

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

UPSC - PRELIMINARY EXAM - 2015

Key and Explanation

- Q. 1. (c)
- Q. 2. (b)
- Q. 3. (a)
- Q. 4. (c)
- Q. 5. (b)
- Q. 6. (b & d) The word “steadily” given in both the statements will not be correct because last decade (considering it as from 2005-2015 or as 2000- 2010) GDP did not have a steady growth whether at real (after inflation) or at market prices because of the recession which happened in the year 2007-08.
- Q. 7. (d) **Explanation:** The chairman is elected by the council itself from amongst its members.
- Q. 8 (d) **Explanation:** Article 51A(c) Fundamental duties - to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.
- Q. 9 (c)
- Q. 10. (c)
- Q. 11. (c) **Explanation:** The topics on public debt and public revenue are features of fiscal policy and not monetary policy.
- Q. 12. (c) **Explanation:** Inflation can be controlled by decreased money supply . Both Government of India and RBI have role in controlling inflation hence option a and b will not be correct. D option is obviously wrong
- Q. 13. (a)
- Q. 14. (b) **Explanation:** The Directive Principles constitute a very comprehensive economic, social and political programme for a modern democratic State. They embody the concept of a `welfare state'. In brief, they seek to establish economic and social democracy in the country.
- Q. 15. (b)
- Q.16. (d)
- Q. 17. (d) **Explanation:** H1N1 flu is also known as swine flu. It's called swine flu because in the past, the people who caught it had direct contact with pigs. That changed several years ago, when a new virus emerged that spread among people who hadn't been near pigs. In 2009, H1N1 was spreading fast around the world, so the World Health Organization called it a pandemic. Swine flu was reported in India in early 2015(march -2015). The disease affected more than 31,000 people and claimed over 1,900 lives.
- Q. 18. (b)

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- Q. 19. **(c) Explanation:** International liquidity actually means the availability of gold and foreign currencies which are available for settling international payment in BoP.
- Q. 20. **(a)**
- Q. 21. **(a) Explanation:** Kalamkar is an art work done using a Pen. The art of painting was popular at Kalahasti, Masulipatnam and in Golconda state during medieval period.
- Q. 22. **(b)**
- Q. 23. **(a) Explanation:** Introducing new welfare schemes and expanding industries will actually increase the expenditure of the government and increase the deficit. Hence they both should not be chosen as answer.
- Q. 24. **(c)**
- Q. 25. **(c) Explanation:** IREDA has been notified as a “Public Financial Institution” under section 4 ‘A’ of the Companies Act, 1956 and registered as Non-Banking Financial Company (NFBC) with Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Q. 26. **(c) Explanation:** Jan-Dhan Yojana is to open bank accounts for common people and help them get subsidies and hence a concept of financial inclusion
- Q. 27. **(a) Explanation:** The 14th FC has not recommended sector specific grants (except few like Local Body Grant)
- Q. 28. **(b)**
- Q. 29. **(a) Explanation:** When economy has slower growth rate it will pay less tax and hence tax-GDP ratio may fall;
- Lower tax-GDP ratio may also indicate that lesser income or purchasing power of the people and hence more equitable distribution of National income (as many have less income gini index will become closer to)
- Q. 30. **(b)**
- Q. 31. **(d)**
- Q.32. **(c) Explanation :** The Directive Principles constitute a very comprehensive economic, social and political programme for a modern democratic State. They embody the concept of a `welfare state`. In brief, they seek to establish economic and social democracy in the country.
- The Directive Principles are non-justiciable in nature, that is, they are not legally enforceable by the courts for their violation.
- Q. 33. **(b) Explanation:** Electricity has 10.32% as weight whereas coal has 4.38% and fertilizer has 1.25% and steel has 6.68%
- Q. 34. **(b) Explanation:** Located in Manipur, Keibul Lamjao is probably the world's only 'floating' sanctuary that comprises 40 sq. km. of wetland overgrown with 1.5 m. deep floating vegetation (called phumdi). The park has several distinguishing features. Apart from the vegetation and terrain, an

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important highlight of the park is the Loktak lake (6, 475 ha.), the largest freshwater lake in India; a large portion of which falls within the park. The fauna in the park is also rare and unique. The area is home to the endangered brow-antlered deer or sangai. But even this rare and inaccessible preserve, which is one of the only notified protected areas in Manipur, is threatened today by activities like the construction of a barrage by the National Hydro Electricity Power Corporation.

