



FJ Edu Online Exam CA
05 Sep 26

1. Consider the following statements regarding the RBI-supported FCNR(B) mobilisation reported in early September 2026:

1. Banks mobilised about US\$127.2 billion through FCNR(B) deposits under the special swap window.
2. The FCNR(B) window remained open until 31 December 2026.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) Both 1 and 2
- B) Neither 1 nor 2
- C) 2 only
- D) 1 only

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reported mobilisation reached about US\$127.2 billion, while the special FCNR(B) window closed at the end of August. The 31 December 2026 date applied to the facilities for overseas foreign-currency borrowings and external commercial borrowings, not the FCNR(B) window. The distinction matters because FCNR(B) deposits are non-resident foreign-currency deposits with Indian banks, whereas ECBs and OFCBs are borrowing channels.

2. Consider the following statements about India's first imaging satellite placed in geosynchronous orbit:

1. EOS-5 is intended to operate at roughly 36,000 km above Earth.
2. At geosynchronous altitude, the satellite's orbital period is approximately equal to Earth's rotation period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) Both 1 and 2
- C) 2 only
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported EOS-5 as India's first imaging satellite in geosynchronous orbit, at roughly 36,000 km altitude. A geosynchronous orbit has an orbital period equal to Earth's rotation period, although only a geostationary orbit also requires zero inclination and circularity over the equator. Thus, the two statements correctly capture the reported altitude and the core orbital principle.

3. Consider the following statements in the context of the Ladakh local-governance decision:

1. Autonomous Hill Development Councils were extended to all seven districts of the Union Territory.
2. Before the expansion, elected hill-council arrangements were already functioning in Leh and Kargil.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) Neither 1 nor 2
- C) 2 only
- D) Both 1 and 2

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reported notification extended Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils to all seven districts, including the five newly created districts. Leh and Kargil already had the elected council framework. The move therefore represents expansion of an existing local-self-government model rather than creation of an entirely new institutional idea. It is relevant to decentralisation and grassroots governance in Union Territories.

4. Consider the following statements regarding India's recent monsoon situation:

1. The India Meteorological Department reported a 16% rainfall deficit for August 2026.
2. The southern peninsula had a smaller rainfall deficit than the northwestern region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) Neither 1 nor 2
- B) Both 1 and 2
- C) 1 only
- D) 2 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported a 16% rainfall deficit in August. Regionally, the southern peninsula had a deficit of about 27%, while the northwestern region was around 10% below normal. Hence the first statement is correct, but the second reverses the regional comparison. The story also linked the outlook to a developing El Niño, illustrating the monsoon–Pacific climate connection.

5. Consider the following statements about the Supreme Court ruling concerning law students and the Bar Council:

1. The Court held that the Bar Council's disciplinary authority begins when a law graduate is enrolled as an advocate.
2. The ruling treated pre-enrolment student conduct as automatically falling within the same disciplinary jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) Both 1 and 2
- C) Neither 1 nor 2
- D) 2 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported that the Supreme Court held that Bar Council authority begins when a law graduate is enrolled as an advocate. It does not extend in the same manner to conduct while a person is merely a law student. The distinction separates university/student regulation from professional regulation after enrolment and is significant for understanding statutory professional bodies.

6. Consider the following statements about NASA's Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope:

1. It is designed to investigate questions involving dark energy, dark matter and exoplanets.
2. It was launched toward the second Sun–Earth Lagrange point, L2.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) Both 1 and 2
- C) 2 only
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The Roman Space Telescope launched on August 30 aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy and is travelling toward the Sun–Earth L2 region. Its science programme includes dark energy, dark matter and exoplanets. L2 is a gravitationally useful location about 1.6 million km from Earth in the direction away from the Sun. Roman's wide-field capability complements, rather than simply duplicates, the James Webb Space Telescope.

7. With reference to the reported India–Belgium engagement, consider the following statements:

1. Defence cooperation was identified as an area for strengthening.
2. Semiconductors were among the sectors discussed.
3. The Belgian Prime Minister was visiting India for the first time since taking office in 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported a broadening of India–Belgium ties covering defence and semiconductors, alongside other economic areas. It also noted that Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever was making his first India visit since taking office in February 2025. The significance is not merely diplomatic ceremony: semiconductors and defence are strategic sectors where technology, supply chains and security interests increasingly overlap.

8. Consider the following statements about the September 2026 monsoon assessment:

1. About 42% of monitored districts had deficient rainfall by August.
 2. About 5% had large deficient rainfall.
 3. All districts of Odisha were reported to have received normal rainfall.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 1 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The reported IMD assessment covered 741 districts. About 42% had deficient rainfall and 5% had large deficient rainfall, while 290 districts received normal rainfall, including all districts of Odisha. These figures illustrate why all-India rainfall averages can conceal substantial spatial variation. For UPSC geography, the distinction between meteorological drought categories and regional rainfall distribution is important.

9. Regarding the special foreign-currency mobilisation through Indian banks, consider the following:

1. FCNR(B) mobilisation was the largest component of the reported US\$136.4 billion total.
 2. Overseas foreign-currency borrowings had reached US\$5.3 billion.
 3. External commercial borrowings had reached US\$3.9 billion.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1 and 2 only

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- Reported provisional figures put total foreign-currency mobilisation at about US\$136.4 billion, of which US\$127.2 billion came through FCNR(B). The same reporting put OFCB mobilisation at US\$5.3 billion and ECB-related inflows at US\$3.9 billion. The three figures are therefore complementary rather than competing totals. The episode is relevant to balance-of-payments management, banking liquidity and foreign-exchange risk.

10. Consider the following statements about the Roman Space Telescope:

1. It has a field of view at least 100 times larger than Hubble's.
2. Its survey role is particularly suited to mapping large portions of the sky.
3. It is intended to replace the James Webb Space Telescope in infrared astronomy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

• NASA describes Roman as having a field of view at least 100 times larger than Hubble's, giving it exceptional survey capability. That wide field is suited to large-area astronomical mapping. It is not a replacement for Webb: the missions are complementary, with Webb optimised for detailed observations and Roman for wide-field surveys. The distinction reflects different observational strategies rather than a hierarchy of telescopes.

