

# Feynman IAS

## Current Affairs Test 2 Solutions

### 1. Option: C

An e-way bill is an electronic-way bill for the movement of goods which can be generated on the GSTN (common portal). After the implementation of this bill, any movement of goods of more than Rs 50,000 in value cannot be made by a registered person without an e-way bill.

When an e-way is generated, a unique e-way bill number (EBN) is allocated and is available to the supplier, recipient, and the transporter.

It replaces the way bill which is physical document that existed under GST regime.

### 2. Option: C

MSF was founded in Paris, France in 1971. It is a non-profit, self-governed organisation. It delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, natural disasters and exclusion from healthcare. MSF offers assistance to people based on need, irrespective of race, religion, gender or political affiliation.

MSF is neutral. They do not take sides in armed conflicts and they provide care on the basis of need, and push for independent access to victims of conflict as required under international humanitarian law.

### 3. Option: A

Statement 1 is correct. The concept of Blue Economy came out of the 2012 Rio+20 Conference and emphasized conservation sustainable management, based on the premise that healthy ocean ecosystems are more productive and a must for sustainable ocean-based economies.

Statement 2: “Blue Growth” is the long term strategy to support sustainable growth in the maritime and marine sectors as a whole. Blue growth looks to further harness the potential of oceans, seas and coasts to:

- Eliminate harmful fishing practices and overfishing and instead **incentivize approaches which promote growth, improve conservation, build sustainable fisheries** and end illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- Ensure tailor-made measures that **foster cooperation between countries**
- Act as a **catalyst for policy development**, investment and innovation in support of food security, poverty reduction, and the sustainable management of aquatic resources.

Statement 3: Blue Economy is proving to be a catalyst in India's progress and the performance of ports is a clear pointer towards Progress.

#### **4. Option: D**

UMANG was developed by MeITy and National e-Governance division. Its as a part of Digital India mission

#### **5. Option: B**

Permanent Structured Cooperation in the area of security and defence policy was introduced by the Lisbon Treaty. It foresees the possibility of a number of **EU member states working more closely together in the area of security and defence**. This permanent framework for defence cooperation will allow willing and able member states to develop jointly defence capabilities, invest in shared projects, and enhance the operational readiness and contribution of their armed forces.

With Ireland as the recent entrant to PESCO, it is now a 25 membered body.

#### **6 Option: D**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved four sub-schemes under Umbrella Scheme Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). These four schemes include Anganwadi services, programme for adolescent girls called Sabla, Child Protection Services and National Creche Scheme.

#### **7 Option: D**

The Union Cabinet today approved India's membership for European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), a move which will help it obtain funding in various areas including services and manufacturing.

The membership will increase the scope of cooperation between India and the multilateral institution through co- financing opportunities in manufacturing, services, information technology and energy.

The partnership between India and the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is marked by a long history of cooperation spanning over 30 years when India became a member of the African Development Fund (ADF) in 1982 and of the African Development Bank (AfDB) in 1983.

It is known that India is member of ADB and AIIB

#### **8. Option: C**

In September 2016, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) had adopted set of commitments during its first ever summit on large movements of refugees and migrants. These commitments collectively are known as New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (NY Declaration). The New York Declaration reaffirms importance of international protection regime and represents commitment by UN member states to strengthen and enhance mechanisms to protect people on move. It paves way for adoption of two new global

compacts in 2018: global compact on refugees and global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

The UNGA had proclaimed 18 December as International Migrants Day after taking into account large and increasing number of migrants in the world in December 2000. This day marks adaptation of international convention on the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families (resolution 45/158) by UNGA on 18 December 1990.

### **9. Option: A**

The Global Landscape Forum (GLF) is a movement that puts communities first in addressing landscape-level issues. Sustainable landscapes are essential for the future we want: for food, livelihoods, health, renewable materials, energy, biodiversity, business development, trade, climate regulation and water.

### **10 Option: C**

The world's fastest supersonic cruise missile BrahMos was successfully test fired from Indian Air Force's (IAF) Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jet for the first time. It operates on 'fire and forget' principle and is capable of being launched from land, sea, sub-sea and air against sea and land targets.

It has top supersonic speed of Mach 2.8 to 3 (roughly three times speed of sound). It is two-stage missile, the first one being solid and the second one ramjet liquid propellant. Its range was extended 600-km plus and capability to strike the targets with pinpoint accuracy after India became member of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) in 2016.