Q. 35. **(a)**

Q. 36. **(c)**

Q. 37. **(b)**

Q. 38. **(a) Explanation:** CACP determines the price whereas Cabinet Committee on economic affairs approves it

Q.39. **(a) Explanation :** Counter equatorial current is originated due to piling up of immense volume of water because of the convergence of the two great equatorial warm currents near the coast of Brazil. The piling up of water raises the water level and hence water flows eastward as compensation current upto the Gulf of Guinea.

Q. 40. **(a) Explanation:** Srisailam in Nallamala Hills

Omkareshwar Temple in mandhata hills in Madhya Pradesh.

Pushkar Temple in Rajasthan.

Mahadeo Hills in Mahdya Pradesh.

Q. 41. **(b) Explanation:** In 1919 the Anarchical and Revolutionary crime Act 1919 popularly known as Rowlatt Act under the Chairmanship of Sidney Rowlatt on the recommendation of Sedition Committee. The old lists of the addresses of the Home Rule league and their members were taken out and contacts established and propaganda begun.

Source : India's struggle for Independence Bipin Chandra Page No.181

Q. 42. **(b)**

Q. 43. **(a)**

Q. 44. **(c) Explanation:** It is listed in Appendix I of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of Wild Fauna and Flora) which prohibits trading of the species or products obtained from them. It also features in the Red list of IUCN as being vulnerable at the global level.

Dugong is listed under schedule 1 of India Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. In 2008, a MoU was signed between the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Government of India, in order to conserve dugongs. In fact the highest level of legal protection is accorded to dugongs in India.

Dugongs are subjected to death and habitat destruction primarily due to human interference in the form of mechanised fishing, shallow water trawling, collisions of vessels in the water, polluting by effluents, destruction of coral reefs and illegal hunting. In October 2010, "Task Force

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for the Conservation of Dugongs” was formed which has the task of addressing issues in conservation of the species.

Q.45. **(d) Explanation:** The most outstanding contribution of the moderates was critics of economic colonialism of British. The critic was done by Dadabhai Naroji, G. Subramania Iyer and R.C.Dutt.

Source : India’s struggle for Independence Bipin Chandra Page No.92

Q. 46. **(d)**

Q. 47. **(c)**

Q. 48. **(c)**

Q. 49. **(b)**

Q. 50. **(c)**

Q. 51. **(d) Explanation:** The main objective was to attain independence to fight against capitalist landlords and princes who were considered to be to forces to reaction.

The Party also declared that the future Constitution of the Indian states should be based on the following fundamental principles.

1. Transfer of all power to the producing masses
2. Development and planning of economic life by the state.
3. Socialization of key and principal induction.
4. Organization of Co-operatives for production and distribution.
5. Elimination of princes and landlords without compensation.
6. Redistribution of land to the peasants.
7. Liquidation of debts owed by peasants and workers.

Q.52. **(b) Explanation :** So much of estimates as relates to other expenditure shall be submitted in the form of demands for grants to the House of the People, and the House of the People shall have power to assent, or to refuse to assent, to any demand, or to assent to any demand subject to a reduction of the amount specified therein.

After a money bill is passed by the Lok Sabha, it is transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its consideration. The Rajya Sabha for its consideration. The Rajya Sabha has restricted powers with regard to a money bill. It cannot reject or amend a money bill. It can only make the recommendations. It must return the bill to the Lok Sabha within 14 days, wither with or without recommendations.

Q.53. **(b)**

Q. 54. **(c)**

Q. 55. **(d)**

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Q. 56. **(c) Explanation:** The Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) is an international treaty of the World Trade Organization. It was negotiated during the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and entered into force with the establishment of the WTO on January 1, 1995.

Q. 57. **(c) Explanation:**

Q. 58. **(b) Explanation:** Golan Heights, also called Golan Plateau, hilly area overlooking the upper Jordan River valley on the west. The area was part of extreme southwestern Syria until 1967, when it came under Israeli military occupation, and in December 1981 Israel unilaterally annexed the part of the Golan it held.