11. With reference to the reported Nepal disaster, consider the following:

1. A major debris flow travelled through the Lende Khola, Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river systems.
2. The event was associated with a massive release of ice and rock in the Langtang region.
3. The affected river systems are entirely within India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• Times of India reported that an ice-and-rock collapse in the Langtang region generated a debris flow that travelled almost 100 km through the Lende Khola, Bhote Koshi and Trishuli systems. The third statement is wrong because the disaster originated in Nepal and the river systems are transboundary in the broader Himalayan context. The event highlights cascading hazards involving cryosphere, slopes and river channels.

12. Consider the following about the FSSAI action against a food manufacturer in Ajmer:

1. Inspectors found allegations involving noodles being converted into bhujia.
2. Unlicensed bhujia variants were also reported.

3. The enforcement action was taken under the Food Safety and Standards Act framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1 and 2 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

• The Indian Express reported an FSSAI crackdown in Ajmer after an inspection found allegations that noodles collected from the floor were being turned into bhujia. The inspection also identified unlicensed bhujia variants, including products named in the report. FSSAI enforcement derives from the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and related regulations. The story therefore combines food-safety enforcement with regulatory licensing.

13. Consider the following statements regarding India's reported goods exports during April–June:

- 1. Overall goods exports rose about 15% year-on-year to US\$129.32 billion.
- 2. Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports rose about 12% to US\$99.04 billion.
- 3. The latter category grew faster than the 6.5% pace reported for the previous two financial years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

• The Indian Express reported April–June goods exports at US\$129.32 billion, up about 15% year-on-year. Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports were about US\$99.04 billion, up 12%, compared with a 6.5% growth pace in the previous two financial years. The figures point to stronger export growth but also invite analysis of composition, margins and external demand.

14. With reference to India's FCNR(B) window, consider the following:

- 1. FCNR(B) deposits are denominated in foreign currency.
- 2. The special 2026 window was supported through a concessional swap facility involving the RBI.
- 3. The arrangement transfers all underlying credit risk of bank lending to the Union Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only

- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

• FCNR(B) accounts are foreign-currency deposits maintained by eligible non-residents with Indian banks. Reporting on the 2026 mobilisation described a special RBI swap facility that encouraged the surge in deposits. The third statement is incorrect: an RBI swap facility does not mean that the Union Government assumes all bank credit risk. The broader issue is foreign-exchange liquidity and the management of maturity and currency exposures.

15. Consider the following statements about the reported Ladakh councils:

1. Seven councils correspond to seven districts.
 2. Sham, Nubra and Changthang are among the newly covered districts.
 3. The arrangement is intended to strengthen participatory local governance.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

• The notification reported by Indian Express extended the hill-council framework to all seven Ladakh districts. The named districts included Sham, Nubra and Changthang, along with Leh, Kargil, Zaskar and Drass. The stated rationale was decentralisation and stronger participatory governance in district-level planning. The institutional design is therefore directly connected with local representation and development administration in a Union Territory.

16. Consider the following statements about the IMD's September rainfall outlook:

1. September was expected to be below normal over much of India.
 2. Parts of eastern and northeastern India and Odisha were expected to fare relatively better.
 3. Widespread rain in North India was expected to cease by around September 5.
 4. The August deficit was attributed solely to the Indian Ocean Dipole.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 4 only
- B) 2, 3 and 4 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported that September rainfall was expected to remain below normal over much of the country, with normal rainfall mainly in parts of eastern and northeastern India and Odisha. It also reported that widespread North Indian rains were expected to cease around September 5. The IMD linked the broader shortfall to El Niño conditions, not solely to the Indian Ocean Dipole.

17. With reference to geosynchronous orbit, consider the following:

1. Its orbital period is approximately equal to Earth's rotation period.
 2. A geostationary orbit is a special case of geosynchronous orbit.
 3. A geostationary satellite appears fixed over one longitude to an observer on Earth.
 4. Every geosynchronous orbit must lie exactly above the equator.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
 B) 1 and 4 only
 C) 1, 2 and 3 only
 D) 2 and 4 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The EOS-5 report naturally brings in the distinction between geosynchronous and geostationary orbits. A geosynchronous orbit matches Earth's rotation period, while a geostationary orbit additionally has a circular equatorial configuration, making the satellite appear fixed over one longitude. Therefore, not every geosynchronous orbit is equatorial. This distinction is a standard orbital-mechanics linkage to the reported satellite launch.

18. Consider the following about the seven Ladakh districts covered by autonomous hill councils:

1. Leh
2. Kargil
3. Zaskar
4. Drass

Which of the above are among the districts reported to have such councils?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
 B) 1 and 2 only
 C) 1, 3 and 4 only
 D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The reported seven-district list included Leh, Kargil, Sham, Nubra, Changthang, Zaskar and Drass. The decision therefore covered both the previously established council areas and the five newly created districts. In UPSC terms, the key institutional

point is that the councils represent a form of decentralised local governance in Ladakh, rather than a state-level panchayati raj arrangement.

19. Consider the following statements about the reported FCNR(B) mobilisation:

1. The special window was associated with an RBI foreign-exchange swap mechanism.
2. Banks raised substantially more through FCNR(B) than through OFCBs.
3. The FCNR(B) window closed before the end of 2026.
4. ECB facilities were also reported to have a December 2026 deadline.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- B) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

• Reporting showed FCNR(B) mobilisation of about US\$127.2 billion under the RBI-supported swap window, far above the roughly US\$5.3 billion raised through OFCBs. The FCNR(B) window closed at the end of August, while ECB and OFCB facilities were reported as remaining open until December 31, 2026. The question therefore tests the difference between the various external-funding channels.

20. Regarding India's rainfall distribution by region in August 2026, consider:

1. Southern peninsular India recorded about a 27% deficit.
 2. Central, eastern and northeastern India recorded about a 16% deficit.
 3. Northwestern India recorded about a 10% deficit.
 4. The regional figures show that the all-India rainfall deficit was spatially uniform.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 2 and 3 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

• The reported regional figures were approximately 27% deficient in the southern peninsula, 16% in central/eastern/northeastern India and 10% in the northwest. Thus rainfall performance varied substantially by region. The fourth statement is incorrect because an all-India aggregate can mask strong spatial differences. This is a useful geography linkage: monsoon variability is not simply a single nationwide phenomenon.

