

Questions Asked from Our Test Series

Kerala PSC Degree Level Exam | May 16 Exam | Knowledge Treasures

SECTION 1

PSC Question 1

Q1. Which of the following statements is/are true regarding the Portuguese Power in Kerala?

- (i) The first printing presses in Kerala were established by the Portuguese.
 - (ii) Vasco Da Gama died at Cochin in 1524 and his body was interred temporarily in the Church there.
 - (iii) De Almeida was the last Portuguese Viceroy in India.
- (A) Only (i) and (ii)
(B) Only (ii) and (iii)
(C) Only (i) and (iii)
(D) All of the above ((i), (ii) and (iii))

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES

Test 4

Test 4 Q2. Who is considered the real founder of the Portuguese power in India and known for abolishing the practice of Sati in Goa?

- (A) Francisco de Almeida
- (B) Afonso de Albuquerque
- (C) Pedro Alvares Cabral
- (D) Vasco da Gama

Solution: B

The correct answer is Afonso de Albuquerque. Appointed as the second Governor of the Portuguese State of India (1509 to 1515), Albuquerque is widely regarded as the real founder of Portuguese power in the East. His most significant achievement was the capture of Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1510, securing a permanent territorial and commercial base for Portugal on the Indian subcontinent. To consolidate Portuguese dominance, he encouraged his men to marry local women, creating a mixed population that would remain loyal to the crown. Notably, he implemented social reforms by abolishing the practice of Sati (widow immolation) in the territories under his direct control, making him one of the earliest colonial administrators to ban the custom. Option A, Francisco de Almeida, was the first Portuguese Governor, known for his Blue Water Policy. Option C, Pedro Alvares Cabral, discovered Brazil and reached India in 1500. Option D, Vasco da Gama, was the pioneering explorer who discovered the direct sea route to India in 1498 but did not lay the administrative foundations of the empire.

Test 11

Test 11 Q3. Which Portuguese Viceroy implemented the 'Blue Water Policy' to establish naval supremacy in the Indian Ocean?

- (A) Afonso de Albuquerque
- (B) Francisco de Almeida

(C) Vasco da Gama

(D) Nino da Cunha

Solution: B

Francisco de Almeida served as the first Portuguese Viceroy of India from 1505 to 1509 and is credited with implementing the Blue Water Policy. This strategic policy aimed to establish Portuguese mastery over the Indian Ocean through formidable naval supremacy, rather than by constructing expensive and vulnerable fortresses on the Indian mainland. The strategy was to control the lucrative spice trade routes strictly through dominating sea power. Among the other options provided, Afonso de Albuquerque succeeded Almeida and is widely considered the real founder of Portuguese imperial power in India, notably capturing Goa in 1510 and focusing heavily on territorial strongholds. Vasco da Gama was the pioneering explorer who discovered the direct sea route from Europe to India in 1498, initiating the era of Portuguese influence. Nino da Cunha served as governor later and is remembered for officially shifting the Portuguese administrative capital in India from Cochin to Goa in 1530.

Test 23

Test 23 Q9. Vasco da Gama landed at Kappad near Calicut on which date?

(A) 1498 May 20

(B) 1498 August 27

(C) 1498 October 20

(D) 1498 June 15

Solution: A

The Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama successfully discovered a direct sea route from Europe to India when he arrived at Kappad beach, located near Calicut (Kozhikode) in Kerala, on 20 May 1498. This monumental event effectively bypassed the traditional overland trade routes monopolized by Arab and Venetian merchants, marking the definitive beginning of the European colonial era in the Indian subcontinent. Upon his arrival, he was received by the local ruler of Calicut, who held the hereditary title of the Zamorin (Samuthiri). This initial contact eventually led to the establishment of lucrative spice trade networks and Portuguese strongholds along the Malabar Coast. Vasco da Gama undertook subsequent voyages to India, returning for a second expedition in 1502 to consolidate Portuguese power, and making a final third visit in 1524 after being appointed as the Viceroy of Portuguese India. He ultimately contracted malaria and died in the city of Cochin during this final tenure.

Special GA Test 2

Special GA Test 2 Q41. Which of the following statements regarding the colonial history of Kerala is NOT correct?

(A) The first printing press in Kerala was established at Quilon in the year 1578.

(B) The Dutch East India Company introduced the first printing press in Kerala to aid their administration.

(C) Vasco da Gama arrived at Calicut in 1498, marking the beginning of Portuguese influence in the region.

(D) The book Doctrina Christam was one of the earliest works printed in Kerala using the newly established press.

Solution: B

The correct answer is the statement claiming that the Dutch East India Company introduced the first printing press in Kerala. This statement is factually incorrect. The Portuguese were the first European power to introduce the printing press to Kerala, establishing it at Quilon in the year 1578. The primary motivation behind setting up this printing press was to aid their missionary activities and spread Christianity among the local population. The

first book printed in Kerala was Doctrina Christam, which was translated into the local language and published at this Quilon press. The Dutch East India Company, although highly influential in the later colonial history of Kerala and responsible for monumental works like the Hortus Malabaricus, did not print that work in Kerala. The Hortus Malabaricus was actually printed in Amsterdam. Vasco da Gama arrived in Calicut in 1498, which indeed marked the beginning of Portuguese influence in the region, making that statement correct. Therefore, the claim attributing the first printing press to the Dutch is the only false statement among the given options.

