

GENERAL AWARENESS – COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

Chapter: Common Abbreviations

Subject:	General Awareness – Abbreviations & Full Forms
Total Questions:	70 MCQs
Question Type:	Multiple Choice (Single Correct Answer)
Exam Relevance:	UPSC, SSC CGL/CHSL, IBPS, RRB NTPC/Group D, State PSC, NDA, CDS, Bank Exams, Defence Exams
Topics Covered:	Government Bodies, Finance, Science/Tech, Health, Education, Defence, Sports, International Orgs, Digital India, Schemes
Based On:	Most important and frequently asked abbreviations in competitive exams

★ ■■ GOVERNMENT & CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES ★

Q1. What does UPSC stand for?

- A) Union Public Services Council
- B) United Public Service Commission
- C) Union Public Service Commission
- D) Universal Public Service Corporation

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Union Public Service Commission**

■ *Explanation: UPSC stands for Union Public Service Commission — India's central government recruiting agency established under Article 315 of the Constitution. It conducts the Civil Services Exam (IAS, IPS, IFS), NDA, CDS, and other exams.*

Q2. What does CAG stand for in the Indian context?

- A) Central Audit General
- B) Comptroller and Auditor General
- C) Controller and Accounts General
- D) Central Accounts General

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Comptroller and Auditor General**

■ *Explanation: CAG stands for Comptroller and Auditor General of India — established under Article 148 of the Constitution. The CAG audits all receipts and expenditures of the Union and State governments and is called the 'Guardian of the Public Purse'.*

Q3. What does NITI stand for in NITI Aayog?

- A) National Infrastructure and Trade Institution
- B) National Institution for Transforming India
- C) New Integrated Trade India
- D) National Integrated Technology Institution

✓ **Correct Answer: B) National Institution for Transforming India**

■ *Explanation: NITI stands for National Institution for Transforming India. NITI Aayog was established on 1 January 2015, replacing the Planning Commission. It is India's premier policy think tank, chaired by the Prime Minister.*

Q4. What does ECI stand for?

- A) Export Credit India
- B) Electronics Corporation of India
- C) Election Commission of India
- D) Economic Council of India

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Election Commission of India**

■ *Explanation: ECI stands for Election Commission of India — the constitutional body under Article 324 that superintends, directs, and controls elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, and the offices of President and Vice-President.*

Q5. What does RTI stand for?

- A) Right to Information
- B) Regional Trade Index
- C) Rural Technology Initiative
- D) Revenue Tax Investigation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Right to Information**

■ *Explanation: RTI stands for Right to Information — enacted through the Right to Information Act, 2005. It empowers citizens to request information from public authorities within 30 days (48 hours for life and liberty matters), promoting transparency and accountability in governance.*

Q6. What does NDRF stand for?

- A) National Defence Research Fund
- B) National Disaster Response Force
- C) National Development Revenue Fund
- D) National Drug Regulation Force

✓ **Correct Answer: B) National Disaster Response Force**

■ *Explanation: NDRF stands for National Disaster Response Force — established under the Disaster Management Act 2005 under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is India's specialised force for disaster response, including floods, earthquakes, cyclones, and chemical disasters.*

Q7. What does DRDO stand for?

- A) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- B) Defence Research and Design Office
- C) Department of Research and Development Operations
- D) Directorate of Research Development and Operations

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Defence Research and Development Organisation**

■ *Explanation: DRDO stands for Defence Research and Development Organisation — established in 1958, headquartered in New Delhi. It develops advanced defence technology including missiles (Agni, Prithvi), aircraft (Tejas), radars, and naval systems for India's armed forces.*

Q8. What does CBI stand for?

- A) Central Bureau of Intelligence
- B) Central Bureau of Investigation
- C) Criminal Bureau of India
- D) Central Board of Investigation

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Central Bureau of Investigation**

■ *Explanation: CBI stands for Central Bureau of Investigation — India's premier investigative agency established in 1963, functioning under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. It investigates corruption, economic offences, special crimes, and sensitive cases referred by courts or states.*

★ ■ **FINANCE, ECONOMY & BANKING** ★

Q9. What does RBI stand for?

- A) Reserve Bank of India
- B) Regional Bank of India
- C) Rural Banking Institution
- D) Revenue Bank of India

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Reserve Bank of India**

■ *Explanation: RBI stands for Reserve Bank of India — India's central bank, established on 1 April 1935 under the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934. It regulates monetary policy, manages foreign exchange, issues currency notes (except ■ 1 coin/note, issued by GoI), and supervises banks.*

Q10. What does SEBI stand for?

