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Complete Syllabus • Conceptual Flowcharts • Comparative Tables • Solved Practice Questions

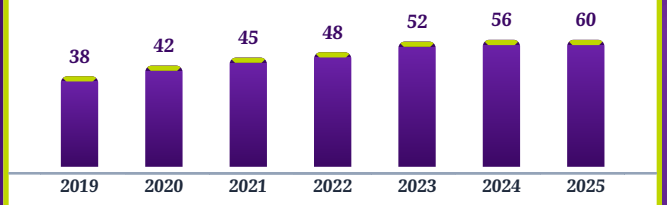
COMPLETE STATIC GK & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA

43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, 85+ Ramsar Wetlands, National Parks, Classical & Folk Dances, Musical Instruments, International Organizations, National & Global Awards, Sports Trophies, Books & Authors, Superlatives & Important Days

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

SSC CGL/CHSL/MTS/GD/CPO • Railway NTPC/Group-D/RPF • Banking • Police • Defence • State PCS • CUET/CLAT

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- Classical & Folk Dances, Musical Exponents, Gharanas & Festivals (28%)
- 43 UNESCO Heritage Sites, National Parks, Tiger Reserves & Ramsar Sites (20%)
- National & International Awards (Bharat Ratna, Nobel, Sports) & Books (18%)
- International Organizations, Headquarters, Research Institutes & Days (18%)
- First in India & World, Superlatives, Military Exercises & Sports Cups (16%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
One-Liner Capsules

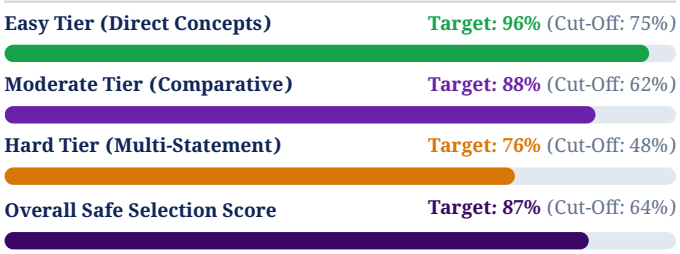
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — COMPLETE STATIC GK & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA

IUC Academy (Inclusive Universal Careers Academy | www.iucacademy.com) • Official English Medium Study Notes

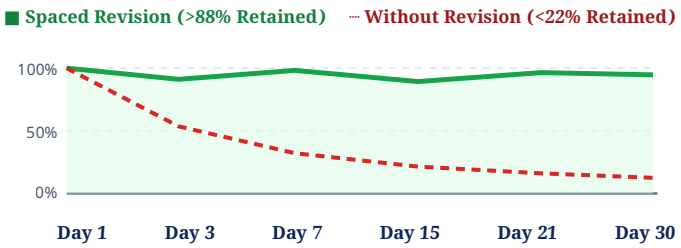
Dear Aspirants,

Modern competitive, entrance, and departmental promotion examinations demand a combination of deep conceptual clarity, statutory precision, and rapid revision tools. Prepared by **Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy — www.iucacademy.com)**, these comprehensive English-medium study notes integrate **structured chapter theory, 4-node conceptual process flowcharts, multi-column comparative tables, inline mathematical/scientific formulas, 'Did You Know?' boxes, 'Exam Trap Alert' callouts, 'Memory Trick' mnemonics, Chapter-End Analytical Synthesis Matrices, 75+ Step-by-Step Solved MCQs, and Rapid-Fire One-Liner Revision Capsules**.

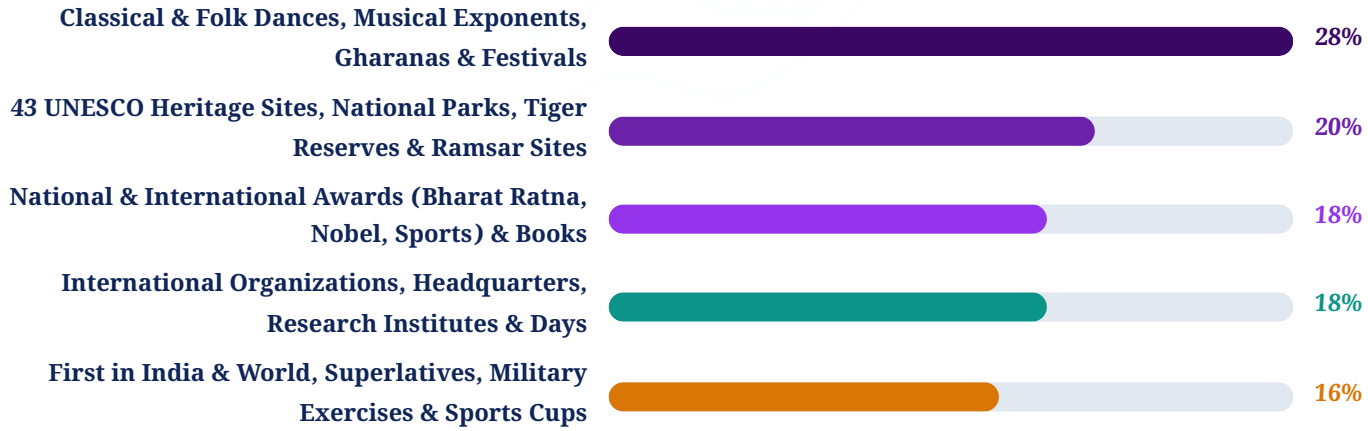
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



Spaced Revision (1-3-7-21 Day Rule) & Retention Curve



Topic-Wise Exam Question Weightage Index (%)



Verified Official Curriculum & Statutory Reference Portals

- Press Information Bureau (PIB) (https://www.pib.gov.in/)
- IUC Academy Official Portal (https://www.iucacademy.com)

Detailed Table of Contents & Chapter Architecture

COMPLETE STATIC GK & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA • Complete Chapters, Comparative Matrices, Solved MCQs & Rapid Revision

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- 1.1 Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation
- 1.3 Comprehensive Classification Table of Key UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

2. Chapter 2: 85+ Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance & Biosphere Reserves

- 2.1 Ramsar Convention (1971) and India's Wetland Framework

3. Chapter 3: Major International Organizations, Headquarters, Reports & Summits

- 3.1 United Nations System, Bretton Woods Twins & Multilateral Groupings
- 3.3 Master Table of International Organizations, Headquarters & Flagship Reports

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- 4.3 Comprehensive Table of International & National Awards (Nobel, Jnanpith, Sahitya, Cinema)

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- 6.1 8 Classical Dances of India Recognized by Sangeet Natak Akademi

7. Chapter 7: Famous Books & Authors (Ancient Sanskrit Classics to Modern Works)

- 7.1 Evolution of Indian Literary Traditions Across Historical Epochs

8. Chapter 8: First in India & World, Superlatives, Space Defence Milestones & Important Days

- 8.1 Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India
- 8.3 Master Table of First in India (Male & Female) and Important National/International Days

9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 36–75)

11. Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule

Published by: Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy)

Official Reference Portals: Press Information Bureau (PIB) | IUC Academy Official Portal

Target Examinations: UPSC CSE, State PCS, SSC CGL/CHSL/MTS/CPO, Railway (RRB NTPC, Group D, ALP, GDCE/LDCE), Banking, Defence (NDA/CDS/CAPF), and All-India Government Competitive Examinations.

Chapter *1: 43* UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India *(Cultural, Natural & Mixed)*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: 43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India (Cultural, Natural & Mixed)

Key Study Pillar 1
Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation

Key Study Pillar 2
Comprehensive Classification Table of Key UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

1.1 Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation

• **Global Governing Body:** The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), headquartered in Paris, France, adopts the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) to identify, protect, and preserve sites of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Nodal Agency in India:** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham under the Ministry of Culture, serves as the primary nodal agency for nominating, managing, and conserving Cultural World Heritage Sites in India (PIB Official Portal).

• **India's Total Tally (43 Sites):** India holds **43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, categorized into **35 Cultural Sites**, **7 Natural Sites**, and **1 Mixed Site** (Khangchendzonga National Park in Sikkim) (IUC Academy).

• **First Sites Inducted (1983):** Four iconic monuments were inducted together in 1983 during the 7th session of the World Heritage Committee: **Ajanta Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Ellora Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Agra Fort (Uttar Pradesh)**, and the **Taj Mahal (Uttar Pradesh)** (PIB Official Portal).

• **Latest Additions (2023–2024):**

• **41st Site (2023):** *Santiniketan* (Birbhum district, West Bengal), established by Maharshi Debendranath Tagore in 1863 and expanded into Visva-Bharati by Rabindranath Tagore in 1901 (PIB Official Portal).

• **42nd Site (2023):** *Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas* (Karnataka), comprising three stellate-plan soapstone temples at Belur (Chennakesava Temple), Halebidu (Hoysaleswara Temple), and Somanathapura (Keshava Temple) (PIB Official Portal).

• **43rd Site (2024):** *Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty* at Charaideo, Assam, inducted at the 46th World Heritage Committee session hosted in New Delhi in July 2024 (PIB Official Portal).

1.2 UNESCO Nomination and Inscription Process Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
State Government & ASI Prepare Tentative List Dossier

STEP 2
Ministry of Culture Submits Official Nomination to UNESCO Paris

STEP 3
Technical Field Evaluation by ICOMOS (Cultural) or IUCN (Natural)

STEP 4
Final Inscription by 21-Member World Heritage Committee under 10 OUV Criteria

1.3 Comprehensive Classification Table of Key UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

Site No. / Category	Official UNESCO Site Name	State / Location	Year of Inscription	Key Architectural / Ecological Features & Dynasty (PIB)
01 (Cultural)	Ajanta Caves (29 Rock-Cut Buddhist Caves)	Maharashtra (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)	1983	Satavahana & Vakataka dynasties (Harishena); fresco murals of Jataka tales on Waghora river gorge.
02 (Cultural)	Ellora Caves (34 Caves: 1–12 Buddhist, 13–29 Hindu, 30–34 Jain)	Maharashtra (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)	1983	Cave 16 is Kailasa Temple, monolithic rock-cut structure built by Rashtrakuta King Krishna I.
03 (Cultural)	Agra Fort & Taj Mahal	Uttar Pradesh (Agra)	1983	Red sandstone fort by Akbar; Pietra Dura white Makrana marble mausoleum by Shah Jahan (architect Ustad Ahmad Lahori).
04 (Cultural)	Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)	Odisha (Puri)	1984	Built by Eastern Ganga King Narasimhadeva I (13th century) in Kalinga architecture; 24 carved stone wheels.
05 (Cultural)	Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram	Tamil Nadu (Chengalpattu)	1984	Pallava dynasty (Narasimhavarman I & II); Pancha Rathas, Shore Temple, and Descent of the Ganges relief.
06 (Natural)	Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	1985	Kaziranga hosts the largest global population of the Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros; Manas is a Biosphere Reserve and Tiger Reserve.
07 (Natural)	Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan (Bharatpur)	1985	Man-made wetland bird sanctuary; winter habitat of aquatic avifauna and listed on the Montreux Record.
08 (Cultural)	Khajuraho Group of Monuments	Madhya Pradesh (Chhatarpur)	1986	Chandela dynasty (950–1050 CE); Nagara style Panchayatan temples including Kandariya Mahadeva (Hindu & Jain).
09 (Cultural)	Group of Monuments at Hampi	Karnataka (Vijayanagara)	1986	Capital of Vijayanagara Empire on Tungabhadra River; Virupaksha Temple and Vitthala Temple (Stone Chariot).
10 (Natural)	Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers	West Bengal & Uttarakhand	1987 / 1988	Largest halophytic mangrove forest (Royal Bengal Tiger); Nanda Devi expanded with Valley of Flowers in 2005.

Site No. / Category	Official UNESCO Site Name	State / Location	Year of Inscription	Key Architectural / Ecological Features & Dynasty (PIB)
11 (Cultural)	Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi	Madhya Pradesh (Raisen)	1989	Commissioned by Emperor Ashoka (3rd century BCE); Toranas (gateways) added during the Shunga period.
12 (Cultural)	Great Living Chola Temples	Tamil Nadu	1987 / 2004	Brihadisvara at Thanjavur (Rajaraja I), Gangaikondacholisvaram (Rajendra I), and Airavatesvara at Darasuram (Rajaraja II).
13 (Natural)	Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park	Multi-State & Himachal Pradesh	2012 / 2014	Western Ghats spans 39 serial sites across Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra; GHNP in Kullu region.
14 (Mixed)	Khangchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	2016	**India's Only Mixed Heritage Site** (Criteria iii, vi, vii, x); integrates Zemu Glacier biodiversity with sacred Lepcha/Buddhist Beyul traditions.
15 (Cultural)	Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City	Gujarat & Rajasthan	2017 / 2019	**India's Two UNESCO World Heritage Cities**; Ahmadabad founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah (1411); Jaipur planned by Vidyadhar Bhattacharya under Sawai Jai Singh II (1727).
16 (Cultural)	Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple	Telangana (Mulugu)	2021	39th site; built in 1213 CE by General Recharla Rudra under Kakatiya King Ganapati Deva using floating porous bricks.
17 (Cultural)	Dholavira: A Harappan City	Gujarat (Kutch, Khadir Bet)	2021	40th site; discovered by J.P. Joshi (1968); three-tier urban planning (Citadel, Middle Town, Lower Town) and 16 water reservoirs.
18 (Cultural)	Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas	West Bengal & Karnataka	2023	41st and 42nd sites; Visva-Bharati open-air pedagogy and 12th–13th century Vesara/Hoysala soapstone temples.
19 (Cultural)	Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty	Assam (Charaideo)	2024	43rd site; first Cultural UNESCO site in Northeast India; royal brick-and-earth vaults of Tai-Ahom rulers from 13th to 19th centuries.

Did You Know?: Maharashtra leads all Indian states with the highest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites (6 sites: Ajanta Caves, Ellora Caves, Elephanta Caves, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai, and serial segments of the Western Ghats) (**PIB Official Portal**).

