# Current Affairs – MCQs

## 5 November 2026

**Questions PDF**

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## Questions (105)

**1.** Which Tamil Nadu department runs the 'Vetri Special Vegetable Pack' sold for ₹100 in Nov 2026?
(A) Cooperation Department
(B) Horticulture Department
(C) Agri Marketing Department
(D) Rural Development Dept

**2.** Where was Tamil Nadu's first 'Uzhavar Sandhai', where farmers sell directly to consumers, opened?
(A) Coimbatore
(B) Madurai
(C) Tiruchirappalli
(D) Salem

**3.** Botanically, ginger – one of the items in the pack – is a:
(A) Root tuber
(B) Rhizome (underground stem)
(C) Bulb
(D) Corm

**4.** Which acid mainly gives lemon juice its sour taste?
(A) Citric acid
(B) Tartaric acid
(C) Lactic acid
(D) Oxalic acid

**5.** 'Operation Greens', announced in 2018 to stabilise tomato, onion and potato (TOP) prices, is run by which Ministry?
(A) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(B) Consumer Affairs
(C) Food Processing Industries
(D) Commerce & Industry

**6.** The 87 resorts ordered shut at Sathyamangalam lacked building approval from which body?
(A) TN Pollution Control Board
(B) CMDA
(C) DTCP
(D) TN Housing Board

**7.** Which Karnataka tiger reserve is contiguous with the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve?
(A) Biligiri Ranganathaswamy (BRT)
(B) Nagarhole
(C) Bhadra
(D) Kali (Dandeli–Anshi)

**8.** Who chairs the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)?
(A) Prime Minister
(B) Union Environment Minister
(C) Director General of Forests
(D) Chief Wildlife Warden

**9.** In 2020 the Supreme Court upheld Tamil Nadu's elephant corridor notification that led to resort closures. It lies on which Nilgiris plateau?
(A) Kundah
(B) Kotagiri
(C) Avalanche
(D) Sigur

**10.** Bhavanisagar Dam in Erode district is built just below the confluence of the Bhavani with which river?
(A) Noyyal
(B) Moyar
(C) Amaravathi
(D) Siruvani

**11.** What type of missile is 'Pralay', tested by DRDO on 5 Nov 2026?
(A) Surface-to-air missile
(B) Submarine-launched ballistic
(C) Quasi-ballistic surface-surface
(D) Air-launched cruise missile

**12.** Which DRDO laboratory led the development of the Pralay missile?
(A) DRDL, Hyderabad
(B) Research Centre Imarat (RCI)
(C) ARDE, Pune
(D) NSTL, Visakhapatnam

**13.** India is NOT yet a member of which of these export-control regimes?
(A) Missile Tech Control Regime
(B) Wassenaar Arrangement
(C) Australia Group
(D) Nuclear Suppliers Group

**14.** DRDO was formed in 1958 by merging the Army's technical establishments with which body?
(A) Ordnance Factory Board
(B) Hindustan Aircraft Ltd
(C) Defence Science Organisation
(D) Atomic Energy Commission

**15.** Which of the following is an air-to-air missile?
(A) Agni-P
(B) Astra
(C) Shaurya
(D) Dhanush

**16.** In which category did the Railways Ministry rank first to win the 'PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award' in Nov 2026?
(A) Top rooftop-solar State
(B) Best DISCOM
(C) Most buildings solarised
(D) Best solar vendor

**17.** A solar (photovoltaic) cell converts:
(A) Heat → electrical energy
(B) Light → electrical energy
(C) Chemical → electrical energy
(D) Mechanical → electrical energy

**18.** By which year does Indian Railways aim to become a 'net zero carbon emission' network?
(A) 2047
(B) 2070
(C) 2035
(D) 2030

**19.** Which Union Ministry implements the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana'?
(A) New & Renewable Energy
(B) Power
(C) Coal
(D) Petroleum & Natural Gas

**20.** In a rooftop solar system, which device converts the panels' DC output into AC for home use?
(A) Transformer
(B) Rectifier
(C) Capacitor
(D) Inverter

**21.** Which university led the study (reported Nov 2026) showing that star cluster 'UBC 63' is actually two clusters?
(A) Gauhati University
(B) Tezpur University
(C) Dibrugarh University
(D) Manipur University

**22.** The 'Gaia' space observatory, which built a 3-D map of the Milky Way, belongs to which space agency?
(A) NASA
(B) ISRO
(C) JAXA
(D) European Space Agency

**23.** The 'Karthigai' star group (Pleiades), linked with the Karthigai Deepam festival, is an example of:
(A) Globular cluster
(B) Galaxy
(C) Open star cluster
(D) Nebula