PSC Question 2

Q2. Name the person who composed 'Adibhasha', a work in the field of linguistics:

- (i) Vaikunta Swamikal
 - (ii) Chattampi Swamikal
 - (iii) Kumaran Asan
- (A) Only (i)
(B) Only (ii)
(C) Only (iii)
(D) None of the above

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES

Test 19

Test 19 Q9. Which famous literary work of Chattampi Swamikal criticizes the legend that Kerala was created by Parasurama and argues that the Nairs were the original inhabitants of Kerala?

- (A) Vedadhikara Nirupanam
- (B) Pracheena Malayalam
- (C) Adhibhasha
- (D) Jivakarunya Nirupanam

Solution: B

Pracheena Malayalam is the correct answer. In this seminal work, the prominent Kerala social reformer Chattampi Swamikal critically analyzed and refuted the traditional Brahminical Parasurama legend, which claimed that the land of Kerala was reclaimed from the sea by the sage Parasurama and gifted exclusively to the Namboodiri Brahmins. Instead, Swamikal argued that the Nairs and other Dravidian communities were the original, indigenous inhabitants and rulers of Kerala long before the Aryan migration. Looking at his other works, Vedadhikara Nirupanam is a revolutionary text that challenged the orthodox Brahmin monopoly over Vedic knowledge, asserting that all people, regardless of caste, have the right to study the Vedas. Adhibhasha argues for the antiquity and independence of the Tamil and Malayalam languages over Sanskrit. Jivakarunya Nirupanam is a philosophical treatise advocating for non-violence, compassion towards all living beings, and a strictly vegetarian lifestyle.

PSC Question 3

Q3. Choose the correct statements from among the following:

- (i) De Lannoy was appointed as Commander-in-Chief of the Travancore forces by Marthanda Varma.
 - (ii) The Pandarampattam Proclamation of 1865 was issued during the reign of Ayilyam Thirunal.
 - (iii) C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer was the Dewan of Travancore when the Temple entry Proclamation was made in 1936.
- (A) (i) only
(B) (i) and (ii) only
(C) (ii) and (iii) only
(D) All of the above ((i), (ii) and (iii))

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 2**

Test 2 Q1. Who was the Dutch commander defeated by Marthanda Varma at the Battle of Colachel in 1741, who later served as the 'Valia Kappithan' (Senior Captain) of the Travancore army?

- (A) Van Rheeде
(B) Eustachius De Lannoy
(C) Stein van Gollenesse
(D) William Keeling

Solution: B

Eustachius De Lannoy was the distinguished Dutch naval commander who suffered defeat at the hands of the Travancore King Marthanda Varma during the historic Battle of Colachel in the year 1741. Following his surrender, De Lannoy defected and joined the Travancore military forces, where he played an absolutely crucial role in modernizing the army along European standards. He trained the soldiers in advanced firearms and artillery, earning the esteemed local title of Valia Kappithan, meaning Senior Captain. He also oversaw the construction of the famous Udayagiri Fort. Looking at the other options, Hendrik van Rheeде was an earlier Dutch colonial administrator famous for compiling the botanical treatise Hortus Malabaricus. Julius Valentijn Stein van Gollenesse served as the Dutch Governor of Cochin during the period of the Colachel war but was not the battlefield commander. William Keeling was a prominent captain for the British East India Company, completely unrelated to the Dutch forces at Colachel.

Test 23

Test 23 Q6. The historic Temple Entry Proclamation of Travancore was issued on which date?

- (A) 12 November 1935
(B) 12 November 1936
(C) 12 October 1936
(D) 1 November 1936

Solution: B

The historic Temple Entry Proclamation of Travancore was officially issued on 12 November 1936, which corresponds to the date 1112 Thulam 27 in the traditional Malayalam calendar. This groundbreaking decree was issued by the then Maharaja of Travancore, Sree Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma, with the strong support of

his Dewan, Sir C.P. Ramaswami Iyer. The proclamation abolished the centuries-old ban that prevented marginalized and lower-caste Hindus, often referred to as 'avarnas', from entering and worshiping in Hindu temples administered by the Princely State of Travancore. It was a monumental milestone in the social history of Kerala and India, effectively dismantling a significant pillar of the oppressive caste system. The decree was widely praised across the country, with Mahatma Gandhi referring to it as a modern miracle. The other dates provided in the options are factually incorrect regarding this specific and momentous historical event.

PSC Question 4

Q11. The inner core of the earth is composed of:

- (A) Sial
- (B) Sima
- (C) Nife
- (D) Nial

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 13**

Test 13 Q11. Which layer of the Earth is predominantly composed of Nickel and Iron?

- (A) Crust
- (B) Mantle
- (C) Core
- (D) Asthenosphere

Solution: C

The correct answer is the Core, which is the innermost layer of the Earth. The core is predominantly composed of heavy metals, specifically Nickel (Ni) and Iron (Fe), which is why it is often referred to by the acronym NIFE. This metallic composition is responsible for generating the Earth's magnetic field. The Earth's interior is divided into several layers based on chemical composition and physical properties. The Crust is the outermost solid shell, mainly composed of Silica and Aluminum (SIAL) in continental areas, and Silica and Magnesium (SIMA) in oceanic areas. The Mantle lies beneath the crust and is rich in solid silicate minerals containing iron and magnesium. The Asthenosphere is a mechanically weak, highly viscous, and ductile region located within the upper mantle, upon which the tectonic plates move. Therefore, only the core fits the description of being primarily composed of nickel and iron.

PSC Question 5

Q12. Which among the following gases induces global warming?

- (A) Methane
- (B) Argon
- (C) Krypton
- (D) Oxygen

Extra Test Test 43 Q50. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the mechanisms of climate change and global warming?

