

GS PAPER 2-CONSTITUTION OF INDIA —HISTORICAL UNDERPINNINGS, EVOLUTION, FEATURES, AMENDMENTS, SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS AND BASIC STRUCTURE**Significant contributions of women in drafting the Indian Constitution**

The article highlights the significant contributions of women in drafting the Indian Constitution. It criticizes the patriarchal neglect of their role, addresses their fight for gender equality through constitutional provisions, and laments the ongoing struggles for women's rights in independent India.

Who Were the Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic?

1. The article highlights the contributions of women in the Constituent Assembly, referring to them as the "founding mothers."
2. They worked alongside B.R. Ambedkar to ensure the Constitution addressed gender equality.
3. Prominent women like Amrit Kaur, Hansa Mehta, and Begum Aizaz Rasul challenged the patriarchal systems embedded in Indian society.

How Did Women Influence the Constitution?

1. **Advocated for Gender Equality:** Women in the Constituent Assembly, including Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur, fought to ensure the Constitution addressed gender equality, particularly in areas of Fundamental Rights.
2. **Pushed for Uniform Civil Code (UCC):** Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded the UCC be part of Fundamental Rights to counter patriarchal power in religion and family. When it was relegated to the Directive Principles, they worked to strengthen its significance by introducing a prelude declaring the Directive Principles fundamental to governance.
3. **Challenged Religious Freedom:** Amrit Kaur and Hansa Mehta argued against absolute freedom of religion, warning it could perpetuate harmful practices like child marriage, purdah, polygamy, and sati.
4. **Pioneered Secularism:** Begum Aizaz Rasul described secularism as the Constitution's most significant feature, supporting efforts to limit religion's control over women's rights.
5. **Elevated Directive Principles:** The efforts of women helped secure a legal framework that recognized Directive Principles' importance in achieving social justice in later jurisprudence (1980s).

Conclusion

1. The founding mothers of the Indian Constitution played a crucial role in embedding gender equality, yet their contributions remain overlooked.
2. Despite this, patriarchal compromises allowed discriminatory personal laws, undermining women's equality.
3. The 1974 *Towards Equality* report revealed that even two decades later, gender equality was unachieved.
4. The Uniform Civil Code, designed to ensure justice, remains unimplemented, reflecting a failure to honor their vision.
5. Women's representation in power remains low, hindering feminist constitutionalism in India.

GS PAPER 2-CONSTITUTION OF INDIA —HISTORICAL UNDERPINNINGS, EVOLUTION, FEATURES, AMENDMENTS, SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS AND BASIC STRUCTURE**India's Constitution Progress and Ongoing Challenges**

The article reflects on the 75th anniversary of India's Constitution adoption. It highlights B.R. Ambedkar's concerns about inequality and fraternity, assesses progress on equality, and discusses challenges like caste politics, institutional erosion, and the ongoing responsibility to uphold constitutional values.

What Did Dr. Ambedkar Say on Constitution Adoption?

1. **Importance of Implementers:** Dr. Ambedkar said that a good Constitution could fail if implemented by bad leaders, while a bad Constitution could succeed with capable leaders.
2. **Need for Social Transformation:**
3. Dr. Ambedkar highlighted the contradiction between political equality (one person, one vote) and social and economic inequality.
4. He stressed that liberty, equality, and fraternity are interdependent. Without fraternity, equality and liberty could not flourish naturally and would require enforcement.
5. Fraternity, defined as a sense of common brotherhood, was hindered by caste and religious divisions, which he called "anti-national."
6. He argued that fraternity would lead to solidarity and help erode caste and social hierarchies.
7. **Responsibility Post-Independence:** Ambedkar reminded Indians that after independence, they could no longer blame the British for failures and must take responsibility for their actions.

How Has India Progressed on Equality, Fraternity?

