Current Affairs – MCQs

28 October 2026

Questions PDF

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Questions (100)

1. Which body conducts the recruitment examination for Station Master posts in the Railways?
(A) Railway Recruitment Boards
(B) Staff Selection Commission
(C) UPSC
(D) IRCTC

2. Which is the apex management and policy-making body of Indian Railways?
(A) RDSO
(B) RITES
(C) IRCON
(D) Railway Board

3. India's first electric train (1925) ran between which two places?
(A) Howrah – Burdwan
(B) Madras Beach – Tambaram
(C) Delhi – Ghaziabad
(D) Bombay VT – Kurla

4. The new Pamban bridge, India's first vertical-lift railway sea bridge, links Rameswaram island with which mainland town?
(A) Mandapam
(B) Dhanushkodi
(C) Thoothukudi
(D) Kanniyakumari

5. Which Tamil Nadu railway is a UNESCO World Heritage Site under 'Mountain Railways of India'?
(A) Nilgiri Mountain Railway
(B) Pamban rail line
(C) Madurai – Bodi line
(D) Chennai MRTS

6. TAMCO functions as the State Channelising Agency of which national finance corporation?
(A) NSFDC
(B) NBCFDC
(C) NMDFC
(D) NSKFDC

7. Which community was the last (2014) to be added to the nationally notified minority communities?
(A) Parsis
(B) Jains
(C) Buddhists
(D) Sikhs

8. Which Article gives minorities the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice?
(A) Article 30
(B) Article 25
(C) Article 15(4)
(D) Article 46

9. Which of the following correctly describes the National Commission for Minorities?
(A) A constitutional body
(B) Set up only by executive order
(C) A wing of NITI Aayog
(D) Statutory body under 1992 Act

10. Which loan scheme for minority artisans is implemented in Tamil Nadu through TAMCO?
(A) Nai Manzil
(B) Nai Roshni
(C) Padho Pardesh
(D) Virasat

11. Which agency enforces a Look Out Circular (LOC) at India's airports and seaports?
(A) Bureau of Immigration
(B) Central Bureau of Investigation
(C) Ministry of External Affairs
(D) National Investigation Agency

12. Which Supreme Court case first held that the right to travel abroad is part of 'personal liberty' under Article 21?
(A) A.K. Gopalan case
(B) Golaknath case
(C) Satwant Singh Sawhney case
(D) Kesavananda Bharati case

13. In the Karti P. Chidambaram case (2018), the Madras High Court held that its power under which Article includes cancelling an LOC?

(A) Article 32 (B) Article 226

(C) Article 227 (D) Article 136

14. Per the Maneka Gandhi case (1978), a procedure restricting Article 21 rights must be:

(A) Fair, just and reasonable (B) Approved by Parliament only

(C) Ordered by a magistrate only (D) Notified by the President

15. Under the MHA's consolidated LOC guidelines of 2021, how long does an LOC remain in force?

(A) Only six months (B) One year, then auto-deleted

(C) Until a court extends it (D) Till originator seeks deletion

16. The period of the new 'PM Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana' is aligned with the award period of which body?

(A) NITI Aayog (B) 16th Finance Commission

(C) 8th Pay Commission (D) 15th Finance Commission

17. Which Part of the Constitution deals with Panchayats?

(A) Part VIII (B) Part IXA

(C) Part IX (D) Part X

18. The Uthiramerur inscriptions describing the 'Kudavolai' election system belong to the reign of which king?

(A) Rajaraja Chola I (B) Narasimhavarman I

(C) Parantaka Chola I (D) Rajendra Chola I

19. Which Union Ministry implements the PM-VGSY scheme?

(A) Ministry of Panchayati Raj (B) Ministry of Rural Development

(C) Ministry of Home Affairs (D) Housing & Urban Affairs

20. Which committee first recommended a three-tier Panchayati Raj system in India?

(A) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (B) Ashok Mehta Committee

(C) G.V.K. Rao Committee (D) L.M. Singhvi Committee

21. INS Sahyadri arrived at which port on 26 Oct 2026 for the India–Republic of Korea Navy exercise?

(A) Incheon (B) Busan

(C) Vladivostok (D) Yokosuka

22. Which Indian poet praised Korea as 'The Lamp of the East' in a 1929 poem?

(A) Rabindranath Tagore (B) Sarojini Naidu

(C) Subramania Bharati (D) Muhammad Iqbal

23. Which strait separates the Korean Peninsula from Japan?

(A) Strait of Malacca (B) Korea Strait

(C) Taiwan Strait (D) Tsugaru Strait

24. Which Prime Minister launched India's 'Look East' policy?

(A) P.V. Narasimha Rao (B) I.K. Gujral

(C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee (D) Rajiv Gandhi

25. Which Indian chaired the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission (NNRC) after the Korean War armistice (1953)?