- A) Stock Exchange Board of India
- B) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- C) State Exchange Bureau of India
- D) Securities Enforcement Bureau of India

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Securities and Exchange Board of India**

■ *Explanation: SEBI stands for Securities and Exchange Board of India — the statutory body established in 1992 under the SEBI Act 1992 to regulate securities markets (stock exchanges, mutual funds, brokers) and protect investors' interests.*

Q11. What does GST stand for?

- A) General Sales Tax
- B) Goods and Services Tax
- C) Government Supply Tax
- D) Gross State Turnover

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Goods and Services Tax**

■ *Explanation: GST stands for Goods and Services Tax — India's unified indirect tax launched on 1 July 2017 under the 101st Constitutional Amendment. GST subsumed over 17 central and state taxes including VAT, excise duty, and service tax. It follows a 'one nation, one tax' principle with four slabs: 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%.*

Q12. What does EMI stand for in the context of banking and loans?

- A) Estimated Monthly Interest
- B) Equated Monthly Instalment
- C) Equal Monthly Index
- D) Effective Monthly Income

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Equated Monthly Instalment**

■ *Explanation: EMI stands for Equated Monthly Instalment — the fixed amount paid by a borrower every month to repay a loan (home loan, car loan, personal loan). Each EMI comprises a principal repayment and interest component. The ratio of interest to principal changes over the loan tenure.*

Q13. What does NBFC stand for?

- A) National Bank for Financial Commerce
- B) Non-Banking Financial Company
- C) New Banking and Finance Corporation
- D) National Bureau of Financial Control

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Non-Banking Financial Company**

■ *Explanation: NBFC stands for Non-Banking Financial Company — a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 that provides financial services (loans, investments, chit funds, leasing) but is NOT a bank and cannot accept demand deposits. Examples: Bajaj Finance, Muthoot Finance, LIC Housing Finance. NBFCs are regulated by RBI.*

Q14. What does FDI stand for?

- A) Foreign Direct Investment
- B) Federal Development Index
- C) Financial Development Initiative
- D) Foreign Domestic Income

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Foreign Direct Investment**

■ *Explanation: FDI stands for Foreign Direct Investment — investment made by a company or individual in one country into business interests in another country (establishing operations or acquiring business assets). FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investment) is different — it involves purchasing financial assets like stocks and bonds without management control.*

Q15. What does NABARD stand for?

- A) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- B) National Board for Agricultural Research and Development
- C) National Authority for Banking and Rural Development
- D) National Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Districts

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development**

■ *Explanation: NABARD stands for National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development — established on 12 July 1982 under the NABARD Act. It is the apex development bank for agriculture, rural industries, and cooperatives. NABARD refinances banks for agricultural loans and monitors rural credit flow. Its headquarters is in Mumbai.*

Q16. What does GDP stand for?

- A) Gross Domestic Product
- B) General Development Plan
- C) Government Domestic Programme
- D) Gross Domestic Progress

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Gross Domestic Product**

■ *Explanation: GDP stands for Gross Domestic Product — the total monetary value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period (quarter/year). GDP is the most widely used measure of economic size and health. India's GDP growth rate in 2024–25 is approximately 6.4–6.8%.*

★ ■ SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SPACE ★

Q17. What does ISRO stand for?

- A) Indian Space Research Organisation
- B) International Space Research Organisation
- C) Indian Science and Research Operations
- D) Integrated Space Research Organisation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Indian Space Research Organisation**

■ *Explanation: ISRO stands for Indian Space Research Organisation — India's national space agency established on 15 August 1969, headquartered in Bengaluru. ISRO has achieved milestones including Chandrayaan (Moon), Mangalyaan (Mars), Aditya-L1 (Sun), SpaDeX (space docking), and is working on Gaganyaan (human spaceflight).*

Q18. What does DNA stand for?

- A) Di-Nucleic Acid
- B) Deoxyribonucleic Acid
- C) Double Nitrogen Acid
- D) Dynamic Nucleic Arrangement

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Deoxyribonucleic Acid**

■ *Explanation: DNA stands for Deoxyribonucleic Acid — the hereditary material in humans and almost all other organisms. DNA carries genetic information in the sequence of its four bases: Adenine (A), Thymine (T), Guanine (G), and Cytosine (C). RNA (Ribonucleic Acid) helps translate DNA into proteins.*

Q19. What does LASER stand for?

