

09 July 2025

Question 1. The High-Level Committee on 'One Nation, One Election' submitted its report with several recommendations. Which of the following mechanisms was reportedly proposed by the committee to handle a mid-term fall of a government and avoid premature dissolution of the house?

- (a) Mandatory re-election within 45 days.
- (b) A 'constructive vote of no-confidence'.
- (c) A provision for direct rule by the President or Governor for the remainder of the term.
- (d) Dissolution of the house and synchronization with the next nearest state election.

Answer: (b)

- The news report clearly states that to address the issue of hung assemblies and mid-term fall of governments, the committee is "believed to have proposed mechanisms like a 'constructive vote of no-confidence' (requiring a motion of no-confidence to simultaneously propose an alternative government)".
- This mechanism ensures stability by forcing the opposition to present a viable alternative government at the time of challenging the incumbent one.
- The other options are not mentioned in the provided text.

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Question 2. Consider the following statements regarding the 'BHASHINI-Plus' initiative launched under the India AI Mission:

1. It is a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiative to develop India's sovereign foundational Large Language Models (LLMs).
2. The initiative will primarily leverage datasets created under the National Language Translation Mission (Bhashini).
3. Its main objective is to provide subsidized computing infrastructure to foreign AI companies to set up their research labs in India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The article mentions that the government announced a "public-private partnership model" for 'BHASHINI-Plus' to develop India's foundational LLMs.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** It explicitly states that the new initiative "builds upon the success of the National Language Translation Mission (Bhashini)" and "will leverage these datasets to train multi-lingual and multi-modal foundational models."
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The article states that subsidized access to high-performance computing infrastructure will be provided to "leading Indian academic institutions like the IITs and private technology companies" who are partners in the project, not to foreign AI companies in general. The goal is to build sovereign capability.

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Question 3. With respect to the National Green Hydrogen Mission, consider the following statements:

1. The mission's target is to achieve 5 MMTPA of green hydrogen production by 2030.
2. The Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) program is the key financial incentive mechanism under the mission.
3. The mission's primary focus is on producing hydrogen through natural gas reforming, with carbon capture technology.

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

Answer: (a)

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The news report explicitly mentions that "the national target is set at 5 MMTPA by 2030."
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The article states that the awarded contracts are part of the "Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) program, which has an outlay of ₹17,490 crore" and provides direct financial incentives.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The mission is for Green Hydrogen, which is produced using renewable energy and electrolysis. The article contrasts this with grey hydrogen, which is "produced from natural gas." Therefore, the mission's focus is on renewables, not natural gas reforming.

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Question 4. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) report on Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) attributes the decline in violence to a multi-pronged strategy. This strategy includes:

1. Intensified, coordinated security operations under codenames like 'Operation PRAHAR-V'.
2. Focused developmental interventions, such as building roads and improving mobile connectivity.
3. Opening formal political negotiations with the top LWE leadership to bring them into the mainstream.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The article mentions the success of 'Operation PRAHAR-V', a series of "coordinated, intelligence-based operations".
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The article highlights the "development push," specifically mentioning the "construction of over 10,000 km of roads" and the "installation of over 4,000 mobile towers".
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The article mentions the "neutralization of several key Maoist leaders and the surrender of a large number of cadres". It does not mention any formal political negotiations with the top leadership.

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Question 5. Varanasi's recent inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List is significant as it recognizes the site under a specific category. What is this category?

- (a) A Natural Heritage Site
- (b) A Mixed (Natural and Cultural) Heritage Site
- (c) A "Cultural Landscape"
- (d) A Site on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Answer: (c)

- **(c) is correct.** The news article explicitly states that the inscription was "under the category of a 'cultural landscape'". It further explains that this recognizes the symbiotic relationship between its tangible heritage (ghats, temples) and intangible heritage (rituals, music).
- **(a) and (b) are incorrect** because the inscription is purely cultural, although it acknowledges the role of the river Ganga.
- **(d) is incorrect.** It has been added to the World Heritage List, not the List of World Heritage in Danger.