Current Affairs – MCQs

25 October 2026

Questions PDF

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Questions (140)

1. The Ranganathaswamy temple at Srirangam stands on an island between which two rivers?
(A) Kaveri – Vaigai
(B) Kaveri – Bhavani
(C) Kaveri – Kollidam
(D) Thamirabarani – Chittar

2. Srirangam, foremost of the 108 Vaishnava Divya Desams, is praised in the hymns of which saints?
(A) Nayanmars
(B) Siddhars
(C) Alvars
(D) Saiva Santhana Kuravars

3. Which Article lets religious denominations acquire movable and immovable property and administer it according to law?
(A) Article 25
(B) Article 27
(C) Article 28
(D) Article 26

4. 'Registration of deeds and documents' falls in which list of the Seventh Schedule?
(A) Union List
(B) State List
(C) Concurrent List
(D) Residuary powers

5. Under the TN HR&CE Act 1959, whose sanction is needed to sell a temple's immovable property?
(A) HR&CE Commissioner
(B) District Collector
(C) Sub-Registrar
(D) Temple priest

6. Thalaiyar Falls, the highest waterfall in Tamil Nadu, is located in which district?
(A) Theni
(B) Nilgiris
(C) Coimbatore
(D) Dindigul

7. Because of its appearance, Thalaiyar Falls is popularly known as
(A) Silver Cascade
(B) Rat Tail Falls
(C) Milk Falls
(D) Bear Shola Falls

8. The Manjalar, which flows from Thalaiyar Falls, is a tributary of which river?
(A) Thamirabarani
(B) Vaigai
(C) Amaravathi
(D) Bhavani

9. Which river forms the Courtallam falls, known as the 'Spa of the South'?
(A) Chittar
(B) Kodayar
(C) Noyyal
(D) Suruliyar

10. Tamil Nadu receives the major share of its annual rainfall during which season?
(A) South-west monsoon
(B) Pre-monsoon showers
(C) Winter season
(D) North-east monsoon

11. The Tenkasi Forest Division proposed adding the Madras hedgehog to which programme?
(A) Project Elephant
(B) Project Nilgiri Tahr
(C) Golden Jackal Ambassadors
(D) Green Tamil Nadu Mission

12. The 'Madras hedgehog' (Paraechinus nudiventris) is also known as the
(A) Indian crested porcupine
(B) Indian pangolin
(C) Bare-bellied hedgehog
(D) Madras treeshrew

13. What is the IUCN Red List status of the Madras hedgehog?
(A) Endangered
(B) Least Concern
(C) Critically Endangered
(D) Vulnerable

14. Where was India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve notified?
(A) Gulf of Kutch
(B) Palk Bay
(C) Chilika Lake
(D) Andaman Sea

15. Kadavur, India's first slender loris sanctuary, lies in which districts?
(A) Karur and Dindigul
(B) Theni and Madurai
(C) Salem and Namakkal
(D) Tirunelveli and Tenkasi

16. As per the SC ruling of Oct 2026, who may file a complaint under Sec 125A of the RP Act over a false poll affidavit?
(A) Only the ECI
(B) Only the Returning Officer
(C) Any person, including a voter
(D) Only a rival candidate

17. Which case first recognised the voter's right to know the criminal and asset details of candidates?
(A) Kesavananda Bharati
(B) Lily Thomas
(C) Maneka Gandhi
(D) Union of India v. ADR

18. Where must an 'election petition' challenging a State Assembly election result be filed?
(A) High Court
(B) Supreme Court
(C) Election Commission of India
(D) District Court

19. The NOTA option on ballot papers/EVMs was introduced following the judgment in which case?
(A) ADR case
(B) Lily Thomas case
(C) S.R. Bommai case
(D) PUCL case

20. Which Article vests superintendence, direction and control of elections in the Election Commission?
(A) Article 320
(B) Article 280
(C) Article 324
(D) Article 326

21. RBI's new Bhubaneswar data centre will back up RBI's primary data centre located at
(A) Hyderabad
(B) Kharghar, Navi Mumbai
(C) Ambattur, Chennai
(D) Whitefield, Bengaluru

22. In the Uptime Institute classification, a 'Tier IV' data centre denotes
(A) Basic capacity
(B) Redundant components only
(C) Concurrently maintainable
(D) Fault tolerant

23. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) functions under which ministry?
(A) Home Affairs
(B) Electronics & IT
(C) Defence
(D) Finance

24. Where is the Reserve Bank Staff College (RBSC), RBI's apex training college, located?
(A) Chennai
(B) Pune
(C) Hyderabad
(D) Kolkata

25. Who appoints the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India?
(A) Central Government
(B) President, on his own
(C) Parliament
(D) RBI Central Board

26. The AATAL pollution-analysis lab for Delhi-NCR (Oct 2026) is located at the Delhi branch of which institute?
(A) India Meteorological Dept.
(B) IITM
(C) CSIR-NPL
(D) NCMRWF

27. Under which programme did the Ministry of Earth Sciences set up the AATAL laboratory?
(A) National Clean Air Programme
(B) Deep Ocean Mission
(C) National Quantum Mission
(D) Mission Mausam

28. IITM's 'SAFAR' air-quality forecasting system was introduced in Delhi in connection with which event?
(A) 1982 Asian Games
(B) 2023 G20 Summit
(C) 2011 Cricket World Cup
(D) 2010 Commonwealth Games

29. PM2.5 particles are very harmful to health because they can penetrate deep into which part of the body?
(A) Stomach
(B) Skin pores
(C) Alveoli of the lungs
(D) Kidney tubules

30. The Manali industrial area, classed a 'Critically Polluted Area', is located in which city?
(A) Chennai
(B) Coimbatore
(C) Thoothukudi
(D) Hosur

31. Which Union Ministry organises the annual Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference?
(A) Road Transport & Highways
(B) Housing & Urban Affairs
(C) Railways
(D) Heavy Industries

32. Which Chennai body won UMI 2026's 'Best Non-Motorised Transport' award?
(A) Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL)
(B) Metropolitan Transport
(C) CMDA
(D) Greater Chennai Corp.