### **11 Option: D**

National Green Tribunal is a statutory body established by a Government Notification using the powers of Section 3 of the *NGT Act 2010*. It has replaced National Environment Appellate Authority.

The National Green Tribunal has jurisdiction over all civil cases where a substantial question relating to environment (including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment), is involved and such question arises out of the implementation of the enactments specified in Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. The acts listed in Schedule 1 are:

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- The Forest (Conservation) Act,
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991;

- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

NGT clarified that it didn't declare Amarnath as silent zone. It only asked devotees to remain quiet in front of the shiv-ling.

## **12. Option: C**

**The Global Innovation Index** provides detailed metrics about the innovation performance of 127 countries and economies around the world. Its 81 indicators explore a broad vision of innovation, including political environment, education, infrastructure and business sophistication.

It is published by Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization, in partnership with other organisations and institutions.

India Innovation Index is framed in the lines of GII. It is prepared by NITI Aayog, DIPP and CII in order to rank innovation among Indian states.

## **13 Option: D**

**Draft— Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act** It makes any declaration of talaq-e-biddat or triple talaq by Muslim man illegal and void. It makes it a “cognizable and non-bailable” offence, punishable with three years jail and a monetary fine. It applies to instant triple talaq in “oral, written, electronic or any other form”.

It aims to empower Muslim women especially victims of triple talaq to move to court for seeking subsistence allowance for herself and dependent children, as well as custody of minor children. The draft bill prescribes for three-year imprisonment and a fine to a man who tries to divorce his wife through triple talaq. The law will be effective across whole country, however, will not apply to Jammu and Kashmir.

## **14 Option: D**

A scrip literally means a “chit” and refers to a form of credit. The Duty free scrips are provided to the exporters under various export promotion schemes of the government. Under these schemes, the exporters get incentives at a certain percentage of the export value and these incentives can also be used to reimburse duties on imported inputs. The scrips may be transferable or non-transferable. If they are transferable the holder of these scrips can sell them in market at discount. If the scrips are non-transferable, they come with actual user condition and the holder can use it to import inputs or capital goods duty free.

The foreign Trade Policy 2015 makes all duty free scrips freely transferable. These scrips can be used for payment of custom duty, excise duty and service tax also.

**Import of Charcoal from Somalia-** We note here that UNSC Resolution 2036 had banned all exports from Somalia and India honours this resolution. Charcoal exports from Somalia are a significant revenue source for Al-Shabaab, a terrorist group.

### **15 Option: D**

Health ministers, NGOs, and private sector representatives from 120 countries have adopted Moscow Declaration on the sidelines of the first WHO Global Ministerial Conference. The declaration calls for eliminating additional deaths from HIV co-infection by 2030 and achieving synergy in coordinated action against Tuberculosis and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). India is among signatories to the declaration. A co-infection is when a person suffers from two infections at same time.

### **16. Option: D**

The First Industrial Revolution used water and steam power to mechanize production. The Second used electric power to create mass production. The Third used electronics and information technology to automate production. Now a **Fourth Industrial Revolution** is building on the Third, the digital revolution that has been occurring since the middle of the last century. It is characterized by a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres.

The pace of breakthroughs of our period is unprecedented. The possibilities of billions of people connected by mobile devices, with unprecedented processing power, storage capacity, and access to knowledge, are unlimited. And these possibilities will be multiplied by emerging technology breakthroughs in fields such as artificial intelligence, robotics, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles, 3-D printing, nanotechnology, biotechnology, materials science, energy storage, and quantum computing.

### **17 Option: D**

SAUBHAGYA scheme (Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2017 with an aim at providing last mile electricity connectivity to all rural and urban households. Under it, government will provide all willing households in rural areas and poor families in urban areas free electricity connections identified under Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) data 2011. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC) is the nodal agency for operationalization of the scheme throughout the country.

### **18 Option: D**

The Geographical Indication (GI) is name or sign used on certain products which correspond to specific geographical location or origin. It is used for agricultural, natural and manufactured goods having special quality and established reputation.

These goods and products having tag are recognised for their origin, quality and reputation and gives it required edge in the global market. It also ensures that none can use their name, giving them exclusivity. The registration of a GI is valid for 10 years after which it needs to be renewed.

GI is covered as element of intellectual property rights (IPRs) under Paris Convention for Protection of Industrial Property. At international level, GI is governed by WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS).