- (A) Water vapor is not considered a greenhouse gas and has absolutely no role in the earth's natural greenhouse effect.
- (B) Ocean acidification is primarily caused by the excessive absorption of anthropogenic carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- (C) The albedo effect always helps to accelerate global warming when polar ice caps expand during winter seasons.
- (D) Methane is considered a much less potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide when measured over a short twenty-year period.

Solution: B

Explanation: The statement regarding ocean acidification is correct. When the global ocean absorbs massive amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, it undergoes chemical reactions that increase the concentration of hydrogen ions. This process lowers the overall pH of the seawater, making it more acidic, which severely impacts marine life, particularly organisms that need to build calcium carbonate shells like corals, oysters, and certain vital plankton species. The statement about water vapor is incorrect because water vapor is actually the most abundant greenhouse gas in the atmosphere and plays a major foundational role in the natural greenhouse effect. The statement about the albedo effect is incorrect because expanding white ice caps reflect more sunlight back into space, which cools the planet rather than accelerating warming. The statement about methane is incorrect because methane is significantly more potent at trapping heat than carbon dioxide over a twenty-year timescale, despite having a shorter atmospheric lifespan. When evaluating climate change statements, pay close attention to the scientific direction of the stated effects. Acidification literally means a drop in pH due to excess acidic compounds, which logically aligns with increased dissolved carbon dioxide forming carbonic acid. Conversely, terms like albedo relate to reflection, so more white ice means more reflection and less warming. A related scientific fact to keep in mind is that while carbon dioxide gets the most media attention due to its sheer atmospheric volume and incredibly long lifespan, synthetic industrial gases like hydrofluorocarbons have a global warming potential that is thousands of times greater than carbon dioxide per molecule.

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES

PSC Question 6

Q13. In a topographic map relief features are represented by:

- (A) Isobars
- (B) Isohyets
- (C) Isohalines
- (D) Contours

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Extra Tests Test 31**

Extra Tests Test 31 Q12. Which of the following statements best explains how contour lines on a topographic map represent specific landforms and elevation changes?

- (A) Closely spaced contour lines indicate a gentle slope, while widely spaced lines indicate a steep slope or cliff.
- (B) V-shaped contour lines pointing towards lower elevations represent a river valley, while those pointing towards higher elevations indicate a ridge.
- (C) Contour lines that merge or touch each other represent a vertical cliff, whereas concentric closed contours with decreasing values towards the center denote a depression.
- (D) Hachures are modern digital representations used in topographic maps to show elevation without the need for traditional contour lines.

Solution: C

The correct option is C because in topographic maps, contour lines represent imaginary lines connecting points of equal elevation. When these lines merge or touch one another, they indicate a vertical cliff where multiple elevations occur at the exact same horizontal position. Furthermore, concentric closed contour lines with decreasing elevation values toward the center accurately denote a depression or basin in the landscape. The other options are fundamentally incorrect based on standard cartographic principles. Option A is the exact reverse of reality, as closely spaced lines indicate a steep slope while widely spaced lines show a gentle slope. Option B is incorrect because V-shaped contour lines pointing towards higher elevations indicate a river valley, whereas those pointing towards lower elevations represent a ridge. Option D is entirely false because hachures are an older, traditional method of showing relief using short, parallel lines rather than modern digital representations. A practical guessing tip when dealing with contour maps is to remember that the closer the lines are squeezed together, the steeper the climb would be in real life, just like steps on a ladder. A related fact to remember is that contour intervals, which are the vertical distance between adjacent contour lines, always remain constant on a standard topographic map to ensure accurate interpretation of the terrain.

PSC Question 7

Q15. Lion Tailed Macaque is a protected species in:

- (A) Silent Valley National Park
- (B) Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve
- (C) Eravikulam National Park
- (D) Chinnar Wild Life Sanctuary

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 15**

Test 15 Q14. Consider the following statements regarding the National Parks in Kerala. i) Eravikulam National Park is located in the Idukki district and houses the Anamudi peak. ii) Silent Valley National Park was declared primarily to protect the Nilgiri Tahr. iii) Periyar National Park is the only Tiger Reserve in Kerala. iv) Mathikettan Shola National Park is located in the Poopara village of Idukki district. Which of the above statements are correct?

- (A) (i) and (ii) only
- (B) (ii) and (iii) only
- (C) (i) and (iv) only
- (D) (i), (iii) and (iv) only

Solution: C

The correct combination is statement i and statement iv. Statement i is correct because Eravikulam National Park is situated in the high ranges of the Idukki district and encompasses Anamudi, which at 2695 meters is the highest peak in India south of the Himalayas. Statement iv is also correct as Mathikettan Shola National Park, known for its unique shola forest ecosystem, is located in the Poopara village of the Udumbanchola taluk in the Idukki district. Statement ii is incorrect because the Silent Valley National Park was primarily established to conserve the endangered Lion Tailed Macaque and its pristine tropical evergreen rainforest habitat. The Nilgiri Tahr is the flagship species protected in the Eravikulam National Park. Statement iii is incorrect as Kerala currently has two designated Tiger Reserves. Along with the Periyar Tiger Reserve, the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve located in the Palakkad district is also a crucial protected area for tiger conservation. Therefore, only statements i and iv are factually accurate.

PSC Question 8

Q18. The excess of fiscal deficit over the payment of interest is called:

- (A) Budget deficit
- (B) Revenue deficit
- (C) Primary deficit
- (D) Monetised deficit

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Extra Tests Test 33**

Extra Tests Test 33 Q19. Which of the following formulas correctly calculates the Primary Deficit of the government?