33. Under the PM-eBus Sewa scheme, e-buses are deployed in cities through which model?
(A) Direct purchase by States
(B) Hybrid Annuity Model
(C) Central PSUs only
(D) Public–Private Partnership

34. Among urban missions launched in 2015, which one gives priority to water supply and sewerage?
(A) Smart Cities Mission
(B) AMRUT
(C) PMAY-Urban
(D) Swachh Bharat Mission

35. What is the core principle of the National Urban Transport Policy 2006?
(A) Move people, not vehicles
(B) Build more flyovers
(C) Promote private cars
(D) Toll roads only

36. Which national agency registers livestock and poultry breeds in India and gives them accession numbers?
(A) NDRI, Karnal
(B) IVRI, Izatnagar
(C) NDDB, Anand
(D) ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal

37. The 'Kombai' dog breed, nationally recognised in 2026, is associated with which district of Tamil Nadu?
(A) Nilgiris
(B) Theni
(C) Kanniyakumari
(D) Vellore

38. Along with Karnataka's Mudhol Hound, which two Tamil Nadu dog breeds were the first registered by NBAGR?
(A) Kanni and Kombai
(B) Kanni and Chippiparai
(C) Kombai and Rajapalayam
(D) Rajapalayam and Chippiparai

39. Which Tamil Nadu cattle breed, reared in the Sivaganga–Ramanathapuram area, is widely used as Jallikattu bulls?

(A) Umblachery
(B) Pulikulam
(C) Bargur
(D) Alambadi

40. What is the main aim of the 'Rashtriya Gokul Mission' launched in December 2014?

(A) Import of exotic breeds
(B) Fodder banks for sheep
(C) Conserve indigenous bovines
(D) Expand poultry farming

41. What does 'agrivoltaics' (Agri-PV) refer to?

(A) Solar drying of grains
(B) Biofuel from crop residue
(C) Crops and solar on same land
(D) Solar cold storage

42. Which State announced India's first dedicated Agri-PV policy in Oct 2026?

(A) Gujarat
(B) Odisha
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Maharashtra

43. What does 'Component B' of the PM-KUSUM scheme support?

(A) Grid-linked plants up to 2 MW
(B) Feeder solarisation
(C) Residential rooftop solar
(D) Standalone solar pumps

44. Into which new company was the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) merged in 2024?

(A) TANTRANSCO
(B) TNPDCL
(C) TN Green Energy Corp. (TNGECL)
(D) TNEB Ltd

45. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (2010) is one of the missions under which plan?

(A) National Electricity Policy
(B) NITI Aayog Energy Policy
(C) NAPCC
(D) National Green Hydrogen Mission

46. Sidhi district, which got a rail link for the first time since Independence in Oct 2026, is in which State?

(A) Uttar Pradesh
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Jharkhand

47. Singrauli, the end-point of the new line, is called India's 'energy capital' because of its:

(A) Coal mines & thermal plants
(B) Big dam hydropower
(C) Nuclear power plants
(D) Wind farms

48. Where is the headquarters of West Central Railway, under which Rewa and Satna fall?

(A) Jabalpur
(B) Bhopal
(C) Bilaspur
(D) Prayagraj

49. Which committee recommended separating the Railway Budget from the General Budget (done in 1924)?

(A) Bibek Debroy Committee
(B) Kakodkar Committee
(C) Sam Pitroda Committee
(D) Acworth Committee

50. Where was India's first 'Vande Bharat' train (Train 18) manufactured?

(A) ICF, Chennai
(B) RCF, Kapurthala
(C) MCF, Rae Bareli
(D) CLW, Chittaranjan

51. Which State launched 'Mission Murghas' (Oct 2026) to tackle fodder shortage?

(A) Maharashtra
(B) Karnataka
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Gujarat

52. Silage ('murghas' in Marathi) is prepared by which process?
(A) Complete sun-drying
(B) Spraying urea and burning
(C) Aerobic rotting with oxygen
(D) Anaerobic fermentation

53. The 'Manual for Drought Management' followed by States to declare drought is issued by:
(A) NDMA
(B) Union Agriculture Ministry
(C) India Meteorological Department
(D) Central Water Commission

54. The CO (CN) 4 Cumbu–Napier hybrid fodder grass was developed by:
(A) NDDB, Anand
(B) IARI, New Delhi
(C) TANUVAS, Chennai
(D) TNAU, Coimbatore

55. Azolla, used as cattle feed and paddy biofertiliser, lives in symbiosis with:
(A) Rhizobium
(B) Azotobacter
(C) Mycorrhiza
(D) Anabaena

56. The Oct 2026 draft notification mandating AEBS amends which rules?
(A) Motor Vehicles Act, 1939
(B) Central MV Rules, 1989
(C) Road Transport Corporations Act
(D) Carriage by Road Act, 2007

57. In Indian vehicle classification, the 'M1' category denotes:
(A) Goods vehicle up to 3.5 t
(B) Passenger vehicle up to 8 seats
(C) Two-wheeler
(D) Heavy bus

58. 'Bharat NCAP', in force since 1 Oct 2023, is related to:
(A) Vehicle emission testing
(B) FASTag toll collection
(C) Crash-safety star rating of cars
(D) Digitising driving licences

59. Which city is called the 'Detroit of Asia' for its automobile industry?
(A) Pune
(B) Gurugram
(C) Jamshedpur
(D) Chennai

60. Legal protection to 'Good Samaritans' who help accident victims came from:
(A) National Highways Act
(B) Disaster Management Act
(C) MV (Amendment) Act, 2019
(D) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

61. The 'Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award' (2026) was instituted by:
(A) Government of Assam
(B) Union Ministry of Culture
(C) Sangeet Natak Akademi
(D) Prasar Bharati

62. Which musician is revered as 'Sudhakantha'?
(A) Ilaiyaraaja
(B) Bhimsen Joshi
(C) A.R. Rahman
(D) Bhupen Hazarika

63. 'Bhupen Hazarika Setu' (Dhola–Sadiya bridge) is built over which river?
(A) Subansiri
(B) Manas
(C) Lohit
(D) Barak

64. Who received the Bharat Ratna in 2019 along with Bhupen Hazarika?
(A) Vajpayee, Madan Mohan Malaviya
(B) Pranab Mukherjee, N. Deshmukh
(C) Sachin, C.N.R. Rao
(D) Karpoori Thakur, Advani

65. Which of the following are sisters of Usha Mangeshkar?
(A) Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle
(B) Geeta Dutt, Suman Kalyanpur
(C) Vani Jairam, S. Janaki
(D) Alka Yagnik, Kavita K.