21. Consider the following statements about the Roman Space Telescope:

1. It is named after Nancy Grace Roman.

2. Roman is associated with NASA's next-generation space observatory programme.
3. It will travel toward the Sun–Earth L2 region.
4. Its principal purpose is Earth-resource mapping.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 2 and 4 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D) 1, 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- NASA and Indian Express reporting identify the mission as the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope, named after the astronomer associated with the development of NASA's space astronomy programme. It is a next-generation astronomical observatory travelling toward Sun–Earth L2. Its objectives concern cosmology, dark energy, dark matter and exoplanets, not Earth-resource mapping. The fourth statement confuses it with Earth-observation satellites such as EOS-5.

22. With reference to the India–Belgium engagement reported in September 2026, consider:

1. Defence was among the strategic areas highlighted.
 2. Semiconductors were discussed.
 3. Fintech was part of the broader economic engagement.
 4. The visit was the Belgian Prime Minister's first India visit since February 2025.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 3 and 4 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Indian Express described the India–Belgium engagement as a boost across defence, semiconductors and economic areas including fintech. It also noted that Prime Minister Bart De Wever was visiting India for the first time since taking office in February 2025. The combination illustrates how contemporary bilateral relations increasingly combine strategic security, technology supply chains and financial or digital sectors.

23. Consider the following statements about the reported India–Belgium semiconductor focus:

1. Semiconductor cooperation has implications for resilient technology supply chains.
2. Semiconductor policy is unrelated to national security.
3. Defence and semiconductors can overlap through dual-use technologies.

4. The bilateral engagement was described as including both strategic and economic dimensions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- B) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The reported bilateral agenda covered defence and semiconductors, making the strategic–economic overlap explicit. Semiconductor supply chains have become a national-security concern because chips are essential to communications, weapons, vehicles and digital infrastructure. Hence statement 2 is too absolute. The news is useful for understanding why semiconductor diplomacy is no longer confined to trade policy.

24. Regarding the FSSAI action reported from Ajmer, consider:

- 1. The inspection involved alleged reuse of food material in a different product.
- 2. Unlicensed bhujia variants were identified.
- 3. The Food Safety and Standards Act provides the legal framework for FSSAI regulation.
- 4. The episode concerned only nutritional labelling and not food safety.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Ajmer inspection was reported as involving allegations that floor-collected noodles were converted into bhujia and that certain bhujia variants were unlicensed. FSSAI operates under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The story was therefore much broader than nutritional labelling: it concerned hygiene, licensing and food-safety compliance. The fourth statement incorrectly narrows the enforcement issue.

25. Consider the following statements about India's April–June export performance:

- 1. Overall goods exports crossed US\$129 billion.
- 2. Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports were below US\$100 billion.
- 3. The latter category recorded double-digit year-on-year growth.
- 4. The reported export increase was entirely driven by petroleum shipments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only

- B) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

• The reported overall goods-export figure was US\$129.32 billion, while non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports were US\$99.04 billion, up about 12%. This means the non-petroleum category itself showed strong double-digit growth. The fourth statement is wrong because the data specifically highlighted non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports, showing that growth was not reducible to petroleum shipments.

26. Consider the following statements regarding the FCNR(B) scheme:

1. It enables eligible non-residents to hold deposits in specified foreign currencies.
 2. The depositor bears no exchange-rate exposure on the foreign-currency principal in the same way as a rupee deposit would.
 3. It is a mechanism for directly issuing Indian government securities to NRIs.
 4. In the 2026 episode, it became a major channel of foreign-currency mobilisation.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 4 only
- D) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• FCNR(B) deposits are foreign-currency deposits for eligible non-residents, so the principal is maintained in foreign currency rather than converted into rupees in the same way as an NRE deposit. The 2026 special window generated exceptionally large mobilisation. It is not, however, a direct mechanism for issuing government securities. The distinction is important when comparing deposits with sovereign borrowing instruments.

27. With reference to glacial-lake and avalanche preparedness in the Himalayas, consider:

1. The Union Home Secretary called for preparedness beyond response-only measures.
2. Glacial lake outburst floods are linked to sudden release of water from glacial lakes.
3. Snow avalanches are unrelated to Himalayan disaster planning.
4. Early warning and risk-reduction measures can reduce exposure to such hazards.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2 and 4 only

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported that the Union Home Secretary urged Himalayan states and Union Territories to move beyond response-oriented preparedness for GLOFs and snow avalanches. A GLOF can occur when a glacial lake suddenly releases stored water, producing a rapid downstream flood. Both hazards therefore belong within integrated disaster-risk reduction, where monitoring and early warning can complement evacuation and response.

28. Consider the following statements about the reported Varanasi flood situation:

1. Rising levels of the Ganga were part of the concern.
2. The Varuna was also mentioned.
3. Relief camps and arrangements for affected families were reviewed.
4. The issue was confined to coastal flooding.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported that the Prime Minister spoke with the Varanasi District Magistrate about rising Ganga and Varuna levels, relief camps and arrangements for flood-affected families. Varanasi is inland, so the situation was riverine/urban flooding rather than coastal flooding. The story is a useful reminder that flood risk in India arises from river levels, drainage, rainfall and local topography.

29. Consider the following statements about the Supreme Court's position on Bar Council authority:

1. Professional disciplinary jurisdiction is connected to enrolment as an advocate.
2. A law student and an enrolled advocate occupy identical regulatory positions.
3. The ruling limits the Bar Council's reach over pre-enrolment student conduct.
4. The issue concerns the relationship between professional regulation and legal education.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Supreme Court ruling reported by Indian Express distinguished law students from enrolled advocates. The Bar Council's statutory professional authority begins with enrolment, so pre-enrolment conduct cannot simply be treated as though the person were already a practising advocate. The case therefore raises a structural question about professional regulation versus university or educational discipline. Statement 2 incorrectly treats the two statuses as identical.

