

Prelimsure 2020 Test-16 Detailed Answerkey

1. C

- Global Refugee Forum is the first major meeting on refugees of the 21st century — will be jointly hosted by the UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency and the government of Switzerland on December 17-18, 2019.
- Guided by the Global Compact on Refugees, the Global Refugee Forum is an opportunity to translate the principle of international responsibility-sharing into concrete action.

2. A

- The two major dance form in India are classical and folk dance. The major difference between Classical and Folk dance is the origin. Classical dance has a deep-rooted relationship with the Natya Shastra where the specific features of each of the Classical dance forms have been mentioned.
- Folk dance, on the other hand, emerged from the local tradition of the respective state, ethnic or geographic regions.

3. C

- The Election Commission of India has reviewed the system and process of registration of political parties. The new guidelines will be effective from 1st January, 2020 Accordingly the “Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System” (PPRTMS) will be implemented through an online portal, to facilitate tracking of status of application by applicants. The salient feature in the Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System is that:
 - The applicant (who is applying for party registration from 1st January, 2020 onwards) will be able to track the progress of his / her application and will get status update through SMS and email.
 - The applicant is required to provide contact mobile number and email address of the party/applicant in his application if he/she wishes to track the progress of the application.

4. B

- The sculptors of the Gupta period did not confine their activity only to medium of stone. Infact, they used even bronze to make sculptures. The Sultanganj statue was made through bronze and it represents an excellent example of Gupta period sculptures.
- They also used to make sculptors out of clay, pressed mud from earthen clay and also used terracotta figurines as well.
- The Udayagiri Caves are twenty rock-cut caves near Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh from the early years of the 5th century CE. They contain some of the oldest surviving Hindu temples and iconography in India. They are the only site that can be verifiably associated with a Gupta period monarch from its inscriptions

5. B

- The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has drafted National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (2018-2023) for addressing the problem of drug and substance abuse in the country, dumping a long-pending draft policy on the matter.
- Aim: employ a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families to address the issue.
- Involvement of stakeholders: Coordination with implementing agencies for controlling the sale of sedatives, painkillers and muscle relaxant drugs, holding awareness generation programmes and checking online sale of drugs by stringent monitoring by the cyber cell are proposed under the Action Plan.
- Awareness generation through social, print, digital and online media, and engagement of celebrities, besides strengthening the national toll-free helpline for drug prevention. The Action Plan calls for persuading principals, directors, vice chancellors of educational institutions to ensure that no drugs are sold within/nearby the campus.
- Increase community participation and public cooperation in the reduction of demand by involving Panchayati Raj institutions, Urban Local Bodies, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and other local groups like Mahila Mandals, self-help groups etc to tackle the menace of drugs

6. A

- It is generally a white rectangular piece of cloth with primarily a red border on three sides and red woven motifs on the fourth. Literally translated, it means 'something to wipe the body with' (Ga=body, mosa=to wipe). It was in news due to the anti CAA protests recently.

7. B

- SSB comes under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs and a part of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), along with six other central security forces in India (Assam Rifles, Border Security Force, Central Industrial Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo Tibetan Border Police and National Security Guard).
- It was established in 1963 in the aftermath of the Chinese aggression in 1962. It is currently deployed at 2450 kms long Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders across the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
- It has also been declared as the Lead Intelligence Agency for these border areas and it coordinates its activities with the Intelligence Bureau (IB), Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and the Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) of various agencies under the Union Home Ministry

8. D

- Classical dances are all about technicalities and strict rules. Acharya Nandikeshawara's 'Abhinaya Darpan' and Sharangdev's 'Sangeeth Ratnakar' (Nartanadhyaya), along with the Natya Shastra forms the foundation of technicalities of all the classical dance forms (which includes their body movements, rasa, bhava etc).
- There are Nine Classical Dances as recognized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- <https://www.indiaculture.nic.in/dance>

9. D

- Mithila painting is folk painting practiced in Mithila region of India (especially Bihar) and Nepal. It is also known as Madhubani paintings which mean 'forest of honey'. It has been mentioned in ancient Indian texts like Ramayana.
- It originated in small village known as Maithili in Bihar. Initially, women from village drew paintings on freshly plastered mud walls of their home as illustration of their thoughts, hopes and dreams using fingers and twigs forming two dimensional imagery using paste of powdered rice.
- The central themes of Mithila paintings are based on Hindu Gods and Goddesses. Its main theme is supported by traditional geometric patterns. Some of main attributes of these paintings are double line border, abstract-like figures of deities, ornate floral patterns, bold use of colours and bulging eyes and jolting nose of faces of figures.
- Mithila painting has been accorded the coveted GI (geographical Indication) status as it has remained confined to compact geographical area and skills have been passed on through centuries, but content and the style have largely remained same.

10. C

- Sixth century BCE marks the beginning of new religious and social movements in the Gangetic valley in the form of Buddhism and Jainism which were part of the shraman tradition. Ashoka emerged as the most powerful king of the Mauryan dynasty who patronised the shraman tradition in the third century BCE. He popularised it in his kingdom as well and to other places too.
- The tradition of constructing pillars is very old and it may be observed that erection of pillars was prevalent in the Achaemenian empire as well. But the Mauryan pillars are different from the Achaemenian pillars. The Mauryan pillars are rock-cut pillars thus displaying the carver's skills, whereas the Achaemenian pillars are constructed in pieces by a mason.

11. B

- Mamallapuram, also called Mahabalipuram or Seven Pagodas, is a town that lies along the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal, 60 km south of Chennai. The town's religious centre was founded by a 7th-century Hindu Pallava King—Narasimhavarman, also known as Mamalla—for whom the town was named. It is called seven pagodas because the legend is that six other temples stood along with the current temple.

- It contains many surviving 7th- and 8th-century Pallava temples and monuments, chief of which are the sculptured rock relief popularly known as “Arjuna’s Penance,” or “Descent of the Ganges,” a series of sculptured cave temples, and a Shiva temple on the seashore.
- The town’s Five Rathas, or monolithic temples, are the remnants of seven temples, for which the town was known as Seven Pagodas. The entire assemblage collectively was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

12. B

- The final decision of COP 25 on loss and damage that emerged was not as strong as developing nations had pushed for. Some stronger language was lost, such as a specific call for “developed countries” to increase their support. The final texts essentially note that the GCF already supports activities that can be defined as relating to “loss and damage”, with a suggestion that it – and other funds – could do more in this area in the future.
- Also, the Santiago Network was established, as part of the WIM, to catalyse the technical assistance required by the most climate vulnerable countries.

