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1. The India–AI Impact Summit 2026

- The India–AI Impact Summit 2026, to be held in New Delhi will be the first global AI summit hosted in the Global South.
- With participation from 100+ countries, 15–20 Heads of Government, 50+ ministers, and 40+ global CEOs, the Summit positions India as a key convenor of global AI cooperation.
- The Summit focuses on measurable outcomes, translating AI policy into real-world impact aligned with AI for Humanity and Welfare for All.

Guiding Framework: The Three Sutras

- The Summit is anchored in three core principles that guide global AI cooperation:

People:

- Human-centric AI that safeguards rights, builds trust, and ensures equitable access to services.

Planet:

- Sustainable AI systems those are energy-efficient, climate-conscious, and environmentally responsible.

Progress:

- Inclusive economic growth through innovation, productivity, and capacity building.

The Seven Chakras: Translating Vision into Action

- The Summit's work is structured around Seven Chakras (Thematic Working Groups) that operationalise the Sutras:

1. Human Capital

- Focus on equitable AI skilling and workforce transitions.
- India ranks among global leaders in AI talent growth and hiring.
- Government initiatives support PhD, postgraduate, and undergraduate AI training, positioning India as a reliable global AI talent partner.

2. Inclusion for Social Empowerment

- AI systems designed for India's linguistic, regional, and social diversity.

Flagship initiatives:

- BHASHINI for multilingual digital access.
- Kisan e-Mitra AI chatbot for farmers.
- Bharat-VISTAAR for AI-driven agricultural extension.
- AI expanding access to healthcare, agriculture, and services for underserved communities.

3. Safe and Trusted AI

- Strengthening governance, transparency, and accountability.

Key measures:

- IndiaAI Safety Institute
- Responsible AI project portfolio
- National AI governance framework and expert committees
- Aligns innovation with public trust and digital sovereignty.

4. Resilience, Innovation, and Efficiency

Emphasis on energy-efficient, climate-resilient AI systems.

- **India emerging as a global AI innovation hub:**
  - Second-largest contributor to public generative AI projects on GitHub.
  - Major global investments in AI infrastructure and data centres.
  - Supports sustainability, self-reliance, and global equity.

5. Science

- AI accelerating frontier research in health, climate, energy, and agriculture.
- **Strengthening open and collaborative science through:**
  - Increased R&D investment
  - AI-enabled weather forecasting and energy planning tools
  - Expanded national research funding via ANRF
- Positions India as a contributor to equitable global scientific progress.

6. Democratising AI Resources

- **Expanding equitable access to compute, data, and infrastructure.**
- **Key initiatives:**
  - Sovereign AI GPU clusters
  - IndiaAI Kosh (datasets and models)
  - AI Data Labs in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities
  - Subsidised compute access for startups and researchers
- Reducing global disparities in AI development capacity.

7. AI for Economic Growth and Social Good

- **Scaling AI applications with measurable outcomes:**
  - Productivity gains in agriculture (up to 30–50%)
  - Early disease detection in healthcare
  - AI-integrated education and justice delivery
- India's AI-driven tech sector projected at US$ 280 billion, supported by a vibrant startup ecosystem.
- The Summit represents a shift from dialogue to delivery in global AI governance.
- India advances a development-first AI model, integrating policy, infrastructure, and inclusion.
- The Seven Chakras provide a structured, action-oriented framework for responsible AI adoption worldwide.

- The Summit reinforces India's role as a global partner, convenor, and catalyst for ethical, inclusive, and sustainable AI.
- The India–AI Impact Summit 2026 establishes a globally relevant model for responsible AI—rooted in People, Planet, and Progress. By aligning innovation with public purpose and global cooperation, the Summit positions India at the forefront of shaping AI as a force for inclusive growth, sustainability, and shared global benefit.

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements regarding the India-AI Impact Summit 2026:

1. It is the first major global AI summit hosted in the Global South.
2. The summit shifts the global focus from AI safety to AI development and impact.
3. It is organised by the Ministry of Science & Technology.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

2. With reference to the thematic framework of the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, consider the following:

1. The summit is structured around the pillars of People, Planet, and Progress.
2. The "People" pillar focuses on financial inclusion, healthcare, and education through AI.
3. The "Planet" pillar primarily focuses on defence and cybersecurity applications.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding the IndiaAI Mission:

1. It was approved in 2024 with the objective of making AI work for India.
2. It provides access to high-end GPUs at subsidized costs.
3. It is implemented directly by NITI Aayog.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. Which of the following initiatives aim to promote linguistic inclusion through Artificial Intelligence in India?

1. Bhashini
2. Sarvam Vision
3. BharatGen

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

5. With reference to India's efforts in inclusive AI deployment, consider the following:

1. BHASHINI supports multilingual governance and voice-based digital services.
2. Kisan e-Mitra provides AI-based agricultural advisory in multiple regional languages.
3. Bharat-VISTAAR integrates AgriStack and scientific agricultural practices using AI.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

6. With reference to India's AI infrastructure and research ecosystem, consider the following statements:

1. AIRAWAT is India's AI supercomputer supporting advanced research.
2. IndiaAI Kosh provides datasets and AI models for innovation.
3. National Supercomputing Mission provides computing infrastructure exclusively for defence applications.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

7. With reference to the **Seven Chakras of the India–AI Impact Summit 2026**, consider the following statements:

1. The Chakra on Human Capital focuses on workforce transition and equitable AI skilling.
2. The Chakra on Democratizing AI Resources aims to promote open and equitable access to AI infrastructure and datasets.
3. The Chakra on Safe and Trusted AI emphasizes military applications and cyber warfare preparedness.
4. The Chakra on Resilience, Innovation, and Efficiency focuses on sustainability and climate resilience through AI.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1, 2 and 4 only
C. 2 and 3 only
B. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

8. Consider the following statements regarding the AI Action Summit held in Grand Palais, Paris in February 2025:

1. Co-chaired with India, the event builds on the advances made at the Bletchley Park Summit held in 2023 and the Seoul Summit held in 2024.
2. Along with other countries, the US and UK also signed the declaration on inclusive and sustainable AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 only
C. Both 1 and 2
B. 2 only
D. Neither 1 nor 2

9. With the present state of development, Artificial Intelligence can effectively do which of the following?

(UPSC 2020)

1. Bring down electricity consumption in industrial units
2. Create meaningful short stories and songs
3. Disease diagnosis
4. Text-to-speech conversion
5. Wireless transmission of electrical energy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
B. 1, 3 and 4 only
C. 2, 4 and 5 only
D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

10. With reference to the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, consider the following statements:

1. The Summit's deliberations are organised through thematic working groups called Chakras.
2. More than 100 countries participated in shaping the working group outcomes.
3. Each Chakra focuses only on technological innovation and excludes social policy dimensions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

2. No Confidence motion against Lok Sabha speaker

- The Opposition has moved a no-confidence motion against Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, triggering a rare constitutional and procedural process.
- Lok Sabha sources confirmed that the notice will now be examined and processed as per established parliamentary rules.
- Opposition parties, led by the Congress, have accused the Speaker of bias and procedural unfairness, particularly over his handling of remarks by Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and his statements regarding a potential security threat to Prime Minister Narendra Modi inside the House.

Why Has the Opposition Moved the Motion?

- **The Opposition's action stems from two key grievances:**
  - Denial of permission to Rahul Gandhi to quote or speak about former Army Chief General M M Naravane's unpublished memoir

- The Speaker's assertion that Prime Minister Narendra Modi could have been attacked inside Parliament, which Opposition parties argue was speculative and inappropriate
- These actions, the Opposition claims, compromise the Speaker's constitutional neutrality, prompting the move for removal.

Can the Lok Sabha Speaker Be Removed?

- The Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha can be removed from office, but only through a strict constitutional process.
  - The provision applies only to the Lok Sabha, not the Rajya Sabha
  - The procedure is laid down in Article 94(c) of the Constitution
  - Removal requires a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the House
- The process is intentionally stringent to protect the independence and dignity of the Speaker's office.

Constitutional Grounds for Removal of Speaker or Deputy Speaker

- Article 94 of the Constitution outlines three situations in which a Speaker or Deputy Speaker must vacate office:

1. Cessation of Membership

- If the Speaker or Deputy Speaker ceases to be a Member of the Lok Sabha (Article 94(a)).

2. Voluntary Resignation

- They may resign at any time by submitting a written resignation addressed appropriately (Article 94(b)).

3. Removal by Resolution

- They may be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all current Lok Sabha members (Article 94(c)).

Step-by-Step Procedure for Removal

- The removal process is governed by Rules 200 to 203 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

1. Submission of Notice

- A member must submit a written notice to the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha
- The notice may be jointly submitted by two or more members

2. Mandatory Notice Period

- The resolution cannot be moved unless at least 14 days' notice is given

3. Listing of Motion

- After notice, a motion for leave to move the resolution is included in the List of Business
  - The date must be any day after the 14-day notice period
  - Conditions for the Motion to Be Taken Up
- **For the process to proceed:**
  - At least two Lok Sabha members must back the motion
  - When leave is sought, not less than 50 members must rise in support
  - This demonstrates that the minimum quorum and political support exist
- If fewer than 50 members rise, the presiding officer declares that leave has not been granted, and the motion fails at that stage.

What Happens If the Motion Is Admitted?

Once the Speaker (or presiding officer) admits the motion:

- The resolution is scheduled for discussion within 10 days
- It is formally included in the List of Business
- Discussion must be strictly confined to the charges mentioned in the resolution

Speaking Rules

- The member(s) who moved the motion may speak only if permitted
- Their speech cannot exceed 15 minutes
- No new allegations beyond those stated in the resolution are allowed

Guidelines Governing the Motion

As per Rule 200A, the resolution must:

- Be specific in terms of charges
- Be clearly and precisely worded

Not contain:

- Arguments or inferences
- Ironical or sarcastic expressions
- Imputations or defamatory statements
- Importantly, once the motion is admitted, the member who moved it cannot make a speech unless explicitly allowed.

