Q1. What is Tsunami? What are the causes of Tsunami? (Geography)

Ans: Tsunami is a Japanese word for "Harbour wave". They are also known as seismic sea waves. They are very long-wavelength water waves in oceans or seas. They are commonly referred to as tidal waves because of long wavelengths, although the attractions of the Moon and Sun play no role in their formation. They sometimes come ashore to great heights – tens of metres above mean tide level – and may be extremely destructive.

Causes of Tsunami:

- A tsunami can be caused by any disturbance that displaces a large water mass from its equilibrium position.
- The usual immediate cause of a tsunami is sudden displacement in a seabed due to submarine earthquakes sufficient to cause the sudden raising or lowering of a large body of water. The tsunami on December 26, 2004 was caused after an earthquake displaced the seabed off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia.
- Large volcanic eruptions along shorelines, such as Krakatoa (1883 CE), have also produced notable tsunamis.
- A marine volcanic eruption can generate an impulsive force that displaces the water column and gives birth to a tsunami.
- During a submarine landslide, the equilibrium sea-level is altered by sediment moving along the floor of the sea. Gravitational forces then propagate a tsunami.
- Landslides along the coast, high intensity explosions can also cause tsunami.
- Most destructive tsunamis can be caused due to the fall of extra-terrestrial objects on to the earth.

Q1. Industrial efficiency is a key to sound economy. In this contest discuss the key initiative taken by India to boost industrial performance. (economoy)

Ans:

a) **Make in India** : This programme was launched on 25th September which aims at making India a global hub for manufacturing, research and innovation and integral part of the global chain. The GoI has identified 10 'Champion sectors' that have potential to become global champion, drive double digit growth in manufacturing and generate significant employment opportunities.

b) **Intellectual Property rights policy:** In May 2016, Government for the first time adopted a comprehensive National Intellectual Property Rights(IPR) policy to lay future roadmap for intellectual property. This aims to improve Indian intellectual property ecosystem, hopes to create an innovation movement in the country and aspire towards " Creative India; Innovative India"

c) **Startup India:** In order to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among enterprising youth of our country. Start up India and Stand Up India initiative were launched in 2015. This initiative aims to create an ecosystem that is conducive to growth of startups. Self certify compliance is allowed for start ups. Fund of Funds of startups with a corpus of 10,000 crores has been created and is being managed by SIDBI.

Q1. Outline the provisions of charter act 1833. (history)

Ans:

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- The Governor-General of Bengal was re-designated as the Governor-General of India. This made Lord William Bentinck the first Governor-General of India. Thus, the country's administration was unified under one control.
- The Governors of Bombay and Madras lost their legislative powers. The Governor-General had legislative powers over entire British India.
- The Governor-General in council had the authority to amend, repeal or alter any law pertaining to all people and places in British Indian territories whether British, foreign or Indian native. The civil and military affairs of the company were controlled by the Governor-General in council.
- The Governor-General's council was to have four members. The fourth member had limited powers only.
- For the first time, the Governor-General's government was called Government of India and the council was called India Council.
- As per the act, India law commission was established.
- This was the first act that gave permission for Indians to have a share in the country's administration.
- The act provided for the mitigation of slavery existing in India at that time.
- It also sought to regulate the establishment of Christian institutions in India.

Q1. Comment on the relevance of State Legislative Council. (Polity)

Ans

1) It has not been conceived on the principle of equality of the houses. It is the secondary chamber of state legislature unlike the Rajya sabha which is the second house of the parliament.
2) It cannot amend or reject a bill passed by the assembly by the virtue of its own legislative powers at best it can delay the passage of bill by four months.
3) Hence it can prevent hasty legislation by acting as the revisory house.
4) It also provides opportunity for incorporating talent into the council of ministers. It also serves an opportunity for the members to deliberate and debate on the policy of government. Thereby providing educational value for the people.
5) The 2nd ARC recommended that it should be made compulsory in all the state and its role should transformed to protect the interest of local bodies very similar to the role of Rajya sabha.

Q. what is environment impact assessment? Why it is conducted? (Envt.)

Ans: It is a study to evaluate and identify the predictable environmental consequences and the best combination of economic and environmental costs and benefits of the proposed project. On the basis of EIA, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is prepared, which is a description of the means by which the environmental consequences as pointed out in the EIA will be mitigated. Together the whole draft is termed as EIA-EMP report.

Why EIA is conducted:

a) To systematically examine both beneficial and adverse consequences of the proposal.
b) To ensure that those consequences are taken into account during project design.
c) To identify possible environmental effects of the proposal and means to mitigate them.

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d) To predict whether there will be significant adverse effects even after the mitigation.
e) To lessen conflicts by promoting community participation and informing decision makers.

Q1. What are vishakha guidelines? (Acts)

Ans1: These were laid down by the Supreme Court in a judgment in 1997. This was on a case filed by women's rights groups, one of which was Vishaka. They had filed a public interest litigation over the alleged gang-rape of Bhanwari Devi, a social worker from Rajasthan. In 1992, she had prevented the marriage of a one-year-old girl, leading to the alleged gang-rape in an act of revenge.

Legally binding, these defined sexual harassment and imposed three key obligations on institutions — prohibition, prevention, redress. The Supreme Court directed that they establish a Complaints Committee, which would look into matters of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act was passed in 2013.It broadens the Vishaka guidelines, which were already in place.