(A) K.S. Thimayya
(B) K.M. Cariappa
(C) S.P.P. Thorat
(D) Sam Manekshaw

26. Where is the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (2–5 Nov 2026) being held?

(A) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
(B) Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar
(C) India Expo Mart, Greater Noida
(D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

27. The International Solar Alliance, holding its 9th Assembly with BRESE, was first meant for countries lying:

(A) Between Equator & Cancer
(B) Between the Polar Circles
(C) Between Cancer & Capricorn
(D) South of Capricorn

28. India's 'Panchamrit' pledge of 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030 was announced at which conference?

(A) COP26, Glasgow
(B) COP21, Paris
(C) COP27, Sharm el-Sheikh
(D) COP28, Dubai

29. What does the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (2024) mainly promote?

(A) Solar pumps for farmers
(B) Solar street lights
(C) Rooftop solar for homes
(D) Large solar parks

30. Off which two States' coasts is the first 1 GW under the 2024 offshore wind VGF scheme planned?

(A) Andhra Pradesh, Odisha
(B) Kerala, Karnataka
(C) Gujarat, Tamil Nadu
(D) Maharashtra, Goa

31. What is the ₹10,000 crore container-making scheme approved by the Union Cabinet on 28 Oct 2026 called?

(A) Container Mfg. Promotion Scheme
(B) Shipbuilding Development Scheme
(C) Coastal Cargo Promotion Scheme
(D) Maritime Development Fund

32. What does 'TEU', the unit used to measure container capacity, stand for?

(A) Total Export Unit
(B) Transport Equipment Unit
(C) Tonnage Equivalent Unit
(D) Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit

33. Who introduced modern container shipping in 1956 with the ship 'Ideal X'?

(A) Rudolf Diesel
(B) Malcom McLean
(C) Henry Ford
(D) Robert Fulton

34. Shipping containers are mostly built of 'Cor-Ten' steel. What is its key property?

(A) Lighter than aluminium
(B) Non-magnetic
(C) Resists weather corrosion
(D) Does not conduct heat

35. Which is India's first deep-water container transshipment port, dedicated to the nation in May 2025?

(A) Vizhinjam
(B) Vadhavan
(C) Enayam
(D) Galathea Bay

36. The 'SIGHT' programme of the National Green Hydrogen Mission mainly gives incentives for:

(A) Hydrogen fuel-cell cars
(B) Electrolysers & green H_2 output
(C) Coal gasification plants
(D) Natural gas pipelines

37. During electrolysis of water, where is hydrogen gas released?
(A) Anode
(B) In the electrolyte
(C) Cathode
(D) At both electrodes

38. Under the Green Hydrogen Mission's shipping pilot, VOC Port, Thoothukudi, is to get bunkering facilities for which green fuel?
(A) Green ammonia
(B) Green methanol
(C) Liquefied natural gas
(D) Biodiesel

39. Which scientist first identified hydrogen as a distinct substance, calling it 'inflammable air'?
(A) Antoine Lavoisier
(B) Joseph Priestley
(C) Henry Cavendish
(D) John Dalton

40. 'Green ammonia', made by combining green hydrogen with nitrogen, is mainly used for:
(A) Galvanising steel
(B) Making cement
(C) Making glass
(D) Nitrogen fertilisers

41. Where in New Delhi was the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum held in October 2026?
(A) Bharat Mandapam
(B) Yashobhoomi
(C) Vigyan Bhawan
(D) Samvidhan Sadan

42. In which city was the first BRICS Parliamentary Forum held in 2015?
(A) Moscow
(B) Brasília
(C) New Delhi
(D) Beijing

43. Who presides over a joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament (Article 108)?
(A) Speaker of the Lok Sabha
(B) President
(C) Chairman, Rajya Sabha
(D) Prime Minister

44. Which country became a full member of BRICS in January 2025?
(A) Malaysia
(B) Thailand
(C) Nigeria
(D) Indonesia

45. Which Tamil Nadu leader served twice as Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha (1985–89 and 2014–19)?
(A) T.R. Baalu
(B) P. Chidambaram
(C) M. Thambidurai
(D) Era. Sezhiyan

46. Kashipur, where the ASI began a dig in Oct 2026, is identified with which ancient city described by Xuanzang?
(A) Ahichchhatra
(B) Kausambi
(C) Govisana
(D) Sravasti

47. Which narrow pebble-strewn belt lies along the Shiwalik foothills, just north of the Terai?
(A) Khadar
(B) Bhabar
(C) Bhangar
(D) Doab

