Syllabus of the examination:
1. Awareness of current events of national and international importance.
2. Knowledge and understanding of-
   ✓ Indian Polity
   ✓ Indian Geography and Environment
   ✓ Indian History and culture
   ✓ Indian Economy
   ✓ General Science and technology
3. Questions on English language and comprehension, logical reasoning and analytical ability.
4. Questions on decision making and problem-solving
Q. India has consistently been climbing up its Global Innovation Index (GII) rankings since 2015, in this context, which of these following indicators have helped India to improve its ranking?

1. Ease of starting business
2. Political stability and safety
3. Creative goods exports
4. Growth rate of GDP per worker
5. Exports of information and communication technology

Select the correct answer using the code given below
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 3, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The Global Innovation Index (GII) has ranked India as the 57th most innovative nation in the world. The country has improved its ranking from 60th position last year. India has been improving steadily since it was ranked 81st in 2015. These indicators have helped India to improve its ranking. It includes India’s human capital (graduates in science & engineering), growth rate of GDP per worker, exports of information and communication technology (ICT) and services, productivity growth and creative goods exports etc. However, India has fared badly on indicators such as ease of starting business, political stability and safety, overall education and environmental performance. The GII is being developed jointly by Cornell University, the Paris-based business school Insead and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in Geneva. GII ranks 126 economies based on 80 indicators. It is now in its 11th edition and has become a major input for policymakers on innovation around the world.

Q. Article 368 in Part XX of the Indian Constitution deals with the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution, in this context which among the following provisions of the Constitution cannot be amended by a Simple Majority?

(a) Representation of states in Parliament
(b) Number of puisne judges in the Supreme Court
(c) Admission or establishment of new states
(d) Abolition or creation of Legislative Councils in states

Answer: (a)

Explanation: By simple majority is meant, simple majority of the members present and voting i.e. more than 50%. The following provisions of the Constitution also fall under the same category:
1. Admission or establishment of new States,
2. Formation of new States, changes in the names and boundaries of the States,
3. Creation or abolition of Legislative Councils in the States by Parliament,
4. Salaries and allowances of the President, Governors and Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts (Second schedule of the Constitution).
7. Acquisition and termination of citizenship.
8. Delimitation of constituencies.
9. Number of Puisne judge in the Supreme Court.
For the representation of states in the Parliament we need special majority with ratification by the state legislature.

Q. Regarding the Fundamental Duties which are mentioned in the Part IV-A of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:
1. As the Fundamental Duties are non-justiciable in character the Parliament cannot impose any penalty or punishment for the failure to fulfill any of it.
2. All the Fundamental Duties were added by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution.
3. Fundamental Duties are applicable to every one including the citizens and to the aliens.
Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the above
Answer: (d)
Explanation: In the Indian Constitution, Fundamental duties were added by 42nd and 86th Constitutional Amendment acts. As of now there are 11 Fundamental duties available to the citizens. Citizens are morally obligated by the Constitution to perform these duties. Fundamental duties are applicable only to citizens and not to the aliens. Fundamental Duties have the element of compulsion regarding compliance. In this regard a number of judicial decisions are available towards the enforcement of certain clauses of the Fundamental Duties. In order to ensure that no disrespect is shown to the National Flag, Constitution of India and the National anthem, the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 was enacted.

Q. which one of the following is the best description of the term Deficit financing, which was in the news recently?
(a) It is the excess of government's current expenditure over its current revenue.
(b) It is the difference of borrowing from external and internal resources.
(c) It is an excess of government total expenditure over it's total revenue.
(d) It is the capital expenditure on items of public contractions and public borrowings.
Answer: (c)
Explanation: Deficit financing is the budgetary situation where expenditure is higher than the revenue. It is a practice adopted for financing the excess expenditure with outside resources. The expenditure revenue gap is financed by either printing of currency or through borrowing. Nowadays most governments both in the developed and developing world are having deficit budgets and these deficits are often financed through borrowing. Hence the fiscal deficit is the ideal indicator of deficit financing.

Q. Regarding the ‘Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)’, which was in the news recently, consider the following statements:
1. RCEP is a recently signed mega-regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Asia-Pacific countries.
2. RCEP member countries account for almost three-fourth of the world’s population.
3. In terms of economy RCEP is the world's largest economic bloc.
Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the above
**Answer:** (b)  
**Explanation:** Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) and the six Asia-Pacific states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements. RCEP trade agreement is expected to conclude next year. RCEP countries will meet for a round of negotiations in Indonesia in February and the ministerial in Thailand in April followed by another round of talks in Australia in May. 16 RCEP participating countries account for almost half of the world’s population; contribute about 30 per cent of global GDP and over a quarter of world exports.