- (A) Fiscal Deficit minus Interest Payments
- (B) Revenue Deficit minus Capital Expenditure
- (C) Total Expenditure minus Total Revenue
- (D) Fiscal Deficit minus Revenue Deficit

Solution: A

The correct option is Fiscal Deficit minus Interest Payments. Primary deficit is a vital fiscal indicator that measures the current financial performance of the government by excluding the burden of past debts. By subtracting interest payments from the gross fiscal deficit, the primary deficit shows exactly how much the government needs to borrow to meet its current expenses, independent of its historical borrowing obligations. A zero primary deficit means the government only needs to borrow to pay interest on past loans. The other formulas presented are incorrect definitions of fiscal concepts. Revenue Deficit minus Capital Expenditure does not represent any standard economic metric used in Indian public finance. Total Expenditure minus Total Revenue represents the overall budgetary deficit, not the primary deficit, and this concept has largely been phased out of modern Indian budget documents. Fiscal Deficit minus Revenue Deficit simply calculates the capital deficit portion, which is not the definition of primary deficit. A practical trick to remember this formula is to associate the word primary with current or present actions. Since interest payments are the result of past actions, you must remove the past interest from the total borrowing to find the primary or current borrowing need. Candidates often confuse fiscal deficit with primary deficit. Remember that fiscal deficit includes the total borrowing requirement of the government including interest payments, whereas primary deficit strictly isolates the borrowing needed for current administrative and developmental expenditures.

PSC Question 9

Q19. The second five year plan based on Mahalanobis model emphasized that:

- (A) All the sectors of the economy should be given equal importance
- (B) The focus should be on agricultural sector
- (C) The focus should be on the growth of heavy Industries
- (D) Both (B) and (C)

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Extra Tests Test 35**

Extra Tests Test 35 Q16. Consider the following statements regarding the history of Five-Year Plans in India:

- (i) The First Five-Year Plan was based on the Harrod-Domar model.
- (ii) The Second Five-Year Plan emphasized heavy industries and was based on the P.C. Mahalanobis model.
- (iii) The concept of the Rolling Plan was introduced by the Janata Party government in 1978.
- (iv) The Twelfth Five-Year Plan was the final Five-Year Plan, covering the period from 2012 to 2017.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) Only (i) and (ii)
- (B) Only (ii) and (iii)
- (C) Only (i), (ii) and (iv)
- (D) All of the above

Solution: D

All the statements provided in the question are historically accurate representations of India's economic planning era. The First Five-Year Plan (1951-1956) was indeed based on the Harrod-Domar model, focusing primarily on agricultural development. The Second Five-Year Plan (1956-1961) shifted the focus to rapid industrialization and was drafted by the statistician P.C. Mahalanobis. The Rolling Plan was introduced by the Morarji Desai-led Janata Party government in 1978 after terminating the Fifth Plan a year early. Finally, the Twelfth Five-Year Plan (2012-2017) was the last of its kind before the Planning Commission was dissolved and replaced by NITI Aayog. Option A is incorrect because it arbitrarily excludes the valid facts regarding the Rolling Plan and the Twelfth Plan. Option B is incorrect as it leaves out the foundational First Plan and the concluding Twelfth Plan, both of which are correctly stated. Option C is incorrect because it wrongly excludes the third statement about the Rolling Plan, which is a very famous political and economic shift in Indian history. When evaluating multi-statement questions on Five-Year Plans, look for standard textbook associations. Harrod-Domar is always linked to the First Plan, Mahalanobis to the Second, and the Janata Party to the Rolling Plan. If these classic pairs match perfectly, the statements are almost certainly correct. A common mistake is confusing the Plan Holiday with the Rolling Plan. The Plan Holiday occurred between 1966 and 1969 due to the Indo-Pak war and severe droughts, while the Rolling Plan was a political decision made much later in 1978.

PSC Question 10

Q22. Which feature of the Right to Information framework most strengthens citizen oversight of public authorities?

- (A) Mandatory proactive disclosure of key information
- (B) Exclusive judicial handling of information requests
- (C) Complete exemption of administrative records
- (D) Prior government approval before filing applications

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 14**

Test 14 Q26. Which section of the Right to Information Act, 2005 specifically lists the categories of information that are exempted from disclosure?

- (A) Section 4
- (B) Section 6
- (C) Section 8
- (D) Section 11

Solution: C

Section 8 of the Right to Information Act of 2005 specifically outlines the categories of information that are exempted from disclosure to the public. This section balances the right to information with the need to protect sensitive national and administrative interests. Exemptions include information that would prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security, strategic, scientific, or economic interests of the State, or relations with foreign States. It also exempts trade secrets, intellectual property, information received in confidence from a foreign government, and personal information that has no relationship to any public activity. The other sections serve different functions. Section 4 mandates proactive disclosure of information by public authorities to ensure transparency. Section 6 lays down the procedure for a citizen to make a request for obtaining information. Section 11 deals with the disclosure of third party information.

PSC Question 11

Q23. Which human rights organisation primarily monitors compliance with international human rights treaties?

- (A) International Labour Organization
- (B) International Court of Justice
- (C) World Health Organization
- (D) United Nations Human Rights Council

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Special GA Test 36**

Special GA Test 36 Q78. An independent researcher is studying the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations. They notice one entity is a political body comprising 47 member states that conducts a peer-review of all UN members' human rights records every few years. Another entity is a secretariat office led by an individual official who coordinates human rights activities across the UN system. Which of the following correctly identifies these entities and the specific peer-review mechanism?

