



UPSC Prelims exam based on Current Affairs MCQs - 30 August 2025

Question 1. The U.S. recently imposed a 50% tariff on Indian exports. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. India is a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) but not of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
2. The WTO allows member countries to impose safeguard duties under certain circumstances.
3. India has signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

- India is a founding member of the WTO (1995); **hence statement 1 is wrong.**
- WTO agreements (Art. XIX of GATT) allow safeguard duties if imports cause serious injury to domestic industry (**statement 2 is correct.**)
- India and the U.S. do not have an FTA; talks have been inconclusive (**statement 3 is wrong.**)



Question 2. Which of the following areas were included in the India–Japan Vision Plan signed in August 2025?

1. Semiconductor supply chain cooperation
2. Defence industrial collaboration
3. Green energy transition
4. Human resource exchange

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: (c)

- The 12 pacts signed cover semiconductor supply chains, defence industry, ESG-driven green energy, and people-to-people exchanges.
- All four listed areas are part of the agreements.



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Question 3. Consider the following statements about Exercise Bright Star 2025:

1. It is a tri-service military exercise hosted by Egypt.
2. India is participating with over 700 military personnel.
3. Only Quad countries (India, Japan, U.S., Australia) participate in this exercise.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

- Bright Star is a multilateral exercise hosted by Egypt, not limited to Quad **(statement 1 correct).**
- India has sent 700+ personnel **(statement 2 correct.)**
- It involves many nations beyond Quad (e.g., U.S., Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Greece) **(statement 3 wrong.)**



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Question 4. China recently stated that “improving ties with India is in the interest of both sides.” In this context, consider the following:

- 1. India and China are members of both the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and BRICS.**
- 2. India–China trade volume is second highest among India’s bilateral trade partners after the U.S.**
- 3. Border disputes along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) are the only outstanding issue between India and China.**

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

- India & China are both SCO and BRICS members **(statement 1 correct)**
- China is among India’s top trade partners (after U.S.) **(statement 2 correct)**
- Disputes are not limited to LAC; also issues on trade deficit, river water sharing, market access, etc. **(statement 3 wrong)**



Question 5. The National Conference of SC/ST Welfare Committees of Parliament and State Legislatures was held in Bhubaneswar in August 2025. With reference to Parliamentary Committees, consider the following statements:

1. They are mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. They function under the control of the presiding officers of Parliament/Legislatures.
3. They play a key role in ensuring accountability in government policies for marginalized sections.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

- The Constitution does not mention committees explicitly (except Public Accounts Committee via Article 151 notes indirectly). They are creations of Rules of Procedure (**statement 1 wrong**)
- Committees work under Speaker/Chairman's control (**statement 2 correct**)
- They ensure effective scrutiny of welfare policies, especially for SC/ST (**statement 3 correct**)