, the intent is to increase that number to at least 10 lakh trainers.
- Campaign Ambassadors: This last category will play an important role in creating awareness amongst consumers.
- These ambassadors will spread this message of Food Mitras by creating campaigns across social media platforms and other available channels.

34. D

- Project Soli, driven by Google's Advanced Technology and Projects (ATAP) team, was first showcased back in 2015. The idea is that a radar chip can be used to detect hand movements and gestures to interpret what they could mean.
- It's only recently that Google figured out how to reduce the size of this radar chip and fit it on the front of the smartphone, still ensuring accuracy. And that's why it is coming to Pixel 4.

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- Soli is a dedicated radar chip on the front of the Pixel to collect raw data of hand gestures and then interpret them correctly for the right commands. Google says the miniature radar understands human motions at various scales, from the tap of a finger to the movements of the body. It is always sensing for movement while maintaining a low footprint — keep in mind Soli is not a camera and doesn't capture any visual images.

35.B

- Cash Reserve Ratio is the ratio of Deposits which banks have to keep with RBI. Under CRR a certain percentage of the total bank deposits has to be kept in the current account with RBI. Banks don't earn anything on that.
- Banks will not have access to this amount. They cannot use this money for any of their economic or commercial activities. Banks can't lend this portion of money to corporate or individual borrowers. With increase in CRR the lending capacity of banks will decrease as they will have less money.

36. C

- Invest India was formed in 2009 under Section 25 of the Companies Act 1956 for promotion of foreign investment with 49% equity of the then Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and 51% shareholding by FICCI.
- The current shareholding pattern of Invest India is 51 % of Industry Associations (i.e. 17% each of FICCI, CII & NASSCOM) and the remaining 49% of Central and 19 State Governments.
- As reported by Invest India, it is currently working with 1003 companies, with an indicated investment worth USD 137 Billion and indicated employment of 1,981,147 extending end-to-end facilitation support.

37. D

- There are Eight National Missions - National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem, National Mission for a "Green India", National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

38. B

- The International Development Association (IDA) is the part of the World Bank group that helps the world's poorest countries. Overseen by 173 shareholder nations, IDA aims to reduce poverty by providing loans (called "credits") and grants for programs that boost economic growth, reduce inequalities, and improve people's living conditions.
- IDA complements the World Bank's original lending arm—the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). IBRD was established to function as a self-sustaining business and provides loans and advice to middle-income and credit-worthy

poor countries. IBRD and IDA share the same staff and headquarters and evaluate projects with the same rigorous standards.

- IDA lends money on concessional terms. This means that IDA credits have a zero or very low interest charge and repayments are stretched over 25 to 40 years, including a 5- to 10-year grace period. IDA also provides grants to countries at risk of debt distress.

39. B

- Regional economic integration involves removing trade barriers and coordinating the trade policies of the countries.
- It occurs because of various reasons, which are mentioned as follows:
- Shared culture: Involves similarity in language, religion, norms, and traditions of the countries that prompt them to trade with each other. This commonality facilitates the smooth flow of communication among countries.
- Regional closeness: Helps in maintaining strong economic relationships among the countries. The countries with same border have access to effective and direct transportation that increases the probability of trade between them.
- Shared currency helps to facilitate trade among the common countries as well. This is one of the highest order of integration such as economic union.
- Quotas and Countervailing duties are part of barriers to trade imposed by countries to avoid cases of dumping by those countries which have high export competitiveness.

40. D

- It is an international financial institution which offers political risk insurance and credit enhancement guarantees. Such guarantees help investors protect foreign direct investments against political and non-commercial risks in developing countries.
- MIGA is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States. It was established in 1988 as an investment insurance facility to encourage confident investment in developing countries.
- MIGA's stated mission is "to promote foreign direct investment into developing countries to support economic growth, reduce poverty, and improve people's lives".
- It targets projects that endeavor to create new jobs, develop infrastructure, generate new tax revenues, and take advantage of natural resources through sustainable policies and programs.
- MIGA is owned and governed by its member states, but has its own executive leadership and staff which carry out its daily operations. Its shareholders are member governments which provide paid-in capital and have the right to vote on its matters.
- It insures long-term debt and equity investments as well as other assets and contracts with long-term periods. The agency is assessed by the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group each year.