Exam Trap Alert: Candidates frequently confuse **UNESCO World Heritage Cities** with the **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**. Only **Ahmadabad (2017)** and **Jaipur (2019)** are World Heritage Cities, whereas **Gwalior (Music, 2023)** and **Kozhikode (Literature, 2023)** belong to the Creative Cities Network (**PIB Official Portal**).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Memory Trick: To remember the latest 5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in chronological order (39th to 43rd), use the acronym "R-D-S-H-M": Ramappa (39th, 2021)**

STEP 2
Dholavira (40th, 2021)**

STEP 3
Santiniketan (41st, 2023)**

STEP 4
Hoysala Ensembles (42nd, 2023)**

STEP 5
Moidams of Assam (43rd, 2024) (IUC Academy).**

Chapter *1* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation	**Global Governing Body**	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), headquartered in Paris, France, adopts the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) to identify, protect, and preserve sites of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) (PIB Official Portal).
UNESCO Nomination and Inscription Process Flowchart	**Nodal Agency in India**	The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham under the Ministry of Culture, serves as the primary nodal agency for nominating, managing, and conserving Cultural World Heritage Sites in India (PIB Official Portal).
Comprehensive Classification Table of Key UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India	**India's Total Tally (43 Sites)**	India holds **43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, categorized into **35 Cultural Sites**, **7 Natural Sites**, and **1 Mixed Site** (Khangchendzonga National Park in Sikkim) (IUC Academy).
Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation	**First Sites Inducted (1983)**	Four iconic monuments were inducted together in 1983 during the 7th session of the World Heritage Committee: **Ajanta Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Ellora Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Agra Fort (Uttar Pradesh)**, and the **Taj Mahal (Uttar Pradesh)** (PIB Official Portal).
UNESCO Nomination and Inscription Process Flowchart	**41st Site (2023)**	*Santiniketan* (Birbhum district, West Bengal), established by Maharshi Debendranath Tagore in 1863 and expanded into Visva-Bharati by Rabindranath Tagore in 1901 (PIB Official Portal).
Comprehensive Classification Table of Key UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India	**42nd Site (2023)**	*Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas* (Karnataka), comprising three stellate-plan soapstone temples at Belur (Chennakesava Temple), Halebidu (Hoysaleswara Temple), and Somanathapura (Keshava Temple) (PIB Official Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Overview and Constitutional-Institutional Framework of Heritage Conservation	**43rd Site (2024)**	*Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty* at Charaideo, Assam, inducted at the 46th World Heritage Committee session hosted in New Delhi in July 2024 (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter *1* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Global Governing Body): The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), headquartered in Paris, France, adopts the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) to identify, protect, and preserve sites of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (Nodal Agency in India): The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham under the Ministry of Culture, serves as the primary nodal agency for nominating, managing, and conserving Cultural World Heritage Sites in India (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (India's Total Tally (43 Sites)): India holds **43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, categorized into **35 Cultural Sites**, 7 **Natural Sites**, and **1 Mixed Site** (Khangchendzonga National Park in Sikkim) (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (First Sites Inducted (1983)): Four iconic monuments were inducted together in 1983 during the 7th session of the World Heritage Committee: **Ajanta Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Ellora Caves (Maharashtra)**, **Agra Fort (Uttar Pradesh)**, and the **Taj Mahal (Uttar Pradesh)** (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (41st Site (2023)): *Santiniketan* (Birbhum district, West Bengal), established by Maharshi Debendranath Tagore in 1863 and expanded into Visva-Bharati by Rabindranath Tagore in 1901 (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (42nd Site (2023)): *Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas* (Karnataka), comprising three stellate-plan soapstone temples at Belur (Chennakesava Temple), Halebidu (Hoysaleswara Temple), and Somanathapura (Keshava Temple) (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2: 85+ Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance & Biosphere Reserves

2.1 Ramsar Convention (1971) and India's Wetland Framework

• **Origin of the Treaty:** The *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat* was signed on **2 February 1971** in the Iranian city of **Ramsar** on the southern shore of the Caspian Sea and entered into force in December 1975 (PIB Official Portal).

• **India's Accession:** India ratified the Ramsar Convention on **1 February 1982**, designating **Chilika Lake (Odisha)** and **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** as India's first two Ramsar Sites (PIB Official Portal).

• **Total Ramsar Sites in India (85 Sites as of August 2024):** India maintains the largest network of Ramsar Sites in South Asia with **85 designated wetlands** covering approximately 1.35 million hectares across the country (PIB Official Portal).

• **Montreux Record Mechanism:** Established in 1990 as a register of Ramsar sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur due to technological developments, pollution, or human interference:

• **Currently on Montreux Record (2 Indian Sites): Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** (listed 1990) and **Loktak Lake (Manipur)** (listed 1993, famous for floating *Phumdis* and Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park and habitat of the Sangai brow-antlered deer) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Removed from Montreux Record: Chilika Lake (Odisha)** was placed on the Montreux Record in 1993 due to siltation of its mouth, but following successful hydrological restoration by the Chilika Development Authority, it was removed in **2002** (winning the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award) (PIB Official Portal).

2.2 Wetland Identification and Ramsar Designation Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
State Wetland Authority Conducts Ecological & Hydrological Survey

STEP 2
MoEFCC Verifies Compliance with 9 Ramsar Quantitative Criteria

STEP 3
Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) Submitted to Secretariat in Gland, Switzerland

STEP 4
Official Inclusion in Ramsar List & Conservation under Wetlands Rules 2017

2.3 Comparative Table of Key Ramsar Records and 2024 Additions (Sites 76 to 85)

Record / Designation Category	Wetland Name	State / UT	Key Ecological Significance & Exam Facts (PIB)
First Ramsar Sites of India (1981)	Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park	Odisha & Rajasthan	Chilika is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon (Irrawaddy Dolphin habitat); Keoladeo is a man-made avifauna wetland.

Record / Designation Category	Wetland Name	State / UT	Key Ecological Significance & Exam Facts (PIB)
Largest Ramsar Site in India	Sundarbans Wetland	West Bengal	Covers 4,230 sq. km (**4,23,000** hectares); designated in January 2019; tidal halophytic mangrove ecosystem.
Smallest Ramsar Site in India	Renuka Wetland	Himachal Pradesh (Sirmaur)	Covers 20 hectares (**0.2** sq. km); natural wetland fed by subterranean springs and karst formations.
Highest State Tally (First Rank)	Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)	Tamil Nadu	Leads India with **18 Ramsar sites** after the addition of Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary and Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in August 2024.
Second Highest State Tally	Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)	Uttar Pradesh	Includes Upper Ganga River (Brijghat to Narora), Nawabganj, Parvati Arga, Saman, Samaspur, Sandi, Sarsai Nawar, Sur Sarovar, Haiderpur, and Bakhira.
76th–80th Additions (Jan 2024)	Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)	Karnataka (3) & Tamil Nadu (2)	Added on the eve of World Wetlands Day 2024; Longwood Shola is a high-altitude montane shola forest wetland in the Nilgiris.
81st & 82nd Additions (June 2024)	Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary	Bihar (Jamui District)	Man-made reservoirs flanked by dry deciduous hills; winter refuge for Bar-headed Geese and Red-crested Pochards.
83rd–85th Additions (Aug 2024)	Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)	Tamil Nadu (2) & Madhya Pradesh (1)	Tawa Reservoir lies at the confluence of Tawa and Denwa rivers near Satpura Tiger Reserve in Narmadapuram district.

Did You Know?: Out of India's **18 Biosphere Reserves**, **12 are recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) World Network**, starting with the **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** (established 1986, UNESCO MAB recognition 2000) and culminating with the **Panna Biosphere Reserve** (Madhya Pradesh, UNESCO MAB recognition 2020) (PIB Official Portal).

Exam Trap Alert: While **Sundarbans Wetland (West Bengal)** is the **largest Ramsar Site** in India by surface area, **Vembanad-Kol Wetland (Kerala)** is the **longest lake** in India (96.5 km), and **Kachchh Biosphere Reserve (Gujarat)** is the **largest Biosphere Reserve** in India by geographical area (IUC Academy).

★ **Memory Trick:** To recall the 3 Indian wetlands ever associated with the **Montreux Record**, use **"K-L-C (Keoladeo, Loktak, Chilika)"** — where **C** (Chilika) was **C**leared in 2002, leaving only **K** and **L** active (IUC Academy).

Chapter 2 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Ramsar Convention (1971) and India's Wetland Framework	**Origin of the Treaty**	The *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat* was signed on **2 February 1971** in the Iranian city of **Ramsar** on the southern shore of the Caspian Sea and entered into force in December 1975 (PIB Official Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Wetland Identification and Ramsar Designation Flowchart	**India's Accession**	India ratified the Ramsar Convention on **1 February 1982**, designating **Chilika Lake (Odisha)** and **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** as India's first two Ramsar Sites (PIB Official Portal).
Comparative Table of Key Ramsar Records and 2024 Additions (Sites 76 to 85)	**Total Ramsar Sites in India (85 Sites as of August 2024)**	India maintains the largest network of Ramsar Sites in South Asia with **85 designated wetlands** covering approximately 1.35 million hectares across the country (PIB Official Portal).
Ramsar Convention (1971) and India's Wetland Framework	**Montreux Record Mechanism**	Established in 1990 as a register of Ramsar sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur due to technological developments, pollution, or human interference:
Wetland Identification and Ramsar Designation Flowchart	**Currently on Montreux Record (2 Indian Sites)**	**Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** (listed 1990) and **Loktak Lake (Manipur)** (listed 1993, famous for floating *Phumdis* and Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park and habitat of the Sangai brow-antlered deer) (PIB Official Portal).
Comparative Table of Key Ramsar Records and 2024 Additions (Sites 76 to 85)	**Removed from Montreux Record**	**Chilika Lake (Odisha)** was placed on the Montreux Record in 1993 due to siltation of its mouth, but following successful hydrological restoration by the Chilika Development Authority, it was removed in **2002** (winning the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award) (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter *2* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Origin of the Treaty): The *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat* was signed on **2 February 1971** in the Iranian city of **Ramsar** on the southern shore of the Caspian Sea and entered into force in December 1975 (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (India's Accession): India ratified the Ramsar Convention on **1 February 1982**, designating **Chilika Lake (Odisha)** and **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** as India's first two Ramsar Sites (PIB Official Portal).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Total Ramsar Sites in India (85 Sites as of August 2024)): India maintains the largest network of Ramsar Sites in South Asia with **85 designated wetlands** covering approximately 1.35 million hectares across the country (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (Montreux Record Mechanism): Established in 1990 as a register of Ramsar sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur due to technological developments, pollution, or human interference:

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Currently on Montreux Record (2 Indian Sites)): Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) (listed 1990) and **Loktak Lake (Manipur)** (listed 1993, famous for floating *Phumdis* and Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park and habitat of the Sangai brow-antlered deer) (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (Removed from Montreux Record): Chilika Lake (Odisha) was placed on the Montreux Record in 1993 due to siltation of its mouth, but following successful hydrological restoration by the Chilika Development Authority, it was removed in **2002** (winning the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award) (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *3:* Major International Organizations, Headquarters, Reports & Summits

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: Major International Organizations, Headquarters, Reports & Summits

Key Study Pillar 1
United Nations System, Bretton Woods Twins & Multilateral Groupings

Key Study Pillar 2
Master Table of International Organizations, Headquarters & Flagship Reports

3.1 United Nations System, Bretton Woods Twins & Multilateral Groupings

• **United Nations (UN):** Founded on **24 October 1945** following the ratification of the UN Charter signed in San Francisco; headquartered in **New York City, USA**, with **193 Member States** (South Sudan is the 193rd member, inducted in 2011) and **6 Official Languages** (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Principal Organs of the UN (6 Organs):** General Assembly (UNGA), Security Council (UNSC — 5 Permanent + 10 Non-Permanent members elected for 2-year terms), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Trusteeship Council (suspended operations in 1994), Secretariat, and the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**—the **only principal organ located outside New York**, seated at the Peace Palace in **The Hague, Netherlands** (15 judges elected for 9-year terms; Dalveer Bhandari from India) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Regional & Plurilateral Groupings:**

• **G20 (Expanded to G21 in 2023):** During India's G20 Presidency at the New Delhi Leaders' Summit (September 2023), the **African Union (55 member states)** was admitted as a permanent member alongside 19 countries and the European Union (PIB Official Portal).

• **BRICS Expansion (2024):** Originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China (2009) and South Africa (2010), BRICS expanded in January 2024 to induct Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates, with the **New Development Bank (NDB)** headquartered in **Shanghai, China** (PIB Official Portal).

• **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):** Founded in 2001 with its Secretariat in **Beijing, China**, and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in **Tashkent, Uzbekistan**; **Iran (9th member, 2023)** and **Belarus (10th member, July 2024)** are the newest full members (PIB Official Portal).

3.2 Multilateral Treaty Ratification & Global Index Publication Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Diplomatic Negotiation & Signing of Founding Charter by Sovereign States

STEP 2
Domestic Parliamentary / Cabinet Ratification & Deposit of Instrument

STEP 3
Permanent Secretariat Operations & Annual Statistical Data Collection

STEP 4
Publication of Flagship Global Indices & Multilateral Policy Directives

3.3 Master Table of International Organizations, Headquarters & Flagship Reports

Organization Name & Acronym	Founding Year	Headquarters Location	Membership / Key Structure	Flagship Reports Published (PIB / RBI)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	1944 (Bretton Woods)	Washington, D.C., USA	191 Countries (Principality of Liechtenstein joined in Oct 2024); SDR Basket (USD, EUR, CNY, JPY, GBP)	*World Economic Outlook (WEO)*, *Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR)*, *Fiscal Monitor*.
World Bank Group (IBRD & IDA)	1944	Washington, D.C., USA	189 Countries (IBRD); President Ajay Banga; 5 constituent institutions (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA, ICSID)	*World Development Report (WDR)*, *Commodity Markets Outlook*, *Logistics Performance Index (LPI)*.
World Trade Organization (WTO)	1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)	Geneva, Switzerland	166 Members (Comoros and Timor-Leste joined in 2024); DG Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala	*World Trade Report*, *World Trade Statistical Review*.
World Economic Forum (WEF)	1971 (Klaus Schwab)	Cologny (Geneva), Switzerland	International non-governmental public-private cooperation organization	*Global Gender Gap Report*, *Global Competitiveness Report*, *Global Risks Report*, *Energy Transition Index*.
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	1965	New York City, USA	Executive board across 170+ countries; Human Development Index formulated by Mahbub ul Haq & Amartya Sen (1990)	*Human Development Report (HDR)*, *Gender Inequality Index (GII)*, *Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)* (with OPHI).
International Labour Organization (ILO)	1919 (Treaty of Versailles)	Geneva, Switzerland	187 Member States; oldest UN specialized agency; awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1969; tripartite structure	*World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO)*, *Global Wage Report*, *World Social Protection Report*.
World Health Organization (WHO)	7 April 1948	Geneva, Switzerland	194 Member States; DG Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus; WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat	*World Health Statistics*, *World Malaria Report*, *Global Tuberculosis Report*.

Organization Name & Acronym	Founding Year	Headquarters Location	Membership / Key Structure	Flagship Reports Published (PIB / RBI)
International Solar Alliance (ISA)	2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)	Gurugram, Haryana, India	First treaty-based intergovernmental organization headquartered in India	*Ease of Doing Solar Report*, *World Solar Market Report*.
BIMSTEC / SAARC / ASEAN	1997 / 1985 / 1967	Dhaka (BIMSTEC) / Kathmandu (SAARC) / Jakarta (ASEAN)	BIMSTEC (7 members); SAARC (8 members, Charter signed in Dhaka, HQ in Kathmandu); ASEAN (10 members, Bangkok Declaration)	Regional trade, connectivity, and disaster management frameworks.
FATF & BIS	1989 (G7) / 1930	Paris, France (FATF) / Basel, Switzerland (BIS)	FATF has 40 members (combating money laundering/terror financing); Bank for International Settlements hosts BCBS	*Basel-III Capital Adequacy Framework* (BIS), *Grey List / Black List AML Evaluations* (FATF).

Did You Know?: India is NOT a member of **APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)**, **OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)**, **NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)**, or **ASEAN** (though India is an ASEAN Sectoral/Comprehensive Strategic Partner and a participant in the East Asia Summit) (**PIB Official Portal**).

Exam Trap Alert: For **SAARC**, the founding charter was signed in **Dhaka (Bangladesh)** on 8 December 1985, whereas its **Permanent Secretariat (Headquarters)** was established in **Kathmandu (Nepal)** in 1987. Conversely, **BIMSTEC** was founded via the **Bangkok Declaration (1997)**, but its Permanent Secretariat is located in **Dhaka (Bangladesh)** (IUC Academy).