13. D

- Manipuri dance, evolved in Manipur in north-eastern India, is anchored in the Vaishnava faith of the Meiteis, or people of the Manipur valley. The temples of Manipur are still among the principal staging venues of the dance. Therefore the predominant theme of Manipuri dance is devotion, and the rich lore of Radha and Krishna lends it episodic content.
- The facial expression is subdued and never exaggerated. These features are evident even in the more vigorous masculine dances.
- Jagoi and Cholom are the two main divisions in Manipur’s dance, the one gentle and the other vigorous, corresponding to the lasya and tandava elements described in Sanskrit literature. They constitute independent streams and an artist spends a lifetime perfecting any form within the spectrum. The Pung, a drum, and flute are the principal instruments used in Manipuri dance.

14. D

- The total Forest and Tree cover of the country is 8,07,276 sq km which is 24.56% of the geographical area of the country. In the last assessment it was 24.39%. • There is an increase of 3,976 sq km (0.56%) of forest cover, 1,212 sq km (1.29%) of tree cover and 5,188 sq km (0.65%) of forest and tree cover put together, at the national level as compared to the previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2017
- Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra. In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, the top five States are Mizoram (85.41%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.63%), Meghalaya (76.33%), Manipur (75.46%) and Nagaland (75.31%).
- Total forest cover in the North Eastern region is 65.05% of its geographical area showing a decrease of forest cover to the extent of 765 sq km (0.45%) in the region since 2017. Except Assam and Tripura, all the States in the region show decrease in forest cover

- Among the big States, Gujarat has the largest area of the wetlands within RFA in the country followed by West Bengal. • Among the smaller States/UTs Puducherry followed by Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands have large areas of wetlands within RFA.

15. D

- Baisakhi is one of the most popular festivals of Northwest India that is celebrated on a large scale particularly in the states of Punjab and Haryana.
- Bihu dance is an indigenous folk dance from the Indian state of Assam related to the Bihu festival and an important part of Assamese culture. The dancers are usually young men and women, and the dancing style is characterized by rapid hand movement.
- Nuakhai Juhar is one of the most ancient festivals celebrated in Odisha to welcome the new crop of the season.

16. C

- JJM aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household (Har Ghar Nal Se Jal) by 2024. FHTC means a tap connection to a rural household for providing drinking water in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular basis.
- Planning: Every village will have to prepare a village action plan (VAP), on three components: water source and its maintenance, water supply, and grey water management. Village plans will be aggregated at district level and thereafter at state level to formulate a state action plan. The state action plan covers projects like regional grids, bulk water supply etc. for ensuring drinking water security in the state.

17. A

- Patimokkha is the basic code of monastic discipline, consisting of 227 rules for fully ordained monks and 311 for nuns who are members of Buddhist Sanga. It is mentioned under Suttavibhanga, a division of the Vinaya Pitaka.
- Option C refers to Sallekhana which is a supplementary vow to the ethical code of conduct of Jainism. It is the religious practice of voluntarily fasting to death by gradually reducing the intake of food and liquids.
- Option D refers to Tipiṭaka which is the traditional term for the Buddhist scriptures compiled into three main groups.

18. D

- Amir Khusro was a mystic and a spiritual disciple of Nizamuddin Auliya of Delhi, India. Khusrau is regarded as the "father of qawwali" (a devotional music form of the Sufis in the Indian subcontinent), and introduced the ghazal style of song into India. Aaj Rang Hai often called Rang or Rung is a Qawwali composed by Amir Khusro in appreciation of Sufi saint Nizamuddin Auliya.

19. D

- The geography of Lucknow meant that stone and marble, the main features of Mughal architecture, had to give way to lakhauri brick-and-lime plaster buildings.
- Many stunning religious and secular buildings were constructed, but as the Nawabs were Shia, magnificent imambaras were their special contribution to architecture. An imambara is the place where congregational assemblies are held to commemorate the sacrifices of Imam Hussain, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad who was martyred along with friends and male members of his family in the Battle of Karbala by Yezid, the ruler of Syria.
- Of these buildings, nothing is grander than the Bara Imambara, built as a relief measure for a populace stricken by famine in 1784. Construction continued till the famine ended.

20. C

- The Chhau dance of Eastern India -- Orissa, Jharkhand, and West Bengal – is a blend of martial traditions, temple rituals, and folk and popular performance of this region. episodes from the epics Mahabharata, Ramayana, Puranas, traditional folklore, local legends and abstract themes through the medium of dance and music ensemble that consists primarily of indigenous drums.
- In its traditional context, the dance is intimately connected with the festivals and rituals of this region. Important among these is the Chaitra Parva celebrated in the month of April. The month of Chaitra celebrates the advent of spring and the start of the harvesting season. The melody is interwoven and is provided by reed pipes like the Mohuri, Turi-Bheri and Shehnai.
- Though vocal music is not used in Chhau, the melodies are based on songs from the Jhumur folk repertoire, the devotional Kirtan, classical Hindustani 'ragas', and traditional Oriya sources. Dhol, Dhumsa, Nagada, Chadchadi and Jhanj provide accompaniment to Chhau dance.

21. A

- India will participate in the next PISA (The Programme for International Student Assessment) test to be conducted in 2021.
- PISA is the OECD's (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) Programme for International Student Assessment.

22. A

- Hathigumpha inscription was found from Udayagiri, near Bhubaneswar in Odisha. It was inscribed by Kharavela. It has been dated variously by scholars from the 2nd century BCE to the 1st century CE.
- Hathigumpha Inscription is the main source of information about Kalinga ruler Kharavela. The various sources of information about the Sangam Age are through Sangam literature books, Ashoka edicts, and also from the famous Hathigumpha inscription which talks about the confederacy of the Tamil kingdoms that had existed for over 100 years

23. D

- Germ-line gene therapy: The concept of germ-line gene therapy is to introduce gene modified cells into the germline, that can be transmitted vertically across generations. Germline gene therapy is prohibited in India, due to ethical and social considerations. •
- Somatic cell gene therapy: It affects the targeted cells/tissue/organs in the patient, and is not passed on to subsequent generations. It is legal in India. This also includes genome modification as done in CRISPR-related and other technologies.

