

**1. With reference to Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), consider the following statements**

1. The Treaty defines nuclear weapon states (NWS) as those that had manufactured and detonated a nuclear explosive device prior to 1 January, 1949

2. Only the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council were considered as nuclear weapon states (NWS) by this treaty

**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

**1.) Ans: B**

**Explanation**

- The NPT is a **multilateral treaty aimed at limiting the spread of nuclear weapons** including three elements: (1) **non-proliferation**, (2) **disarmament**, and (3) **peaceful use of nuclear energy**. These elements constitute a “**grand bargain**” between the five nuclear weapon states and the non-nuclear weapon states.
  - States without nuclear weapons will not acquire them
  - **States with nuclear weapons will pursue disarmament**
  - All states can access nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, under safeguards

**Nuclear & Non-Nuclear Weapon States**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Treaty defines nuclear weapon states (NWS) as those that **had manufactured and detonated a nuclear explosive device prior to 1 January 1967**. All the other states are therefore considered non-nuclear weapon states (NNWS).

- **Statement 2 is correct: The five nuclear weapon states are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.**
  - **The permanent members of the United Nations Security Council** (also known as the Permanent Five, Big Five, or P5) are the five sovereign states to whom the UN Charter of 1945 grants a permanent seat on the UN Security Council

### Nonproliferation

- Nuclear weapon states are **not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons** and not to assist, encourage, or induce any NNWS to manufacture or otherwise acquire them.
- Non-nuclear weapons states are **not to receive nuclear weapons from any transferor**, and are not to manufacture or acquire them.

### Disarmament

- All Parties must pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control

### Peaceful Use

- The Treaty **does not affect the right of state parties to develop, produce, and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes**, provided such activities are in conformity with standards of this treaty

### India and NPT

- India is a **nuclear weapons possessing state outside of the Treaty** on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). India is **not a member of the Treaty** on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

<https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-non-proliferation-of-nuclear-weapons/>

<https://www.nti.org/learn/countries/india/>

- Recently, the USA discussed whether to **conduct its first nuclear test explosion since 1992**, after accusations from the administration that **Russia and China are conducting low-yield nuclear tests**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/us-discussed-conducting-its-first-nuclear-test-in-decades-washington-post/articleshow/75911594.cms?from=mdr>

**2. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* regarding the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India?**

- a) PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory
- b) A stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status
- c) There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far
- d) Irular and Katkari tribes are included in the list of PVTGs

**2.) Ans: C**

**Explanation**

**PVTGs**

- In 1973, the **Dhebar Commission** created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are **less developed among the tribal groups**. In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- PVTGs have some basic characteristics -they are **mostly homogenous, with a small population** (stagnant or declining population), **relatively physically isolated**, social institutes cast in a simple mould, absence of written language, relatively simple technology and a **slower rate of change** etc.
- **Option C is incorrect: 75 tribal groups have been categorized by Ministry of Home Affairs** as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)s. PVTGs **reside in 18 States and UT of A&N Islands**.

**Population**

- PVTGs are scattered in different geographical areas of the country. According to the 2001 census, the **PVTGs population is approximately 27,68,322**.
- The PVTG of **Sahariyas has the highest population** of 4,50,217, while the PVTGs of Sentinelets and Andamanese has a very small population of 39 and 43, respectively

**Social conditions and declining population**

- The cultural practices, systems, self governance and livelihood practices of PVTGs have a lot of variations, depending on the group and locality.

- These tribal groups are **widely different culturally**. The level of inequalities in social and economical conditions is very high amongst PVTGs. Their problems are also very different from group to group.
- The **growth of PVTGs' population is either stagnating or declining**, compared to the general population growth, particularly in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands where the declining rate is very high.

<https://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/scheduled-tribes-welfare/primitive-vulnerable-tribal-groups>

*For the list of PVTG, Kindly refer the link below:*

<https://tribal.nic.in/DivisionsFiles/ListofPVTGs191212.pdf>

- ❖ Ministry of Tribal Affairs recently published a **success story of Katkari Tribe (a PVTG in Maharashtra)** regarding the implementation of **Van Dhan Yojana**

#### **Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana (PMVDY)**

- Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana (PMVDY) is a **retail marketing led value addition plan** for Minor Forest Produce (MFP), meant for forest-based tribes to optimize the tribal income, locally.
- Under the program, **MFP-based tribal groups / enterprises of around 300 members** are formed for collection, value addition, packaging & marketing of Minor Forest Produces (MFPs).
- These tribal enterprises will be in the form of Van Dhan SHGs which will be a group of 15-20 members and such 15 SHG groups will further be federated into a larger group of **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKS)** of around 300 members.
- TRIFED will support the VDVKS through providing them with **model business plans, processing plans & tentative list of equipment for carrying out the value addition work of MFPs**.

