Current Affairs – MCQs

4 November 2026

Questions PDF

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Questions (105)

1. Under which section of the Wild Life (Protection) Act is a State Board for Wildlife constituted?
(A) Section 5A
(B) Section 38L
(C) Section 6
(D) Section 33

2. Who is the Vice-Chairperson of a State Board for Wildlife under the law?
(A) Minister for Forests & Wildlife
(B) Chief Secretary
(C) Chief Wildlife Warden
(D) Governor

3. Who chairs the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)?
(A) Union Environment Minister
(B) President
(C) Vice-President
(D) Prime Minister

4. In the Seventh Schedule, 'Protection of wild animals and birds' is now placed in which List?
(A) Union List
(B) State List
(C) Residuary powers
(D) Concurrent List

5. The Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), whose Director sits on the Board, is located at which place in Tamil Nadu?
(A) Vandalur
(B) Coimbatore
(C) Mettupalayam
(D) Hosur

6. Which honour did the Tamil Nadu Governor confer on Air Force Station Avadi in Nov 2026?
(A) President's Colour
(B) Governor's Unit Citation
(C) Param Vishisht Seva Medal
(D) Vayu Sena Medal

7. Commandos of the National Security Guard (NSG), also honoured at the same ceremony, are popularly known as:
(A) Greyhounds
(B) Force One
(C) Black Cats
(D) CoBRA

8. Where is the headquarters of the IAF's Maintenance Command?
(A) Nagpur
(B) Gandhinagar
(C) Shillong
(D) Prayagraj

9. The IAF rank 'Air Commodore', held by Avadi's station commander, is equivalent to which Army rank?
(A) Colonel
(B) Brigadier
(C) Major General
(D) Lieutenant Colonel

10. Avadi, upgraded to a Municipal Corporation in 2019, lies in which district?
(A) Tiruvallur
(B) Chengalpattu
(C) Kancheepuram
(D) Chennai

11. The integrated government silk cocoon market complex opened by the CM in Nov 2026 is in which district?
(A) Dharmapuri
(B) Krishnagiri
(C) Salem
(D) Erode

12. Where is the headquarters of the Central Silk Board?
(A) Mysuru
(B) Kolkata
(C) Bengaluru
(D) Varanasi

13. What is the scientific name of the mulberry silkworm?

(A) Bombyx mori (B) Antheraea mylitta

(C) Samia ricini (D) Antheraea assamensis

14. Which silk, famed for its natural golden colour, is produced chiefly in Assam?

(A) Mulberry (B) Tasar

(C) Eri (D) Muga

15. In which city is the headquarters of Tamil Nadu's Department of Sericulture?

(A) Coimbatore (B) Hosur

(C) Dharmapuri (D) Salem

16. Which Union ministry implements the 'VISTAR' scheme approved in Nov 2026?

(A) Ministry of Finance (B) Statistics & Programme Impl.

(C) Electronics & IT (D) Ministry of Home Affairs

17. Who made the first estimate of India's national income?

(A) V.K.R.V. Rao (B) R.C. Dutt

(C) Dadabhai Naoroji (D) C.R. Rao

18. Where is the headquarters of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), founded by Mahalanobis in 1931?

(A) Kolkata (B) Bengaluru

(C) New Delhi (D) Pune

19. The National Statistics Office (NSO) was formed in 2019 by merging which two bodies?

(A) CSO and Labour Bureau (B) NSSO and Registrar General

(C) CSO and NSSO (D) NSSO and RBI statistics dept

20. The 'Mahalanobis model', which prioritised heavy industries, was the basis of which Five-Year Plan?

(A) Second Plan (B) First Plan

(C) Third Plan (D) Fifth Plan

21. Which Ministry recognised MANAGE as a 'CoE-Skills' for agriculture in Nov 2026?

(A) Labour & Employment (B) Education

(C) Skill Dev. & Entrepreneurship (D) Rural Development

22. MANAGE, set up in 1987, is an autonomous body under which Ministry?

(A) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (B) Panchayati Raj

(C) Science & Technology (D) Food Processing Industries

23. In the Agri-Clinics & Agri-Business Centres (ACABC) scheme, whose training MANAGE coordinates, which body channels the subsidy?

(A) SIDBI (B) SFAC

(C) NABARD (D) NCDC

24. Which apex body under the Skill Development Ministry regulates vocational education and training?

(A) NCVET (B) NSDC

(C) NIESBUD (D) NABARD

25. At which level does the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), part of extension reforms, work as a registered society?