41. C

## Prelimsure 2020

- Niti Aayog has released the 'School Education Quality Index' (SEQI) report. In this index, the quality of school education of 20 states has been ranked by number. In this list, Kerala is in the first place, Rajasthan second while Karnataka secured third place

### Summary of Index Categories and Domains

Category	Domain	Number of indicators	Total weight
1. Outcomes	1.1 Learning Outcomes	3	360
	1.2 Access Outcomes	3	100
	1.3 Infrastructure & Facilities for Outcomes	3	25
	1.4 Equity Outcomes	7	200
2. Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes	Covering student and teacher attendance, teacher availability, administrative adequacy, training, accountability and transparency	14	280
Total		30	965

42. C

- Angel tax is an income tax payable on capital raised by unlisted companies from investors (mostly angel investors) via issue of shares if the sold share price is excess of the fair market value of the shares.
- It was introduced in the 2012 budget by the then Finance minister to arrest laundering of funds. Union Government has recently come out with several steps to ensure the flow of investment to the start-ups by introducing changes in the section 56 of the Income Tax Act that contains the angel tax provision.

43. C

- The Union Minister of Earth Sciences has recently launched the Gagan Enabled Mariner's Instrument for Navigation and Information device. The device is developed for effective dissemination of emergency information and communication on Ocean States Forecast and mapping of Potential Fishing Zones to fishermen.
- GEMINI is a portable receiver that is linked to ISRO-satellites. With this device, the fishermen outside the signal range of their phone companies can also access warnings and alerts, as the device can send signals up to 300 nautical miles. It will facilitate satellite-based communication that will be highly useful while dealing with cyclones, high waves, and tsunamis.
- Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services in collaboration with the Airports Authority of India utilized the GAGAN satellite while developing the GEMINI device.
- GAGAN was developed by the Indian Space Research Organization and the Airports Authority of India. It is India's first satellite-based global positioning system that relies on ISRO's GSAT satellites. The drawback of this device is that it only allows one-way communication, i.e, it can't be used by fishermen to make calls.

44. D

- Carbon sequestration describes long-term storage of carbon dioxide or other forms of carbon to either mitigate or defer global warming and avoid dangerous climate change.



- Blue carbon is the carbon captured by the world's coastal ocean ecosystems, mostly mangroves, salt marshes, seagrasses and potentially macroalgae. Historically the ocean, atmosphere, soil, and terrestrial forest ecosystems have been the largest natural carbon sinks.

45. B

- A tax treaty between two or more countries to avoid taxing the same income twice is known as Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA). This means that there are agreed rates of tax and jurisdiction on specified types of income arising in a country.
- DTAA is introduced to give a certainty in tax administration and reduce the double taxation for entities operating in India. Thus it makes India an attractive country for foreign direct investment. Provisions of DTAA and its loopholes are used by some non resident companies to evade taxes.
- Recently, India- Mauritius DTAA was amended to plug such loopholes

46. D

- The formation of common markets helps in increasing employment opportunities and gross domestic product of the participating nations. In a common market, the organizations benefit from economies of scale, lower costs, and high profitability; whereas, consumers benefit from increased choice of products and low prices.
- The aims and objectives of the common market are as follows:
  - Attaining sustainable development of the participating nations
  - Promoting mutual development in all fields of economic activities
  - Adopting policies and programs for raising the standard of living of the residents and fostering closer relations among participating nations
  - Facilitating cooperation among participating nations to maintain peace, security, and stability
  - Strengthening the relations between the countries and the rest of the world.

47. A

- Participatory Guarantee System is an internationally applicable organic quality assurance system implemented and controlled by the committed organic farmer-producers through active participation.
- PGS initiatives are serving thousands of small organic farmers and their consumers all over the world, and the numbers are increasing every year. IFOAM - Organics International supports the development of PGS as an alternative and complementary tool to third-party certification within the organic sector and advocates for the recognition of PGS.

48. A

## Prelimsure 2020

- Tax buoyancy explains this relationship between the changes in government's tax revenue growth and the changes in GDP. It refers to the responsiveness of tax revenue growth to changes in GDP. When a tax is buoyant, its revenue increases without increasing the tax rate.
- It is Proportional Taxation where Tax rate is fixed with no change as the taxable base amount increases or decreases. It is also called a flat tax. A regressive tax is the one in which tax rate decreases as the amount subject to taxation increases; and the tax rate progresses from high to low. The lowest amount is subject to higher taxation and this leads to individuals with low income bear the highest burden of regressive taxes. Such taxation system does not take into account the ability to pay.

49. C

- Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) are mutual fund like institutions that enable investments into the infrastructure sector by pooling small sums of money from multitude of individual investors for directly investing in infrastructure so as to return a portion of the income to unit holders of InvITs, who pooled in the money.
- SEBI notified SEBI (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014 on September 26, 2014, providing for registration and regulation of InvITs in India. The objective of InvIT is to facilitate investment into the infrastructure sector in India.