1. **Progress on Equality**
2. **Abolition of Untouchability:** Untouchability has been legally abolished, promoting equality in principle.
3. **Affirmative Action:** India implemented one of the world's oldest reservation systems for Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
4. **Challenges:** Social and economic equality is still incomplete, as seen in demands for caste-based opportunities and a caste census.
5. **Economic Inequality:** Inequalities in wealth and outcomes remain significant, causing political and social unrest.
6. **Progress on Fraternity**
7. **Nationhood Strengthened:** Events like the Kargil War and cricket matches show a growing sense of national unity.
8. **Challenges:**
9. Caste-based politics and reservations undermine fraternity.
10. Dr. Ambedkar's vision of caste annihilation has not been realized, as caste remains entrenched in public life.
11. **Limited Social Unity:** Divisions based on caste, creed, and region persist.

What Challenges Remain for the Constitution?

1. **Institutional Weakening:** Parliament and judiciary face pressures, reducing their effectiveness.
2. **Global Perception:** The V-Dem Institute labeled India an "electoral autocracy," indicating concerns about democratic practices.

Way Forward

Dr. Ambedkar reminded us of the responsibility independence brings. India must reduce societal and political contradictions, strengthen institutions, and follow constitutional principles to ensure true democracy.

GS PAPER 3- ENVIRONMENT

Disappointment of the 29th UN climate conference (CoP 29)

The article discusses the disappointment of the 29th UN climate conference (CoP 29). Developing countries need \$1.3 trillion annually for climate action, but a \$300 billion deal was reached instead. The article highlights the failure to meet funding goals and calls for more creative solutions.

What was CoP 29 expected to achieve?

CoP 29 in Baku was labeled the "Finance CoP" It aimed to secure at least \$1.3 trillion annually for developing countries to combat global warming. This funding was crucial as reports showed the planet could exceed the 1.5°C warming limit.

What challenges did developing countries face?

1. Developing nations criticized the lack of equity and ambition. While the \$300 billion could act as a seed fund for larger investments, history offers little hope.
2. Even the OECD acknowledged the need for new, effective financing strategies post-2025, but CoP 29 failed to provide a clear roadmap.
3. Initiatives like the International Solar Alliance (ISA), led by India, reflect the Global South's efforts to address climate challenges independently. However, these efforts cannot replace the funding commitments from developed nations.

What needs to be done?

1. Developing nations must unite at global forums to pressure wealthy countries into fulfilling their financial obligations.
2. Creative and sustainable solutions are essential for achieving the necessary \$1.3 trillion target.

GS PAPER3- ENVIRONMENT

Satellite Tracking of Stubble Burning in Delhi

The article discusses the issue of farm fires in Punjab and Haryana, which worsen air quality in Delhi. It highlights how satellites are used to track these fires, the controversy over their timing, and the government's response to air pollution and stubble burning.

Why is Delhi's air quality worsening after Deepavali?

1. Delhi's air quality has remained poor despite implementing GRAP Stage IV measures and the Supreme Court's intervention.
2. Paddy stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana is a major cause.
3. Farmers burn stubble after harvesting rice to prepare for wheat sowing. The smoke drifts to Delhi, worsening air quality due to seasonal winds.

How Are Farm Fires Detected?

1. **NASA Satellites:** Farm fires are tracked using NASA’s Aqua and Suomi-NPP satellites. These satellites use MODIS and VIIRS instruments to detect fires through visible and infrared imaging.
2. **Satellite Overpass Timing:** The satellites pass over each location at 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m., capturing images of fires during these times.
3. **Aerosol Tracking:** Suomi-NPP’s Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite measures aerosol levels to track smoke from fires and its pollution contribution.
4. **Alternative Satellites:** South Korea’s GEO-KOMPSAT 2A provides additional data. It captured images showing more fires occurring after NASA’s satellites had completed their overpass.

What is the new controversy?

1. **Timing of Stubble Burning:** Farmers in Punjab and Haryana may be burning stubble after NASA satellites Aqua and Suomi-NPP complete their overpasses (1:30 p.m.), avoiding detection. This was suggested by NASA scientist Hiren Jethva based on satellite observations.
2. **Contradictory Observations:** GEO-KOMPSAT 2A satellite data showed smoke thickening later in the day, implying more fires after Aqua and Suomi-NPP’s scans.
3. **Aerosol Levels:** Aerosol quantities remain unchanged compared to previous years, despite claims of fewer fires, indicating undetected burning.
4. **CAQM’s Stance:** The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) was created in 2020 to address air pollution in the NCR. It claims a 71% reduction in fires in Punjab since 2020. However, Punjab government data shows the burnt area increased by 24% between 2022 and 2023, and IARI data shows a 15% increase.
5. **Farmer Awareness:** Meeting records (March 2024) and farmer accounts reveal instructions to burn stubble after 4 p.m.