48. The Painted Grey Ware (PGW) culture is associated with which period?
(A) Neolithic Age
(B) Harappan Civilisation
(C) Iron Age (Later Vedic)
(D) Mesolithic Age

49. Which archaeologist excavated Hastinapur and linked Painted Grey Ware to the Mahabharata period?
(A) Mortimer Wheeler
(B) R.D. Banerji
(C) John Marshall
(D) B.B. Lal

50. Who was the Pallava king when the Chinese pilgrim Xuanzang visited Kanchipuram?
(A) Mahendravarman I
(B) Rajasimha
(C) Simhavishnu
(D) Narasimhavarman I

51. What is the purpose of the 'Punah Bharan' app launched by the Jal Shakti Ministry in October 2026?
(A) Flood forecasting
(B) Groundwater recharge planning
(C) Drinking-water quality testing
(D) Irrigation water billing

52. A permeable rock or soil layer that stores groundwater and yields it to wells is called –
(A) Aquiclude
(B) Watershed
(C) Aquifer
(D) Water table

53. In which city did the Prime Minister launch the 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' (JSJB) initiative in September 2024?
(A) Ahmedabad
(B) Surat
(C) Jaipur
(D) Varanasi

54. Where is the headquarters of the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)?
(A) Nagpur
(B) Hyderabad
(C) New Delhi
(D) Faridabad

55. The 'Kudimaramathu' scheme launched in Tamil Nadu in 2017 is related to:
(A) Ration-shop reform
(B) Tank restoration by people
(C) Rural road building
(D) School building repair

56. 'Srishti', launched at Goa Shipyard Ltd on 27 October 2026, is what type of vessel?
(A) Survey Vessel (Large)
(B) Offshore Patrol Vessel
(C) Fleet Support Ship
(D) Diving Support Vessel

57. In the defence procurement category 'Buy (Indian-IDDM)', IDDM = Indigenously Designed, Developed and ____?
(A) Manufactured
(B) Maintained
(C) Marketed
(D) Modernised

58. In shipbuilding, what does the 'launch' of a warship denote?
(A) Formal induction into Navy
(B) Laying of the keel
(C) Completion of sea trials
(D) Hull first put into water

59. The 'Ursa Major' constellation on the crest of 'Srishti' is known in India as:
(A) Dhruva (Pole Star)
(B) Saptarishi Mandal
(C) Krittika (Pleiades)
(D) Mriga (Orion)

60. Indian Navy Day (4 December) commemorates which operation of the 1971 war?
(A) Operation Meghdoot
(B) Operation Vijay
(C) Operation Trident
(D) Operation Cactus

61. Kittur, where the 'Chennamma Freedom Park' will come up, is in which district of Karnataka?
(A) Dharwad
(B) Bagalkot
(C) Belagavi
(D) Vijayapura

62. Which British collector and political agent was killed in the Kittur battle of October 1824?
(A) Thomas Munro
(B) St John Thackeray
(C) Mark Cubbon
(D) Arthur Wellesley

63. Which lieutenant of Rani Chennamma continued a guerrilla war against the British after her capture and was later hanged?
(A) Dhondia Wagh
(B) Sangolli Rayanna
(C) Dheeran Chinnamalai
(D) Tantia Tope

64. Who, as woman commander of Rani Velu Nachiyar of Sivaganga, set fire to the British ammunition store?
(A) Rani Mangammal
(B) Jhalkari Bai
(C) Avantibai
(D) Kuyili

65. The British refusal to accept Kittur's adoption is seen as a precursor to which policy of Lord Dalhousie?
(A) Subsidiary Alliance
(B) Ring Fence policy
(C) Doctrine of Lapse
(D) Permanent Settlement

66. In which city will the Earthshot Prize 2026 Awards Night – the first in India – be held?
(A) New Delhi
(B) Mumbai
(C) Bengaluru
(D) Chennai

67. Who founded the Earthshot Prize for environmental solutions in 2020?
(A) King Charles III
(B) Al Gore
(C) Prince William
(D) Bill Gates

68. In which category did the Indian enterprise Takachar win the Earthshot Prize in 2021?
(A) Revive Our Oceans
(B) Fix Our Climate
(C) Build a Waste-free World
(D) Clean Our Air

69. Tiruvannamalai student Vinisha Umashankar, a 2021 Earthshot finalist, is known for which invention?
(A) Solar-powered ironing cart
(B) Seawater desalinator
(C) Plastic-to-fuel unit
(D) Electric bicycle

70. The name 'Earthshot' was inspired by the 'Moonshot' programme of which US President?
(A) Franklin D. Roosevelt
(B) Dwight Eisenhower
(C) Richard Nixon
(D) John F. Kennedy