66. 'Mission Karmayogi' is the name of which national programme?
(A) National Skill Dev. Mission
(B) National Yoga Promotion Mission
(C) Civil Services Capacity Building
(D) National e-Governance Plan

67. Who chairs the Public Human Resources Council, the apex body of Mission Karmayogi?
(A) Prime Minister
(B) Cabinet Secretary
(C) UPSC Chairman
(D) Union Personnel Minister

68. Which entity owns and runs the 'iGOT Karmayogi' online learning platform?
(A) National Informatics Centre
(B) Karmayogi Bharat (SPV)
(C) LBSNAA, Mussoorie
(D) UPSC

69. Under Article 312, which body must pass a resolution to create a new All India Service?
(A) Lok Sabha
(B) Inter-State Council
(C) Rajya Sabha
(D) Union Cabinet

70. Tamil Nadu's State ATI 'Anna Institute of Management' was renamed in 2021 as:
(A) TN Civil Services Academy
(B) Anna School of Public Admn
(C) Anna Admin. Staff College
(D) State Good Governance Inst.

71. Which country will host the 8th AgriVoltaics World Conference in 2027?
(A) France
(B) Germany
(C) Japan
(D) Brazil

72. Who first discovered the 'photovoltaic effect', the basis of solar cells?
(A) Edmond Becquerel
(B) Albert Einstein
(C) Michael Faraday
(D) C.V. Raman

73. The Paris Climate Agreement (2015) was adopted at which UNFCCC Conference of Parties?
(A) COP-15
(B) COP-19
(C) COP-21
(D) COP-26

74. Which of the following was NOT a French settlement in India?
(A) Tharangambadi
(B) Karaikal
(C) Mahe
(D) Yanam

75. Auroville, the international township in Viluppuram district, was founded by:
(A) Annie Besant
(B) Mirra Alfassa (The Mother)
(C) Sister Nivedita
(D) Joseph François Dupleix

76. Incat, builder of 'China Zorrilla', the world's largest battery-electric ship that began service in Oct 2026, is based in which country?
(A) Norway
(B) Australia
(C) South Korea
(D) China

77. The Río de la Plata estuary, crossed by this ship, is formed by the confluence of which two rivers?
(A) Amazon and Rio Negro
(B) Orinoco and Meta
(C) Paraná and Uruguay
(D) Madeira and Mamoré

78. Who shared the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for developing the lithium-ion battery?
(A) Akira Yoshino
(B) Shuji Nakamura
(C) Hideki Yukawa
(D) Koichi Tanaka

79. India's first indigenous hydrogen fuel-cell passenger vessel began commercial service in Dec 2025 at which city?

(A) Kochi
(B) Varanasi
(C) Guwahati
(D) Kolkata

80. Under which Union programme did V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Thoothukudi, order a fully electric tug?

(A) Sagarmala
(B) Harit Sagar Guidelines
(C) PM Gati Shakti
(D) Green Tug Transition Prog.

81. Under which brand name does Bharat Biotech make the RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine?

(A) Mosqivac
(B) Covaxin
(C) Rotavac
(D) Typbar-TCV

82. UNICEF executed this price deal; which global vaccine alliance backed it financially?

(A) CEPI
(B) The Global Fund
(C) World Bank
(D) Gavi

83. Both malaria vaccines, RTS,S and R21, target which parasite species?

(A) Plasmodium vivax
(B) Plasmodium malariae
(C) Plasmodium ovale
(D) Plasmodium falciparum

84. Where did Sir Ronald Ross discover the malaria parasite inside a mosquito in 1897?

(A) Kolkata
(B) Secunderabad
(C) Chennai
(D) Almora

85. In NCVBDC's malaria classification, which category is Tamil Nadu placed in?

(A) Cat. 3 – intensified control
(B) Cat. 2 – pre-elimination
(C) Cat. 0 – prevent re-entry
(D) Cat. 1 – elimination phase

86. The Teatro Campoamor, where Messi received the Princess of Asturias Award on 23 Oct 2026, is in which city?

(A) Oviedo
(B) Madrid
(C) Barcelona
(D) Seville

87. Which Indian economist won the Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences in 2021?

(A) Raghuram Rajan
(B) Amartya Sen
(C) Abhijit Banerjee
(D) Kaushik Basu

88. The sculpture given with the Princess of Asturias Award was designed by which Spanish artist?

(A) Pablo Picasso
(B) Salvador Dalí
(C) Antoni Gaudí
(D) Joan Miró

89. Which country beat Argentina to win the FIFA World Cup final on 19 July 2026?

(A) France
(B) Spain
(C) Brazil
(D) Germany

90. Messi has won the Ballon d'Or a record 8 times. Which French magazine started this award?

(A) L'Équipe
(B) Le Monde
(C) Paris Match
(D) France Football

91. Bodhana Sivanandan broke the 'youngest female IM' record held since 1988 by whom?

(A) Hou Yifan
(B) Koneru Humpy
(C) Judit Polgar
(D) Maia Chiburdanidze

92. Bodhana Sivanandan, who plays for England, has family roots in which Tamil Nadu city?
(A) Madurai
(B) Coimbatore
(C) Thanjavur
(D) Tiruchirappalli

93. In which city was the International Chess Federation (FIDE) founded on 20 July 1924?
(A) Paris
(B) London
(C) Moscow
(D) Vienna

94. Who was elected FIDE Deputy President at the FIDE General Assembly in Samarkand in Sep 2026?
(A) Arkady Dvorkovich
(B) Magnus Carlsen
(C) Viswanathan Anand
(D) Timur Turlov

95. Which Chennai player became India's first woman International Master (IM) and first WGM?
(A) Koneru Humpy
(B) Harika Dronavalli
(C) S. Vijayalakshmi
(D) R. Vaishali

96. In which sport did India win the most medals at the 2026 Aichi–Nagoya Asian Para Games?
(A) Para-badminton
(B) Para-shooting
(C) Para-archery
(D) Para-athletics

97. Which country topped the medal table at the 2026 Asian Para Games?
(A) China
(B) Japan
(C) Iran
(D) Uzbekistan

98. Which two-time Paralympic champion was elected President of the Paralympic Committee of India in March 2024?
(A) Deepa Malik
(B) Sumit Antil
(C) Devendra Jhajharia
(D) Pramod Bhagat

99. Deepa Malik, the first Indian woman to win a Paralympic medal, won silver at Rio 2016 in which event?
(A) Javelin throw
(B) Discus throw
(C) Powerlifting
(D) Shot put

100. In Tamil Nadu, the Department for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons is held directly by whom?
(A) Social Welfare Minister
(B) Chief Secretary
(C) Chief Minister
(D) Health Minister

101. In October 2026, Pankaj Advani won his 29th world title at which event?
(A) IBSF World Snooker
(B) WBL World Billiards
(C) Asian Billiards
(D) World 6-Red Snooker