What If Procedural Requirements Are Not Met?

- The motion becomes invalid if:
  - The mandatory 14-day notice is not given
  - Fewer than 50 members rise when leave is sought
  - The resolution violates Rule 200A guidelines
- In such cases, the House is informed that leave has not been granted, and proceedings end there.

Role of the Speaker during Removal Proceedings

- Even while facing a removal motion, the Speaker retains several rights:
  - The Speaker may participate in proceedings
  - They have the right to speak during discussion on the resolution
  - They are entitled to vote in the first instance, but not in the case of a tie
- **Additionally:**
  - If the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker continues in office until just before the first meeting of the new House

Has This Happened Before?

- Yes, but such motions are extremely rare.
  - **1954:** Against G V Mavalankar (India's first Lok Sabha Speaker)
  - **1966:** Against Hukam Singh
  - **1987:** Against Balram Jakhar
- None of these motions succeeded, and all Speakers retained their posts.

Why This Matters

- A no-confidence motion against the Speaker is a serious constitutional step, reflecting deep parliamentary discord.
- While procedurally allowed, history shows that removing a Speaker is exceptionally difficult, requiring overwhelming consensus in the House.

QUESTIONS

11. With reference to the removal of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker may be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Lok Sabha.
2. A minimum notice period of 14 days is required before moving such a resolution.
3. The motion for removal must be signed by at least 50 members before it can be admitted.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

12. Consider the following statements regarding the procedure for removal of the Lok Sabha Speaker:

1. The Speaker cannot preside over the House when a resolution for their removal is under consideration.
2. The Speaker may vote only in case of a tie during such proceedings.
3. The Speaker continues in office even after dissolution of the Lok Sabha until the first meeting of the newly elected House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

13. Consider the following statements:

1. In the election for Lok Sabha or State Assembly, the winning candidate must get at least 50 percent of the votes polled to be declared elected.
2. According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of India, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker's post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker's to the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 only
C. Both 1 and 2
B. 2 only
D. Neither 1 nor 2

14. Regarding the office of the Lok Sabha Speaker, consider the following statements: **(UPSC 2012)**

1. He/She holds the office during the pleasure of the President.
2. He/She need not be a member of the House at the time of his/her election but has to become a member of the House within six months from the date of his/her election.

3. If he/she intends to resign, the letter of his/her resignation has to be addressed to the Deputy Speaker.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
C. 1, 2 and 3
B. 3 only
D. None

15. With reference to the powers and position of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker decides whether a Bill is a Money Bill, and this decision cannot be questioned in any court of law.
2. The Speaker presides over joint sittings of Parliament.
3. The Speaker is the final authority in interpreting the Rules of Procedure of the Lok Sabha.
4. The Speaker is a member of the Business Advisory Committee and Rules Committee of the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
C. 1, 2, 3 and 4
B. 2, 3 and 4 only
D. 3 and 4 only

3. Launch of Qualcomm 2 nm Chip & Vision for ISM 2.0

- Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & IT, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, launched Qualcomm's 2 nm semiconductor chip in Bengaluru, highlighting India's growing role in advanced global semiconductor design.
- The launch marks a significant milestone in cutting-edge semiconductor technology, showcasing India as a key hub for global engineering and co-development.
- The Minister emphasized India's philosophy of co-creating and co-developing, enabled by the decisive leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, which initiated a new chapter through the Semiconductor Mission.
- He recalled that although global semiconductor pioneers explored India in the 1960s, the importance of chip manufacturing was not recognized then, unlike today.
- India's strategy began with 28 nm technology, covering nearly 75% of national needs such as automotive, telecom, power management, and strategic sectors.
- **Significant progress achieved:**
  - 10 semiconductor units are under construction
  - 4 units have started pilot production
  - Products are undergoing customer qualification and validation
  - First commercial production unit expected soon
- **Strong talent pipeline creation:**
  - Since 2022, 315 universities now use leading EDA tools (Synopsys, Cadence, Siemens)
  - Students across India, including remote institutions, are designing, taping out, and validating chips
  - This has built a major national advantage in semiconductor design talent
- **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0 – Key Focus Areas:**
  - Supporting design companies and startups to take products from concept to market
  - Developing the entire semiconductor ecosystem in India, including equipment, chemicals, gases, testing, and validation
  - Deepening the talent base through stronger university partnerships and sector-specific solutions
  - As the 5th Industrial Revolution unfolds, the Minister stressed the need for government, industry, and academia collaboration to drive deep-tech innovation from India.
- **Skill development priority:**
  - Industry–academia collaboration on relevant curricula
  - Continuous upskilling and reskilling of employees
  - Creation of new global opportunities for India through advanced technology leadership

Semiconductor

- Semiconductors are the foundation of:
  - Computer chips (CPUs, GPUs)
  - Smartphones
  - AI hardware
  - Cars (especially EVs)
  - Solar panels
  - Basically everything smart or electronic

How they work

- **Conductors (like copper):** electricity flows freely
- **Insulators (like rubber):** electricity doesn't flow
- **Semiconductors (like silicon):** electricity flows only when you tell it to

- **By adding tiny impurities (called doping), engineers can:**
  - Turn current on or off
  - Amplify signals
  - Store bits (0s and 1s)
- That's how you get transistors—the tiny switches that power all modern electronics. A single chip can have billions of them.

Common semiconductor materials

- Silicon (king of the industry)
- Gallium arsenide (fast, used in RF & space)
- Silicon carbide & gallium nitride (great for power electronics)

India's Semiconductor Mission

- India's Semiconductor Mission is an ambitious initiative by the Indian government aimed at making India a global hub for semiconductor manufacturing, design, and research.
- It is part of India's broader strategy to strengthen its electronics ecosystem and reduce dependence on imports, especially from countries like Taiwan, South Korea, and the USA.

1. Background

- Semiconductors are the backbone of modern electronics, powering everything from smartphones and computers to cars, medical devices, and defense systems.
- India currently imports over 90% of its semiconductor needs, making it vulnerable to global supply chain disruptions.
- The global semiconductor shortage in 2020–2021 highlighted the strategic importance of domestic production.

2. Objectives

- **The mission aims to:**
  - **Promote domestic semiconductor fabrication (fabs):** Establish semiconductor manufacturing units in India.
  - **Strengthen design and R&D capabilities:** Encourage semiconductor design and innovation through incentives for startups and companies.
  - **Boost supply chain and ecosystem:** Build infrastructure, such as chip design parks, talent development, and testing labs.
  - **Enhance strategic autonomy:** Reduce dependence on imports for critical sectors like defense, healthcare, and electronics.

3. Key Components

- **The government has proposed several measures under the mission:**

Financial Incentives

- Large subsidies for setting up semiconductor fabs.
- Support for semiconductor design companies and startups.
- Investment in research and development.

Infrastructure Development

- Creation of semiconductor fabrication parks.
- Setting up testing, assembly, and packaging facilities.

Skill Development

- Training programs for engineers in VLSI design, chip fabrication, and advanced electronics.
- Collaboration with universities and research institutes.

International Collaboration

- Encouraging partnerships with leading semiconductor nations (USA, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan) for technology transfer and investment.

4. Implementation

- The Department of Electronics and IT (DeitY) is responsible for rolling out the program.
- The government has allocated tens of thousands of crores of INR for the mission, with additional incentives for private players.

5. Significance

- **Economic growth:** Development of a semiconductor ecosystem can boost manufacturing and exports.
- **Strategic advantage:** Self-reliance in critical technologies.
- **Job creation:** Thousands of jobs in high-tech manufacturing and design.

6. Challenges

- High capital investment (a single fab can cost $5–10 billion).
- Advanced technology and talent shortage.
- Competition from established global players.
- Long gestation period before fabs become operational.

7. Current Status (as of 2026)

- India has announced plans to attract global semiconductor companies, including Samsung, Intel, and TSMC.
- Several design and fabrication units are in the pipeline.
- India aims to become a significant player in the global semiconductor supply chain by 2030.

QUESTIONS

16. With reference to the launch of the 2 nanometer semiconductor chip in India, consider the following statements:

1. The chip was launched at a Qualcomm facility in Bengaluru.
2. The 2 nm technology improves device performance and energy efficiency.
3. The launch signifies India's progress in semiconductor manufacturing capability.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

17. Consider the following statements regarding semiconductors:

1. Semiconductors have electrical conductivity between conductors and insulators.

2. They are used in devices such as diodes, transistors, and integrated circuits.
3. They are primarily used only in heavy industrial machinery.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

18. With reference to the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), consider the following statements:

1. It was launched in 2021 under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
2. It aims to develop a sustainable semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem.
3. It provides fiscal support for semiconductor fabrication and display manufacturing facilities.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

19. Consider the following schemes/components under the India Semiconductor Mission:

1. Scheme for setting up Semiconductor Fabs
2. Scheme for Display Fabs
3. Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme
4. Direct subsidy for consumer electronic purchases

Which of the above are components of the mission?

