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Question 1. With reference to the Gaganyaan mission, consider the following statements:

1. The recent G3 mission was India's first manned spaceflight, carrying 'Vyomanauts' into orbit.
2. The mission utilised the LVM3 launch vehicle.
3. A key objective of the G3 mission was to validate the crew module's re-entry and life support systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The news report clearly states that the G3 mission was the "final unmanned test flight". It was a critical precursor to the first manned mission, not the manned mission itself.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The report explicitly mentions that the mission validates the capability of the "launch vehicle (LVM3)".
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The report highlights that the mission successfully tested all parameters, including "life support systems, thermal protection, and deceleration mechanisms" during the re-entry and splashdown, which were its primary objectives.

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Question 2. The Supreme Court's recent landmark judgment upholding the 'Right to be Forgotten' interprets it as an intrinsic part of which of the following Fundamental Rights under the Constitution of India?

- (a) Article 14 (Right to Equality)
- (b) Article 19 (Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression)
- (c) Article 21 (Right to Life and Personal Liberty)
- (d) Article 25 (Right to Freedom of Religion)

Answer: (c)

- The news report states, "a five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has upheld the 'Right to be Forgotten' (RTBF) as an intrinsic part of the Right to Privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution." This builds upon the precedent set by the K.S. Puttaswamy (2017) case, which also established the Right to Privacy as a part of Article .

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Question 3. The term 'PARAKH', recently in the news, refers to:

- (a) A new indigenous long-range missile system has been developed by DRDO.
- (b) A national assessment centre to set standards and norms for school boards.
- (c) A portal for monitoring the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- (d) A variety of drought-resistant oil palm seeds has been developed for the Northeast.

Answer: (b)

- The news report on the New Education Policy explicitly defines PARAKH: "The National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development)...has been set up as a standard-setting body to advise school boards regarding new assessment patterns".

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Question 4. The "Delhi Dialogue for West Asian Stability", an initiative by India's Ministry of External Affairs, primarily aims to:

- (a) Finalize a Free Trade Agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
- (b) Secure India's energy supplies by signing long-term contracts with Saudi Arabia and Iran.
- (c) Coordinate rescue operations for the Indian diaspora in conflict zones.
- (d) Position India as a mediator to foster peace and de-escalation in the region.

Answer: (d)

- The report's context clearly describes the initiative as "aimed at fostering peace and de-escalation in the volatile West Asia region" and leveraging India's standing to "create a platform for constructive engagement." The analysis further notes that by positioning itself as a "potential mediator," India is taking a more proactive foreign policy role.

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Question 5. The latest pilot phase of the wholesale Central Bank Digital Currency (e₹-W) is focused on testing its application in which specific area?

- (a) Retail payments at kirana stores.
- (b) The inter-bank call money market.
- (c) Direct Benefit Transfers to beneficiaries.
- (d) Cross-border trade settlements with the US.

Answer: (b)

- The news report on the CBDC update is very specific: "The new pilot will focus on the use of the wholesale digital rupee (e₹-W) for the inter-bank call money market". This is an expansion from its previous use in the government securities market. Options (a) and (c) relate to the retail CBDC (e₹-R), not the wholesale one.