- (A) The political body is the UN General Assembly, the office is the UN Security Council, and the mechanism is the Global Rights Review.
- (B) The political body is the United Nations Human Rights Council, the office is the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the mechanism is the Universal Periodic Review.
- (C) The political body is the Amnesty International Assembly, the office is the International Court of Justice, and the mechanism is the Human Development Index.
- (D) The political body is the UN Economic and Social Council, the office is the UN Secretary-General, and the mechanism is the Millennium Development Goals assessment.

Solution: B

The scenario highlights the crucial distinction between two often-confused United Nations human rights entities. The United Nations Human Rights Council is an intergovernmental political body made up of exactly 47 member states elected by the UN General Assembly. It is uniquely responsible for the Universal Periodic Review, a mechanism that involves a comprehensive peer review of the human rights records of all 193 UN Member States. In contrast, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is a department of the UN Secretariat led by an individual official, the High Commissioner, who acts as the principal human rights voice of the UN. Option A is incorrect because the General Assembly has 193 members, not 47, and the Security Council is not a human rights secretariat. Option C includes non-governmental organisations and judicial bodies entirely unrelated to the specific UN peer-review process. Option D is incorrect as the Economic and Social Council has 54 members and does not conduct the specific universal human rights peer review. Concept note: Understanding the UN system requires distinguishing between state-led political bodies that vote on resolutions and independent bureaucratic offices that manage day-to-day coordination.

PSC Question 12

Q25. Why is independence of the Judiciary crucial for protection of fundamental rights?

- (A) It ensures faster justice
- (B) It prevents executive interference
- (C) It enhances legislative authority
- (D) It centralises constitutional power

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 28**

Test 28 Q21. Which Constitutional Amendment Act attempted to replace the Collegium System with the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC), which was later struck down by the Supreme Court?

- (A) 97th Amendment Act
- (B) 98th Amendment Act
- (C) 99th Amendment Act
- (D) 101st Amendment Act

Solution: C

The 99th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2014, along with the accompanying National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, sought to fundamentally change how judges are appointed to the Supreme Court and High Courts in India. It aimed to replace the decades-old Collegium System, where judges appoint judges, with a new body called the National Judicial Appointments Commission. This commission was designed to include members of the executive branch and civil society alongside senior judges. However, in 2015, during the Fourth Judges Case, a five-judge constitutional bench of the Supreme Court declared both the 99th Amendment and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act unconstitutional and void. The Court ruled that executive interference in judicial appointments compromised the independence of the judiciary, which is a core feature of the basic structure of the Constitution. Regarding the other options, the 97th Amendment Act deals with the constitutional status and protection of cooperative societies. The 98th Amendment Act provides special provisions for the Hyderabad-Karnataka region under Article 371J. The 101st Amendment Act paved the way for the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax regime across the country. Therefore, the correct answer is the 99th Amendment Act.

PSC Question 13

Q30. Which ancient port city in Kerala, known for its extensive maritime trade with the Roman and Greek Civilizations, is the focus of a major ongoing heritage project?

- (A) Tyndis
- (B) Muziris
- (C) Nelcynda
- (D) Barace

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 11**

Test 11 Q5. Which ancient port city in Kerala was described by the Roman author Pliny the Elder as the "Primum Emporium Indiae" (First Emporium of India)?

- (A) Tyndis
- (B) Barace
- (C) Muziris
- (D) Nelcynda

Solution: C

Muziris, generally identified with the modern day area of Kodungallur or Pattanam in Kerala, was a highly prosperous ancient port city of the Chera kingdom. It served as a critical hub in the global spice trade, connecting southern India with the Roman Empire, Egypt, and the Middle East. The Roman author and natural philosopher Pliny the Elder famously described Muziris in his encyclopedic work *Naturalis Historia* as the *Primum Emporium Indiae*, which translates to the foremost emporium or premier trading center of India. Ships from the Roman world brought gold coins and wine, returning with immense cargoes of black pepper, pearls, and ivory. Looking at the incorrect options, Tyndis, Barace, and Nelcynda were also significant ancient port cities on the Malabar Coast mentioned in classical Greco Roman texts like the *Periplus of the Erythraean Sea*. Tyndis was located further north, while Barace and Nelcynda were situated further south, but none of these were given the specific title by Pliny the Elder that was bestowed upon Muziris.

Special GA Test 36

Special GA Test 36 Q56. By which ancient name was the historic port city of Kodungallur known to the Roman and Greek traders?

- (A) Muziris
- (B) Tyndis
- (C) Nelcynda
- (D) Barigaza

Solution: A

Kodungallur, historically known as Cranganore, was famously referred to as Muziris by ancient Roman, Greek, and Arab traders. Muziris was a legendary and bustling seaport on the Malabar Coast that played a central role in the ancient spice trade, particularly for the export of black pepper, often called black gold. It was a primary destination for ships navigating the Indian Ocean using the monsoon winds. Tyndis and Nelcynda were also ancient ports on the western coast of India, but they refer to different locations, such as the Kadalundi and

Niranam regions respectively. Barigaza was the ancient Greek name for the port of Bharuch in Gujarat. The identification of Muziris with the modern Kodungallur and Pattanam region remains a major aspect of Kerala historical geography and ancient maritime trade history.

PSC Question 14

Q33. In Basketball, shooting is required to score goals. Shooting is _____.

- (A) a tactic
- (B) a skill
- (C) a style
- (D) a strategy

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 27**

Test 27 Q38. How many players are there in a Basketball team on the court at one time?