50. D

- According to UNICEF, Generation Unlimited, called YuWaah in India, is a multi-stakeholder alliance which aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work. The target age group of YuWaah includes adolescent girls and boys.
- Its key mission is to promote access to foundational, transferable and 21st century skills for youth inside and outside formal education systems.
- YuWaah intends to create platforms to guide youth to market opportunities (career guidance, mentorship, internships, apprenticeships) and facilitate integration of career guidance in school education

51. B

- The Green Climate Fund Board recently said that the \$100-billion Green Climate Fund will soon become operational in India and the process of accrediting organizations which can access the funds is going on.
- The Green Climate Fund is founded as a mechanism to redistribute money from the developed to the developing world, in order to assist the developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. It was established by the 194 countries who are parties to the UNFCCC in 2010.

52. B

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade launched the website and mobile application L2Pro India (Learn to Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation) on Intellectual Property Rights.

53. D

- National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) is a continuing central sector scheme since 10th Five Year Plan. It is launched by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry had initiated the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) to assist the organic producers to tap the market which is growing steadily in the both in domestic and export segments.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority is the nodal agency with respect to the NPOP.

54. B

- A 'countercyclical' fiscal policy takes the opposite approach to cyclical fiscal policy, that is by reducing spending and raising taxes during a boom period, and increasing spending and cutting taxes during a recession.

55. A

- The SDRs are regarded as **international reserves**, not international money, created at regular intervals and allocated annually by the collective decision of the participating members, on the basis of the quota of each member. These can then be exchanged for currencies required by the holders of SDRs
- Sometimes a country can borrow from other countries via the IMF. The borrowing country gets the currency required and the lender country receives the deficit country's SDR holdings against the debt. A country can draw upto 70% of its SDR quota, but has to repay its debt to the IMF within the agreed period. Failure to repay may lead to cancellation of future allocation. On the other hand, the upper limit of a lending country's SDR acceptance is 300% of its own quota.
- The advantage of expressing loans in SDR lies -in the fact that an SDR is a compromise currency unit expressed as a weighted average of the leading currencies of the world such as the dollar, pound, franc, mark and yen. Thus the fluctuations of individual currencies, are mitigated or avoided and the foreign exchange risk of a loan contract is reduced.

56. D

International Monetary Fund	World Bank
Oversee the international monetary systems and promotes international monetary cooperation.	Seeks to promote economic development and structural reforms in developing countries.
Promote exchange stability and orderly exchange relations among its members.	Assists developing countries by providing long-term financing of development projects and programmes.
Assists members in temporary BOP difficulties by providing them with the opportunity to correct maladjustments in their BOP.	Provides special finance assistance to the poorest developing countries through the IDA.
Supplements the reserves of its members by allocating SDBs if there is a long-term global need.	Stimulates private enterprise in developing countries through its affiliate, the International Finance Corporation.
Draw its financial resources principally from the quota subscriptions of its members.	Acquires most of its financial resources by borrowing on the international bond market.

57. C

- The centre is planning to create a 1400 km and 5 km wide green belt from Gujarat to Delhi Haryana border, Porbandar to Panipat to be precise. The project seems inspired by the 'Great Green Wall' in Africa built to combat climate change and desertification.
- The idea was part of the agenda of the recently held Conference of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in India. A final clearance is still awaited for the idea to get a green flag. The Green Belt would be able to cover the entire degraded Aravali range through a massive afforestation exercise. The Aravali has been identified as one of the key degraded zones in India

58. C

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was launched in 2016 by the Prime Minister of India. It is an insurance service for farmers for their declining crop yields. It aims at covering the losses suffered by farmers due to reduction in crop yield as estimated by the local appropriate government authorities.
- The scheme also covers pre sowing losses, post-harvest losses due to cyclonic rains and losses due to unseasonal rainfall in India.

59. A

- India recently announced the launch of the second phase of the Cotton Technical Assistance Programme (TAP) for Africa at the Partners Conference in Geneva.
- In the five year long second phase, the programme will be scaled up in size and coverage and will be introduced in five additional countries, namely Mali, Ghana, Togo, Zambia and Tanzania.
- The Cotton TAP programme will now cover 11 African countries including the C4 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali).

- India implemented a Technical Assistance Programme (TAP) for cotton in 6 African countries, namely – Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Malawi, Nigeria and Uganda from 2012 to 2018

60. D

- Recently, India has shown interest to ratify Cape Town Agreement (CTA) adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for safety of fishing vessels. Ratification and implementation of the CTA would provide higher safety standards for fishing vessels operating in their coastal waters.
- The Cape Town Agreement was adopted by the IMO in 2012 to help combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. The treaty consists of minimum safety measures for fishing vessels that mirror the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)—an internationally binding treaty on safety for merchant vessels that entered into force in 1980.

