

**LAW AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Data protection Bill 2022**

- ❖ **CONTEXT:** The latest draft of the data protection law — the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022 (DPDP Bill, 2022) — has now been made open for public comments and the government is expected to introduce the Bill in Parliament in the budget session of 2023.
- **Is this the first draft?**
  - This is the fourth iteration of a data protection law in India.
  - The first draft of the law — the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018, was proposed by the Justice Srikrishna Committee set up by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) with the mandate of setting out a data protection law for India.
  - The government made revisions to this draft and introduced it as the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019 (PDP Bill, 2019) in the Lok Sabha in 2019. On the same day, the Lok Sabha passed a motion to refer the PDP Bill, 2019 to a joint committee of both the Houses of Parliament. Due to delays caused by the pandemic, the Joint Committee on the PDP Bill, 2019 (JPC) submitted its report on the Bill after two years in December, 2021.
  - The report was accompanied by a new draft bill, namely, the Data Protection Bill, 2021 that incorporated the recommendations of the JPC.
  - In August 2022, citing the report of the JPC and the “extensive changes” that the JPC had made to the 2019 Bill, the government withdrew the PDP Bill.
- **Why have there been so many revisions and changes?**
  - Constant interactions with digital devices have led to unprecedented amounts of personal data being generated round the clock by users (data principals).
  - When coupled with the computational power available today with companies (data fiduciaries), this data can be processed in ways that increasingly impair the autonomy, self-determination, freedom of choice and privacy of the data principal.
  - The current legal framework for privacy enshrined in the Information Technology Rules, 2011 (IT Rules, 2011) is wholly inadequate to combat such harms to data principals, especially since the right to informational privacy has been upheld as a fundamental right by the Supreme Court ( K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India [2017]). It is inadequate on four levels
    - ✓ **First**, the extant framework is premised on privacy being a statutory right rather than a fundamental right and does not apply to processing of personal data by the government.
    - ✓ **Second**, it has a limited understanding of the kinds of data to be protected.
    - ✓ **Third**, it places scant obligations on the data fiduciaries which, moreover, can be overridden by contract.
    - ✓ **Fourth**, there are only minimal consequences for the data fiduciaries for the breach of these obligations.
  - While the need to have an effective personal data protection regime is undisputed, India like other jurisdictions has struggled to come up with an optimum formulation for several reasons.
    - ✓ **First**, while protecting the rights of the data principal, data protection laws need to ensure that the compliances for data fiduciaries are not so onerous as to make even legitimate processing impractical.
    - ✓ **Second**, the challenge lies in finding an adequate balance between the right to privacy of data principals and reasonable exceptions, especially where government processing of personal data is concerned.
    - ✓ **Third**, given the rate at which technology evolves, an optimum data protection law design needs to be future proof — it should not be unduly detailed and centred on providing solutions to contemporary concerns while ignoring problems that may emerge going forward.
    - ✓ **Fourth**, the law needs to be designed for a framework of rights and remedies that is readily exercisable by data principals given their unequal bargaining power with respect to data fiduciaries.
- **What is the scope of the present formulation of the Bill?**
  - The DPDP Bill, 2022 applies to all processing of personal data that is carried out digitally. This would include both personal data collected online and personal data collected offline but is digitised for processing.
  - In effect, by being completely inapplicable to data processed manually, this provides for a somewhat lower degree of protection as the earlier drafts only excluded data processed manually specifically by “small entities” and not generally.
  - As far as the territorial application of the law is concerned, the Bill covers processing of personal data which is collected by data fiduciaries within the territory of India and which is processed to offer goods and services within India.

