01. Consider the following statements.

1. National Institutional Ranking Framework is released by NITI Aayog.
2. Law, Medicine and Architecture have been added as new disciplines for assessment.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: b

National Institutional Ranking Framework is released by Ministry of Human Resources and Development. It aims to rank the best colleges and universities in India. Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru has topped the overall list. The parameters broadly cover “Teaching, Learning and Resources,” “Research and Professional Practices,” “Graduation Outcomes,” “Outreach and Inclusivity,” and “Perception.”

02. Consider the following statements.

1. Hydrocyanic acid is also known as Prussic acid.
2. It is one of the most rapidly acting poisons, and it is therefore used especially as a suicidal or homicidal agent.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
Hydrocyanic acid is one of the most rapidly acting poisons, and it is therefore used especially as a suicidal or homicidal agent. Cyanide intoxication also occurs accidentally during fumigation, including fire inhalation, electroplating, and gold or silver ore extraction. Free hydrocyanic acid or cyanogenetic glycosides are produced by choke–cherry trees and other plants, and accidental poisoning is due to the ingestion and chewing of the toxic seeds.

03. Consider the following statements.

1. Government of India in collaboration with Swedan has established a Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL).
2. The centre collects, collate, analyse and disseminate information relating to biodiversity policy and law at regional, national and international levels.

Answer: c

Government of India in collaboration with the Norwegian Government has established a Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL).

Functions of CEBPOL:

Execute short and long-term training courses and sensitisation programmes on biodiversity policies and laws for various target groups including natural resource managers, administrators, decision makers, civil society, media representatives, scientific community, judiciary, academicians and elected public representatives.

Prepare for the Government of India, country position papers on various aspects
04. Consider the following statements.

1. Liberalised Remittance Scheme LRS is facility provided by RBI for all resident individuals can freely remit $250,000 overseas every financial year for a permissible set of current or capital account transactions.

2. Under LRS, people can’t send money to countries identified as ‘non cooperative’ by the Financial Action Task Force.

3. The regulations are provided under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.

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, 3

Answer: d

Under LRS, all resident individuals can freely remit $250,000 overseas every financial year for a permissible set of current or capital account transactions. Remittances are permitted for overseas education, travel, medical treatment and purchase of shares and property, apart from maintenance of relatives living abroad, gifting and donations. Individuals can also open, maintain and hold foreign currency accounts with overseas banks for carrying out transactions.

However, the rules do not allow remittances for trading on the foreign exchange markets and the purchase of Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds issued by Indian companies abroad.

Sending money to certain countries and entities is also barred. Under LRS, people can’t send money to countries identified as ‘non cooperative’ by the Financial Action Task Force. Remittances are also prohibited to entities identified as posing terrorist risks.
05. ‘Free and Open Indo-Pacific strategy’ is launched by which of the following countries?

1. Japan  
2. USA  
3. Australia  
4. India

Select the correct answer from the given codes.

- a. 1 and 2 only  
- b. 1 only  
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only  
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4

Answer: b

“Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy” that aims to prepare Japan to deal with the fast changing global and regional order and threats from China and North Korea. The strategy aims to create a “free and open” Asia-Pacific region which connects parts of eastern Africa, south Asia and southeast Asia with the western Pacific Ocean region and Japan.

06. Consider the following statements.

1. Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC) is chaired by Union Finance Minister.  
2. It addresses issues of macroeconomic importance and presenting views thereon to the Prime Minister.  
3. This could be either be suo-moto or on a reference from the Prime Minister.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only  
- b. 2 and 3 only
The PMEAC has been constituted several times since the independence of India. In the latest occurrence, Prime minister Modi revived the body on September 25, 2017. Currently PMEAC chairman post is held by Bibek Debroy, NITI aayog member.

The PMEAC is chaired by a Chairperson and consists of eminent economists as members. It is supported in its functions by a team of officials and administrators. There is no fixed definition on the exact number of members and staff of the PMEAC. For administrative, logistic, planning and budgeting purposes, the NITI Aayog serves as the Nodal Agency for the PMEAC.

07. Moscow Declaration is related which one of the following?

1. Ending TB
2. To address migrants problem
3. A dialogue for denuclearization
4. Formation of defence pact in Central Asia

Select the correct answer from the give codes.

• a. 1
• b. 2
• c. 3
• d. 4

Answer: a

Over 120 national delegations participating in the Conference adopted the “Moscow Declaration to End TB”.

The aim of the First WHO Global Ministerial Conference on Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response is to accelerate the response to meet the targets agreed under the End TB Strategy and Sustainable Development Goals, through increased national and global commitments.
08. Consider the following statements.

1. Transformation of Aspirational Districts was launched with an aim to quickly and effectively transform some of the most underdeveloped districts in the country.
2. The 115 districts were selected on parameters like deprivation, health & nutrition, education and infrastructure.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

The broad contours of the programme are Convergence (of Central & State Schemes), Collaboration (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors), and Competition among districts driven by a mass Movement. With States as the main drivers, this program will focus on the strength of each district, identify low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement, measure progress, and rank districts.

09. Consider the following events.

1. Home Rule Movement
2. Non co-operation movement
3. Poona Pact
4. Individual Satyagraha

Arrange the above statements in the chronology of ascending order.

1. 1-2-3-4
2. 2-3-4-1
3. 1-2-4-3
4. 4-3-2-1
10. Consider the following statements.

1. Financial Sector Assessment Program is a joint program of IMF and World Bank.
2. It was started in the aftermath of Asian financial crisis.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

The Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) is a joint program of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Launched in 1999 in the wake of the Asian financial crisis, the program brings together Bank and Fund expertise to help countries reduce the likelihood and severity of financial sector crises.