61. A

- Halt the Hate is an interactive website that documents reports of alleged hate crimes in India, by Amnesty International. 'Halt the Hate' documents alleged hate crimes in India starting from 28 September 2015 when Dadri lynching happened.
- This website documents alleged hate crimes against Dalits, Muslims, Adivasis, Transgender people, Christians, and 'Other' vulnerable groups. The term 'hate crime' is generally applied to criminal acts against people based on their real or perceived membership of a particular group, such as caste, religion or ethnicity, among others.

62. C

- The energy sector is the largest contributor to GHG emissions and, within this, CO2 emissions from combustion of fuels have the largest share.

63. B

- Asian Development Bank was set up to fight poverty in Asia and the Pacific. ADB is a multilateral development finance institution dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific.
- Established in 1966, ADB is now owned by 63 members, mostly from the region. The headquarters is in Manila with 24 other offices around the world.
- Functions of The Asian Development Bank:
  1. extends loans and equity investments to its developing member countries (DMCs) for their economic and social development
  2. provides technical assistance for the planning and execution of development projects and for advisory services
  3. promotes and facilitates investment of public and private capital for development
  4. responds to requests for assistance in coordinating development policies and plans of its developing member countries



64. C

- The Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is an ad-hoc scheme under which are included horticultural commodities and other agricultural commodities which are perishable in nature and which are not covered under the minimum price support scheme.
- All the crops mentioned in options except the palm oil are covered under MSP. Therefore, palm oil is the answer. Other crops under MIS are perishable commodities like apples, garlic, oranges, grapes and some oil seeds like mustard seed, castor seed etc.

65. D

- The government has been making a conscious effort to undertake policy measures to give a thrust to the logistics and warehousing sector, which is in line with its vision of promoting 'Make in India'. The following are the important measures:
  - 100% FDI under automatic route for all logistic services except courier & air transport.
  - Logistics division established to ensure integrated development of the sector.
  - Logistics sector granted infrastructure status.
  - Free Trading Warehousing Zones were also created in India since early 2010's.

66. C

- The Sun emits the solar wind, which is a continuous stream of charged particles. These particles are embedded in the extended magnetic field of the Sun, Earth's magnetic field obstructs these solar wind plasma.
- This interaction results in the formation of a magnetic envelope around Earth. On the Earth side facing the Sun, the envelope is compressed into a region that is approximately three to four times the Earth radius.
- On the opposite side, the envelope is stretched into a long tail, which extends beyond the orbit of the Moon, this tail is called the geotail. Once every 29 days, the Moon traverses the geotail for about six days.

67. A

- The New Development Bank (NDB) is established by The BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). The initial authorized capital of the bank is \$100 billion divided into 1 million shares having a par value of \$100,000 each. The initial subscribed capital of the NDB is \$50 billion divided into paid-in shares (\$10 bln) and callable shares (\$40 bln).
- The initial subscribed capital of the bank was equally distributed among the founding members. The Agreement on the NDB specifies that the voting power of each member will be equal to the number of its subscribed shares in the capital stock of the bank. The bank is headquartered in Shanghai, China. The first regional office of the NDB will be opened in Johannesburg, South Africa. AIIB is a separate organisation independent of NDB.

68. A

- A country that gives foreign citizens the facility to invest in their country and do not pay any tax on the profit earned by the invested money. Mauritius and Cyprus provide this facility.

69. B

- The Incremental Capital-Output Ratio is the ratio of investment to growth which is equal to the reciprocal of the marginal product of capital. The higher the ICOR, the lower the productivity of capital or the marginal efficiency of capital. Measures to decrease the ICOR is necessary to achieve the dream of 5 trillion dollar economy.
- Other two options are very direct. They encourage employment opportunities and investments in India.

70. B

- The cesses that have been abolished from July 1 by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act include the Krishi Kalyan Cess and Swachh Bharat Cess that were levied along with service tax, as well as education cess on excisable goods and also little known cesses such as those on tea, sugar and jute.
- However, according to officials, seven cesses will continue as they relate to customs or goods that are not included in the GST.
- These include education cess secondary and higher education cess on imported goods. Similarly, cesses on petroleum products will also continue as these are outside GST.
- These include the cess on crude petroleum oil under the Oil Industry Development Act, 1974, the road cess or additional duty of excise on motor spirits and high speed diesel oil, special additional duty of excise on motor spirit and the NCCD on tobacco and tobacco products and crude petroleum oil.