24. A

- Hindustani music is usually traced back by its practitioners to the Delhi Sultanate period with Amir Khusrau (1253-1325 A.D.) as one of the earliest historical personalities. However, it should also be noted that the roots of current Hindustani Music are found in Vedas. The SamaVeda contains a lot of information about music. Although traditionally considered the inventor of the sitar and tabla, and as well as several ragas and other musical genres, the actual evidence for these assumptions is not clear.
- The Zenith of Hindustani music is associated with the great Tansen, one of the jewels of the court of the Mughal emperor, Akbar, (1556-1605). A vocalist and instrumentalist, most Hindustani today trace their musical descent from Tansen.
- The composition is usually a relatively short tune which is said to embody the essence of the rag (mode or melody type) in which it is composed.
- The Hindustani classical music was not only influenced by ancient Hindu musical traditions and Vedic philosophy but also by the Persian elements.
- Hindustani vocal music is performed in three major and several minor styles. The oldest and most austere is a four part composition known as dhrupad. The main classical vocal form today is the two part composition known as khayal (pers, imagination), usually followed at the end of a concert by a light classical form known as thumri.
- Texts of most compositions are devotional, although these can take on a remarkably wide range of manifestations ranging from abstractly spiritual to the highly erotic.
- Most instrumental compositions in the north (referred to as gat) are performed mainly on either the sitar or sarod. They include compositions which are inherited through family lineages along with more recent compositions. In this century several other instruments including the flute, sarangi and shahnai have also developed solo performance traditions.

25. C

- Annual Solar Eclipse occurs when the angular diameter of the Moon falls short of that of the Sun so that it cannot cover up the latter completely.
- Since the moon does not block the sun completely, it looks like a “dark disk on top of a larger sun colored disk” forming a “ring of fire” (or annulus).
- For an ASE to take place, three things need to happen- there should be a New Moon Moon should be at or very near a lunar node so that the Sun, Moon and the Earth all are in a straight line.
- The Moon should be near the apogee (the farthest point of the Moon from Earth) so that the outer edge of the Sun is visible.

- During one of the phases of the ASE a phenomena called Bailey's Beads' are visible. This is a thin fragmented ring caused by passage of sunlight through the rough edge of the Moon.

26. C

- Direct question. By using the Quadraple Lion and Sarnath, we can reach the answer.

27. C

- The script used by the Shunga was a variant of Brahmi, and was used to write the Sanskrit language. The script is thought to be an intermediary between the Maurya and the Kalinga Brahmi scripts.
- Shunga emperor Pushyamitra Shunga is the founder of the dynasty who took over the power as king with the collapse of Mauryan Empire. It has been suggested that Pushyamitra may have destroyed the original stupa, and his son Agnimitra Shunga rebuilt it. Infact, the stupa was expanded with stone slabs to almost twice its original size.

28. C

- Jahangirnama or Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri is the autobiography of Mughal Emperor Jahangir. It is written in Persian. The work describes details about the history of his reign and also like Jahangir's reflections on art, politics, and also information about his family.
- Baburnama is an autobiographical work, written in the Chagatai language, an extinct Turkic language.

29. C

- Carnatic music, also spelled Karnatic or Carnatic music of southern India (generally south of the city of Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh state) that evolved from ancient Hindu traditions and was relatively unaffected by the Arab and Iranian influences that, since the late 12th and early 13th centuries, as a result of the Islamic conquest of the north, have characterized the Hindustani music of northern India.
- In contrast to northern styles, Carnatic music is more thoroughly oriented to the voice. Even when instruments are used alone, they are played somewhat in imitation of singing, generally within a vocal range, and with embellishments that are characteristic of vocal music. Fewer instruments are used in Carnatic than in northern Indian music, and there are no exclusive instrumental forms.
- Carnatic music, with its more homogeneous Indian tradition, has evolved far more orderly and uniform systems for the classification of ragas and talas. Carnatic music owes much to the complex devotional songs by composers from the 16th through the 20th centuries, particularly the so-called "trinity" of great composers of the early 19th century: Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar, and Syama Sastri.

30. D

- Recently, 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) was held in Delhi. • The IOD is a flagship initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). • It is a Track 1.5 discussion, encouraging an open and free flowing dialogue by academia and officials on strategic issues of the Indian Ocean Region.
- Track 1.5 diplomacy involves both officials and nonofficials (business leaders, business organizations and all possible non diplomats). It is seen as midway between Track I (governmental diplomacy) and Track II (backchannel diplomacy through non-state actors).
- Indian Ocean Rim Association is an intergovernmental organisation aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean region. • The Association has 22 member states and 9 dialogue partners.

31. B

- Sub styles under Hindustani classical – Dhrupada ,Khayal ,Dhammar , Thumri ,Tarana , tappa
- Haveli sangeet is a type of classical and folk fusion music

32. B

- RBI has declared that NEFT payment facility will now be available round the clock, on all days.
- NEFT is an electronic funds transfer system maintained by the RBI, to transfer funds from one bank account to another and has no upper limit to the transaction amount. • Earlier, NEFT transfer timings were fixed from 8 am to 6:30 pm on bank working days. Now, NEFT money transfer has become 24X7 facility also including bank holidays.
- NEFT transactions after usual banking hours of banks are expected to be automated transactions initiated using 'Straight Through Processing (STP)' modes by the banks. o Time of settlement remains same i.e. within 2 hours.
- This step will be extremely beneficial for large-value transactions which cannot be done through UPI or Immediate Payment Service (IMPS). • RBI has also directed that from January 2020 banks can no longer charge savings bank account holders for online transactions in the NEFT system

33. B

- Male torso is the only major art element found from Harappa.
 - Made of Red sand stone
 - Socket holes in the neck and shoulders
 - Legs are broken

34. B

- NFC is near field communication and it cannot be implemented in a messaging system. Other statements are true
- It is an Indian equivalent of popular messaging platforms, such as WhatsApp which will be used by Central and State government departments and organisations for intra and

inter organisation communications. • It is designed and developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC). • It is considered safer as the platform has been developed in India, the server hosting it is installed within the country and the information stored would be in government-based cloud — NICoperated data centers. • There are also provisions for documents and media sharing in keeping with the hierarchies in the government system.

35. C

- Yakshagana is an art form found in South India. It was developed in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Shimoga and western parts of Chikmagalur districts, in the state of Karnataka.
- They evolve from the Vaishnava bhakti movement as a means of entertaining and educating the common people, and was well-established by the sixteenth century. Yakshagana troupes played a vital role in propagating the virtues portrayed in Indian mythology.

36. D

- An impressive workshop recognised as Bead Making Factory, was found at Chanhudaro which included a furnace. Shell bangles, beads of many materials, steatite seals and metal works were manufactured at Chanhudaro.
- Fire altars discovered at Kalibangan reveal that the people were ritualistic and believed in worship of fire. Another important discovery in Kalibangan is ploughed field.
- Great Bath is a well-known structure found among the ruins of the ancient Indus Valley Civilization at Mohenjo-daro in present day Sindh

37. A

- Critical Wildlife Habitats have been envisaged in Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- FRA defines CWHs as 'areas of national parks and sanctuaries where it has been specifically and clearly established, case by case, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria, that such areas are required to be kept as inviolate for the purposes of wildlife conservation'.
- In order to notify a CWH, the Act requires state governments to establish that the presence of right-holders is causing irreversible damage to wildlife and their habitats, and that co-existence between rights holders and wildlife was not a reasonable option.