- A) Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
- B) Light Acceleration by Synthetic Emission of Rays
- C) Luminous Absorption by Stimulated Electric Radiation
- D) Light Amplification by Standard Electrical Radiation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation**

■ *Explanation: LASER stands for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation — a device that emits a focused, coherent beam of light through optical amplification. Lasers are used in surgery, cutting, barcode scanners, optical fibre communication, CD/DVD players, and military targeting systems.*

Q20. What does MRI stand for in medical science?

- A) Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- B) Medical Radiation Investigation
- C) Molecular Radiofrequency Imaging
- D) Magnetic Radiation Index

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Magnetic Resonance Imaging**

■ *Explanation: MRI stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging — a medical imaging technique using strong magnetic fields and radio waves to create detailed images of organs and tissues inside the body, without ionising radiation. MRI is especially useful for brain, spinal cord, joints, and soft tissue imaging.*

Q21. What does AI stand for in technology?

- A) Automated Intelligence
- B) Artificial Intelligence
- C) Advanced Integration
- D) Algorithmic Innovation

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Artificial Intelligence**

■ *Explanation: AI stands for Artificial Intelligence — the simulation of human intelligence processes by computer systems, including learning (acquiring information), reasoning (using information logically), and self-correction. Subfields include Machine Learning (ML), Deep Learning (DL), Natural Language Processing (NLP), and Computer Vision.*

Q22. What does GPS stand for?

- A) Global Positioning System
- B) General Purpose Satellite
- C) Geo-Positioning and Surveying
- D) Global Planetary Signal

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Global Positioning System**

■ *Explanation: GPS stands for Global Positioning System — a US-owned satellite navigation system that provides location and time information anywhere on Earth. It consists of 31 satellites. India's own GPS equivalent is NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation). Other systems: GLONASS (Russia), Galileo (EU), BeiDou (China).*

Q23. What does IT stand for?

- A) Integrated Technology
- B) Information Technology
- C) International Trade
- D) Industrial Telecom

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Information Technology**

■ *Explanation: IT stands for Information Technology — the use of computers, storage, networking, and other physical devices to create, process, store, secure, and exchange electronic data. India's IT industry (led by companies like TCS, Infosys, Wipro) earns over \$250 billion annually in export revenue.*

Q24. What does WHO stand for?

- A) World Health Organisation
- B) World Health Operations
- C) World Healthcare Organisation
- D) Worldwide Health Organisation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) World Health Organisation**

■ *Explanation: WHO stands for World Health Organization — the UN specialised agency for international public health, established on 7 April 1948 (World Health Day). Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. DG: Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia). WHO led the global COVID-19 pandemic response.*

Q25. What does AIDS stand for?

- A) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- B) Auto-Immune Disease Syndrome
- C) Acquired Infectious Disease Syndrome
- D) Advanced Immune Deficiency System

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome**

■ *Explanation: AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — caused by HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV destroys CD4+ T-cells, weakening the immune system. AIDS is the advanced stage of HIV infection. World AIDS Day is observed on 1 December.*

Q26. What does ORS stand for in healthcare?

- A) Oral Rehydration Solution
- B) Oxygen Respiratory Support
- C) Oral Recovery Supplement
- D) Organised Relief System

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Oral Rehydration Solution**

■ *Explanation: ORS stands for Oral Rehydration Solution — a solution of clean water, sugar, and salt used to treat dehydration caused by diarrhoea and vomiting. It was developed in the 1960s and described by The Lancet as 'potentially the most important medical advance of the 20th century' for saving millions of children's lives annually.*

Q27. What does ICU stand for in hospitals?

- A) Internal Care Unit
- B) Intensive Care Unit
- C) Intermediate Clinical Unit
- D) Integrated Care Unit

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Intensive Care Unit**

■ *Explanation: ICU stands for Intensive Care Unit — a specialised hospital ward providing intensive treatment and monitoring to critically ill patients (heart attack, sepsis, severe trauma, post-surgery). ICUs have advanced life support equipment including ventilators, cardiac monitors, and IV pumps with 24/7 medical staff.*

Q28. What does ICMR stand for?