71. Where will the 'PRAGATI' AI & Robotics Park, approved by the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet in Oct 2026, be set up?
(A) Lucknow
(B) Kanpur
(C) Prayagraj
(D) Greater Noida

72. The word 'robot' was first used in a play written by whom?
(A) Isaac Asimov
(B) Alan Turing
(C) Karel Čapek
(D) H.G. Wells

73. Which State released a 'Safe and Ethical Artificial Intelligence Policy' in 2020?
(A) Karnataka
(B) Telangana
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Kerala

74. Under which Union Ministry does the national 'IndiaAI Mission' come?
(A) Science & Technology
(B) Electronics & IT (MeitY)
(C) Skill Development
(D) Communications

75. GVA at basic prices + product taxes − product subsidies = ?
(A) GDP
(B) NDP
(C) GNP
(D) Per capita income

76. At which October 2026 event did Nobel laureate Richard Roberts urge India to rethink its stand on GM crops?
(A) World Food India
(B) India Mobile Congress
(C) Indian Science Congress
(D) ESTIC 2026

77. For which discovery did Richard Roberts and Phillip Sharp share the 1993 Nobel Prize in Medicine?
(A) DNA double helix
(B) Split genes (introns)
(C) PCR technique
(D) CRISPR gene editing

78. 'Golden Rice', a GM rice, is engineered to produce the precursor of which nutrient?
(A) Vitamin C
(B) Vitamin A
(C) Iron
(D) Vitamin D

79. The GEAC, which approves environmental release of GM crops in India, functions under which Ministry?
(A) Environment, Forest & Climate
(B) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(C) Science & Technology
(D) Health & Family Welfare

80. Mahyco shared its Bt brinjal technology for developing local varieties with which Tamil Nadu institution?
(A) Anna University
(B) TANUVAS, Chennai
(C) TNAU, Coimbatore
(D) Annamalai University

81. The IUCN coral reef ecosystem assessment was released at CBD COP17 (Oct 2026), held in which city?
(A) Cali
(B) Yerevan
(C) Montreal
(D) Belém

82. How does the crown-of-thorns starfish, listed as a reef threat, damage coral reefs?
(A) By releasing toxic gas
(B) By drilling into rocks
(C) By blocking sunlight
(D) By eating coral polyps

83. The Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest reef system now rated Critically Endangered, lies off which Australian State?
(A) Queensland
(B) Victoria
(C) South Australia
(D) Tasmania

84. Coral polyps, which build reefs such as those in the Gulf of Mannar, belong to which animal phylum?
(A) Porifera
(B) Cnidaria
(C) Mollusca
(D) Annelida

85. A ring-shaped coral reef enclosing a lagoon, as seen in Lakshadweep, is called –
(A) Fringing reef
(B) Barrier reef
(C) Atoll
(D) Continental shelf

86. World Stroke Day on 29 October each year is led by which organisation?
(A) World Stroke Organization
(B) World Heart Federation
(C) World Fed. of Neurology
(D) Red Cross (IFRC)

87. The most common type of stroke, caused by a blocked artery supplying the brain, is called –
(A) Haemorrhagic stroke
(B) Ischaemic stroke
(C) Myocardial infarction
(D) Epilepsy

88. Which WHO decision-making body adopted the first standalone resolution on stroke in May 2026?
(A) WHO Executive Board
(B) UN General Assembly
(C) World Health Assembly
(D) UN ECOSOC

89. Tamil Nadu's 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' delivers home medicines for which conditions, both stroke risk factors?
(A) Tuberculosis, leprosy
(B) Hypertension, diabetes
(C) Malaria, dengue
(D) Cataract, glaucoma

90. India's NPCDCS (2010), which covers stroke, was renamed in 2023 as –
(A) NPHCE
(B) NPCB&VI
(C) NMHP
(D) NP-NCD

91. Which body proclaimed 29 October as the 'International Day of Care and Support' in 2023?
(A) UN General Assembly
(B) International Labour Org.
(C) UN Women
(D) World Health Organization

92. Target 5.4, on recognising and valuing unpaid care and domestic work, falls under which Sustainable Development Goal?
(A) No Poverty
(B) Good Health and Well-being
(C) Decent Work and Growth
(D) Gender Equality

93. Which body conducts India's 'Time Use Survey', which measures unpaid care work?
(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Labour Bureau
(C) Registrar General of India
(D) National Statistics Office

94. Tamil Nadu's 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' was launched on the birth anniversary of which leader?
(A) Periyar E.V. Ramasamy
(B) C.N. Annadurai
(C) K. Kamaraj
(D) M. Karunanidhi