What are the challenges in resolving stubble burning?

1. **Timing of Fires:** Farmers may burn stubble after satellite overpasses to avoid detection. Data from NASA’s Aqua and Suomi-NPP satellites shows fewer fires than expected, while other satellites like GEO-KOMPSAT 2A show increased smoke later in the day.
2. **Satellite Limitations:** ISRO’s INSAT-3DR and RESOURCESAT satellites can track fires but have limitations. INSAT-3DR’s data resolution is coarse, while RESOURCESAT-2A has better imaging but lower coverage. GISAT-1, a satellite launched in 2021, failed to reach orbit, leaving limited domestic resources for precise monitoring.
3. **Economic Constraints:** Burning stubble is cheaper and quicker for farmers than alternative methods. Despite government efforts, cost-effective solutions remain scarce.
4. **Inconsistent Data:** The CAQM claims fires have reduced, but data from Punjab and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute show increases in burnt areas, indicating discrepancies in reporting.

PRELIM FACTS

1. Constitution Museum

India’s first Constitution Museum was inaugurated at OP Jindal Global University in Sonipat, Haryana, to commemorate and celebrate the drafting, principles, and evolution of the Indian Constitution.

About Indian Constitution Museum:

- **Location:** OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana.
- **Maintained by:** OP Jindal Global University in collaboration with the Centre for Museums.
- **Features:**
 - **Photolithographic constitution copy:** A centerpiece featuring one of 1,000 original reproductions.
 - **360-degree visual display:** Chronicles pre-Independence India and significant events in drafting the Constitution.
 - **Busts of Constituent Assembly Members:** Nearly 300 sculptures honoring their contributions.
 - **Dr. BR Ambedkar section:** Hologram and interactive displays featuring his philosophies, speeches, and writings.
 - **Multimedia presentations:** Interactive insights into the drafting and evolution of the Constitution.

2. ICA Global Cooperative Conference 2024

Prime Minister will inaugurate ICA Global Cooperative Conference 2024 and launch the UN International Year of Cooperatives 2025 on 25th November at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

About International Cooperative Alliance:

- **Origin:** Established in 1895 during the 1st Cooperative Congress in London, England.
- **History:** One of the oldest NGOs, representing over 1 billion cooperative members globally across 105 countries.
- **Aim:** To unite cooperatives worldwide, promote sustainable development, and support member organizations.
- **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium.
- **Summits:** Regular global and regional summits foster collaboration and address cooperative challenges.

2024 ICA Global Conference:

- **Host:** India, for the first time in ICA's 130-year history.
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Organizers:** Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), ICA, and other cooperative entities.
- **Theme:** "Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All."
- **Aim:**
 - Showcase the role of cooperatives in promoting inclusive, sustainable development.
 - Explore innovative strategies for global cooperative growth.
 - Launch the **UN International Year of Cooperatives-2025**.

3. Launch of National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister approved the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF).

About National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)

1. It has been launched as a standalone **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

2. Objective: To promote chemical-free natural farming rooted in traditional knowledge using integrated and diversified crop systems for sustainable, climate-resilient agriculture.

Key Features

1. Duration: Till the 15th Finance Commission period (2025-26).

2. Implementation Targets

- 15,000 clusters in willing Gram Panchayats within two years.
- To reach 1 crore farmers and introduce Natural Farming on 7.5 lakh hectares of land.
- To establish 10,000 Bio-input Resource Centres (BRCs) for easy access to natural farming inputs.

3. Monitoring System: Real-time, geo-tagged monitoring through an online portal.

4. Convergence with Existing Schemes: It utilize existing government programs to enhance livestock populations, develop NF demonstration farms, and strengthen market linkages.

5. Educational Integration: It engage students through the Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) program. It also introduce undergraduate, postgraduate, and diploma courses on Natural Farming.