#### **The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)**

- TRIFED came into existence in 1987. It is a **national-level apex organization** functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India

<https://tribal.nic.in/pvtg.aspx>

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1626550>

**3. Arrange the following in a decreasing order of land border (in kms) shared by India with the neighbouring countries?**

1. China
2. Bangladesh
3. Bhutan
4. Pakistan

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below**

- a) 1-4-2-3
- b) 2-1-4-3
- c) 4-1-2-3
- d) 1-3-4-2

**3.) Ans: B**

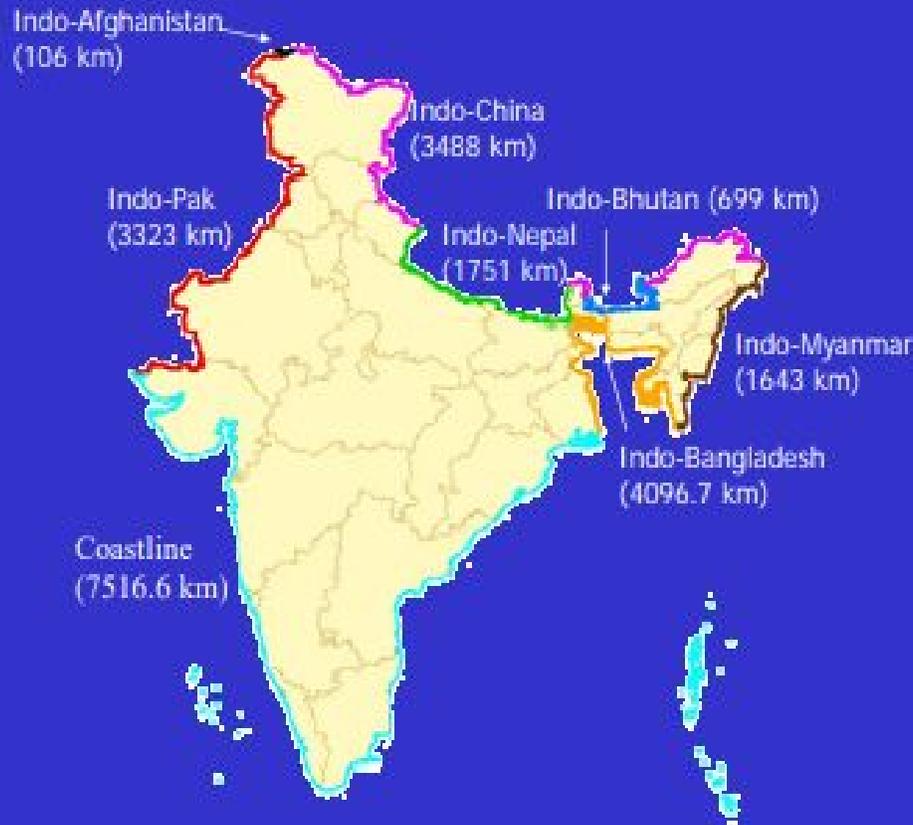
**Explanation**

- India has 15,106.7 Km of land border and a coastline of 7,516.6 Km including island territories.  
**The length of our land borders with neighbouring countries is as under:**

<b>Name of the country</b>	<b>Length of the border (in Km)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladesh	4,096.7
<input type="checkbox"/> China	3,488
<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistan	3,323
<input type="checkbox"/> Nepal	1,751
<input type="checkbox"/> Myanmar	1,643
<input type="checkbox"/> Bhutan	699
<input type="checkbox"/> Afghanistan	106

<https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/BMIntro-1011.pdf>

## International Land Border



- ❖ Recently, the **India-China border has been witnessing tensions**, with incidents reported in at least four different locations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The number of recorded Chinese transgressions across the disputed India-China border **surged by 75 per cent in Ladakh** in 2019

### **The Line of Actual Control (LAC)**

- The Line of Actual Control (LAC) is a **demarcation line that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory** in the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, formed after the 1962 war
- India-China border is **divided into three sectors**, where the **LAC in the western sector falls** in the union territory of Ladakh and is 1597 km long, the middle sector of 545 km length falls in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and 1346 km long eastern sector falls in the states of Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

- The **middle sector is the least disputed sector**, while the western sector witnesses the highest transgressions between the two sides

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/what-explains-the-india-china-border-flare-up/article31660378.ece>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/chinese-transgressions-ladakh-line-of-actual-control-6421855/>

**4. 'Kalapani' is a disputed territory between India and which one of the following countries?**

- a) Myanmar
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Pakistan
- d) Nepal

**4.) Ans: D**

**Explanation**

- Recently, the Nepal **unveiled a new map of its territories** which drew **sharp criticism from India** which said the map **includes parts of Indian territory**

**Kalapani dispute**

- The bone of contention is the **Kalapani-Limpiadhura-Lipulekh trijunction** between Nepal-India and China (Tibet). Located on the **banks of the river Kali** at an altitude of 3600m, the Kalapani territory lies at the **eastern border of Uttarakhand** in India and **Nepal's Sudurpashchim Pradesh in the West.**

- India claims the area is part of Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district, while Nepal believes it to be part of its Dharchula district. Matters came to a boil earlier this year, **when India opened an 80-km road linking Uttarakhand with Lipulekh**, across the disputed piece of land.
- While the territory is of **strategic importance to India and Nepal**, the issue is complicated by the contest over the **historicity of cartographic evidence** that both sides claim to be most accurate.
- The issue in itself **goes back to the early 19th century**, when the British ruled India and Nepal was a conglomeration of small kingdoms under the reign of King Prithvi Narayan Shah.

