

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**INDIA VIETNAM RELATIONS**

In Context: The 5th meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Trade Sub-Commission (JTSC) was held in New Delhi.

Background

- India-Vietnam relations have been exceptionally friendly and cordial since their foundations were laid by the founding fathers of the two countries - President Ho Chi Minh and President Rajendra Prasad and Prime Minister Nehru.
- The traditionally close and cordial relations have their historical roots in the common struggle for liberation from foreign rule and the national struggle for independence. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the first visitors to Vietnam after its victory against the French at Dien Bien Phu in 1954. President Ho Chi Minh went to India in February 1958.
- President Rajendra Prasad visited Vietnam in 1959. In recent times, political contacts have strengthened as reflected in several high-level visits by leaders from both sides. Trade and economic linkages continue to grow.
- India's thrust under the 'Look East' policy combined with Vietnam's growing engagement within the region and with India has paid rich dividends.
- Vietnam is an important regional partner in South East Asia. India and Vietnam closely cooperate in various regional forums such as ASEAN, East Asia Summit, Mekong Ganga Cooperation, Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) besides UN and WTO.

India-Vietnam Trade

- During FY 2021, bilateral trade between India and Vietnam reached around US\$ 14 billion.
- Vietnam occupies the 101st position in FDI equity inflows into India with a cumulative FDI amount of US\$ 5.35 million from April 2000 – September 2022.
- Vietnam occupies a central position in India's Act East Policy as also in the Indo-Pacific strategy.
- According to Indian data for the financial year April 2021-March 2022, bilateral trade posted a growth of 27% and reached US\$ 14.14 billion. Indian exports to Vietnam amounted to US\$ 6.70 billion (an increase of 34%) while Indian imports from Vietnam amounted to US\$ 7.44 billion (an increase of 21%).
- Vietnam is trying to diversify its trade and intends to make use of India's growing market.
- The key Vietnamese exported products to India are mobile phones and components, computers, electronic products and components, chemicals, plastics, rubber, coffee, pepper, and cashew.
- The main Indian exported products to Vietnam are iron and steel products, textile materials, fishery, corn, pharmaceutical, pharmaceutical raw materials, and auto spare parts.

Economic Relations and Investments

- India's investments in Vietnam are estimated at around US\$ 1.9 billion including investments routed through third countries.
- According to Vietnam's Foreign Investment Agency, as of April 2021, India has 299 valid projects with total invested capital of US\$ 909.5 million, ranking 26th among countries and territories investing in Vietnam.
- Significant sectors of Indian investment are energy, agro-processing, mineral exploration, agriculture, manufacturing, agrochemicals, IT, and auto components.
- Currently, India is one of the top 8th trading partners of Vietnam while Vietnam is the 15th largest trading partner of India and the fourth in Southeast Asia. Vietnam occupies the 101st position in FDI equity inflows into India with a cumulative FDI amount of US\$ 5.35 million from April 2000 – September 2022.
- Under the Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC) framework, India has been taking up Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), each valued at US\$ 50,000, in different provinces of Vietnam for the development of community infrastructure.
- India has 317 valid projects worth over US\$ 1 billion in Vietnam, ranking 23rd out of the 129 countries and territories investing in that country.

Science and Technology

- Science and Technology is an important area of bilateral cooperation.
- The MoUs/Agreements signed during Prime Minister Modi's visit to Vietnam last year on Exploration and Uses of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes, IT Cooperation, Cyber Security and the Framework Agreement signed in December on Uses of Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes show the importance our two countries attach to this area.

- Information Technology is an area with strong growth potential. Many Indian companies have established their presence in Vietnam for various IT solution and services in the area of banking, telecom, cyber security etc.

Educational and Training Exchanges

- Vietnam is an important partner under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme through short-term courses in Indian institutions to over 200 participants annually.
- Vietnam is also among our partner countries for e-ITEC programmes.
- Indian Council of Cultural Relations also offers nearly 50 scholarships to Vietnamese students and scholars every year and the offer of PhD fellowship programme for ASEAN countries has also received a good response from Vietnam.