71. D

- In 2019-20, the biggest item of government expenditure is Share of the states in taxes and fees. The Central Government has to spend 23% of its total expenditure in the form of 'taxes and fees'.

72. C

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has released a gazette notification recently widening the definition of startups from the earlier definition under 'Startup India, Standup India' scheme. In the new definition, an entity will be considered a startup,
  - Till upto 10 years from its incorporation date.
  - If an entity's turnover for any of the financial years since its incorporation hasn't exceeded INR 100 Cr.

73. B

- India announced its intended nationally determined contribution which set ambitious targets for domestic efforts against climate change.
- Including other efforts, the country has set itself an ambitious target of reducing its emissions intensity of its gross domestic product (GDP) by 33-35 per cent by 2030, compared to the 2005 levels, and of achieving 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

74. D

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia.
- It is established by the AIIB Articles of Agreement (entered into force Dec. 25, 2015) which is a multilateral treaty. The Parties (57 founding members) to agreement comprise the Membership of the Bank. It is headquartered in Beijing and began its operations in January 2016.
- Fourteen of the G-20 nations are AIIB members including France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom. By investing in sustainable infrastructure and other productive sectors in Asia and beyond, it will better connect people, services and markets that over time will impact the lives of billions and build a better future.
- Membership in the AIIB is open to all members of the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank and is divided into regional and non-regional members. Unlike other MDBs (multilateral development bank), the AIIB allows for non-sovereign entities to apply for AIIB membership, assuming their home country is a member.

75. D

- GOAL is a Facebook's program aimed at guiding and encouraging tribal girls from across India to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities.
- It connects underprivileged young tribal women with senior expert mentors in the areas of business, fashion and arts to learn digital and life skills.
- The second phase of the program was launched recently by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Facebook.
- They together will digitally mentor 5000 young women in India's tribal dominated districts.

76. A

- Core Investment Companies are non-banking financial companies with asset size of ₹100 crore and above which carry on the business of acquisition of shares and securities, subject to certain conditions.
- They hold not less than 90% of their net assets in the form of investment in equity shares, preference shares, bonds, debentures, debt or loans in group companies.
- Recently, a regulatory framework was devised on CIC by the Reserve Bank of India.

77.C

- The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative will work to fulfill the private financing objectives included in the landmark 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement. It reaffirmed the goal of mobilizing at least \$100 billion per year by 2020 through a combination of public development finance and private foreign direct investment.
- Recognizing that the global response to climate change must include robust sub-national action, particularly in urban areas, coalitions of cities, banks, national governments and civil society organizations launched the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance at the UN Secretary- General's Climate Summit on 23 September 2014.

78. C

- The Economic Survey is compiled by the Department of economic affairs, Ministry of Finance. Office of economic advisor publishes WPI, while CSO publishes IIP and CPI.

79. D

- Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme- 'DHRUV', a 14 day learning programme, was launched recently from Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Headquarters at Bengaluru
  - The programme is called DHRUV (after the Pole Star) and every student to be called 'DHRUV TARA'.
  - 60 students, 30 each from Science and Performing Arts discipline, have been selected for this ambitious programme in the first batch.
  - The programme begins with a tour at ISRO followed by a stay in Delhi, where the selected students will be mentored by renowned experts.
  - It is being started to identify and encourage talented children to enrich their skills and knowledge

80. C

- The WTO's agreement on agriculture was concluded in 1994, and was aimed to remove trade barriers and to promote transparent market access and integration of global markets. Agreement is highly complicated and controversial; it is often criticized as a tool in the hands of developed countries to exploit weak countries. Negotiations are still going on for some of its aspects
- Agreement on agriculture stands on 3 pillars viz. Domestic Support, Market Access, and Export Subsidies.
- Domestic Support – It refers to subsidies such guaranteed Minimum Price or Input subsidies which are direct and product specific. Under this, Subsidies are categorized into 3 boxes –
- a) Green Box – Subsidies which are no or least market distorting includes measures decoupled from output such as income-support payments (decoupled income support),

safety – net programs, payments under environmental programs, and agricultural research and-development subsidies.

- b) Blue Box – Only 'Production limiting Subsidies' under this are allowed. They cover payments based on acreage, yield, or number of livestock in a base year.
- c) Amber Box – Those subsidies which are trade distorting and need to be curbed.