- The current phrasing, inadvertently, seems to exclude data processing by Indian data fiduciaries that collect and process personal data outside India, of data principals who are not located in India. This would impact statutory protections available for clients of Indian start-ups operating overseas, thereby impacting their competitiveness.
- This position further seems to be emphasised with the DPDP Bill, 2022 exempting application of most of its protections to personal data processing of non-residents of India by data fiduciaries in India.
- **How well does the DPDP Bill, 2022 protect data principals?**
- The bulwark of most data protection legislations consists of allowing maximum control to the data principal over their personal data. This happens by mandating a comprehensive notice to the data principal on different aspects of data processing based on which the data principal can provide explicit consent to such processing.
- While limited circumstances for non-consent based processing of personal data exists, it still gives the data principal the right to access, correct, delete etc their data.
- Concomitantly, the data fiduciary is placed, inter alia, with the obligation of data minimisation, which is to collect only such personal data as is required to fulfil the purpose of processing (collection limitation); process it only for the purposes stated and no more (purpose limitation) and to retain it in its servers only for so long as is required to fulfil the stated purpose (storage limitation).
- The current draft removes explicit reference to certain data protection principles such as collection limitation. This would allow a data fiduciary to collect any personal data consented to by the data principal.
- Making collection solely contingent on consent, ignores the fact that data principals often do not have the requisite know-how of what kind of personal data is relevant for a particular purpose. For example, a photo filter app may process data related to your location or information on your contacts even though it may not require such information to carry on its primary task of applying the filter.
- It also does away with the concept of “sensitive personal data”. Depending on the increased potential of harm that can result from unlawful processing of certain categories of personal data, most data protection legislations classify these categories as “sensitive personal data”. Illustratively, this includes biometric data, health data, genetic data etc. This personal data is afforded a higher degree of protection in terms of requiring explicit consent before processing and mandatory data protection impact assessments. By doing away with this distinction, the DPDP Bill, 2022 does away with these additional protections.
- The Bill also reduces the information that a data fiduciary is required to provide to the data principal. While the previous iterations required considerable information in terms of the rights of the data principals, grievance redressal mechanism, retention period of information, source of information collected etc to be provided for the data principal, the current draft reduces the scope of this information to the personal data sought to be collected and the purpose of processing the data.
  - ✓ While this may have been done in an attempt to simplify the notice and avoid information overload, there are other ways such as infographics, just-in-time notices etc that are being recommended by data protection authorities to ensure a comprehensive yet comprehensible notice.
- The DPDP Bill, 2022 seems to suppose that a notice is only to be provided to take consent of the data principal. This is a limited understanding of the purpose of notice.
  - ✓ A notice is also important for the data principal to exercise data protection rights such as the right to know what personal data is being processed by whom, whether that data needs correction or updation and also to request deletion of data that may not be relevant for the purpose of processing.
  - ✓ These rights exist even in cases of non-consent based processing of data. As such, limiting notice to only consent based personal data processing would limit the scope for the exercise of these rights.
- The DPDP Bill, 2022 also introduces the concept of “deemed consent”. In effect, it bundles purposes of processing which were either exempt from consent based processing or were considered “reasonable purposes” for which personal data processing could be undertaken under the ground of “deemed consent”.
  - ✓ However, there exist some concerns around this due to the vaguely worded grounds for processing such as “public interest” and the removal of additional safeguards for protection of data principals’ interests.
- An important addition to the right of data principals is that it recognises the right to post mortem privacy which was missing from the PDP Bill, 2019 but had been recommended by the JPC. The right to post mortem privacy would allow the data principal to nominate another individual in case of death or incapacity.
- **Data protection laws in other geographies**
- An estimated 137 out of 194 countries have put in place legislation to secure the protection of data and privacy, with Africa and Asia showing 61% (33 countries out of 54) and 57% adoption respectively.

- According to data from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), an intergovernmental organisation within the United Nations Secretariat. Only 48% of Least Developed Countries (22 out of 46) have data protection and privacy laws.
- **EU MODEL:** The GDPR focuses on a comprehensive data protection law for processing of personal data. It has been criticised for being excessively stringent, and imposing many obligations on organisations processing data, but it is the template for most of the legislation drafted around the world.
- In the EU, the right to privacy is enshrined as a fundamental right that seeks to protect an individual's dignity and her right over the data she generates.
- The European Charter of Fundamental Rights recognises the right to privacy as well as the right to protection of personal data, and is backed by a comprehensive data protection framework, which applies to processing of personal data by any means, and to processing activities carried out by both the government and private entities.
- There are certain exemptions such as national security, defence, public security, etc, but they are clearly defined and seen as exclusions on the periphery.
- **US MODEL:** Privacy protection is largely defined as "liberty protection" focused on the protection of the individual's personal space from the government. It is viewed as being somewhat narrow in focus because it enables collection of personal information as long as the individual is informed of such collection and use. The US template has been viewed as inadequate in key respects of regulation.
- There is no comprehensive set of privacy rights or principles in the US that, like the EU's GDPR, addresses the use, collection, and disclosure of data.
- Instead, there is limited sector-specific regulation. The approach towards data protection is different for the public and private sectors.
- The activities and powers of the government vis-a-vis personal information are, however, sufficiently well-defined and addressed by broad legislation such as the Privacy Act, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, etc. For the private sector, there are some sector-specific norms.
- **CHINA MODEL:** New Chinese laws on data privacy and security issued over the last 12 months include the Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL), which came into effect in November 2021. It gives Chinese data principals new rights as it seeks to prevent the misuse of personal data. The Data Security Law (DSL), which came into force in September 2021, requires business data to be categorized by levels of importance, and puts new restrictions on cross-border transfers.
- These regulations will have a significant impact on how companies collect, store, use and transfer data, but are essentially focused on giving the government overreaching powers to collect data as well as to regulate private companies that collect and process information.
- China's PIPL is deemed to be "similar" to the EU's GDPR in that it gives Chinese consumers the right to access, correct, and delete their personal data gathered by businesses, but credibly impacts offshore data processors that deliver goods and services or analyse individuals in China.
- The law includes stringent penalties, with fines as high as RMB 50 million, or up to 5% of a company's turnover in the previous financial year. Businesses may also be required to suspend operations until they "demonstrate compliance". There are also impacts on individuals, with anyone directly responsible for data protection personally facing fines of up to RMB 1 million.
- The DSL requires that business data be classified according to its relevance to national security and the public interest, and companies looking to transfer "important" data outside China must perform an internal security review before applying for a security assessment and approval from the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) and other relevant authorities.
- Companies that mishandle data under the DSL face severe penalties: the ride-hailing giant Didi faced a \$1.2 billion (RMB 8.026 billion) fine in July 2022 for allegedly breaking China's cyber security laws. Other companies have also been facing regulatory action.