Defence Partnership

- Defence and security cooperation between India and Vietnam is an important pillar of the comprehensive strategic partnership with periodic exchanges among the defence and security establishments of the two countries.
- A Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Cooperation signed between the Ministries of Defence in 2009 and the Joint Vision on Defence Cooperation signed by the Defence Ministers in 2015 provided the institutional framework.
- The visit of India's Defence Minister Mr. Rajnath Singh to Vietnam in June 2022 progressed the defence cooperation, including by the signing of a new "Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030" and a "Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Logistics Support".
- Apart from the cooperation between the Ministries of Defence of the two sides, this engagement has diversified to wider military-to-military dialogue and exchanges, training programmes and bilateral exercises.
- Cooperation in United Nations Peace Keeping Operations is another active area of our cooperation.
- Defence industrial collaboration is another area in defence relations.
- In June 2022, 12 High-Speed Guard Boats built by Indian manufacturer M/s Larsen & Toubro were handed over to Vietnam.
- In terms of ship visits, Indian Navy Ships INS Sahyadri and INS Kadmatt paid port calls to Ho Chi Minh City from 24-26 June 2022 in continuation to past exchanges.
- Bilateral military exercises are held periodically, including last maritime exercises, with Vietnam People's Navy frigate VPNS Ly Thai To (HQ-012). Vietnam People's Navy Frigate 016 Quang Trung visited India in February 2022 to participate in the Multilateral Naval Exercise MILAN in Vishakhapatnam, India.

Cultural and Academic Cooperation

- The Swami Vivekananda Indian Cultural Centre (SVCC) was established in Hanoi in September 2016 to promote further understanding of India and to foster closer links between people of the two countries through cultural exchanges. The Centre organizes cultural programmes, seminars, photo exhibitions, film screenings, lectures, workshops in varied areas such as Yoga, Indian classical dance, art and philosophy, languages, traditional medicine, shared Buddhist and Cham heritage etc.
- The two countries also have regular exchanges at the level of provinces, academic and thinktank institutions and youth delegations.
- The Vietnam Institute for Indian and South-West Asian Studies (VIISAS) under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences and the Centre for Indian Studies at the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics are among the key centres in Vietnam focused on Indian studies and academic cooperation with Indian institutions.

Tourism and People Exchanges

- A simplified visa regime offering e-Visa in both direction supports travel and tourism in both the countries for leisure, business and cultural purposes.
- Embassy of India organized various events to celebrate Mahatma@150 during the years 2019 and 2020 and the two governments jointly launched a commemorative stamp on Mahatma Gandhi on Gandhi Jayanti on 2 October 2019.
- Under the "India for Humanity" initiative, the two countries have held at least four of artificial limb fitment programmes (Jaipur Foot) in Vinh Phuc, Quang Ninh and Yen Bai provinces in Vietnam.

- Yoga is very popular among the people of Vietnam and the Embassy and the Consulate General of India in partnership with local authorities has been organising International Day of Yoga at multiple locations in Vietnam in June every year.
- In June 2022, the 8th International Day of Yoga celebrations were held in 25 locations in Vietnam.

Indian Community in Vietnam

- Nearly 6000 people from India, including short-term visitors, constitute the Indian community in Vietnam.
- Majority of them are based in and around Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) in the southern part of Vietnam. Most of the community members are professionals employed in business and trading companies and sectors such as IT, hotels/restaurants, mining, yoga institutions, civil aviation and schools.
- Indian businesses such as ONGC Videsh Limited, Bank of India, Bharat Electronics Limited, Hindustan Computers Limited and others have presence in Vietnam.

Conclusion:

- Vietnam occupies a central position in India's Act East Policy as also in the Indo-Pacific strategy.
- India has made positive contributions towards capacity building and the socio-economic development of Vietnam.
- India has also been providing assistance to Vietnam within the ASEAN framework.
- Under the Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC) framework, India has been taking up Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), each valued at US\$50,000, in different provinces of Vietnam for the development of community infrastructure. India has 317 valid projects worth over 1 billion USD in Vietnam, ranking 23rd out of the 129 countries and territories investing in that country.
- India realises that Vietnam is a potential regional power in South East Asia with great political stability and substantial economic growth. Its average 7% annual economic growth is very attractive. Even during the worst period of pandemic, its economic growth remained commendable at 3% while several other nations registered negative growth. Even more impressive is its growth which is driven by a record trade surplus, despite the collapse in global trade.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Room Temperature Superconductivity

In Context: Recently, two South Korean researchers claimed that a lead-based compound (LK-99) had shown superconducting properties at room temperature under normal pressure conditions.