(A) Village (B) Block

(C) State (D) District

26. Which Indian institute was reported in Nov 2026 to have developed a silicon chip that carries terahertz signals past barriers at up to 100 Gbps?
(A) IISc, Bengaluru
(B) IIT Madras
(C) JNCASR, Bengaluru
(D) IIT Kanpur

27. The 'photonic crystal' in the terahertz chip reported in Nov 2026 mimics the honeycomb lattice of which material?
(A) Diamond
(B) Silicon carbide
(C) Graphene
(D) Quartz

28. In the electromagnetic spectrum, terahertz waves lie between which two regions?
(A) Radio waves – microwaves
(B) Microwaves – infrared
(C) Visible light – ultraviolet
(D) X-rays – gamma rays

29. Which solid-state chemist, founding president of the institute that built this chip, received the Bharat Ratna in 2014?
(A) C.N.R. Rao
(B) Homi J. Bhabha
(C) Vikram Sarabhai
(D) M.G.K. Menon

30. Where is CoE-CPPICS, which released an indigenous silicon photonics Process Design Kit (PDK) in April 2026?
(A) IIT Madras
(B) IIT Bombay
(C) IISc, Bengaluru
(D) IIT Delhi

31. Under the Nov 2026 Agnipath revamp, what is offered to the 75% of Agniveers not made regular after four years?
(A) Lifelong pension
(B) Direct CAPF induction
(C) One-time cash bonus
(D) Extra two-year engagement

32. What is the tax-free one-time corpus package that Agniveers receive at the end of their engagement called?
(A) Sainik Kosh
(B) Seva Nidhi
(C) Veer Nidhi
(D) Raksha Kosh

33. Which Article of the Constitution empowers Parliament to restrict or abrogate the Fundamental Rights of members of the armed forces?
(A) Article 32
(B) Article 33
(C) Article 34
(D) Article 35

34. The Agnipath scheme recruits which category of personnel into the armed forces?
(A) Permanent commissioned officers
(B) Short Service officers
(C) Personnel below officer rank
(D) Military doctors

35. INS Chilka, where the Indian Navy's first batch of Agniveers passed out in March 2023, is in which State?
(A) Kerala
(B) Maharashtra
(C) Odisha
(D) Goa

36. The 'Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan', launched on 4 Nov 2026, mainly aims to strengthen what?
(A) Intergenerational bonding
(B) Higher old-age pension
(C) Senior health insurance
(D) Building old-age homes

37. Under which umbrella scheme was the 'Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan' launched?
(A) NSAP
(B) Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana
(C) Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY
(D) DAY-NRLM

38. What does the Social Justice Ministry's 'SAGE' portal promote?
(A) Senior savings deposits
(B) Elder-abuse complaints
(C) Elder-care start-ups
(D) Pension grievances

39. Which central PSU implements the 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana', which gives free assistive devices to the elderly?
(A) ALIMCO
(B) BEL
(C) HLL Lifecare
(D) NSIC

40. In which city were Tamil Nadu's 25 'Anbucholai' day-care centres for the elderly launched in Nov 2025?
(A) Chennai
(B) Madurai
(C) Coimbatore
(D) Tiruchirappalli

41. Where was the ₹250 coin marking Muthuswami Dikshitar's 250th birth anniversary released in Nov 2026?
(A) IIT Madras, Chennai
(B) Thiruvaiyaru, Thanjavur
(C) Music Academy, Chennai
(D) BHU, Varanasi

42. Which 'mudra' (signature) did Muthuswami Dikshitar use in his compositions?
(A) Tyagaraja
(B) Guruguha
(C) Syama Krishna
(D) Purandara Vittala

43. Dikshitar's 'Kamalamba Navavarana kritis' praise the Goddess of the Thyagaraja temple in which town?
(A) Thanjavur
(B) Tiruvarur
(C) Kanchipuram
(D) Madurai

44. The 'Tanjore Quartet' (Ponnaiah, Chinnaiah, Sivanandam, Vadivelu), who shaped the Bharatanatyam margam, served at whose court?
(A) Raja Raja Chola I
(B) Tirumala Nayak
(C) Vijayaraghava Nayak
(D) Serfoji II

45. The 'Tamil Isai Moovar' – Muthu Thandavar, Arunachala Kavirayar and Marimutha Pillai – are associated with which town?
(A) Sirkazhi
(B) Tiruvarur
(C) Thiruvaiyaru
(D) Ettayapuram

46. In which country was 'SLINGSHOT 2026', the startup contest won by the 'StopBleed' haemostat, held?
(A) Japan
(B) Singapore
(C) UAE
(D) Switzerland

47. The award-winning 'StopBleed' clotting technology was developed at which institute?
(A) NIT Tiruchirappalli
(B) NIT Warangal
(C) NIT Calicut
(D) NIT Rourkela

48. Which vitamin is essential for the liver to produce blood-clotting factors?
(A) Vitamin K
(B) Vitamin C
(C) Vitamin D
(D) Vitamin A

49. Which insoluble protein forms the mesh that traps blood cells in a clot?
(A) Albumin
(B) Haemoglobin
(C) Fibrin
(D) Keratin