102. At which Tamil Nadu hill station were the first rules of snooker finalised in 1882?
(A) Kodaikanal
(B) Yercaud
(C) Coonoor
(D) Udhagamandalam (Ooty)

103. Which is India's highest sports honour, received by Advani in 2006?
(A) Arjuna
(B) Khel Ratna
(C) Dronacharya
(D) Dhyan Chand Award

104. In snooker, which colour ball carries the highest value (7 points)?
(A) Black
(B) Pink
(C) Blue
(D) Yellow

105. Who became the first Indian world champion in any sport by winning the World Amateur Billiards title in 1958?

(A) Wilson Jones
(B) Michael Ferreira
(C) Geet Sethi
(D) Viswanathan Anand

106. Which Kerala department decided in October 2026 to carry out statewide 'child vulnerability mapping'?

(A) Health Department
(B) Women & Child Development
(C) Home Department
(D) Local Self-Government

107. The child helpline 1098 functions under which Central Government scheme?

(A) POSHAN Abhiyaan
(B) Mission Shakti
(C) Mission Vatsalya
(D) Samagra Shiksha

108. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory body set up under which Act?

(A) CPCR Act, 2005
(B) POCSO Act, 2012
(C) JJ Act, 2015
(D) RTE Act, 2009

109. Which Article of the Constitution directs the State to let children develop in a healthy manner and protect them from exploitation?

(A) Article 21A
(B) Article 24
(C) Article 39(f)
(D) Article 45

110. Which scheme did Tamil Nadu launch in 2022 to identify and treat malnourished children?

(A) Oottachathai Uruthi Sei
(B) Pudhumai Penn
(C) Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam
(D) Naan Mudhalvan

111. In October 2026, which element did the US Department of Energy add to its Critical Material List, citing chipmaking?

(A) Lithium
(B) Helium
(C) Neon
(D) Gallium

112. At which place in India did Janssen first observe helium's yellow spectral line during the 1868 solar eclipse?

(A) Kodaikanal
(B) Madras
(C) Puri
(D) Guntur

113. Why is liquid helium used in MRI scanners?

(A) To cool superconducting magnets
(B) To produce X-rays
(C) As a contrast agent
(D) To sterilise equipment

114. KABIL, set up to acquire critical mineral assets abroad, comes under which Union Ministry?

(A) Ministry of Steel
(B) Ministry of Mines
(C) Ministry of Petroleum
(D) Ministry of External Affairs

115. Where in Tamil Nadu is the IREL plant that separates monazite and ilmenite from beach sand located?

(A) Manavalakurichi
(B) Chavara
(C) Chhatrapur
(D) Aluva

116. The 'Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought' is awarded by which body?
(A) UN General Assembly
(B) Council of Europe
(C) European Parliament
(D) Norwegian Nobel Committee

117. The International Criminal Court (ICC) was established under which treaty?
(A) Rome Statute
(B) Geneva Convention
(C) Vienna Convention
(D) Treaty of Versailles

118. Which is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations?
(A) International Criminal Court
(B) International Court of Justice
(C) Permanent Court of Arbitration
(D) Int'l Tribunal Law of the Sea

119. Who shared the first Sakharov Prize (1988) with Anatoly Marchenko?
(A) Malala Yousafzai
(B) Aung San Suu Kyi
(C) Nelson Mandela
(D) Dalai Lama

120. The Tamil Nadu State Human Rights Commission was set up under which Act?
(A) Commissions of Inquiry Act
(B) Protection of Human Rights Act
(C) Right to Information Act
(D) Lokpal Act

121. Painter Jogen Chowdhury, who died on 25 Oct 2026, was for 15 years the curator of the art collection of which institution?
(A) National Museum
(B) Victoria Memorial
(C) Rashtrapati Bhavan
(D) Salar Jung Museum

122. The 'Kalidas Samman', received by Jogen Chowdhury in 2001, is conferred by which State Government?
(A) Uttar Pradesh
(B) Maharashtra
(C) West Bengal
(D) Madhya Pradesh

123. Kala Bhavana at Santiniketan, where Jogen Chowdhury taught, is part of which university?
(A) University of Calcutta
(B) Visva-Bharati University
(C) Jadavpur University
(D) Rabindra Bharati University

124. Which body functions as India's National Academy of Fine Arts?
(A) Lalit Kala Akademi
(B) Sangeet Natak Akademi
(C) Sahitya Akademi
(D) National School of Drama

125. Who founded the 'Cholamandal Artists' Village' (1966) at Injambakkam, Chennai?
(A) Nandalal Bose
(B) Jamini Roy
(C) K.C.S. Paniker
(D) S. Dhanapal

126. Along with Stockholm University, which body jointly awards the 'Oskar Klein Medal' received by Ashoke Sen?
(A) Royal Society, London
(B) ICTP, Trieste
(C) CERN, Geneva
(D) Nobel Committee for Physics

127. Ashoke Sen is world-renowned for his research in which field?
(A) Condensed matter physics
(B) Radio astronomy
(C) String theory
(D) Nuclear fission

128. In the 'Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar', the name of Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar is attached to which category?
(A) Vigyan Ratna
(B) Vigyan Shri
(C) Vigyan Team
(D) Vigyan Yuva

129. India's National Science Day (28 February) commemorates the discovery of the?
(A) Photoelectric effect
(B) Raman effect
(C) Compton effect
(D) Zeeman effect

130. The 'Chandrasekhar limit', named after 1983 Nobel laureate S. Chandrasekhar, is the maximum mass of a?
(A) Black hole
(B) Red giant
(C) White dwarf
(D) Comet

131. 'International Artist's Day', observed on 25 October, coincides with the birth anniversary of which painter?
(A) Leonardo da Vinci
(B) Pablo Picasso
(C) Vincent van Gogh
(D) Raja Ravi Varma

132. Which art movement did Picasso develop together with Georges Braque?
(A) Cubism
(B) Impressionism
(C) Surrealism
(D) Fauvism

133. Picasso's painting 'Guernica' (1937) depicts which event?
(A) French Revolution
(B) Spanish Civil War bombing
(C) Battle of Waterloo
(D) Hiroshima atomic bombing

134. Kilimanoor, the birthplace of painter Raja Ravi Varma, was in which princely State?
(A) Travancore
(B) Cochin
(C) Mysore
(D) Pudukkottai