**24.** Which key difference showed that clusters UBC 63A and UBC 63B were not born at the same time?
(A) Their ages
(B) Their masses
(C) Chemical composition
(D) Distance from the Sun

**25.** Around which Sun–Earth Lagrange point did Gaia operate and does the James Webb telescope operate?

(A) L1 (B) L3

(C) L4 (D) L2

**26.** Where in Haryana was the national-level memorial to the martyrs of 1857 inaugurated on 5 Nov 2026?

(A) Kurukshetra (B) Panipat

(C) Hisar (D) Ambala Cantonment

**27.** Which sepoy attacked British officers at Barrackpore in March 1857 and was later hanged?

(A) Bakht Khan (B) Mangal Pandey

(C) Kunwar Singh (D) Tatya Tope

**28.** Who described the 1857 uprising as the 'Indian War of Independence' in a book published in 1909?

(A) R.C. Majumdar (B) S.N. Sen

(C) V.D. Savarkar (D) Dadabhai Naoroji

**29.** The family of which ruler was confined in Vellore Fort at the time of the 1806 Vellore Mutiny?

(A) Veerapandiya Kattabomman (B) Tipu Sultan

(C) Marudhu brothers (D) Nawab of Arcot

**30.** After the 1857 revolt, the last Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar II was exiled to:

(A) Andaman Islands (B) Mandalay

(C) Rangoon (D) Colombo

**31.** Radhanagari Sanctuary, where tourists on safari saw tiger 'Ranoji' in Nov 2026, is in which district of Maharashtra?

(A) Satara (B) Sangli

(C) Ratnagiri (D) Kolhapur

**32.** Radhanagari, Maharashtra's first wildlife sanctuary (1958), is famous as a sanctuary for which animal?

(A) Indian gaur (bison) (B) Sambar deer

(C) Nilgai (D) Blackbuck

**33.** The Bhogavati and Dudhganga rivers flowing through Radhanagari are tributaries of which major river?

(A) Godavari (B) Kaveri

(C) Krishna (D) Tapi

**34.** Maharashtra's Sahyadri Tiger Reserve was formed by combining Chandoli National Park with which sanctuary?

(A) Bhimashankar (B) Koyna

(C) Tansa (D) Karnala

**35.** The Theppakadu Elephant Camp is located in which tiger reserve of Tamil Nadu?

(A) Anamalai (B) Mudumalai

(C) Kalakad–Mundanthurai (D) Srivilliputhur–Megamalai

**36.** What kind of cover does the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) provide?

(A) Accident cover only (B) Hospitalisation cover

(C) Crop insurance (D) Life cover, death by any cause

**37.** Which central scheme gives accidental death and disability cover for a premium of ₹20 a year?
(A) PMJDY
(B) Atal Pension Yojana
(C) PMSBY
(D) PMFBY

**38.** Like Delhi and Puducherry, which Union Territory has a Legislative Assembly?
(A) Ladakh
(B) Chandigarh
(C) Lakshadweep
(D) Jammu and Kashmir

**39.** In which city did the Prime Minister launch the three 'Jan Suraksha' social security schemes in May 2015?
(A) Kolkata
(B) New Delhi
(C) Varanasi
(D) Mumbai

**40.** The 'LIC Building', India's tallest building when completed in 1959, is in which city?
(A) Chennai
(B) Mumbai
(C) Kolkata
(D) New Delhi

**41.** Mayon volcano, which erupted on 30 Oct 2026, is located on which island of the Philippines?
(A) Mindanao
(B) Luzon
(C) Cebu
(D) Palawan

**42.** A steep cone-shaped volcano built of alternating layers of lava and ash is called a:
(A) Stratovolcano
(B) Shield volcano
(C) Caldera
(D) Fissure volcano

**43.** Which Philippine volcano erupted in 1991 and temporarily lowered global temperatures?
(A) Mount Pinatubo
(B) Taal
(C) Kanlaon
(D) Mount Apo

**44.** Most of the world's active volcanoes lie along the 'Pacific Ring of Fire' mainly because of:
(A) Hot spots
(B) Mid-ocean ridges
(C) Subduction zones
(D) Transform faults

**45.** What is a 'lahar' in volcanic regions?
(A) A fine ash cloud
(B) A volcanic mudflow
(C) A river of molten lava
(D) A sulphur gas emission

**46.** In which city was 'BOB-NOR', the Bay of Bengal countries' fisheries research network, launched in Nov 2026?
(A) Chennai
(B) Visakhapatnam
(C) Goa
(D) Kochi

**47.** Where is the headquarters of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO)?
(A) Colombo
(B) Chennai
(C) Dhaka
(D) Malé

**48.** BOBP-IGO grew out of a regional fisheries programme started in 1979 by which UN agency?
(A) UNEP
(B) UNDP
(C) FAO
(D) IMO