The quality of the product is essentially attributed to the territory, where the product originates from. It supports local production. GIs are important economic tool for the uplift of rural and tribal communities. Other Intellectual Property Rights like patents, copy rights, trade marks guarantee the protection of individual interests. GI is a collective right, producers can use the collective GI mark, while commercially exploiting their products.

### **19. Option: A**

The bill provided for palliative care even the patient opts passive euthanasia. It means while the medication or medical care would be withdrawn, the family or the hospital staff would continue to take care of the patients in terms of providing nursing care to give relief from pain, physical stress and maintaining cleanliness among others.

Hospitals have to set up approval committees for considering cases of passive euthanasia, and any distortion of facts before such panels may lead to a maximum of 10 years in jail and a fine of up to 1 crore.

### **20. Option: D**

Statement 1: Moodys justified its upgrade of India's sovereign rating, despite an economic slowdown in recent quarters and an expected rise in debt levels. It said the move was based on its assessment that a number of reforms by the government will combine to enhance the country's structural credit strengths, including its strong growth potential, improving global competitiveness and its large and stable financing base for government debt.

Statement 2: Standard & Poor cited India's low per capita income, the sizeable fiscal deficit and high general government debt as factors that weigh down the country's credit profile. It also says that in the medium term, the growth will be supported by the planned recapitalization of state-owned banks, which is likely to spur on new lending within the economy.

Statement 3 is correct.

### **21. Option: C**

Statement 1: NEDS 2017 aims to boost trade and investment in underdeveloped region of North East. It also aimed at building confidence and altering perception among visiting delegates and investors. Key focus areas of NEDS 2017 were Trade and Investment, Connectivity and Infrastructure Development, Tourism Development in North – East India, Skill Development, Capacity building and entrepreneurship.

Statement 2 is wrong.

Statement 3: The first ever North East Development Summit 2017 was held in Imphal, Manipur. It was inaugurated by President of India and was organized by Delhi-based think tank India Foundation in collaboration with Government of India and Government of Manipur

**22. Option: B**

Statement 1: Indian online payments firm BillDesk launched cryptocurrency exchange “Coinome” in India offering trading of Bitcoin and Bitcoin Cash.

Statements 2 & 3 are correct.

**23 Option: D**

**24 Option: D**

ICJ is the primary judicial branch of UN. The **International Criminal Court** is an intergovernmental organization and international tribunal that sits in The Hague in the Netherlands. The ICC has the jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. ICC came into force with the Rome treaty.

India is a member of ICJ but not ICC.

**25. Option: D**

The Union Government has signed a guarantee agreement for IBRD/CTF loan of US \$98 million and Grant Agreement for US \$2 million for Shared Infrastructure for Solar Parks Project with World Bank. The objective Shared Infrastructure for Solar Parks Project is to increase solar generation capacity through establishment of large-scale parks in the country.

**26. Option: C**

Under it, Health Ministry is providing thrice weekly regimen for treatment of TB, however it has now decided to change treatment strategy for TB patients from thrice weekly to daily drug regimen using fixed dose combinations (FDC) for treatment.

**27. Option: C**

Statement 1 is correct.

Statement 2: **Sangai festival** is an annual cultural festival organised by Manipur Tourism Department every year from November 21 to 30. Even though many editions of this Festival has been celebrated over the past few years with the name of *Tourism Festival*, since 2010 this has been renamed as the Sangai Festival to stage the uniqueness of the shy and gentle brow-antlered deer popularly known as the Sangai Deer, which is the state animal of Manipur.

Statement 3: It is named after the state animal, Sangai, the critically endangered brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur's Keibul Lamjao National Park, only floating national park in the world.

**28. Option: A**

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) was ranked 29<sup>th</sup> among the top 150 universities on Global University Employability Ranking 2017 published by Times Higher Education. Other than IISc, only two institutes from India featured among the top 150: IIT Delhi (ranked 145<sup>th</sup>) and IIT Bombay (ranked 148<sup>th</sup>).

**29. Option: A**

Statement 1: Prime Minister has approved creation of National Testing Agency (NTA) as a Society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860 and as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for higher educational institutions.

Statement 2: No such special provisions for Jammu and Kashmir are mentioned.

Statement 3 is correct.

**30. Option: C**

Talanoa is a traditional approach used in Fiji and other Pacific islands to engage in an inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue to resolve differences without putting any blame on any one. As per COP23 decision, it has been structured around three questions to arrive at options with consensus: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there?