30. Consider the following about NASA's Roman mission:

1. It is designed for wide-field astronomical surveys.
2. It is expected to contribute to the study of dark energy.
3. It can support exoplanet investigations.
4. Its mission architecture is based on a low-Earth orbit around Earth.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 4 only
- B) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- Roman is a deep-space observatory headed toward the Sun–Earth L2 region, not a low-Earth-orbit platform. Its wide field enables large surveys, while its science programme includes dark energy and exoplanets. The distinction between LEO and L2 is important because orbital location affects thermal environment, communications, observing geometry and the scientific coverage that can be achieved.

31. With reference to the reported Nepal disaster and Himalayan geography, consider:

1. Langtang lies in Nepal's Himalayan region.
2. The event involved both ice/rock movement and subsequent water-driven debris flow.
3. Such cascading hazards can cross administrative boundaries through river systems.
4. Himalayan disaster risk is limited to earthquakes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Times of India report described a major ice-and-rock collapse in the Langtang area followed by a debris flow and flood surge along river channels. Himalayan hazards are multi-hazard systems: landslides, glacial lake outbursts, avalanches,

floods and earthquakes can interact. River basins can also transmit impacts across administrative boundaries. Hence the earthquake-only framing is incorrect.

32. Consider the following statements about India's external funding channels reported in early September:

1. FCNR(B) deposits are deposits, not external commercial loans.
 2. ECB refers to external commercial borrowing.
 3. OFCB refers to overseas foreign-currency borrowing by eligible entities.
 4. All three are identical instruments with the same balance-sheet treatment.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 4 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

• The reporting distinguished FCNR(B) deposits from ECBs and OFCBs. FCNR(B) represents foreign-currency deposits mobilised by banks from eligible non-residents, while ECB is a borrowing route and OFCB denotes overseas foreign-currency borrowing. Treating all three as identical instruments would obscure the distinction between deposits and borrowings. This distinction matters for liquidity, maturity, currency risk and regulatory treatment.

33.

Assertion (A): The Roman Space Telescope is expected to be particularly powerful for wide-area astronomical surveys.

Reason (R): Its field of view is designed to be vastly larger than that of Hubble, enabling efficient coverage of large regions of the sky.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 - B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 - C. A is true, but R is false.
 - D. A is false, but R is true.
- A) D. A is false, but R is true.
 - B) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 - C) C. A is true, but R is false.
 - D) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

• NASA describes Roman as having a field of view at least 100 times larger than Hubble's. That wide field is directly connected to its survey strength, so both the assertion and reason are true and the reason explains the assertion. The mission is therefore complementary to Hubble and Webb rather than simply another version of either telescope.

34.

Assertion (A): A geostationary orbit is a special type of geosynchronous orbit.

Reason (R): A geostationary satellite has an equatorial, circular orbit with the same period as Earth's rotation.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- B. A is true, but R is false.
- C. A is false, but R is true.
- D. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- A) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- B) C. A is true, but R is false.
- C) D. A is false, but R is true.
- D) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The EOS-5 story provides the context for distinguishing the two orbital terms. Geostationary orbit is the special geosynchronous case that is circular and equatorial, allowing a satellite to appear fixed over a longitude. The reason therefore supplies the defining conditions that make the assertion correct. Not every geosynchronous orbit satisfies these conditions.

35.

Assertion (A): The FCNR(B) window was an important source of foreign-currency mobilisation in 2026.

Reason (R): Banks mobilised about US\$127.2 billion through FCNR(B) deposits under the special RBI-supported arrangement.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. A is true, but R is false.
- B. A is false, but R is true.
- C. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- D. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- A) D. A is false, but R is true.
- B) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- C) C. A is true, but R is false.
- D) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- Reported provisional figures put FCNR(B) mobilisation at roughly US\$127.2 billion, making it the dominant component of the special foreign-currency mobilisation episode. The scale of the inflow is precisely why the window was described as important. The question also distinguishes the deposit channel from ECB and OFCB borrowing channels.

36.

Assertion (A): India's September 2026 rainfall outlook raised concern for agriculture in several regions.

Reason (R): The IMD expected below-normal rainfall over much of the country after a 16% August deficit.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. A is false, but R is true.
- B. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- C. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- D. A is true, but R is false.
- A) C. A is true, but R is false.
- B) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) D. A is false, but R is true.
- D) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The reported August deficit and below-normal September outlook imply heightened water-stress risks in rain-dependent agriculture, although impacts vary by crop, irrigation and region. The reason directly supports the assertion. The story also noted regional variation, so the agricultural effect should not be interpreted as uniform across India.

37.

Assertion (A): The Ladakh hill-council decision represents an expansion of local self-governance.

Reason (R): The notification extended autonomous hill councils to all seven districts, including five newly created districts.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.
- A) C. A is true, but R is false.
- B) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- C) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- D) D. A is false, but R is true.

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The reported notification extended the elected hill-council framework beyond Leh and Kargil to the five newly created districts. This is why the decision can be characterised as an expansion of local self-governance. The stated policy rationale was decentralisation and participatory district-level planning, making the institutional linkage direct.

38.

Assertion (A): India's reported April–June export growth cannot be explained solely by petroleum exports.

Reason (R): Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports themselves grew by about 12% year-on-year.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- B. A is true, but R is false.
- C. A is false, but R is true.
- D. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- A) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- B) C. A is true, but R is false.
- C) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- D) D. A is false, but R is true.

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported 12% growth in non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports to about US\$99.04 billion. That means a substantial part of export growth came from outside petroleum and the gems-and-jewellery category. The reason therefore directly supports the assertion and also highlights the usefulness of looking beyond headline export totals.

39.

Assertion (A): The reported Himalayan preparedness message emphasised risk reduction rather than only post-disaster rescue.

Reason (R): The Union Home Secretary urged Himalayan states and Union Territories to go beyond response-oriented preparedness for GLOFs and avalanches.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. A is true, but R is false.
- B. A is false, but R is true.
- C. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- D. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- A) C. A is true, but R is false.
- B) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- D) D. A is false, but R is true.

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Indian Express explicitly reported the Home Secretary's call to move beyond response-oriented preparedness. In disaster management, this points toward prevention, monitoring, early warning, land-use planning and preparedness before an event. The reason restates the central policy shift reported in the story and therefore explains the assertion.