**49.** Which of these countries is only a cooperating non-contracting party, not a full member, of BOBP-IGO?

(A) Sri Lanka
(B) Maldives
(C) Bangladesh
(D) Thailand

**50.** In which city was the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) started in 1947?

(A) Kochi
(B) Madras (Chennai)
(C) Bombay (Mumbai)
(D) Visakhapatnam

**51.** Whose men's record of most international goals (109) did Ronaldo break in 2021?

(A) Pelé
(B) Lionel Messi
(C) Miroslav Klose
(D) Ali Daei

**52.** Which was the first major international trophy won by Portugal under Ronaldo's captaincy?

(A) Euro 2004
(B) World Cup 2006
(C) Confederations Cup 2017
(D) Euro 2016

**53.** Where is the headquarters of FIFA, world football's governing body?

(A) Zurich
(B) Nyon
(C) Lausanne
(D) Paris

**54.** The San Thome Basilica in Mylapore, Chennai, was first built in the 16th century by the:

(A) Portuguese
(B) Dutch
(C) Danes
(D) French

**55.** Funchal, Cristiano Ronaldo's birthplace, is on which island?

(A) Azores
(B) Canary Islands
(C) Madeira
(D) Sicily

**56.** What is the capital of the Bahamas, the ISA's 116th member?

(A) Kingston
(B) Nassau
(C) Havana
(D) Bridgetown

**57.** Who is the Depositary of the Framework Agreement of the International Solar Alliance?

(A) Government of France
(B) UN Secretary-General
(C) UNFCCC Secretariat
(D) Government of India

**58.** Which important line of latitude passes through the Bahamas?

(A) Equator
(B) Tropic of Capricorn
(C) Arctic Circle
(D) Tropic of Cancer

**59.** At which city was the ISA Framework Agreement opened for signature during COP22 in Nov 2016?

(A) Paris
(B) Bonn
(C) Marrakesh
(D) Katowice

**60.** The Bahamas, independent from Britain since 1973, is a member of which regional grouping?

(A) CARICOM
(B) MERCOSUR
(C) Andean Community
(D) Pacific Islands Forum

**61.** The astronomer who first spotted the mini-moon '2026 QQ8' in Aug 2026 is from which country?

(A) USA
(B) Hungary
(C) Japan
(D) India

**62.** The Minor Planet Center works under the authority of which body?
(A) NASA
(B) Intl. Astronomical Union
(C) European Space Agency
(D) UN Office for Outer Space

**63.** The region around a planet where its gravity dominates the Sun's, letting it briefly capture an asteroid, is called the
(A) Roche limit
(B) Lagrange point
(C) Hill sphere
(D) Kuiper belt

**64.** '2024 PT5', Earth's mini-moon in 2024, belongs to which group of asteroids?
(A) Trojan asteroids
(B) Kuiper belt
(C) Oort cloud
(D) Arjuna asteroid belt

**65.** Which Government Astronomer discovered several asteroids from the Madras Observatory in the 19th century?
(A) John Evershed
(B) William Petrie
(C) Edmond Halley
(D) Norman Pogson

**66.** Which agencies jointly reported in Nov 2026 that the Antarctic ozone hole was the 7th largest in 48 years?
(A) NASA and NOAA
(B) ESA and JAXA
(C) WMO and UNEP
(D) ISRO and IMD

**67.** In which unit is the total amount of ozone in a column of the atmosphere measured?
(A) Dobson unit
(B) Decibel
(C) Becquerel
(D) Sievert

**68.** The protective ozone layer lies mainly in which layer of the atmosphere?
(A) Troposphere
(B) Mesosphere
(C) Stratosphere
(D) Thermosphere

**69.** The 1987 Montreal Protocol was the first treaty in UN history to achieve what?
(A) Binding carbon cuts
(B) Ban on nuclear tests
(C) Methane emission cuts
(D) Universal ratification

**70.** India's earliest ozone observations (1928–29) were made at an observatory in which Tamil Nadu hill station?
(A) Udhagamandalam
(B) Yercaud
(C) Kodaikanal
(D) Kotagiri

**71.** 'Sentinel', by Aldrei Ong, which won the 2026 James Dyson Award global Sustainability prize, is a –
(A) Building-damage sensor
(B) Seawater purifier
(C) Solar window film
(D) Plastic-recycling machine

**72.** Sir James Dyson, the British inventor after whom the award is named, is best known for inventing the
(A) Jet engine
(B) Bagless vacuum cleaner
(C) Hovercraft
(D) Electric motor

**73.** Steel bars are used in reinforced cement concrete (RCC) mainly because concrete is weak in
(A) Compression
(B) Heat
(C) Tension
(D) Moisture

**74.** Tropical storms called 'typhoons' in the Philippines are known in the North Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea) as

(A) Tornadoes
(B) Hurricanes
(C) Cyclones
(D) Willy-willies

**75.** Where is CSIR's Structural Engineering Research Centre (SERC) located?

(A) Roorkee
(B) Pune
(C) Bengaluru
(D) Chennai

**76.** After the 1897 Shillong earthquake, where was India's first seismological observatory set up in 1898?

(A) Shillong
(B) Pune
(C) Dehradun
(D) Alipore, Kolkata

**77.** Kishtwar district, home to India's 183rd seismological observatory, has the Kiru and Kwar hydro projects on which river?