135. 'Thanjavur painting', with gold foil and inlaid glass beads, flourished under the patronage of which rulers?
(A) Pallavas
(B) Kakatiyas
(C) Marathas of Thanjavur
(D) Hoysalas

136. Which organisations lead the 'Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint', which drives the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week?
(A) UNICEF and UNDP
(B) ILO and WHO
(C) FAO and UNEP
(D) WHO and UNEP

137. The chemical symbol of lead, 'Pb', is derived from which Latin word?
(A) Ferrum
(B) Argentum
(C) Stannum
(D) Plumbum

138. India's 2016 Rules limiting lead in paints to 90 ppm were notified under which Act?
(A) Environment (Protection) Act
(B) Air (Pollution) Act
(C) Factories Act
(D) Water (Pollution) Act

139. Lead poisoning causes anaemia mainly because it blocks the synthesis of?
(A) Insulin
(B) Thyroxine
(C) Haem (of haemoglobin)
(D) Keratin

140. What was the main purpose of adding 'tetraethyl lead' (TEL) to petrol?

(A) To prevent engine knocking

(B) To add colour

(C) To lower freezing point

(D) To prevent rusting

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Answer key at a glance

1 **C**	2 **C**	3 **D**	4 **C**	5 **A**	6 **D**	7 **B**	8 **B**	9 **A**	10 **D**
11 **C**	12 **C**	13 **B**	14 **B**	15 **A**	16 **C**	17 **D**	18 **A**	19 **D**	20 **C**
21 **B**	22 **D**	23 **B**	24 **A**	25 **A**	26 **B**	27 **D**	28 **D**	29 **C**	30 **A**
31 **B**	32 **D**	33 **D**	34 **B**	35 **A**	36 **D**	37 **B**	38 **D**	39 **B**	40 **C**
41 **C**	42 **B**	43 **D**	44 **C**	45 **C**	46 **B**	47 **A**	48 **A**	49 **D**	50 **A**
51 **A**	52 **D**	53 **B**	54 **D**	55 **D**	56 **B**	57 **B**	58 **C**	59 **D**	60 **C**
61 **A**	62 **D**	63 **C**	64 **B**	65 **A**	66 **C**	67 **A**	68 **B**	69 **C**	70 **C**
71 **A**	72 **A**	73 **C**	74 **A**	75 **B**	76 **B**	77 **C**	78 **A**	79 **B**	80 **D**
81 **A**	82 **D**	83 **D**	84 **B**	85 **D**	86 **A**	87 **B**	88 **D**	89 **B**	90 **D**
91 **C**	92 **D**	93 **A**	94 **C**	95 **C**	96 **D**	97 **A**	98 **C**	99 **D**	100 **C**
101 **B**	102 **D**	103 **B**	104 **A**	105 **A**	106 **B**	107 **C**	108 **A**	109 **C**	110 **A**
111 **B**	112 **D**	113 **A**	114 **B**	115 **A**	116 **C**	117 **A**	118 **B**	119 **C**	120 **B**
121 **C**	122 **D**	123 **B**	124 **A**	125 **C**	126 **D**	127 **C**	128 **D**	129 **B**	130 **C**
131 **B**	132 **A**	133 **B**	134 **A**	135 **C**	136 **D**	137 **D**	138 **A**	139 **C**	140 **A**

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Answers & explanations

1. (C) Kaveri – Kollidam – Kaveri – Kollidam. The Kollidam is the northern branch of the Kaveri; downstream stands the Grand Anicut (Kallanai) on the Kaveri, built by Karikalan.

2. (C) Alvars – The Alvars (12) – their hymns form the Nalayira Divya Prabandham (compiled by Nathamuni). The 63 Nayanmars were Saiva saints.

3. (D) Article 26 – Article 26(c),(d). Art 25 – freedom of conscience and religion; Art 27 – no tax for promoting a religion; Art 28 – no religious instruction in State institutions.

4. (C) Concurrent List – Concurrent List (Entry 6). So States can amend the central Registration Act 1908; in Tamil Nadu the Registration Department runs the Sub-Registrar offices.

5. (A) HR&CE Commissioner – The Commissioner (Section 34) – a sale, mortgage or exchange without sanction is void. Its forerunner was the Justice Party government's 1926 Endowments Act.

6. (D) Dindigul – Dindigul – Palani Hills; it is viewed from Dum Dum Rock on the Batlagundu–Kodaikanal road.

7. (B) Rat Tail Falls – Rat Tail Falls – its long, thin stream looks like a rat's tail. Silver Cascade and Bear Shola are at Kodaikanal; Palaruvi (Milk Falls) is in Kerala.

8. (B) Vaigai – The Vaigai. The Amaravathi and Bhavani are Kaveri tributaries; the Thamirabarani rises in the Pothigai hills and enters the Gulf of Mannar.

9. (A) Chittar – The Chittar (Tenkasi district), which later joins the Thamirabarani. Hogenakkal Falls is on the Kaveri in Dharmapuri district.

10. (D) North-east monsoon – The north-east monsoon (Oct–Dec). During the south-west monsoon Tamil Nadu lies in the rain-shadow of the Western Ghats.

11. (C) Golden Jackal Ambassadors – Golden Jackal Ambassadors (2025) – trains students as wildlife-awareness ambassadors. The golden jackal is Canis aureus.

12. (C) Bare-bellied hedgehog – Bare-bellied hedgehog – its belly is almost hairless. The porcupine is a rodent, the hedgehog an insectivore – they are different animals.

13. (B) Least Concern – Least Concern – but data are very scarce; because of grassland loss and hunting, the State treats it as a lesser-known threatened species and funds it.

14. (B) Palk Bay – Palk Bay (Thanjavur–Pudukkottai coast, 2022). The dugong is a seagrass-eating marine mammal listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Act.

15. (A) Karur and Dindigul – Karur and Dindigul (2022). The slender loris is nocturnal and helps farmers by eating insect pests.

16. (C) Any person, including a voter – Any private person, including a voter – the Sec 195(1) CrPC bar does not apply. Penalty: up to 6 months' jail, fine or both.

17. (D) Union of India v. ADR – The ADR case (2002) – the right flows from free speech under Art 19(1)(a); PUCL (2003) reaffirmed it. Sections 33A and 125A were then added to the RP Act.

18. (A) High Court – The High Court (RPA Sec 80A) – within 45 days of the result; appeal lies to the Supreme Court. Presidential election disputes go straight to the Supreme Court.

19. (D) PUCL case – PUCL v. Union of India (Sept 2013) – even if NOTA polls the most votes, the candidate with the highest votes wins.