About superconductor:

- ✓ The phenomenon of superconductivity was first discovered in 1911 by Heike Kamerlingh Onnes, which earned him the 1913 Nobel Prize in physics
- ✓ A superconductor is a material that can conduct electricity or transport electrons from one atom to another with no resistance.
- ✓ Superconductivity refers to a state in which a material offers zero, or near-zero, resistance to electric current.
- ✓ Superconductive- No heat, sound or any other form of energy would be released from the material when it has reached critical temperature (T_c), or the temperature at which the material becomes superconductive.
- ✓ Critical temperature- It is the temperature at which the electrical resistivity of metal drops to zero in superconductor.
- ✓ Example- Aluminium, niobium, magnesium diboride, etc.,

Properties of superconductors:

- ✓ Meissner Effect (Expulsion of Magnetic Field) - A Superconductor, when it is cooled below the critical temperature T_c , expel the magnetic field and doesn't allow the magnetic field to penetrate inside it. This phenomenon in superconductors is called Meissner effect.
- ✓ In a solid material, this is called diamagnetism, and a perfect conductor would be a perfect diamagnet.
- ✓ Infinite Conductivity/ Zero Electric Resistance- In the superconducting condition, the superconducting material illustrates the zero electric resistance.
- ✓ When the material is cooled under its transition temperature, then its resistance will be reduced to zero suddenly. **Example-**Mercury shows zero resistance under 4k.
- ✓ Critical Temperature/Transition Temperature - Critical temperature of a superconducting material is the temperature at which the materials changes from normal conducting state to superconducting state.
- ✓ This transition from normal conducting state (phase) to superconducting state (phase) is sudden / sharp and complete.

- ✓ **Josephson Current**- If the two superconductors are divided with the help of thin-film in insulating material, then it forms a junction of low resistance to found the electrons with copper pair.
- ✓ It can tunnel from one surface of the junction to the other surface. The current, due to flow of such cooper pairs, is called Josephson Current.
- ✓ **Critical Current**- When a current is passed through a conductor under superconducting state, a magnetic field is developed.
- ✓ If the current increase beyond certain value the magnetic field increased up to critical value at which conductor returns to its normal state. This value of current is called critical current.

Applications of superconductor:

- ✓ **Medical** - MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), Magneto-encephalography (MEG) and Magnetic Source Imaging (MSI), Magneto-cardiography (MCG) etc.
- ✓ **Electric field** - Generators, motors, transformers, relays, magnetic energy storages (SMES), superconducting magnets, HTS Induction Heater, Fusion etc.
- ✓ **Electronics** - SQUIDS (superconducting quantum interference device), High Speed computing, Quantum computing, Sensors, filters, circuitry, radar etc.
- ✓ **Transportation** - Magnetically levitated trains, Marine Propulsion (magneto-hydrodynamic), Marine Propulsion (motor) etc.
- ✓ **Physics** - Particle Accelerators, Magnets, Plasma / fusion research etc.

Limitations of superconductor

- ✓ **Operating at room temperatures** - Superconducting materials are active only when they are kept at low temperatures. Every superconducting material has a temperature below which it becomes active.
- ✓ **Use of cryogenics**- Keeping them below the transition temperature involves a lot of expensive cryogenic technology.
- ✓ Even the most sophisticated ones like copper oxide-based ceramic materials work only below -140°C.
- ✓ Hence, superconductors still do not show up in most everyday electronics.

Why room temperature matters?

- ✓ **Room-temperature superconductors**- A material that can display superconductivity at room temperature which is usually considered to be between 20 and 25 degree Celsius.
- ✓ It is the one which conducts electricity with zero resistance without the need of special cooling mechanism.
- ✓ **Zero resistance**- A superconducting power grid would not lose energy through resistance, so it would save the energy lost to resistance in the electricity grid.
- ✓ **Affordable MRI scans**- It would make magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) much more affordable because it would no longer require liquid helium to cool the scanner's huge detecting tube.
- ✓ **Improve efficiency**-It would enable ultra-fast and energy-efficient computer chips and long-lasting batteries and lamps etc.,
- ✓ **Cost effective**-
 - Electrical power grids would be at least 20% more efficient,
 - Maglev trains could run further at lower cost and
 - Particle accelerators and nuclear fusion devices could operate much more cost-effectively.