A. 1, 2 and 3 only
C. 2 and 4 only
B. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

20. With reference to India's semiconductor strategy and ecosystem development, consider the following statements:

1. The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) functions as the nodal agency for implementing semiconductor and display ecosystem schemes under MeitY.
2. Silicon photonics and compound semiconductor fabrication are included within the scope of fiscal support under the mission.
3. The primary objective of the mission is limited to reducing import dependence on consumer electronics.
4. Semiconductor fabrication facilities require ultra-pure materials, uninterrupted power supply, and high-precision cleanroom environments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
C. 2, 3 and 4 only
B. 1, 2 and 4 only
D. 1, 3 and 4 only

4. A historic agreement signed in New Delhi between the Government of India, the Government of Nagaland, and representatives of the ENPO

1. A historic agreement was signed in New Delhi between

- Government of India
- Government of Nagaland
- Eastern Nagaland Peoples' Organisation (ENPO) – apex body representing eight recognized Naga tribes from six eastern districts of Nagaland.
- The event took place in the presence of:
  - Union Home Minister & Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah
  - Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Neiphiu Rio

2. Creation of Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA)

- **The agreement establishes the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA) for the six districts:**
  - Tuensang, Mon, Kiphire, Longleng, Noklak, and Shamator

- **Devolution of powers:** 46 subjects will be transferred to FNTA for enhanced local governance.
- **Administrative structure:**
    - A mini-secretariat for FNTA, headed by an Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary.

3. Objectives of the Agreement

- **Peace and conflict resolution:** Ends longstanding disputes in Eastern Nagaland.
- **Development-oriented**: Promotes accelerated infrastructure development, economic empowerment, and optimum resource utilization.
- **Financial autonomy:** Sharing of development outlay based on population and area.
- **Preservation of constitutional rights:** Agreement does not affect Article 371(A) of the Indian Constitution.

4. Statements by Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah

- Marked the day as significant for a dispute-free North East.
- Highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for a peaceful, insurgency-free, and developed North East.
- Emphasized the Modi government's commitment to implementing agreements, not just signing them.
- Stressed Government of India's support for Eastern Nagaland development including funding and initial establishment costs.
- Acknowledged ENPO's faith in democratic processes and assured fair justice and respect.

5. Role of Nagaland Government

- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and his cabinet engaged open-heartedly with ENPO demands.
- Both Nagaland Government and Members of Parliament collaborated in negotiations, leading to a successful resolution.
- Agreement reflects joint efforts for sustainable development of Eastern Nagaland.

6. Significance of the Agreement

- Resolves long-standing disputes in Eastern Nagaland.
- Ensures accelerated socio-economic development through decentralization and financial autonomy.
- Demonstrates India's democratic principle: lasting solutions are achieved through dialogue and mutual respect rather than violence.
- Reinforces the strategic and socio-political importance of Eastern Nagaland.

7. Key Features of FNTA Arrangement

- Financial autonomy for infrastructure and development projects.
- Enhanced local decision-making powers for effective governance.
- Focus on economic empowerment and optimum utilization of resources.
- Annual allocation decided for FNTA development, with central assistance for initial expenditures.

8. Broader Context

- Part of Modi government's continued efforts since 2019 to resolve North East disputes; 12 major agreements signed so far.
- Reflects commitment to peaceful resolution, sustainable development, and regional integration.

Article 371A – Special Provision for Nagaland

Purpose:

- Article 371A provides special autonomy to the state of Nagaland in certain matters, recognizing its unique social and cultural practices.
- It was added to the Constitution through the Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act, 1962 after the formation of Nagaland as a state in 1963.

Key Provisions of Article 371A

Legislative Restrictions:

- No Act of Parliament concerning the following subjects can apply to Nagaland unless the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland agrees:
  - Religious or social practices of the Nagas
  - Naga customary law and procedure
  - Administration of civil and criminal justice according to Naga customary law
  - Ownership and transfer of land and resources
- Essentially, Parliament needs the state assembly's consent for laws affecting these areas.

Autonomy in Land and Culture:

- The article safeguards traditional Naga institutions, land rights, and customary laws.
- It ensures that the unique Naga cultural and social practices are protected.

Special Powers to the Governor:

- The Governor of Nagaland has the authority to consult the state government on matters relating to law and order.
- The Governor can take measures to ensure that the special provisions of Article 371A are followed.

Significance

- **Protects Naga identity:** Ensures that modernization or national laws do not override the traditional ways of Nagas.
- **Balances autonomy and integration:** Nagaland is part of India but has significant legislative independence in sensitive matters.
- **Unique in India:** No other state has such extensive constitutional safeguards for customary law and social practices.

QUESTIONS

21. With reference to the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA) agreement and special constitutional provisions for Nagaland, consider the following statements:

1. The FNTA has been proposed as an autonomous administrative arrangement for six eastern districts of Nagaland without altering the state's territorial integrity.
2. The FNTA arrangement overrides the provisions of Article 371A to ensure uniform governance across Nagaland.
3. Development funds for the FNTA region will be allocated based on population and area to ensure equitable regional development.
4. Article 371A protects Naga customary law, religious and social practices, and ownership of land and resources.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only
C. 2 and 4 only
B. 1, 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

22. With reference to the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA), consider the following statements:

1. The FNTA will exercise executive and legislative authority over selected subjects related to local governance and development.
2. The FNTA will be headed by an elected Chief Minister from the six eastern districts.
3. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs will bear the initial establishment expenditure of the FNTA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

23. Consider the following statements regarding Article 371A of the Constitution of India:

1. It requires Parliament to obtain the consent of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly before applying laws relating to Naga customary practices.
2. It grants special protection to ownership and transfer of land and its resources in Nagaland.
3. It provides for the creation of autonomous district councils similar to those in the Sixth Schedule.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

24. With reference to special constitutional provisions under Article 371 and its sub-clauses, consider the following statements:

1. Article 371 originally applied only to Maharashtra and Gujarat for regional development boards.
2. Article 371G provides protections similar to Article 371A for Mizoram's customary laws and social practices.
3. Article 371H gives special law-and-order responsibilities to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

25. If a particular area is brought under the **Fifth Schedule** of the Constitution of India, which one of the following statements best reflects its consequence?

A. This would prevent the transfer of land of tribal people to non-tribal people.
B. This would create a local self-governing body in that area.
C. This would convert that area into a Union Territory.
D. The State having such areas would be declared a Special Category State.

5. 19th-century Adivasi uprising in Jharkhand

- The Ho Adivasis were the original inhabitants of the Kolhan region (present-day East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum, and Seraikela-Kharsawan districts of Jharkhand).
- Around 1820–21, the region came under the Bengal Presidency.
- The British sought control over Kolhan to expand trade routes to Madras, establishing a camp in Chaibasa.

1. Conflict with the Ho's led to a treaty in 1821, imposing:

- Taxes (eight annas per plough per year) to local kings/zamindars.
- Settlement of outsiders in Adivasi lands.
- Imposition of Hindi and Oriya languages.
- Suppression, including harassment of Adivasi women, sparked the Kol Uprising of 1831 across Kolhan, Ranchi, and Hazaribagh.
- By October 1836, the British captured 22 pirhs (administrative territories) and 600 villages, establishing the Kolhan Estate Government.
- Despite these measures, the Hos continued to resist British authority.

2. The Battle of Serengsia (Late November 1837)

- **Cause:** Continued Ho resistance and refusal to accept British rule, rooted in belief that Kolhan belonged to their deity Sing-Bonga.
- **British Forces:**
  - ~400 infantrymen with firelock guns.
  - ~60 cavalrymen and 2 cannons.
  - 200 fighters sent by the Saraikela local ruler.
- **Ho Leaders:** Poto Ho, Berai Ho, Punduva Ho, Badai Ho, Nara Ho, Devi Ho, Sugni Ho.

Tactics and Battle Strategy:

- Serengsia valley's narrow terrain favored the Ho defenders.
- Ho fighters used bows, arrows, and obstacles to block cavalry.
- Attacks included fire, burning cow dung mixed with ash and chilli, and even swarms of bees to disrupt soldiers.

Outcome:

- British forces suffered over 100 casualties; about 26 Ho fighters were killed.
- The battle forced a temporary British retreat.

3. Aftermath of the Battle

- British launched retaliatory attacks on Rajabasa and nearby villages, burning settlements and arresting villagers.
- The battle's resistance influenced the declaration of Kolhan as Kol State in 1837, allowing limited self-governance.

Arrests and executions of Ho leaders:

- **January 1, 1838:** Poto Ho, Narra Ho, Berai Ho publicly hanged in Jagannathpur.
- **January 2, 1838:** Bora Ho and Pandua Ho hanged near Mundasai, Serengsia.
- 79 other fighters imprisoned on various charges.

4. Dispute over Commemoration Date

- Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren attended a state event on February 2 to commemorate the battle.

Community Perspective:

- Ho activists argue this date is historically inaccurate.
- The significant events—execution of Ho leaders—occurred on January 1–2, 1838.
- Correct commemoration is important to maintain historical accuracy and connect memory to lived experience rather than turning it into a routine political event.

5. Significance

- The Battle of Serengsia symbolizes Adivasi resistance against colonial suppression.
- Highlights strategic use of local knowledge and unconventional warfare by the Hos.
- Emphasizes the importance of accurate historical remembrance for preserving community identity and heritage.

26. Which of the following factors contributed directly to the outbreak of the **Kol Uprising (1831)** in the Kolhan region?