### PRELIMS

#### 1. Foreign Institutional Investor (FII)

- ❖ **CONTEXT:** Foreign investors have been aggressively buying Indian equities in November, having invested Rs30,385 crore. The spurt in net inflows has come owing to the stabilisation of the rupee and resilience of the domestic economy compared to global counterparts
- A Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) is a person or company that invests in a country other than the one where it is registered or has its headquarters. Emerging economies benefit from FIIs since they provide finances and capital to enterprises in developing countries. Citigroup (C), HSBC (ADR -HSBC), and Merrill Lynch (MER) are major international corporations engaging in foreign institutional investment.
- In this article, we will see the meaning of FII, the advantages and disadvantages of FII and the differences between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investment (FII).

➤ **Who are Foreign Institutional Investors?**

- Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) are companies based outside of India that make investment proposals in the country. They have a significant impact on a country's economy.
- Hedge funds, mutual funds, pension funds, insurance bonds, high-value debentures, and investment banks are examples of institutional investors.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India has around 1450 FIIs registered (SEBI).
- To promote the influx of foreign portfolio investment, the SEBI Regulations, 1995 were amended in 1996-97 to include the following changes:
- ✓ Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), NRIs, and OCBs can now each invest up to 10% of a company's stock, subject to a total investment limit of 24% for all FIIs, NRIs, and OCBs.
- ✓ Under SEBI clearance, FIIs are allowed to invest 100% of their portfolios in debt securities.
- ✓ Endowments, university funds, foundations, charitable trusts, and organizations registered with a regulatory authority in their nation and with a track record of five years are allowed to be FIIs under SEBI.
- As a result, when FIIs acquire stocks and assets, the market becomes bullish and moves upward. When people remove their funds from the markets, the opposite may occur. As a result, they wield significant power over the market.

➤ **Advantages of FII**

- FIIs will boost capital inflows into the country.
- These investors prefer stock to debt in general. As a result, they will be able to sustain and even improve the capital structures of the enterprises in which they participate.
- They have a favourable impact on financial market competition.
- FII contributes to capital market financial innovation.
- Asset managers and analysts professionally handle these entities. They generally boost the country's capital markets.

➤ **Disadvantages of FII**

- The native currency (rupee) is in higher demand. This could result in a significant increase in the economy's inflation rate.
- These FIIs are responsible for the fortunes of the large corporations in which they invest. However, their securities purchases and sales have a significant impact on the stock market. Smaller businesses are dragged along for the ride.
- These FIIs are sometimes merely looking for short-term gains. Banks may experience a cash crisis if they sell their investments.
- Because of its proclivity to escape at the first hint of economic difficulty, FPI is often referred to as "hot money."

➤ **Differences between FDI and FII**

FDI	FII
Foreign direct investment (FDI) occurs when a foreign company invests funds in a country or economy to establish production or other facilities. FDI allows a foreign business some authority over the company's activities.	When a foreign business acquires stock in a company on the stock exchanges, this is known as foreign direct investment (FDI). As a result, FII would not grant the foreign business any control over the corporation in this circumstance.
FDI is involved in direct production and is of a medium- to long-term nature.	FII is a short-term investment that is primarily made in the financial markets, and it is made up of FII.
It enables a degree of control in the company	It does not involve obtaining a degree of control in a company
Long-term capital is brought in by FDI.	Short-term capital is brought in through FII.