The dialogue will be conducted in a manner that promotes enhanced ambition. It will help parties to UNFCCC review their actions and discuss way forward in terms of raising ambitions before 2020. It will consider efforts of Parties on mitigation action and financial and technical support, as appropriate, as one of its elements, in the pre-2020 period under 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

**31. Option: B**

VoLTE refers to Voice over Long term Evolution. It is a standard for high-speed wireless communication for mobile phones and data terminals. The transition from 2G to 3G and then to 4G was only in terms of data. Not much progress was made in terms of voice quality. VoLTE is a step in that direction. VoLTE has up to three times more voice and data capacity than 3G and up to six times more than 2G GSM. However, to experience the voice sophisticateion of VoLTE, users on both ends need to be on VoLTE.

Traditional 2G, 3G and 4G technologies donot have the sophistication of data usage during a call. VoLTE is the first technology to enable use of data even while being on a call parallel.

With Reliance JIO making inroads into Indian market with VoLTE, the craze for it has never been the same. Airtel is the recent company to provide VoLTE in India.

**32. Option: D**

ISC has the powers to enquire into any controversy concerning states. Its powers to enquire are akin to the Article 131(Original jurisdiction with respect to Inter state and states-centre disputes) of Supreme court. However, its function is only of advisory in nature. It is non binding.

Under Article 263, Central Council of Indian medicine, Central Council of Homeopathy were setup under Acts of Parliament.

**33. Option: D**

**34 Option: C**

Three phase solution is initiated by China. The first phase is to achieve a ceasefire so that local residents can no longer be displaced

Second, the international community should encourage Myanmar and Bangladesh to keep communication in a bid to find a feasible solution to the issue.

The third phase is to find a long-term solution in terms of poverty alleviation. Steps need to be taken to improve livelihood prospects across Rakhine state

As of now, the cease fire is in place. Bangladesh and Myanmar have reached an initial agreement on repatriation of Rohingya refugees fleeing to Bangladesh from Myanmar.

**35. Option: C**

Both statements are correct. Read further: “**Surge in oxygen levels led to explosion of life: study**” November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – The Hindu.

**36. Option: C**

**World Inequality Report** is a report by the World Inequality Lab at the Paris School of Economics that provides estimates of global income and wealth inequality based on the most recent findings compiled by the World Wealth and Income Database (WID)

With respect to India, Income inequality has risen over the last three decades and a half with the top 10% of earners cornering 55% of the national income in 2016, the worst level among major economic blocks, except West Asia. The report advocated “tax progressivity”—higher taxes on the rich—as an effective tool to address inequality.

India has been trying to tackle income inequality with a combination of direct transfer of entitlements to the intended beneficiaries, drive against tax evasion and schemes meant to improve access to energy and finance by the poor.

The findings of the report come at a time when the central government has started working on drafting a new direct tax code which is likely to rejig the tax structure, while the state of Jammu and Kashmir is set to make a bold experiment with a universal basic income scheme from the next financial year.

**37. Option: B**

Automation as a part of Fourth Industrial revolution is bound to seriously impact the labor markets. Among all jobs, those with a clear pattern and mechanical nature of works with less human intervention are bound to face the most serious impact. Jobs like data entry operators, Library technicians, translators are few such.

Jobs with a clear cut pattern of detection like Radiologists are also bound to get affected, if not eliminated. The aspects of AI such as machine learning which can accurately and exactly trace patterns of reports is seen to replace many such jobs.

On the other hand, jobs which need a sense of dynamism, human touch, an emotional bond are here to stay. Administrators, psychologists, coaches are some of such.

**38. Option: B**

Marine fungi is less explored. However, is found to have a potential impact on cosmeceutical(cosmetics+ pharmaceutical) industry. It grows in estuarine and marine environment and is quick to grow.

It is found to be a rich source of anti-oxidants, which have a strong impact against ageing. This makes it very amenable to cosmeceutical industry. However, it cannot alter the genetic composition.

**39. Option: A**

Hornbill festival is held in Nagaland. Nagaland sponsors it to promote inter tribal unity among its 16 prominent tribal groups. Great Hornbill is the state bird of Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh. It is a 'Near Threatened' species as per IUCN classification.