95. Which Article of the Constitution provides for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief?
(A) Article 39A
(B) Article 41
(C) Article 42
(D) Article 43A

96. ARPANET, which carried the first message on 29 Oct 1969, was funded by which US department?
(A) Department of Commerce
(B) Department of Energy
(C) Department of Defense
(D) Department of State

97. Which State special purpose vehicle (SPV) implements the BharatNet project in Tamil Nadu?
(A) TANFINET
(B) ELCOT
(C) Arasu Cable TV (TACTV)
(D) TNeGA

98. Which company launched India's first public internet service on 15 Aug 1995?
(A) VSNL
(B) BSNL
(C) MTNL
(D) C-DOT

99. Which of the following statements about psoriasis is correct?

(A) It is a bacterial infection

(B) It is a fungal infection

(C) It spreads by touch

(D) It is an autoimmune disease

100. Which global body coordinates World Psoriasis Day, observed on 29 October?

(A) World Health Organization

(B) World Stroke Organization

(C) ICRC

(D) IFPA

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Answer key at a glance

1 **A**	2 **D**	3 **D**	4 **A**	5 **A**	6 **C**	7 **B**	8 **A**	9 **D**	10 **D**
11 **A**	12 **C**	13 **B**	14 **A**	15 **D**	16 **B**	17 **C**	18 **C**	19 **A**	20 **A**
21 **B**	22 **A**	23 **B**	24 **A**	25 **A**	26 **D**	27 **C**	28 **A**	29 **C**	30 **C**
31 **A**	32 **D**	33 **B**	34 **C**	35 **A**	36 **B**	37 **C**	38 **B**	39 **C**	40 **D**
41 **D**	42 **A**	43 **A**	44 **D**	45 **C**	46 **C**	47 **B**	48 **C**	49 **D**	50 **D**
51 **B**	52 **C**	53 **B**	54 **D**	55 **B**	56 **B**	57 **A**	58 **D**	59 **B**	60 **C**
61 **C**	62 **B**	63 **B**	64 **D**	65 **C**	66 **B**	67 **C**	68 **D**	69 **A**	70 **D**
71 **D**	72 **C**	73 **C**	74 **B**	75 **A**	76 **D**	77 **B**	78 **B**	79 **A**	80 **C**
81 **B**	82 **D**	83 **A**	84 **B**	85 **C**	86 **A**	87 **B**	88 **C**	89 **B**	90 **D**
91 **A**	92 **D**	93 **D**	94 **B**	95 **C**	96 **C**	97 **A**	98 **A**	99 **D**	100 **D**

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Answers & explanations

1. (A) Railway Recruitment Boards – The RRBs (CEN 08/2026) – applications via rrbapply.gov.in. Group 'A' railway officers are selected through UPSC examinations.

2. (D) Railway Board – The Railway Board (1905) is headed by its Chairman & CEO. RDSO is the research and standards body at Lucknow.

3. (D) Bombay VT – Kurla – 3 Feb 1925, Bombay VT – Kurla (Harbour line). The Madras Beach – Tambaram suburban electric service began in 1931.

4. (A) Mandapam – Mandapam – about 2.07 km long; opened by the PM on 6 April 2025. The old Pamban bridge (1914) had a bascule (upward-opening) span.

5. (A) Nilgiri Mountain Railway – Nilgiri Mountain Railway (2005) – Mettupalayam to Ooty; rack section between Kallar and Coonoor. Darjeeling (1999) and Kalka–Shimla (2008) are the other two.

6. (C) NMDFC – NMDFC – National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (1994). NSFDC – Scheduled Castes; NBCFDC – Backward Classes; NSKFDC – sanitation workers.

7. (B) Jains – Jains were added as the sixth in 2014. The other five (Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis) were notified in 1993.

8. (A) Article 30 – Article 30 applies to both religious and linguistic minorities. Article 29 protects language, script and culture.

9. (D) Statutory body under 1992 Act – A statutory body set up in 1993 under the NCM Act 1992; first chairman Sardar Ali Khan. The Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities is under Article 350B.

10. (D) Virasat – Virasat – concessional loans for artisans. Nai Roshni – leadership training for minority women; Padho Pardesh – interest subsidy on education loans for study abroad.

11. (A) Bureau of Immigration – The Bureau of Immigration (1971), under the MHA, only executes the LOC. Changing or deleting it is up to the Originating Agency.

12. (C) Satwant Singh Sawhney case – Satwant Singh Sawhney (1967); the Passports Act 1967 followed. A.K. Gopalan (1950) was a preventive-detention case.