Support and Resources

1. Demonstration Farms and Training

- Establish 2000 NF Model Demonstration Farms at Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Agricultural Universities (AUs), and farmers' fields.
- Train 18.75 lakh farmers in natural farming practices, such as preparing Jeevamrit and Beejamrit.
- Engage 30,000 Krishi Sakhis/Community Resource Persons (CRPs) for awareness, mobilization, and handholding.

2. Bio-input Resource Centres (BRCs) to provide ready-to-use natural farming inputs like Jeevamrit and Beejamrit and promote local livestock for creating bio-inputs.

3. Market Linkages: Introduce an easy certification system and common branding for natural farming produce and strengthen market access through convergence with local markets, APMC Mandis, Haats, and Depots.

Environmental and Health Benefits

Soil and Ecosystem Health: It improves soil fertility, carbon content, and water use efficiency and promotes soil microorganisms and biodiversity.

Climate Resilience: It builds resilience against risks like waterlogging, floods, and droughts.

Health and Nutrition: It reduces farmers' exposure to harmful fertilizers and pesticides and also ensures nutritious food for families and consumers.

4. Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs)

The Ministry of Culture actively signs Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs).

About Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs)

1. The Ministry of Culture actively signs Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs) to promote Indian art and culture globally.

2. **Aim:** These programmes aim to enhance India's soft power and foster inter-cultural relations with other nations.

3. **Objective:** To disseminate Indian art and culture globally and to develop and strengthen inter-cultural relations with other nations.

4. **Areas of Collaboration:** Cultural exchanges cover a diverse range of areas, including: Music and dance, Theatre, Museums and science museums, Libraries and archives, Protection and conservation of historic monuments and archaeological sites, Literature, research, and documentation and Festivals and cultural events

5. **Current Status:** 144 countries have ongoing CEP negotiations. Valid signed CEPs exist with 84 countries

Festivals of India (FoI) Abroad

1. Festivals of India (FoI) are cultural initiatives aimed at promoting India's rich heritage and enhancing its global image through impactful cultural diplomacy.

2. Objectives of FoI:

i) Promote Indian Culture abroad to create lasting cultural connections.

ii) Strengthen bonds between India and foreign countries.

iii) Enhance bilateral cultural contacts and collaboration.

iv) Project a positive cultural image of India internationally.

v) Drive interest in inbound tourism, including medical and wellness tourism (Ayush).

Significance of FoI: They act as tools for inter-cultural understanding and showcase India's soft power. They contribute to various sectors like: Tourism, Health, Education and Commerce
Strategic cultural engagement boosts India's global influence. 62 Festivals of India have been organized in 59 countries since 2013-14.

5. One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) Scheme

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme.

About One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme

1. It is a central sector scheme.

2. It aims to provide nationwide access to international scholarly research articles and journal publications for students, faculty, and researchers in government-managed higher education and R&D institutions.

It aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes research as a cornerstone of outstanding education.

2. The scheme will be coordinated by Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), an autonomous inter-university center under the University Grants Commission (UGC).

3. **Institutions Covered:** More than 6,300 government higher education institutions and central government R&D institutions.

4. **Number of Beneficiaries:** Nearly 1.8 crore students, faculty members, researchers, and scientists across disciplines, including those in tier 2 and tier 3 cities.

5. **Journal Access:** It includes 30 major international journal publishers and provides access to approximately 13,000 e-journals.

6. A unified portal, "One Nation One Subscription," will be developed for institutions to access journals. The entire process will be digital and user-friendly.

7. **Review and Monitoring:** The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) will periodically review the scheme's usage and publications by Indian authors affiliated with participating institutions.

Key Objectives

Support for Research and Development: Expands access to high-impact research resources, fostering a culture of research and innovation.

Alignment with National Goals: To supports the vision of Viksitbharat@2047 and Atmanirbhar Bharat by promoting high-quality research.

Promotion of Interdisciplinary Research: Encourages both core and interdisciplinary research across all disciplines and geographic regions.

Enhanced Accessibility: Bridges the knowledge gap for institutions in tier 2 and tier 3 cities by providing equitable access to world-class resources.