★ **Memory Trick:** Organizations starting with **"World"** and ending with **"Organization"**—**W**orld **H**ealth **O**rganization (WHO), **W**orld **T**rade **O**rganization (WTO), **W**orld **M**eteorological **O**rganization (WMO), and **W**orld **I**ntellectual **P**roperty **O**rganization (WIPO)—all have their headquarters in **Geneva, Switzerland** (the sole exception being the **UN World Tourism Organization [UN Tourism]**, which is headquartered in **Madrid, Spain**) (IUC Academy).

Chapter 3 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
United Nations System, Bretton Woods Twins & Multilateral Groupings	**United Nations (UN)**	Founded on **24 October 1945** following the ratification of the UN Charter signed in San Francisco; headquartered in **New York City, USA**, with **193 Member States** (South Sudan is the 193rd member, inducted in 2011) and **6 Official Languages** (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish) (**PIB Official Portal**).
Multilateral Treaty Ratification & Global Index Publication Flowchart	**Principal Organs of the UN (6 Organs)**	General Assembly (UNGA), Security Council (UNSC — 5 Permanent + 10 Non-Permanent members elected for 2-year terms), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Trusteeship Council (suspended operations in 1994), Secretariat, and the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**—the **only principal organ located outside New York**, seated at the Peace Palace in **The Hague, Netherlands** (15 judges elected for 9-year terms; Dalveer Bhandari from India) (**PIB Official Portal**).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Master Table of International Organizations, Headquarters & Flagship Reports	**G20 (Expanded to G21 in 2023)**	During India's G20 Presidency at the New Delhi Leaders' Summit (September 2023), the **African Union (55 member states)** was admitted as a permanent member alongside 19 countries and the European Union (PIB Official Portal).
United Nations System, Bretton Woods Twins & Multilateral Groupings	**BRICS Expansion (2024)**	Originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China (2009) and South Africa (2010), BRICS expanded in January 2024 to induct Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates, with the **New Development Bank (NDB)** headquartered in **Shanghai, China** (PIB Official Portal).
Multilateral Treaty Ratification & Global Index Publication Flowchart	**Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**	Founded in 2001 with its Secretariat in **Beijing, China**, and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in **Tashkent, Uzbekistan**; **Iran (9th member, 2023)** and **Belarus (10th member, July 2024)** are the newest full members (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter 3 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (United Nations (UN)): Founded on **24 October 1945** following the ratification of the UN Charter signed in San Francisco; headquartered in **New York City, USA**, with **193 Member States** (South Sudan is the 193rd member, inducted in 2011) and **6 Official Languages** (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish) (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (Principal Organs of the UN (6 Organs)): General Assembly (UNGA), Security Council (UNSC — 5 Permanent + 10 Non-Permanent members elected for 2-year terms), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Trusteeship Council (suspended operations in 1994), Secretariat, and the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**—the **only principal organ located outside New York**, seated at the Peace Palace in **The Hague, Netherlands** (15 judges elected for 9-year terms; Dalveer Bhandari from India) (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (G20 (Expanded to G21 in 2023)): During India's G20 Presidency at the New Delhi Leaders' Summit (September 2023), the **African Union (55 member states)** was admitted as a permanent member alongside 19 countries and the European Union (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (BRICS Expansion (2024)): Originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China (2009) and South Africa (2010), BRICS expanded in January 2024 to induct Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates, with the **New Development Bank (NDB)** headquartered in **Shanghai, China** (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4: National & International Awards, Civilian Honours & Gallantry Medals

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 4: National & International Awards, Civilian Honours & Gallantry Medals

Key Study Pillar 1
Constitutional Basis & Hierarchy of Indian Civilian and Gallantry Awards

Key Study Pillar 2
Comprehensive Table of International & National Awards (Nobel, Jnanpith, Sahitya, Cinema)

4.1 Constitutional Basis & Hierarchy of Indian Civilian and Gallantry Awards

• **Constitutional Validity (Article 18(1) Interpretation):** In *Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India* (1996), a 5-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court held that National Civilian Awards (**Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri**, instituted on **2 January 1954**) do NOT constitute "titles" within the prohibition of **Article 18(1)** of the Constitution, provided they are not used as prefixes or suffixes to the recipient's name (PIB Official Portal).

• **Bharat Ratna (Highest Civilian Award):**

• **First Recipients (1954): C. Rajagopalachari**, **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, and **Dr. C.V. Raman** (PIB Official Portal).

• **2024 Bharat Ratna Conferments (5 Laureates):** For the first time in a single year, the Government of India conferred the Bharat Ratna upon **5 personalities** in 2024 (bringing the total historical recipients to 53): **Karpoori Thakur** (posthumous, former CM of Bihar, "Jannayak"), **Lal Krishna Advani** (former Deputy PM), **P.V. Narasimha Rao** (posthumous, 9th PM of India), **Chaudhary Charan Singh** (posthumous, 5th PM of India), and **Dr. M.S. Swaminathan** (posthumous, Father of the Indian Green Revolution) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Gallantry Awards Order of Precedence:**

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Wartime Gallantry Awards (Instituted 26 January 1950, effective 15 August 1947): Param Vir Chakra (PVC) (First recipient: Major Somnath Sharma; designer: Savitri Khanolkar)**

STEP 2
Maha Vir Chakra (MVC)

STEP 3
Vir Chakra (VrC) (PIB Official Portal).**

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Peacetime Gallantry Awards (Instituted 1952 as Ashoka Chakra Class I, II, III; renamed in 1967): Ashoka Chakra

STEP 2
Kirti Chakra

STEP 3
Shaurya Chakra (PIB Official Portal).**

4.2 National Award Selection and Presidential Investiture Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Public Self-Nomination & State Recommendations on Rashtriya Puraskar Portal

STEP 2
Screening by Padma Awards Committee Headed by Cabinet Secretary

STEP 3
Approval by Prime Minister & President of India on Republic Day Eve

STEP 4
Ceremonial Investiture with Sanad & Medallion at Rashtrapati Bhavan

4.3 Comprehensive Table of International & National Awards (Nobel, Jnanpith, Sahitya, Cinema)

Award Category / Name	Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body	First Indian / Historical Laureate	Recent Landmark Laureates & Key Exam Facts (PIB)
Nobel Prize (6 Categories)	1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)	**Rabindranath Tagore** (1913, Literature for *Gitanjali* — first Asian laureate)	Indian / Indian-origin Nobel Laureates: C.V. Raman (1930, Physics), Har Gobind Khorana (1968, Medicine), Mother Teresa (1979, Peace), Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar (1983, Physics), Amartya Sen (1998, Economics), V.S. Naipaul (2001, Literature), Venkatraman Ramakrishnan (2009, Chemistry), Kailash Satyarthi (2014, Peace), Abhijit Banerjee (2019, Economics).
Jnanpith Award (Highest Literary Award in India)	1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)	**G. Sankara Kurup** (1965, Malayalam for *Odakkuzhal*); **Ashapoorna Devi** (1976, Bengali — first woman)	**58th Jnanpith Award (announced 2024 for 2023):** Jointly conferred on **Gulzar** (Urdu poet/lyricist) and **Jagadguru Rambhadracharya** (Sanskrit scholar, founder of Tulsi Peeth, Chitrakoot). **57th:** Damodar Mauzo (Konkani).
Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award	1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)	**Devika Rani** (1969, First Lady of Indian Cinema)	**54th Recipient (announced Oct 2024 for 2022): Mithun Chakraborty** (preceded by **Waheeda Rehman** for 2021 and **Asha Parekh** for 2020); carries a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), shawl, and ₹15 lakh cash prize.
Ramon Magsaysay Award (Asia's Premier Prize)	1957 (Manila, Philippines; named after 7th Philippine President)	**Acharya Vinoba Bhave** (1958, Community Leadership); **Mother Teresa** (1962)	**2023 Indian Laureate:** Dr. **Ravi Kannan R.** (Surgical Oncologist, Cachar Cancer Hospital, Assam — Hero for Holistic Healthcare).
International Booker Prize & Booker Prize	Booker (1969, English original); International Booker (2005, translated into English)	**Arundhati Roy** (1997, *The God of Small Things* — first Indian citizen to win Booker Prize)	**Geetanjali Shree** won the **2022 International Booker Prize** for *Tomb of Sand* (*Ret Samadhi*, translated by Daisy Rockwell — first novel in any Indian language to win). Other Booker winners: Salman Rushdie (1981), Kiran Desai (2006), Aravind Adiga (2008).
Grammy Awards & Academy Awards (Oscars)	Grammy (1959, Recording Academy); Oscars (1929, AMPAS)	**Pt. Ravi Shankar** (1968, First Indian Grammy); **Bhanu Athaiya** (1983, First Indian Oscar for *Gandhi* Costume Design)	**2023 Oscars (95th):** "*Naatu Naatu*" (*RRR*, M.M. Keeravani & Chandrabose) won Best Original Song; "*The Elephant Whisperers*" (Kartiki Gonsalves & Guneet Monga) won Best Documentary Short. **2024 Grammys (66th):** Fusion band **Shakti** (Zakir Hussain, Shankar Mahadevan, V. Selvaganesh, Ganesh Rajagopalan) won Best Global Music Album (*This Moment*).

Did You Know?: Among the six Nobel Prizes, **five** (Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, and Economic Sciences) are presented in **Stockholm, Sweden**, whereas the **Nobel Peace Prize** is uniquely awarded in **Oslo, Norway**, by a five-member committee appointed by the Norwegian Storting (Parliament) (IUC Academy).

Exam Trap Alert: Mahatma Gandhi was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize **five times** (1937, 1938, 1939, 1947, and 1948) but was **never awarded** the prize because Nobel statutes at the time did not permit posthumous awards after his assassination in January 1948 (IUC Academy).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Memory Trick: For the Overall Order of Precedence of Indian Honours, remember the sequence: Bharat Ratna	Param Vir Chakra	Ashoka Chakra	Padma Vibhushan	Padma Bhushan	Maha Vir Chakra

Chapter 4 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Constitutional Basis & Hierarchy of Indian Civilian and Gallantry Awards	**Constitutional Validity (Article 18(1) Interpretation)**	In *Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India* (1996), a 5-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court held that National Civilian Awards (**Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri**, instituted on **2 January 1954**) do NOT constitute "titles" within the prohibition of **Article 18(1)** of the Constitution, provided they are not used as prefixes or suffixes to the recipient's name (PIB Official Portal).
National Award Selection and Presidential Investiture Flowchart	**First Recipients (1954)**	**C. Rajagopalachari**, **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, and **Dr. C.V. Raman** (PIB Official Portal).
Comprehensive Table of International & National Awards (Nobel, Jnanpith, Sahitya, Cinema)	**2024 Bharat Ratna Conferments (5 Laureates)**	For the first time in a single year, the Government of India conferred the Bharat Ratna upon **5 personalities** in 2024 (bringing the total historical recipients to 53): **Karpoori Thakur** (posthumous, former CM of Bihar, "Jannayak"), **Lal Krishna Advani** (former Deputy PM), **P.V. Narasimha Rao** (posthumous, 9th PM of India), **Chaudhary Charan Singh** (posthumous, 5th PM of India), and **Dr. M.S. Swaminathan** (posthumous, Father of the Indian Green Revolution) (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter 4 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Constitutional Validity (Article 18(1) Interpretation)): In *Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India* (1996), a 5-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court held that National Civilian Awards (**Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri**, instituted on **2 January 1954**) do NOT constitute "titles" within the prohibition of **Article 18(1)** of the Constitution, provided they are not used as prefixes or suffixes to the recipient's name (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (First Recipients (1954)): C. Rajagopalachari, **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, and **Dr. C.V. Raman** (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5: Sports Terminology, Trophies, Olympic History & Major Sporting Events

5.1 India's Olympic, Paralympic & Multi-Sport Milestones (1900–2024)

• **Modern Olympic Games:** Revived by Baron **Pierre de Coubertin** with the formation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC, headquartered in **Lausanne, Switzerland**) on 23 June 1894; the first Modern Summer Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece, in 1896** (PIB Official Portal).

• **India's Historical Olympic Trajectory:**

• **1900 Paris:** Norman Pritchard won 2 Silver medals in Athletics (200m and 200m Hurdles).

• **1928 Amsterdam to 1980 Moscow:** Indian Men's Field Hockey Team won **8 Olympic Gold Medals** (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980), alongside 1 Silver (1960) and 4 Bronze (1968, 1972, 2020 Tokyo, 2024 Paris) — totaling **13 Olympic Hockey Medals** (PIB Official Portal).

• **1952 Helsinki: Khashaba Dadasaheb (K.D.) Jadhav** won Bronze in Freestyle Wrestling — independent India's first individual Olympic medal.

• **2000 Sydney: Karnam Malleswari** won Bronze in Weightlifting (69 kg) — first Indian woman to win an Olympic medal.

• **2008 Beijing & 2020 Tokyo: Abhinav Bindra** (2008, 10m Air Rifle) and **Neeraj Chopra** (2020 Tokyo, Men's Javelin Throw — 87.58m on 7 August, celebrated as **National Javelin Day**) are India's two individual Olympic Gold Medalists (PIB Official Portal).

• **Paris 2024 Olympics & Paralympics Performance:**

• **Paris 2024 Summer Olympics (6 Medals — 0 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze; Rank 71): Neeraj Chopra** (Silver, Men's Javelin Throw — 89.45m); **Manu Bhaker** (Bronze in Women's 10m Air Pistol AND Bronze in 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team with **Sarabjot Singh** — becoming the first athlete from independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games); **Swapnil Kusale** (Bronze, Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions); **Indian Men's Hockey Team** (Bronze, led by Harmanpreet Singh); **Aman Sehrawat** (Bronze, Men's 57kg Freestyle Wrestling — India's youngest Olympic medalist at 21 years, 24 days) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Paris 2024 Paralympics (29 Medals — 7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze; Rank 18):** India's best-ever Paralympic performance, featuring Gold medals by **Avani Lekhara** (Shooting, first Indian woman to win two Paralympic

Golds), **Sumit Antil** (Javelin F64, Paralympic record 70.59m), **Nitesh Kumar** (Para-Badminton), **Harvinder Singh** (first Indian Paralympic Gold in Archery), **Dharambir Nain** (Club Throw F51), **Praveen Kumar** (High Jump T64), and **Navdeep Singh** (Javelin F41) (PIB Official Portal).