38. C

- Some of the Stone Age rock paintings found among the Bhimbetka rock shelters are approximately 30,000 years old. Hunters and gatherers who made primitive tools and lived in the rock shelters of central India, made exaggerated linear figures of wild animals, such as the bison, the elephant and the stag in red and yellow ochre on the rock surfaces of cave walls.
- Indian Paintings can be broadly classified as the Murals & Miniatures.

- Murals are huge works executed on the walls of solid structures. Classic examples are the paintings in Ajantha & Kailasanatha temple
- Miniature paintings are those executed on a very small scale on perishable material such as paper, cloth, etc., though this style had been perfected by artisans under the various rules, not many remain today. Prime examples are the Rajasthani & Mughal miniatures.

39. D

- Recently, a non-profit organization, Ekal Vidyalaya Sangathan reached the figure of 1 lakh schools across India, highlighting its commitment towards social service. • It is grassroots level non-governmental education & development movement that operates in the remote villages of India and Nepal. It started first in 1988 in the interior areas of Jharkhand. • The main activity undertaken in this movement is to run one-teacher schools (known as Ekal Vidyalayas) in the remotest rural & tribal villages across all over India.
- Primary objective of Ekal Vidyalaya is to ensure functional literacy among children of the village.
- It involves local teachers who teach in the regional language and impart moral education, health care education and organic farming techniques.
- The Sangathan was awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize in 2017 for its Contribution to education for rural and tribal children with gender and social equality

40. A

- Hoysala architecture is the building style developed under the rule of the Hoysala Empire between the 11th and 14th centuries, mostly concentrated in southern Karnataka.
- Hoysala temples are sometimes called hybrid or vesara as their unique style seems neither completely Dravida nor Nagara, but somewhere in between.
- The Hoysala temples, instead of consisting of a simple inner chamber with its pillared hall, contain multiple shrines grouped around a central pillared hall and laid out in the shape of an intricately-designed star.
- The most characteristic feature of these temples is that they grow extremely complex with so many projecting angles emerging from the previously straightforward square temple, that the plan of these temples starts looking like a star, and is thus known as a stellate-plan.

41. C

- Theme of Mara Vijaya narrates story of conquest on all the vices and temptation of the material world by Buddha during his narration. The defeat of young women who tried to disturb Buddha is described in this painting.
- It was painted in the Ajanta caves. Lepakshi temple can be eliminated because it is not Buddhist.

42. C

- The central feature of Rig Vedic religious life was sacrifice. Small oblations were restricted to the domestic sacrifice, but from time to time larger sacrifices were organized in which not only the entire village but also the entire tribe participated.
- The Vedic society was familiar with the presence of the horse and chariot. The Sarasvati river is described as created vast for victory like a chariot where as Ushas and Agni, are described as riding horse-drawn chariots.

43. D

- Gandhara school of art was one of the major schools of art in the history of ancient India. Although being an intricate part of Indian history, it is uniquely associated with the Greco-Roman style of art.
- The combination of these Greco-Roman and Indian ideas along with the influence of other foreign traditions such as from China and Iran resulted in the formation of a distinct style known as the Gandhara School of art.
- This style of art was closely associated with Mahayana Buddhism and hence the main theme of this art was Lord Buddha and Bodhisattvas. Thus, it can be conjectured that in idea and conception this style was Indian and in execution it was foreign. One example of the Gandhara style of art is the Bamiyan Buddha statues.
- It mostly flourished in the areas of Afghanistan and present North-Western India. The prominent locations were Taxila, Peshawar, Begram and Bamiyan. The period around which the Gandhara school of art flourished could be said to be from 1st century BCE to 4th century CE.
- There was extensive use of black stone and stucco. Stucco was a kind of plaster that was used for many structures including the freestanding ones under this style of art. The free-standing structures included many chaityas, Viharas and stupas.
- The striking feature of Gandhara School of art shows a very realistic and natural depiction of features in perfection. Although it was dominated by the themes of Lord Buddha, however, there were images on other subjects also made such as the images of the Greek God Apollo and certain kings as well.

44. D

- Miniature paintings are executed on books and albums, and on perishable material such as paper and cloth. The Palas of Bengal were the pioneers of miniature painting in India.
- The art reached its zenith during the Mughal period and was pursued by the painters of different Rajasthani Schools of painting, like Bundi, Kishangarh, Jaipur, Marwar and Mewar.
- The Pahari paintings also belong to this school, as do the Company paintings produced during the British Raj.
- Fresco painting is associated with mural paintings.

45. D

- Mahadeva name signifies Shiva, similarly Kailasa name signifies the home of Shiva and the sound Om signifies Shiva as well. Thus, all the temples have deity as Shiva.
- Kailasa temple in Ellora caves were built by Rashtrakutas from monolithic rocks where as Kandariya Mahadeva temple was built by Chandelas.
- It is the largest and most ornate Hindu temple in the medieval temple group found at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh, India.
- Omkareshwar is a Hindu temple dedicated to God Shiva. It is one of the 12 revered Jyotirlinga shrines of Shiva. It is on an island called Mandhata or Shivapuri in the Narmada river.

46. C

- Anuvratas are the "little vows" in Jain religion which are to be followed by the followers of this religion. Along with this, there are "Mahavrats " which are to be followed by the saints of this religion. There are five anuvratas which are :
 - Ahimsa (to abstain from violence)
 - Satya (to abstain from falsehood)
 - Astya (to abstain from stealing)
 - Brahamcharya (to be content with one's own wife)
 - Aparigraha (to limit one's possessions)

47. A

- Mughal Emperor Jahangir was well known for his innovative policy of the 'Chain of Justice'. According to historians, Jahangir had placed a long golden chain with bells on his palace wall.
- The people seeking justice were required to pull this chain in order to put forth their complaints or petitions to the King. This act speaks highly of the importance of justice during his reign.