6. India Employment Report 2024

The India Employment Report 2024 by the Institute for Human Development (IHD) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) highlights an improved employment scenario in India.

Major Findings of the report

1. Global Youth Unemployment Trends: In 2021, global youth unemployment was **15.6%** (ILO's Global Report Trends for Youth, 2022).

In 2023, the rate decreased to **13.3%** (ILO's World Employment and Social Outlook Trends, 2024).

2. India's Youth Unemployment: According to the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), India's youth unemployment rate (ages 15-29) was **10.2%** in 2023-24, lower than the global average.

3. Improving Worker Population Ratio (WPR): The Worker Population Ratio (WPR) for youth increased from 31.4% in 2017-18 to 41.7% in 2023-24, indicating growth in employment.

Formal Sector Employment Growth: Over 1.3 crore net subscribers joined the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) in 2023-24.

Between September 2017 and August 2024, 7.03 crore net subscribers joined the EPFO, showcasing increased formalization of employment.

About Institute for Human Development (IHD)

1. The Institute for Human Development (IHD) is a leading Indian research organization established in 1998, focusing on labor, employment, and socio-economic development.

2. It conducts research on issues like informal labor, migration, social protection, and human development, providing policy insights to address inequality and poverty.

3. It is known for its flagship India Human Development Report. IHD collaborates with national and international organizations to promote inclusive growth.

7. Gelephu Mindfulness City

Bhutan's PM Tshering Tobgay highlighted the Gelephu Mindfulness City as a major "Zero Carbon" project, thanking India for supporting its development as a sustainable, cooperative initiative.

About Gelephu Mindfulness City:

- **Vision:** To create a sustainable, zero-carbon city promoting harmony, sustainability, and Bhutan's Gross National Happiness philosophy.
- **Origin:** Envisioned by **King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck** to improve Bhutanese lives and build a global model for sustainable living.
- **India's Role:** Strategic collaboration with India for investment and infrastructure, strengthening India-Bhutan ties; viewed as a cooperative project benefiting both nations.
- **Key Features:**
- Spread over **2,500 sq. km**, comprising 2.5% of Bhutan's landmass.
- Includes protected national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and renewable energy facilities generating 4,000-5,000 MW.
- Self-governed **Special Administrative Region (SAR)** with independent judiciary and lawmaking powers.
- **Mandala-style neighbourhoods** connected by inhabitable bridges over 35 rivers and streams.
- Infrastructure for hydroelectric power, hydroponic farming, spiritual centers, markets, and healthcare (both traditional and modern).
- Designed as a **low-rise, eco-friendly city** prioritizing personal well-being and environmental sustainability.

ANSWER WRITING

Q. Given the evolving nature of Indian society, how can the Constitution adapt to meet the changing demands of social justice while maintaining its core principles?

Indian society is experiencing significant changes, with family structures shifting from joint family to nuclear family, increasing acceptance of gender equality, and evolving views on caste and LGBTQ+ rights. As younger generations adopt progressive values while traditions continue to persist, the Constitution must adapt to ensure it addresses these changes and upholds justice and equity for all.

Adapting to Changing Demands of Social Justice

- **Legislative Evolution:** New laws ensure the Constitution remains responsive to emerging societal challenges and promotes inclusivity.
For example: The **Right to Education Act (2009)** implemented **Article 21A**, guaranteeing free and compulsory education for children aged 6-14, reducing barriers for marginalized groups.
- **Judicial Interpretation:** Courts reinterpret constitutional provisions to address evolving social issues and uphold individual rights.
For example: The **Puttaswamy Judgment (2017)** expanded **Article 21** to recognize the **right to privacy**, protecting citizens in an increasingly digital society.
- **Inclusive Policies: Affirmative action** programs help reduce inequalities, ensuring fair opportunities for all sections of society.
For example: The **103rd Amendment (2019)** introduced reservations for **Economically Weaker Sections**, promoting socio-economic justice alongside **Article 46**.
- **Technology Regulation:** Laws governing digital spaces ensure justice and protect citizens from exploitation in a fast-evolving technological world.
For example: The **Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill (2023)** safeguards privacy rights under Article 21, addressing concerns like data breaches.
- **Focus on Environmental Justice:** Strengthening constitutional mechanisms ensures equitable resource use and environmental sustainability.
For example: The **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** addresses environmental violations, balancing sustainable development with equity for future generations.