5.2 National Sports Awards & Athlete Progression Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Grassroots Talent Identification under Khelo India & SAI Centres

STEP 2
Podium Coaching & Financial Support via Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)

STEP 3
Medal Performance at Olympics, Asian Games & Commonwealth Games

STEP 4
Conferment of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (₹25 Lakh) & Arjuna Award (₹15 Lakh)

5.3 Comparative Table of Sports Trophies, Terminology, Dimensions & Upcoming Hosts

Sport Discipline	Major Domestic & International Trophies	Essential Technical Terms	Playing Field / Court Name & Player Count (PIB)
Cricket	Ranji Trophy, Irani Cup, Duleep Trophy, Vijay Hazare Trophy, Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Deodhar Trophy, Border-Gavaskar Trophy, Ashes	Googly, Chinaman, Silly Point, Gully, Follow-on, Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS), Mankading, Yorker, Beamer	**Pitch** (22 yards / 20.12 meters length); **11 Players** per side. India won **2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup** (Barbados) beating South Africa.
Field Hockey	Aga Khan Cup, Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, Beighton Cup (oldest, 1895), Rangaswamy Cup, Lady Ratan Tata Trophy, Murugappa Gold Cup	Penalty Corner, Astroturf, Bully, Scoop, Drag-Flick, Green Card (2-min suspension), Rolling Substitution	**Field** (91.4 m × 55 m); **11 Players** per side; played across four 15-minute quarters (60 minutes total).
Football (Soccer)	Santosh Trophy (National State Championship), Durand Cup (oldest in Asia, 1888), Subroto Cup, Rovers Cup, FIFA World Cup, Copa America, UEFA Euro	Offside, Total Football, Panenka, Bicycle Kick, Nutmeg, Golden Boot, Hat-trick, VAR	**Field**; **11 Players** per side. **2026 FIFA World Cup** hosted jointly by **USA, Canada, and Mexico**; **2034 FIFA World Cup** in Saudi Arabia.
Badminton	Thomas Cup (Men's World Team), Uber Cup (Women's World Team), Sudirman Cup (Mixed Team), All England Open, Yonex Sunrise India Open	Deuce, Smash, Drop Shot, Net Kill, Alley, Let, BWF Feather Shuttlecock (16 feathers)	**Court** (13.4 m × 6.1 m for doubles); **1 or 2 Players**. India won its historic first **Thomas Cup in 2022** (Bangkok).
Lawn Tennis	Davis Cup (Men's Team), Billie Jean King Cup / Fed Cup (Women's Team), Laver Cup, 4 Grand Slams (Australian, French, Wimbledon, US Open)	Ace, Deuce, Advantage, Bagel, Break Point, Tie-break, Volley, Backhand Slice, Hawk-Eye	**Court**: Australian & US Open (**Hard Court**), French Open / Roland Garros (**Clay Court**), Wimbledon (**Grass Court**).
Chess & Golf	**Chess:** FIDE Olympiad, Candidates Tournament, Sinquefield Cup. **Golf:** Ryder Cup, Walker Cup, Augusta Masters, Eisenhower Trophy	**Chess:** Gambit, Zugzwang, En Passant, Castling, Stalemate, Elo Rating. **Golf:** Birdie, Eagle, Albatross, Bogey, Caddie, Tee, Putting Green	**64 Squares** (Chessboard). India swept **Double Gold (Open & Women's)** at the **45th FIDE Chess Olympiad (2024)** in Budapest, Hungary!

Did You Know?: In December 2024, 18-year-old Indian Grandmaster **D. Gukesh (Dommaraju Gukesh)** defeated Ding Liren of China in Singapore to become the **18th World Chess Champion** and the **youngest undisputed World Chess Champion in history**, following **Viswanathan Anand** as the second Indian to hold the classical world title (PIB Official Portal).

Exam Trap Alert: Do not confuse **Santosh Trophy** (associated with **Football**) with **Rangaswamy Cup** (associated with **Hockey**) or **Ranji Trophy** (associated with **Cricket**). Similarly, **Ezra Cup** is associated with **Polo** (India is the birthplace of modern Polo in Manipur, known locally as *Sagol Kangjei*), whereas **Wellington Trophy** is associated with **Rowing** (IUC Academy).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Memory Trick: To remember the chronological calendar order of the four Tennis Grand Slams every year and their court surfaces, use "A-F-W-U (Hard	**Clay**	**Grass**	**Hard)": A**ustralian Open (Jan, Hard)**	**F**rench Open (May–June, Clay)**	**W**imbledon (June–July, Grass)**

Chapter 5 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
India's Olympic, Paralympic & Multi-Sport Milestones (1900–2024)	**Modern Olympic Games**	Revived by Baron **Pierre de Coubertin** with the formation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC, headquartered in **Lausanne, Switzerland**) on 23 June 1894; the first Modern Summer Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece, in 1896** (PIB Official Portal).
National Sports Awards & Athlete Progression Flowchart	**1900 Paris**	Norman Pritchard won 2 Silver medals in Athletics (200m and 200m Hurdles).
Comparative Table of Sports Trophies, Terminology, Dimensions & Upcoming Hosts	**1928 Amsterdam to 1980 Moscow**	Indian Men's Field Hockey Team won **8 Olympic Gold Medals** (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980), alongside 1 Silver (1960) and 4 Bronze (1968, 1972, 2020 Tokyo, 2024 Paris) — totaling **13 Olympic Hockey Medals** (PIB Official Portal).
India's Olympic, Paralympic & Multi-Sport Milestones (1900–2024)	**1952 Helsinki**	**Khashaba Dadasaheb (K.D.) Jadhav** won Bronze in Freestyle Wrestling — independent India's first individual Olympic medal.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
National Sports Awards & Athlete Progression Flowchart	**2000 Sydney**	**Karnam Malleswari** won Bronze in Weightlifting (69 kg) — first Indian woman to win an Olympic medal.
Comparative Table of Sports Trophies, Terminology, Dimensions & Upcoming Hosts	**2008 Beijing & 2020 Tokyo**	**Abhinav Bindra** (2008, 10m Air Rifle) and **Neeraj Chopra** (2020 Tokyo, Men's Javelin Throw — 87.58m on 7 August, celebrated as **National Javelin Day**) are India's two individual Olympic Gold Medalists (PIB Official Portal).
India's Olympic, Paralympic & Multi-Sport Milestones (1900–2024)	**Paris 2024 Summer Olympics (6 Medals — 0 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze; Rank 71)**	**Neeraj Chopra** (Silver, Men's Javelin Throw — 89.45m); **Manu Bhaker** (Bronze in Women's 10m Air Pistol AND Bronze in 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team with **Sarabjot Singh** — becoming the first athlete from independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games); **Swapnil Kusale** (Bronze, Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions); **Indian Men's Hockey Team** (Bronze, led by Harmanpreet Singh); **Aman Sehrawat** (Bronze, Men's 57kg Freestyle Wrestling — India's youngest Olympic medalist at 21 years, 24 days) (PIB Official Portal).
National Sports Awards & Athlete Progression Flowchart	**Paris 2024 Paralympics (29 Medals — 7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze; Rank 18)**	India's best-ever Paralympic performance, featuring Gold medals by **Avani Lekhara** (Shooting, first Indian woman to win two Paralympic Golds), **Sumit Antil** (Javelin F64, Paralympic record 70.59m), **Nitesh Kumar** (Para-Badminton), **Harvinder Singh** (first Indian Paralympic Gold in Archery), **Dharambir Nain** (Club Throw F51), **Praveen Kumar** (High Jump T64), and **Navdeep Singh** (Javelin F41) (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter 5 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Modern Olympic Games): Revived by Baron **Pierre de Coubertin** with the formation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC, headquartered in **Lausanne, Switzerland**) on 23 June 1894; the first Modern Summer Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece, in 1896** (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (1900 Paris): Norman Pritchard won 2 Silver medals in Athletics (200m and 200m Hurdles).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (1928 Amsterdam to 1980 Moscow): Indian Men's Field Hockey Team won **8 Olympic Gold Medals** (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980), alongside 1 Silver (1960) and 4 Bronze (1968, 1972, 2020 Tokyo, 2024 Paris) — totaling **13 Olympic Hockey Medals** (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (1952 Helsinki): Khashaba Dadasaheb (K.D.) Jadhav won Bronze in Freestyle Wrestling — independent India's first individual Olympic medal.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (2000 Sydney): Karnam Malleswari won Bronze in Weightlifting (69 kg) — first Indian woman to win an Olympic medal.

Statement-II (2008 Beijing & 2020 Tokyo): Abhinav Bindra (2008, 10m Air Rifle) and **Neeraj Chopra** (2020 Tokyo, Men's Javelin Throw — 87.58m on 7 August, celebrated as **National Javelin Day**) are India's two individual Olympic Gold Medalists (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Paris 2024 Summer Olympics (6 Medals — 0 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze; Rank 71)): Neeraj Chopra (Silver, Men's Javelin Throw — 89.45m); **Manu Bhaker** (Bronze in Women's 10m Air Pistol AND Bronze in 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team with **Sarabjot Singh** — becoming the first athlete from independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games); **Swapnil Kusale** (Bronze, Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions); **Indian Men's Hockey Team** (Bronze, led by Harmanpreet Singh); **Aman Sehrawat** (Bronze, Men's 57kg Freestyle Wrestling — India's youngest Olympic medalist at 21 years, 24 days) (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (Paris 2024 Paralympics (29 Medals — 7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze; Rank 18)): India's best-ever Paralympic performance, featuring Gold medals by **Avani Lekhara** (Shooting, first Indian woman to win two Paralympic Golds), **Sumit Antil** (Javelin F64, Paralympic record 70.59m), **Nitesh Kumar** (Para-Badminton), **Harvinder Singh** (first Indian Paralympic Gold in Archery), **Dharambir Nain** (Club Throw F51), **Praveen Kumar** (High Jump T64), and **Navdeep Singh** (Javelin F41) (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6:* Classical Dances, Folk Arts, Musical Gharana System & UNESCO Intangible Heritage

6.1 8 Classical Dances of India Recognized by Sangeet Natak Akademi

• **Natya Shastra Foundation:** Authored by **Bharata Muni** (between 200 BCE and 200 CE), the *Natya Shastra* is the fifth Veda (*Natyaveda)* that codifies Indian classical dance into three foundational elements: **Nritta** (pure rhythmic footwork devoid of mood), **Nritya** (expressive dance conveying sentiment/*Rasa* and emotion/*Bhava* through *Mudras*), and **Natya** (dramatic storytelling and speech), executed in two complementary styles: **Tandava** (vigorous, cosmic masculine energy of Lord Shiva) and **Lasya** (graceful, lyrical feminine expression of Goddess Parvati) (PIB Official Portal).

• **Sangeet Natak Akademi (8 Classical Dances) vs Ministry of Culture (9 Dances):** The Sangeet Natak Akademi (founded in 1952/1953) officially recognizes **8 Classical Dances** (**Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Manipuri, Mohiniyattam, and Sattriya**—inducted in the year **2000** as the 8th classical dance), whereas the Ministry of Culture additionally includes **Chhau** (Purulia Chhau of West Bengal, Seraikella Chhau of Jharkhand, and Mayurbhanj Chhau of Odisha) (PIB Official Portal).

• **UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) List from India (15 Elements):**

• Includes Vedic Chanting (2008), Ramlila (2008), Kutiyattam Sanskrit Theatre (2008), Ramman of Garhwal Himalayas (2009), Mudiyettu, Kalbelia Folk Dance of Rajasthan, Chhau Dance (2010), Buddhist Chanting of

Ladakh (2012), Sankirtana of Manipur (2013), Jandiala Guru Brass and Copper Utensil Craft of Punjab (2014), Yoga (2016), Nowruz (2016), Kumbh Mela (2017), **Durga Puja in Kolkata (14th, 2021)**, and **Garba of Gujarat (15th, December 2023)** (PIB Official Portal).

6.2 Evolution of Indian Classical Performing Arts Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Codification of 8 Rasas (Abhinavagupta adds 9th Shanta Rasa) in Natya Shastra

STEP 2
Temple Devadasi (Sadhir), Vaishnavite Sankirtana & Royal Court Patronage

STEP 3
20th-Century Revival by Rukmini Devi Arundale, Vallathol & Kelucharan Mohapatra

STEP 4
Sangeet Natak Akademi & UNESCO Intangible Heritage Global Recognition

6.3 Master Comparative Table of Classical Dances, Exponents & Musical Instruments

Classical Dance & State	Historical Origin & Textual Source	Technical Features & Costume	Legendary Exponents & Maestros (PIB)
Bharatanatyam (Tamil Nadu)	Oldest classical dance; evolved from *Sadhir Attam / Dasi Attam* in Tanjore temples; *Abhinaya Darpana* by Nandikeshvara.	*Ekacharya Lasyam* (one dancer plays many roles); *Alarippu, Jatiswaram, Shabdam, Varnam, Padam, Tillana;* Carnatic music.	**Rukmini Devi Arundale** (Kalakshetra founder), **T. Balasaraswati**, **Yamini Krishnamurthy**, **Mrinalini Sarabhai**, **Mallika Sarabhai**, **Padma Subrahmanyam**, **Sonal Mansingh**.
Kathak (Uttar Pradesh / North India)	Derived from *Kathakar* (storytellers); flourished under Bhakti movement and Mughal/Awadh courts (**Nawab Wajid Ali Shah** of Lucknow).	Divided into **Lucknow, Jaipur, and Banaras Gharanas**; rapid footwork (*Tatkar*), pirouettes (*Chakkar*), and *Jugalbandi* with Tabla.	**Pandit Birju Maharaj** (Kalka-Bindadin Gharana of Lucknow), **Lachhu Maharaj**, **Shambhu Maharaj**, **Sitara Devi**, **Shovana Narayan**, **Kumudini Lakhia**.
Kathakali (Kerala)	17th-century dance-drama based on *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* (*Attakatha* plays by Kottarakkara Tampuran).	Elaborate facial makeup: **Pachha** (Green — noble heroes), **Kathi** (villainous toughness), **Kari** (black), **Thadi** (beards); eye movement (*Navarasas*).	**Vallathol Narayana Menon** (founded Kerala Kalamandalam), **Kalamandalam Gopi**, **Kalamandalam Ramankutty Nair**, **Kottakkal Sivaraman**, **Guru Kunchu Kurup**.
Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh)	Originated in Kuchipudi village (Krishna district) in the 17th century by Vaishnava poet **Siddhendra Yogi** (*Bhama Kalapam*).	Combines speech (*Vachika Abhinaya*) and dance; **Tarangam** performance where the dancer balances feet on the rim of a **brass plate** with a water pot on the head.	**Vempati Chinna Satyam**, **Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma**, **Yamini Krishnamurthy**, **Raja and Radha Reddy**, **Swapna Sundari**, **Aparna Satheesan**.

Classical Dance & State	Historical Origin & Textual Source	Technical Features & Costume	Legendary Exponents & Maestros (PIB)
Odissi (Odisha)	Archaeological evidence in Udayagiri-Khandagiri caves (King Kharavela); *Mahari* (temple dancers) and *Gotipua* (young boys dressed as women).	**Tribhangi** posture (three-bend body deflection of head, torso, and hips) and **Chauka** (square stance mimicking Lord Jagannath).	**Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra**, **Pankaj Charan Das**, **Deba Prasad Das**, **Sanjukta Panigrahi**, **Sonal Mansingh**, **Madhavi Mudgal**.
Manipuri (Manipur)	Rooted in *Lai Haraoba* ritual and 18th-century Gaudiya Vaishnavism introduced under King Bhagyachandra (**Ras Leela** of Radha-Krishna).	Predominantly **Lasya** (graceful, curved movements without ankle bells/*Ghungroos*); barrel-shaped skirt (**Kumil**) and martial drum dance (**Pung Cholom**).	**Guru Bipin Singh**, **Jhaveri Sisters (Darshana, Nayana, Ranjana, Suverna)**, **Rajkumar Singhajit Singh**, **Charu Sija Mathur**.
Mohiniyattam (Kerala)	Solo feminine dance of the "Enchantress" (*Mohini* avatar of Lord Vishnu); patronized by Maharaja **Swathi Thirunal** of Travancore.	Exclusively **Lasya** style; swaying movement resembling coconut palms and sea waves; **Kasavu** off-white saree with gold brocade border; *Sopana Sangeetham*.	**Kalamandalam Kalyanikutty Amma** (Mother of Mohiniyattam), **Kanak Rele** (Nalanda Dance Research Centre), **Sunanda Nair**, **Jayaprabha Menon**, **Smitha Rajan**.
Sattriya (Assam)	Introduced in the 15th century AD by Vaishnava saint-reformer **Srimanta Sankardeva** and his disciple Madhavdeva in monasteries called **Sattras**.	Based on *Ankiya Naat* (one-act plays written in *Brajavali* language) and devotional songs called **Borgeet**; accompanied by Khol (drum) and Taal (cymbals).	**Gahan Chandra Goswami**, **Maniram Datta Mokhtar**, **Bapuram Bayan Attai**, **Ghanakanta Bora**, **Jatin Goswami**, **Sharodi Saikia**.