(A) Chenab
(B) Jhelum
(C) Ravi
(D) Beas

**78.** What does the Richter scale, devised in 1935, measure about an earthquake?

(A) Intensity of damage
(B) Depth of focus
(C) Magnitude (energy released)
(D) Duration of shaking

**79.** The point on the Earth's surface directly above the underground focus of an earthquake is called the

(A) Epicentre
(B) Shadow zone
(C) Fault line
(D) Seismic gap

**80.** Under the BIS seismic zone map now in force (IS 1893:2016), Chennai lies in which zone?

(A) Zone II
(B) Zone IV
(C) Zone III
(D) Zone V

**81.** The station planned at Tanglang La, set to be the world's highest, will be on which rail line?

(A) Srinagar–Kargil–Leh
(B) Bilaspur–Manali–Leh
(C) Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla
(D) Rishikesh–Karnaprayag

**82.** Tanggula, at present the world's highest railway station, is on which railway?

(A) Trans-Siberian Railway
(B) Qinghai–Tibet Railway
(C) Central Andean Railway (Peru)
(D) Jungfrau Railway (Swiss)

**83.** In Himalayan place names such as Khardung La and Zoji La, what does 'La' mean?

(A) Mountain pass
(B) Lake
(C) Valley
(D) Glacier

**84.** The Himachal Pradesh towns of Mandi and Kullu lie on the banks of which river?

(A) Beas
(B) Sutlej
(C) Ravi
(D) Chenab

**85.** The southernmost railway station of Indian Railways is in which Tamil Nadu town?

(A) Rameswaram
(B) Tirunelveli
(C) Thoothukudi
(D) Kanniyakumari

**86.** Tanvi Patri, who reached the girls' singles badminton final at Dakar 2026 YOG, is from which State?
(A) Telangana
(B) Odisha
(C) Karnataka
(D) Assam

**87.** Who won India's first YOG badminton medal – boys' singles silver at Singapore 2010?
(A) H.S. Prannoy
(B) Kidambi Srikanth
(C) Sameer Verma
(D) B. Sai Praneeth

**88.** The name 'badminton' comes from 'Badminton House', a country estate. In which country is it?
(A) India
(B) England
(C) Malaysia
(D) Denmark

**89.** Which trophy is the world team championship for women in badminton?
(A) Thomas Cup
(B) Sudirman Cup
(C) Davis Cup
(D) Uber Cup

**90.** Which Chennai-trained shuttler won boys' singles silver at the 2022 BWF World Junior Championships?
(A) Lakshya Sen
(B) Priyanshu Rajawat
(C) Sankar Muthusamy
(D) Kiran George

**91.** 'Craniopagus' conjoined twins are joined at which part of the body?
(A) Chest
(B) Abdomen
(C) Pelvis
(D) Head (skull)

**92.** Neurosurgeon Ashok Kumar Mahapatra, who died in Nov 2026, was the founding Director of which AIIMS?
(A) AIIMS Raipur
(B) AIIMS Patna
(C) AIIMS Bhopal
(D) AIIMS Bhubaneswar

**93.** In which case did the Supreme Court hold that the Bharat Ratna and Padma awards are not 'titles' barred by Article 18?
(A) Kesavananda Bharati case
(B) Indra Sawhney case
(C) Balaji Raghavan case
(D) Minerva Mills case

**94.** The three protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord are called –
(A) Pleura
(B) Pericardium
(C) Meninges
(D) Peritoneum

**95.** Dr Jacob Chandy, a pioneer of neurosurgery in India, started a neurosurgery department in 1949 at which TN institution?
(A) CMC, Vellore
(B) Madras Medical College
(C) Stanley Medical College
(D) Madurai Medical College

**96.** Which body declared 6 November the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict?
(A) UN Environment Programme
(B) UN General Assembly
(C) UN Security Council
(D) UNESCO

**97.** 'Agent Orange', sprayed widely by US forces in the Vietnam War, was mainly a –
(A) Nerve gas
(B) Incendiary bomb
(C) Herbicide (defoliant)
(D) Radioactive dust

**98.** The ENMOD Convention, adopted by the UN in 1976, bans the hostile use of –

(A) Chemical weapons
(B) Environmental modification techniques
(C) Anti-personnel landmines
(D) Cluster munitions