81.A

The 10 dimensions of Vision 2030 listed in the interim budget 2019 are:

- Physical & Social Infrastructure Building next-generation infrastructure in all sectors comprising roads, railways, seaports, airports and inland waterways
- Digital India, Clean & Green India and Rural Industrialization
- Clean Rivers: Clean Rivers with safe drinking water to all Indians using micro-irrigation techniques is the fifth dimension.
- Space: India becoming the launch-pad of satellites for the World and placing an Indian astronaut into space by 2022 (Project Gaganyaan)
- Self-sufficiency in Food Production :Attaining self-sufficiency in food and improving agricultural productivity with an emphasis on organic food.

82. D

- 100% FDI is permitted in the case of mining and exploration of metal and non metal ores, petroleum and natural gas, defence industry manufacturing.
- In the case of defence industry manufacturing, 49% is through automatic approval whereas beyond 49% it goes through government approval.
- Lottery business is the only sector given in the options where FDI is completely prohibited as of now.

83. D

- It is a student- scientist connect programme by Ministry of HRD and Ministry of Science and Technology. It focuses on connecting school students and scientists so as to extend student's classroom learning to research laboratory based learning by visiting CSIR laboratories and by participating in mini-science projects.
- CSIR and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) are collaborating to implement this programme.

84. D

- Recently, RBI announced setting up of Acceptance Development Fund to improve the last- mile payments network in rural India to transact digitally. It will be operationalized as a bank-sponsored development fund solely to improve payment infrastructure in Indian small towns and villages especially in Tier III to Tier VI centers, where most daily transactions are in cash.



- The proposed fund will have all major banks and payment companies transferring a percentage of their proceeds from fees accrued from processing digital payments called the Merchant discount rates, or MDR.
- This was indicated in the Payment System Vision Document 2021 of RBI and also recommended by the Committee on Deepening of Digital Payments (Chaired by Nandan Nilekani).