2. **Dalai Lama receives Gandhi Mandela Award**

❖ **CONTEXT:** The 14th Dalai Lama was conferred the Gandhi Mandela Award 2022 at Thekchen Choeling in Dharamshala's McLeodGanj by Himachal Pradesh governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar.

- The Tibetan spiritual leader, receiving the peace prize from the New Delhi-based Gandhi Mandela Foundation, said the qualities of non-violence and compassion had been ingrained in Indian culture for thousands of years.

➤ **What is the Gandhi Mandela Award?**

- A government of India registered Trust, the Gandhi Mandela Foundation is a non-profit organisation, formed with the motive to promote Mahatma Gandhi's and former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela's values of non-violence. It has constituted an international prize, the Gandhi Mandela Award.

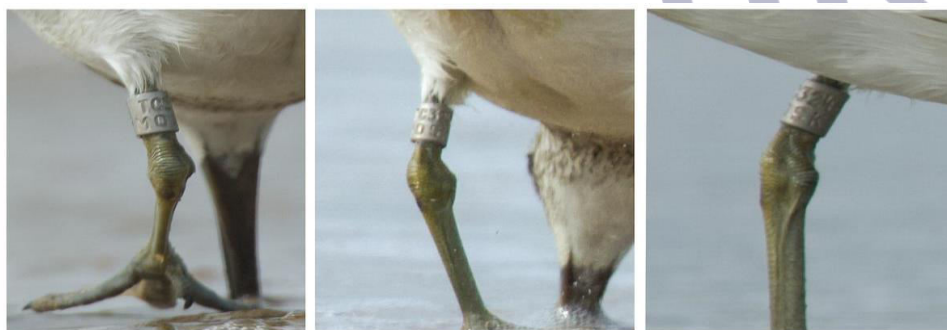


- The foundation instituted the award on the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, MK Gandhi.
- **Who gets the award and how are they selected?**
- The award is given to personalities who have carried forward the legacies of Gandhi and Mandela by making significant contributions in the fields of Peace, Social Welfare, Culture, Environment, Education, Healthcare, Sports and Innovation.
- This time, the awardee, Dalai Lama, was selected by a jury including former Chief Justice of India KG Balakrishnan and Justice Dipak Misra, former Supreme Court Judge Gyan Sudha Misra, former Chief Justice of Nepal Justice Kedarnath Upadhyay and former Chief Justice of Bangladesh Justice MD Tafazzul Islam.
- **Eminent nominees of the Gandhi Mandela award**
- Eminent nominations in the 1st Edition of the Gandhi Mandela Award in 2019 included Prime Minister of Nepal Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli, first president of Bangladesh Late Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, first president of Sri Lanka late Don Stephen Senanayake, former deputy Prime Minister of India Lal Krishna Advani and other head of states and governments.
- **Which other peace prize the Dalai Lama received?**
- The Tibetan spiritual leader is the recipient of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize. “The Dalai Lama has developed his philosophy of peace from a great reverence for all things living and upon the concept of universal responsibility embracing all mankind as well as nature,” the Nobel website says. He has also received several other awards.

**3. Great Knots (Calidris tenuirostris)**

❖ **CONTEXT: Unveiling yet another mystery of avian migrations, a great knot from Russia, belonging to the endangered Calidris tenuirostris (Horsfield, 1821), has found its way to Kerala’s coast, flying over 9,000 km for a winter sojourn.**

- The migratory bird that traversed the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) is only one of the two — the other has been sighted at Jamnagar in Gujarat — great knots to be re-sighted in India among the nearly thousand ones tagged with MOSKVA rings in the Kamchatka peninsula in eastern Russia.



- The bird was sighted by birdwatchers while on a coastal migrant bird watching expedition on the Chavakkad beach in Thrissur district on November 15 2022. It came calling in a flock of 14 great knots and about 150 migratory waders, including a rare straggler Caspian plover, grey plover, whimbrel, sanderling, lesser sand plover and about a hundred seagulls.