50. Tamil Nadu's 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kaakkum 48' scheme gives free treatment in the first 48 hours to whom?
(A) Road-accident victims
(B) Snake-bite victims
(C) Pregnant women
(D) Heart-attack patients

51. In Nov 2026 the Centre launched an SOP for organic certification of fisheries for which region?
(A) Coastal States
(B) North-Eastern region
(C) Island UTs
(D) Western Ghats

52. Which Union Ministry implements the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)?
(A) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(B) Food Processing Industries
(C) Jal Shakti
(D) Fisheries, AH & Dairying

53. Along with catla and rohu, which fish is counted among the Indian Major Carps (IMC)?
(A) Mrigal
(B) Tilapia
(C) Pangasius
(D) Hilsa

54. Soreng district, created in Dec 2021, was carved out of which older district?
(A) Mangan (North)
(B) Gyalshing (West)
(C) Namchi (South)
(D) Gangtok (East)

55. Where is the Tamil Nadu Dr J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University headquartered?
(A) Nagapattinam
(B) Thoothukudi
(C) Chennai
(D) Ramanathapuram

56. 'Waree Leeba', which got its first North-East festival in Manipur in Nov 2026, is what kind of art form?
(A) Dance
(B) Martial art
(C) Storytelling
(D) Puppetry

57. Keibul Lamjao, the world's only floating national park and home of the Sangai deer, is on which lake?
(A) Dal Lake
(B) Loktak Lake
(C) Chilika Lake
(D) Umiam Lake

58. Which is the traditional martial art of Manipur?
(A) Kalaripayattu
(B) Gatka
(C) Mardani Khel
(D) Thang-Ta

59. 'Villupattu', a folk art of southern Tamil Nadu, is named after which instrument?
(A) Yazh (harp)
(B) Bow strung with bells
(C) Parai drum
(D) Nadaswaram

60. In which year did Manipur become a full-fledged State?
(A) 1949
(B) 1963
(C) 1972
(D) 1987

61. Which company developed 'EKA-1', a foundation model released under the IndiaAI Mission in Nov 2026?

(A) Sarvam AI
(B) Soket Labs
(C) Gnani AI
(D) Fractal Analytics

62. Which national platform of the IndiaAI Mission hosts datasets and AI models for public use?

(A) Bhashini
(B) DigiLocker
(C) UMANG
(D) AIKosh

63. What does running an AI model in an 'air-gapped' environment mean?

(A) On a foreign public cloud
(B) Only via a satellite link
(C) Fully cut off from the internet
(D) Only in an air-cooled room

64. Which institution leads 'BharatGen', the top-funded consortium under the IndiaAI foundation-models pillar?

(A) IIT Madras
(B) IISc Bengaluru
(C) IIT Bombay
(D) IIT Kanpur

65. 'AI4Bharat' (Nilekani Centre), which builds open-source AI for Indian languages, is at which institution?

(A) IIT Bombay
(B) IIT Madras
(C) IIIT Hyderabad
(D) IISc Bengaluru

66. The anti-polygamy Bill passed by the Assam Assembly in 2025 does NOT apply to which of these?

(A) Sixth Schedule areas
(B) Barak Valley districts
(C) Municipal corporation areas
(D) River-island (char) areas

67. Article 44, which speaks of a Uniform Civil Code, belongs to which part of the Constitution?

(A) Fundamental Rights
(B) Directive Principles
(C) Fundamental Duties
(D) Preamble

68. Which State was the first to bring into force a Uniform Civil Code enacted by its own legislature?

(A) Gujarat
(B) Himachal Pradesh
(C) Assam
(D) Uttarakhand

69. In which case (1995) did the Supreme Court hold that a Hindu husband converting to remarry still commits bigamy?

(A) Shah Bano case
(B) Shayara Bano case
(C) Kesavananda Bharati case
(D) Sarla Mudgal case

70. Under Annadurai, 'Self-Respect marriages' were legalised by amending which Act?

(A) Special Marriage Act, 1954
(B) Christian Marriage Act, 1872
(C) Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
(D) TN Registration of Marriages Act

71. Which law governs the surrender of fugitive criminals from India to foreign countries and vice versa?

(A) Foreigners Act, 1946
(B) Passports Act, 1967
(C) Extradition Act, 1962
(D) FEO Act, 2018

72. Which Union Ministry handles extradition requests in India?

(A) Ministry of Home Affairs
(B) Ministry of External Affairs
(C) Ministry of Law and Justice
(D) Ministry of Finance

73. The 2015 India–Kazakhstan pact on transfer of sentenced persons was given effect under which Indian law?

(A) Repatriation of Prisoners Act
(B) Prisons Act, 1894
(C) Citizenship Act, 1955
(D) UAPA, 1967

74. Which principle says extradition is possible only if the act is an offence in both countries?

(A) Rule of speciality
(B) Double jeopardy
(C) Non-refoulement
(D) Dual criminality