Did You Know?: Among India's legendary classical instrumentalists, **Ustad Bismillah Khan** (Shehnai), **Pandit Ravi Shankar** (Sitar, Maihar Gharana), **M.S. Subbulakshmi** (Carnatic Vocalist — first musician to receive the Bharat Ratna in 1998), **Lata Mangeshkar** (2001), **Pandit Bhimsen Joshi** (Hindustani Vocalist, Kirana Gharana, 2009), and **Dr. Bhupen Hazarika** (2019) have been conferred the **Bharat Ratna** (PIB Official Portal).

Exam Trap Alert: Remember that **Mayurbhanj Chhau (Odisha)** does **NOT** use facial masks, whereas both **Purulia Chhau (West Bengal)** and **Seraikella Chhau (Jharkhand)** use elaborate handcrafted masks during performance (IUC Academy).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Memory Trick: Match the Instrumental Maestros rapidly using "S-S-T-F-S": Sitar (Pt. Ravi Shankar, Ustad Vilayat Khan)**

STEP 2
Sarod (Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan)**

STEP 3
Tabla (Ustad Allah Rakha, Ustad Zakir Hussain, Pt. Kishan Maharaj)**

STEP 4
Flute/Bansuri (Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pannalal Ghosh)**

STEP 5
Santoor (Pt. Shivkumar Sharma, Bhajan Sopori) (IUC Academy).**

Chapter 7: Famous Books & Authors (Ancient Sanskrit Classics to Modern Works)

7.1 Evolution of Indian Literary Traditions Across Historical Epochs

• **Ancient & Classical Sanskrit Literature:** Spans Vedic Samhitas, Upanishads, Epics (*Ramayana* by Valmiki and *Mahabharata* by Ved Vyasa), Mauryan statecraft (*Arthashastra* by Kautilya/Chanakya in 15 Adhikaranas), Gupta-era Sanskrit drama (**Kalidasa's** *Abhijnanashakuntalam*, *Malavikagnimitram*, *Vikramorvashiyam*, *Raghuvamsham*, *Kumarasambhavam*, *Meghadutam*), and **Kalhana's** *Rajatarangini* (12th century CE, considered the first authentic historical chronicle in Sanskrit, detailing the rulers of Kashmir in 8 Tarangas) (IUC Academy).

• **Medieval Court Chronicles & Foreign Travelers:**

• **Seleucid Greek Envoy** (Greek ambassador of Seleucus I Nicator to Chandragupta Maurya): *Indica*.

• **Fa-Hien (Faxian)** (visited during Chandragupta II): *Fo-Kwo-Ki* (*Record of Buddhist Kingdoms*).

• **Hiuen Tsang (Xuanzang)** (visited during Harshavardhana): *Si-Yu-Ki* (*Great Tang Records on the Western Regions*).

• **Al-Biruni** (accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni, 11th century): *Kitab-ul-Hind* (*Tahqiq-i-Hind* in Arabic).

• **Ibn Battuta** (Moroccan traveler to Muhammad bin Tughlaq's court): *Rihla*.

• **Freedom Struggle & Nationalist Literature:** Pivotal nationalist texts shaped anti-colonial consciousness, including **Dadabhai Naoroji's** *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India* (1901, Drain of Wealth theory), **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's** *Anandamath* (1882, Sannyasi Rebellion context; source of *Vande Mataram*), **Bal Gangadhar Tilak's** *Gita Rahasya* (written in Mandalay Jail) and *The Arctic Home in the Vedas*, **Mahatma Gandhi's** *Hind Swaraj* (1909) and *The Story of My Experiments with Truth* (originally written in Gujarati), and **Jawaharlal Nehru's** *The Discovery of India* (written at Ahmadnagar Fort Prison, 1942–1945) (PIB Official Portal).

7.2 Chronological Literary Progression in Indian History Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Ancient Sanskrit & Prakrit Treatises (Panini, Kautilya, Kalidasa, Banabhatta)

STEP 2
Medieval Persian Chronicles & Bhakti Poetry (Amir Khusrau, Abul Fazl, Tulsidas)

STEP 3
Nationalist Freedom Movement Literature (Naoroji, Tilak, Savarkar, Gandhi, Nehru, Ambedkar)

STEP 4
Post-Independence Indo-Anglian Classics, Autobiographies & Economic Policy Works

7.3 Master Comparative Table of High-Frequency Exam Books & Authors

Historical Era / Category	Book Title	Author / Chronicler	Core Subject / Historical Context (PIB / IUC Academy)
Ancient Grammar & Polity	*Ashtadhyayi* & *Mahabhashya*	Panini (5th c. BCE) & Patanjali (2nd c. BCE)	*Ashtadhyayi* is the foundational 8-chapter treatise on Sanskrit grammar; *Mahabhashya* is Patanjali's commentary on Panini.
Ancient Drama & Romance	*Mrichchhakatika* (The Little Clay Cart) & *Mudrarakshasa*	Shudraka & Vishakhadatta	*Mrichchhakatika* is a social drama of Charudatta and Vasantasena; *Mudrarakshasa* narrates Chanakya's political diplomacy for Chandragupta Maurya.
Harsha Period (7th c. CE)	*Harshacharita* & *Kadambari* vs *Nagananda, Ratnavali, Priyadarshika*	**Banabhatta** (Court Poet) vs **Emperor Harshavardhana**	Banabhatta authored the biography *Harshacharita* and romance *Kadambari*; Harsha himself wrote the three Sanskrit plays *Nagananda*, *Ratnavali*, and *Priyadarshika*.
Ancient Science & Medicine	*Brihat Samhita* & *Panchasiddhantika* / *Charaka Samhita* / *Sushruta Samhita*	Varahamihira / Charaka / Sushruta	Varahamihira's encyclopedia of astronomy; Charaka (Court physician of Kanishka, internal medicine); Sushruta (Father of Plastic Surgery).
Delhi Sultanate & Mughal	*Tughlaqnama* / *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* / *Baburnama* / *Humayun-nama* / *Akbarnama*	Amir Khusrau / Ziauddin Barani / Babur / Gulbadan Begum / Abul Fazl	Babur wrote *Tuzuk-i-Baburi* in **Chagatai Turkic** (translated into Persian by Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khana); Gulbadan Begum (Humayun's sister) wrote *Humayun-nama*.
Freedom Struggle Classics	*The Indian War of Independence 1857* / *Unhappy India* / *India Wins Freedom* / *Why I Am an Atheist*	V.D. Savarkar / Lala Lajpat Rai / Maulana Abul Kalam Azad / Bhagat Singh	Lala Lajpat Rai wrote *Unhappy India* in response to Katherine Mayo's *Mother India*; Subhas Chandra Bose authored *The Indian Struggle*.
Constitutional & Social Reform	*Annihilation of Caste*, *The Problem of the Rupee*, *Who Were the Shudras?*, *Waiting for a Visa*	**Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**	*The Problem of the Rupee* (1923, LSE D.Sc. thesis) formed the conceptual basis for the Hilton Young Commission and the creation of the **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI Official Portal).
Sports Autobiographies	*Playing It My Way* / *A Century Is Not Enough* / *The Race of My Life* / *Ace Against Odds* / *Unbreakable*	Sachin Tendulkar / Sourav Ganguly / Milkha Singh / Sania Mirza / M.C. Mary Kom	Additional key sports memoirs: *Golden Girl* (P.T. Usha), *Straight from the Heart* (Kapil Dev), *A Shot at History* (Abhinav Bindra), *Playing to Win* (Saina Nehwal).
Presidential & Economic Works	*Wings of Fire*, *Ignited Minds*, *India 2020* / *I Do What I Do*, *The Third Pillar*	**Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam** / **Dr. Raghuram Rajan** (23rd RBI Governor)	Former RBI Governor **Duvvuri Subbarao** authored *Who Moved My Interest Rate?* and *Just a Mercenary?*; **Urjit Patel** authored *Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver*.

Did You Know?: Only **two Mughal Emperors** wrote their own autobiographies: **Babur** (*Tuzuk-i-Baburi* in Chagatai Turkic) and **Jahangir** (*Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri* in Persian), whereas Akbar's official chronicle (*Akbarnama*, whose third volume is *Ain-i-Akbari*) was authored by his court historian **Abul Fazl** (IUC Academy).

Exam Trap Alert: Students frequently confuse **Aurobindo Ghosh's** book ***The Life Divine*** (and *Savitri*) with **Swami Sivananda's** organization **The Divine Life Society** (Rishikesh), and **Ram Manohar Lohia's** book ***Guilty Men of India's Partition*** with **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's** ***India Wins Freedom*** (IUC Academy).

★ **Memory Trick:** To distinguish the five classics written during **Harshavardhana's reign**, use **"Bana's H-K vs Harsha's P-R-N"**: Court poet **Banabhatta** wrote **H**arshacharita and **K**adambari, while **Emperor Harsha** wrote **P**riyadarshika, **R**atnavali, and **N**agananda (IUC Academy).

Chapter 7 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Evolution of Indian Literary Traditions Across Historical Epochs	**Ancient & Classical Sanskrit Literature**	Spans Vedic Samhitas, Upanishads, Epics (*Ramayana* by Valmiki and *Mahabharata* by Ved Vyasa), Mauryan statecraft (*Arthashastra* by Kautilya/Chanakya in 15 Adhikaranas), Gupta-era Sanskrit drama (**Kalidasa's** *Abhijnanashakuntalam*, *Malavikagnimitram*, *Vikramorvashiyam*, *Raghuvamsham*, *Kumarasambhavam*, *Meghadutam*), and **Kalhana's** *Rajatarangini* (12th century CE, considered the first authentic historical chronicle in Sanskrit, detailing the rulers of Kashmir in 8 Tarangas) (IUC Academy).
Chronological Literary Progression in Indian History Flowchart	**Seleucid Greek Envoy**	(Greek ambassador of Seleucus I Nicator to Chandragupta Maurya): *Indica.*
Master Comparative Table of High-Frequency Exam Books & Authors	**Fa-Hien (Faxian)**	(visited during Chandragupta II): *Fo-Kwo-Ki* (*Record of Buddhist Kingdoms*).
Evolution of Indian Literary Traditions Across Historical Epochs	**Hiuen Tsang (Xuanzang)**	(visited during Harshavardhana): *Si-Yu-Ki* (*Great Tang Records on the Western Regions*).
Chronological Literary Progression in Indian History Flowchart	**Al-Biruni**	(accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni, 11th century): *Kitab-ul-Hind* (*Tahqiq-i-Hind* in Arabic).
Master Comparative Table of High-Frequency Exam Books & Authors	**Ibn Battuta**	(Moroccan traveler to Muhammad bin Tughlaq's court): *Rihla.*

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Evolution of Indian Literary Traditions Across Historical Epochs	**Freedom Struggle & Nationalist Literature**	Pivotal nationalist texts shaped anti-colonial consciousness, including **Dadabhai Naoroji's** *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India* (1901, Drain of Wealth theory), **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's** *Anandamath* (1882, Sannyasi Rebellion context; source of *Vande Mataram*), **Bal Gangadhar Tilak's** *Gita Rahasya* (written in Mandalay Jail) and *The Arctic Home in the Vedas*, **Mahatma Gandhi's** *Hind Swaraj* (1909) and *The Story of My Experiments with Truth* (originally written in Gujarati), and **Jawaharlal Nehru's** *The Discovery of India* (written at Ahmadnagar Fort Prison, 1942–1945) (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter 7 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Ancient & Classical Sanskrit Literature): Spans Vedic Samhitas, Upanishads, Epics (*Ramayana* by Valmiki and *Mahabharata* by Ved Vyasa), Mauryan statecraft (*Arthashastra* by Kautilya/Chanakya in 15 Adhikaranas), Gupta-era Sanskrit drama (**Kalidasa's** *Abhijnanashakuntalam*, *Malavikagnimitram*, *Vikramorvashiyam*, *Raghuvamsham*, *Kumarasambhavam*, *Meghadutam*), and **Kalhana's** *Rajatarangini* (12th century CE, considered the first authentic historical chronicle in Sanskrit, detailing the rulers of Kashmir in 8 Tarangas) (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Seleucid Greek Envoy): (Greek ambassador of Seleucus I Nicator to Chandragupta Maurya): *Indica*.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Fa-Hien (Faxian)): (visited during Chandragupta II): *Fo-Kwo-Ki* (*Record of Buddhist Kingdoms*).

Statement-II (Hiuen Tsang (Xuanzang)): (visited during Harshavardhana): *Si-Yu-Ki* (*Great Tang Records on the Western Regions*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Al-Biruni): (accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni, 11th century): *Kitab-ul-Hind* (*Tahqiq-i-Hind* in Arabic).

Statement-II (Ibn Battuta): (Moroccan traveler to Muhammad bin Tughlaq's court): *Rihla*.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8: First in India & World, Superlatives, Space Defence Milestones & Important Days

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 8: First in India & World, Superlatives, Space Defence Milestones & Important Days

Key Study Pillar 1
Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India

Key Study Pillar 2
Master Table of First in India (Male & Female) and Important National/International Days

8.1 Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India

• **Constitutional & Executive Pioneers:**

• **First Governor-General of Bengal (Regulating Act 1773):** Warren Hastings.

• **First Governor-General of India (Charter Act 1833):** Lord William Bentinck.

• **Last Governor-General & First Viceroy of India (GOI Act 1858):** Lord Canning.

• **First and Last Indian Governor-General of Independent India: C. Rajagopalachari**.

• **First President of India:** Dr. Rajendra Prasad; **First Woman President:** Pratibha Patil (12th President); **First Tribal Woman President (and First President born after Independence): Droupadi Murmu** (15th President, hails from the Santhal community of Mayurbhanj, Odisha) (PIB Official Portal).

• **ISRO Space & Defence Landmarks:**

• **First Indian Satellite:** *Aryabhata* (launched on 19 April 1975 via Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket).

• **First Indian in Space:** Wing Commander **Rakesh Sharma** aboard *Soyuz T-11* on 3 April 1984.

• **Chandrayaan-3 Historic Soft Landing (23 August 2023):** India became the **4th country in the world** to soft-land on the Moon and the **1st country in the world** to land near the **Lunar South Pole** (69.37^° S latitude) via the *Vikram* lander and *Pragyan* rover. The landing site was named **Shiv Shakti Point**, and **23 August** was officially declared **National Space Day** (PIB Official Portal).

• **Aditya-L1 Mission (Launched 2 September 2023 via PSLV-C57):** India's first dedicated solar coronagraphy mission, inserted into a Halo Orbit at **Lagrange Point 1 (L1)** (1.5 million km from Earth) on 6 January 2024 (PIB Official Portal).