48. B

- The 'Blue Flag' beach is an Eco-tourism model endeavouring to provide to the tourists/beach goers clean and hygienic bathing water, facilities/amenities, safe and healthy environment and sustainable development of the area.
- The Ministry has embarked upon a programme for 'Blue Flag' Certification for select beaches in the country. This Certification is accorded by an international agency "Foundation for Environment Education, Denmark" based on 33 stringent criteria in four major heads i.e.
 - Environmental Education and Information
 - Bathing Water Quality
 - Environment Management and Conservation
 - Safety and Services in the beaches

49. B

- Kalamkari or "pen craft" of Srikalahasti, is executed with a kalam or pen, used for free hand drawing of the subject and filling in the colours, entirely by hand. Paintings are usually hand-painted or block-printed on cotton textile.
- This style grew around temples and had a distinctly religious identity - scrolls, temple hangings, deities and scenes from the great Hindu epics.
- It is mainly found in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Machilipatnam style tends to have more block printing. However, both use only vegetable colours

50. C

- Pinaka is a multiple rocket launcher produced in India and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Army. The system has a maximum range of 40 km for Mark-I and 75 km for Mark-II, and can fire a salvo of 12 HE rockets in 44 seconds. The system is mounted on a Tatra truck for mobility. Pinaka saw service during the Kargil War, where it was successful in neutralising enemy positions on the mountain tops. It has since been inducted into the Indian Army in large numbers
- The Pinaka MK-II Rocket is modified as a missile by integrating with the Navigation, Control and Guidance System to improve the accuracy and enhance the range. The Navigation system of the missile is also aided by the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS). The mission achieved all the objectives including enhancing the range, accuracy and sub-system functionality.

51. D

- Indian Mural Paintings are paintings made on walls of caves and palaces. These pieces of art are symbolic of the life, culture and traditions of the people of the contemporaneous periods. To us now, they are reminiscent of the great civilisations and empires that flourished in India in the past and of the great kings, warriors and saints who by their efforts glorified this land of ours.
- The caves of Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta also on the Bagh caves and Sittanavasal are vivid reminders of great art that flourished centuries ago.

52. A

- Market Mechanism 1 – It sets up a carbon market which allows countries to sell any extra emission reductions {called as Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMO)} they have achieved compared to their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) target.
- E.g., if a country has committed to reducing its emissions by 100 tCO₂e (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent), but actually reduces 110 tCO₂e, it would be able to sell the extra 10tCO₂e reduced to another country, which has not managed to meet its own target.
- This is a voluntary direct bilateral cooperation between the countries aiming to promote sustainable development while ensuring environmental integrity and transparency (the reporting requirements under Paris regime).

53. D

- Abhang or abhanga is a form of devotional poetry sung in praise of the Hindu god Vitthal, also known as Vithoba. The word abhang means non ending form of devotions. It is mostly famous around the West India region.

54. C

- Indian social system is characterized by living traditions which reflect the ideals of the society. Indian theatre forms are a framework of acting, dialogue, poetry, and music. It started as a narrative form of art where recitations, dance, and music played a central role in depicting the local history, societal ethos etc.
- It is based on spontaneous creativity emerging from circumstances where the intensity of expressions and natural emotions are drawn from the social system and not from any classical or grammatical roots.
- Traditional theatre forms are generally presented during religious festivals, ritual offering, gatherings, prayers, almost throughout the year. It reflects the local lifestyles, beliefs, social wisdom, and emotions of the common. It is an amalgamation of entertainment and religious traditions.

55. B

- Bauls are mystic minstrels living in rural Bangladesh and West Bengal, India. Baul music represents a particular type of folk song, carrying influences of Hindu bhakti movements as well as the shuphi, a form of Sufi song. They actually influence the compositions of Rabindranath Tagore and not the otherway round.
- Bauls neither identify with any organized religion nor with the caste system, special deities, temples or sacred places. Bauls belong to an unorthodox devotional tradition, influenced by Hinduism, Buddhism, Bengali, Vasinavism and Sufi Islam, yet distinctly different from them.

56. B

- There are six major orthodox (astika) schools of Hindu philosophy—Nyaya, Vaisheshika, Samkhya, Yoga, Mīmāṃsā and Vedanta.
- Five major heterodox (nāstika) schools of Indian Philosophy are—Jain, Buddhist, Ajivika, Ajñana, and Cārvāka.
- The four most studied nāstika schools, those rejecting the doctrine of Vedas, are Jainism, Buddhism, Cārvāka, and Ājīvika.

57. A

- Nautanki is popular in the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is an offshoot of Swang. It is mentioned in Abu Fazl's Ain-e-Akbari. The theme is based on historical, social and folk tales, delivered through dance and music. Kanpur, Lucknow, and Hathras are the most popular

centres of this theatre form. Dialogues are delivered in a lyrical fashion accompanied by drum beats called Nagara.

- Rasleela is a theatre form popular in Uttar Pradesh. It depicts the legends of Lord Krishna. In this theatre form, dialogues are in pros combined with songs and scenes from the pranks of Krishna.
- Krishnattam is a folk theatre form of Kerala. It came into existence in the 17th century under the patronage of Calicut king Manavada. It narrates the birth, childhood pranks and various deeds depicting victory of good over evil by Sri Krishna. It is performed for eight consecutive days. Different plays are Avataram, Kaliamandana, Rasa Krida, Kamasa
- Bahand Pather is a bahand of the Kashmir region in which stories commemorating the lives of reshis

58. B

- Pampa, Ranna and Ponna are often considered as three gems of Kannada literature. Some of their famous works include Shantipurana, Ramakatha etc. They lived around 10th century AD.
- Odia poetry owes its origin to the Charyapadas, a form of Buddhist mystical verses, composed presumably in the tenth century A.D.

59. D

- • Recently, Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission (OLHM) or Jaga Mission won the bronze at World Habitat Awards. • It is state government's initiative to grant land rights to thousands of slum dwellers. • Under the programme 1,725 slums were surveyed using drones and GIS technology, while door-to-door household survey also conducted to grant land rights certificates (LRCs) to 52,682 families. • Drones mapping slums drastically cut down the time consumed in the exercise, which would have taken 12 years if done by traditional methods. • Exercise also involved community mobilisation to get the slum dwellers to agree and cooperation in the exercise.

60. B

- Early gold and silver ornaments from the Indian subcontinent are found from Indus Valley sites such as Mohenjodaro (ca 3000 BC). These are on display in the National Museum, New Delhi.

61. A

- A national program to provide a template for cross-disciplinary leadership in India with the specific focus of increasing research, knowledge, and awareness of Indian ecology and the environment. EChO Network would develop a national network to catalyse a new generation of Indians who can synthesize interdisciplinary concepts and tackle real-world problems in medicine, agriculture, ecology, and technology.
- With no precedent for such a network anywhere in the world, EChO Network establishes a new platform to change how science is embedded in our modern society.