- (A) 6
- (B) 7
- (C) 5
- (D) 9

Solution: C

In a standard game of basketball, each team is permitted to have exactly 5 players actively participating on the court at any given time. These five positions are typically defined as the point guard, shooting guard, small forward, power forward, and center. The game is played on a rectangular court, and the primary objective is to score points by successfully shooting the basketball through the opposing team's hoop. If a team has more or fewer than five players on the court during live play, they can be penalized with a technical foul. The other numbers listed correspond to different team sports. A team consists of 6 players on the court in sports like indoor volleyball and ice hockey. Teams field 7 players at a time in sports such as kabaddi, water polo, and netball. A team fields 9 players at a time in sports like baseball and the traditional Indian tag game kho-kho.

PSC Question 15**Q37. Which is the correct statement?**

- (i) George Varghese is the one who writes under the pen name Kakkanadan.
 - (ii) P. Kunjanathan Nair's pen name is Thikkodiyam.
 - (iii) E.J. Philip is Kovilan.
- (A) (i) and (ii) are correct
(B) All are correct
(C) (ii) and (iii) are correct
(D) (i) and (iii) are correct

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 17**

Test 17 Q37. What is the real name of the famous Malayalam writer known by the pen name 'Kovilan'?

- (A) V.V. Ayyappan
- (B) P.C. Gopalan
- (C) K.E. Mathai
- (D) P. Sachidanandan

Solution: A

Kovilan was the widely recognized pen name of V.V. Ayyappan, a highly esteemed writer in modern Malayalam literature. He is particularly renowned for his powerful literary works set against a military background, authentically drawing from his own lived experiences serving in the Royal Indian Navy and later in the Corps of Signals of the Indian Army. His major, award-winning literary works include Thattakam, A minus B, and Ezhamedangal. The other options represent the real names of other famous Malayalam writers who also used pen names. Option B, P.C. Gopalan, is the real name of the writer known as Nandanar, who also frequently wrote about military life and rural Kerala. Option C, K.E. Mathai, is the real name of the acclaimed novelist Parappurath, who also focused on the lives of common soldiers. Option D, P. Sachidanandan, is the real name of the prominent contemporary writer and intellectual who writes philosophical novels and essays under the pseudonym Anand.

Test 19

Test 19 Q38. What was the real name of the writer 'Kakkanadan', who was a pioneer of modernism in Malayalam literature?

- (A) George Varghese
- (B) Paul Zacharia
- (C) M. Mukundan
- (D) O.V. Vijayan

Solution: A

The real name of the celebrated Malayalam writer known by the pen name Kakkanadan was George Varghese. Born George Varghese Kakkanadan, he was a pioneering literary figure who played a massive role in introducing modernism into Malayalam literature during the 1960s and 1970s. His rebellious writing style broke away from traditional narrative structures, exploring deep existential themes in masterpieces such as Ushnamekhala and

Oru Baliyada. The other options provided are also highly respected pillars of modern Malayalam literature, but they are completely different individuals. Paul Zacharia is a renowned essayist and short story writer who publishes under his own name. M. Mukundan is famous for his works centered around the region of Mahe, often referred to as the writer of Mayyazhi. O. V. Vijayan was an iconic author and cartoonist whose magnum opus, Khasakkinte Itihasam, revolutionized Malayalam fiction. None of these other writers used the pen name Kakkanadan.

Test 17

Test 17 Q35. 'Thikkodiyan' is the pen name of which literary figure?

- (A) P. Kunhananandan Nair
- (B) K.T. Muhammed
- (C) S.L. Puram Sadanandan
- (D) Thoppil Bhasi

Solution: A

Thikkodiyan was the well-known pen name of P. Kunhananandan Nair, a highly respected and multifaceted personality in Malayalam literature. He was celebrated for his immense contributions to Malayalam drama, poetry, and novels, and played a significant role in the cultural sphere of Kerala. He hailed from the village of Thikkodi in the Kozhikode district, from which he derived his pen name. His widely acclaimed autobiography is titled Arangu Kaanatha Nadan, which won the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award. The other options represent legendary playwrights in the history of Malayalam theatre who are generally known by their real names. K.T. Muhammed was a renowned playwright and screenwriter who brought modern sensibilities to Malayalam theatre. S.L. Puram Sadanandan was a prolific writer of plays and film scripts known for his sharp dialogue. Thoppil Bhasi was a prominent playwright, scriptwriter, and film director who was a key figure in the Kerala People's Arts Club and the communist cultural movement in Kerala.

PSC Question 16

Q41. Match the following memory types with their correct usage:

- A. DRAM 1. Cache Memory
 - B. SRAM 2. Main Memory
 - C. BIOS 3. Stored permanently in ROM
 - D. Registers 4. CPU's working memory
- (A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(B) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
(C) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
(D) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 1**

Test 1 Q43. In the computer memory hierarchy, which of the following memory types has the highest cost per bit of storage?

- (A) Secondary Memory
- (B) Main Memory
- (C) Registers
- (D) Cache Memory

Solution: C

The correct answer is Registers. In computer architecture, the memory hierarchy represents a trade-off between access speed, storage capacity, and cost per bit. Registers are located directly within the Central Processing Unit and operate at the exact speed of the processor, making them the absolute fastest memory available. Because they are built using expensive static random-access memory cells directly on the processor chip, they have the highest cost per bit of storage, which limits their capacity to just a few bytes or kilobytes. As we move down the memory hierarchy, the characteristics change significantly. Cache Memory is slightly slower and cheaper than registers but faster than RAM. Main Memory, typically dynamic random-access memory, offers gigabytes of storage at a much lower cost per bit but operates slower than cache. Secondary Memory, such as hard disk drives and solid-state drives, provides enormous non-volatile storage capacity at the lowest cost per bit, but it possesses the slowest access times.