13. (B) Article 226 – Article 226 – writ power of High Courts (for fundamental and other legal rights). Article 32 – Supreme Court, fundamental rights only.

14. (A) Fair, just and reasonable – Fair, just and reasonable – the case challenged the impounding of a passport. So travel curbs such as an LOC must also pass this test.

15. (D) Till originator seeks deletion – OM of 22.02.2021 – an LOC stays until the originating agency asks for deletion. The earlier 2010 OM generally gave one-year validity (renewable).

16. (B) 16th Finance Commission – 16th Finance Commission (Chairman Arvind Panagariya) – 2026–27 to 2030–31. A Finance Commission is set up under Article 280.

17. (C) Part IX – Part IX (Articles 243–243O) – 73rd Amendment. Part IXA – Municipalities (74th Amendment); Part VIII – Union Territories.

18. (C) Parantaka Chola I – Parantaka Chola I (10th century CE) – Uthiramerur, Kancheepuram district. Names on palm leaves were put in a pot and drawn by lot.

19. (A) Ministry of Panchayati Raj – The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (2004) also ran the earlier RGSA. Schemes such as MGNREGA belong to the Ministry of Rural Development.

20. (A) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee – Balwant Rai Mehta (1957) – first implemented at Nagaur, Rajasthan (2 Oct 1959). Ashok Mehta (1977) – two tiers; L.M. Singhvi (1986) – recommended constitutional status.

21. (B) Busan – Busan Naval Harbour. ROKS Munmu the Great joins the sea phase; the first IN–RoKN exercise (Oct 2025) was also held at Busan.

22. (A) Rabindranath Tagore – Rabindranath Tagore. Written when Korea was under Japanese rule, the poem is still cherished in Korea.

23. (B) Korea Strait – Korea Strait – with Tsushima island in the middle. The Tsugaru Strait separates Japan's Honshu and Hokkaido islands.

24. (A) P.V. Narasimha Rao – P.V. Narasimha Rao (1991). It was upgraded to the 'Act East' policy in 2014; South Korea is a key partner.

25. (A) K.S. Thimayya – K.S. Thimayya, then a Lt Gen (later Army Chief). Maj. Gen. S.P.P. Thorat commanded the Custodian Force (India) that guarded the prisoners of war.

26. (D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi – Bharat Mandapam (Pragati Maidan). The PM opens it on 2 Nov; theme 'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'

27. (C) Between Cancer & Capricorn – Sun-rich countries between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. Since a 2020 amendment, all UN member states can join.

28. (A) COP26, Glasgow – COP26, Glasgow (Nov 2021). The net-zero-by-2070 goal was announced there too; non-fossil capacity now stands at 308 GW.

29. (C) Rooftop solar for homes – Rooftop solar for homes – 1 crore households, up to 300 free units a month. Solar pumps come under PM-KUSUM.

30. (C) Gujarat, Tamil Nadu – Gujarat and Tamil Nadu – 500 MW each. Tamil Nadu's Gulf of Mannar–Palk Strait zone has high offshore wind potential.

31. (A) Container Mfg. Promotion Scheme – Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS) – till 2039–40; announced in Budget 2026–27. The other three are separate maritime schemes.

32. (D) Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit – Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit – one 20-ft box = 1 TEU; a 40-ft box = 2 TEU (FEU).

33. (B) Malcom McLean – Malcom McLean (USA) – 'father of containerisation'. Robert Fulton ran the first commercial steamboat (1807).

34. (C) Resists weather corrosion – Weathering steel – a stable surface oxide layer stops deeper rusting; small amounts of copper, chromium and nickel are added.

35. (A) Vizhinjam – Vizhinjam (Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala), close to the international shipping route. Enayam (Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu) is a proposed transshipment port.

36. (B) Electrolysers & green H_2 output – SIGHT – Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (₹17,490 crore): incentives for electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production.

37. (C) Cathode – Cathode – positive H^+ ions gain electrons to form H_2; oxygen is released at the anode ($H_2 : O_2 = 2 : 1$ by volume).

38. (B) Green methanol – Green methanol – a marine fuel made by combining green hydrogen with captured CO_2. Refuelling ships is called 'bunkering'.

39. (C) Henry Cavendish – Henry Cavendish (1766). Lavoisier named it 'hydrogen' (water-former); Priestley is known for discovering oxygen.

40. (D) Nitrogen fertilisers – Nitrogen fertilisers such as urea – Haber–Bosch process ($N_2 + 3H_2 \rightarrow 2NH_3$). SPIC's plant at Thoothukudi makes urea from ammonia.

41. (D) Samvidhan Sadan – The Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan – the old Parliament House, where the Constituent Assembly met.