- A) Indian Council of Medical Research
- B) International Council for Medical Research
- C) Indian Committee for Medical Review
- D) Integrated Council of Medical Research

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Indian Council of Medical Research**

■ *Explanation: ICMR stands for Indian Council of Medical Research — India's apex body for the formulation, coordination, and promotion of biomedical research, under the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health. ICMR co-developed Covaxin (India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine) with Bharat Biotech.*

Q29. What does CBSE stand for?

- A) Central Board of Secondary Education
- B) Central Bureau of School Education
- C) Committee for Basic School Education
- D) Council of Basic Secondary Education

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Central Board of Secondary Education**

■ *Explanation: CBSE stands for Central Board of Secondary Education — India's national level board of education for public and private schools under the Union Government of India. It affiliates over 27,000 schools including Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas. CBSE conducts the Class 10 (AISSE) and Class 12 (AISSCE) board exams.*

Q30. What does UGC stand for?

- A) University Grants Commission
- B) United Graduate Council
- C) Universal Government College
- D) University General Council

✓ **Correct Answer: A) University Grants Commission**

■ *Explanation: UGC stands for University Grants Commission — a statutory body established in 1956 under the UGC Act 1956 to coordinate, determine, and maintain university education standards in India. UGC provides recognition to universities, distributes grants, and sets academic standards. NET/JRF (National Eligibility Test) is conducted by UGC/NTA.*

Q31. What does NCERT stand for?

- A) National Council of Educational Research and Training
- B) National Committee for Education and Research Training
- C) National Centre for Educational Research and Technology
- D) National Curriculum for Education and Research Training

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Council of Educational Research and Training**

■ *Explanation: NCERT stands for National Council of Educational Research and Training — an autonomous organisation of the GoI established in 1961 to advise and assist the central and state governments on school education matters. NCERT designs the national curriculum framework and publishes school textbooks used across India.*

Q32. What does AYUSH stand for?

- A) Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy
- B) Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Herbal
- C) Ayurveda, Yog, Unani, Siddha and Healthcare
- D) Ayurveda, Yoga and Universal System of Health

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy**

■ *Explanation: AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy — India's traditional and alternative medicine systems. The Ministry of AYUSH was formed in 2014 to promote these systems. During COVID-19, AYUSH protocols (Kadha, Ashwagandha, etc.) were widely promoted. India has an estimated 5 lakh+ AYUSH practitioners.*

Q33. What does UNEP stand for?

- A) United Nations Environment Programme
- B) Universal Nature and Ecology Programme
- C) United Nations Ecological Policy
- D) Universal Environmental Protection

✓ **Correct Answer: A) United Nations Environment Programme**

■ *Explanation: UNEP stands for United Nations Environment Programme — established in 1972 after the Stockholm Conference, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. It is the leading global environmental authority, coordinating environmental activities and assisting developing nations in implementing environmentally sound policies.*

Q34. What does COP stand for in the context of climate change conferences?

- A) Conference of Partners
- B) Committee on Pollution
- C) Conference of the Parties
- D) Council of Priorities

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Conference of the Parties**

■ *Explanation: COP stands for Conference of the Parties — the annual supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change). COP29 was held in Baku, Azerbaijan (2024); COP30 will be in Belém, Brazil (2025). The Paris Agreement was adopted at COP21 (Paris, 2015).*

★ ■ ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY ★

Q35. What does SDG stand for?

- A) Sustainable Development Goals
- B) Social Development Guidelines
- C) Standard Development Goals
- D) Secured Development Guide

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Sustainable Development Goals**

■ *Explanation: SDG stands for Sustainable Development Goals — 17 global goals adopted by UN member states in 2015 (the 2030 Agenda), replacing the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals). The 17 SDGs cover poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, clean energy, climate action, and more — with 169 targets to be achieved by 2030.*

Q36. What does GHG stand for in environmental science?

- A) Global Heat Generation
- B) Greenhouse Gas
- C) General Hazard Guide
- D) Ground Heat Gauge

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Greenhouse Gas**

■ *Explanation: GHG stands for Greenhouse Gas — gases that trap heat in the atmosphere (greenhouse effect), causing global warming. Major GHGs: CO₂ (carbon dioxide), CH₄ (methane), N₂O (nitrous oxide), water vapour, and F-gases (HFCs, PFCs, SF₆). CO₂ is the primary driver; methane has ~27× the GWP of CO₂ over 100 years.*

Q37. What does FIFA stand for?