**99.** Which German warship shelled Madras in Sept 1914, destroying oil tanks of the Burmah Oil Company?

(A) Emden
(B) Bismarck
(C) Tirpitz
(D) Graf Spee

**100.** In the 1991 Gulf War, retreating Iraqi forces set fire to hundreds of oil wells in which country?

(A) Iran
(B) Saudi Arabia
(C) Kuwait
(D) Qatar

**101.** India's National Cancer Awareness Day (7 November) marks the birth anniversary of whom?

(A) Homi J. Bhabha
(B) Marie Curie
(C) Wilhelm Röntgen
(D) Henri Becquerel

**102.** The radioactive element 'polonium', discovered in 1898, is named after which country?

(A) Poland
(B) Portugal
(C) France
(D) Austria

**103.** Which organisation leads 'World Cancer Day', observed on 4 February?

(A) World Health Organization
(B) IARC (Lyon)
(C) American Cancer Society
(D) UICC

**104.** Cancer of blood-forming tissues such as the bone marrow is called –

(A) Melanoma
(B) Leukaemia
(C) Sarcoma
(D) Glioma

**105.** The Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital, named TN's State nodal cancer centre in the 2025–26 Budget, is in which district?

(A) Kancheepuram
(B) Madurai
(C) Tiruchirappalli
(D) Coimbatore

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# Answer key at a glance

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

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# Answers & explanations

**1. (A) Cooperation Department** – The Cooperation Department – via 218 cooperative outlets and 4 mobile vans, not ration shops. Minister V. Gandhiraj launched it.

**2. (B) Madurai** – Madurai – 14 Nov 1999. Without middlemen, farmers get more and consumers pay less.

**3. (B) Rhizome (underground stem)** – A rhizome – it has nodes and scale leaves, so it is a stem, not a root. Onion is a bulb; colocasia (taro) is a corm.

**4. (A) Citric acid** – Citric acid. Tamarind and grapes – tartaric; curd – lactic. Lemon is also rich in vitamin C (ascorbic acid).

**5. (C) Food Processing Industries** – Ministry of Food Processing Industries – Budget 2018–19, ₹500 crore, modelled on 'Operation Flood'. In June 2020 (Atmanirbhar Bharat package) it was temporarily extended to all fruits and vegetables ('TOP to TOTAL').

**6. (C) DTCP** – The Directorate of Town and Country Planning (DTCP) – 1971 Act. They also lacked Hill Area Conservation Authority (HACA) clearance for land-use change.

**7. (A) Biligiri Ranganathaswamy (BRT)** – BRT – Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka. Bandipur and Mudumalai reserves are also contiguous with Sathyamangalam (NTCA).

**8. (B) Union Environment Minister** – The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. NTCA became statutory through the 2006 amendment; Project Tiger dates from 1973.

**9. (D) Sigur** – Sigur Plateau – the 14 Oct 2020 verdict upheld the July 2011 Madras HC ruling, affirming elephants' right of passage.

**10. (B) Moyar** – The Moyar – it flows between the Mudumalai and Sathyamangalam reserves to meet the Bhavani, which later joins the Kaveri.

**11. (C) Quasi-ballistic surface-surface** – A quasi-ballistic surface-to-surface missile; solid-fuelled, about 500 km; its in-flight manoeuvres make interception hard.

**12. (B) Research Centre Imarat (RCI)** – Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad – with other DRDO labs; BDL is the development-cum-production partner.

**13. (D) Nuclear Suppliers Group** – NSG – India is not a member. It joined MTCR (2016), Wassenaar (2017) and the Australia Group (2018).

**14. (C) Defence Science Organisation** – The Defence Science Organisation (DSO) – along with the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP). DRDO works under the Ministry of Defence.

**15. (B) Astra** – Astra – DRDO's beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile. Agni-P and Shaurya are surface-to-surface; Dhanush is a ship-launched Prithvi variant.

**16. (C) Most buildings solarised** – Maximum buildings solarised among Central Ministries/Departments – 12,495 of 15,868 (79%), 351 MW. Presented by the Vice-President.

**17. (B) Light → electrical energy** – Light → electrical energy (photovoltaic effect). A battery converts chemical → electrical; a generator mechanical → electrical.

**18. (D) 2030** – 2030. India's national net-zero goal is 2070 (COP26); 2047 is the 'Viksit Bharat' target year.

**19. (A) New & Renewable Energy** – The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) – launched Feb 2024; ₹75,021 crore; rooftop solar for 1 crore homes.

**20. (D) Inverter** – Inverter (DC → AC). A rectifier does the reverse (AC → DC); a transformer steps AC voltage up or down.