62. B

- The rejection of after-life is an aphorism of the Charvakas. Charvaka also known as Lokayata, is an ancient school of Indian materialism.
- Charvaka holds direct perception, empiricism, and conditional inference as proper sources of knowledge, embraces philosophical skepticism and rejects ritualism, and supernaturalism.

63. D

- Kutiyattam, one of India's oldest living theatrical traditions, is a Sanskrit theatre practiced in the province of south-Indian state Kerala. Mudi yettu is a ritual dance drama from the south-Indian state of Kerala, Mudi yettu tells the mythological tale of the battle between goddess Kali and the demon Darika.
- Paradise synagogue in Mattancheri is the oldest synagogue in the Commonwealth of Nations. Similarly, under the UNESCO World Heritage list there are no exclusive Cultural heritages for Kerala where as under natural heritages, Western Ghats are shared by Kerala as well.

64. B

- Bibi Ka Maqbara is a tomb located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. It was commissioned in 1660 by the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in the memory of his first and chief wife Dilras Banu Begum and is considered to be a symbol of Aurangzeb's 'conjugal fidelity'.



65. C

- Sonepur Cattle Fair is held on Kartik Purnima in the month of November- December in Sonepur, Bihar, on the confluence of river Ganges. It is also known as Harihar Kshetra Mela and it attracts visitors from all over Asia. Till date, it is the biggest cattle fair of Asia and stretches on from fifteen days to one month.

66. B

- Exercise SURYA KIRAN-XIV: A joint military training exercise between India and Nepal

67. B

- Aari embroidery is practiced in various regions such as in Kashmir and Kutch(Gujarat).
- Practiced by the Lambada gypsy tribes of Andhra Pradesh, Banjara embroidery is a mix of applique with mirrors and beadwork. Bright red, yellow, black and white coloured cloth is laid in bands and joined with a white criss-cross stitch.
- The Banjaras of Madhya Pradesh who are found in the districts of Malwa and Nimar have their own style of embroidery where designs are created according to the weave of the cloth.
- The chikan/Chikkankari (meaning elegant patterns on fabric) work is associated with the city of Lucknow, in Uttar Pradesh. Chikan embroidery on silk is Lucknow's own innovation. Kalamkari is a type of hand-painted or block-printed cotton textile(not embroidery), produced in Indian states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

68. D

- Six Countries - Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden have recently joined INSTEX.
- It is a trade mechanism 'Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX)' was established by France, Germany and the United Kingdom in January 2019 to allow European entities to maintain trade with Iran.
- The mechanism has been designed to circumvent U.S. sanctions against trade with Iran by avoiding the use of the dollar.
- The United States imposed sanctions, after it withdrew from Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in 2018.
- This Paris-based mechanism functions as a clearing house allowing Iran to continue to sell oil and import other products or services in exchange. The mechanism represents continuing commitment of France, Germany and the UK to the JCPOA. It has been seen that the system has not yet enabled any transactions.

69. C

- The Dilwara Temples or Delvada Temples are located about 2½ kilometres from the Mount Abu settlement, Rajasthan's only hill station. It is a famous Jain temple complex as well.
- Aihole is a historic site of ancient and medieval era Buddhist, Hindu and Jain monuments in north Karnataka, India dated from the sixth century through the twelfth century CE. Megutti Temple in Aihole is a temple complex consisting of Jaina complex.
- The Somnath temple located in Prabhas Patan near Veraval in Saurashtra on the western coast of Gujarat, India, is believed to be the first among the twelve jyotirlinga shrines of Shiva.

70. C

- The Union Cabinet has recently given its approval for signing the Agreement on Social Security (SSA) between India and Brazil. It is first such agreement between the BRICS countries.
- SSA is a bilateral agreement between India and a foreign country designed to protect the interests of Indian professionals/skilled workers working abroad for short durations and enhance the competitiveness of Indian companies

71. B

- Nirvana is the goal of the Buddhist path. The literal meaning of the term is "blowing out" or "quenching". Nirvana is the ultimate spiritual goal in Buddhism and marks the soteriological release from rebirths in saṃsāra. Nirvana is part of the Third Truth on "cessation of dukkha" in the Four Noble Truths, and the summum bonum destination of the Noble Eightfold Path.
- Anekāntavāda refers to the Jain doctrine about metaphysical truths that emerged in ancient India. It states that the ultimate truth and reality is complex and has multiple aspects. Anekantavada has also been interpreted to mean non-absolutism, "intellectual Ahimsa", religious pluralism, as well as a rejection of fanaticism that leads to terror attacks and mass violence. Some scholars state that modern revisionism has attempted to reinterpret anekantavada with religious tolerance, open mindedness and pluralism.

72. C

- The coins made by the Kushanas were the first in India to have portraits of kings on them. They built royal shrines with images of themselves. They also built portrait statues of kings. There is a statue of Vima Kadphises, described as "King of kings, Son of God", made out of the typical red sandstone of the Mathura school.
- Emperor Kanishka is also shown dressed as a Scythian, with padded boots and heavy clothes.
- Kushana coins present some of the earliest images of the Buddha. A Kushana coin also carries a very early image of Siva, with his characteristic trident and with Nandi, the bull who accompanies him

73. B

- Junnar caves are also an important destination for the Buddhist pilgrims, not very far from Mumbai and Pune, these caves are situated in Aurangabad district, and are well known to the tourists, especially the Buddhist pilgrims around the world. There are many caves in the hill ranges, all-important in the archaeological point of view
- There are three groups of caves in the hills, the Tulija Lena, and the Ganesh Lena being prominent. The place is surrounded by lush greens, which makes the place more attractive and a dear one among all Buddhist destinations. All of the Junnar caves were founded

somewhere between 2nd Century BC and 3rd Century AD. It is the largest and longest cave site in India.

74. A

- Bhagalpuri silk or Tussar silk is a dying style of silk sarees and other clothes from Bhagalpur, Bihar in India. This material is used for making sarees named as Bhagalpuri Sari. Bhagalpur is also known as “silk city” of India.
- Chanderi sari is a traditional sari made in Chanderi, Madhya Pradesh, India.
- Gorakhpur and Warangal do not have any traditional textiles or silk sarees production.