- A) Fédération Internationale de Football Association
- B) Federation for International Football Athletics
- C) Federal Institute of Football Athletics
- D) Fédération Internationale for Football Americas

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Fédération Internationale de Football Association**

■ *Explanation: FIFA stands for Fédération Internationale de Football Association (French) — the international governing body for association football (soccer), founded in 1904, headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. FIFA organises the FIFA World Cup — the world's most-watched sporting event, held every 4 years.*

Q38. What does ICC stand for in cricket?

- A) International Cricket Council
- B) International Cricket Committee
- C) Indian Cricket Control
- D) International Championship of Cricket

✓ **Correct Answer: A) International Cricket Council**

■ *Explanation: ICC stands for International Cricket Council — the global governing body for cricket, headquartered in Dubai, UAE. It organises major tournaments including the ICC Cricket World Cup (ODI), ICC T20 World Cup, ICC Champions Trophy, ICC World Test Championship, and ICC Women's events.*

★ ■ **SPORTS & AWARDS** ★

Q39. What does BCCI stand for?

- A) Board of Cricket Control of India
- B) Board of Control for Cricket in India
- C) Bureau of Cricket Championship India
- D) Board for Cricket Championship India

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Board of Control for Cricket in India**

■ *Explanation: BCCI stands for Board of Control for Cricket in India — the national governing body for cricket in India, established in 1928. BCCI is the wealthiest cricket board in the world and manages the Indian national cricket team, the IPL (Indian Premier League), and domestic cricket tournaments.*

Q40. What does IPL stand for?

- A) Indian Premier League
- B) International Premier League
- C) India Professional League
- D) Indian Premier League for Cricket

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Indian Premier League**

■ *Explanation: IPL stands for Indian Premier League — India's professional Twenty20 (T20) cricket league, launched in 2008 by the BCCI. It features 10 franchise teams from different Indian cities. The IPL is the world's richest cricket league and one of the most valuable sports leagues globally.*

Q41. What does NATO stand for?

- A) North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- B) National Alliance for Trade Operations
- C) North American Treaty Operations
- D) National Atlantic Treaty Organisation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) North Atlantic Treaty Organisation**

■ *Explanation: NATO stands for North Atlantic Treaty Organization — a military alliance founded in 1949, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. NATO has 32 member countries. Article 5 of the NATO Treaty declares that an attack on one member is an attack on all (collective defence). Sweden joined as the 32nd member in March 2024.*

Q42. What does SAARC stand for?

- A) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
- B) South-East Asian Association for Regional Commerce
- C) South Asian Authority for Regional Commerce
- D) Strategic Asian Alliance for Regional Cooperation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation**

■ *Explanation: SAARC stands for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation — founded on 8 December 1985 in Dhaka, Bangladesh with 8 member countries (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Afghanistan). Its Secretariat is in Kathmandu, Nepal. SAARC summits have been suspended since 2016.*

★ ■ **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS** ★

Q43. What does ASEAN stand for?

- A) Association of South-East Asian Nations
- B) Asian Strategic Economic Alliance Nations
- C) Asian South-East Alliance of Nations
- D) Association for South-East Asian Networks

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Association of South-East Asian Nations**

■ *Explanation: ASEAN stands for Association of Southeast Asian Nations — founded on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok by 5 founding members. ASEAN now has 10 members (+Timor-Leste admitted as 11th in 2024). Its Secretariat is in Jakarta, Indonesia. ASEAN promotes economic integration, peace, and stability in Southeast Asia.*

Q44. What does IMF stand for?

- A) International Monetary Fund
- B) International Money Federation
- C) Integrated Market Fund
- D) International Market Finance

✓ **Correct Answer: A) International Monetary Fund**

■ *Explanation: IMF stands for International Monetary Fund — founded at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, headquartered in Washington D.C., USA. The IMF has 190 member countries and promotes global monetary cooperation, provides financial assistance to countries in balance of payments difficulties, and monitors global economic health.*

Q45. What does WTO stand for?

- A) World Trade Organization
- B) World Treasury Operations
- C) Worldwide Trade Office
- D) World Trade Operations

✓ **Correct Answer: A) World Trade Organization**

■ *Explanation: WTO stands for World Trade Organization — established on 1 January 1995, replacing GATT (1948). Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The WTO sets global trade rules, resolves trade disputes between nations, and promotes free trade. It currently has 164 member countries. The current DG is Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria).*

Q46. What does NDA stand for in India (defence context)?