**21. (A) Gauhati University** – Department of Physics, Gauhati University (Assam), with IIA Bengaluru and other Indian and foreign institutions. The paper appeared in The Astronomical Journal.

**22. (D) European Space Agency** – European Space Agency (ESA; HQ Paris) – launched 2013; measured over a billion stars; retired in 2025.

**23. (C) Open star cluster** – An open cluster – young stars born from one cloud, in Taurus. Globular clusters hold hundreds of thousands of very old stars.

**24. (A) Their ages** – Age – 63A ≈ 21 million years, 63B ≈ 562 million years. Both lie at nearly the same distance from the Sun (≈1,500 parsec).

**25. (D) L2** – L2 – about 1.5 million km from Earth, away from the Sun. India's Aditya-L1 sits at L1, on the Sun-facing side.

**26. (D) Ambala Cantonment** – Ambala Cantonment – 22 acres, on the Ambala–Delhi highway. Historian K.C. Yadav holds that sepoys at Ambala rose on 10 May 1857.

**27. (B) Mangal Pandey** – Mangal Pandey – 34th Bengal Native Infantry. Bakht Khan led the rising at Delhi and Kunwar Singh in Bihar.

**28. (C) V.D. Savarkar** – V.D. Savarkar – 'The Indian War of Independence, 1857'. S.N. Sen wrote the official centenary history 'Eighteen Fifty-Seven' (1957).

**29. (B) Tipu Sultan** – Tipu Sultan's family (after the Fourth Mysore War, 1799). The mutiny broke out on 10 July 1806 over the new turban and the ban on caste marks.

**30. (C) Rangoon** – Rangoon (today's Yangon, Myanmar) – he died there in 1862. Bal Gangadhar Tilak was jailed in Mandalay (1908–14).

**31. (D) Kolhapur** – Kolhapur – earlier called Dajipur Sanctuary. Satara has the Koyna Sanctuary and Sangli the Chandoli National Park (Sahyadri Tiger Reserve); Ratnagiri is a Konkan coastal district.

**32. (A) Indian gaur (bison)** – Indian gaur (Bos gaurus) – the 'Bison Sanctuary'. The world's largest wild bovine; IUCN Vulnerable.

**33. (C) Krishna** – Krishna – flows east into the Bay of Bengal. The Bhogavati is one of the streams that form the Panchganga near Kolhapur.

**34. (B) Koyna** – Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary – notified 5 Jan 2010; Koyna and Chandoli together cover about 741 sq km (core 600.12 sq km). As males outnumber females, tigresses are being brought from Tadoba and Pench.

**35. (B) Mudumalai** – Mudumalai (Nilgiris district) – 'The Elephant Whisperers', the documentary that won an Oscar in 2023, was filmed here. Anamalai has the Kozhikamuthi camp.

**36. (D) Life cover, death by any cause** – ₹2 lakh on death from any cause; premium ₹436 a year; join at 18–50.

**37. (C) PMSBY** – Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana – ₹2 lakh for accidental death/total disability, ₹1 lakh for partial; age 18–70. PMFBY is crop insurance.

**38. (D) Jammu and Kashmir** – Jammu and Kashmir – it has a legislature under the Reorganisation Act, 2019; Ladakh does not. Puducherry's is under the Government of UTs Act, 1963.

**39. (A) Kolkata** – Kolkata – 9 May 2015. All three are 'Jan Suraksha' social security schemes announced in the 2015–16 Budget.

**40. (A) Chennai** – Chennai, Anna Salai – LIC's Southern Zonal Office. LIC was formed on 1 Sept 1956 under the LIC Act, 1956; HQ Mumbai.

**41. (B) Luzon** – Luzon – Albay province (Bicol region) in south-east Luzon. The capital, Manila, is also on Luzon.

**42. (A) Stratovolcano** – Stratovolcano (composite) – Mayon, Fuji, Vesuvius. Mauna Loa (Hawaii) is a shield volcano.

**43. (A) Mount Pinatubo** – Pinatubo (Luzon) – June 1991; its sulphur dioxide cooled the globe by about 0.5°C. Mount Apo is the Philippines' highest peak.

**44. (C) Subduction zones** – Oceanic plates sinking at convergent boundaries (subduction). Hawaii is a hot-spot example; Iceland sits on a mid-ocean ridge.

**45. (B) A volcanic mudflow** – A mudflow of water, rock debris and ash (an Indonesian word); frequent on Mayon in the rainy season.

**46. (D) Kochi** – Kochi – at ICAR-CMFRI, alongside a fisheries and remote-sensing symposium. BOB-NOR = Bay of Bengal Network of Ocean Researchers for Fisheries.

**47. (B) Chennai** – Chennai – St. Mary's Road, Abhiramapuram. India took over its chair at a meeting in Malé in Feb 2025.

