

**1. Ambubachi Mela is celebrated in the state of**

- A. Kerala
- B. Odisha
- C. Bihar
- D. Assam

Answer: **D**

**Explanation:**

- Ambubachi Mela is a 4 day fair which marks the annual menstruation of the goddess at **Kamakhya temple, Assam**.
- Kamakhya is a centre for **Tantra worship** and is one of 51 shakti peethas or holy sites for the followers of the Shakti cult, each representing a body part of the Sati, Lord Shiva's companion.
- The temple's sanctum sanctorum houses the yoni – female genital – symbolised by a rock.
- The religious congregation, organised from June 22-26 every year, draws lakhs of people from around the country and abroad.
- For the first time since 1565, Ambubachi festival began at the Kamakhya temple without mendicants, hermits and devotees due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/for-first-time-since-1565-ambubachi-sans-fair/article31888105.ece>

**2. Consider the following statements about the Aarogya Setu mobile app.**

- 1. It was developed by the Atal innovation centre.
- 2. It helps citizens identify their risk of contracting Covid-19 using Bluetooth and GPS reference points.

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

Answer: **B**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Aarogya Setu is a mobile app developed by the **National Informatics Centre** under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It helps citizens identify their risk of contracting Covid-19.

- Aarogya Setu is designed to keep the user informed in case s/he has crossed paths with someone who has tested positive.
- The tracking is done through **Bluetooth & GPS reference points**, which can show the user's interaction with anyone who has tested positive.
- The app alerts are accompanied by instructions on how to self-isolate and what to do in case you develop symptoms.
- There is also a self-testing tool where the users can assess their health voluntarily by answering a few questions.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/coronavirus-parliamentary-panel-on-it-starts-work-on-aarogya-setu/article31891679.ece>

### 3. Consider the following statements about the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)

1. LIC was founded in 1956 when the Parliament of India passed the Life Insurance of India Act that nationalised the insurance industry in India.
2. Currently, the government owns the entire 100 per cent stake in LIC.

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

Answer: C

#### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) was founded in 1956 when the Parliament of India passed the Life Insurance of India Act that nationalised the insurance industry in India.
- The primary objective of LIC is to provide life insurance policies to all sections of society.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The government owns 100 per cent of LIC.
- In the Union Budget 2020-21, the government has announced that it will sell a part of its holding in LIC through an initial public offering (IPO).
- LIC is the only public sector life insurance company in India and it is the largest life insurance company in the country.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/lic-ipo-market-disinvestment-6470795/>

### 4. Which among the following are the objectives of Food Corporation of India (FCI)?

1. Procurement of food grains from farmers at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) announced by the Government.
2. Maintenance of buffer stock of food grains for food security and price stability.
3. Distribution of food grains to consumers through PDS.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: **D**

**Explanation:**

- Food Corporation of India (FCI) was set up in 1965 under the Food Corporations Act.
- The main objectives of FCI are
  - Procurement of food grains from farmers at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) announced by the Government;
  - Distribution of food grains to consumers through PDS, particularly the vulnerable sections of society at affordable prices; and
  - Maintenance of buffer stock of food grains for food security and price stability.
- Thus, it is mandated to serve the interests of producers and consumers alike.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/help-the-needy-during-pandemic-rajasthan-high-court-tells-fci/article31893039.ece>

**5. With reference to the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) facility, which one of the following statements is not correct?**

- A. Under this window, the centre government can avail temporary loans from the RBI.
- B. It is a temporary liquidity arrangement that helps meet mismatches in receipts and payments of the government.
- C. Interest for the loans under WMA is charged at the existing repo rate.
- D. The WMA facility is not available to the state governments.

Answer: **D**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement A is correct:** The RBI gives temporary loans to the **centre and state governments** as a banker to the government. This facility is called Ways and Means Advances (WMA). **Hence, statement D is correct.**
- **Statement B is correct:** Thus, WMA is a temporary liquidity arrangement that helps meet mismatches in receipts and payments of the government.
- **Statement C is correct:** Under this scheme, Centre and states can avail themselves of immediate cash from the RBI. But it has to return the amount within **90 days**. Interest is charged at the existing **repo rate**.

- The limits for WMA are decided by the government and RBI mutually and revised periodically.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-keeps-off-rbis-wma-for-three-consecutive-week/articleshow/76510992.cms>