Test 13

Test 13 Q45. The firmware known as BIOS (Basic Input Output System), which initializes hardware during the booting process, is typically stored in:

- (A) RAM
- (B) Cache
- (C) ROM
- (D) Registers

Solution: C

The Basic Input Output System, commonly referred to as BIOS, is essential firmware that initializes and tests the system hardware components during the computer's booting process before handing over control to the operating system. BIOS is permanently stored in ROM, or Read-Only Memory. ROM is a type of non-volatile memory, meaning it retains its stored data permanently, even when the computer is completely powered off and unplugged. This non-volatile nature is critical because the computer requires these startup instructions immediately upon being powered on, long before the hard drive can be accessed. Option A, RAM (Random Access Memory), Option B, Cache, and Option D, Registers, are all incorrect because they represent volatile memory types. Volatile memory requires continuous electrical power to maintain its stored information and is wiped completely clean the moment the system is powered down.

Test 4

Test 4 Q43. Static RAM (SRAM) stores data using which of the following electronic components?

- (A) Capacitors
- (B) Transistors and Latches (Flip-Flops)
- (C) Magnetic tape
- (D) Optical pits

Solution: B

Static Random Access Memory, commonly known as SRAM, relies on a specialized circuit design that uses transistors arranged as flip-flops or latches to store each individual bit of data. This architectural choice means that SRAM can continuously hold data as long as electrical power is supplied to the system, completely eliminating the need for periodic refreshing cycles. In direct contrast, Dynamic Random Access Memory, or DRAM, uses microscopic capacitors to store data bits as electrical charges. Because these capacitors gradually leak charge over time, DRAM requires constant refreshing circuits to read and rewrite the data thousands of times per second to prevent data loss. Since SRAM requires multiple transistors, typically six, to store a single bit of memory, it is significantly less dense, physically larger, and much more expensive to manufacture than DRAM. However, SRAM operates at significantly higher speeds, making it the preferred choice for CPU cache memory. Magnetic tape relies on magnetized particles for sequential data storage, and optical pits are used in CDs and DVDs to store data read by lasers, neither of which are used in solid-state RAM.

PSC Question 17

Q42. Which network device is used to connect networks that follow different communication protocols?

- (A) Switch
- (B) Bridge
- (C) Router
- (D) Gateway

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 1**

Test 1 Q45. Which networking device is known as a "protocol converter" because it can connect two networks that use different communication protocols?

- (A) Switch
- (B) Hub
- (C) Gateway
- (D) Repeater

Solution: C

The correct answer is Gateway. In computer networking, a Gateway is a network node that connects two distinct networks operating under completely different transmission protocols. Because it must translate data formats, communication procedures, and protocols to allow these incompatible networks to communicate with each other, it is widely known as a protocol converter. For example, a gateway can connect a local area network using TCP/IP to a completely different network architecture. The other networking devices perform different functions. A Switch connects devices within the same network and uses MAC addresses to forward data only to the intended destination, but it does not translate protocols. A Hub is a basic networking device that connects multiple computers in a local network by broadcasting data to all connected ports indiscriminately. A Repeater is simply used to regenerate or amplify electronic signals to extend the range of a network, without altering the data or its protocol.

PSC Question 18

Q43. A cyber criminal creates a fake website resembling a bank's portal to collect login credentials. This activity best represents:

- (A) Hacking
- (B) Identity theft
- (C) Phishing
- (D) Cyber stalking

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 14**

Test 14 Q42. Which cyber attack involves sending fraudulent communications that appear to come from a reputable source, usually through email, to steal sensitive data like credit card numbers and login information?

- (A) Hacking
- (B) Phishing
- (C) Vishing
- (D) Spamming

Solution: B

Phishing is a highly prevalent type of social engineering attack primarily used by malicious actors to steal sensitive user data, including login credentials, banking details, and credit card numbers. It typically occurs when an attacker, deliberately masquerading as a trusted entity such as a bank or service provider, dupes a victim into opening an email, instant message, or text message containing a malicious link. Vishing, which stands for Voice Phishing, involves the specific use of telephony and voice calls to conduct similar fraudulent attacks, tricking people into revealing personal information over the phone. Spamming refers to the indiscriminate practice of sending bulk unsolicited messages to a massive number of recipients, usually for advertising purposes rather than direct data theft. Hacking is a much broader term that encompasses the proce

PSC Question 19

Q44. Multitasking in an operating system is mainly achieved through:

- (A) Virtual memory
- (B) Process scheduling
- (C) File compression
- (D) Spooling

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 4**

Test 4 Q44. The capability of an operating system to execute more than one task or program simultaneously is known as:

- (A) Multitasking
- (B) Multiprocessing
- (C) Batching
- (D) Spooling

Solution: A

Multitasking is the essential capability of an operating system to manage and execute more than one task or software program at the same time. In a single-core system, the central processing unit switches between active tasks so rapidly that it creates the seamless illusion of simultaneous execution for the user, allowing them to browse the internet while simultaneously listening to music and editing a text document. Multiprocessing is a distinct hardware-level concept that involves the use of two or more physical central processing units within a single computer system to genuinely execute multiple processes simultaneously. Batching refers to the execution of a series of non-interactive jobs or programs all at once without any manual user intervention, often used for large-scale data processing tasks overnight. Spooling stands for Simultaneous Peripheral Operations On-Line, which is a specific process where data is temporarily held in a buffer or queue to be used and executed by a slower peripheral device, such as a printer waiting for documents to print while the computer performs other tasks.