- A) National Defence Academy
- B) National Development Authority
- C) National Democratic Alliance
- D) Naval Defence Academy

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Defence Academy**

■ *Explanation: NDA stands for National Defence Academy — located in Khadakwasla, Pune, Maharashtra. It is the joint services academy of the Indian Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force). Cadets undergo a 3-year academic programme before proceeding to their respective service academies. The NDA is the world's first tri-service academy.*

Q47. What does BSF stand for?

- A) Border Security Force
- B) Basic Security Forces
- C) Bureau of Security and Finance
- D) Border Surveillance Force

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Border Security Force**

■ *Explanation: BSF stands for Border Security Force — India's primary border security paramilitary force established on 1 December 1965 (after the Indo-Pakistan War of 1965), under the Ministry of Home Affairs. BSF guards India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh. It is the world's largest border guarding force.*

★ ■ DEFENCE & SECURITY ★

Q48. What does RAW stand for?

- A) Research and Analysis Wing
- B) Reconnaissance and Analysis Wing
- C) Research Agency Wing
- D) Regional Analysis Wing

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Research and Analysis Wing**

■ *Explanation: RAW stands for Research and Analysis Wing — India's foreign intelligence agency established on 21 September 1968 by PM Indira Gandhi (after the 1962 and 1965 wars exposed intelligence gaps), functioning directly under the Prime Minister's Office. RAW handles external intelligence gathering, counter-terrorism, and strategic operations abroad.*

Q49. What does CRPF stand for?

- A) Central Reserve Police Force
- B) Central Rural Police Force
- C) Civil Reserve Police Federation
- D) Central Rapid Police Force

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Central Reserve Police Force**

■ *Explanation: CRPF stands for Central Reserve Police Force — India's largest Central Armed Police Force (CAPF), established in 1939, under the Ministry of Home Affairs. CRPF assists state police in maintaining law and order, counter-insurgency operations, and election duties. It has over 3.25 lakh personnel.*

Q50. What does NHAI stand for?

- A) National Highways Authority of India
- B) National Highway Advancement Institution
- C) National Highway Authority Index
- D) National Highway and Airport Infrastructure

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Highways Authority of India**

■ *Explanation: NHAI stands for National Highways Authority of India — a statutory body constituted under the NHAI Act 1988, under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. NHAI develops, maintains, and manages the National Highways network including the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South/East-West corridors, and NH programmes.*

Q51. What does IRCTC stand for?

- A) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation
- B) Indian Rail Commerce and Travel Company
- C) Indian Railway Central Tourism Council
- D) Integrated Railway Catering and Tourism Company

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation**

■ *Explanation: IRCTC stands for Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation — a subsidiary of Indian Railways (under Ministry of Railways) that provides online railway ticket booking, catering (food on trains/stations), and tourism services (tour packages). IRCTC's website/app handles millions of bookings daily.*

★ ■ **TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE** ★

Q52. What does AAI stand for in Indian aviation?

- A) Airports Authority of India
- B) Air Authority of India
- C) Aviation Administration of India
- D) Airline Authority of India

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Airports Authority of India**

■ *Explanation: AAI stands for Airports Authority of India — a statutory body constituted in 1994 under the Airports Authority of India Act, under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. AAI manages and operates 137 airports including 24 international airports across India. IGI Airport (Delhi), CSIA (Mumbai), and KIAL (Kochi) are key airports.*

Q53. What does UPI stand for?

- A) Unified Payments Interface
- B) Universal Payment Integration
- C) United Payment Interface
- D) Unified Personal Index

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Unified Payments Interface**

■ *Explanation: UPI stands for Unified Payments Interface — a real-time payment system developed by NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India), launched in April 2016. UPI enables instant money transfer between bank accounts using a Virtual Payment Address (VPA). India processes over 18 billion UPI transactions monthly (2025), accounting for 46%+ of global real-time payments.*

Q54. What does NPCI stand for?

- A) National Payments Corporation of India
- B) National Payment and Commerce Institution
- C) National Programmes for Commerce and Industry
- D) New Payment Corporation of India

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Payments Corporation of India**

■ *Explanation: NPCI stands for National Payments Corporation of India — an umbrella organisation for operating retail payment and settlement systems in India, established in 2008 under the RBI and IBA. NPCI operates UPI, RuPay (India's domestic card network), IMPS, NACH, FASTag, NETC, and Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS).*

★ ■ **DIGITAL INDIA & PAYMENTS** ★

Q55. What does KYC stand for in banking?