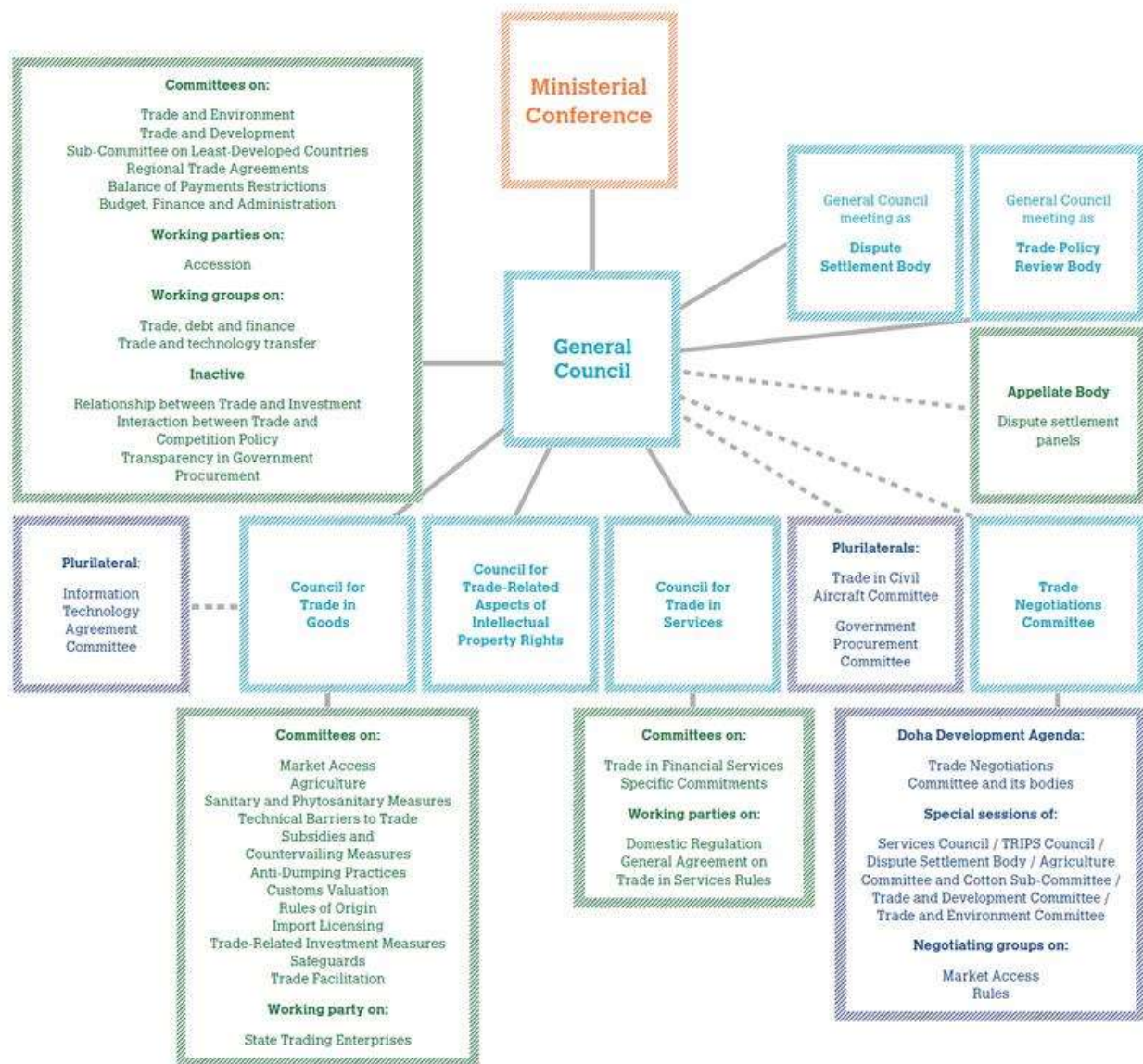
85. B

- The WTO SCM Agreement contains a definition of the term “subsidy”. The definition contains three basic elements: (i) a financial contribution (ii) by a government or any public body within the territory of a Member (iii) which confers a benefit. All three of these elements must be satisfied in order for a subsidy to exist.
- The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) is an international agreement administered by the World Trade Organization (WTO) that sets down minimum standards for many forms of intellectual property (IP) regulation as applied to nationals of other WTO Members.
- It remains an issue between Developed and developing countries. TRIPS was fine tuned in favor of developing countries in 2003, as part of the Doha development agenda, when all members agreed to compulsory licensing in certain cases. However, now U.S. and Europe remain unhappy about current strict terms of patent allowed by TRIPS
- The Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMS) recognizes that certain investment measures can restrict and distort trade. It states that WTO members may not apply any measure that discriminates against foreign products or that leads to quantitative restrictions, both of which violate basic WTO principles. A list of prohibited TRIMS, such as local content requirements, is part of the Agreement. Recently India was dragged to WTO by U.S. over former’s specification of Domestic Content Requirement in relation to procurement of Solar Energy cells and equipments.

86. C

- Turkey has launched a military operation called Operation Peace Spring against the Syrian Kurdish militia (YPG) in Northeast Syria just days after U.S. troops pulled back from the area.
- The YPG was the USA’s ally in the war against the Islamic state. However, withdrawal of US troops allowed Turkey to launch the attack.
- Turkey stated that operation was aimed to eliminate “terror corridor” on Turkey’s southern border as well as to create a “safe zone”. Turkey intends to settle millions of refugees in this safe zone who are now in Turkey.

87. D



88. B

- World bank does not play a role in determining the currency exchange rate.
- Similarly the economic potential is only a future perspective and currency rate is affected by the current performance of the economy.
- Other statements are related to currency exchanges.

89. C

- Addition of lime will only increase the soil salinity. Lime can only be applied in acidic soils to reclaim such infertile soils.

- Other steps like construction of field bunds, sluice gates etc. increase the water use efficiency and prevent water logging in soil thereby reclaiming soil from salinity.
- Similarly, application of green manures increase the amount of carbon in soil through processes like mulching.

90. D

- Since 1991, India's combined exports and imports ratio of goods and services (to GDP) has risen enormously to around 40 per cent today (from 17 per cent in 1991). India's presence in global trade has also enhanced, with Indian share in global merchandise exports accounting for 1.7 per cent today as against 0.6 per cent in early 1990s.
- India's share in imports rise up to 2.5 per cent (2017) from 0.6 per cent (1991). Merchandise exports account for 19.7 per cent of GDP in China, 37.3 per cent in South Korea, 13.8 per cent in Bangladesh as against 11.4 per cent for India.

91. D

- The main advantages of signing FTAs are:
  - By eliminating tariffs and non-tariff barriers, FTA partners get easier market access into one another's countries.
  - Exporters prefer FTAs to multilateral trade liberalization because they get preferential treatment over non-FTA member country competitors.
  - Possibility of increased foreign investment from outside the FTA.
  - For example, Consider 2 countries A and B having an FTA. Country A has high tariff and large domestic market. The firms based in country C may decide to invest in country A to cater to A's domestic market. However, once A and B sign an FTA and B offers better business environment, C may decide to locate its plant in B to supply its products to A.