PRELIM FACTS

1. ECOWAS

In context: Recently there was apprehension of intervention by the ECOWAS(Economic Community of West African States) in Niger following a military coup in the country.

The West African bloc of nations has indicated that it is planning to intervene in the coup in Niger



Background

- ✓ Soldiers in the West African nation of Niger have installed Gen. Abdourahmane Tchiani as head of state after ousting President Mohamed Bazoum.
- ✓ The regional bloc ECOWAS has given Niger coup leaders a one-week deadline to hand power back to Bazoum or face consequences.
- ✓ ECOWAS has previously intervened in **The Gambia** to restore democracy.

About ECOWAS

- ✓ It is a regional group established in **1975** through the **Lagos Treaty** – with a mandate of promoting economic integration among its members.
- ✓ **ECOWAS has 15 members:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d' Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.
- ✓ **Headquarters:** Abuja, Nigeria.
- ✓ **Governance:** In 2007, ECOWAS Secretariat was transformed into a Commission. The Commission headed by the President, assisted by a Vice President, thirteen Commissioners and the Auditor-General of ECOWAS Institutions.
- ✓ **ECOWAS aims to** have a single common currency and create a single, large trading bloc in areas of industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, financial issues, and social and cultural matters.
- ✓ **Vision:** Creation of a “borderless region” that is well-integrated. “ECOWAS is meant to be a region governed in accordance with the principles of democracy, rule of law and good governance”.
- ✓ **Other roles:** Beyond the goals of economic cooperation, ECOWAS has attempted to quell military conflicts in the region. ECOWAS also operated a regional **peacekeeping operation** in Liberia and Sierra Leone in the past.

2. Floating Solar Project at Omkareshwar (MP)

In Context: The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has secured a bid for a floating solar capacity project at Omkareshwar Reservoir, Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.

About Floating Solar Projects:

- ✓ The term “floating solar photovoltaic”, sometimes known as “floating solar plants”, refers to panel structures that are built on water bodies like lakes, basins, and reservoirs.
- ✓ The main driver behind the growth of large-scale projects has been the fact that it doesn't require any land, which might be used for agriculture and construction.
- ✓ Japan constructed the first floating photovoltaic system in 2007.
- ✓ The biggest floating solar farm in the world right now is in Shandong, China.

Floating Solar Projects in India

- ✓ Currently, less than 1% solar installations are floating.
- ✓ A floating system costs 20–25% more than a system that is mounted to the ground.
- ✓ According to a study done by TERI in association with the Energy Transmission Commission India programme, 7 MW capacity photovoltaic projects were in operation as of 2019, while over 1.7 GW were in various stages of development. The Government plans to establish a renewable energy capacity of 500 GW by 2030.

Floating Solar Projects by NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation)

- ✓ The NTPC reported that it has already put into operation 222 MW of floating solar projects and had another 40 MW under construction as part of its goal to produce 60 GW of capacity from renewable sources by 2032.
- ✓ It has so far put in floating solar plants on reservoirs at Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh (25 MW) and Kayamkulam in Kerala (92 MW).
- ✓ On the Omkareshwar dam in the Khandwa region of Madhya Pradesh, the largest floating 600 MW solar energy project in the world is now being built.
- ✓ Additionally approved were projects at Getalsud in Jharkhand, the Rihand reservoir in UP, and Vaitarna in Maharashtra.
- ✓ The largest floating solar power installation in the country is located in Ramagundam, Telangana.

3. Kerala to be renamed as Keralam

In Context: The Kerala Assembly passed a resolution urging the Centre to rename the state as “Keralam” in the Constitution and all office records.

Key details:

- ✓ **Origin of Kerala:**
 - There are several theories about the origin of the name ‘Kerala’.