Maintaining Core Principles of the Constitution

- **Judicial Review:** Courts uphold the **basic structure doctrine**, ensuring laws adhere to democracy, secularism, and equality.
For example: In the **NJAC Judgment (2015)**, the Supreme Court struck down provisions threatening judicial independence, preserving checks and balances.
- **Balancing Rights and Duties:** Emphasizing **fundamental duties** alongside rights ensures harmony between individual freedoms and collective responsibilities.
For example: The **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** highlights **Article 51A**, encouraging citizens to maintain cleanliness while promoting public health and sanitation.
- **Decentralization of Governance:** Empowering local governance promotes **participatory democracy** and addresses community-specific concerns.
For example: The **73rd and 74th Amendments** strengthened **Panchayati Raj** and Urban Local Bodies, promoting inclusive decision-making at the grassroots.
- **Equality and Non-Discrimination:** Expanding **Articles 14 and 15** addresses contemporary issues like gender and identity-based inequalities.
For example: The **NALSA Judgment (2014)** recognized transgender individuals as the third gender, advancing equality and protecting marginalized identities.
- **Periodic Amendments:** Carefully crafted amendments adapt to societal changes while preserving constitutional values of justice and equality.
For example: The **42nd Amendment (1976)** added '**socialist**' and '**secular**' to the Preamble, reinforcing inclusivity in a diverse society.

The Constitution must remain adaptable to contemporary challenges while preserving its core principles. Through judicial oversight, progressive legislation, and grassroots participation, it can ensure justice and equity for all. This adaptability will uphold the Constitution's relevance and vision of a just and inclusive India.

MCQ

- Consider the following statements about the Indian Constitution Museum:
 - It features a 360-degree visual display on India's Pre-Independence history.
 - The museum is exclusively maintained by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
 - It houses a photolithographic copy of the Constitution.

- How many of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) Only one **b) Only two**
c) All three d) None
2. Consider the following statements about the Brihadeeswarar Temple:
- The temple was constructed during the reign of Rajendra Chola I.
 - The temple murals are entirely original to the Chola period, with no additions by later rulers.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 **d) Neither 1 nor 2**
3. Space junk can lead to which of the following impacts on the atmosphere?
- Promotion of polar vortex intensification
 - Formation of polar ice caps
 - Accumulation of sulfur in the troposphere
 - Alteration of atmospheric chemistry**
4. Consider the following statements regarding the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA):
- It organizes global summits to address cooperative challenges.
 - Its mission includes promoting sustainable development.
 - Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 only** b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2, and 3
5. With reference to Gelephu Mindfulness City project, consider the following statements:
- It is based on Bhutan's philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH).
 - The city shares a border with West Bengal from the Indian side.
 - It is a zero-carbon city in Bhutan.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3
6. Consider the following statements regarding 'Major Atmospheric Cerenkov Experiment Telescope (MACE)':
- The MACE telescope will observe high-energy gamma rays such as supernovae, black holes, and gamma-ray bursts.
 - It is built by NASA and JAXA.
 - It is considered as the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia.
- Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?
- a) 1 and 3 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 2 only d) None of the above
7. With reference to 'Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement' ; consider the following statements:
The high seas are areas beyond 200 nautical miles from the exclusive economic zones of coastal countries.
The high seas comprise 64% of the ocean surface, and about 43% of the Earth.
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. Nayi Chetna is a National Campaign that aims to:
- Promote traditional arts and crafts in rural areas
 - Enhance rural education through technological integration
 - Develop sustainable agricultural practices in villages
 - Address gender-based violence and promote gender equality**
9. Consider the following statements:
Statement-I: The Constitution Day is observed on November 26 every year.
Statement-II: The Constitution came into effect on November 26, 1949.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect**
 - Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
10. Consider the following statements:
- Under Article 368, the Parliament has the power to amend Preamble of the Constitution.
 - The terms 'secular' and 'socialist' was added in the Preamble through the 44th Amendment 1978.
- 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