### The British-Nepalese relations

- King Prithvi Narayan Shah is believed to be the **most ambitious ruler among the Gorkhas**, under whose rule in the late 18th century, Nepal was unified, its domains stretching out as far as Sikkim in the East and the Garhwal and Kumaon region of Uttarakhand in the West
- By the **second decade of the 18th century**, the **English East India Company (EIC) too had acquired a formidable presence** in the subcontinent, and had strengthened its main bases in Madras, Calcutta and Bombay.
- By the early 19th century, as the EIC began expanding its territories northwards in Awadh, it came into close proximity with Palpa, an independent town within the Nepalese heartlands. Soon after, a **border dispute arose between the two powers**.
- The Nepalese were also **proving to be a hindrance in allowing the British to realise their trade ambitions with Tibet**. Finally, on November 1, 1814, the **British declared war on Nepal**. The war went on for the next two years, involving a series of campaigns.
- The war came to an end in 1816 with the **signing of the Sugauli treaty**. The treaty delimited the boundaries of Nepal, as it stands today.
- The treaty **“required Nepal to give up all territories west and east of its present-day borders, to surrender the entire Tarai and to accept a permanent British representative (or ‘resident’) in Kathmandu”**
- The fifth article of the treaty stated: “The Rajah of Nepal renounces for himself, his heirs, and successors all claim to or connection with the countries **lying to the west of the river Kali** and engages never to have any concern with those countries or inhabitants thereof
- Consequently, the **river Kali marked the western border of Nepal**. However, **there is no clear consensus on what is the precise location of the river Kali, giving rise to the dispute over whether the land consisting Kalapani-Limpiadhura-Lipulekh is part of present day India or Nepal**.
- While some scholars suggest that the **lack of consensus is due to the shift in the course of the river over time**, there are others who say that the British cartographers in the consequent years kept shifting the line demarcating the river eastwards for strategic reasons

<https://indianexpress.com/article/research/mapping-the-history-of-kalapani-dispute-between-india-and-nepal-6423687/>

**5. The term 'domicile' denotes the status or attribution of being a lawful permanent resident in a particular jurisdiction. In this context, consider the following statements with respect to the recently released 'Jammu and Kashmir domicile rules'**

1. Anyone who has resided for a period of fifteen years in the UT of J&K will now be eligible to be a domicile of the Union Territory
2. The domicile rules empowers the panel of judges in the High court of Jammu and Kashmir to issue domicile certificates

**Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**5.) Ans: B**

**Explanation**

- The Centre has **redefined the Jammu and Kashmir domicile rules** opening up various categories of jobs in the region to people from across the country
- The order has been defined **under J&K Civil Services (Decentralisation and Recruitment) Act**
- In law, **domicile is the status or attribution of being a lawful permanent resident in a particular jurisdiction.**
- The following categories are eligible to be a domicile
  - Anyone **"who has resided for a period of fifteen years in the UT of J&K"**
  - Or has studied for a period of seven years and appeared in class 10th/12th examination in an educational institution located in the UT of J&K
  - Or those **registered as migrants** by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants)
  - Or the **children of those central government officials, All India service officials**, Officials of Public sector undertaking, autonomous body of central government, public sector banks, officials of statutory bodies officials of central universities and recognized research institutes of central government who have served in J&K for a period of ten years

- Or **children of residents of J&K who reside outside the Union Territory** in connection with employment or business or for other professional or vocational reasons, but whose parents fulfil any of the conditions provided in the latest gazette notification will also be entitled to domicile status
  - The Order says that the **domiciles will be eligible for the purposes of appointment to any post** carrying a pay scale of not more than Level 4. The Level 4 post comprises positions such as gardeners, barbers, office peons and watermen, and the highest rank in the category is that of a junior assistant
  - The order empowers the **tehsildars to issue domicile certificates**. The **government has been empowered to notify any other officer as the competent authority to issue the certificate**
- ❖ On March 31, the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** issued the **Jammu and Kashmir Re-organisation (Adaptation of State Laws) Order, 2020** by publishing a gazette notification. Through the order, the **MHA amended 109 laws and repealed 29 laws of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir**.
  - ❖ Recently, the MHA amended a 2010 legislation, **the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Decentralisation and Recruitment Act)**, by substituting the term “permanent residents” with “domiciles of UT [Union Territory] of J&K”

#### **What did the 2010 Act say?**

- ❖ The 2010 Act pertained to employment in the Civil Services comprising “district, divisional and State” cadre posts. Earlier, **only permanent residents of J&K were eligible** to apply for gazetted and non-gazetted posts.
- ❖ The domicile rules as defined under the **amended order will determine recruitment to all government posts in J&K from now on**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/domicile-rules-for-jk/article31660363.ece>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/govt-jobs-to-be-reserved-only-for-domiciles-of-jk-says-centre/article31224164.ece>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/centre-redefines-domicile-for-jk-extends-it-to-those-living-in-ut-for-over-15-years/articleshow/74939900.cms>