**48. (C) FAO** – FAO – its 'Bay of Bengal Programme' began in 1979 and became an inter-governmental body through an agreement signed in Chennai in 2003.

**49. (D) Thailand** – Thailand – a cooperating party along with Indonesia, Malaysia and Myanmar. Full members: India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives.

**50. (B) Madras (Chennai)** – Madras (Chennai) – 3 Feb 1947. It later worked from Mandapam; its HQ moved to Kochi in 1971.

**51. (D) Ali Daei** – Iran's Ali Daei. Ronaldo scored his 110th and 111th against Ireland in Sept 2021; he ends on 146.

**52. (D) Euro 2016** – Euro 2016 – beat France 1–0 in the final (Eder, extra time). They lost the Euro 2004 final to Greece.

**53. (A) Zurich** – Zurich (Switzerland); FIFA was founded in Paris in 1904. Nyon hosts UEFA; Lausanne hosts the IOC.

**54. (A) Portuguese** – The Portuguese – over the tomb of St Thomas. The British rebuilt it in Neo-Gothic style in 1893.

**55. (C) Madeira** – Madeira (Atlantic Ocean, an autonomous region of Portugal); born 5 Feb 1985. The Canary Islands belong to Spain.

**56. (B) Nassau** – Nassau – on New Providence island. Kingston is Jamaica's capital; Havana, Cuba's; Bridgetown, Barbados'.

**57. (D) Government of India** – The Government of India (Article XIV) – which is why the Bahamas lodged its instrument with an MEA Joint Secretary.

**58. (D) Tropic of Cancer** – The Tropic of Cancer (about 23.4° N) – through the Exuma islands. In India it crosses 8 States.

**59. (C) Marrakesh** – Marrakesh (Morocco), 15 Nov 2016. The ISA was launched by India and France at COP21, Paris, in 2015; the treaty took effect on 6 Dec 2017.

**60. (A) CARICOM** – Caribbean Community (CARICOM) – a member since 4 July 1983; its secretariat is in Georgetown, Guyana. MERCOSUR is the South American common market.

**61. (B) Hungary** – Hungary – Krisztián Sárneczky, Piszkéstető Observatory (20 Aug 2026). US telescopes later confirmed it is a natural asteroid.

**62. (B) Intl. Astronomical Union** – The International Astronomical Union (IAU); the centre sits at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, USA. The IAU also reclassified Pluto as a 'dwarf planet' in 2006.

**63. (C) Hill sphere** – Hill sphere – 2026 QQ8 entered it in April 2026. A satellite inside the Roche limit is torn apart by tidal forces.

**64. (D) Arjuna asteroid belt** – The Arjuna belt – asteroids that circle the Sun on Earth-like orbits. 2024 PT5 was bound to Earth from 29 Sep to 25 Nov 2024.

**65. (D) Norman Pogson** – Norman Pogson (between 1861 and 1885); the 'Pogson ratio' of the stellar magnitude scale is named after him. Asteroid '4130 Ramanujan' was reported from Kavalur in 1989.

**66. (A) NASA and NOAA** – The US agencies NASA and NOAA (4 Nov 2026). The cause was an unusually strong polar vortex; the ozone layer should fully recover by the 2070s.

**67. (A) Dobson unit** – Dobson unit (DU); an area below 220 DU is the 'ozone hole'. Decibel – sound; becquerel – radioactivity; sievert – radiation dose.

**68. (C) Stratosphere** – The stratosphere. Over Antarctica, 'polar stratospheric clouds' formed here speed up chlorine reactions that destroy ozone.

**69. (D) Universal ratification** – It was the first treaty ratified by every UN member (universal ratification). Its parent framework, the Vienna Convention, was adopted in 1985.

**70. (C) Kodaikanal** – Kodaikanal (Dindigul district) – first measurements in 1928–29 as part of Dobson's worldwide ozone survey; an IMD Dobson spectrophotometer ozone station since 1957.

**71. (A) Building-damage sensor** – A building-damage sensor – a crack in its self-sensing concrete spacer block changes its electrical resistance; prize £30,000.

**72. (B) Bagless vacuum cleaner** – The bagless cyclonic vacuum cleaner ('Dual Cyclone'). Jet engine – Frank Whittle; hovercraft – Christopher Cockerell.

**73. (C) Tension** – Tension – concrete is strong in compression but weak in tension, which the steel bars carry. The spacer block that Sentinel reinvents holds those bars in place.

**74. (C) Cyclones** – Cyclones. Atlantic and north-east Pacific – hurricanes; north-west Pacific – typhoons; Australia – willy-willies.

**75. (D) Chennai** – Taramani, Chennai (1965). CSIR's Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) is at Roorkee.