75. Which policy did India announce in 2012 to deepen ties with Central Asian countries, including Kazakhstan?

(A) Act East
(B) Neighbourhood First
(C) Connect Central Asia
(D) SAGAR

76. Where is the 2026 ISSF World Championships, at which India won men's 50m pistol team gold, being held?

(A) Cairo
(B) Lima
(C) Baku
(D) Doha

77. Who won India's first individual Olympic gold, in 10m air rifle at Beijing 2008?

(A) Abhinav Bindra
(B) Rajyavardhan Rathore
(C) Gagan Narang
(D) Vijay Kumar

78. Which national body governs the sport of shooting in India?

(A) SAI
(B) IOA
(C) AIFF
(D) NRAI

79. 10m air rifle shooter Elavenil Valarivan was born in which Tamil Nadu town?

(A) Cuddalore
(B) Madurai
(C) Salem
(D) Tiruchirappalli

80. From which Olympics onwards was men's 50m pistol dropped from the programme?

(A) Rio 2016
(B) Tokyo 2020
(C) London 2012
(D) Paris 2024

81. Which Indian institution is ranked highest in the QS Asia University Rankings 2027?

(A) IISc Bengaluru
(B) IIT Bombay
(C) IIT Madras
(D) IIT Delhi

82. Which university tops Asia in the QS Asia University Rankings 2027?

(A) Peking University
(B) National Univ. of Singapore
(C) University of Hong Kong
(D) Tsinghua University

83. Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), which publishes the QS rankings, is headquartered in:

(A) New York
(B) Singapore
(C) Paris
(D) London

84. Which ministry launched India's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) in 2015?

(A) Science & Technology
(B) HRD (now Education)
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Electronics & IT

85. In NIRF 2025, which institution topped the 'Overall' category for the seventh year in a row?

(A) IISc Bengaluru
(B) IIT Kanpur
(C) IIT Madras
(D) IIT Bombay

86. The 3,300-year-old Egyptian amulet found at Tel Gezer, Israel, in Nov 2026 is shaped like which creature?

(A) Dung beetle (scarab) (B) Cat

(C) Falcon (D) Crocodile

87. The 'Uraeus', the Egyptian emblem of royalty and protection worn on the Pharaoh's crown, depicts which creature?

(A) Vulture (B) Cobra

(C) Ibis (D) Lion

88. At which Egyptian Red Sea port was a 1st-century BCE jar with Tamil-Brahmi writing ('paanai oRi') found?

(A) Alexandria (B) Quseir al-Qadim

(C) Memphis (D) Luxor

89. Most seals of the Harappan civilisation were made of:

(A) Steatite (B) Terracotta

(C) Copper (D) Ivory

90. Which inscribed stone helped scholars decipher Egyptian hieroglyphs?

(A) Narmer Palette (B) Palermo Stone

(C) Behistun Inscription (D) Rosetta Stone

91. The 'S-400 Triumf' that India is buying from Russia is a —

(A) Anti-ship cruise missile (B) Main battle tank

(C) Fifth-generation fighter jet (D) Long-range air-defence system

92. The Indian name for the S-400, 'Sudarshan Chakra', refers to the divine weapon of which deity?

(A) Shiva (B) Indra

(C) Vishnu (D) Murugan

93. 'CAATSA', which allows sanctions on countries buying Russian arms such as the S-400, is a law of:

(A) Russia (B) European Union

(C) United States (D) China

94. Operation Sindoor (May 2025), in which India used its S-400, was a response to which terror attack?

(A) Uri (B) Pahalgam

(C) Pulwama (D) Pathankot

95. What does 'Mission Sudarshan Chakra', announced in the 2025 Independence Day speech, aim to build by 2035?

(A) Nationwide security shield (B) Crewed lunar base

(C) Nuclear submarine fleet (D) High-speed rail network

96. World Tsunami Awareness Day (5 Nov) recalls the 'Inamura-no-hi' story from which country?

(A) Indonesia (B) Chile

(C) Japan (D) Sri Lanka

97. Where is the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) located?

(A) NIOT, Chennai (B) INCOIS, Hyderabad

(C) IMD, New Delhi (D) NIO, Goa

98. What does the word 'tsunami' literally mean?

(A) Harbour wave
(B) Killer wave
(C) Sea earthquake
(D) Tidal flood

99. Out in the deep ocean, a tsunami wave typically has —

(A) Great height, short wavelength
(B) Low speed, great height
(C) Low speed, short wavelength
(D) Long wavelength, small height