8.2 ISRO Flagship Planetary Exploration Milestone Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Aryabhata (1975) & Rohini RS-1 via Indigenous SLV-3 under Satish Dhawan & Kalam (1980)

STEP 2
Chandrayaan-1 (2008, Water Molecule Discovery) & Mangalyaan MOM (2013, First Asian Mars Orbit)

STEP 3
Chandrayaan-3 First Global Lunar South Pole Soft Landing at Shiv Shakti Point (23 Aug 2023)

STEP 4
Aditya-L1 Solar Halo Orbit (2024) & Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme

8.3 Master Table of First in India (Male & Female) and Important National/International Days

Category / Milestone	First Male / General Pioneer in India	First Female Pioneer in India	Key Date / Important Day & Official Theme Context (PIB)
Civil Services & Judiciary	**Satyendranath Tagore** (First Indian ICS Officer, 1864); **H.J. Kania** (First Chief Justice of India)	**Anna Rajam Malhotra** (First Woman IAS Officer); **Kiran Bedi** (First Woman IPS); **Justice Fathima Beevi** (First Woman Supreme Court Judge, 1989); **Justice Leila Seth** (First Woman High Court Chief Justice, HP)	**21 April:** National Civil Services Day (marks Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 1947 address to probationers at Metcalfe House, calling them the "Steel Frame of India").
Legislature & Governance	**G.V. Mavalankar** (First Speaker of Lok Sabha); **Sukumar Sen** (First Chief Election Commissioner)	**Sarojini Naidu** (First Woman Governor — UP; First Indian Woman INC President, 1925 Kanpur); **Sucheta Kripalani** (First Woman CM — UP); **Meira Kumar** (First Woman Lok Sabha Speaker); **V.S. Ramadevi** (First Woman CEC)	**25 January:** National Voters' Day (Foundation of Election Commission of India on 25 Jan 1950); **26 November:** Constitution Day (*Samvidhan Divas*).
Armed Forces & Aviation	**Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa** (First Indian Commander-in-Chief; **Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw** was the first officer conferred the rank of Field Marshal in Jan 1973); **General Bipin Rawat** (First Chief of Defence Staff, 2020)	**Punita Arora** (First Woman Lieutenant General); **Padmavathy Bandopadhyay** (First Woman Air Marshal); **Avani Chaturvedi, Bhawana Kanth, Mohana Singh** (First Women Fighter Pilots); **Capt. Shiva Chauhan** (First Woman Officer deployed at Siachen Glacier)	**15 January:** Indian Army Day; **8 October:** Indian Air Force Day; **4 December:** Indian Navy Day (Operation Trident, 1971).
Mountaineering, Adventure & Global Honours	**Tenzing Norgay** & **Edmund Hillary** (First to summit Mt. Everest, 29 May 1953); **Mihir Sen** (First Indian to swim across English Channel, 1958)	**Bachendri Pal** (First Indian Woman on Mt. Everest, 1984); **Santosh Yadav** (First Woman in the world to scale Everest twice); **Arunima Sinha** (First Female Amputee on Everest); **Arati Saha** (First Asian Woman across English Channel, 1959)	**9 January:** Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa in 1915); **12 January:** National Youth Day (Swami Vivekananda's Birth Anniversary).
Science, Health & Environment Calendar	**Dr. C.V. Raman** (Raman Effect discovered on 28 Feb 1928); **Sir M. Visvesvaraya** (Engineers' Day, 15 Sept); **Srinivasa Ramanujan** (National Mathematics Day, 22 Dec); **P.C. Mahalanobis** (National Statistics Day, 29 June)	**Anandibai Gopalrao Joshi** (First Indian Woman Physician in Western Medicine, 1886); **Kadambini Ganguly** (First Practising Female Doctor in India); **Asima Chatterjee** (First Woman to receive a Doctorate of Science from an Indian University)	**2 Feb:** World Wetlands Day; **28 Feb:** National Science Day; **22 March:** World Water Day; **22 April:** Earth Day; **22 May:** International Day for Biological Diversity; **5 June:** World Environment Day; **16 Sept:** World Ozone Day (Montreal Protocol 1987).
Recent Official Commemorative Days in India	**23 January:** *Parakram Diwas* (Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose); **14 August:** *Partition Horrors Remembrance Day*; **23 August:** *National Space Day* (Chandrayaan-3)	**15 November:** *Janjatiya Gaurav Divas* (Bhagwan Birsa Munda's Birth Anniversary); **26 December:** *Veer Baal Diwas* (Martyrdom of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh)	**21 June:** International Day of Yoga; 7 **August:** National Handloom Day (Swadeshi Movement 1905) & National Javelin Day; **14 Sept:** Hindi Diwas (*World Hindi Day is 10 January*).

Did You Know?: Still hasn't had a woman serve as the **Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India** since its inception in 1950; **Justice M. Fathima Beevi** was the **first woman Judge of the Supreme Court** (appointed in 1989), while **Justice Anna Chandy** was the **first woman High Court Judge** in India (Kerala High Court, 1959) and **Justice Leila Seth** was the **first woman Chief Justice of a State High Court** (Himachal Pradesh, 1991) (PIB Official Portal).

Exam Trap Alert: Never confuse **National Hindi Diwas (14 September)**—which marks the Constituent Assembly's adoption of Hindi in Devanagari script as the Official Language of the Union under Article 343 on 14 September 1949—with **World Hindi Day (*Vishwa Hindi Diwas*, 10 January)**, which commemorates the First World Hindi Conference inaugurated in Nagpur on 10 January 1975 (PIB Official Portal).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Memory Trick: Remember the "Date-22 Environmental Trio" across three consecutive months (March, April, May): 22 March = World Water Day

STEP 2
22 April = Earth Day (Water gives life to Earth)**

STEP 3
22 May = International Biodiversity Day (Water + Earth sustain Biodiversity) (IUC Academy).**

Chapter *8* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India	**First Governor-General of India (Charter Act 1833)**	Lord William Bentinck.
ISRO Flagship Planetary Exploration Milestone Flowchart	**First and Last Indian Governor-General of Independent India**	**C. Rajagopalachari**.
Master Table of First in India (Male & Female) and Important National/ International Days	**First President of India**	Dr. Rajendra Prasad; **First Woman President:** Pratibha Patil (12th President); **First Tribal Woman President (and First President born after Independence): Droupadi Murmu** (15th President, hails from the Santhal community of Mayurbhanj, Odisha) (PIB Official Portal).
Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India	**First Indian Satellite**	*Aryabhata* (launched on 19 April 1975 via Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket).
ISRO Flagship Planetary Exploration Milestone Flowchart	**First Indian in Space**	Wing Commander **Rakesh Sharma** aboard *Soyuz T-11* on 3 April 1984.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
Master Table of First in India (Male & Female) and Important National/ International Days	**Chandrayaan-3 Historic Soft Landing (23 August 2023)**	India became the **4th country in the world** to soft-land on the Moon and the **1st country in the world** to land near the **Lunar South Pole** (69.37^° S latitude) via the *Vikram* lander and *Pragyan* rover. The landing site was named **Shiv Shakti Point**, and **23 August** was officially declared **National Space Day** (PIB Official Portal).
Constitutional, Administrative & Scientific Pioneers of India	**Aditya-L1 Mission (Launched 2 September 2023 via PSLV-C57)**	India's first dedicated solar coronagraphy mission, inserted into a Halo Orbit at **Lagrange Point 1 (L1)** (1.5 million km from Earth) on 6 January 2024 (PIB Official Portal).

Chapter *8* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (First Governor-General of India (Charter Act 1833)): Lord William Bentinck.
Statement-II (First and Last Indian Governor-General of Independent India): C. Rajagopalachari.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (First President of India): Dr. Rajendra Prasad; **First Woman President:** Pratibha Patil (12th President); **First Tribal Woman President (and First President born after Independence): Droupadi Murmu** (15th President, hails from the Santhal community of Mayurbhanj, Odisha) (PIB Official Portal).

Statement-II (First Indian Satellite): *Aryabhata* (launched on 19 April 1975 via Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (First Indian in Space): Wing Commander **Rakesh Sharma** aboard *Soyuz T-11* on 3 April 1984.

Statement-II (Chandrayaan-3 Historic Soft Landing (23 August 2023)): India became the **4th country in the world** to soft-land on the Moon and the **1st country in the world** to land near the **Lunar South Pole** (69.37^° S latitude) via the *Vikram* lander and *Pragyan* rover. The landing site was named **Shiv Shakti Point**, and **23 August** was officially declared **National Space Day** (PIB Official Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

Practice Question #1 Solved Exam MCQ

1. **Which monument was inducted as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site during the 46th World Heritage Committee session held in New Delhi in July 2024?**
(A) Santiniketan, West Bengal
(B) Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas, Karnataka
(C) Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty, Assam
(D) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: The *Moidams* at Charaideo, Assam, representing the royal mound-burial tradition of the Tai-Ahom dynasty, became India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site (and the first under the Cultural category in Northeast India) in July 2024 (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #2 Solved Exam MCQ

2. **Which is the ONLY Mixed (both Cultural and Natural) UNESCO World Heritage Site in India?**
(A) Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks
(B) Khangchendzonga National Park, Sikkim
(C) Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area
(D) Sundarbans National Park, West Bengal
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Inscribed in 2016, Khangchendzonga National Park in Sikkim is India's sole Mixed World Heritage Site, fulfilling both natural biodiversity criteria and cultural sacred landscape (*Beyul*) criteria (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #3 Solved Exam MCQ

3. **Which two Indian wetlands are currently listed on the Montreux Record under the Ramsar Convention?**
(A) Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)
(B) Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) and Loktak Lake (Manipur)
(C) Loktak Lake (Manipur) and Sundarbans Wetland (West Bengal)
(D) Sambhar Lake (Rajasthan) and Vembanad-Kol Wetland (Kerala)
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Keoladeo National Park (1990) and Loktak Lake (1993) remain on the Montreux Record, whereas Chilika Lake (placed in 1993) was removed from the Montreux Record in 2002 following ecological restoration (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #4 Solved Exam MCQ

4. **As of August 2024 (with 85 designated Ramsar Sites in India), which state holds the highest number of Ramsar Wetlands?**
(A) Uttar Pradesh (10 sites)
(B) Tamil Nadu (18 sites)
(C) Karnataka (12 sites)
(D) Odisha (9 sites)
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Following the addition of Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary and Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in August 2024, Tamil Nadu leads all states with 18 Ramsar sites, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 10 sites (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #5 Solved Exam MCQ

5. **Which wetland is the smallest Ramsar Site in India by surface area?**
(A) Nagi Bird Sanctuary, Bihar
(B) Renuka Wetland, Himachal Pradesh
(C) Vembannur Wetland Complex, Tamil Nadu
(D) Chandertal Wetland, Himachal Pradesh
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Renuka Wetland in Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh spans only 20 hectares, making it India's smallest Ramsar Site, whereas Sundarbans Wetland (4,230 sq. km) is the largest (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

6. **Where is the headquarters of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, located?**
(A) Geneva, Switzerland
(B) New York City, USA
(C) The Hague, Netherlands
(D) Vienna, Austria
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: The ICJ is seated at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands, and is the only one of the 6 principal UN organs located outside New York City (IUC Academy).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

7. **Which international organization publishes the flagship *World Economic Outlook* (*WEO*) and *Global Financial Stability Report* (*GFSR*)?**
(A) World Bank Group
(B) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(C) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(D) Bank for International Settlements (BIS)
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Both the *World Economic Outlook* and the *Global Financial Stability Report* are published semi-annually by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (RBI Official Portal).

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

8. **Regarding SAARC and BIMSTEC headquarters, which of the following statements is strictly accurate?**
(A) Both SAARC and BIMSTEC are headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal
(B) SAARC is headquartered in Kathmandu (Nepal), whereas BIMSTEC is headquartered in Dhaka (Bangladesh)
(C) SAARC is headquartered in Dhaka (Bangladesh), whereas BIMSTEC is headquartered in Bangkok (Thailand)
(D) SAARC is headquartered in New Delhi, whereas BIMSTEC is headquartered in Jakarta
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Although the SAARC Charter was signed in Dhaka (1985), its Secretariat is in Kathmandu; conversely, BIMSTEC was formed via the Bangkok Declaration (1997), and its Permanent Secretariat is in Dhaka (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

9. **In 2024, how many personalities were conferred India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna?**
(A) Three
(B) Four
(C) Five
(D) Six
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: In 2024, five personalities received the Bharat Ratna: Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (**PIB Official Portal**).

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

10. **Who were jointly awarded the 58th Jnanpith Award (announced in 2024 for the year 2023)?**
(A) Damodar Mauzo and Nilmani Phookan
(B) Gulzar (Urdu) and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)
(C) Amitav Ghosh and Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri
(D) Geetanjali Shree and Perumal Murugan
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Renowned Urdu poet/lyricist Gulzar and Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya were selected for the 58th Jnanpith Award (**PIB Official Portal**).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

11. **Who was conferred the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award (announced in October 2024 for the year 2022) at the 70th National Film Awards?**
(A) Waheeda Rehman
(B) Asha Parekh
(C) Mithun Chakraborty
(D) Rajinikanth
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty was honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award at the 70th National Film Awards ceremony in October 2024 (**PIB Official Portal**).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

12. **Which Indian author wrote *Tomb of Sand* (*Ret Samadhi*), the first novel in any Indian language to win the International Booker Prize (2022)?**
(A) Arundhati Roy
(B) Kiran Desai
(C) Geetanjali Shree (translated by Daisy Rockwell)
(D) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Geetanjali Shree's Hindi novel *Ret Samadhi*, translated into English as *Tomb of Sand* by Daisy Rockwell, won the 2022 International Booker Prize (**IUC Academy**).

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

13. **How many total medals did India win at the Paris 2024 Summer Olympic Games?**
(A) 7 Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze)
(B) 6 Medals (0 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze)
(C) 8 Medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver, 6 Bronze)
(D) 5 Medals (0 Gold, 2 Silver, 3 Bronze)
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: India won 6 medals at the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics: 1 Silver (Neeraj Chopra in Javelin) and 5 Bronze (Manu Bhaker individual, Manu Bhaker–Sarabjot Singh mixed team, Swapnil Kusale, Men's Hockey Team, and Aman Sehrawat) (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

14. **Who became the youngest Olympic medalist in Indian history by winning Bronze at the Paris 2024 Olympics?**
(A) Manu Bhaker
(B) Lakshya Sen
(C) Aman Sehrawat (Men's 57kg Freestyle Wrestling)
(D) Swapnil Kusale
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Wrestler Aman Sehrawat won the Bronze medal in Men's 57kg Freestyle Wrestling at age 21 years and 24 days, surpassing P.V. Sindhu's age record from Rio 2016 (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

15. **In December 2024, who became the youngest undisputed World Chess Champion in history?**
(A) R. Praggnanandhaa
(B) Arjun Erigaisi
(C) D. Gukesh (Dommaraju Gukesh)
(D) Vidit Gujrathi
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: At age 18, D. Gukesh defeated defending champion Ding Liren in Singapore in December 2024 to become the 18th World Chess Champion and the youngest in history (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

16. **Which of the following classical dances was introduced in the 15th century by Vaishnava saint Srimanta Sankardeva in Assam and recognized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2000?**
(A) Manipuri
(B) Sattriya
(C) Odissi
(D) Gaudiya Nritya
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Sattriya was developed by Srimanta Sankardeva inside Vaishnavite monasteries (*Sattras*) in Assam and became the 8th classical dance recognized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2000 (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

17. **Which classical dance is characterized by the *Tribhangi* (three-bend) posture and the *Chauka* square stance?**
(A) Bharatanatyam
(B) Kuchipudi
(C) Odissi
(D) Mohiniyattam
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Odissi dance of Odisha is uniquely defined by two foundational postures: *Tribhangi* (independent deflection of head, torso, and hips) and *Chauka* (symmetric square stance symbolizing Lord Jagannath) (**PIB Official Portal**).