PSC Question 20**Q64. Find the odd one out:**

- (A) bit
- (B) byte
- (C) nibble
- (D) kilobyte

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 6**

Test 6 Q45. A group of 4 bits is technically known as a:

- (A) Byte
- (B) Nibble
- (C) Word
- (D) Packet

Solution: B

In computing and digital communications, a Nibble is the technical term for a continuous sequence of 4 bits. Since a bit is the most fundamental unit of data representing a binary value of 0 or 1, a nibble constitutes exactly half of a standard 8-bit byte. Nibbles are particularly significant in computer science because a single nibble can represent 16 distinct values, which corresponds exactly to one single digit in the hexadecimal numeral system. Therefore, a full byte can be represented by exactly two hexadecimal digits. The other options represent different units of data measurement. A Byte is the standard fundamental unit of digital data storage, universally defined as consisting of 8 bits. A Word represents the natural unit of data used by a specific computer architecture or processor design, and its size can vary significantly depending on the system, commonly being 16, 32, or 64 bits in length. A Packet is not a fixed measurement of storage capacity, but rather a formatted block of data carried by a packet-switched network, containing both payload data and control information for routing purposes.

PSC Question 21**Q74. Choose the correct question tag:**

Most candidates attended the orientation session, _____?

- (A) did they
- (B) didn't they
- (C) do they
- (D) don't they

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Extra Tests Test 45**

Extra Tests Test 45 Q75. They used to play cricket every Sunday, _____?

- (A) usedn't they
- (B) didn't they
- (C) don't they
- (D) haven't they

Solution: B

The correct answer is didn't they because the modal phrase used to describes a past habit and functions similarly to a simple past tense verb. In modern English grammar, the standard and most widely accepted auxiliary verb for forming a question tag with used to is did, making the negative tag didn't they perfectly correct for the positive statement. The option usedn't they is technically an archaic British form that is extremely rare and generally considered obsolete or awkward in contemporary competitive English exams. The option don't they is incorrect because it uses a present tense auxiliary, which contradicts the past time frame established by the phrase used to. The option haven't they is incorrect because there is no perfect tense auxiliary verb have in the main sentence to warrant its use in the tag. A highly effective shortcut is to mentally replace used to with a regular past tense verb like played; this automatically triggers the thought of did and leads straight to didn't they. Many students stumble by overthinking and selecting usedn't they, believing the tag must exactly mirror the modal phrase.

PSC Question 22

Q82. Fill up using the appropriate word from the brackets:

A _____ of lions was sitting on the rock.

- (A) herd
- (B) pride
- (C) troop
- (D) flock

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Extra Tests Test 41**

Extra Tests Test 41 Q78. Which collective noun correctly completes the phrase: A _____ of lions?

- (A) Pack
- (B) Herd
- (C) Pride
- (D) Troop

Solution: C

The specifically designated collective noun for a group of lions is a pride. This term is uniquely associated with lions to reflect their majestic and dignified nature as the kings of the jungle. Option A is incorrect because a pack is typically used for wolves, wild dogs, or hounds. Option B is wrong as herd is used for grazing animals like cows, elephants, or deer, not for feline predators. Option D is incorrect because a troop is generally used for monkeys, apes, or kangaroos. A useful time-saving tip is to associate the word pride directly with the majestic imagery of lions, which is a staple in English literature and wildlife documentaries. A common error made by candidates is selecting pack because they associate it generally with any group of predatory animals, failing to recall the specific collective noun assigned to lions.

PSC Question 23

Q84. Replace the word underlined with its synonym:

The student was diligent in his studies.

- (A) careless
- (B) lazy
- (C) hard working
- (D) slow

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 18**

Test 18 Q86. Which of the following is NOT a synonym of 'Diligent'?

- (A) Industrious
- (B) Hardworking
- (C) Sedulous
- (D) Indolent

Solution: D

The correct answer is Indolent. The question requires identifying the word that does not serve as a synonym for the word diligent. The adjective diligent describes someone who shows persistent and hard working effort in doing something, demonstrating care and conscientiousness in their duties. The words industrious, hardworking, and sedulous all share this exact meaning. An industrious person is constantly occupied, a hardworking person puts in great effort, and a sedulous person shows dedication and diligence. Therefore, the first three options are direct synonyms. Conversely, the word indolent describes a person who actively wants to avoid activity or exertion. It is a formal term for someone who is exceptionally lazy or idle. Because indolent represents the exact opposite meaning of diligent, it functions as an antonym rather than a synonym. Thus, indolent is the only word among the given choices that does not mean the same thing as diligent, making it the correct answer to the question.

PSC Question 24

Q89. What is the one-word substitute for "One who walks in sleep"?

- (A) Insomniac
- (B) Somnambulist
- (C) Dreamer
- (D) Nocturnal

QUESTIONS FROM TEST SERIES**Test 9**

Test 9 Q82. A person who walks in their sleep is called a:

- (A) Somniloquist
- (B) Somnambulist
- (C) Insomniac
- (D) Ambulator

Solution: B

The correct answer is Somnambulist. To understand this, we must look at the Latin roots of the word. The prefix somn comes from the Latin word somnus, which means sleep, and the root ambul comes from ambulare, which means to walk. Combining these gives us somnambulist, a medical and formal term for a sleepwalker. The option Somniloquist uses the same sleep prefix but combines it with loqu, derived from loqui, meaning to speak. Thus, a somniloquist is someone who talks in their sleep. The option Insomniac refers to a person who suffers from insomnia, which is the inability to fall or stay asleep, making it the exact opposite of walking while deeply asleep. The option Ambulator simply means one who walks or strolls, lacking the crucial element of sleep. Therefore, somnambulist is the exact and accurate term for a person who walks during their sleep cycle.