100. Poompuhar, the ancient Chola port that 'Manimekalai' says was swallowed by the sea, is now in which district?

(A) Nagapattinam
(B) Thanjavur
(C) Cuddalore
(D) Mayiladuthurai

101. The reverse of the ₹2,000 banknote issued by the RBI in 2016 carries a motif of which space mission?

(A) Chandrayaan-1
(B) Aryabhata
(C) Mangalyaan
(D) Chandrayaan-3

102. Olympus Mons, the tallest volcano in the Solar System, is on which planet?

(A) Venus
(B) Mars
(C) Mercury
(D) Jupiter

103. The 'Nozomi' probe, launched in 1998 and abandoned in 2003 short of its goal, belonged to which Asian country?

(A) China
(B) South Korea
(C) UAE
(D) Japan

104. The 'MSM' payload of India's 2013 interplanetary orbiter was designed to measure which gas?

(A) Ozone
(B) Argon
(C) Carbon dioxide
(D) Methane

105. Subbiah Arunan, Project Director of India's first interplanetary spacecraft, hails from which Tamil Nadu district?

(A) Coimbatore
(B) Tirunelveli
(C) Kanniyakumari
(D) Madurai

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Answer key at a glance

1 **C**	2 **A**	3 **D**	4 **D**	5 **A**	6 **B**	7 **C**	8 **A**	9 **B**	10 **A**
11 **A**	12 **C**	13 **A**	14 **D**	15 **D**	16 **B**	17 **C**	18 **A**	19 **C**	20 **A**
21 **C**	22 **A**	23 **C**	24 **A**	25 **D**	26 **C**	27 **C**	28 **B**	29 **A**	30 **A**
31 **D**	32 **B**	33 **B**	34 **C**	35 **C**	36 **A**	37 **B**	38 **C**	39 **A**	40 **D**
41 **D**	42 **B**	43 **B**	44 **D**	45 **A**	46 **B**	47 **D**	48 **A**	49 **C**	50 **A**
51 **B**	52 **D**	53 **A**	54 **B**	55 **A**	56 **C**	57 **B**	58 **D**	59 **B**	60 **C**
61 **B**	62 **D**	63 **C**	64 **C**	65 **B**	66 **A**	67 **B**	68 **D**	69 **D**	70 **C**
71 **C**	72 **B**	73 **A**	74 **D**	75 **C**	76 **D**	77 **A**	78 **D**	79 **A**	80 **B**
81 **D**	82 **C**	83 **D**	84 **B**	85 **C**	86 **A**	87 **B**	88 **B**	89 **A**	90 **D**
91 **D**	92 **C**	93 **C**	94 **B**	95 **A**	96 **C**	97 **B**	98 **A**	99 **D**	100 **D**
101 **C**	102 **B**	103 **D**	104 **D**	105 **B**					

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Answers & explanations

1. (C) Section 6 – Section 6 (2002 amendment, in force from 2003). Section 5A – National Board for Wildlife; Section 38L – National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

2. (A) Minister for Forests & Wildlife – The Forest Minister is Vice-Chairperson; the CM chairs. The Chief Wildlife Warden is Member-Secretary; in Tamil Nadu the Chief Secretary is a special invitee.

3. (D) Prime Minister – The Prime Minister. The Environment Minister chairs its Standing Committee (Section 5B), which clears most projects in protected areas.

4. (D) Concurrent List – Concurrent List, entry 17B ('Forests' is 17A); the 42nd Amendment (1976) moved them from the State List. It also inserted Article 48A.

5. (A) Vandalur – Vandalur – near the Arignar Anna Zoological Park; a wildlife research, training and education institute.

6. (B) Governor's Unit Citation – The Governor's Unit Citation – 4 Nov 2026, Lok Bhavan, Chennai. The President's Colour is the highest honour for a military unit.

7. (C) Black Cats – Black Cats – NSG Act 1986, Home Ministry. Greyhounds – Andhra/Telangana police; Force One – Maharashtra; CoBRA – CRPF.

8. (A) Nagpur – Nagpur. Training Command – Bengaluru; Southern Air Command – Thiruvananthapuram.

9. (B) Brigadier – Brigadier; in the Navy, 'Commodore'. Group Captain = Colonel.

10. (A) Tiruvallur – Tiruvallur district – Avadi Corporation was created by Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 2019. Tambaram Air Force Station is in Chengalpattu district.

11. (A) Dharmapuri – Sokkathur, Dharmapuri district – ₹19.20 crore; e-auction sales. This ~40-year-old market handles about 600 tonnes of cocoons a year.

12. (C) Bengaluru – Bengaluru – a statutory body under a 1948 Act, working under the Union Ministry of Textiles.

13. (A) Bombyx mori – Bombyx mori – feeds on mulberry leaves. Antheraea mylitta – tasar; Samia ricini – eri (castor leaves); Antheraea assamensis – muga.

14. (D) Muga – Muga – Assam only (MoSPI). Eri, also called 'ahimsa silk', comes from Assam, Meghalaya and other north-eastern States.

15. (D) Salem – Salem – a separate department since 1979 (TNAU). Tamil Nadu is a leader in bivoltine silk.