40.

Assertion (A): FCNR(B) deposits and ECBs should not be treated as identical instruments.

Reason (R): The former is a deposit channel, while the latter is an external borrowing route.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. A is false, but R is true.
- B. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- C. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- D. A is true, but R is false.
- A) C. A is true, but R is false.
- B) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- C) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- D) D. A is false, but R is true.

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The 2026 foreign-currency mobilisation story distinguished FCNR(B) deposits from ECB and OFCB facilities. FCNR(B) represents foreign-currency deposits accepted by banks from eligible non-residents, whereas ECB is borrowing from external sources. The difference affects the nature of the liability, maturity, currency exposure and liquidity management. Hence the reason directly explains the assertion.

41.

Assertion (A): The Supreme Court's Bar Council ruling draws a line between legal education and professional regulation.

Reason (R): The Court held that the Bar Council's authority begins with enrolment as an advocate.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.
- A) C. A is true, but R is false.
- B) B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) D. A is false, but R is true.
- D) A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reported Supreme Court decision stated that Bar Council authority begins once a law graduate is enrolled as an advocate. That distinction places pre-enrolment student conduct in a different regulatory sphere from professional discipline. The reason therefore directly supports the assertion and captures the institutional boundary highlighted by the Court.

42. Match List I with List II:**List I — Item**

1. EOS-5
2. Roman Space Telescope
3. FCNR(B)
4. LAHDC

List II — Association

- A. Foreign-currency deposit channel
- B. Autonomous local-governance institution
- C. Geosynchronous imaging satellite
- D. Wide-field astronomical observatory

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-C, 2-A, 3-D, 4-B
- B) 1-B, 2-D, 3-A, 4-C
- C) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
- D) 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reported stories identify EOS-5 with India's geosynchronous imaging capability, Roman with wide-field astronomy, FCNR(B) with foreign-currency deposits and LAHDC with autonomous hill development councils. The pairings also connect current affairs with stable concepts: orbital regimes, space science, external finance and decentralised governance.

43. Match the reported figure with the corresponding item:**List I — Figure**

1. US\$127.2 billion
2. US\$136.4 billion
3. US\$129.32 billion
4. US\$99.04 billion

List II — Item

- A. Total reported foreign-currency mobilisation
- B. Overall April–June goods exports
- C. FCNR(B) mobilisation
- D. Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-A, 2-C, 3-D, 4-B

- B) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D
 C) 1-D, 2-A, 3-B, 4-C
 D) 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The figures came from two different current-affairs stories. About US\$127.2 billion was mobilised through FCNR(B), while total foreign-currency mobilisation was about US\$136.4 billion. Separately, April–June goods exports were US\$129.32 billion, of which non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports were US\$99.04 billion. Keeping the datasets separate prevents a common elimination error.

44. Match each institution or body with the reported role:

List I

1. RBI
2. FSSAI
3. IMD
4. MHA

List II

- A. Food-safety regulation and enforcement
- B. Monsoon assessment and rainfall forecasting
- C. Special foreign-exchange swap support
- D. Himalayan disaster-preparedness coordination

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-A, 3-B, 4-C
- B) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D
- C) 1-A, 2-C, 3-D, 4-B
- D) 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The stories respectively linked the RBI to the special foreign-exchange swap facility, FSSAI to the Ajmer food-safety enforcement, IMD to the rainfall assessment and MHA to the Himalayan preparedness message. The question tests institutional matching rather than isolated headline recall, a common UPSC elimination technique.

45. Match the location with the current-affairs event:

List I

1. Ajmer
2. Varanasi
3. Ladakh

4. Langtang

List II

- A. Flood review involving Ganga and Varuna
- B. Food-safety enforcement
- C. Autonomous hill councils
- D. Ice-and-rock triggered disaster

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-B, 2-C, 3-A, 4-D
- B) 1-A, 2-B, 3-D, 4-C
- C) 1-B, 2-A, 3-C, 4-D
- D) 1-D, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• Ajmer was the location of the FSSAI action; Varanasi was the flood-affected city discussed in relation to Ganga and Varuna levels; Ladakh was the setting for the seven hill councils; and Langtang in Nepal was associated with the reported ice-and-rock disaster. The geographical associations are directly drawn from the reported stories.

46. Match the term with its best description:**List I**

- 1. Geosynchronous orbit
- 2. Geostationary orbit
- 3. L2
- 4. FCNR(B)

List II

- A. Foreign-currency deposit facility
- B. Orbit with period matching Earth's rotation
- C. Special equatorial geosynchronous orbit
- D. Second Sun–Earth Lagrange point

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
- B) 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A
- C) 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D
- D) 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

• Geosynchronous describes an orbital period equal to Earth's rotation; geostationary is the special equatorial circular case. L2 is the second Sun–Earth Lagrange point

toward which Roman is travelling. FCNR(B) is a foreign-currency deposit channel. These definitions provide the static conceptual layer behind the reported satellite and financial stories.

47. Match the reported rainfall figure with the corresponding description:

List I

1. 16%
2. 27%
3. 10%
4. 42%

List II

- A. Southern peninsula deficit
- B. August all-India deficit
- C. Northwestern deficit
- D. Share of monitored districts with deficient rainfall

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-B, 2-C, 3-A, 4-D
- B) 1-B, 2-A, 3-C, 4-D
- C) 1-D, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B
- D) 1-A, 2-B, 3-D, 4-C

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The reported IMD figures were 16% for the August all-India rainfall deficit, about 27% for the southern peninsula, about 10% for the northwest and about 42% of monitored districts classified as deficient. These are different measures: national rainfall anomaly, regional anomaly and district-level classification.

48. Match the current-affairs item with the most appropriate static concept:

List I

1. FCNR(B) surge
2. El Niño-linked monsoon deficit
3. Roman Space Telescope
4. Ladakh hill councils

List II

- A. Decentralisation
- B. Foreign-exchange liquidity
- C. Pacific Ocean–atmosphere coupling
- D. Wide-field astronomy

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A
- B) 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D
- C) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
- D) 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The FCNR(B) story concerns foreign-exchange mobilisation and liquidity; the rainfall story was linked to El Niño, an ocean-atmosphere phenomenon in the tropical Pacific; Roman is designed for wide-field astronomy; and the Ladakh decision concerns decentralised local governance. Each pairing adds a natural static concept without changing the reported factual base.