- The earliest epigraphic record that mentions Kerala is emperor Asoka's Rock Edict II of 257 BC.
- The inscription refers to the local ruler as Keralaputra (Sanskrit for "son of Kerala"), and also "son of Chera" referring to the Chera dynasty.
- ✓ **Origin of Keralam:**
 - About 'Keralam', it is believed it could have originated from 'Cheram'.
 - The word 'keram' is the Canarese (Kannada) form of cheram, and Keralam is described as Cheram — the region between Gokarnam and Kanyakumari.
 - The origin of the term could possibly be from the root 'cher', which means to join.
 - This meaning is clear in the compound word 'Cheralam', in which alam means region or land.

What is the process to rename a state?

- ✓ To change the name of a state, approval from the Centre's Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is required.
- ✓ This means that a Constitutional amendment becomes necessary to affect this change.
- ✓ The proposal has to first come from the state government.
- ✓ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) then takes over and gives its consent after it receives No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from several agencies such as:
 - the Ministry of Railways,
 - Intelligence Bureau,
 - Department of Posts,
 - Survey of India and
 - Registrar General of India.
- ✓ If the proposal is accepted, the resolution, introduced as a Bill in the Parliament, becomes a law and the name of the state is changed thereafter.

4. Quit India Movement Day 2023

IN CONTEXT: Every year Quit India Day is observed on August 8 to commemorate the occasion. This year marks the 81st anniversary of the event. What is the Quit India Movement?

- ✓ The Quit India Movement, also known as the August Movement or Bharat Chodo Andolan, was a significant civil disobedience movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress on August 8, 1942 at Gowalia Tank Maidan also known as August Kranti Maidan in Bombay.
- ✓ On this day, August 8th, in 1942, Gandhi gave the famous "Do or Die" speech, urging the Indian people to act decisively and nonviolently against British rule.

Reasons:

- ✓ While factors leading to such a movement had been building up, matters came to a head with the failure of the Cripps Mission.
- ✓ The failure of the Cripps Mission made Gandhi realise that freedom would come only if Indians fought tooth and nail for it.
- ✓ The movement aimed to demand an end to British colonial rule in India and achieve full independence.

Mass Protests:

- ✓ The movement saw widespread protests, strikes and acts of civil disobedience across the country.
- ✓ People participated in marches, demonstrations, and various forms of nonviolent resistance.
- ✓ Women played a vital role in the Quit India Movement, displaying immense courage and leadership.
- ✓ During the movement, parallel governments were set up in Ballia (Uttar Pradesh), Satara (Maharashtra), Tamruk (West Bengal), and Talcher (Odisha).
- ✓ Numerous arrests were made following the protest. Many top leaders of Congress, including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, were also arrested.

ANSWER WRITING

Q. How was India benefitted from the contributions of Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in the fields of water engineering and agricultural science respectively? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Introduction: Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was a civil engineer and statesman. He made contributions to several technical projects in his career in Hyderabad, Mysore, Maharashtra and Orissa.

The Great KRS Dam was his excellent work instrumental in converting the barren lands into fertile grounds for farming. M.S. Swaminathan in the other hand is an advocate of moving India to sustainable development, especially using environmentally sustainable agriculture, sustainable food security and the preservation of biodiversity, which he calls as “evergreen revolution.”

Following are the contributions of Sir M. Visvesvarayain the fields of water engineering:

- ✓ He is best remembered for the instrumental role he played in the construction of the Krishna Raja Sagara Lake and dam in 1924. This dam not only became the main source of water for irrigation for the nearby areas, but was also the main source of drinking water for several cities.
- ✓ He had designed and patented a system of automatic weir water floodgates that were first installed in 1903 at Khadakvasla Reservoir near Pune. These gates were employed to raise flood supply level of storage in reservoir to the highest level likely to be attained without causing any damage to the dam.
- ✓ Based on the success of these gates, the same system was installed at the Tigris Dam and Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) Dam in Mandya/Mysore, Karnataka.
- ✓ He was one of the Chief Designing Engineers for bringing up a system for flood protection in Hyderabad. He played a key role in developing a system to protect Vishakapatnam port from sea erosion.
 - ✓ Visvesvaraya gave his valuable technical advice for the location of Mokama Bridge over Ganga in Bihar. Following are the contributions of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in the fields of agricultural science:
 - ✓ Dr. Mankombu Sambasivam Swaminathan (M.S. Swaminathan) is a renowned Indian geneticist and administrator, who made a significant contribution in the success of India’s Green Revolution.
 - ✓ He was called Norman Borlaug of India.
 - ✓ Green Revolution went a long way in making India self-sufficient in wheat and rice production.
 - ✓ He introduced the Mexican semi-dwarf wheat plants as well as modern farming methods in India.
 - ✓ His research on potato genetics was successful in standardizing procedures for transferring genes from a wide range of wild species of Solanum to the cultivated potato, Solanum tuberosum.
 - ✓ He also suggested that phenological changes in rice have resulted in the possibility of three harvests per year, in wheat the extended grain filling period was a result of phenological change.
 - ✓ Farmer field schools promoted by Swaminathan in the early seventies have demonstrated that empowered farmers with good understanding of the ecological systems and with sufficient access to the means of control have resulted in the precision agriculture and best ecological means that characterize the evergreen revolution.
 - ✓ He established the National Bureau of Plant, Animal, and Fish Genetic Resources of India.
 - ✓ He developed new and improved varieties of seeds, better farming methods, better soil and water management techniques.
 - ✓ He chaired National Commission for farmers laying out many recommendations to improve Farming and the condition of farmers in India.

Conclusion: Sir M. Visvesvaraya as an engineer and an administrator, the kind of work which he has done will stand as an inspiration to many more generations to come. Swaminathan’s contribution in the field of agricultural science is pro-poor, pro-environment, pro-women and children and is a beacon for the development of agro-ecosystems that contribute to food and nutrition security, and empower farmers and their organizations.

MCQ

1. Maya Operating System (OS) was recently adopted by which one of the following Central Ministries?
 - a) Ministry of Science and Technology
 - b) Ministry of Defence**
 - c) Ministry of Finance
 - d) Ministry of External Affairs
2. With reference to Quit India Movement, consider the following statements:
 1. It was a significant civil disobedience movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress on August 8, 1942.
 2. The movement aimed to demand an end to British colonial rule in India and achieve full independence.
 3. The movement saw widespread protests, strikes and acts of civil disobedience across the country.

How many of the above statements are correct?

 - a) Only 1
 - b) Only 2
 - c) Only 3**
 - d) None

3. Luna-25, a lunar lander mission which was recently seen in the news, belongs to:

- a) Japan
- b) China
- c) France

d) Russia

4. Consider the following statements regarding North East Venture Fund:

- 1. It is registered as a Category I Venture Capital Fund under Securities and Exchange Board of India regulations.
- 2. It was established as a close ended fund with a target corpus of Rs. 1000 crore.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

5. With reference to the Indian eagle-owl, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a large horned owl species found in the Indian subcontinent.
- 2. It is native to hilly and rocky scrub forests.
- 3. It is categorized as the critically endangered species under the IUCN Red list.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only 1

b) Only 2

c) Only 3

d) None

6. With reference to the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Bill requires the Board of Governors (BoG) of the IIMs to commission an independent review of the institutes at least once every three years.
- 2. The Bill mandates the Board to obtain the prior approval of the Visitor before appointing an Institute Director.
- 3. The Bill designates the Governor of respective States as a Visitor of every Institute covered by the Act.

How many of the above statements are correct?

a) Only 1

b) Only 2

c) Only 3

d) None

7. Considered the following statement :

- 1. CBI is the Academy a become a member Of Interpol Global Academy Network(IGAN)

2. IGAN supports academic collaboration among law enforcement training institution across the world.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

8. India has signed the deal of “MH-60R helicopter” to boost the Indian Navy’s efforts to expand its role in the Indian Ocean Region with:

a) Russia

b) Germany

c) USA

d) France

9. With reference to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), consider the following statements:

1. It is a complex machine built to study particles that are the smallest known building blocks of all things.

2. It has found the first evidence of the rare process by which the Higgs boson decays into a Z boson and a photon.

3. The LHC uses a distribution system of liquid Bromine to keep its critical components ultra cold at minus 271.3 degrees Celsius.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only one

b) Only two

c) All three

d) None

10. Which Union Ministry launched the ‘ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative’?

a) Ministry of Education

b) Ministry of Finance

c) Ministry of Corporate Affairs

d) Ministry of MSME