Group 2A Mains – Daily Practice 19 (20 November 2026)

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Questions

1. Consider the following statements about Maratha rule in Thanjavur:
1. Venkoji (Ekoji), a half-brother of Chhatrapati Shivaji, founded Maratha rule in Thanjavur.
2. Serfoji II was educated under the German Lutheran missionary Christian Friedrich Schwartz and enriched the Saraswathi Mahal Library.
3. As the last ruler Shivaji II died without a male heir, Thanjavur was annexed to British rule under the Doctrine of Lapse in 1855.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

2. Match the dynasties of the Delhi Sultanate (List I) with their founders (List II):
(a) Slave (Mamluk) dynasty – 1. Bahlul Lodi
(b) Khalji dynasty – 2. Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq
(c) Tughlaq dynasty – 3. Qutb-ud-din Aibak
(d) Lodi dynasty – 4. Jalaluddin Khalji

A. (a)-4, (b)-3, (c)-2, (d)-1
B. (a)-3, (b)-2, (c)-4, (d)-1
C. (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-2, (d)-1
D. (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-2

3. Assertion (A): Dadabhai Naoroji is called the 'Grand Old Man of India'.
Reason (R): In his book 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India' he set out the 'Drain Theory'.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C. (A) is true but (R) is false
D. (A) is false but (R) is true

4. Arrange the following events of ancient India in chronological order:

1. Accession of Harshavardhana

2. The Kalinga War

3. Beginning of the Gupta era with the reign of Chandragupta I

4. Alexander's invasion of India

A. 4, 2, 3, 1

B. 2, 4, 3, 1

C. 4, 3, 2, 1

D. 2, 4, 1, 3

5. Which of the following regarding Subramania Siva is NOT correct?

A. He was born at Vathalagundu in present-day Dindigul district

B. He ran the journal 'Gnanabanu'

C. In 1908 he took part in the Thoothukudi–Tirunelveli agitations along with V.O.C. and was imprisoned

D. He founded the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company

6. Consider the following statements about the amendment of the Constitution (Article 368):

1. A Constitution Amendment Bill can be introduced in either House of Parliament.

2. The President must give assent to a duly passed Constitution Amendment Bill; he can neither withhold assent nor return it for reconsideration.

3. If the two Houses disagree, the deadlock can be resolved through a joint sitting.

Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only

B. 1 and 2 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

7. Match the landmark Supreme Court judgments (List I) with the principles associated with them (List II):

(a) Golaknath case (1967) – 1. Limits on President's Rule under Article 356

(b) Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) – 2. Basic structure doctrine of the Constitution

(c) Maneka Gandhi case (1978) – 3. Parliament cannot amend Fundamental Rights

(d) S.R. Bommai case (1994) – 4. 'Procedure established by law' must be fair, just and reasonable

A. (a)-3, (b)-2, (c)-4, (d)-1

B. (a)-2, (b)-3, (c)-4, (d)-1

C. (a)-3, (b)-2, (c)-1, (d)-4

D. (a)-4, (b)-2, (c)-3, (d)-1

8. Assertion (A): Even during a National Emergency, the right to move the courts for enforcement of the rights under Articles 20 and 21 cannot be suspended.
Reason (R): The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978 laid down this limit.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C. (A) is true but (R) is false
D. (A) is false but (R) is true

9. Which of the following regarding the President's power to promulgate ordinances (Article 123) is NOT correct?

A. An ordinance can be promulgated when either House of Parliament is not in session
B. An ordinance ceases to operate six weeks after Parliament reassembles, unless approved earlier
C. The Constitution can be amended through an ordinance
D. The President can withdraw an ordinance at any time

10. Which Article of the Constitution empowers Parliament to make any law for the whole or any part of India for implementing any treaty, agreement or convention with other countries or any decision of an international conference?