20. (C) Article 324 – Article 324. Art 326 – adult suffrage; 280 – Finance Commission; 320 – functions of Public Service Commissions. Local body polls are run by State Election Commissions (243K).

21. (B) Kharghar, Navi Mumbai – Kharghar, Navi Mumbai. Odisha was chosen for low seismic risk and distance from borders and subsea-cable landing points.

22. (D) Fault tolerant – Fault tolerant – any single component can fail without disrupting operations; about 99.995% uptime. Tier III is 'concurrently maintainable'.

23. (B) Electronics & IT – MeitY – the national cyber-incident response agency under Section 70B of the IT Act 2000. NCIIPC is under Section 70A.

24. (A) Chennai – Chennai, Anna Salai – since 1963. Pune has the College of Agricultural Banking (CAB); Hyderabad has IDRBT.

25. (A) Central Government – The Central Government (RBI Act, Section 8) – the Governor and up to four Deputy Governors. The Governor chairs RBI's Central Board.

26. (B) IITM – Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) – HQ Pune. AATAL is linked to IITM's AIRWISE decision-support system.

27. (D) Mission Mausam – Mission Mausam – approved Sept 2024; run by IMD, IITM and NCMRWF. NCAP (2019) belongs to the Environment Ministry.

28. (D) 2010 Commonwealth Games – SAFAR – System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research; later extended to Pune, Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

29. (C) Alveoli of the lungs – Being 2.5 micrometres or smaller, they pass the alveoli and can enter the blood. NAAQS (2009) sets limits for 12 pollutants.

30. (A) Chennai – Manali – North Chennai; a hub of refinery, fertiliser and chemical units. Chennai is one of the NCAP 'non-attainment cities'.

31. (B) Housing & Urban Affairs – MoHUA runs it through the Institute of Urban Transport (India). The 19th edition (2026) was in Bhubaneswar on accessibility and liveability in the digital age.

32. (D) Greater Chennai Corp. – Non-motorised transport means walking and cycling. CMRL shared the 'Best Passenger Services' award with NCRTC.

33. (D) Public–Private Partnership – Approved in 2023; 10,000 e-buses, run by MoHUA. Segment B covers green mobility steps like NCMC fares and charging.

34. (B) AMRUT – AMRUT – Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation; launched with the Smart Cities Mission and PMAY-U on 25 June 2015.

35. (A) Move people, not vehicles – It prioritises public transport, walking and cycling. The Metro Rail Policy 2017 stresses Transit-Oriented Development (TOD).

36. (D) ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal – NBAGR – National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources. With the 2026 additions India has 262 registered breeds. NDRI is also at Karnal.

37. (B) Theni – Named after Kombai town in Theni district; a guard dog also called the 'Polygar dog'. It is the only dog among the 16 breeds of 2026.

38. (D) Rajapalayam and Chippiparai – These three were the first dog breeds registered (2020). Rajapalayam – white hunting and guard dog; Chippiparai – slender sighthound.

39. (B) Pulikulam – Pulikulam is a grazing breed. Kangayam bulls are also used in Jallikattu; Umblachery is a Cauvery-delta breed.

40. (C) Conserve indigenous bovines – It develops and conserves indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds scientifically; run by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

41. (C) Crops and solar on same land – Farming and power generation on the same land at the same time; shade from raised panels helps keep soil moisture.

42. (B) Odisha – Odisha Agri-PV Policy 2026 – 'One Field, Two Harvests'; at least 90% of the land must stay under cultivation.

43. (D) Standalone solar pumps – Component B – standalone solar pumps for off-grid areas. Launched by MNRE in 2019; A – solar plants, C – pump solarisation.

44. (C) TN Green Energy Corp. (TNGECL) – TNGECL – the renewable-energy company formed in TANGEDCO's 2024 restructuring. TEDA had been set up in 1984.

45. (C) NAPCC – The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC, 2008) has eight national missions, including Solar and Enhanced Energy Efficiency.

46. (B) Madhya Pradesh – The Rewa–Churhat line links Sidhi; it is part of the Lalitpur–Singrauli project. Sanjay National Park is in Sidhi district.

47. (A) Coal mines & thermal plants – Singrauli, on the MP–UP border, is a coal-rich area with several large thermal power stations.

48. (A) Jabalpur – WCR – Jabalpur; divisions Jabalpur, Bhopal, Kota. Bilaspur is South East Central Railway; Prayagraj is North Central Railway.

49. (D) Acworth Committee – Acworth Committee (1920–21). The Bibek Debroy committee advised the merger; from 2017–18 the Railway Budget is part of the Union Budget.

50. (A) ICF, Chennai – Integral Coach Factory, Perambur (1955); Train 18 – 2018. CLW is the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works.

51. (A) Maharashtra – Maharashtra's Animal Husbandry Department; launched after 305 of 358 talukas were declared drought-hit.

52. (D) Anaerobic fermentation – Lactic acid bacteria ferment green fodder sealed airtight; sun-dried fodder is called hay.

53. (B) Union Agriculture Ministry – Issued in 2016 and revised in 2020; the Agriculture Ministry is the central nodal ministry for drought. The State Government declares drought.

54. (D) TNAU, Coimbatore – Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (CO = Coimbatore); CO (BN) 5 is another of its hybrids. NDDB is headquartered at Anand, Gujarat.

55. (D) Anabaena – Azolla is a water fern; Anabaena (a cyanobacterium) in its leaves fixes nitrogen. Rhizobium lives in root nodules of legumes.

56. (B) Central MV Rules, 1989 – The Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989, framed under the Motor Vehicles Act 1988, which replaced the 1939 Act.

57. (B) Passenger vehicle up to 8 seats – M1 – passenger vehicle with not more than 8 seats besides the driver (cars); goods vehicles up to 3.5 t are N1; two-wheelers are 'L' category.

58. (C) Crash-safety star rating of cars – Crash tests award 1–5 stars for adult and child occupant protection and safety assist technologies; participation is voluntary.

59. (D) Chennai – The Chennai–Sriperumbudur–Oragadam belt is a major auto cluster. Detroit in the USA is known as the 'Motor City'.

60. (C) MV (Amendment) Act, 2019 – The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019 inserted Sec 134A – no civil or criminal liability on the helper. Earlier, in 2016, the Supreme Court had endorsed guidelines.

61. (A) Government of Assam – Announced by CM Himanta Biswa Sarma; first recipient Usha Mangeshkar. The PM will present it on 29 Nov.