**76. (D) Alipore, Kolkata** – Alipore, Kolkata (1 Dec 1898). Today the Ministry of Earth Sciences' National Center for Seismology (NCS, 2014) monitors India's earthquakes.

**77. (A) Chenab** – The Chenab – Kiru (624 MW) and Kwar (540 MW); Pakal Dul (1,000 MW) is on its tributary, the Marusudar. The Kishtwar observatory is the 4th in J&K.

**78. (C) Magnitude (energy released)** – Magnitude – a logarithmic scale devised by Charles Richter. The intensity of damage is measured on the Mercalli scale.

**79. (A) Epicentre** – Epicentre – shaking is usually strongest here. The underground starting point is the focus (hypocentre).

**80. (C) Zone III** – Zone III. Tamil Nadu lies in Zones II and III; IS 1893:2025, which added Zone VI, was withdrawn in March 2026.

**81. (B) Bilaspur–Manali–Leh** – Bilaspur–Manali–Leh (489 km, broad gauge) – DPR ready; about 270 km of it in tunnels.

**82. (B) Qinghai–Tibet Railway** – Qinghai–Tibet Railway (Xining–Lhasa, China); Tanggula station is at about 5,068 m.

**83. (A) Mountain pass** – In Tibetan, 'La' means a pass. Zoji La lies on the route linking Srinagar with Kargil/Leh.

**84. (A) Beas** – Beas – rises near Rohtang Pass and joins the Sutlej near Harike in Punjab. Bilaspur is on the Sutlej (Gobind Sagar).

**85. (D) Kanniyakumari** – Kanniyakumari is the southernmost station. The Nilgiri Mountain Railway joined UNESCO's 'Mountain Railways of India' in 2005.

**86. (B) Odisha** – Odisha – she beat Japan's Yuzuno Watanabe in the semi-final; China's Zhang Yi Xin awaits in the final.

**87. (A) H.S. Prannoy** – H.S. Prannoy (Kerala). At Buenos Aires 2018, Lakshya Sen won singles silver and mixed-team gold.

**88. (B) England** – England (Gloucestershire, the Duke of Beaufort's estate). British officers in India played it as 'Poona'.

**89. (D) Uber Cup** – Uber Cup. Thomas Cup is for men (India won it in 2022); Sudirman Cup is mixed; Davis Cup is tennis.

**90. (C) Sankar Muthusamy** – Sankar Muthusamy – lost the final at Santander, Spain, to Chinese Taipei's Kuo Kuan Lin and took silver.

**91. (D) Head (skull)** – Head – craniopagus. Chest – thoracopagus; abdomen – omphalopagus; pelvis – ischiopagus.

**92. (D) AIIMS Bhubaneswar** – AIIMS Bhubaneswar – one of six AIIMS started in 2012 under PMSSY. He also served as Director of SGPGI Lucknow.

**93. (C) Balaji Raghavan case** – Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India (1995) – it also said the awards must not be used as a prefix or suffix to names.

**94. (C) Meninges** – Meninges – dura mater, arachnoid, pia mater. Pleura covers the lungs; pericardium, the heart; peritoneum lines the abdomen.

**95. (A) CMC, Vellore** – CMC Vellore (Jan 1949). Formal M.S. Neurosurgery training began there in 1958.

**96. (B) UN General Assembly** – UN General Assembly – resolution 56/4 of 5 Nov 2001. UNEP carries out post-conflict environmental assessments in this field.

**97. (C) Herbicide (defoliant)** – A herbicide used to strip forest leaves; its dioxin contaminant caused long-term illness.

**98. (B) Environmental modification techniques** – Environmental modification techniques (e.g. weather manipulation). Landmines – Ottawa Treaty (1997); cluster munitions – Oslo Convention (2008).

**99. (A) Emden** – Emden (night of 22 Sept 1914). The word 'Emden' entered Tamil usage for a daring person.

**100. (C) Kuwait** – Kuwait – fires burning for months caused severe air pollution, along with oil spills in the Persian Gulf.

**101. (B) Marie Curie** – Marie Curie (born 7 Nov 1867, Warsaw) – the first person to win two Nobel Prizes (Physics 1903, Chemistry 1911).

**102. (A) Poland** – Poland – Marie Curie's homeland. The Curies also discovered radium the same year.

**103. (D) UICC** – UICC (Union for International Cancer Control), Geneva. IARC is the WHO's cancer research agency.

**104. (B) Leukaemia** – Leukaemia – blood cancer with excess abnormal white cells. Melanoma – skin pigment cells; sarcoma – bone/connective tissue; glioma – brain.

**105. (A) Kancheepuram** – Kancheepuram – ₹120 crore to make it an autonomous 800-bed institute. The same Budget gave ₹36 crore for HPV vaccination of 14-year-old girls.

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