A. Article 249
B. Article 252
C. Article 256
D. Article 253

11. Consider the following statements about electricity:
1. The SI unit of electrical resistance is the ohm.
2. A fuse wire is made of a material with a high melting point.
3. Household appliances are connected in parallel.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

12. Match the ores (List I) with the metals extracted from them (List II):
(a) Bauxite – 1. Lead
(b) Haematite – 2. Mercury
(c) Cinnabar – 3. Aluminium
(d) Galena – 4. Iron

A. (a)-4, (b)-3, (c)-2, (d)-1
B. (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-2
C. (a)-3, (b)-2, (c)-4, (d)-1
D. (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-2, (d)-1

13. Assertion (A): Food cooks faster in a pressure cooker.
Reason (R): The boiling point of water rises when the pressure increases.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C. (A) is true but (R) is false
D. (A) is false but (R) is true

14. Which of the following regarding nuclear fission and nuclear fusion is NOT correct?

A. Heavy water is used as the moderator in India's pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWRs)
B. A hydrogen bomb is based on nuclear fission alone
C. The Sun's energy comes from the fusion of hydrogen nuclei into helium
D. Nuclear power stations work on a controlled nuclear fission chain reaction

15. Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, born at Rameswaram, was the project director of India's first satellite launch vehicle, which placed the Rohini satellite in orbit in 1980. Which vehicle was it?

A. PSLV
B. ASLV
C. SLV-3
D. GSLV

16. Consider the following statements on the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021:
1. For special categories of women, such as survivors of rape and minors, the upper limit for termination was raised from 20 to 24 weeks.
2. Termination up to 20 weeks needs the opinion of one registered medical practitioner.
3. Beyond 24 weeks, termination is allowed only in cases of substantial foetal abnormalities diagnosed by a Medical Board.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

17. Match the days (List I) with the dates on which they are observed (List II):
(a) National Voters' Day – 1. 10 December
(b) National Consumer Day – 2. 25 January
(c) International Day of Persons with Disabilities – 3. 3 December
(d) Human Rights Day – 4. 24 December

A. (a)-2, (b)-3, (c)-4, (d)-1
B. (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-3, (d)-1
C. (a)-4, (b)-2, (c)-3, (d)-1
D. (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-3

18. Assertion (A): Deficit financing – meeting the government's deficit by creating new money – can lead to inflation.
Reason (R): It increases the money supply without a matching rise in the output of goods and services.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C. (A) is true but (R) is false
D. (A) is false but (R) is true

19. Which of the following regarding the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is NOT correct?

A. It regulates insurance companies
B. Its headquarters is in Mumbai
C. It regulates the securities market, including the stock exchanges, and protects investors
D. It received statutory powers through the SEBI Act, 1992

20. Where was the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme launched on 22 January 2015?

A. New Delhi
B. Jaipur (Rajasthan)
C. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
D. Panipat (Haryana)

21. Consider the following statements on international agreements on climate and the atmosphere:
1. The Kyoto Protocol, adopted in 1997, set binding greenhouse-gas emission-reduction targets for developed countries.
2. The Paris Agreement (2015) aims to hold the rise in global average temperature well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5 °C.
3. The Montreal Protocol (1987) was adopted to cut carbon dioxide emissions from thermal power stations.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

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22. Match the ports of India (List I) with the States in which they are located (List II):
(a) Paradip – 1. Goa
(b) Deendayal (Kandla) – 2. Odisha
(c) Mormugao – 3. West Bengal
(d) Haldia – 4. Gujarat
A. (a)-2, (b)-1, (c)-4, (d)-3
B. (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-2
C. (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-3
D. (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-3, (d)-1

23. Assertion (A): Most rivers of peninsular India are seasonal, and their flow falls sharply in the dry season.
Reason (R): They depend mainly on monsoon rainfall and, unlike the Himalayan rivers, are not fed by melting glaciers.
A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C. (A) is true but (R) is false
D. (A) is false but (R) is true

24. Which of the following regarding the National Parks of India is NOT correct?
A. Jim Corbett (Uttarakhand), set up in 1936 as Hailey National Park, is India's first national park
B. Kaziranga (Assam) is famous for the one-horned rhinoceros
C. The only home of the wild Asiatic lion is the Gir forest of Gujarat and the areas around it
D. The Sundarbans National Park is in Odisha