1. Imposition of taxes payable to local kings and zamindars
2. Settlement of outsiders on Adivasi lands
3. Enforcement of Hindi and Oriya languages
4. Introduction of railways in the Kolhan region

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 1, 2 and 3 only
C. 2 and 4 only
D. 1, 3 and 4 only

27. With reference to the **Battle of Serengsia (1837)**, consider the following statements:

1. The Ho fighters used the terrain of the Serengsia valley to their strategic advantage.
2. The British forces relied primarily on traditional archery techniques.
3. The resistance was rooted in the belief that Kolhan belonged to their deity Sing-Bonga.
4. The battle resulted in a temporary retreat of British forces.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only
B. 1, 3 and 4 only
C. 2 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

28. Match **List I** with **List II** and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I	**List II**
1. Moplah Revolt	A. Kerala
2. Pabna Revolt	B. Bihar
3. Eka Movement	C. Bengal
4. Birsa Munda Revolt	D. Awadh

Codes:

A. 1–A, 2–C, 3–D, 4–B
B. 1–B, 2–C, 3–D, 4–A
C. 1–A, 2–B, 3–C, 4–D
D. 1–C, 2–D, 3–A, 4–B

29. Consider the following events:

1. Indigo Revolt
2. Santhal Rebellion
3. Deccan Riot
4. Mutiny of the Sepoys

The correct chronological sequence of these events is:

A. 4, 2, 1, 3
B. 4, 2, 3, 1
C. 2, 4, 3, 1
D. 2, 4, 1, 3

30. After the Santhal rising subsided, what were the measures taken by the colonial Government?

1. The territories called 'Santhal Parganas' were created.
2. It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

31. Which one of the following revolts was made famous by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in his novel *Anand Math*?

A. Bhil uprising
B. Rangpur and Dinapur uprising
C. Bishnupur and Birbhum rebellion
D. Sanyasi rebellion

32. The demand for the Tebhaga Peasant Movement in Bengal was for ___?

A. The reduction of the share of the landlords from one-half of the crop to one-third
B. The grant of ownership of land to peasants as they were the actual cultivators of the land
C. The uprooting of the Zamindari system and the end of serfdom
D. Writing off all peasant debts

6. 'Hop-on, hop-off' — the state of climate governance

Fragmented Climate Governance Architecture

- The global climate governance system resembles two "hop-on, hop-off" buses: the CMP (Kyoto Protocol) and CMA (Paris Agreement) conferences, endlessly circling without clear direction or binding obligations.
- Despite frequent meetings, there is no enforced path to achieving climate goals; the structure prioritizes process over outcomes.

Politics as the Dominant Force

- National interests consistently override global urgency, ensuring climate action is secondary to political agendas.
- Consensus is often celebrated but functions as a disguised veto, reflecting disagreements on voting rules rather than cooperative decision-making.
- Ambition exists rhetorically in preambles but rarely translates into operative commitments.

Economics Driving Inaction

- Markets and corporations exploit political delays, prioritizing short-term profits over long-term planetary welfare.
- Economic incentives favor present gains, neglecting future consequences; future generations are effectively excluded from market considerations.

Ordinary Citizens Left Behind

- Climate change is abstract for most people, overshadowed by immediate needs like food, housing, and employment.
- Citizens' inattention reduces political pressure, allowing governments to defer meaningful action.

Science vs. Politics

- Scientific consensus on climate risks is clear, but its translation into policy is obstructed by political maneuvering.
- Uncertainty is repurposed politically to justify delay and diffuse responsibility, ensuring decisive action remains "not yet."

Political Short-Termism

- Politicians focus on managing expectations, avoiding costs, and postponing decisions.
- The misalignment between political timeframes and climate urgency makes governing climate action within national timelines nearly impossible.

Economic Incentives Reinforce Delay

- Near-term profits and growth imperatives dominate over ecological restraint and moral arguments.
- Markets and economic systems inherently fail to account for long-term climate impacts or intergenerational equity.

Systemic Drift and Sectoral Disconnection

- Science, politics, economics, and individual behavior operate according to independent logics, producing predictable inaction.
- Each Conference of the Parties (COP) tends to produce symbolic successes without meaningful climate action.

COP30 Outcomes: Minimal Progress

- COP30 emphasized cooperation and togetherness but relied mainly on voluntary measures.
- The "1.5°C target" remained politically aspirational; global emissions continue rising, with projected exceedance in the early 2030s.
- Fossil fuel language and binding financial obligations were largely absent.

Climate Finance and Adaptation

- Mitigation and adaptation finance gaps remain enormous: needs exceed $2.4–$3 trillion annually, while current flows are under $400 billion.
- Pledges, such as tripling adaptation finance, lack baselines, binding sources, and timelines, making them largely symbolic.
- Loss and damage funding opened but remains insufficient relative to need; technology transfer, capacity building, and just transition programs remain aspirational, underfunded, or non-binding.

Structural Implications

- Across seven pillars—mitigation, adaptation, finance, loss and damage, technology transfer, capacity building, and just transition—COP30 added frameworks, platforms, and processes without delivering substantive action.
- The gap between climate needs and political deliverables remains wide, reflecting systemic inadequacy rather than collapse.

The Paradox of Persistence

- Despite chronic inertia, UNFCCC and the COP process remain the only globally legitimate forum for coordinated climate action.
- Alternative coalitions like G7, G20, or BRICS lack universal mandate, inclusivity, or legal authority to replace the UN process.
- The world cannot "hop off the planet," making continued engagement with the UN framework essential despite its flaws.

Key Takeaways

- Climate governance suffers from drift, short-termism, and fragmented priorities across science, politics, economics, and civil society.
- COP processes are dominated by ambition in words but inaction in deeds, reinforced by voluntary commitments and weak accountability.
- Urgent global action is needed, but structural, political, and economic barriers continue to delay meaningful outcomes.
- Citizens, scientists, and politicians all play distinct roles, yet the system's design makes achieving climate stability difficult without binding commitments and decisive leadership.

Kyoto Protocol

- The Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty that was adopted in 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- Its main goal is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally to combat climate change.

Purpose

- To legally bind developed countries (Annex I countries) to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
- Focus on carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), and other industrial gases.

Commitment Periods

- **First Commitment Period (2008–2012):** Countries had specific targets for reducing emissions.
- **Second Commitment Period (2013–2020)** under the Doha Amendment, though not all countries participated.

Targets

- Developed nations agreed to reduce GHG emissions by an average of 5% below 1990 levels during the first commitment period.
- Developing countries were not required to reduce emissions but were encouraged to adopt sustainable practices.

Mechanisms for Flexibility

- **To help countries meet their targets efficiently, the Protocol introduced market-based mechanisms:**
  - **Emissions Trading:** Countries with extra allowances can sell them to countries exceeding limits.
  - **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM):** Developed countries can invest in emission-reducing projects in developing countries and earn credits.
  - **Joint Implementation (JI):** Allows industrialized countries to implement emission-reducing projects in other industrialized countries.

Enforcement

- Countries must report emissions annually.
- The Compliance Committee ensures accountability; penalties include making up deficits in the next commitment period.

Significance

- First legally binding treaty on global climate action.
- Laid the foundation for later agreements like the Paris Agreement (2015), which includes broader participation and more flexible approaches.

Limitations

- Some major emitters, like the United States, never ratified it.
- Developing countries, like China and India, were not bound to reduce emissions, leading to debates on fairness.
- Enforcement mechanisms were limited, and overall reductions were modest.

Paris Agreement

- The Paris Agreement is a landmark international treaty adopted in 2015 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to combat climate change and limit global warming.

Purpose

- **The main goals of the Paris Agreement are to:**
- **Limit global warming:**
  - Keep the increase in global average temperature well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.
  - Aim to limit it to 1.5°C to significantly reduce risks and impacts of climate change.
- **Strengthen climate resilience:**
  - Improve the ability of countries to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.
- **Support climate action:**
  - Ensure financial flows, technology transfer, and capacity-building support developing countries in reducing emissions and adapting to climate impacts.

Key Features

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):

- Each country sets its own targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Countries must update these targets every 5 years and make them more ambitious over time.

Global Stocktake:

- Every 5 years, the world evaluates progress toward meeting the Agreement's goals.

Transparency and Accountability:

- Countries must report their emissions and climate actions regularly.
- Independent review ensures transparency and builds trust.

Financial Support:

- Developed countries are expected to provide financial assistance to developing nations for mitigation and adaptation.
- The goal is $100 billion per year by 2020 (and beyond).

Significance

- It is legally binding in process, but the emission targets themselves are voluntary.
- Marks a shift from a top-down approach (like the Kyoto Protocol) to a bottom-up approach, allowing each country to set realistic goals.
- Encourages global cooperation, recognizing that climate change is a shared challenge.

Challenges:

- Many countries' NDCs are not yet sufficient to meet the 1.5–2°C goal.
- Ensuring financial commitments are met.
- Monitoring and enforcement relies on transparency, not strict penalties.

QUESTIONS

33. Which of the following statements correctly describes the **Kyoto Protocol**?

A. It legally binds all countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

B. It legally binds developed countries to reduce emissions, while developing countries have no mandatory targets.

C. It requires only developing countries to reduce emissions.

D. It focuses only on carbon dioxide emissions.

34. Which of the following mechanisms was introduced under the Kyoto Protocol to help countries meet emission targets cost-effectively?

A. Nationally Determined Contributions

B. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

C. Clean Development Mechanism

D. Global Stocktake

35. Which of the following is a key feature that distinguishes the **Paris Agreement** from the Kyoto Protocol?

A. Binding emission targets only for developed countries

B. Nationally determined climate targets for all countries

C. Focus only on mitigation and not adaptation

D. No reporting or transparency requirements

36. Consider the following statements:

1. Kyoto Protocol came into force in the year 2005.
2. Kyoto Protocol deals primarily with the depletion of the Ozone layer.
3. Methane as a greenhouse gas is more harmful than carbon dioxide.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

37. Consider the following pairs

Terms sometimes seen in the news	**: Their origin**
1. Annex-I Countries	: Cartagena Protocol
2. Certified Emissions Reductions	: Nagoya Protocol
3. Clean Development Mechanism	: Kyoto Protocol

Which of the pairs given above is / are correctly matched?