92. C

- The WTO's overriding objective is to help trade flow smoothly, freely and predictably. It does this by:
  1. administering trade agreements
  2. acting as a forum for trade negotiations
  3. settling trade disputes
  4. reviewing national trade policies
  5. building the trade capacity of developing economies
  6. cooperating with other international organizations

93. A

- Elastocaloric effect
- When rubber bands are twisted and untwisted, it produces a cooling effect. This is called the "elastocaloric" effect, and researchers have suggested that it can be used in a very relevant context today.

- Researchers have found that the elastocaloric effect, if harnessed, may be able to do away with the need of fluid refrigerants used in fridges and air-conditioners. These fluids are susceptible to leakages, and can contribute to global warming.
- In the elastocaloric effect, the transfer of heat works much the same way as when fluid refrigerants are compressed and expanded.
- When a rubber band is stretched, it absorbs heat from its environment, and when it is released, it gradually cools down.
- In order to figure out how the twisting mechanism might be able to enable a fridge, the researchers compared the cooling power of rubber fibres, nylon and polyethylene fishing lines and nickel-titanium wires.
- They observed high cooling from twist changes in twisted, coiled and supercoiled fibres.

94. A

- The absolute area coverage of rice is highest in India. Rice is cultivated at around 432 lakh hectares whereas wheat is cultivated at around 306 lakh hectares. Cotton is a cash crop cultivated at around 110 lakh hectares and sugarcane is cultivated around 45 lakh hectares in India.

95. C

- Stormquakes is a new geophysical phenomenon entirely unknown to science - a hybrid entity where powerful storms such as hurricanes trigger seismic episodes that can rumble for hours or even days.
- Storms trigger giant waves in the sea, which cause another type of wave. These secondary waves then interact with the seafloor only in certain places and that causes the shaking.
- Storm Quakes are limited to places along the edge of continental shelves or on ocean banks. Stormquakes frequently occur in the Maritimes and Labrador Sea in the North American margin.
- To be a storm quake the source of the seismic data had to meet several criteria:
  - It had to occur during a stormy day.
  - It should not be a part of known earthquake event and belong to a swarm of similar quakes on the same day.
  - Storm Quakes are confined to certain regions along the coast where seafloor topography has small raised regions called ocean banks.

96. C

- The data from NSSO Household Consumption survey also shows the increase in the share of non-food expenditure in total consumption over time. The share of food in total consumption has gone down by around 6.5 percentage points in rural areas and 5.5 percentage points in urban areas.
- The share of non-food expenditure was higher by almost 10 percentage points in urban areas as compared to rural areas

97. A

- Raqqa is in Syria and Kirkuk is in Iraq.
- Tahrir Square also known as "Martyr Square", is a major public town square in downtown Cairo, Egypt. The square has been the location and focus for political demonstrations in Cairo, most notably those that led to the 2011 Egyptian revolution and the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak.
- Tobruk or Tobruck is a port city on Libya's eastern Mediterranean coast, near the border with Egypt.
- Libya is currently split broadly between two administrations, the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) under prime minister Fayez Al Sarraj, which is based on the capital Tripoli, and the House of Representatives based in the eastern town of Tobruk.

98. B

- There are many forms of integration in world. Economist Jacob Viner has given his theory of 'Custom Union' followed by work of J.E Meade. To summarise followings are the ways of integration;
- Preferential trade union; two or more countries can form a trading union and reduce tariffs on imports of each other. They maintain their individual tariffs against Rest of world.
- Free trade area; two or more countries come together and abolish all tariff duties on their trade but retains individual tariffs against ROW.
- Custom union; two or more countries have abolished all tariffs among themselves and adopts a common tariff barriers against imports of ROW.
- Common market; common market is formed, when two or more countries form a customs union and in addition allows free movement of factors of production among member countries.
- Economic union; it is the highest form of integration where two or more countries forms a common market and in addition proceeds to harmonise and unify their monetary, fiscal and exchange rate policies.

99. D

- The Agriculture Export Policy is framed with a focus on agriculture export oriented production, export promotion, better farmer realization and synchronization within policies and programmes of Government of India.
- It aims to double agricultural exports from present ~US\$ 30+ Billion to ~US\$ 60+ Billion by 2022 and reach US\$ 100 Billion in the next few years thereafter, with a stable trade policy regime.
- The nodal ministry in charge is the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

100. A



## Prelimsure 2020

- As per the Essential Commodities Act, if the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do for maintaining or increasing supplies of any essential commodity or for securing their equitable distribution and availability at fair prices, it may by order provide for regulating or prohibiting the production, supply and distribution thereof and trade and commerce
- The Central Government may amend the Schedule in the Act to add or remove any food item from the Act in consultation with the State Government. The State Government do not have independent powers to add or remove the items from the list.