25. Consider the following statements on the tiger reserves of Tamil Nadu:
1. The Kalakad–Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve is Tamil Nadu's first tiger reserve.
2. The Srivilliputhur–Megamalai Tiger Reserve, notified in 2021, is Tamil Nadu's fourth tiger reserve.
3. The Anamalai Tiger Reserve extends over Coimbatore and Tiruppur districts.
Which of the above are correct?
A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

26. Find the next number in the series:
2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 15, ?
A. 28
B. 29
C. 30
D. 31

27. Two successive discounts of 20% and 10% are given on an article. What single discount is equivalent to them?

A. 30%
B. 28%
C. 27%
D. 25%

28. A man walking at 5 km/h covers a certain distance in 48 minutes. At what speed must he travel to cover the same distance in 30 minutes?

A. 8 km/h
B. 7.5 km/h
C. 6 km/h
D. 10 km/h

29. What is the largest four-digit number that is exactly divisible by 88?

A. 9,988
B. 9,900
C. 9,856
D. 9,944

30. A 60-litre mixture contains milk and water in the ratio 2 : 1. How much water must be added to make the ratio 1 : 1?

A. 10 litres
B. 20 litres
C. 15 litres
D. 30 litres

Answers with explanations

1. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. Venkoji (Ekoji), son of Shahaji Bhonsle and half-brother of Shivaji, founded Maratha rule after the end of the Thanjavur Nayaks in the 1670s. Serfoji II (r. 1798–1832) was a pupil of Schwartz; he added a vast number of palm-leaf manuscripts and books to the Saraswathi Mahal, the royal library of Nayak times, which also bears his name today. By the treaty of 1799 he handed the administration of the kingdom to the British. When Shivaji II died without a male heir in 1855, Lord Dalhousie annexed the State under the Doctrine of Lapse.

2. **C) (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-2, (d)-1** – Slave dynasty – Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1206); Khalji dynasty – Jalaluddin Firuz Khalji (1290); Tughlaq dynasty – Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (Ghazi Malik, 1320); Lodi dynasty – Bahlul Lodi (1451). In between, Khizr Khan founded the Sayyid dynasty in 1414. The Sultanate ended when Ibrahim Lodi was defeated in the First Battle of Panipat in 1526.

3. **B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)** – Both are true, but (R) does not explain (A). The title reflects his decades of public life and senior leadership: he was President of the Indian National Congress three times (1886, 1893, 1906) and, in 1892, became the first Indian elected to the British House of Commons (Finsbury Central, London). His book explaining the drain of Indian wealth to Britain was published in 1901.

4. **A) 4, 2, 3, 1** – Alexander – 326 BCE (he defeated Porus in the Battle of the Hydaspes / Jhelum); Kalinga War – about 261 BCE (eighth regnal year of Ashoka, described in Major Rock Edict XIII); Gupta era – 319–320 CE; Harsha – 606 CE (Harsha era). So 4, 2, 3, 1.

5. **D) He founded the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company** – The Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company was founded in 1906 by V.O. Chidambaram Pillai – not Siva. Subramania Siva (1884–1925) was born at Vathalagundu; in March 1908 he was jailed in the sedition case along with V.O.C. for speeches linked to the Coral Mill strike at Thoothukudi and the celebration of Bipin Chandra Pal's release; he contracted leprosy in prison. He ran the journal 'Gnanabanu', laid the foundation for a Bharat Mata temple at Papparapatti near Dharmapuri, and died there in 1925.

6. **B) 1 and 2 only** – 1 and 2 are correct. An amendment Bill can be introduced in either House of Parliament (not in State Legislatures) and needs no prior permission of the President. The 24th Amendment (1971) made the President's assent obligatory. Each House must pass it separately by a special majority (a majority of the total membership of the House plus two-thirds of the members present and voting); there is no provision for a joint sitting (Article 108). So 3 is wrong.