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

38. Consider the following statements about the Kyoto Protocol and its commitments:

1. The Kyoto Protocol imposed emission reduction targets on both developed and developing countries.
2. The Kyoto Protocol included mechanisms such as Emissions Trading, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and Joint Implementation (JI).
3. The first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol was from 2008–2012, while the second commitment period was from 2013–2020.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. Only one statement
B. Only two statements
C. All of the above
D. None of the above

39. Consider the following statements regarding the Paris Agreement and its relation to the Kyoto Protocol:

1. The Paris Agreement legally replaced the Kyoto Protocol and took over its targets.
2. The Paris Agreement operates on a bottom-up system where countries voluntarily submit their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
3. The Paris Agreement has no legally binding targets for emission reductions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

7. Prime Minister of the Republic of India official visit to Malaysia

1. Overview of the Visit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Malaysia at the invitation of Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim.
- Visit reinforced India–Malaysia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP), established in August 2024.
- Highlighted deep-rooted historical, civilizational, and people-to-people ties, including a vibrant Indian community in Malaysia.
- Official activities included a welcoming ceremony, bilateral meetings, luncheon, and exchange of bilateral documents.

2. Political Cooperation

- Regular high-level dialogues strengthen mutual understanding and coordination.
- Emphasis on parliamentary exchanges and institutional linkages.
- **Recent engagements:** Malaysian Speaker's visit to India (Jan 2026), Indian parliamentary delegation to Malaysia (Sept 2025), All-Party Parliamentary Delegation (May–June 2025).
- Continued focus on Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) and Joint Commission Meetings (JCM).

3. Trade and Investment

- Commitment to enhancing bilateral trade and investment in semiconductors, digital economy, industrial sectors, and high-value industries.
- Importance of MICECA and AITIGA agreements highlighted, with ongoing review of AITIGA.
- **Encouragement for investments in:**
  - Infrastructure & Energy (including renewables)
  - Advanced manufacturing & Semiconductors
  - Healthcare, Fintech, Startups, AI, Hospitality, Green Technologies
- 10th India-Malaysia CEO Forum convened; cooperation between central banks for local currency trade settlement noted.
- Air and maritime connectivity recognized as key enabler for trade.

4. Food Security & Agriculture

- Enhanced cooperation in staple commodities, supply chain resilience, and palm oil cultivation.
- Focus on value chain development and market access for palm-based products.

5. Digital & Financial Cooperation

- Launch of Malaysia–India Digital Council (MIDC) to drive innovation in fintech, AI, cybersecurity, DPI, and e-governance.
- NPCI International Limited and PayNet Malaysia collaboration for bilateral payment linkages, facilitating seamless remittances.

6. Energy & Semiconductor Collaboration

- Cooperation in renewable energy, solar power, green hydrogen, and net-zero initiatives.
- Strategic partnership in semiconductor industry, including workforce development and supply chain stability.
- Institutional cooperation between IIT Madras Global, Advanced Semiconductor Academy Malaysia, IESA, and MSIA.

7. Defence & Security

- Robust bilateral defence engagement via staff talks, exercises, training, and industry collaboration.
- **Notable initiatives:** MIDCOM, SAWG, Su-30 Forum, ADMM-Plus, Harimau Shakti 2025 exercise, naval cooperation (INS Sahyadri & INS Sandhayak visits).
- Establishment of Malaysia-India Security Dialogue platform.
- Strong condemnation of terrorism; cooperation in counter-terrorism, radicalization prevention, and transnational crime.

8. Education & Skill Development

- Encouragement of student/faculty exchanges under MTCP and ITEC.
- Promotion of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for skill development.
- Invitation for Malaysian students to join 'Study in India' program.

9. Culture, Tourism & People-to-People

- Enhanced mobility of professionals and workers between the countries.
- **Tourism campaigns:** Visit Malaysia 2026 and Incredible India.
- Operationalization of Thiruvalluvar Chair & Center at Universiti Malaya; scholarships for Malaysian nationals.
- Continued visa liberalization and strengthened air connectivity initiatives.

10. Healthcare Cooperation

- Collaboration in Traditional Indian Medicine (TIM) and affordable healthcare.
- MoU between CCRH, India and University of Cyberjaya for research, training, and academic exchange.
- Discussions on drug regulation, pharmacopoeia recognition, and nursing services.

11. Sustainable Development

- Cooperation in biodiversity conservation (Big Cats, IBCA) and disaster management.
- Engagement under Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and exchange of expertise/training in disaster response.

12. Regional & Multilateral Cooperation

- Discussions on global issues, peace, and diplomacy.
- Support for ASEAN centrality, Indo-Pacific cooperation, and ASEAN-India strategic partnership.
- India's 2026 BRICS Chairmanship acknowledged; Malaysia's aspiration to join BRICS noted.
- Support for India's permanent UNSC membership.
- Exchange of MoUs in areas like corruption prevention, disaster management, social security, audiovisual co-production, semiconductors, healthcare, security, and TVET.
- Emphasis on freedom of navigation, peaceful dispute resolution, and adherence to UNCLOS.

QUESTIONS

40. Consider the following statements regarding the recent India–Malaysia engagement:

1. India and Malaysia elevated their ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) in 2024.
2. The Malaysia–India Digital Council (MIDC) aims to promote cooperation in fintech, AI, cybersecurity, and digital public infrastructure.
3. The partnership includes cooperation between NPCI International Limited and PayNet Malaysia to enable cross-border digital payments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

41. Which of the following areas were emphasized in India–Malaysia cooperation during the Prime Minister's visit?

1. Semiconductor workforce development and supply chain cooperation
2. Joint initiatives in renewable energy and green hydrogen
3. Establishment of a Malaysia–India Security Dialogue platform
4. Creation of a joint military command structure

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1 and 2 only
C. 2, 3 and 4 only
B. 1, 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 3 and 4 only

8. India to polish the Kimberley Process

- **India takes the helm:** India has assumed the chair of the Kimberley Process (KP) for 2026, the global mechanism regulating trade in conflict diamonds.
    - **KP background:** Initiated in 2000 by Southern African countries, the KP prevents rebel-funded diamond trade.
    - The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), established in 2003, governs certified diamond trade among member nations.
    - **Global reach:** KP has 60 participants representing 86 countries, covering 99.8% of global rough diamond production.
    - Major producers include Angola, Botswana, Canada, Congo, Namibia, and Russia.
    - **India's strategic role:** While not a diamond producer, India imports ~40% of global rough diamonds and is the world's leading hub for cutting and polishing, giving it significant influence over the global diamond value chain.

Challenges within KP:

- Narrow definition of "conflict diamonds" excludes state-linked abuses, human rights violations, environmental harm, and illicit artisanal mining.
- Decision-making allows political vetoes, weakening enforcement.
- Embargoes without support measures, as seen with the Central African Republic, can worsen smuggling and violence.

India's reform agenda:

- Form technical working groups to address broader violence and human rights risks.
- Introduce digital, tamper-proof, blockchain-based KP certificates for transparency and fraud prevention.
- Establish regional KP technical hubs in Africa for training, certification support, and capacity building.
- Push for independent audits and full public release of KP statistical data.
- Strengthen civil society engagement and tripartite consultation.

Focus on Africa:

- Ensure diamond revenues support community development (health, education, infrastructure).
- Align KP operations with Sustainable Development Goals like poverty reduction, decent work, and responsible consumption.
- Global South leadership: India aims to transform the KP into a more inclusive, progressive, sustainable, and rule-based multilateral framework.

Global South

- The term "Global South" generally refers to countries that are less economically developed and historically marginalized in global power structures.
- It's a socio-economic and political concept rather than a strict geographic one.

1. Definition

- The Global South encompasses nations mostly in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Oceania.
- Contrasts with the Global North, which includes wealthy, industrialized nations like the US, Canada, Western Europe, Japan, and Australia.
    - **Economic:** Lower per capita income, limited industrialization, and greater reliance on agriculture or resource exports.
    - **Political:** Often have less influence in global institutions like the UN Security Council or IMF.
    - **Historical:** Many were colonies or subjected to exploitation during imperialism.
    - **Social:** Challenges in health, education, infrastructure, and access to technology are more common.

2. Why "Global South" instead of "Third World"?

- "Third World" is outdated and can be seen as pejorative.
- "Global South" emphasizes structural inequalities and historical context rather than implying a ranking.
- Focuses on global power relations rather than geographic location; *e.g.*, Australia is geographically south but considered part of the Global North.

3. Examples of Global South Countries

- **Africa:** Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa
- **Asia:** India, Bangladesh, Vietnam
- **Latin America:** Brazil, Mexico, Peru

4. Importance in Global Discussions

- Talks about development, trade inequalities, climate justice, and decolonization often frame issues in terms of Global South vs Global North.
- Highlights the need for more equitable resource distribution and policy influence.

QUESTIONS

42. Consider the following statements regarding the Kimberley Process (KP):

1. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) was established to regulate the trade in rough diamonds and prevent the flow of conflict diamonds.
2. India is one of the world's largest producers of rough diamonds and therefore plays a dominant role in KP decision-making.
3. The Kimberley Process participants account for nearly all global rough diamond production.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

43. With reference to the term "Global South," consider the following statements:

1. The Global South refers strictly to countries located in the Southern Hemisphere.
2. The term emphasizes historical inequality, development challenges, and unequal global power relations.
3. Countries such as India, Brazil, and Nigeria are commonly categorized under the Global South.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9. India Achieves Landmark Trade Victory, Unlocks $30-Trillion U.S. Market for Exports across Key Sectors

- India and the United States have signed a landmark Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) that significantly lowers tariffs, expands zero-duty access, and strengthens digital and technology cooperation, and safeguards sensitive sectors.
- The deal enhances India's competitive access to the massive U.S. market while protecting farmers, MSMEs, and domestic industry.
- India exported $86.35 billion worth of goods to the U.S. in 2024 — a large portion of which now benefits from reduced or zero tariffs.