Q. 59. **(c)**

Q. 60. **(b) Explanation:** The foot hills of the Himalayas have small kingdoms. The ninth century saw the rise of number of hill states. Some maintained their identity till recent years. Such states as Champaka (Chamba), Durgara (Jammu), Trigarta (Jalandhar), Kuluta (Kulu).

Source: IndianSaga.com/history/Kashmir

Q. 61. **(d)**

Q.62. **(a) Explanation :** If at the joint sitting of the two Houses the Bill, with such amendments, if any, as are agreed to in joint sitting, is passed by a majority of the total number of members of both Houses present and voting, it shall be deemed for the purposes of this constitution to have been passed by both Houses.

Q. 63. **(d)**

Q. 64. **(d) Source : UPSC-2014 GS Question Booklet Series A - Question No.25**

Q. 65. **(b) Explanation:** The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was designed to reduce the production and consumption of ozone depleting substances in order to reduce their abundance in the atmosphere, and thereby protect the earth's fragile ozone Layer

Q. 66. **(b) Explanation:** Gun powder was introduced in India much earlier than babur. It was introduced in the mid of 14th century. The Arch and done method was introduced by Delhi sultans in India.

Babur was responsible for establishing Timurid dynasty in India.

Q. 67. **(d)**

Q. 68. **(a) Explanation:** The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - or Rio+20 - took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20-22 June 2012. It resulted in a focused political outcome document which contains clear and practical measures for implementing sustainable development.

In Rio, Member States decided to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post 2015

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development agenda. The Conference also adopted ground-breaking guidelines on green economy policies.

Governments also decided to establish an intergovernmental process under the General Assembly to prepare options on a strategy for sustainable development financing. Governments also agreed to strengthen the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on several fronts with action to be taken during the 67th session of the General Assembly.

Q.69. **(d) Explanation : Article 53** The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinate to him in a accordance with this Constitution.

The Cabinet Secretary is the ex officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board. (cabsec.nic.in/about_functions.php)

Q. 70. **(c) Explanation:** Terrestrial planets are more likely to lie in the Goldilocks zone. Also called the habitable zone or life zone, the Goldilocks region is an area of space in which a planet is just the right distance from its home star so that its surface is neither too hot nor too cold. Earth, of course, fills that bill, while Venus roasts in a runaway greenhouse effect and Mars exists as a frozen, arid world. In between, the conditions are just right so that liquid water remains on the surface of the planet without freezing or evaporating out into space. Now the search is on to find another planet in the Goldilocks zone of another solar system.

Q. 71. **(b) Source: India's struggle for Independence Bipin Chandra Page No.272**

Q. 72. **(c) Explanation:** Amoghavarsha I belong to Rastrakuta dynasity, Ballala II belongs to Hoysala dynasity, Prataparudra II belongs to Devagiri kingdom. Harihara and Bukka established a new city called Vijayanagar (city of victory) or Vidhyanagar (city of learning) on the initiative Saint Vidyanarya.

Q. 73. **(b) Explanation:** The first women President of Indian National Congress was Annie Besant.

Q. 74. **(a) Explanation:** The Fund will contribute to the achievement of the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In the context of sustainable development, the Fund will promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change, taking into account the needs of those developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The Fund will be guided by the principles and provisions of the Convention.

The World Bank was invited by the COP to serve as the interim trustee of the GCF, subject to a review three years after operationalization of the Fund.