7. **A) (a)-3, (b)-2, (c)-4, (d)-1** – Golaknath – Parliament cannot amend the Constitution to take away or abridge Fundamental Rights (later overcome by the 24th Amendment); Kesavananda Bharati – 13-judge bench (7 : 6): any part, including Fundamental Rights, may be amended, but not the basic structure; Maneka Gandhi – the passport-impounding case: the procedure under Article 21 must be fair, just and reasonable; S.R. Bommai – 9-judge bench: Article 356 is subject to judicial review and majority must be tested on the floor of the House.

8. **A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)** – Both are true and (R) correctly explains (A). Under Article 359 the President may, by order, suspend the right to move the courts for enforcing Fundamental Rights during an Emergency; after the 1975–77 Emergency and the ADM Jabalpur judgment (1976), the 44th Amendment exempted Article 20 (protection in respect of conviction for offences) and Article 21 (life and personal liberty). Under the same amendment, the automatic suspension of Article 19 under Article 358 applies only to an Emergency declared on the ground of war or external aggression.

9. **C) The Constitution can be amended through an ordinance** – An ordinance has the same force as an Act of Parliament, but it cannot do anything that Parliament cannot do by an ordinary law – the Constitution can be amended only through the procedure in Article 368. The other three are correct – Articles 123(1), 123(2)(a) and 123(2)(b). The Governor's similar power is in Article 213. In Krishna Kumar Singh (2017) the Supreme Court held that repeated re-promulgation of ordinances is a fraud on the Constitution.

10. **D) Article 253** – Article 253 lets Parliament legislate, even on State List subjects, to implement international agreements; the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, enacted to implement the decisions of the 1972 Stockholm Conference, is an example. Article 249 – law on a State List subject in the national interest on a Rajya Sabha resolution; 252 – law with the consent of two or more States; 256 – obligation of States to comply with laws made by Parliament.

11. **C) 1 and 3 only** – 1 and 3 are correct. A fuse wire is made of an alloy with a low melting point (e.g. tin–lead); when excess current flows it melts and breaks the circuit, protecting appliances and wiring. So 2 is wrong. In a parallel connection each appliance gets the full supply voltage (230 V in India), and the others keep working even if one fails. Ohm's law: V = IR.

12. **D) (a)-3, (b)-4, (c)-2, (d)-1** – Bauxite ($Al_2O_3 \cdot 2H_2O$) – aluminium; haematite (Fe_2O_3) – iron; cinnabar (HgS) – mercury; galena (PbS) – lead. Cinnabar and galena are sulphide ores, which are first roasted in air during extraction.

13. **A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)** – Both are true and (R) correctly explains (A). In the closed vessel the steam pressure rises, so water boils at about 120 °C; food cooks faster at this higher temperature. Conversely, at high altitudes the air pressure is low, water boils below 100 °C and cooking takes longer.

14. **B) A hydrogen bomb is based on nuclear fission alone** – A hydrogen (thermonuclear) bomb is based on nuclear fusion; a fission bomb is used as the trigger to produce the very high temperature that fusion needs. An atom bomb (uranium-235 / plutonium-239) works on fission. The other three are correct. In reactors, cadmium or boron control rods absorb neutrons and keep the chain reaction under control.

15. **C) SLV-3** – SLV-3 (Satellite Launch Vehicle-3) placed the Rohini satellite (RS-1) in orbit from Sriharikota on 18 July 1980, making India one of the nations able to launch satellites with their own launch vehicle. Kalam later led the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) and was hailed as the 'Missile Man of India'; he received the Bharat Ratna in 1997 and was the 11th President of India (2002–2007).

16. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. Between 20 and 24 weeks the opinion of two registered medical practitioners is needed, and every State must set up a Medical Board. In the ground of contraceptive failure, 'any married woman or her husband' was replaced by 'any woman or her partner', so it covers unmarried women too. The identity of a woman whose pregnancy is terminated must not be revealed except to a person authorised by law.

17. **B) (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-3, (d)-1** – National Voters' Day – 25 January (the Election Commission of India was set up on 25.01.1950; observed since 2011); National Consumer Day – 24 December (the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 received the President's assent that day; World Consumer Rights Day is 15 March); International Day of Persons with Disabilities – 3 December (UN, since 1992); Human Rights Day – 10 December (the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948).