16. (B) Statistics & Programme Impl. – MoSPI – VISTAR = Viksit Bharat Initiative for Statistical Transformation, Analytics & Research; ₹4,371.10 crore, 2026–31.

17. (C) Dadabhai Naoroji – Dadabhai Naoroji – for 1867–68 ('Poverty and Un-British Rule in India'). V.K.R.V. Rao made the first scientific estimate; today the NSO (MoSPI) releases GDP estimates.

18. (A) Kolkata – Kolkata (Baranagar). The ISI Act (1959) made it an 'Institute of National Importance'; it has a Chennai centre too. Mahalanobis's birthday (29 June) is National Statistics Day.

19. (C) CSO and NSSO – Central Statistical Office (CSO) + National Sample Survey Office (NSSO, 1950) = NSO. The Census is run by the Registrar General under the Home Ministry.

20. (A) Second Plan – Second Five-Year Plan (1956–61). The First Plan (1951–56), based on the Harrod–Domar model, prioritised agriculture.

21. (C) Skill Dev. & Entrepreneurship – MSDE – 19 institutions were empanelled via the 'Green Channel'; the recognition is valid for three years.

22. (A) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; MANAGE = National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. It also runs a PGDM in Agri-Business Management.

23. (C) NABARD – NABARD – a credit-linked subsidy: 36% general, 44% for women/SC/ST/North-East. The training is free and lasts 45 days.

24. (A) NCVET – NCVET (National Council for Vocational Education and Training) – the regulator set up in 2018. NSDC is a public–private partnership company.

25. (D) District – District – ATMA began as a pilot under the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) and was extended nationwide from 2005.

26. (C) JNCASR, Bengaluru – JNCASR – an autonomous institute of DST; lead researcher Dr Abhishek Kumar. IISER Kolkata and IIT Bombay collaborated.

27. (C) Graphene – Graphene – a one-atom-thick carbon sheet, isolated by Geim and Novoselov in 2004 (Physics Nobel 2010).

28. (B) Microwaves – infrared – Between microwaves and infrared; the wide bandwidth suits 6G. This study measured 310–360 GHz.

29. (A) C.N.R. Rao – C.N.R. Rao – JNCASR's founding president; DST set up JNCASR in 1989 to mark Nehru's birth centenary. He received the Bharat Ratna along with Sachin Tendulkar.

30. (A) IIT Madras – IIT Madras, Chennai – supported by MeitY; the PDK has over 50 verified components; a PPIC Test Engine was launched too.

31. (D) Extra two-year engagement – An optional extra two-year engagement; after it, those who qualify become regular soldiers. Rajnath Singh called it the 'Second Tour of Duty'.

32. (B) Seva Nidhi – Seva Nidhi – 30% of pay plus a matching government share; about ₹11.71 lakh. The new second phase brings an enhanced Seva Nidhi.

33. (B) Article 33 – Article 33 – to ensure discharge of duties and discipline. Article 34 restricts rights where martial law is in force.

34. (C) Personnel below officer rank – Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) – age 17½–21; the scheme was announced on 14 June 2022.

35. (C) Odisha – Odisha – near Chilika Lake; the first batch had 2,585 Agniveers, including 273 women sailors.

36. (A) Intergenerational bonding – Intergenerational bonding – a '5C' model: Connect, Converse, Co-create, Contribute, Continue.

37. (B) Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana – AVYAY – the Social Justice Ministry's flagship scheme; Minister Dr Virendra Kumar launched the campaign. NSAP is under the Rural Development Ministry.

38. (C) Elder-care start-ups – SAGE – Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine; for the 'silver economy' – up to ₹1 crore for at most 49% equity.

39. (A) ALIMCO – ALIMCO – Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, Kanpur (UP); it supplies wheelchairs, walking sticks and hearing aids.

40. (D) Tiruchirappalli – Tiruchi – launched by then CM M.K. Stalin; about ₹10 crore; Chennai has 3 centres (Tondiarpet, Sholinganallur, Virugambakkam).

41. (D) BHU, Varanasi – Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Dikshitar had a close link with Varanasi – as a youth he stayed in Kashi with Chidambaranatha Yogi and studied music.

42. (B) Guruguha – 'Guruguha' (a name of Murugan). 'Syama Krishna' was Syama Sastri's; 'Purandara Vittala' was that of Purandara Dasa, 'father of Carnatic music'.

43. (B) Tiruvarur – Tiruvarur – Goddess Kamalamba has an independent shrine there; the kritis follow Sri Chakra worship. Tiruvarur's 'Azhi Ther' is among the largest temple chariots in Tamil Nadu.

44. (D) Serfoji II – Serfoji II – the Thanjavur Maratha ruler. The four brothers were disciples of Muthuswami Dikshitar; Serfoji enriched the Saraswathi Mahal Library.