49. Match the institution with the jurisdictional or functional issue reported:

List I

- 1. Supreme Court
- 2. Bar Council
- 3. FSSAI
- 4. IMD

List II

- A. Professional regulation after advocate enrolment
- B. Food-safety enforcement
- C. Constitutional judicial determination
- D. Meteorological assessment

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-A, 3-B, 4-C
- B) 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D
- C) 1-A, 2-C, 3-D, 4-B
- D) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The Supreme Court delivered the ruling; the Bar Council's professional authority was the institutional issue; FSSAI handled food-safety enforcement; and IMD supplied the meteorological assessment. The distinction between a constitutional court and a statutory professional regulator is especially important for elimination.

50. Match the country/region with the reported subject:

List I

- 1. Belgium

2. Nepal
3. United States
4. India

List II

- A. Roman Space Telescope launch
- B. Seven Ladakh hill councils and monsoon assessment
- C. Bilateral defence and semiconductor engagement
- D. Langtang-linked disaster

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-C, 2-A, 3-D, 4-B
- B) 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B
- C) 1-A, 2-C, 3-B, 4-D
- D) 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The reported stories linked Belgium with the bilateral engagement, Nepal with the Langtang disaster, the United States with NASA's Roman mission, and India with the Ladakh governance and monsoon stories. The question tests geographical attribution rather than general topic recognition.

51. Match the external-finance channel with the reported status:

List I

1. FCNR(B)
2. OFCB
3. ECB
4. RBI swap facility

List II

- A. External commercial borrowing
- B. Support mechanism for foreign-exchange mobilisation
- C. Foreign-currency non-resident bank deposits
- D. Overseas foreign-currency borrowing

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
- B) 1-C, 2-A, 3-D, 4-B
- C) 1-B, 2-D, 3-A, 4-C
- D) 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reporting distinguished the deposit route FCNR(B), overseas foreign-currency borrowing (OFCB), external commercial borrowing (ECB) and the RBI-supported swap facility. The terms sound similar but describe different balance-sheet or institutional mechanisms. Understanding the distinction is more useful than memorising only the headline dollar figure.

52. Match the reported science term with the associated object:

List I

1. Dark energy
2. Exoplanets
3. L2
4. Wide-field survey

List II

- A. Planets outside the Solar System
- B. Large-area astronomical mapping
- C. Region targeted by Roman
- D. Phenomenon linked to accelerated cosmic expansion

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B
- B) 1-B, 2-A, 3-C, 4-D
- C) 1-A, 2-D, 3-B, 4-C
- D) 1-D, 2-C, 3-A, 4-B

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- Roman's science goals include dark energy and exoplanets, while its trajectory takes it toward Sun–Earth L2. Its wide field is central to large-area surveys. Dark energy is associated with the accelerated expansion of the universe, whereas exoplanets are planets beyond the Solar System. These are stable concepts naturally connected to the current mission.

53. Match the governance term with the reported Ladakh context:

List I

1. Decentralisation
2. District-level planning
3. Autonomous hill council
4. Union Territory

List II

- A. Institutional setting of Ladakh
- B. Intended policy outcome

- C. Local elected development body
- D. Level at which aspirations were to be reflected

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A
- B) 1-A, 2-D, 3-C, 4-B
- C) 1-D, 2-B, 3-A, 4-C
- D) 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The Ladakh announcement explicitly framed the seven councils as a means of decentralisation and participatory governance. The councils are local development institutions, with district-level planning as the level at which local priorities are to be reflected. Ladakh is a Union Territory, providing the constitutional-administrative setting for the measure.

54. Consider the following pairs:

1. EOS-5 — Geosynchronous imaging satellite
2. Roman — Sun–Earth L2 mission
3. FCNR(B) — Foreign-currency deposit channel
4. FSSAI — Monetary policy authority

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- A) All four
- B) Only one
- C) Only three
- D) Only two

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- EOS-5, Roman and FCNR(B) are correctly paired. FSSAI is India's food-safety regulator, not the monetary policy authority; monetary policy is the RBI's domain. Thus three pairs are correct. The question uses institutional adjacency as the distractor: both FSSAI and RBI are statutory bodies with national regulatory roles, but their sectors are entirely different.

55. Consider the following pairs:

1. Southern peninsula — About 27% rainfall deficit
2. Northwest India — About 10% rainfall deficit
3. All monitored districts — 16% deficient rainfall
4. August India-wide rainfall — 16% deficit

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) All four
- B) Only two

- C) Only one
- D) Only three

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The first, second and fourth pairs are correct. The 16% figure refers to the August all-India rainfall deficit, not the share of districts with deficient rainfall. About 42% of monitored districts were classified as deficient. This distinction between a rainfall anomaly and a district classification is exactly the sort of quantitative nuance that can decide a prelims question.

56. Consider the following pairs:

1. Bart De Wever — Belgian Prime Minister
2. S. Jaishankar — External Affairs Minister
3. Nancy Grace Roman — NASA astronomer associated with the Hubble programme
4. IMD — Food-safety regulator

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only two
- B) Only three
- C) Only one
- D) All four

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The first three pairs are correctly matched in the context of the reported stories. Bart De Wever was the Belgian Prime Minister visiting India; S. Jaishankar was India's External Affairs Minister; Nancy Grace Roman is associated with the development of NASA's space astronomy programme and is the namesake of the Roman telescope. IMD is the meteorological agency, not a food-safety regulator.

57. Consider the following pairs:

1. L2 — Second Sun–Earth Lagrange point
2. Geostationary orbit — Circular equatorial geosynchronous orbit
3. FCNR(B) — Rupee-denominated resident deposit
4. LAHDC — Autonomous hill development council

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only two
- B) Only one
- C) Only three
- D) All four

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The first, second and fourth pairs are correct. FCNR(B) deposits are denominated in specified foreign currencies for eligible non-residents, so the third pair is incorrect. The question combines current-affairs terminology with static concepts from orbital mechanics, banking and local governance.