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

18. **In December 2023, which cultural tradition of India was inscribed as the 15th element from India on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity?**
(A) Durga Puja in Kolkata
(B) Garba of Gujarat
(C) Kumbh Mela
(D) Kalamkari Painting
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: *Garba of Gujarat* was inscribed in December 2023 at the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Committee in Kasane, Botswana, as India's 15th UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage element (following *Durga Puja in Kolkata* in 2021) (**PIB Official Portal**).

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

19. **Which of the three regional styles of Chhau dance does NOT use facial masks during performance?**
(A) Purulia Chhau (West Bengal)
(B) Seraikella Chhau (Jharkhand)
(C) Mayurbhanj Chhau (Odisha)
(D) All three forms of Chhau use masks
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Mayurbhanj Chhau of Odisha relies purely on facial expressions (*Mukha Abhinaya*) without masks, whereas Purulia Chhau and Seraikella Chhau employ elaborate masks (**IUC Academy**).

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

20. **Who authored the ancient Sanskrit political drama *Mudrarakshasa*, which narrates the ascent of Chandragupta Maurya with Chanakya's strategy?**
(A) Shudraka
(B) Vishakhadatta
(C) Banabhatta
(D) Bhavabhuti
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Vishakhadatta authored *Mudrarakshasa* (as well as *Devichandraguptam*), whereas Shudraka authored *Mrichchhakatika* (**IUC Academy**).

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

21. **Which of the following Sanskrit works was authored by Banabhatta rather than Emperor Harshavardhana?**
(A) *Ratnavali*
(B) *Priyadarshika*
(C) *Nagananda*
(D) *Kadambari*
Correct Answer: (D)
Explanation: Banabhatta, the court poet (*Asthana Kavi*) of Harsha, wrote *Harshacharita* and the romantic novel *Kadambari*, whereas Harsha authored the plays *Ratnavali*, *Priyadarshika*, and *Nagananda* (IUC Academy).

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

22. **Whose doctoral thesis titled *The Problem of the Rupee: Its Origin and Its Solution* (1923) provided the conceptual blueprint for establishing the Reserve Bank of India?**
(A) Dadabhai Naoroji
(B) Mahadev Govind Ranade
(C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
(D) C.D. Deshmukh
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's 1923 LSE thesis *The Problem of the Rupee* directly guided the Hilton Young Commission (Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance, 1926), leading to the RBI Act, 1934 (RBI Official Portal).

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

23. **Why is August 23 celebrated annually in India as 'National Space Day'?**
(A) Launch of India's first satellite Aryabhata in 1975
(B) Soft landing of Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander near the Lunar South Pole in 2023
(C) Insertion of Aditya-L1 at Lagrange Point 1
(D) Establishment of ISRO in 1969
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: On 23 August 2023, Chandrayaan-3 successfully soft-landed near the Lunar South Pole at *Shiv Shakti Point*, prompting the Government of India to declare August 23 as National Space Day (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

24. **Who was the first woman Chief Justice of a State High Court in India?**
(A) Justice M. Fathima Beevi
(B) Justice Anna Chandy
(C) Justice Leila Seth (Himachal Pradesh High Court, 1991)
(D) Justice Indu Malhotra
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Justice Leila Seth became the first woman Chief Justice of a State High Court (Himachal Pradesh, 1991); Justice Anna Chandy was the first woman High Court Judge (1959), and Justice Fathima Beevi was the first woman Judge of the Supreme Court (1989) (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

25. **Which pair of sports trophies and their respective sports disciplines is INCORRECTLY matched?**
(A) Beighton Cup — Field Hockey
(B) Santosh Trophy — Football
(C) Thomas Cup — Lawn Tennis
(D) Ezra Cup — Polo
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Thomas Cup is the Men's World Team Championship in **Badminton** (and Uber Cup is for Women's Badminton), whereas **Davis Cup** is for Men's Lawn Tennis (IUC Academy).

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

26. **Which of the following cities were inducted into the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in late 2023 for Music and Literature respectively?**
(A) Varanasi and Jaipur
(B) Gwalior (Music) and Kozhikode (Literature)
(C) Chennai and Kolkata
(D) Srinagar and Hyderabad
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: On World Cities Day (31 October 2023), UNESCO designated Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) as a Creative City of Music and Kozhikode (Kerala) as India's first UNESCO City of Literature (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

27. **On which date is *Janjatiya Gaurav Divas* (Tribal Pride Day) observed annually across India?**
(A) 9 August
(B) 15 November (Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda)
(C) 30 June (Hul Diwas)
(D) 26 December
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: The Government of India declared 15 November, the birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda, as *Janjatiya Gaurav Divas* starting in 2021 (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

28. **Which five currencies constitute the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) valuation basket of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)?**
(A) US Dollar, Euro, Chinese Renminbi (Yuan), Japanese Yen, and British Pound Sterling
(B) US Dollar, Euro, Swiss Franc, Japanese Yen, and Indian Rupee
(C) US Dollar, Euro, Canadian Dollar, Australian Dollar, and British Pound
(D) US Dollar, Russian Ruble, Chinese Renminbi, Euro, and Japanese Yen
Correct Answer: (A)
Explanation: The IMF's SDR basket comprises five currencies: USD, EUR, CNY (added in 2016), JPY, and GBP (RBI Official Portal).

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

29. **Which temple, inscribed as India's 39th UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021, is famous for its sandbox foundation and floating porous bricks?**
(A) Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur
(B) Sun Temple, Konark
(C) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana
(D) Chennakesava Temple, Belur
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Built in 1213 CE by General Recharla Rudra during the reign of Kakatiya ruler Ganapati Deva in Mulugu district (Telangana), the Ramappa Temple uses lightweight porous bricks (*floating bricks*) in its *Vimana* and a seismic sandbox foundation (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

30. **Pandit Birju Maharaj, a Padma Vibhushan awardee, was the foremost exponent of which classical dance and Gharana?**
(A) Kathak — Jaipur Gharana
(B) Kathak — Kalka-Bindadin (Lucknow) Gharana
(C) Odissi — Cuttack Gharana
(D) Kuchipudi — Vijayawada Gharana
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Pandit Birju Maharaj was the torchbearer of the Kalka-Bindadin Gharana of Lucknow in Kathak dance (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

31. **Who is the author of the historical chronicle *Rajatarangini* (River of Kings), composed in Sanskrit during the 12th century CE?**
(A) Bilhana
(B) Kalhana
(C) Somadeva
(D) Jayadeva
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Kalhana composed *Rajatarangini* in 1148–1150 CE in 8 *Tarangas* (books), chronicling the history of the dynasties of Kashmir from earliest times (IUC Academy).

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

32. **Which Indian Biosphere Reserve was the 12th (and most recent) site from India to be included in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves (MAB Programme) in 2020?**
(A) Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve, Sikkim
(B) Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve, Kerala/Tamil Nadu
(C) Panna Biosphere Reserve, Madhya Pradesh
(D) Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, Himachal Pradesh
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: Panna Biosphere Reserve in Madhya Pradesh (traversed by the Ken River) became the 12th Indian Biosphere Reserve inducted into UNESCO's MAB network in November 2020 (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

33. **In which classical dance form does the performer execute the *Tarangam* repertoire while balancing on the edges of a brass plate?**
(A) Bharatanatyam
(B) Kuchipudi
(C) Mohiniyattam
(D) Kathakali
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: *Tarangam* (excerpts from Narayana Teertha's *Krishna Leela Tarangini*) performed on the rim of a brass plate (*Kanchu Thali*) is a signature feature of Kuchipudi dance from Andhra Pradesh (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

34. **Which international environmental treaty is commemorated on 16 September each year as 'World Ozone Day'?**
(A) Kyoto Protocol (1997)
(B) Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987)
(C) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001)
(D) Minamata Convention on Mercury (2013)
Correct Answer: (B)
Explanation: Signed on 16 September 1987 (and strengthened by the Kigali Amendment of 2016 to phase down HFCs), the Montreal Protocol is commemorated on World Ozone Day (PIB Official Portal).

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

35. **At the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad held in Budapest, Hungary (September 2024), what historic milestone did India achieve?**
(A) Won Bronze in both Open and Women's sections
(B) Won Gold in the Open section and Silver in the Women's section
(C) Won historic Double Gold in BOTH the Open section and the Women's section
(D) Hosted the Chess Olympiad for the second consecutive time
Correct Answer: (C)
Explanation: India won Gold in BOTH the Open Category (D. Gukesh, R. Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna) and the Women's Category (Harika Dronavalli, R. Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev) at the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest (PIB Official Portal).

Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions *36* to *75*)

Practice Question #36 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q36. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "*01* (Cultural)"?

(A) Ajanta Caves (29 Rock-Cut Buddhist Caves)
(B) Ellora Caves (34 Caves: 1–12 Buddhist, 13–29 Hindu, 30–34 Jain)
(C) Agra Fort & Taj Mahal
(D) Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For ***01* (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Ajanta Caves (29 Rock-Cut Buddhist Caves)**. Furthermore, Maharashtra (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #37 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q37. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "02 (Cultural)"?

(A) Agra Fort & Taj Mahal
(B) Ellora Caves (34 Caves: 1–12 Buddhist, 13–29 Hindu, 30–34 Jain)
(C) Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)
(D) Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **02 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Ellora Caves (34 Caves: 1–12 Buddhist, 13–29 Hindu, 30–34 Jain)**. Furthermore, Maharashtra (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #38 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q38. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "03 (Cultural)"?

(A) Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)
(B) Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram
(C) Agra Fort & Taj Mahal
(D) Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **03 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Agra Fort & Taj Mahal**. Furthermore, Uttar Pradesh (Agra). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #39 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q39. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "04 (Cultural)"?

(A) Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram
(B) Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Keoladeo National Park
(D) Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **04 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Sun Temple, Konark (Black Pagoda)**. Furthermore, Odisha (Puri). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #40 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q40. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "05 (Cultural)"?

(A) Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram
(B) Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Keoladeo National Park
(D) Khajuraho Group of Monuments

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **05 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram**. Furthermore, Tamil Nadu (Chengalpattu). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #41 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q41. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "06 (Natural)"?

(A) Keoladeo National Park
(B) Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Khajuraho Group of Monuments
(D) Group of Monuments at Hampi

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **06 (Natural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Kaziranga National Park & Manas Wildlife Sanctuary**. Furthermore, Assam. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #42 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q42. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "07 (Natural)"?

(A) Khajuraho Group of Monuments
(B) Group of Monuments at Hampi
(C) Keoladeo National Park
(D) Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **07 (Natural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Keoladeo National Park**. Furthermore, Rajasthan (Bharatpur). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #43 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q43. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "08 (Cultural)"?

(A) Group of Monuments at Hampi
(B) Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers
(C) Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi
(D) Khajuraho Group of Monuments

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **08 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Khajuraho Group of Monuments**. Furthermore, Madhya Pradesh (Chhatarpur). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #44 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q44. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "09 (Cultural)"?

(A) Group of Monuments at Hampi
(B) Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers
(C) Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi
(D) Great Living Chola Temples

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **09 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Group of Monuments at Hampi**. Furthermore, Karnataka (Vijayanagara). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #45 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q45. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "10 (Natural)"?

(A) Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi
(B) Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers
(C) Great Living Chola Temples
(D) Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **10 (Natural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Sundarbans National Park & Nanda Devi / Valley of Flowers**. Furthermore, West Bengal & Uttarakhand. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "11 (Cultural)"?

(A) Great Living Chola Temples
(B) Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park
(C) Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi
(D) Khangchendzonga National Park

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **11 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi**. Furthermore, Madhya Pradesh (Raisen). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "12 (Cultural)"?

(A) Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park
(B) Khangchendzonga National Park
(C) Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City
(D) Great Living Chola Temples

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **12 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Great Living Chola Temples**. Furthermore, Tamil Nadu. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "13 (Natural)"?

(A) Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park
(B) Khangchendzonga National Park
(C) Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City
(D) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **13 (Natural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Western Ghats & Great Himalayan National Park**. Furthermore, Multi-State & Himachal Pradesh. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "14 (Mixed)"?

(A) Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City
(B) Khangchendzonga National Park
(C) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple
(D) Dholavira: A Harappan City

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **14 (Mixed)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Khangchendzonga National Park**. Furthermore, Sikkim. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "15 (Cultural)"?

(A) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple
(B) Dholavira: A Harappan City
(C) Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City
(D) Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **15 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Historic City of Ahmadabad & Jaipur City**. Furthermore, Gujarat & Rajasthan. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "16 (Cultural)"?

(A) Dholavira: A Harappan City
(B) Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas
(C) Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty
(D) Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **16 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple**. Furthermore, Telangana (Mulugu). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "17 (Cultural)"?

(A) Dholavira: A Harappan City
(B) Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas
(C) Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty
(D) Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **17 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Dholavira: A Harappan City**. Furthermore, Gujarat (Kutch, Khadir Bet). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "18 (Cultural)"?

(A) Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty
(B) Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas
(C) Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park
(D) Sundarbans Wetland

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **18 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Santiniketan & Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas**. Furthermore, West Bengal & Karnataka. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Site No. / Category and Official UNESCO Site Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "19 (Cultural)"?

(A) Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park
(B) Sundarbans Wetland
(C) Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty
(D) Renuka Wetland

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **19 (Cultural)** (Site No. / Category), the verified Official UNESCO Site Name is **Moidams – Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty**. Furthermore, Assam (Charaideo). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "First Ramsar Sites of India (1981)"?

(A) Sundarbans Wetland
(B) Renuka Wetland
(C) Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)
(D) Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **First Ramsar Sites of India (1981)** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Chilika Lake & Keoladeo National Park**. Furthermore, Odisha & Rajasthan. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "Largest Ramsar Site in India"?

(A) Sundarbans Wetland
(B) Renuka Wetland
(C) Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)
(D) Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Largest Ramsar Site in India** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Sundarbans Wetland**. Furthermore, West Bengal. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "Smallest Ramsar Site in India"?

(A) Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)

(B) Renuka Wetland

(C) Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)

(D) Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Smallest Ramsar Site in India** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Renuka Wetland**. Furthermore, Himachal Pradesh (Sirmaur). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #58 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q58. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "Highest State Tally (First Rank)"?

(A) Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)

(B) Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)

(C) Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)

(D) Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Highest State Tally (First Rank)** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Tamil Nadu (18 Ramsar Sites)**. Furthermore, Tamil Nadu. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #59 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q59. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "Second Highest State Tally"?

(A) Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)

(B) Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary

(C) Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)

(D) Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Second Highest State Tally** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Uttar Pradesh (10 Ramsar Sites)**. Furthermore, Uttar Pradesh. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #60 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q60. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "76th–80th Additions (Jan 2024)"?

(A) Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)

(B) Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary

(C) Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)

(D) 1944 (Bretton Woods)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **76th–80th Additions (Jan 2024)** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Ankasamudra, Aghanashini, Magadi Kere (Karnataka); Karaivetti, Longwood Shola (TN)**. Furthermore, Karnataka (3) & Tamil Nadu (2). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #61 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q61. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "81st & 82nd Additions (June 2024)"?

(A) Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)
(B) Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary
(C) 1944 (Bretton Woods)
(D) 1944

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **81st & 82nd Additions (June 2024)** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Nagi Bird Sanctuary & Nakti Bird Sanctuary**. Furthermore, Bihar (Jamui District). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #62 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q62. With reference to Record / Designation Category and Wetland Name, which of the following is accurately matched with "83rd–85th Additions (Aug 2024)"?