45. (A) Sirkazhi – Sirkazhi (Mayiladuthurai district). Arunachala Kavirayar composed 'Rama Nataka Keerthanai'; the three predate the Carnatic Trinity.

46. (B) Singapore – Singapore – part of the SWITCH week run by Enterprise Singapore; Miraqules was its overall winner. Inventor Sabir Hossain hails from Purba Bardhaman district, West Bengal.

47. (D) NIT Rourkela – NIT Rourkela (Odisha) – under Prof. Devendra Verma. CDSCO has approved it as a medical device.

48. (A) Vitamin K – Vitamin K (fat-soluble). It is rich in green leafy vegetables and is also made by gut bacteria; deficiency delays clotting.

49. (C) Fibrin – Fibrin – the enzyme thrombin converts soluble fibrinogen into fibrin. Haemophilia is an X-linked hereditary clotting disorder.

50. (A) Road-accident victims – Road-accident victims – launched at Melmaruvathur on 18 Dec 2021; the cover was later raised to ₹2 lakh.

51. (B) North-Eastern region – North-Eastern region – released by Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh during his Sikkim visit. Organic fisheries clusters are notified in Sikkim and Meghalaya.

52. (D) Fisheries, AH & Dairying – Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries). PMMSY is the flagship scheme for the 'Blue Revolution' in fisheries.

53. (A) Mrigal – Mrigal. Tilapia and Pangasius are exotic species; Hilsa migrates from sea to river to spawn and is Bangladesh's national fish.

54. (B) Gyalshing (West) – West Sikkim (now Gyalshing). Pakyong was carved out of East Sikkim the same day; Sikkim now has 6 districts.

55. (A) Nagapattinam – Nagapattinam – established in 2012. Its Fisheries College is at Thoothukudi, and the Dr M.G.R. Fisheries College at Ponneri.

56. (C) Storytelling – Storytelling – a single performer narrates tales from the Mahabharata and Ramayana. Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla opened the festival.

57. (B) Loktak Lake – Loktak Lake – known for floating mats called 'phumdis'. Manipur's annual tourism festival, the 'Sangai Festival', is named after this deer.

58. (D) Thang-Ta – Thang-Ta – the Meitei art of the sword (thang) and spear (ta). Kalaripayattu – Kerala; Gatka – Punjab; Mardani Khel – Maharashtra.

59. (B) Bow strung with bells – The bow (vil) – a large bow strung with bells is struck with sticks, with pot (kudam) and udukkai. Villupattu artist Subbu Arumugam got the Padma Shri in 2021.

60. (C) 1972 – 1972 (21 January) – along with Tripura and Meghalaya. 1949 – merger with India; 1963 – Nagaland statehood; 1987 – Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh became States.

61. (B) Soket Labs – Soket AI Labs – 26.3 billion parameters. 'Dhīr 2B / 5B', released the same day, are ZenteiQ's on-phone models.

62. (D) AIKosh – AIKosh – the new models are to be made available to researchers and students through it. Bhashini is the Indian-language translation platform.

63. (C) Fully cut off from the internet – A system fully cut off from outside networks – it prevents data leaks in sectors such as defence and banking.

64. (C) IIT Bombay – IIT Bombay – ₹1,058.52 crore; its model was unveiled at the India AI Impact Summit in Feb 2026.

65. (B) IIT Madras – IIT Madras (Chennai) – set up with a ₹36 crore grant from Nandan and Rohini Nilekani; builds translation and speech models.

66. (A) Sixth Schedule areas – Sixth Schedule areas and tribal communities are exempt. A second marriage attracts up to 7 years in jail.

67. (B) Directive Principles – Part IV – Directive Principles of State Policy; under Article 37 they are not enforceable in courts.

68. (D) Uttarakhand – Uttarakhand – 27 Jan 2025. Goa still follows the Portuguese Civil Code (1867) retained after liberation.

69. (D) Sarla Mudgal case – Sarla Mudgal v. Union of India – it also stressed the need for a UCC. Shayara Bano (2017) struck down triple talaq.

70. (C) Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 – Section 7-A was added to the Hindu Marriage Act, recognising priest-less marriages. Section 17 of the same Act punishes bigamy.

71. (C) Extradition Act, 1962 – Extradition Act, 1962 – no surrender for political offences (Section 31). The FEO Act, 2018 allows confiscating fugitive economic offenders' property.

72. (B) Ministry of External Affairs – Ministry of External Affairs – requests go to officers at Joint Secretary (Consular) level. India's ambassador signed the Kazakhstan treaty.

73. (A) Repatriation of Prisoners Act – Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 – notified by the Home Ministry in 2017; a foreign convict can serve the sentence at home.

74. (D) Dual criminality – Dual criminality. 'Rule of speciality' – trial only for the offence of surrender; 'non-refoulement' is a refugee-law principle.

75. (C) Connect Central Asia – 'Connect Central Asia' – announced at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in June 2012. The first India–Central Asia Summit was held virtually in Jan 2022.