Key Highlights

Preferential Access to a $30 Trillion Market

- India secures long-term preferential access to the U.S. market.
- **Competitive tariff advantage over key rivals:**
  - China (35%)
  - Vietnam & Bangladesh (20%)
  - Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Thailand (19%)

Major Tariff Reductions

- Relief on Reciprocal Tariffs (Earlier up to 50%)
- $30.94 billion exports: Tariffs cut from 50% → 18%
- $10.03 billion exports: Tariffs cut from 50% → 0%
- $1.04 billion exports: Zero additional duty under exemption category
- $28.30 billion: Zero duty under Section 232 (end-use basis)

Sector-Wise Gains

- Textiles & Apparel
- Tariffs reduced 50% → 18%
- Silk gets 0% duty access
- Access to $113 billion U.S. market

- Boost for garments, carpets, yarn, fabrics, baby clothing, bed linen, etc.
- Major employment gains expected

Leather & Footwear

- Tariffs reduced 50% → 18%
- Access to $42 billion market
- Strengthens MSMEs and labour-intensive manufacturing

Gems & Jewellery

- Tariffs cut 50% → 18%
- 0% duty for diamonds, platinum, coins (covers $29 billion market)
- Access to $61 billion U.S. market

Home Décor

- Tariffs reduced 50% → 18%
- $52 billion opportunity
- 0% duty on chandeliers, illuminated signs (worth $13 billion)

Toys

- Tariffs reduced 50% → 18%
- Access to $18 billion market

Machinery & Parts

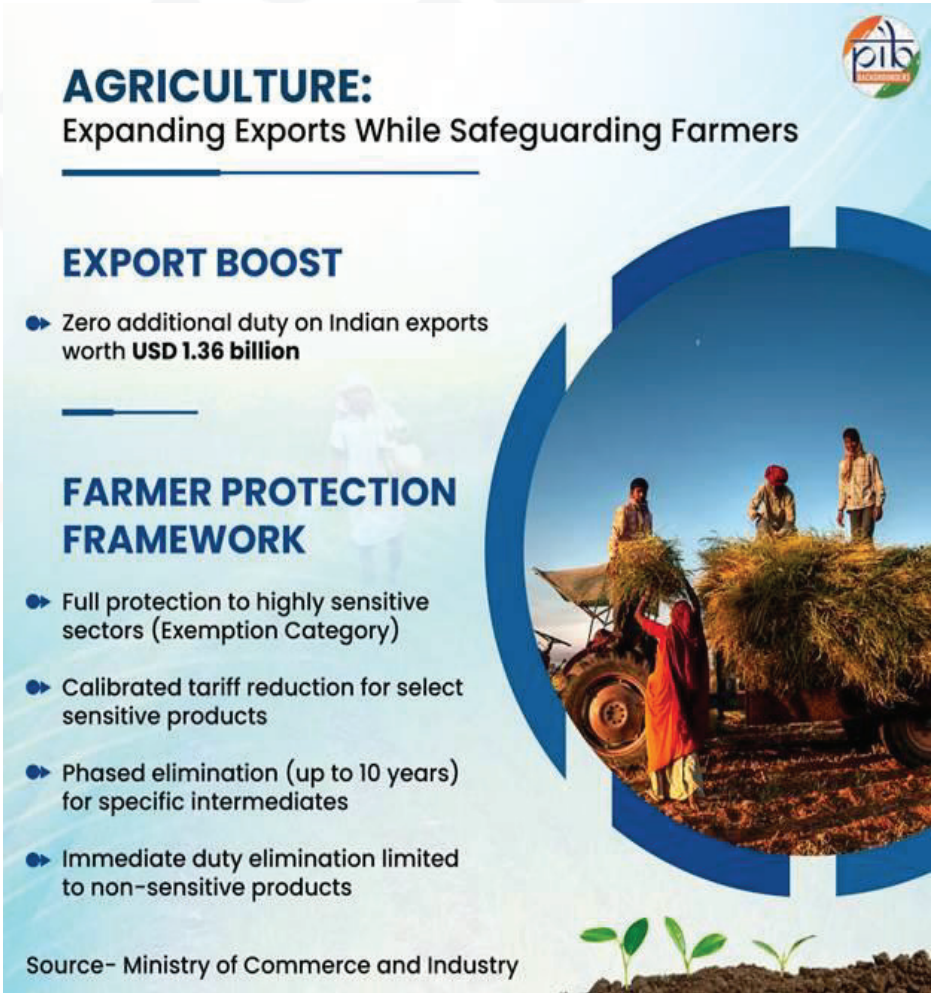
- Tariffs reduced 50% → 18%
- Opens $477 billion U.S. machinery market
- Strengthens India's manufacturing push
- **Agriculture:** Growth with Protection
- Zero Duty Access for $1.36 Billion Agricultural Exports

Products include:

- Spices
- Tea & coffee
- Fruits & vegetables
- Nuts (cashew, Brazil nuts, etc.)
- Cocoa & bakery products
- Sesame & poppy seeds
- Fruit pulp & juices

Fully Protected Sectors

- Dairy
- Meat & poultry
- Cereals & millets
- Pulses
- Oilseeds
- GM food
- Tobacco



Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs)

- **Limited access for:**
  - Almonds
  - Walnuts
  - Pistachios
  - Lentils

Zero-Duty Access for $38 Billion Industrial Exports

Includes:

- Aircraft parts
- Pharma ingredients
- Auto components
- Essential oils
- Chemicals
- Plastics
- Natural rubber
- Diamonds & precious metals

Digital & Technology Boost

Better access to:

- AI chips
- Semiconductor equipment
- Server components
- Data centre infrastructure
- Strengthens Digital India

Supports:

- IT services
- AI & fintech
- Cloud computing
- Health-tech
- Digital Trade Snapshot
- India's digitally delivered exports (2024): $280 billion
- India ranks 5th globally in digital services exports
- U.S. ranks 1st in imports and exports

Healthcare & Medical Devices

- Improved access to advanced diagnostic & surgical equipment
- Boost to healthcare infrastructure
- Reduced compliance and double testing
- Consumer Benefits

Calibrated imports for:

- Premium fruits
  - Tree nuts
  - Wine & beverages
  - Frozen fish
  - Specialty food products
- Designed to supplement, not disrupt, domestic production.

Intermediate & High-Tech Imports

Supports manufacturing via access to:

- Semiconductor wafers
- Electronics components
- Specialty chemicals
- Battery materials
- Aerospace parts
- Precision tools
- Fertilizer inputs

What India Gains

- 18% competitive tariff rate on $900 billion U.S. imports
- 0% duty access on $150 billion imports
- No additional duty on $720 billion imports
- Exemption continued for $350 billion
- Preferential treatment on 232 tariff lines

Strategic Impact

- Strengthens India's export competitiveness
- Expands labour-intensive industries
- Safeguards sensitive agriculture sectors
- Deepens digital & tech cooperation
- Reduces non-tariff barriers
- Boosts MSMEs and manufacturing
- Enhances global value chain integration

QUESTIONS

44. Consider the following statements regarding the recent India–United States Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA):

1. The agreement provides India with preferential access to the U.S. market and lowers tariffs on several labour-intensive export sectors.
2. The agreement allows unrestricted import of dairy and genetically modified (GM) food products into India.
3. The agreement strengthens cooperation in digital trade and access to semiconductor and AI-related technologies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

45. With reference to the sectoral impact of the India–U.S. Bilaterial Trade Agreement (BTA), consider the following statements:

1. Zero-duty access has been granted for certain agricultural exports such as spices, tea, coffee, and fruit products.
2. The agreement opens significant opportunities in the U.S. machinery and industrial goods market.
3. The agreement eliminates all tariff rate quotas (TRQs) on agricultural imports into India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Career Launcher

ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATION

1. A 1 and 2 only

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The summit marks a major AI event hosted in the Global South and emphasizes "AI for Development and Impact" rather than only safety concerns. Statement 3 is incorrect because the summit is organized by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, not the Ministry of Science & Technology.

2. B 1 and 2 only

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct.** The summit is structured around People, Planet, and Progress, and the People pillar emphasizes social empowerment through healthcare, education, and financial inclusion. Statement 3 is incorrect because the Planet pillar focuses on sustainability, climate resilience, and resource efficiency—not defence.

3. A 1 and 2 only

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IndiaAI Mission was approved in March 2024 with the vision of "Making AI in India and Making AI Work for India." It provides access to high-end GPUs at reduced costs through IndiaAI Compute. Statement 3 is incorrect because the mission is implemented by **IndiaAI under MeitY**, not NITI Aayog.

4. C 1, 2 and 3

- All three initiatives support linguistic inclusion. **Bhashini** enables real-time translation across Indian languages. **Sarvam Vision** is optimized for Indian language processing and document recognition. **BharatGen** is an indigenous multimodal AI model designed to support Indian languages and culturally relevant AI systems.

5. C 1, 2 and 3

- All statements are correct. BHASHINI enables multilingual digital governance. Kisan e-Mitra provides voice-based farmer services. Bharat-VISTAAR is a proposed AI platform integrating AgriStack and agricultural knowledge for data-driven advisories.

6. A 1 and 2 only

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. AIRAWAT is India's premier AI supercomputer, and IndiaAI Kosh provides datasets and models to researchers and startups. Statement 3 is incorrect because the National Supercomputing Mission supports academia, research, and scientific computing — not exclusively defence.