➤ **Vital clue**

- According to the birder who has been monitoring the Thrissur coasts for over two decades, the engraving on the bird’s ring that read TC 32469 MOSKVA provided a vital clue on its Russian connection.
- The Russian scientists confirmed the juvenile great knot had been tagged in the estuary with a marked ring on its leg on August 12.
- These long-distance migrants stay at the Yellow Sea region and Thailand in southeast Asia before proceeding to their southerly winter grounds, including Peninsular India along the CAF, one of the nine most important flyways of migratory birds.



- The migratory route suggested the bird that flew to Thrissur travelled over 9,000 km. Another bird that was tagged 6Z has been sighted at Jamnagar for the past three consecutive years.

➤ **About the Bird**

- These are the migratory birds and have breeding habitat in tundra in northeast Siberia.
- It is listed as Endangered in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.
- They nest on the ground and generally have large flocks when migrating.
- This species has short dark legs and a medium-length thin dark bill.
- The great knot can be identified by its larger size, longer bill, deeper chest, and the more streaked upperparts.
- In India, It is found along the coastal regions of Gujarat, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala.

**4. Jumbo trails**

❖ **CONTEXT: The Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) has launched 'jumbo trails', a programme aimed to educate visitors to the tiger reserve about elephants, the flora, and fauna of ATR and the aboriginal tribes who live in the hills.**

- An initiative by ATR Field Director S. Ramasubramanian and Deputy Director (Pollachi Division) Bhargava Teja, the first jumbo trail will happen on November 26 2022.
  - The jumbo trails start at 'Anamalaiyagam', a newly-established forest interpretation centre at Sethumadai at 7.30 a.m.
  - The biologist and other resource persons from the Forest Department will explain the exhibits at the interpretation centre and provide the registered participants with an overall view of ATR.
  - The participants will be taken to Top Slip in a Forest Department vehicle from where they will be taken for a nature trail to Ambili watch tower that offers a panoramic view of Pollachi. During the nature trail through the forest, resource persons will explain to them about the flora and fauna seen around. Upon reaching the watchtower, residents from the tribal settlement will give them herbal tea.
  - The nature trail will be followed by a visit to the interpretation centre at Top Slip where the participants will be explained about the exhibits, biodiversity and importance of forests.
  - The lunch prepared by residents of tribal settlements will offer participants a chance to taste tribal delicacies. This will be followed by a cultural programme in which artists from tribal settlements perform.
  - Next, the participants will be taken to the tomb of Hugo Wood, the British forest officer behind the vast teak plantations of Anamalai hills, which is situated on the Tamil Nadu – Kerala boundary. The programme will end at the Kozhikamuthy elephant camp where the evening feeding for Forest Department camp elephants start around 5.30 p.m.
  - According to authorities, the package costs ₹999 per head.
- Earlier the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) has opened the doors for an Elephant Adoption Programme through which non-governmental organisations, institutions, trusts or individuals can sponsor the expenses of Forest Department's camp elephants.

**5. Network Readiness Index 2022**

❖ **Context: As per recent Network Readiness Index 2022 (NRI 2022) report India has improved its position by six slots and is now placed at 61<sup>st</sup> rank.**

- In its latest version of 2022, the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 131 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact.
  - The report has been prepared by the Portulans Institute, an independent non-profit, nonpartisan research and educational institute based in Washington DC.
- Key findings for India:
- India has improved its ranking as well as its score from 49.74 in 2021 to 51.19 in 2022.
  - India leads in several indicators:
    - ✓ India secured 1<sup>st</sup> rank in "AI talent concentration",
    - ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in "Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country" and "International Internet bandwidth",
    - ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in "Annual investment in telecommunication services" and "Domestic market size",
    - ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> rank in "ICT Services exports",
    - ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> rank in "FTTH/Building Internet subscriptions" and "AI scientific publications".
  - India is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 36 in the group of lower-middle-income countries after Ukraine (50) and Indonesia (59).
  - The United States takes the 1st spot from the Netherlands (4th) as the most network-ready society.
- **About NRI**
- The Network Readiness Index 2022 ranks a total of 131 economies that collectively account for almost 95 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP).

- The primary level consists of four pillars that make up the fundamental dimensions of network readiness.
- Each of the fundamental pillars divides into additional sub-pillars that constitute the second level.
- The third level consists of individual indicators distributed across the different sub-pillars and pillars of the primary and secondary levels.
- The Four pillars:
- ✓ Technology: This pillar seeks to assess the level of technology that is an essential condition for a country's participation in the global economy.
- ✓ People: The availability and level of technology in a country is only of interest insofar as its population and organizations have the access, resources, and skills to use it productively.
- ✓ Governance: Governance is all about, how safe individuals and firms are in the context of the network economy, regulation and digital inclusion.
- ✓ Impact: Ultimately, readiness in the network economy is a means to improve the growth and well-being in society and the economy.