(A) 1944 (Bretton Woods)
(B) 1944
(C) Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)
(D) 1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **83rd–85th Additions (Aug 2024)** (Record / Designation Category), the verified Wetland Name is **Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), Tawa Reservoir (MP)**. Furthermore, Tamil Nadu (2) & Madhya Pradesh (1). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #63 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q63. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "International Monetary Fund (IMF)"?

(A) 1944
(B) 1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)
(C) 1971 (Klaus Schwab)
(D) 1944 (Bretton Woods)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1944 (Bretton Woods)**. Furthermore, Washington, D.C., USA. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #64 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q64. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "World Bank Group (IBRD & IDA)"?

(A) 1944
(B) 1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)
(C) 1971 (Klaus Schwab)
(D) 1965

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **World Bank Group (IBRD & IDA)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1944**. Furthermore, Washington, D.C., USA. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #65 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q65. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "World Trade Organization (WTO)"?

(A) 1971 (Klaus Schwab)
(B) 1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)
(C) 1965
(D) 1919 (Treaty of Versailles)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **World Trade Organization (WTO)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1995 (Marrakesh Agreement, replacing GATT 1948)**. Furthermore, Geneva, Switzerland. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #66 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q66. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "World Economic Forum (WEF)"?

(A) 1965
(B) 1919 (Treaty of Versailles)
(C) 1971 (Klaus Schwab)
(D) 7 April 1948

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **World Economic Forum (WEF)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1971 (Klaus Schwab)**. Furthermore, Cologny (Geneva), Switzerland. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #67 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q67. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)"?

(A) 1919 (Treaty of Versailles)
(B) 7 April 1948
(C) 2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)
(D) 1965

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1965**. Furthermore, New York City, USA. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #68 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q68. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "International Labour Organization (ILO)"?

(A) 1919 (Treaty of Versailles)
(B) 7 April 1948
(C) 2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)
(D) 1997 / 1985 / 1967

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **International Labour Organization (ILO)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1919 (Treaty of Versailles)**. Furthermore, Geneva, Switzerland. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #69 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q69. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "World Health Organization (WHO)"?

(A) 2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)
(B) 7 April 1948
(C) 1997 / 1985 / 1967
(D) 1989 (G7) / 1930

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **World Health Organization (WHO)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **7 April 1948**. Furthermore, Geneva, Switzerland. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #70 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q70. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "International Solar Alliance (ISA)"?

(A) 1997 / 1985 / 1967
(B) 1989 (G7) / 1930
(C) 2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)
(D) 1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **2015 (COP21 Paris by India & France)**. Furthermore, Gurugram, Haryana, India. (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #71 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q71. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "BIMSTEC / SAARC / ASEAN"?

(A) 1989 (G7) / 1930
(B) 1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)
(C) 1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)
(D) 1997 / 1985 / 1967

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **BIMSTEC / SAARC / ASEAN** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1997 / 1985 / 1967**. Furthermore, Dhaka (BIMSTEC) / Kathmandu (SAARC) / Jakarta (ASEAN). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #72 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q72. With reference to Organization Name & Acronym and Founding Year, which of the following is accurately matched with "FATF & BIS"?

(A) 1989 (G7) / 1930
(B) 1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)
(C) 1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)
(D) 1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **FATF & BIS** (Organization Name & Acronym), the verified Founding Year is **1989 (G7) / 1930**. Furthermore, Paris, France (FATF) / Basel, Switzerland (BIS). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #73 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q73. With reference to Award Category / Name and Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Nobel Prize (6 Categories)"?

(A) 1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)
(B) 1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)
(C) 1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)
(D) 1957 (Manila, Philippines; named after 7th Philippine President)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Nobel Prize (6 Categories)** (Award Category / Name), the verified Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body is **1901 (Will of Alfred Nobel, 1895; Economics added by Sveriges Riksbank in 1968, first awarded 1969)**. Furthermore, Rabindranath Tagore (1913, Literature for *Gitanjali* — first Asian laureate). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #74 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q74. With reference to Award Category / Name and Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Jnanpith Award (Highest Literary Award in India)"?

(A) 1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)
(B) 1957 (Manila, Philippines; named after 7th Philippine President)
(C) 1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)
(D) Booker (1969, English original); International Booker (2005, translated into English)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Jnanpith Award (Highest Literary Award in India)** (Award Category / Name), the verified Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body is **1961 (First awarded in 1965 by Bharatiya Jnanpith; covers 22 Schedule VIII languages + English)**. Furthermore, G. Sankara Kurup (1965, Malayalam for *Odakkuzhal*); Ashapoorna Devi (1976, Bengali — first woman). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #75 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q75. With reference to Award Category / Name and Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award"?

(A) 1957 (Manila, Philippines; named after 7th Philippine President)
(B) Booker (1969, English original); International Booker (2005, translated into English)
(C) Grammy (1959, Recording Academy); Oscars (1929, AMPAS)
(D) 1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award** (Award Category / Name), the verified Year Instituted & Sponsoring Body is **1969 (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC)**. Furthermore, Devika Rani (1969, First Lady of Indian Cinema). (Source: Press Information Bureau (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule

1. **Total UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India (as of late 2024):** 43 Sites (35 Cultural + 7 Natural + 1 Mixed) (**PIB Official Portal**).

2. **43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site of India (July 2024):** *Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty* at Charaideo, Assam.

3. **42nd & 41st UNESCO World Heritage Sites (September 2023):** *Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas* (Belur, Halebidu, Somanathapura, Karnataka) and *Santiniketan* (West Bengal).

4. **40th & 39th UNESCO World Heritage Sites (July 2021):** *Dholavira: A Harappan City* (Gujarat) and *Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple* (Telangana).

5. **India's Two UNESCO World Heritage Cities:** Ahmadabad (Gujarat, 2017) and Jaipur (Rajasthan, 2019).

6. **India's Only Mixed UNESCO World Heritage Site:** Khangchendzonga National Park (Sikkim, 2016).

7. **State with Highest Number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India:** Maharashtra (6 Sites).

8. **Total Designated Ramsar Wetlands in India (as of August 2024):** 85 Sites covering ~1.35 million hectares (**PIB Official Portal**).

9. **83rd, 84th & 85th Ramsar Sites (August 2024):** Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary (TN), Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary (TN), and Tawa Reservoir (Madhya Pradesh).

10. **States with Most Ramsar Sites in India:** Tamil Nadu (1st with 18 sites), followed by Uttar Pradesh (2nd with 10 sites).

11. **First Two Ramsar Sites of India (1981):** Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan).

12. **Largest vs Smallest Ramsar Site in India:** Sundarbans Wetland, West Bengal (Largest, 4,230 sq. km) vs Renuka Wetland, Himachal Pradesh (Smallest, 0.2 sq. km / 20 ha).

13. **Indian Wetlands on Montreux Record:** Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) and Loktak Lake (Manipur) (*Chilika Lake was removed in 2002*).

14. **World's Only Floating National Park:** Keibul Lamjao National Park on Loktak Lake (Manipur), home to the endangered *Sangai* (Dancing Deer).

15. **Total Biosphere Reserves in India:** 18 Biosphere Reserves, of which **12** are part of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) World Network (1st: Nilgiri; 12th: Panna).

16. **15th UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Element of India (Dec 2023):** *Garba of Gujarat* (14th was *Durga Puja in Kolkata*, 2021).

17. **UNESCO Creative Cities Inducted in 2023 from India:** Gwalior (City of Music) and Kozhikode (India's first City of Literature).

18. **United Nations Founding Date & Membership:** 24 October 1945; 193 Member States (193rd: South Sudan); Headquarters in New York City.

19. **Only Principal Organ of UN Outside New York:** International Court of Justice (ICJ) at The Hague, Netherlands (15 Judges, 9-year tenure).

20. **G20 Permanent Expansion (New Delhi Summit, Sept 2023):** African Union (55 nations) inducted as the 21st permanent member.

21. **Newest Members of SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation):** Iran (9th member, 2023) and Belarus (10th member, July 2024); HQ in Beijing.

22. **IMF 191st Member Country (October 2024):** Principality of Liechtenstein; IMF Managing Director is Kristalina Georgieva.

23. **WTO 165th & 166th Members (2024):** Comoros and Timor-Leste; WTO Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

24. **International Solar Alliance (ISA) Headquarters:** Gurugram, Haryana (founded by India and France at COP21 Paris in 2015).

25. **Five Bharat Ratna Awardees of 2024:** Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (**PIB Official Portal**).

26. **First Three Bharat Ratna Recipients (1954):** C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Dr. C.V. Raman.

27. **Non-Citizens Conferred Bharat Ratna:** Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (*Frontier Gandhi*, 1987) and Nelson Mandela (1990) (*Mother Teresa became a naturalized Indian citizen in 1950 before her 1980 award*).

28. **Highest Wartime vs Peacetime Gallantry Awards in India:** Param Vir Chakra (Wartime, 1st recipient Major Somnath Sharma) vs Ashoka Chakra (Peacetime).

29. **58th Jnanpith Award Laureates (2024):** Gulzar (Urdu) and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit).

30. **Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award (2024 announcement for 2022):** Mithun Chakraborty (preceded by Waheeda Rehman).

31. **First Indian Woman to Win Booker Prize vs International Booker Prize:** Arundhati Roy (1997, *The God of Small Things*) vs Geetanjali Shree (2022, *Tomb of Sand*).

32. **India's Medal Tally at Paris 2024 Summer Olympics:** 6 Medals (1 Silver by Neeraj Chopra + 5 Bronze); Rank 71.

33. **India's Medal Tally at Paris 2024 Paralympics:** 29 Medals (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze); Rank 18 (India's highest-ever tally).

34. **First Athlete from Independent India to Win Two Medals in One Olympics:** Manu Bhaker (2 Bronze in 10m Air Pistol events at Paris 2024).

35. **18th & Youngest World Chess Champion (Dec 2024):** Grandmaster D. Gukesh (18 years old), defeating Ding Liren in Singapore.

36. **2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Winner:** India (led by Rohit Sharma), defeating South Africa by 7 runs at Bridgetown, Barbados.

37. **Upcoming Summer Olympic Hosts:** 2028 Los Angeles (USA) and 2032 Brisbane (Australia).

38. **8 Classical Dances of India (Sangeet Natak Akademi):** Bharatanatyam (TN), Kathak (UP), Kathakali (Kerala), Kuchipudi (AP), Odissi (Odisha), Manipuri (Manipur), Mohiniyattam (Kerala), and Sattriya (Assam).

39. **Author of *Natya Shastra* & *Abhinaya Darpana*:** Bharata Muni (*Natya Shastra*) and Nandikeshvara (*Abhinaya Darpana*).

40. **Six Musicians Conferred Bharat Ratna:** M.S. Subbulakshmi (1998), Pt. Ravi Shankar (1999), Lata Mangeshkar (2001), Ustad Bismillah Khan (2001), Pt. Bhimsen Joshi (2009), and Dr. Bhupen Hazarika (2019).

41. **Author of *Ashtadhyayi* vs *Mahabhashya*:** Panini (*Ashtadhyayi*) vs Patanjali (*Mahabhashya*).

42. **Author of *Arthashastra*, *Indica*, and *Rajatarangini*:** Kautilya/Vishnugupta (*Arthashastra*), Seleucid Greek Envoy (*Indica*), and Kalhana (*Rajatarangini*).

43. **Foreign Travelers and Rulers:** Seleucid Greek Envoy (Chandragupta Maurya), Fa-Hien (Chandragupta II), Hiuen Tsang (Harshavardhana), Ibn Battuta (Muhammad bin Tughlaq), Abdur Razzaq (Deva Raya II of Vijayanagara), Sir Thomas Roe (Jahangir).

44. **Author of *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India* (1901):** Dadabhai Naoroji (Grand Old Man of India; expounded the Drain of Wealth theory).

45. **Author of *Gita Rahasya* & *The Arctic Home in the Vedas*:** Bal Gangadhar Tilak (Lokmanya).

46. **Author of *Satyarth Prakash* (1875) & *Gulamgiri* (1873):** Swami Dayananda Saraswati (*Satyarth Prakash* in Hindi) and Jyotirao Phule (*Gulamgiri* in Marathi).

47. **First Governor-General of Bengal, of India, and First Viceroy:** Warren Hastings (GG of Bengal, 1773), Lord William Bentinck (GG of India, 1833), Lord Canning (First Viceroy, 1858).

48. **First Indian ICS Officer & First Indian Nobel Laureate:** Satyendranath Tagore (ICS, 1864) and his younger brother Rabindranath Tagore (Nobel Prize, 1913).

49. **First Woman President & First Indian Woman President of INC:** Annie Besant (1917, Calcutta Session) and Sarojini Naidu (1925, Kanpur Session).

50. **First Woman Governor & First Woman Chief Minister in Independent India:** Sarojini Naidu (Governor, Uttar Pradesh) and Sucheta Kripalani (Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh).

51. **First Woman Judge of Supreme Court vs First Woman Chief Justice of High Court:** Justice M. Fathima Beevi (SC, 1989) vs Justice Leila Seth (HP High Court, 1991).

52. **Chandrayaan-3 Landing Site & Date:** *Shiv Shakti Point* on **23 August 2023** (celebrated as **National Space Day**); Chandrayaan-2 crash site was named *Tiranga Point*.

53. **India's First Dedicated Solar Mission:** *Aditya-L1* launched on 2 September 2023 via PSLV-C57 and placed in a Halo Orbit at Lagrange Point 1 (L1).

54. **India's First Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC-1):** *INS Vikrant*, commissioned in September 2022 at Cochin Shipyard Limited.

55. **World Wetlands Day, World Water Day, Earth Day & Environment Day:** 2 February (Wetlands), 22 March (Water), 22 April (Earth), 5 June (Environment).

56. **National Youth Day, Parakram Diwas & National Voters' Day:** 12 January (Swami Vivekananda), 23 January (Subhas Chandra Bose), 25 January (ECI Foundation).

57. **National Science Day, National Technology Day & National Space Day:** 28 February (Raman Effect, 1928), 11 May (Pokhran-II Nuclear Tests, 1998), 23 August (Chandrayaan-3, 2023).

58. **National Statistics Day, National Doctor's Day & National Handloom Day:** 29 June (P.C. Mahalanobis), 1 July (Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy), 7 August (1905 Swadeshi Movement & Javelin Day).

59. **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, Constitution Day & Veer Baal Diwas:** 15 November (Birsa Munda), 26 November (Adoption of Constitution, 1949), 26 December (Sahibzadas' Martyrdom).

60. **Official Study & Verification Portals:** Always verify statutory updates via **Press Information Bureau (PIB)** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**.

IUC Academy *1-3-7-21* Day Spaced-Revision & Self-Assessment Tracker (www.iucacademy.com)

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
1. Chapter 1: 43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India (Cultural, Natural & Mixed)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 2: 85+ Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance & Biosphere Reserves	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 3: Major International Organizations, Headquarters, Reports & Summits	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 4: National & International Awards, Civilian Honours & Gallantry Medals	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 5: Sports Terminology, Trophies, Olympic History & Major Sporting Events	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 6: Classical Dances, Folk Arts, Musical Gharana System & UNESCO Intangible Heritage	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 7: Famous Books & Authors (Ancient Sanskrit Classics to Modern Works)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 8: First in India & World, Superlatives, Space Defence Milestones & Important Days	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 36–75)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
11. Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**