75. D

- Good Governance Index is a tool to assess the status of governance and the impact of various interventions taken up by the State Government and UTs.
- The objectives of GGI are:
 - To provide quantifiable data to compare the state of governance in all states and UTs.
 - To enable states and UTs to formulate and implement suitable strategies for improving governance.
 - To shift to result-oriented approaches and administration.
- How is the GGI calculated?
- The GGI takes into consideration 10 sectors — agriculture and allied sectors, commerce and industries, human resource development, public health, public infrastructure and utilities, economic governance, social welfare & development, judicial and public security, environment and citizen-centric governance.
- These 10 governance sectors are further measured on a total of 50 indicators. These indicators are given different weightage under one governance sector to calculate the value.
- The states and UTs are divided into three groups — big states, north-east and hill states, and Union territories.
- Top performers among the big states: Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. The bottom six states are Odisha, Bihar, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- Among the North-East & Hill States: Top 3 states are Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Tripura. The bottom 3 states are Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.
- World Bank releases Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) provides a ranking of 215 countries and territories based on six dimensions of governance

76. C

- Brahmadeya means gift to brahmans; specifically, a grant of village income, and its management to brahmans and devadana means gift or donation of land to temples.
- Land for maintenance of a school is known as shalabhoga. The land donated to Jaina institutions are known as pallichandam.

- Option A, land donated to non Brhmanas by Brahmanas are highly unlikely in those period.

77. D

- Recently, a report titled, 'Ocean deoxygenation: Everyone's problem' was released by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Ocean deoxygenation refers to the loss of oxygen from the oceans. • The ocean gains oxygen in the upper layer due to photosynthesis by autotrophic organisms and oxygen from the atmosphere dissolving in the under-saturated waters.

78. A

- Samkhya is the oldest philosophy. It was put forward by Kapila.
- Samkhya philosophy provided the materialistic ontology for Nyaya and Vaisheshik, but there is very little original literature in Sankhya.
- It is generally believed that Samkhya Philosophy is dualistic and not monistic because it has two entities, purush (spirit) and prakriti (nature) in it. Samkhya emphasizes the attainment of knowledge of self by means of concentration and meditation.
- Samkhya holds that it is the self-knowledge that leads to liberation and not any exterior influence or agent. Samkhya forms the philosophical basis for Yoga. In Samkhya, the necessity of God is not felt for epistemological clarity about the interrelationship between higher Self, individual self, and the universe around us.

79. D

- The Jammu and Kashmir (Reorganisation) Act, 2019: Jammu and Kashmir reorganised into Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with legislature, and Union Territory of Ladakh without Legislature. So now there is three different UTs with Legislature
- The President can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu.

80. C

- The biggest fundamental difference between Mahayana and Hinayana Buddhism is the worship of gods and goddesses. Mahayana worships the bodhisattvas, while Hinayana Buddhist think that Buddha was the human instead of God because Hinayana think that Buddha was simply a man who found a way to Nirvana.

81. A

- Madhvacharya propounded Dvaita philosophy. It considers Brahman and Atman as two different entities, and Bhakti as the route to eternal salvation.
- Adi Shankaracharya is considered the propagator of Advaita philosophy. This is the oldest school of Vedanta, and it states that Brahman is the only reality and the world is illusory (Maya).

- Vishishtadvaita philosophy was pioneered by Ramanujacharya during the 11th century. Vishishtadvaita literally means the Unique Advaita, that is, Advaita with some amendments.
- Another philosophy related to this is the Shuddadvaita philosophy propounded by Vallabhacharya (1479-1531 CE), the founding philosopher and guru of the Vallabha sampradāya ("tradition of Vallabha")

82. C

- The rock-cut Elephanta Caves were constructed about the mid-5th to 6th centuries AD. Hence, based on chronology they will not be the earliest.
- Sanchi Stupa is a Buddhist complex, famous for its Great Stupa, on a hilltop at Sanchi Town in Raisen District of the State of Madhya Pradesh, India. It was built by the Great ruler Ashoka with further modifications done by his followers.
- Dashavatara Temple is an early 6th century Vishnu Hindu temple located at Deogarh, Uttar Pradesh in the Betwa River valley in north-central India. It is an earliest example of surviving Nagara style of architecture in India.
- Seated Buddha can be eliminated as well because the images of Buddha started to flourish since the time of Kanishka only, that is by the start of 1st century AD. Therefore it is also not the earliest.

83. C

- Jainism came into prominence in the 6th century B.C., when Lord Mahavira propagated the religion.
- There were 24 great teachers, the last of whom was Lord Mahavira.
 - These twenty-four teachers were called Tirthankaras-people who had attained all knowledge (Moksha) while living and preached it to the people.
 - The first Tirthankara was Rishabhnaatha.
- The word 'Jain' is derived from jina or jaina which means the 'Conqueror'.
 - Cause of Origin
 - Hinduism had become rigid and orthodox with complex rituals and the dominance of Brahmanas.
 - Varna system divided the society into 4 classes based on birth, where the two higher classes enjoy several privileges.
 - Kshatriyas' reaction against the domination of the Brahmanas.
 - Spread of new agricultural economy in north-eastern India due to the use of iron tools.

84. C

- Goal: To achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children (0-6 years) and Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM) in a time bound manner in next three years period beginning 2017-18 with fixed targets
- For achieving the above targets, Poshan Abhiyaan is to ensure convergence of all nutrition related schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development on the target

population. This includes convergence of Anganwadi Services, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Scheme for Adolescent Girls of Ministry of Women & Child Development; Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), National Health Mission (NHM) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Swachh Bharat Mission of Ministry of Jal Shakti; Public Distribution System (PDS) of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (CAF&PD) etc.

85. D

- Kambojas were a tribe of Iron Age India, frequently mentioned in Sanskrit and Pali literature. Upon migration to modern day Cambodia, they even ruled it for a while.
- Borobudur, is a 9th-century Mahayana Buddhist temple in Magelang Regency located in Central Java, Indonesia. It is the world's largest Buddhist temple.
- The religion of Buddhism spread initially from India to China through ancient travellers such as Fa Hien, Hiuen Tsang etc. The Far East countries got Buddhism mainly from China. The countries like Korea, Japan etc. has adopted Buddhism as a result.

86. A

- The Gulf of Guinea is the northeasternmost part of the tropical Atlantic Ocean from Cape Lopez in Gabon, north and west to Cape Palmas in Liberia. The intersection of the Equator and Prime Meridian is in the gulf. Among the many rivers that drain into the Gulf of Guinea are the Niger and the Volta



87. D

- Apart from the 22 scheduled languages which are given official recognition, Government of India also recognizes 6 languages collectively known as classical languages because of their rich heritage and independence.
- These languages are Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia. Odia was the last language to get classical language status in 2014.
- The criteria for declaring a language as classical mandates high antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1,500-2,000 years. It also needs to satisfy the conditions that it is a body of ancient literature/texts which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers and a literary tradition that is original and not borrowed from another speech community.