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- Q. 75. **(c) Explanation:** Forty years of pioneering work culminating in the successful launch of India's first Mars orbiter in 2014 September has won the Indian Space Research Organisation the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2014. The prize was also for ISRO's contributions in strengthening international cooperation in the peaceful use of outer space and for the organisation's role in addressing the needs of rural Indians in remote areas.
- Q. 76. **(a)**
- Q. 77. **(d) Explanation:**
- Q. 78. **(b) Explanation:** Amnesty International is a non-governmental organisation focused on human rights with over 7 million members and supporters around the world. The stated objective of the organisation is "to conduct research and generate action to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights, and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated.
- Q. 79. **(b) Explanation:** Lingaraja Temple at Bhubaneswar-11 Century A.D
Rock-cut Elephant at Dhauli-3 Century BC
Rock-cut Monuments at Mahabalipuram-7 Century AD
Varaha Image at Udayagiri – 4 Century AD
- Q. 80. **(b)**
- Q. 81. **(d) Explanation:** The BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL) seeks to promote reduced greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector, from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+) and from sustainable agriculture, as well as smarter land-use planning, policies and practices. The initiative will deploy results-based finance to incentivize changes at the landscape level.
- The initiative recognizes the important role that the private sector plays in spurring innovation, leveraging cutting-edge expertise and knowledge, and mobilizing the capital necessary to scale up successful land-use practices and accelerate the greening of supply chains. ISFL is a new multilateral facility, supported by donor governments and managed by the **World Bank**.
- Q. 82. **(b)**
- Q. 83. **(c)**
- Q.84. **(a)**
- Q.85. **(c) Explanation:** The Department of Economic affairs is responsible for the preparation of Union Budget that is presented to the Parliament.
(ccaind.nic.in/govtac_out.htm)
- Q.86. **(d)**
- Q.87. **(b)**

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Q. 88. **(c) Explanation:** The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the apex body constituted in the Ministry of Environment and Forests under 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989', under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. The Rules of 1989 also define five competent authorities i.e. the Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSC), Review Committee of Genetic Manipulation (RCGM), Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCC) and District Level Committee (DLC) for handling of various aspects of the rules

Q. 89. **(c)**

Q. 90. **(b) Explanation:** Basel norms are related to banking sector

Q. 91. **(b)**

Q. 92. **(d) Explanation:** Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IORARC), a regional cooperation initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim countries, was established in Mauritius in March 1997 with the aim of promoting economic and technical cooperation, including expansion of trade and investment. The IORARC Secretariat is located at Port Louis, Mauritius. India is one of the founder members of IORARC. The Indian Ocean Rim, a heterogeneous area with a wide diversity of languages, culture and religions, is linked to India's destiny by name. The countries are diverse in size, areas and economic strength. Many of the IOR countries are becoming globally competitive and are developing new capacities which can be jointly harnessed through regional cooperation efforts. It has abundant human resources and technological capabilities.

The IORARC was formally launched at the first Ministerial Meeting in Mauritius on 6-7 March 1997. Presently it has 20 members – Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, UAE and Yemen. There are six Dialogue Partners namely

China, Egypt, France, Japan, UK and USA. There are two Observers also namely, Indian Ocean Research Group (IORG) and Indian Ocean Tourism Organisation (IOTO), Oman.

Q. 93. **(a)**

Q. 94. **(a)**

Q. 95. **(d)**

Q. 96. **(a)**

Q. 97. **(c)**

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- Q. 98. **(d) Explanation:** A major milestone in India's scientific endeavors in the Arctic region has been achieved on the 23rd July, 2014 when a team of scientists from the ESSO-National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR) and the ESSO-National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) successfully deployed IndARC, the country's first multi-sensor moored observatory in the Kongsfjorden fjord of the Arctic, roughly half way between Norway and the North Pole. This moored observatory, designed and developed by ESSO-NIOT and ESSO-NCAOR with ESSO-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) was deployed from the Norwegian Polar Institute's research vessel R.V. Lance during its annual MOSJ-ICE cruise to the Kongsfjorden area. The observatory is presently anchored ($78^{\circ}57' N 12^{\circ}01' E$), about 1100 km away from the North Pole at a depth of 192 m and has an array of ten state-of-the-art oceanographic sensors strategically positioned at discrete depths in the water column. These sensors are programmed to collect real-time data on seawater temperature, salinity, current and other vital parameters of the ford.
- Q. 99. **(c) Explanation:**
- Q. 100. **(a) Explanation:** Odia became the sixth language of the country to get "classical language" status after the Union Cabinet conceded a long-pending demand for putting it in the same league as Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. Odia is billed as the first language from the Indo-Aryan linguistic group and the case for making it a classical language was also premised on the fact that it has no resemblance to Hindi, Sanskrit, Bengali and Telugu. The proposal was moved by the Culture Ministry.