62. (D) Bhupen Hazarika – 'Sudhakantha' = nectar-voiced; also called the 'Bard of the Brahmaputra'. Ilaiyaraaja is 'Isaignani'; A.R. Rahman the 'Mozart of Madras'.

63. (C) Lohit – The Lohit is a tributary of the Brahmaputra; the bridge, opened in 2017, improves road access to Arunachal Pradesh. The Barak is a separate river of southern Assam.

64. (B) Pranab Mukherjee, N. Deshmukh – Hazarika and Nanaji Deshmukh posthumously. Vajpayee–Malaviya 2015; Sachin–C.N.R. Rao 2014; Karpoori Thakur–Advani 2024.

65. (A) Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle – The Mangeshkar sisters – Lata, Meena, Asha, Usha; brother composer Hridaynath. Lata Mangeshkar received the Bharat Ratna in 2001.

66. (C) Civil Services Capacity Building – National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) – approved by the Union Cabinet in Sept 2020; nodal department DoPT.

67. (A) Prime Minister – The apex council is chaired by the Prime Minister; a Coordination Unit works under the Cabinet Secretary.

68. (B) Karmayogi Bharat (SPV) – Karmayogi Bharat – a 100% government-owned not-for-profit company under Sec 8 of the Companies Act 2013. LBSNAA in Mussoorie trains IAS officers.

69. (C) Rajya Sabha – The Rajya Sabha, by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting; a similar resolution under Article 249 enables laws on State List subjects.

70. (C) Anna Admin. Staff College – G.O. No. 110 (7.10.2021); Chennai, State ATI since 1999. Foundation training is given at the Civil Services Training Institute, Bhavanisagar, Erode district.

71. (A) France – Handed over at the closing of the 2026 conference in New Delhi. The series began at Perpignan, France, in 2020.

72. (A) Edmond Becquerel – French physicist Edmond Becquerel (1839). Einstein explained the photoelectric effect; Raman discovered light scattering (Raman effect).

73. (C) COP-21 – COP-21, Paris, Dec 2015; in force from 4 Nov 2016. COP-15 was Copenhagen (2009), COP-26 Glasgow (2021).

74. (A) Tharangambadi – Tharangambadi (Tranquebar) was Danish. Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam joined India de facto in 1954 and de jure in 1962.

75. (B) Mirra Alfassa (The Mother) – French-born Mirra Alfassa, 28 Feb 1968; Sri Aurobindo's spiritual collaborator. Administered under the Auroville Foundation Act 1988.

76. (B) Australia – Australia – Hobart, Tasmania. The battery system came from Norway-based Corvus Energy.

77. (C) Paraná and Uruguay – Paraná and Uruguay rivers; the estuary forms the Argentina–Uruguay boundary and opens into the Atlantic. The Amazon–Rio Negro meeting is near Manaus, Brazil.

78. (A) Akira Yoshino – Akira Yoshino – with John Goodenough and Stanley Whittingham. Shuji Nakamura won the 2014 Physics Nobel for the blue LED.

79. (B) Varanasi – Varanasi (Ganga, Namo Ghat) – built by Cochin Shipyard, owned by IWAI. Kochi runs India's first water metro (2023).

80. (D) Green Tug Transition Prog. – Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) – 50 green tugs by 2030. India's first all-electric tug project began at Deendayal Port, Kandla.

81. (A) Mosqivac – Mosqivac – GSK sold the same vaccine as 'Mosquirix'. Covaxin (COVID), Rotavac (rotavirus) and Typbar-TCV (typhoid) are other Bharat Biotech vaccines.

82. (D) Gavi – Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance – founded in 2000, headquartered in Geneva. Its advance payment for this deal came through the International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm).

83. (D) Plasmodium falciparum – Plasmodium falciparum – causes the deadliest (cerebral) malaria. Vivax malaria is also common in India.

84. (B) Secunderabad – Secunderabad (20 Aug 1897 – World Mosquito Day); Nobel in Medicine 1902. Almora is Ross's birthplace.

85. (D) Cat. 1 – elimination phase – Category 1 – elimination phase (API below 1), a group that also includes Kerala, Karnataka and Puducherry. National target: elimination by 2030.

86. (A) Oviedo – Oviedo – capital of Asturias in northern Spain. The awards have been held here since 1981.

87. (B) Amartya Sen – Amartya Sen – Economics Nobel 1998, Bharat Ratna 1999. Abhijit Banerjee won the Economics Nobel in 2019.

88. (D) Joan Miró – Joan Miró – along with a diploma, insignia and €50,000. Antoni Gaudí was the architect of Barcelona's Sagrada Família.

89. (B) Spain – Spain – 1–0 after extra time; their second title (first in 2010). The final was at MetLife Stadium, New Jersey.

90. (D) France Football – France Football – since 1956; jointly with UEFA since 2024. Messi's last Ballon d'Or came in 2023.

91. (C) Judit Polgar – Judit Polgar (Hungary) – regarded as the strongest woman player ever. Bodhana set the new mark at 11 years 7 months.

92. (D) Tiruchirappalli – Tiruchirappalli – she was born in London and lives in Harrow; in Aug 2026 she became the youngest Women's British Champion.

93. (A) Paris – Paris – hence 20 July is International Chess Day. Its HQ is now Lausanne; motto 'Gens una sumus'.

94. (C) Viswanathan Anand – Viswanathan Anand (Chennai) – India's first GM (1988). Timur Turlov was elected FIDE President.

95. (C) S. Vijayalakshmi – S. Vijayalakshmi (2001). Koneru Humpy (Andhra Pradesh) became India's first woman Grandmaster in 2002.

96. (D) Para-athletics – Para-athletics – 65 medals (22 gold). Para-swimming rose from 1 medal to 11.

97. (A) China – China (400+ medals); Japan 2nd, Uzbekistan 3rd; India 4th – its best-ever finish.

98. (C) Devendra Jhajharia – Devendra Jhajharia – javelin gold at Athens 2004 and Rio 2016. The PCI was founded in 1992 and is based in New Delhi.

99. (D) Shot put – Shot put (F53 class). She later served as PCI president; Khel Ratna 2019.

100. (C) Chief Minister – The Chief Minister – the separate department was created in 1992 and renamed in 2010. At the national level, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 applies.

101. (B) WBL World Billiards – He beat Robert Hall 1906–1206 in the WBL World Billiards final in England. Next he plays the IBSF World Snooker Championship at Indore in November.