76. (D) Doha – Doha (Qatar) – the first qualifier for LA 2028. The 2025 edition was held in Egypt.

77. (A) Abhinav Bindra – Abhinav Bindra. Rajyavardhan Rathore – silver at Athens 2004 (double trap); Vijay Kumar – silver at London 2012.

78. (D) NRAI – NRAI – National Rifle Association of India, New Delhi. SAI is the Sports Authority of India; AIFF governs football.

79. (A) Cuddalore – Cuddalore – she later grew up in Ahmedabad. She set a junior world record at the 2018 ISSF Junior World Cup, Sydney.

80. (B) Tokyo 2020 – Tokyo 2020 – a 2017 IOC decision; mixed team events were added for gender balance. Rio 2016 was its last edition.

81. (D) IIT Delhi – IIT Delhi – 66th (59th last year). IISc is 79th, IIT Bombay 83rd and IIT Madras 85th.

82. (C) University of Hong Kong – The University of Hong Kong – No. 1 for the second year running; Peking is 2nd and Tsinghua 3rd.

83. (D) London – London (UK) – founded by Nunzio Quacquarelli in 1990. Until 2009 it published the world rankings jointly with Times Higher Education (THE).

84. (B) HRD (now Education) – The Ministry of HRD (now Ministry of Education) – 29 Sep 2015; first rankings in 2016. 'Perception' is one of its five parameters.

85. (C) IIT Madras – IIT Madras (Chennai) – also first in engineering since 2016; 85th in QS Asia 2027. IISc was named the best university.

86. (A) Dung beetle (scarab) – The scarab – a symbol of creation and new life, also used as a seal. It was found by 17-year-old American student Shiloh Attoun.

87. (B) Cobra – The cobra. The new amulet shows two uraeus cobras above the hieroglyph 'nb' (lord).

88. (B) Quseir al-Qadim – Quseir al-Qadim – read by Iravatham Mahadevan (2007). Tamil-Brahmi writing was also found at the port of Berenike.

89. (A) Steatite – Steatite, a soft stone. The 'unicorn' is the commonest motif; the 'Pashupati' seal came from Mohenjo-daro.

90. (D) Rosetta Stone – The Rosetta Stone (1799) – one decree in three scripts; Champollion deciphered it in 1822. Behistun helped decipher cuneiform.

91. (D) Long-range air-defence system – A long-range surface-to-air missile system – range up to 400 km. The 2018 deal covers 5 squadrons for about $5.43 billion.

92. (C) Vishnu – Lord Vishnu's discus. Murugan's weapon is the Vel; Indra's is the Vajra (thunderbolt).

93. (C) United States – The United States (2017). NATO member Turkey was sanctioned under CAATSA in Dec 2020 for buying the S-400.

94. (B) Pahalgam – Pahalgam (J&K), 22 Apr 2025. The response to Pulwama (2019) was the Balakot air strike.

95. (A) Nationwide security shield – Announced by PM Modi on 15 Aug 2025: to bring key public places – railway stations, hospitals, places of worship – under a national 'security shield'.

96. (C) Japan – Japan – in 1854 Hamaguchi Goryo set his rice sheaves on fire to save villagers. The UN declared the day in 2015 on Japan's proposal.

97. (B) INCOIS, Hyderabad – INCOIS, Hyderabad (Ministry of Earth Sciences) – since Oct 2007. Since 2011 it is a UNESCO-IOC-recognised Tsunami Service Provider for the Indian Ocean.

98. (A) Harbour wave – In Japanese, tsu = harbour, nami = wave. Tsunamis are unrelated to tides, so 'tidal wave' is a misnomer.

99. (D) Long wavelength, small height – In deep water the wavelength is hundreds of km, the height small and the speed like a jet's; near the shore it slows and rises.

100. (D) Mayiladuthurai – Mayiladuthurai – carved out of Nagapattinam district in 2020. The Cauvery meets the Bay of Bengal near Poompuhar; NIO researchers found submerged structures offshore.

101. (C) Mangalyaan – Mangalyaan – 'the country's first venture into interplanetary space' (RBI). The Aryabhata satellite featured on the old ₹2 note.

102. (B) Mars – Mars – a shield volcano about two and a half times the height of Mount Everest.

103. (D) Japan – Japan – it failed to enter Mars orbit. So India became the first Asian nation to reach Mars in 2014; the UAE's 'Hope' arrived in 2021.

104. (D) Methane – Methane (Methane Sensor for Mars) – at ppb accuracy. MOM carried 5 science payloads: MSM, MCC, LAP, MENCA and TIS.

105. (B) Tirunelveli – Tirunelveli (Kothaiseri); Padma Shri 2015. Programme Director Mylswamy Annadurai is from Coimbatore; ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan from Kanniyakumari.

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