Q1. **Sustainable development goals 11 states that make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Discuss the step taken by the government to upgrade the urban amenities and give some solutions to address the problem of urban surge. (Envt.)**

Ans: According to Census 2011, 377.1 million Indian comprising 31.16 per cent of the country population live in urban areas. India's urban populations is projected to grow to about 600 millions by 2031. Hence this urban surge has to be addressed through careful planning and policies.

Indian govt. has launched various policies and scheme to deal with the issues which include the Smart Cities Mission, National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy(2007), Swacch Bharat Mission and Management of Municipal Solid Waste. Yet , many challenges remain.

According to the high powered expert committee appointed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs, about 39 lakh crore was required for creation of urban infrastructure over the next 20 years. Raising resources of this magnitude is going to be a daunting challenge. The problem get further exacerbated by the current position of Urban local bodies to generate the revenue. Their efficiency stands at way below 50%. The way forward is to encourage the ULBs to raise resources through various innovative financial instruments such as municipal bonds, PPPs, Credit risk guarantees etc.

Q1. Challenges in logistics are main concern for Indian trade. Comment. (Economy)

Ans: According to the recent economic survey, the problems associated with logistics are the main concern for India trade and they are reducing the competitiveness by increasing the cost. Some key challenges are as follows:

a) High cost of logistics-impacting competitiveness in domestic and global market.
b) The structure of modal mix is an inefficient one (Roadways 60% and Railways 30%)
c) Under developed material handling infrastructure and fragmented ware housing.

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d) Multiple regulatory/ policy making bodies with procedural complexities including cumbersome and duplicate processes.

Q4. What is law commission? Outline its importance. (Polity)

Ans1: Law commission is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body. It is truly an ad hoc and advisory body whose work is to do research and make recommendations for law reforms such as amendments and updations of prevalent and inherited laws. None of these recommendations are binding on the government.

Composition of the law commission is decided by the central government. According to convention, generally retired judge of SC head's India's Law commission.

Importance of Law commission:

a) It recommend repeal, revision and updating of the inherited laws to serve the changing needs of the country.
b) Various law commissions have been able to make important contributions towards the progressive development and codification of laws of the country.
c) The law commission reports often have been critical of government policies. It also got recognition from Supreme court.
d) Supreme court often in their judgement use the recommendation of Law commission.
e) Useful for academic and research purpose.

Q. Outline the provisions of Charter Act of 1793. (History)

Ans:

a) It was the act of the British Parliament which renewed the charter issued to the British East India Company(EIC) and continued the Company's rule in India.
b) Company's trade monopoly was continued for further 20 years.
c) The governor general was given extensive powers over the subordinate presidencies.
d) Salaries for the staff and paid members of the Board of Control were also now charged to the company.
e) The East India Company was empowered to grant license to both individuals and company employees to trade in India.
f) This act recognized the courts and redefined their jurisdictions. The revenue administration was separated from the judiciary functions.
g) Governor-General was empowered to disregard the majority in the council in special circumstances. Commander in chief was not now the member of Governor General council, unless he was specially appointed to be a member by the court of directors.

Q1. What is surrogacy, surrogate mother and intended couple? Explain its different types? (science)

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Ans: Surrogacy is a practise in which surrogate mother agrees to carry and give birth to child for intended couples. Surrogacy, also known as womb for rent. Surrogate mother is a woman who bears a child for another couple, inspires hope in them and changes their life forever i.e. An Angel. Intended couple are the ones who cannot have child due to fertility-issues and in search of surrogate mother.

Types of surrogacy:

1) Full / Gestational surrogacy

Sperm of the intended father and egg of intended mother are taken, an embryo is formed using Invitro Fertilization(IVS) technique. This embryo is transferred into surrogate mother.

The child do not inherit Indian traits of surrogate mother as she did not contribute genetically.

2) Partial / Traditional surrogacy

Sperm of the intended father and egg of the surrogate mother are taken and fertilization is done through Intrauterine Insemination(IMI). The child inherits Indian traits of surrogate mother as she contributed genetically.

Q1. Recently, lok sabha passed the surrogacy(regulation) bill. Discuss the features of the bill. (Acts/Bills)

Ans1: The Law Commission of India, in its 228th Report, had recommended prohibition of commercial surrogacy by enacting a suitable legislation. The statement of objects and reasons of the Bill says "Due to lack of legislation to regulate surrogacy, practice of surrogacy has been misused by the surrogacy clinics, which leads to rampant of commercial surrogacy and unethical practices in the said area of surrogacy". Hence there was the need for regulating surrogacy in India.

The key provision of the bill are as follows:

1) The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2016 was passed in Lok Sabha with **a voice vote amid several adjournments** over other issues.
2) The bill ensures regulation of surrogacy in India, prohibiting commercial surrogacy. It allows **altruistic surrogacy** to Indian married couple who cannot bear children.
3) The bill says the surrogate mother and the couple that wants to have her **child must be close relatives.**
4) It provides for the formation of **a National Surrogacy Board, State Surrogacy Boards and appointment of appropriate authorities** for the regulation of the practice of surrogacy.
5) The surrogate mother and the intending couple **need eligibility certificates** from the appropriate authority.
6) The bill **allows only** Indian citizens to avail of surrogacy. Foreigners, non-resident Indians and persons of Indian origin are banned from seeking surrogate mothers in the country.
7) Homosexuals, single parents, and live-in couples are also not allowed to have children via surrogacy in India.
8) Couples that already have children will not be allowed to go for surrogacy, though they would be free to adopt children under a separate law.

Q1. Give an outline on the provisions of charter act of 1813. (history)

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