7. A 1, 2 and 4 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** the Human Capital Chakra focuses on equitable skilling and workforce transitions in an AI-driven economy.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Democratizing AI Resources aims to ensure equitable access to compute power, datasets, and AI tools.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Safe and Trusted AI focuses on transparency, accountability, ethics, and safeguards — not military or warfare applications.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Resilience, Innovation, and Efficiency emphasizes sustainable AI systems and climate resilience.

8. A 1 only

- **Statement 1 is correct.**

  The AI Action Summit in Paris (February 2025) was co-chaired by India and France (Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Emmanuel Macron). It built on earlier global AI discussions, especially the **AI Safety Summit at Bletchley Park (2023)** and the **Seoul meeting (2024)**, which focused on managing AI risks and improving transparency.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect.**

  A joint declaration on **"Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet"** was signed by **58 countries**, including India, China, Brazil, France, and Australia. However, the **United States and the United Kingdom did not sign** this declaration. So, only Statement I is correct, making **Option [A]** the right answer.

9. B 1, 3 and 4 only

- **Bring down electricity consumption in industrial units — Correct**

  AI is widely used in **energy management systems**, smart grids, and industrial automation to optimize power usage, reduce waste, and improve efficiency.

- **Create meaningful short stories and songs — Not considered correct (as per 2020 context)**

  Although AI could generate text and music, in 2020 it was not considered consistently capable of producing **meaningful and creative literary content comparable to human creativity**.

- **Disease diagnosis — Correct**

  AI systems assist in **medical imaging, pathology detection, and predictive diagnostics** (*e.g.*, cancer detection, retinal scans, radiology analysis).

- **Text-to-speech conversion — Correct**

  AI enables natural-sounding voice synthesis used in **assistive technologies, virtual assistants, and accessibility tools**.

- **Wireless transmission of electrical energy — Incorrect**

  This is a physics and electrical engineering domain (*e.g.*, electromagnetic induction), not an AI capability. Final Answer: **(B) 1, 3 and 4 only**

10. A 1 and 2 only

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct.** The summit uses "Chakras" or working groups to translate AI principles into policy and real-world actions, with participation from over 100 countries. Statement 3 is incorrect because the Chakras cover social inclusion, ethics, workforce transitions, and governance — not just technology.

11. A 1 and 2 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 94(c) provides that the Speaker can be removed by a resolution passed by a **majority of all the then members** of the House (effective majority).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** At least **14 days' notice** is mandatory before moving the resolution.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Only **one member's signature** is needed to submit the notice. However, for the motion to be taken up, **at least 50 members must rise in support in the House**.

12. A 1 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 96, the Speaker cannot preside when a motion for removal is being considered.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** During removal proceedings, the Speaker may vote **in the first instance as a member**, but **cannot exercise a casting vote** in case of a tie.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Speaker does **not vacate office on dissolution** and continues until just before the first sitting of the new Lok Sabha.

13. D Neither 1 nor 2

- **Statement 1 — Incorrect**

  India follows the **First-Past-the-Post (FPTP)** electoral system. A candidate does **not need 50% of the votes** to win. The candidate with the **highest number of votes** is declared elected, even if the vote share is less than 50%.

- **Statement 2 — Incorrect**

  The Constitution does **not mandate** that the Speaker must belong to the majority party or that the Deputy Speaker must come from the Opposition.

  - The Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected by members of the Lok Sabha.
  - By convention and parliamentary practice, the Speaker is usually from the ruling party, and sometimes the Deputy Speaker is offered to the Opposition, but this is **not a constitutional requirement**.

14. B 3 only

- **Statement 1 — Incorrect**

  The Speaker **does not hold office during the pleasure of the President**. The Speaker holds office:

  - until he/she ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha,
  - resigns, or
  - is removed by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha (Article 94).

  This is different from positions like Governors or Ministers who serve at the pleasure of the President.

- **Statement 2 — Incorrect**

  The Speaker **must be a member of the Lok Sabha at the time of election**.

  The six-month rule applies to **Ministers**, not the Speaker.

- **Statement 3 — Correct**

  Under Article 94(b), the Speaker may resign by writing to the **Deputy Speaker**. Final Answer: (b) 3 only

15. B 2, 3 and 4 only

- **Statement 1 — Incorrect**

  Article 110 gives the Speaker the authority to certify a Money Bill. While the Constitution states the Speaker's decision is final, the Supreme Court (*e.g.*, *Aadhaar case*, 2018) has held that such certification can be subject to **judicial review in limited circumstances**.

- **Statement 2 — Correct**

  Under Article 108, the Speaker presides over a **joint sitting of Parliament**. In his/her absence, the Deputy Speaker presides.

- **Statement 3 — Correct**

  The Speaker is the **final authority on interpretation** of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha.

- **Statement 4 — Correct**

  The Speaker is an ex-officio **Chairperson/member** of important parliamentary committees including:

  - Business Advisory Committee
  - Rules Committee
  - General Purposes Committee

16. D 1, 2 and 3

- **All statements are correct.** The chip was launched at Qualcomm's Bengaluru facility. 2 nm technology is among the most advanced semiconductor processes, improving speed and power efficiency. The launch highlights India's growing role in high-tech manufacturing and semiconductor ecosystem development.

17. B 2 and 3 only

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct.** Semiconductors are materials with intermediate conductivity and are essential for electronic components like diodes, transistors, and ICs. Statement 3 is incorrect because semiconductors are widely used in consumer electronics, sensors, communication devices, and computing systems — not only heavy machinery.

18. D 1, 2 and 3

- **All statements are correct.** The ISM was launched in 2021 with financial support to build semiconductor and display manufacturing capability in India, aiming for ecosystem self-reliance.

19. A 1, 2 and 3 only

- The India Semiconductor Mission includes schemes for semiconductor fabs, display fabs, compound semiconductor and packaging facilities, and the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme. Statement 4 is incorrect because ISM focuses on manufacturing and design ecosystem development, not consumer subsidies.

20. B 1, 2 and 4 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The India Semiconductor Mission operates under the Ministry of Electronics & IT as the nodal body coordinating policies, incentives, and ecosystem development.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Fiscal support extends beyond silicon fabs to compound semiconductors, silicon photonics, sensors, and related advanced fabrication domains.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** While reducing import dependence is a benefit, the mission's broader goals include strategic technology sovereignty, supply chain resilience, innovation, and participation in global semiconductor value chains.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Semiconductor fabrication requires highly controlled environments, continuous power, ultrapure water and materials, and precision cleanroom conditions to ensure defect-free chip production.

21. B 1, 3 and 4 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The FNTA is designed to provide administrative autonomy and development focus for six eastern districts while preserving Nagaland's geographical unity.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The agreement explicitly states that FNTA does **not affect Article 371A**. The constitutional protections for Naga customs, land, and traditions remain intact.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The agreement provides for proportional allocation of development funds based on population and area to address regional disparities.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Article 371A safeguards Naga religious and social practices, customary law, and ownership and transfer of land and resources.

22. B 1 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The FNTA is empowered with executive and legislative authority over 46 subjects such as land, rural development, and agriculture to enable local governance.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The FNTA is an administrative authority, not a separate state or legislature. It will be headed by a senior bureaucrat (Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary), not an elected Chief minister.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Ministry of Home Affairs will provide the initial establishment expenditure to support its functioning.

23. A 1 and 2 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Parliamentary laws relating to Naga religious and social practices, customary law, and land ownership apply to Nagaland only if approved by the State Legislative Assembly.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Article 371A protects Naga ownership and transfer of land and its natural resources.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Autonomous district councils are a feature of the Sixth Schedule (*e.g.*, in Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura), not Article 371A.

24. C 1, 2 and 3

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 371 initially focused on Maharashtra and Gujarat, providing for regional development boards to address regional disparities.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Article 371G provides protections for Mizoram similar to Article 371A, safeguarding customary law and social practices.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Article 371H grants special powers to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh regarding law and order.

25. A This would prevent the transfer of land of tribal people to non-tribal people.

- **Explanation of the Question**

  This question tests your understanding of the constitutional provisions relating to **Scheduled Areas and tribal protection** under the Fifth Schedule.

- **Explanation of the Correct Answer**
- **Option (A) is correct.**
- The **Fifth Schedule (Article 244(1))** deals with the administration and control of **Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes** in states other than those in the Sixth Schedule region (States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram).

- **Key protections include:**
  - Safeguarding tribal land rights.
  - Preventing transfer of tribal land to non-tribals.
  - Regulating land allotment and money-lending to protect tribal communities.
  - Allowing the Governor to make regulations for peace and good governance.
- These provisions aim to protect tribal communities from exploitation and displacement.

26. B 1, 2 and 3 only

- The Kol Uprising of 1831 was triggered by British policies that disrupted Adivasi autonomy and social structure. These included the imposition of taxes, settlement of outsiders in tribal lands, and linguistic imposition, which threatened cultural identity. Railways were introduced much later in the 19th century and had no role in this uprising.

27. B 1, 3 and 4 only

- **Statements 1, 3, and 4 are correct.** The Ho fighters used the narrow terrain strategically and employed unconventional tactics. Their resistance was rooted in spiritual and territorial beliefs linked to Sing-Bonga. British forces suffered heavy casualties and were forced into a temporary retreat. Statement 2 is incorrect because the British relied on firearms, cavalry, and cannons, not archery.

28. A 1–A, 2–C, 3–D, 4–B

- **Moplah Revolt → Kerala (A)**

  The Moplah (Mapilla) Rebellion of 1921 took place in the Malabar region of present-day Kerala. It involved Muslim peasants revolting against oppressive landlords and British colonial authority.

- **Pabna Revolt → Bengal (C)**

  The Pabna Agrarian Unrest (1870s) occurred in present-day Bangladesh (then Bengal Presidency). Peasants protested against excessive rents and exploitation by zamindars.