88. A

- Ministry of Electronics and IT along with NASSCOM, have approved the expansion of the Future Skills initiative - Future Skills PRIME (Programme for Reskilling/Upskilling of IT Manpower for Employability)
- Jointly rolled out by Ministry of Electronics and IT along with NASSCOM, it will offer diagnostics for learner preference and skill gaps leading to identification of relevant courses.
 - help in building digital fluencies in emerging technologies.
 - offer online upskilling in identified skill competencies.
 - offer blended programmes with online and classroom trainings.
 - enable assessment and certification of learners in line with industry needs and Government standards.

In addition to these each learner will get a Skills Passport where competencies acquired by the learner will get accumulated. o get a Skills Wallet where he/she will have the opportunity to get upto Rs. 12,000 from the Government of India as an incentive upon certification

89. B

- Charaka and Susrutha are ancient India's great physicians. They lived before the Gupta period. Infact, Charaka was a member of the Kushana kingdom. Sushruta was believed to be either a contemporary or lived before Charaka as well.
- Kanishka follwed a policy of Sulh-i-kuhl like the Great Mughal emperor, Akbar. The Peshwar inscriptions describe him as a Buddhist, probably an indication that he later adopted Buddhism.

90. B

- The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition is an independent non-profit foundation based in Geneva, Switzerland. GAIN was developed at the UN 2002 Special Session of the General Assembly on Children

- GAVI, officially Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a public–private global health partnership committed to increasing access to immunisation in poor countries. It was founded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

91. D

- Jainism spread to the southern parts of India because of:
 - Chandragupta Maurya adopted Jainism and became an ascetic under the Jain saint Bhadrabahu. He ended his days at Śravaṇa Beḷgoḷa in the present day Karnataka.
 - The rich and fertile plains of Magadha had faced famine during the years when Jainism was strong in North India. At such time, some followers of Jainism migrated to South India and the religious ideas were propagated as well.
 - Brahmanical religion was generally weaker in South due to strong Dravidian identity. As a result, there was scope of a new religion like Jainism which broke away from Vedic rituals and divisions.

92. D

- Kula or family was the basic unit of Rig-Vedic society. The Kula was headed by a Kulapa, who was usually the eldest member. Society was essentially patriarchal and birth of son was desired repeatedly
- Cow was held sacred by the Rig Vedic society. There were regular fights for cows by the people termed as gavisti.
- Women were active participants in the assemblies during Rig Vedic period. By the time of Later Vedic period, their role changed and they became relegated from their high status.

93. B

- eGCA: The function & process of DGCA is being moved to an online platform to provide faster delivery of services & regulation oversight. The first module on pilot licensing shall be launched in December 2019.

94. A

- Kankali Tila is a mound located at Mathura in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. The name of the mound is derived from a modern temple of Hindu goddess Kankali. The famous Jain stupa was excavated here in 1890-91 by Alois Anton Führer.
- Thotlakonda Buddhist Complex is situated on a hill near Bheemunipatnam about 15 kilometres from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, India. The maha stupa was reconstructed in the year 2016.
- Bharhut is known for its famous relics from a Buddhist stupa. The most famous donor for the Bharhut stupa was King Dhanabhuti.
- Excavations by the ASI at Sannati and the nearby Kanaganahalli led to the discovery of the magnificent Maha Stupa, which had been referred to as Adholoka Maha-Chaitya.

95. D

- All these steps could help in reducing the economic slowdown
- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/imf-calls-for-urgent-action-by-india-amid-slowdown/articleshow/72948133.cms?from=mdr>

96. D

- Ramanuja or Ramanujacharya was an Indian theologian, philosopher, and one of the most important exponents of the Sri Vaishnavism tradition within Hinduism. He was born in the year 1017 AD. Saint Kabir was contemporary to Guru Nanak and Dadu Dayal and lived around 15th century AD.
- Basavanna was a 12th-century philosopher, poet, statesman, Lingayat saint in the Shiva-focussed Bhakti movement, and social reformer during the reign of the Kalyani Chalukya/Kalachuri dynasty.
- Chaitanya Mahaprabhu was instrumental in the spread of Bhakti movement to the eastern parts of India. He was active around late 15th and early 16th century AD.

97. A

- The post of Chief of Defence Staff created in the rank of a four-star General with salary and perquisites equivalent to a Service Chief. • The post is created to o promote jointness in procurement, training and staffing for the Services through joint planning and integration of their requirements. o facilitate restructuring of Military Commands for optimal utilisation of resources by bringing about jointness in operations, including through establishment of joint/theatre commands. o promote use of indigenous equipment by the Services.
- Central government has set 65 as the maximum serving age for the CDS. • The Chief of Defence Staff will also head the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), created within the Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary.
- He would be primus inter pares or first among equals. He is also vested with the authority to provide directives to the three chiefs. • CDS will act as the principal military adviser to the defence minister on all tri-services matters.
- The three Chiefs will continue to advise Defence Minister on matters exclusively concerning their respective Services.
- CDS will not exercise any military command, including over the three Service Chiefs, so as to be able to provide impartial advice to the political leadership.
- He will serve as the permanent chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee (CoSC) which comprises the three service chiefs.

98. B

- The Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964 was issued by the Central Government under Section 3 of The Foreigners Act, 1946. It is applicable to the whole country. The 2019 amendment lays down the modalities for the Tribunals to decide on appeals made by persons not satisfied with the outcome of claims and objections filed against the NRC.

- Since NRC work is going on only in Assam, therefore, the aforementioned Order is applicable only to Assam as on the May 2019 date for all practical purposes.

99. A

- Ramcharitmanas, is an epic poem in the Awadhi language, composed by the 16th-century Indian bhakti poet Goswami Tulsidas.
- The Brahma sūtras is a Sanskrit text, attributed to Badarayana, estimated to have been completed in its surviving form in approx. 400-450 CE. The text systematizes and summarizes the philosophical and spiritual ideas in the Upanishads
- The Līlāvāṭī is Indian mathematician Bhāskara II's treatise on mathematics, written in 1150.

100. A

- Mangalagiri Sarees and Fabrics are produced by performing handicraft weaving in Mangalagiri, a town in Guntur district of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.
- Kasuti is a traditional form of folk embroidery practised in the state of Karnataka, India. Kasuti work which is very intricate sometimes involves putting up to 5,000 stitches by hand and is traditionally made on dress wears like sarees.
- Pattachitra is a cloth-based scroll painting mainly based in the eastern Indian states of India such as Odisha and West Bengal. Mythological narratives and folktales are widely narrated in it as well. All of the products have GI tags associated with it