42. (A) Moscow – Moscow, 8 June 2015, under Russia's chairship. The 11th Forum was held in Brasília in 2025.

43. (A) Speaker of the Lok Sabha – The Lok Sabha Speaker – Article 118(4); in his absence the Deputy Speaker, then the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman. The President summons the joint sitting.

44. (D) Indonesia – Indonesia – 6 Jan 2025. Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the UAE had joined on 1 Jan 2024.

45. (C) M. Thambidurai – M. Thambidurai (AIADMK). The Deputy Speaker is elected under Article 93 and acts as Speaker when the office is vacant (Article 95).

46. (C) Govisana – Govisana (Xuanzang's 'Kiu-pi-shwang-na') – the identification was made by Alexander Cunningham.

47. (B) Bhabar – Bhabar – 8–16 km wide along the Shiwalik foothills; streams sink underground here and re-emerge in the marshy Terai to the south. Kashipur is in Udham Singh Nagar district.

48. (C) Iron Age (Later Vedic) – Iron Age / Later Vedic period, c. 1100–500 BCE; it was followed by Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW).

49. (D) B.B. Lal – B.B. Lal – Hastinapur (near Meerut), 1950s; awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2021. R.D. Banerji found Mohenjo-daro (1922).

50. (D) Narasimhavarman I – Narasimhavarman I (Mamalla), around 640 CE. He captured Vatapi in 642 and took the title 'Vatapikonda'.

51. (B) Groundwater recharge planning – Groundwater recharge – it shows suitable zones within 3 km; built by BISAG-N with the National Water Mission.

52. (C) Aquifer – Aquifer – sand, gravel or fractured rock; artificial recharge refills it. A clay-like layer that does not transmit water is an aquiclude.

53. (B) Surat – Surat, Gujarat (6 Sept 2024). Its guiding '3Cs' are Community, CSR and Cost.

54. (D) Faridabad – Faridabad (Haryana), Bhujal Bhawan. It works under the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

55. (B) Tank restoration by people – Desilting and restoring minor-irrigation tanks and lakes with farmers' participation – launched on 13 March 2017.

56. (B) Offshore Patrol Vessel – Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV); 'Srishti' means 'creation'. Of the 11 NGOPVs, 7 are being built at GSL and 4 at GRSE (Kolkata).

57. (A) Manufactured – Manufactured – the top-priority category in DAP 2020; the NGOPV contract (March 2023) was signed under it.

58. (D) Hull first put into water – The built hull enters the water for the first time; outfitting and trials follow. Commissioning is induction into the Navy with the 'INS' prefix.

59. (B) Saptarishi Mandal – Saptarishi Mandal (Great Bear) – its two 'pointer' stars lead to the Pole Star, an aid to navigation at sea.

60. (C) Operation Trident – Operation Trident – the attack on Karachi harbour (4 Dec 1971). Meghdoot – Siachen (1984); Cactus – Maldives (1988).

61. (C) Belagavi – Belagavi – a district bordering Maharashtra and Goa; it houses the Suvarna Vidhana Soudha.

62. (B) St John Thackeray – Thackeray – largely brought down by her lieutenant Amatur Balappa. Thomas Munro was Governor of Madras (1820–27), known for the Ryotwari system.

63. (B) Sangolli Rayanna – Sangolli Rayanna. Chennamma died in captivity at Bailhongal fort in 1829.

64. (D) Kuyili – Kuyili. Velu Nachiyar regained Sivaganga in 1780; Jhalkari Bai was a soldier of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi.

65. (C) Doctrine of Lapse – Doctrine of Lapse (from 1848) – Satara, Jhansi and Nagpur were annexed. Subsidiary Alliance was Lord Wellesley's policy.

66. (B) Mumbai – Mumbai – 17 Nov 2026. Earlier ceremonies: London, Boston, Singapore, Cape Town, Rio de Janeiro.

67. (C) Prince William – Prince William – through the Royal Foundation; five winners get £1 million each.

68. (D) Clean Our Air – Clean Our Air – a machine that turns crop residue into fuel and fertiliser instead of burning it (Vidyut Mohan).

69. (A) Solar-powered ironing cart – Solar ironing cart (Iron-Max) – avoids smoke from charcoal irons; she also spoke at COP26 in Glasgow.

70. (D) John F. Kennedy – John F. Kennedy – set the goal of landing a man on the Moon in the 1960s; Apollo 11 landed in 1969.

71. (D) Greater Noida – Greater Noida (Gautam Buddh Nagar district); PRAGATI = Platform for Robotics and AI Growth Through Technology and Innovation.