18. **A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)** – Both are true and (R) correctly explains (A). When the money supply rises while the quantity of goods and services stays the same, 'too much money chases too few goods' and prices rise. In India, the automatic financing of the government through ad hoc Treasury Bills issued to the Reserve Bank of India was discontinued from 1 April 1997 and replaced by the system of Ways and Means Advances.

19. **A) It regulates insurance companies** – The insurance sector is regulated by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI, headquartered at Hyderabad) – not SEBI. Pensions are regulated by the PFRDA and banks by the Reserve Bank of India. SEBI was set up in 1988 as a non-statutory body and became a statutory body under the SEBI Act, 1992; its headquarters is in Mumbai (Bandra–Kurla Complex). The other three are correct.

20. **D) Panipat (Haryana)** – Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the scheme at Panipat, Haryana, on 22.01.2015. It aims to arrest the decline in the child sex ratio (0–6 years) and to ensure the survival, protection and education of the girl child, and is run jointly by three ministries – Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, and Education.

21. **B) 1 and 2 only** – 1 and 2 are correct. The Montreal Protocol is for phasing out ozone-depleting substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs); the Kigali Amendment of 2016 added hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). So 3 is wrong. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force in 2005 and the Paris Agreement in 2016; under the Paris Agreement countries submit Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

22. **C) (a)-2, (b)-4, (c)-1, (d)-3** – Paradip – Odisha, near the Mahanadi delta; Deendayal Port (formerly Kandla, renamed in 2017) – Gujarat, on the Gulf of Kachchh; Mormugao – Goa, known for iron-ore exports; Haldia – West Bengal, the dock complex of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata. Tamil Nadu's major ports are Chennai, Kamarajar (Ennore) and V.O. Chidambaranar (Thoothukudi).

23. **A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)** – Both are true and (R) correctly explains (A). The Himalayan rivers (Ganga, Indus, Brahmaputra) are fed by both rain and glacier melt, so they are perennial. The Cauvery receives the south-west monsoon in Karnataka and the north-east monsoon in Tamil Nadu, so its flow is steadier than that of other peninsular rivers.

24. **D) The Sundarbans National Park is in Odisha** – The Sundarbans National Park is in West Bengal, in the Ganga–Brahmaputra delta; it is one of the largest mangrove forests in the world, a home of the Bengal tiger and a UNESCO World Heritage Site (1987). Odisha's mangrove national park is Bhitarkanika. The other three are correct.

25. **C) 1 and 3 only** – 1 and 3 are correct. Tamil Nadu's tiger reserves in order of notification: Kalakad–Mundanthurai (1988), Anamalai (2007), Mudumalai (2007), Sathyamangalam (2013), Srivilliputhur–Megamalai (2021). So Srivilliputhur–Megamalai is the fifth, not the fourth; 2 is wrong. It was India's 51st tiger reserve. Under Project Tiger (launched 1973), the State Government notifies tiger reserves on the advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

26. **C) 30** – The steps alternate +1 and ×2: 2 + 1 = 3, 3 × 2 = 6, 6 + 1 = 7, 7 × 2 = 14, 14 + 1 = 15. The next is 15 × 2 = 30.

27. **B) 28%** – Take the marked price as ₹100: after 20% off it is ₹80; after a further 10% (₹8) off it is ₹72. Total discount = ₹28 = 28%. Formula: a + b − ab/100 = 20 + 10 − 2 = 28%.

28. **A) 8 km/h** – Distance = 5 × 48/60 = 4 km. Required speed = 4 ÷ (30/60) = 4 ÷ 0.5 = 8 km/h.

29. **D) 9,944** – The largest four-digit number is 9,999. 9,999 ÷ 88 = 113, remainder 55 (88 × 113 = 9,944). So the answer is 9,999 − 55 = 9,944. (9,856 = 88 × 112 is also divisible, but it is not the largest.)

30. **B) 20 litres** – Milk = 60 × 2/3 = 40 litres; water = 20 litres. For a 1 : 1 ratio, water must also be 40 litres, so 40 − 20 = 20 litres of water must be added.

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