**ANSWER WRITING**

**Q. "Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India are freely available to the Indian citizens, but these rights are not absolute." Comment.**

- The Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India is one of the most important fundamental rights available to the citizens of India.
- Article 19(1)(d) of the Indian Constitution entitles every citizen to move freely throughout the territory of the country. Moreover, it is available only to the citizens and to shareholders of a company but not to foreigners or legal entities like companies or corporations, etc.
- Freedom of movement has two dimensions — internal and external. Article 19(1)(d) protects only the internal dimension, i.e., the right to move within the country.
- Restrictions on this freedom can only be imposed on two grounds which are mentioned in Article 19(5) of the constitution itself, namely, the interests of the public and the protection of interests of any Scheduled Tribe.
- Article 19(1)(e) provides the right "to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India" to the Indian citizens. Just like Article 19(1)(d), this right is also subject to reasonable restrictions.
- However, these rights are not absolute. For example, for protecting the interests of the Scheduled Tribes in India, various provisions have been enshrined in the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. Some of these deal with the limitation or prohibition of the transfer of land in such areas as well as the regulation of the allotment of land.
- Further, in the State of Uttar Pradesh v. Kaushaliya (1963), the Supreme Court held that the right of movement of prostitutes may be restricted on the grounds of public health and in the interest of public morals.
- Thus, this right, while enhancing the mobility of the Indian citizens, is also subject to certain restrictions that help in maintaining a fine balance between freedoms and rights of the people.

**MCQs**

1. With reference to Foreign Direct Investment in India, which one of the following is considered its major characteristic?
  - a) It is the investment through capital instruments essentially in a listed company.
  - b) It is a largely non-debt creating capital flow.**
  - c) It is the investment which involves debt-servicing.
  - d) It is the investment made by foreign institutional investors in the Government securities.
2. Both Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) are related to investment in a country. Which one of the following statements best represents an important difference between the two?
  - a) FII helps bring better management skills and technology, while FDI only brings in capital
  - b) FII helps in increasing capital availability in general, while FDI only targets specific sectors**
  - c) FDI flows only into the secondary markets, while FII targets primary market
  - d) FII is considered to be more stable than FDI
3. In context of the recent spotting of the Great Knot bird consider the following statements
  1. The Great Knot is a wader bird found near aquatic habitats like lakes and beaches.
  2. The Great Knot migrates to Chilika Lake in winter.
  3. Their breeding habitat is tundra in northeast Siberia.

Which of the above statement/s is correct?

  - a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1,2 and 3**
4. Consider the following statements regarding the Anamalai Tiger Reserve:

1. The Reserve has tall grasses, commonly referred to as 'Elephant Grass'.
2. The Kariyan Shola, Grass hills and Manjampatti of Anamalai Tiger Reserve has been identified as a world heritage site by the UNESCO.
3. Pulaiyars, Malasars and Eravalars are the tribal population of the Anamalai Hills.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only**
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1,2 and 3
5. Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?
    - a) Article 14 and the provisions under the 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution
    - b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV
    - c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III**
    - d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution
  6. With reference to Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) consider the following
    1. GDPR rules apply to any websites regardless of where they are based.
    2. The GDPR provides consumers with more control over how their personal data is handled and disseminated by companies.

Choose the correct statement/s using the codes given below

- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2**
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. With reference to recently released Network readiness report 2022 consider the following
    1. The Netherlands takes the 1st spot from the United States as the most network-ready society
    2. It has been released by International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
    3. India secured 1st rank in "AI talent concentration".

Which of the above statement/s is/are not correct?

- a) **1 and 2 only**
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1,2 and 3
8. Consider the following statements regarding Recession.
    1. A recession is a macroeconomic term that refers to a significant decline in general economic activity in a designated region.
    2. A significant rise in spending generally leads to a recession.
    3. India had been into recession only once since independence i.e., before Liberalisation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) **1 and 2**
  - b) 1 only
  - c) 2 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2 and 3
9. With reference to the Counter-cyclical Fiscal Policy Stance during the recession, consider the following statements:
    1. In an expansionary fiscal policy, the government expenditure is increased and taxes are reduced.
    2. The expansionary fiscal policy helps the government to deal with the recession in an economy.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2**
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant which is recently in news, is located in which country?
    - a) Germany
    - b) Hungary
    - c) Ukraine**
    - d) South Korea