- **Eka Movement → Awadh (D)**

  The Eka (Unity) Movement (1921–22) emerged in the Awadh region of present-day Uttar Pradesh. It was a peasant movement against high rents, illegal levies, and landlord oppression.

- **Birsa Munda Revolt → Bihar (B)**

  The Birsa Munda uprising (1899–1900), also known as the Ulgulan (Great Tumult), occurred in the Chotanagpur plateau region, then part of Bihar (now Jharkhand). It was a tribal revolt against British rule and exploitation by landlords and missionaries. Therefore, the correct matching is: **1–A, 2–C, 3–D, 4–B → Option (A).**

29. D 2, 4, 1, 3

- To determine the correct sequence, place the events in order based on when they occurred.

2. Santhal Rebellion (1855–56)

- A major tribal uprising led by Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu against exploitative moneylenders, zamindars, and British authority in present-day Jharkhand and West Bengal.

4. Mutiny of the Sepoys (1857)

- Also called the Revolt of 1857 or the First War of Independence. It began as a revolt of sepoys in the British army and spread across northern and central India.

1. Indigo Revolt (1859–60)

- Peasants in Bengal revolted against European indigo planters who forced them to cultivate indigo under oppressive conditions.

3. Deccan Riots (1875)

- Peasant riots in the Deccan region (present-day Maharashtra) against moneylenders due to indebtedness and exploitative credit practices.
- **Chronological Order**

  Santhal Rebellion (1855–56) → Mutiny of the Sepoys (1857) → Indigo Revolt (1859–60) → Deccan Riots (1875) Thus the correct sequence is: 2**, 4, 1, 3 → Option (D).**

30. C Both 1 and 2

- The **Santhal Rebellion (1855–56)** was a major tribal uprising against British colonial authority, moneylenders, and zamindari exploitation in present-day Jharkhand and West Bengal. The revolt exposed the failure of colonial administrative and land systems in tribal areas.
- **Statement 1: Creation of Santhal Parganas — Correct**

  After suppressing the rebellion, the British carved out a separate administrative unit called the **Santhal Parganas** (1855–56). This was done to improve governance and prevent exploitation by outsiders.
- **Statement 2: Restriction on land transfer — Correct**

  Special regulations were introduced to protect tribal land rights. These measures **restricted the transfer of Santhal land to non-Santhals**, aiming to prevent exploitation and displacement by moneylenders and settlers.

31. D Sanyasi rebellion

- **Anand Math** (published in 1882) by **Bankim Chandra Chatterjee** is a nationalist novel set against the backdrop of the **Sanyasi Rebellion** of the late 18th century.
- **Background of the Sanyasi Rebellion**
  - Occurred in **Bengal during the 1770s**, especially after the Bengal famine of 1770.
  - Involved **Hindu ascetics (sanyasis) and Muslim fakirs** resisting British restrictions on movement and taxation.
  - The British East India Company imposed controls on pilgrimages and religious activities and extracted heavy revenue, leading to resentment.
- **Role in *Anand Math***
  - The novel portrays bands of ascetic warriors fighting oppressive rule.
  - It includes the famous patriotic song **"Vande Mataram,"** which later became a symbol of India's freedom movement.
  - Though fictionalized, the narrative draws inspiration from the historical Sanyasi resistance.

32. A The reduction of the share of the landlords from one-half of the crop to one-third

- The **Tebhaga Movement (1946–47)** was a major peasant movement in Bengal led by the **Kisan Sabha (peasant wing of the Communist Party)**.

- **Background**
  - Sharecroppers, known as **bargadars**, cultivated land owned by landlords or jotedars.
  - The existing system required them to give **half of the produce** to landlords.
- **Core Demand**
  - The movement demanded **"Tebhaga" (two-thirds share)** for the cultivators.
  - Peasants wanted to **retain two-thirds of the produce** and give only **one-third to landlords**.
  - They also demanded storage of crops in peasant-controlled granaries rather than landlord warehouses.

33. B It legally binds developed countries to reduce emissions, while developing countries have no mandatory targets.

- The Kyoto Protocol (1997) imposed **legally binding emission reduction targets only on developed (Annex I) countries**. Developing nations like India and China were not required to reduce emissions but were encouraged to adopt sustainable practices.
  - (a) Incorrect: Not all countries had binding targets.
  - (c) Incorrect: Targets applied to developed countries.
  - (d) Incorrect: It covered multiple greenhouse gases including methane and nitrous oxide.

34. C Clean Development Mechanism

- The Kyoto Protocol introduced **flexibility mechanisms** such as Emissions Trading, Joint Implementation, and the **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)**. CDM allows developed countries to invest in emission-reduction projects in developing countries and earn carbon credits.
- (a) & (d) are features of the Paris Agreement.
- (b) is an EU policy tool, not part of Kyoto.

35. B Nationally determined climate targets for all countries

- The Paris Agreement (2015) requires **all countries** to submit **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** outlining their climate targets. Unlike Kyoto, it adopts a universal and flexible approach.
- (a) describes Kyoto.
- (c) Incorrect: Paris includes adaptation and resilience.
- (d) Incorrect: Transparency and reporting are core elements.

36. C 1 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Kyoto Protocol was adopted in 1997 and came into force on February 16, 2005. It established legally binding obligations for developed countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Kyoto Protocol primarily addresses the issue of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, not the depletion of the ozone layer. The Montreal Protocol (adopted in 1987) specifically deals with the protection of the ozone layer by regulating substances that deplete it.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Methane (CH_4) is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide (CO_2), in terms of its heat-trapping ability, though it is present in much smaller quantities. Over a 20-year period, methane has a global warming potential 84-87 times greater than CO_2. Therefore, statements 1 and 3 are correct, while statement 2 is incorrect. Thus, the correct answer is (C) 1 and 3 only.

37. C 3 only

- **Pair 1 is Incorrect:** Annex-I Countries refers to a group of developed countries listed under the Kyoto Protocol, who are obligated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, the Cartagena Protocol is related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and deals with the safe handling, transport, and use of living modified organisms (LMOs), not emissions reductions. Hence, this pair is incorrect.
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs) are a part of the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). CERs are awarded to countries or entities that reduce emissions via projects in developing countries. The Nagoya Protocol, on the other hand, is related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and focuses on access to genetic resources and the fair sharing of benefits derived from them. So, this pair is incorrect.
- **Pair 3 is correct:** The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is a key component of the Kyoto Protocol, allowing industrialized countries to invest in emission-reduction projects in developing countries as a way to meet their emission reduction targets under the Protocol. This pair is correct. Thus, only Pair 3 is correctly matched, and the correct answer is (C) 3 only.

38. B Only two statements

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** because the Kyoto Protocol only imposed binding emission reduction targets on developed countries, not developing countries.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Protocol included mechanisms like Emissions Trading, CDM, and JI to help countries meet their targets.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The first commitment period was from 2008–2012, and the second commitment period (Doha Amendment) was from 2013–2020.

39. B 2 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** because the Paris Agreement did not legally replace the Kyoto Protocol; it created a new framework. The Kyoto Protocol is still in force.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Paris Agreement operates on a bottom-up system, where countries voluntarily set their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- **Statement 3 is correct.** While the Paris Agreement includes goals for emission reductions, the targets are not legally binding on countries, unlike the Kyoto Protocol's mandatory targets for developed countries.

40. D 1, 2 and 3

- All three statements are correct. India and Malaysia elevated relations to a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in August 2024**, marking deeper cooperation across sectors. The **Malaysia–India Digital Council (MIDC)** promotes collaboration in fintech, AI, cybersecurity, and digital governance. Additionally, **NPCI International Limited and PayNet Malaysia** are working to enable cross-border payment linkages to facilitate seamless remittances and financial connectivity.

41. B 1, 2 and 3 only

- **Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct.** The visit emphasized **semiconductor collaboration**, including workforce development and supply chain stability. Both countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in **renewable energy, solar power, and green hydrogen**. A **Malaysia–India Security Dialogue platform** was also established to enhance defence and security cooperation.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect** because no **joint military command structure** was proposed; cooperation remains through exercises, dialogues, and defence engagement frameworks.

42. B 1 and 3 only

- Statement 1 is correct. The **Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (2003)** regulates the international trade in rough diamonds to prevent the financing of conflicts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India is **not a major diamond producer**; however, it is the world's leading hub for cutting and polishing diamonds and imports a large share of rough diamonds.
- Statement 3 is correct. KP participants represent **about 99.8% of global rough diamond production**, making it a near-universal regulatory framework.

43. B 2 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Global South is **not a geographic classification**; it is a socio-economic and political concept. Some countries in the Southern Hemisphere (*e.g.*, Australia) are considered part of the Global North.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The term highlights **structural inequalities, historical marginalization, and development challenges**.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Nations such as **India, Brazil, and Nigeria** are widely identified as part of the Global South due to shared developmental and historical experiences.

44. B 1 and 3 only

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The agreement reduces tariffs and improves market access for sectors such as textiles, leather, gems & jewellery, and machinery.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Sensitive agricultural sectors such as dairy, meat, cereals, pulses, oilseeds, and GM food remain protected.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The agreement enhances digital and technology cooperation, including access to AI chips, semiconductor equipment, and data infrastructure.

45. A 1 and 2 only

- **Statement 1 is correct.** India gains zero-duty access for several agricultural exports including spices, tea, coffee, nuts, and fruit pulp.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Reduced tariffs open access to the large U.S. machinery and industrial goods market, supporting manufacturing growth.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs) remain in place for selected products such as almonds, walnuts, pistachios, and lentils to protect domestic interests.