58. Consider the following pairs:

1. Ajmer — FSSAI enforcement
2. Varanasi — Ganga and Varuna flood concern
3. Langtang — Nepal disaster
4. Ladakh — Seven autonomous hill councils

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only two
- B) Only one
- C) All four
- D) Only three

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- All four pairings are supported by the reported news. Ajmer was the site of the food-safety enforcement story; Varanasi was associated with rising Ganga and Varuna levels; Langtang was the setting for the Nepal ice-and-rock disaster; and Ladakh was the setting for the seven hill councils. The set tests geographic recall across unrelated current-affairs themes.

59. Consider the following pairs:

1. FCNR(B) mobilisation — US\$127.2 billion
2. Total foreign-currency mobilisation — US\$136.4 billion
3. April–June goods exports — US\$99.04 billion
4. Non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports — US\$99.04 billion

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only two
- B) All four
- C) Only one
- D) Only three

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The first, second and fourth pairs are correct. US\$99.04 billion refers specifically to non-petroleum, non-gems and jewellery exports, while overall goods exports were US\$129.32 billion. The distinction is important because both datasets contain large dollar values that can easily be transposed in memory.

60. Consider the following pairs:

1. Roman — Dark energy

2. Roman — Exoplanets
3. EOS-5 — Deep-space cosmology observatory
4. EOS-5 — Imaging in geosynchronous orbit

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only three
- B) Only two
- C) All four
- D) Only one

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- Roman is designed to investigate dark energy and exoplanets, while EOS-5 is an imaging satellite reported in geosynchronous orbit. The third pair therefore swaps the missions and is incorrect. The question distinguishes an astronomical observatory from an Earth-observation imaging satellite, even though both are space-based platforms.

61. Consider the following pairs:

1. IMD — Rainfall assessment
2. MHA — Himalayan disaster preparedness
3. FSSAI — Food-safety enforcement
4. RBI — Regulation of advocates after enrolment

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) Only two
- B) Only one
- C) All four
- D) Only three

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The first three pairings reflect the reported stories. IMD assessed rainfall, MHA conveyed the Himalayan preparedness message and FSSAI carried out food-safety enforcement. Regulation of advocates is associated with the Bar Council framework, while the Supreme Court adjudicated the legal issue. The fourth pair therefore combines two unrelated regulatory domains.

62. Consider the following pairs:

1. Leh — Existing LAHDC framework
2. Kargil — Existing LAHDC framework
3. Drass — One of the five newly covered districts
4. Zaskar — One of the five newly covered districts

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A) All four
- B) Only one

- C) Only two
D) Only three

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- Leh and Kargil already had the elected hill-council framework. The expansion covered five newly created districts, including Drass and Zaskar. The distinction matters because the September notification did not create the entire LAHDC system from scratch; it extended the model across all seven districts.

63. Study the following table:

Region / Indicator | Reported figure

Southern peninsula | 27% deficit

Northwestern India | 10% deficit

Monitored districts with deficient rainfall | 42%

August all-India rainfall deficit | 16%

Which inference is most appropriate?

- A) The district figure and rainfall-anomaly figure measure the same thing.
B) Exactly 42% of India's land area received deficient rainfall.
C) Regional rainfall performance varied substantially despite the single all-India deficit figure.
D) The northwest had the largest deficit among the listed regions.

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The table combines different measures: regional rainfall anomalies, a district-level classification and the all-India August anomaly. The southern peninsula had the largest listed regional deficit, while 42% refers to the share of monitored districts classified as deficient, not land area. The data therefore demonstrate spatial heterogeneity rather than a uniform national rainfall pattern.

64. Study the following table:

Instrument / Item | Reported amount

FCNR(B) mobilisation | US\$127.2 bn

Total foreign-currency mobilisation | US\$136.4 bn

OFCB mobilisation | US\$5.3 bn

ECB mobilisation | US\$3.9 bn

Which statement follows directly from the table?

- A) The four figures are additive components with no overlap and must sum exactly to the total.
B) OFCBs were larger than FCNR(B) deposits.
C) FCNR(B) accounted for the overwhelming majority of the reported total mobilisation.

D) ECB mobilisation exceeded the combined FCNR(B) and OFCB figures.

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• FCNR(B) mobilisation at US\$127.2 billion was vastly larger than OFCB and ECB amounts and formed the dominant part of the reported US\$136.4 billion total. The final option is unsafe because the reported figures arise from different facilities and rounding/provisional data; they should not automatically be treated as perfectly additive accounting components. The table's strongest inference is the dominance of FCNR(B).

65. Study the following table:

Item | Key feature

EOS-5 | Geosynchronous imaging

Roman | Wide-field astronomy

LAHDC | Local governance

FSSAI action | Food-safety enforcement

Which of the following is the best cross-disciplinary interpretation?

- A) All four concern space technology.
- B) All four are judicial institutions.
- C) All four are Union ministries.
- D) Each item links a current event to a distinct policy or scientific domain.

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

• The table deliberately spans space, astronomy, governance and food regulation. EOS-5 is an Earth-imaging satellite, Roman is an astronomical observatory, LAHDC concerns decentralised governance, and FSSAI enforcement concerns food safety. The correct inference recognises the diversity of current-affairs domains rather than forcing them into a single institutional category.

66. A state disaster-management authority in a Himalayan district receives a warning about rapidly changing conditions around a glacial lake. Based on the preparedness message reported in September 2026, which response best reflects the policy direction?

- 1. Strengthen monitoring and early warning.
- 2. Prepare evacuation and downstream response plans.
- 3. Rely exclusively on rescue after an outburst occurs.
- 4. Integrate avalanche and GLOF preparedness.

Select the correct answer.

- A) 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 4 only

D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The Union Home Secretary's message, as reported by Indian Express, called for preparedness beyond response-oriented measures for GLOFs and avalanches. A practical disaster-risk approach therefore combines monitoring, early warning, evacuation planning and coordinated preparedness. Exclusive reliance on post-event rescue is precisely the response-only model the reported guidance sought to move beyond.

67. An analyst compares two external-finance developments: a sharp rise in FCNR(B) deposits and continued availability of ECB facilities. Which interpretation is most defensible from the reported 2026 data?