**Q. If there is consistent decline in birth rate of a country then what would be its likely impact on economy?**
(a) There will be decrease in savings.  
(b) Per capita income of the country will decrease   
(c) Investment in the country will increase.  
(d) Per capita income of the country will increase.  
**Answer:** (d)  
**Explanation:** The inverse relationship between income and fertility has been termed a demographic-economic paradox. Thomas Malthus, in his book An Essay on the Principle of Population, proposed that greater means (higher income) would enable the production of more offspring (a higher fertility rate). However, nations or sub-populations with higher GDP per capita are observed to have a lower fertility rate.

**Q. In which one of the following states of India, the World Economic Forum has launched its new Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution?**
(a) Haryana  
(b) Maharashtra  
(c) Karnataka  
(d) Tamil Nadu  
**Answer:** (b)  
**Explanation:** The World Economic Forum has announced its new Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution in India, which would aim to bring together the government and business leaders to pilot emerging technology policies. The centre, which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be based in Maharashtra and it has selected drones, artificial intelligence and blockchain as the first three project areas. NITI Aayog will coordinate the partnership on behalf of the government and the work of the centre among multiple ministries.

**Q. The rational behind the imposition of tax in any democratic society is to**
(a) Control the inflation in the country  
(b) Reduce the black Money  
(c) Control the income of the people  
(d) Generate Funds for government expenditure  
**Answer:** (d)  
**Explanation:** Most government programs are working effectively to solve our social problems, and that government is the only way to promote important values like justice and economic security – therefore the taxes needed to support these government activities.
Q. If you see the world Map you will find that there are two continents which are just like the mirror image of each other, identify these Continents
(a) North America and South America
(b) Europe and Asia
(c) Antarctica and Australia
(d) South America and Africa
Answer: (d)
Explanation: South America and Africa are mirror images of each other. If you have ever looked at a map of the Atlantic Ocean, you have probably noticed that the coastlines of Africa and South America seem to fit together like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. The fit between the two coastlines is even better when the edges of the continental shelf are compared.

Q. why the weight of an individual is greater at the poles than at the equator?
(a) It is because of the shape of the earth
(b) Because the attraction of the moon is maximum at the poles.
(c) Gravitational pull is more at the poles than the equator.
(d) Because the attraction of the sun is maximum at the poles.
Answer: (c)
Explanation: Weight of the body is the force with which it is attracted towards the center of the earth. As the distance of the pole is less than the distance of the equator from the center of the earth, the force of attraction is higher on the body at poles than at the equator.

Q. To increases soil fertility and crop yield some farmers practice Rotation of crops method, which means-
(a) Growing two crops at one time
(b) Growing different crops in Succession.
(c) Same crop is grown after some time.
(d) Growing fruits and vegetable in the same field.
Answer: (b)
Explanation: Crop rotation is the practice of growing a series of dissimilar or different types of crops in the same area in sequenced seasons. It is done so that the soil of farms is not used for only one set of nutrients. It helps in reducing soil erosion and increases soil fertility and crop yield.

Q. Consider the following statements about the Nehru Report of 1928:
1. It stated that the next immediate step for India must be dominion status.
2. It rejected the device of separate electorates, but provided for the protection of minorities through a system of reservations.
3. It was approved by the Congress but rejected by the Muslim League.
Which of the statements given above is/are INCORRECT?
(a)1 and 2 only
(b)2 and 3 only
(c)3 only
(d)None of the above
Answer: (d)
Explanation: The Motilal Nehru Report 1928 was a report by a committee headed by Pt. Motilal Nehru. This report was submitted on August 28, 1928 at the Lucknow conference of all the parties. But Jinnah Voted against this report.
Q. Given below are four events pertaining to the Indian National Movement:
1. Establishment of the Indian National Army
2. Death of Rabindranath Tagore
3. Lahore Session of the Muslim League
4. Announcement of the Cripps Mission
Which of the following sequences represents the correct chronological order of these events?
(a)2-3-4-1
(b)3-2-4-1
(c)3-2-1-4
(d)4-3-1-2
Answer: (b)
Explanation: The Lahore session of the Muslim league, which passed the Pakistan Resolution was held in March 1940. Rabindranath Tagore died in 1941 Churchill announced the Cripps Mission on March 11, 1942, and I.N.A. was formed on September 1, 1942.