72. (C) Karel Čapek – Karel Čapek – 'R.U.R.' (1920); Czech 'robota' = forced labour. Isaac Asimov gave the 'Three Laws of Robotics'.

73. (C) Tamil Nadu – Tamil Nadu – released in Sept 2020 along with its Cyber Security and Blockchain policies.

74. (B) Electronics & IT (MeitY) – MeitY – through the 'IndiaAI' Independent Business Division of Digital India Corporation; approved in March 2024.

75. (A) GDP – GDP (Gross Domestic Product). GVA (Gross Value Added) = output − intermediate inputs. The PRAGATI park is expected to add about ₹2,000 crore of GVA a year at full scale.

76. (D) ESTIC 2026 – ESTIC (Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave) 2026 – 27–29 Oct, Bharat Mandapam; coordinated by CSIR.

77. (B) Split genes (introns) – Split genes – introns lie between exons and are removed by RNA splicing. DNA double helix – Watson & Crick (1962 Nobel).

78. (B) Vitamin A – Vitamin A – via beta-carotene (hence the golden colour). Vitamin A deficiency causes night blindness and preventable blindness in children.

79. (A) Environment, Forest & Climate – MoEFCC – GEAC is a statutory body under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

80. (C) TNAU, Coimbatore – TNAU, Coimbatore (along with UAS Dharwad and IIVR Varanasi). Bt brinjal was put under a moratorium in February 2010.

81. (B) Yerevan – Yerevan (Armenia), 19–30 Oct 2026. COP16 was at Cali (Colombia, 2024); COP15 at Montreal (Kunming–Montreal framework, 2022); Belém hosted climate COP30 (2025).

82. (D) By eating coral polyps – It is a predator that eats coral polyps; its outbreaks strip large reef areas. A starfish is not a fish but an echinoderm (phylum Echinodermata).

83. (A) Queensland – Queensland – in the Coral Sea; a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981. It is a 'barrier reef' type.

84. (B) Cnidaria – Cnidaria – animals with stinging cells (cnidocytes); jellyfish, sea anemones and Hydra also belong here. Sponges are Porifera.

85. (C) Atoll – Atoll – Charles Darwin explained it forms around a subsiding volcanic island. The Maldives too is made of atolls.

86. (A) World Stroke Organization – WSO – formed in 2006 by the merger of the International Stroke Society and the World Stroke Federation. World Heart Day (29 Sept) is led by the World Heart Federation.

87. (B) Ischaemic stroke – Ischaemic – the majority of strokes; a burst vessel causes haemorrhagic stroke. A myocardial infarction (heart attack) is a blockage of blood to the heart muscle.

88. (C) World Health Assembly – The World Health Assembly – 79th session, Geneva (ended 23 May 2026). It named hypertension, tobacco and diabetes among the key risk factors.

89. (B) Hypertension, diabetes – Hypertension and diabetes – both non-communicable diseases. The scheme also provides palliative care, physiotherapy and dialysis support.

90. (D) NP-NCD – NP-NCD – National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases. NPHCE is for elderly care, NPCB&VI for blindness control, NMHP for mental health.

91. (A) UN General Assembly – The UN General Assembly – resolution A/RES/77/317. The 2026 theme is 'Building sustainable care and support systems through decent work'.

92. (D) Gender Equality – SDG 5 – Gender Equality. The UN adopted the 17 SDGs in 2015 with a 2030 deadline; SDG 8 is Decent Work and Economic Growth.

93. (D) National Statistics Office – NSO (MoSPI) – first survey 2019, second 2024. In 2024 women spent 289 minutes a day on unpaid domestic work (men 88).

94. (B) C.N. Annadurai – C.N. Annadurai – launched on his birth anniversary, 15 Sept 2023, at Kancheepuram; ₹1,000 a month to women heads of families via DBT.

95. (C) Article 42 – Article 42 – a Directive Principle (Part IV). Article 39A is free legal aid; Article 43A is workers' participation in management (42nd Amendment, 1976).

96. (C) Department of Defense – ARPA (now DARPA) of the Department of Defense. The first message went from UCLA to the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) – only 'LO' got through.

97. (A) TANFINET – TANFINET – Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation; target: optical fibre to 12,524 village panchayats. ELCOT is the Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu; TNeGA the e-Governance Agency.

98. (A) VSNL – Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) – later acquired by the Tata group. BSNL was formed in 2000; C-DOT (1984) is the government's telecom R&D centre.

99. (D) It is an autoimmune disease – A chronic immune-mediated skin disease; not contagious. WHO recognised it as a serious non-communicable disease in 2014 (WHA67.9).

100. (D) IFPA – IFPA – International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (1971). The 2026 theme 'Look Beyond My Skin' tackles the stigma young people face.

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