**40 Option: A**

Members of SARTTAC include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives and Srilanka.member countries finance 2/3 of the SARTTAC's budget, with additional funding from EU, Korea, UK and Australia.

**41 Option: B**

The Department of Telecom's working group on backhaul spectrum (on including E and V bands that connect mobile towers with each other) is mulling to allot such airwaves through auction instead of 'fixed fee' as suggested by the Telecom Regulatory and Authority of India.

The working group on microwave access and microwave backbone at the DoT is largely in favour of allocating E and V band spectrum through auction. The report of the committee will be placed before the Telecom Commission in its meeting scheduled for December 21

Data through E (71-76 Gigahertz frequency and 81-86 Ghz) and V (57-64 Ghz frequency range) band can be transmitted with a speed of around 1,000 megabit per second. Spectrum in these bands can ease the work of telecom operators from laying optical fibre cable (OFC)

Microsoft is trying to use white space technology. TV White Spaces technology utilises the unused “white space” to provide cheap Internet connectivity to remote areas. “white space” refers to gaps of unused spectrum between terrestrial broadcast channels in the 470-700MHz (TV-UHF) band. The gaps are necessary since TV signals are transmitted at high power and would otherwise interfere with each other.

#### **42. Option: D**

#### **43 Option: C**

MAASTRICHT TREATY (1992) OR TREATY ON EUROPEAN UNION, was signed on 7th Feb, 1992 by 12 member nations. It is basically to integrate Europe. Maastricht is in Netherlands. It created the “European Union” on 1st Nov, 1993 and led to the creation of Single Currency Euro

LISBON TREATY OR REFORM TREATY (2007) amends MAASTRICHT TREATY. Article 50 of Lisbon treaty provides the way for any member nation in EU to exit from it.

#### **44. Option: B**

Gorkhaland territorial administration is set up under an Act of West Bengal legislature. It only has, administrative, executive and financial powers. It has NO legislative powers.

#### **45. Option: A**

Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up One Stop Centre, a sub - scheme of Umbrella Scheme for National Mission for Empowerment of women including Indira Gandhi Matritav Sahyaog Yojana. Popularly known as Sakhi, the scheme is being implemented since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. These Centres are being established across the country to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces in phased manner.

#### **46 Option: C**

General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) was signed in 2002. Defence Framework Agreement was signed in 2005 which loosened strict controls that existed for transfer of excluded categories of technologies. Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) was launched in 2012 and its main objective is to strengthen defence

cooperation by facilitating the Indian companies to collaborate with US partners in defense co-production. Defence Framework Agreement renewed for the next 10 years in 2015

USA declared India “Major Defence Partner” in June 2016, due to which India can have access to technologies just like USA’s close allies i.e., some of the NATO countries .

Now LEMOA was signed, because of which militaries of both the countries can use each other's assets and bases. CISMOA and BECA are yet to be signed.

#### **47. Option: A**

India proposed to UN to declare 2018 as International year of millets. It hasn’t been declared yet. Other statements are true.

#### **48 Option: B**

Exchange traded funds are similar to mutual funds, but are traded on stock exchanges. Since they are traded on exchange ,a demat account is compulsory to invest in it. An ETF is an open-ended mutual fund scheme with an objective to track and reflect the performance of its underlying index. Hence it is more liquid than a close ended mutual fund which will have a lock in period.

The government of India, in the Budget speech of 2017, announced its plan to achieve a divestment target of Rs72,500 crore in the FY 2017-18. Bharat 22 ETF has been set up as one of its vehicle to achieve the target. It is an open-ended Exchange Traded Fund which will invest in similar composition and weightages as they appear in Bharat 22 Index.

The index is collectively comprised of 22 stocks of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE), Public Sector Banks and also government owned shares in blue chip private companies. The said 22 stocks are spread across six sectors (Basic Materials, Energy, Finance, FMCG, Industrials and Utilities).

#### **49. Option: D**

#### **50. Option: A**

Indra Sawhney case of 1992 lays down the principle for sub categorisation. The Supreme Court in the above case said, “We are of the opinion that there is no constitutional or legal bar to a state categorising the Backward Classes as backward and more backward.

Sub categorisation ensures that there is no class formation within castes and the most backward aren’t hijacked of their constitutional benefits by the relatively well-off within backward classes.

Sub categorisation as a concept is for all backward **classes. Not just Backward Castes.**

Sub categorisation is only within the overall quota of reservations. They do not extend the overall limit of 50%.