102. (D) Udhagamandalam (Ooty) – British Army officer Neville Chamberlain finalised snooker's rules at Ooty. The game had grown among army officers at Jabalpur in the 1870s.

103. (B) Khel Ratna – The Khel Ratna is the country's highest sports award; since 2021 it is named the 'Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna'. Advani also holds the Arjuna (2004), Padma Shri (2009) and Padma Bhushan (2018).

104. (A) Black – Black 7, pink 6, blue 5, yellow 2; snooker uses 22 balls. English billiards uses only three balls.

105. (A) Wilson Jones – Pune-born Wilson Jones won the title at Kolkata. Chennai's Viswanathan Anand is India's first chess Grandmaster.

106. (B) Women & Child Development – The decision followed a meeting convened by Minister Bindhu Krishna. The Local Self-Government, Health and Police departments will assist.

107. (C) Mission Vatsalya – Mission Vatsalya is the umbrella child-protection scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development; 1098 is integrated with emergency number 112 (ERSS). Mission Shakti is for women's safety and empowerment.

108. (A) CPCR Act, 2005 – NCPCR was set up on 5 March 2007 under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It also monitors implementation of the POCSO and RTE Acts.

109. (C) Article 39(f) – Article 39(f) is a Directive Principle (Part IV). Article 24 bars employing children below 14 in factories (Fundamental Right).

110. (A) Oottachathai Uruthi Sei – Phase I was launched on 21 May 2022 in the Nilgiris district; Phase II (Nov 2024) covers malnourished infants up to six months and their mothers. Anganwadi workers identify the children.

111. (B) Helium – Helium was added under the Energy Act of 2020. Helium is a Group-18 noble gas with atomic number 2.

112. (D) Guntur – 18 Aug 1868 – Guntur (AP). Lockyer called it a new element; William Ramsay isolated it on Earth in 1895. Kodaikanal Solar Observatory began in 1899.

113. (A) To cool superconducting magnets – Helium has the lowest boiling point of all elements, so it keeps superconducting magnets extremely cold. It is also used in 'heliox' for deep-sea diving.

114. (B) Ministry of Mines – KABIL is a NALCO–HCL–MECL joint venture exploring lithium in Argentina. The Ministry of Mines listed 30 critical minerals in 2023.

115. (A) Manavalakurichi – Manavalakurichi is in Kanyakumari district; IREL is under the Department of Atomic Energy. Chavara and Aluva are in Kerala; Chhatrapur (OSCOM) is in Odisha.

116. (C) European Parliament – The European Parliament has given it since 1988; the 2026 prize went to the ICC and its officials. Prize money is €50,000.

117. (A) Rome Statute – The Rome Statute was adopted in 1998 and came into force in 2002; India is not a party. The ICC tries individuals for genocide, war crimes and similar crimes.

118. (B) International Court of Justice – The ICJ was set up under the UN Charter (1945); it settles disputes between States; 15 judges. The ICC is not a UN organ; both sit in The Hague.

119. (C) Nelson Mandela – Mandela later won the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize. Malala won the Sakharov Prize in 2013 and the Nobel in 2014.

120. (B) Protection of Human Rights Act – Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 – Section 21 provides for State Human Rights Commissions. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was also set up under this Act in 1993.

121. (C) Rashtrapati Bhavan – Curator of the Rashtrapati Bhavan art collection from 1972; in 2014 he returned as its first artist-in-residence.

122. (D) Madhya Pradesh – Kalidas Samman – Government of Madhya Pradesh; for music, theatre, dance and plastic arts. West Bengal's top honour 'Banga Bibhushan' – he received it in 2012.

123. (B) Visva-Bharati University – Tagore started Kala Bhavana in 1919; Visva-Bharati is a central university. The Prime Minister is its 'Acharya' (Chancellor).

124. (A) Lalit Kala Akademi – Lalit Kala Akademi – 5 Aug 1954; HQ Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. Sangeet Natak Akademi – music, dance, drama; Sahitya Akademi – literature.

125. (C) K.C.S. Paniker – K.C.S. Paniker, former principal of the Madras School of Arts, founded it with his students; the 'Madras Art Movement' brought modernism to South Indian art.

126. (D) Nobel Committee for Physics – The Nobel Committee for Physics of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The same Academy selects the Physics and Chemistry Nobel Prizes.

127. (C) String theory – String theory – S-duality, black hole entropy, string field theory. He won the Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics for it in 2012.

128. (D) Vigyan Yuva – 'Vigyan Yuva–Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar' – for young scientists up to 45 years. Ashoke Sen won the old S.S. Bhatnagar Prize in 1994.

129. (B) Raman effect – 28 Feb 1928 – the Raman effect, on the scattering of light, was discovered; it won the 1930 Nobel. C.V. Raman was born at Thiruvanaikaval, Tiruchirappalli.

130. (C) White dwarf – A white dwarf cannot be stable above about 1.4 solar masses – it collapses into a neutron star or black hole. Chandrasekhar studied at Presidency College, Madras.

131. (B) Pablo Picasso – Picasso was born on 25 Oct 1881 in Málaga, Spain. Canadian artist Chris MacClure started the day in 2004.

132. (A) Cubism – Cubism shows objects as geometric shapes from several viewpoints. Impressionism – Claude Monet; Fauvism – Henri Matisse.

133. (B) Spanish Civil War bombing – In 1937 Germany's Condor Legion bombed the Basque town of Guernica. The painting is now in the Reina Sofía Museum, Madrid.

134. (A) Travancore – Travancore (present-day Kerala). He painted Indian mythological scenes in the European oil technique and spread them through his printing press.

135. (C) Marathas of Thanjavur – It flourished under the Maratha rulers of Thanjavur, drawing on Nayak and Vijayanagara traditions. It holds a GI tag.

136. (D) WHO and UNEP – WHO (HQ Geneva) and UNEP (HQ Nairobi). The 2026 week's theme: 'From Detection to Prevention'.

137. (D) Plumbum – Plumbum = lead (atomic number 82). Ferrum – iron (Fe), Argentum – silver (Ag), Stannum – tin (Sn).

138. (A) Environment (Protection) Act – Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 – an 'umbrella' law enacted after the Bhopal gas tragedy. The Rules came into force in Nov 2017.

139. (C) Haem (of haemoglobin) – Lead inhibits the enzymes of haem synthesis, causing anaemia. In children it harms brain development and lowers IQ – no safe level (WHO).

140. (A) To prevent engine knocking – TEL is an anti-knock agent. India switched to unleaded petrol in 2000; Algeria was the last country to stop, in 2021.

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