1. FCNR(B) is a deposit mobilisation route.
2. ECB is a borrowing route.
3. Both can affect foreign-exchange liquidity and external financing conditions.
4. They are legally identical instruments.

Select the correct answer.

- A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : D

Explanation :

- The reported figures distinguish FCNR(B) deposits from ECB facilities. Both influence external financing and foreign-currency liquidity, but their legal and balance-sheet nature differs. FCNR(B) involves deposits accepted by banks from eligible non-residents, while ECB is external commercial borrowing. The data therefore support the first three statements but not the claim of legal identity.

68. A student claims that a satellite at about 36,000 km is automatically geostationary. Using the EOS-5 report, which correction is most accurate?

1. That altitude is characteristic of geosynchronous motion.
2. Geostationary status additionally requires an equatorial circular orbit.
3. Any inclined orbit at the same period can appear fixed over one longitude.
4. EOS-5's reported description was geosynchronous imaging.

Select the correct answer.

- A) 1, 2 and 4 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D) 1 and 3 only

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The report placed EOS-5 at roughly 36,000 km in geosynchronous orbit. Geostationary orbit is a narrower category requiring a circular equatorial orbit, which makes the satellite appear fixed over a longitude. An inclined geosynchronous orbit can trace a north–south pattern in the sky rather than remaining fixed. Thus the student’s automatic-equivalence claim is incorrect.

69. The most important distinction between a geosynchronous and a geostationary orbit, relevant to the EOS-5 report, is that:

- A) Geostationary satellites have orbital periods unrelated to Earth’s rotation.
- B) A geostationary orbit is a special equatorial circular case of geosynchronous orbit.
- C) A geosynchronous orbit must always be polar, while a geostationary orbit must be inclined.
- D) There is no distinction between the two terms.

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- Both terms involve matching Earth’s rotation period, but geostationary adds the equatorial circular condition that makes the satellite appear fixed over one longitude. The EOS-5 story used geosynchronous rather than automatically implying geostationary. This is a classic orbital-mechanics distinction that can be tested directly without relying on a transient fact.

70. In the context of the September 2026 FCNR(B) story, which balance-of-payments concept is most directly relevant to a large foreign-currency inflow through banks?

- A) Consumer price index base effect
- B) Fiscal deficit monetisation
- C) Foreign-exchange liquidity
- D) Primary agricultural productivity

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

- The reported FCNR(B) surge increased foreign-currency mobilisation and strengthened the stock of liquid foreign-exchange resources available to the banking and financial system. It is therefore most directly connected with foreign-exchange liquidity. Fiscal deficits, agricultural productivity and CPI methodology are important macroeconomic concepts, but they are not the immediate analytical lens for this particular inflow.

71. Which phenomenon most directly links the IMD’s reported monsoon concern to the tropical Pacific?

- A) North Atlantic Oscillation
- B) El Niño
- C) Indian summer monsoon trough only
- D) Madden–Julian Oscillation as the sole cause

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The Indian Express reported the August rainfall shortfall in the context of an emerging El Niño. El Niño is a warming of central and eastern tropical Pacific sea-surface conditions accompanied by atmospheric changes that can influence global circulation and the Indian monsoon. Other oscillations can affect weather, but the report specifically linked the broader rainfall concern to El Niño conditions.

72. Which one of the following combinations best captures the three principal policy domains represented by the September 2026 stories on Ladakh, FCNR(B) and Roman?

- A) Election law, ocean mining and public distribution
- B) Local governance, external finance and space science
- C) Agricultural subsidies, nuclear doctrine and medieval history
- D) Food regulation, criminal procedure and coastal engineering

Correct Answer is : B

Explanation :

- The three stories point respectively to autonomous hill councils and decentralisation in Ladakh, foreign-currency mobilisation through FCNR(B), and NASA's Roman astronomical mission. The combination therefore spans governance, finance and space science. The distractors deliberately mix unrelated domains to test whether the candidate can identify the central subject of each story rather than a peripheral detail.

73. A current-affairs note states that about 42% of monitored districts were rainfall-deficient while the all-India August rainfall deficit was 16%. Which methodological caution is most appropriate?

- A) District-level classification and national rainfall anomaly should not be treated as interchangeable statistics.
- B) The two figures are mathematically required to be equal.
- C) The 42% figure must mean 42% of India's annual rainfall was lost.
- D) The 16% figure necessarily applies to every district.

Correct Answer is : A

Explanation :

- The reported figures describe different units of analysis. The 16% is an all-India rainfall anomaly for August, whereas 42% refers to the proportion of monitored districts classified as deficient. A national average can coexist with widely varying district outcomes. Recognising the denominator and unit of measurement is essential when interpreting official statistics.

74. Which reported development most clearly illustrates the principle that a current-affairs event can involve both a scientific concept and a policy implication?

- A) A celebrity memoir publication date with no policy dimension
- B) A sports result considered only as a score

C) The monsoon outlook linked to El Niño, with implications for rainfall-dependent sectors

D) A local traffic diversion considered only as a route change

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• The monsoon story combines the scientific concept of El Niño with practical implications for rainfall distribution, agriculture, water management and disaster preparedness. This is a typical UPSC current-affairs linkage: the factual event remains primary, while the static concept explains why it matters. The other options lack a comparable science–policy connection in the reported context.

75. Match the reported development with the institutional setting:

List I

1. FCNR(B) window
2. Seven LAHDCs
3. EOS-5
4. Roman Space Telescope

List II

- A. Ladakh district governance
- B. Foreign-currency mobilisation
- C. Geosynchronous imaging
- D. Sun–Earth L2 astronomy mission

Select the correct code:

- A) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
- B) 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B
- C) 1-B, 2-A, 3-C, 4-D
- D) 1-A, 2-B, 3-D, 4-C

Correct Answer is : C

Explanation :

• The four reported developments map cleanly to four different institutional or scientific settings: FCNR(B) to foreign-currency mobilisation, LAHDCs to Ladakh district governance, EOS-5 to geosynchronous imaging and Roman to a Sun–Earth L2 astronomy mission. The value of the question lies in distinguishing similarly technical or administrative terms across unrelated stories.