- A) Know Your Customer
- B) Keep Your Cash
- C) Know Your Credit
- D) Key Your Code

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Know Your Customer**

■ *Explanation: KYC stands for Know Your Customer — the process by which banks and financial institutions verify the identity and address of their clients using government-issued documents (Aadhaar, PAN, Passport, Voter ID). KYC is mandatory for opening bank accounts, investing in mutual funds, and buying insurance, as per RBI and SEBI guidelines.*

Q56. What does MGNREGS stand for?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
- B) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Scheme
- C) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee System
- D) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Empowerment Guarantee Scheme

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**

■ *Explanation: MGNREGS stands for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme — enacted through the MGNREGA Act 2005. It guarantees 100 days of wage employment per financial year to rural households. It is the world's largest employment guarantee scheme, covering over 14 crore active job card holders. Renamed from NREGS to MGNREGS in 2009.*

Q57. What does PM-KISAN stand for?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
- B) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Nidhi
- C) Prime Minister Kisan Sahayata Nidhi
- D) Pradhan Mantri Krishak Samman Nidhi

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi**

■ *Explanation: PM-KISAN stands for Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi — a central government scheme launched on 24 February 2019, providing income support of ₹6,000 per year (₹2,000 per four-month instalment) directly to small and marginal farmer families through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Over 9 crore farmers benefit from PM-KISAN.*

★ ■ GOVERNMENT SCHEMES ★

Q58. What does JAM stand for in the context of Indian financial inclusion?

- A) Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile
- B) Joint Account Management
- C) Jana Aadhar Mobile scheme
- D) Jal Aadhar Mission

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile**

■ *Explanation: JAM stands for Jan Dhan – Aadhaar – Mobile — the trinity of India's financial inclusion and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) ecosystem. Jan Dhan (zero-balance bank accounts) + Aadhaar (biometric identity) + Mobile (digital connectivity) together enable seamless, leak-proof transfer of government subsidies directly to beneficiaries' bank accounts.*

Q59. What does AMRUT stand for?

- A) Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation
- B) Advanced Mission for Rural and Urban Transformation
- C) Atal Mission for Regional and Urban Technology
- D) Advanced Municipal Regeneration and Urban Transformation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation**

■ *Explanation: AMRUT stands for Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation — launched on 25 June 2015 under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. It focuses on providing basic urban infrastructure (water supply, sewerage, parks, transportation, street lighting) in 500 cities. AMRUT 2.0 was launched in 2021 targeting water security for all urban households.*

Q60. What does PIL stand for in the Indian legal context?

- A) Public Interest Litigation
- B) Personal Interest Law
- C) Public Institution Litigation
- D) Primary Interest Litigation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Public Interest Litigation**

■ *Explanation: PIL stands for Public Interest Litigation — a legal mechanism that allows any public-spirited citizen or organization to approach the Supreme Court or High Court for enforcement of public rights or public interest, even without being directly affected. PIL was introduced in India by Justice P.N. Bhagwati in the 1980s.*

Q61. What does FIR stand for?

- A) First Information Report
- B) Federal Investigation Record
- C) Formal Incident Register
- D) Final Investigation Report

✓ **Correct Answer: A) First Information Report**

■ *Explanation: FIR stands for First Information Report — a document prepared by the police when they receive information about a cognizable offence. Filing an FIR is the first step in initiating a criminal case. Under Section 154 of CrPC (now BNSS), the police are obligated to register an FIR for cognizable offences.*

★ ■■ LEGAL, BUSINESS & MISCELLANEOUS ★

Q62. What does GIS stand for?

- A) Geographic Information System
- B) Government Intelligence Service
- C) General Infrastructure Scheme
- D) Geo-Industrial Survey

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Geographic Information System**

■ *Explanation: GIS stands for Geographic Information System — a system for capturing, storing, analysing, and displaying geographically referenced (spatial) data. GIS is used in urban planning, disaster management, agriculture, navigation, and environmental monitoring. India's PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan uses GIS technology to plan infrastructure.*

Q63. What does CSR stand for in business?

- A) Corporate Social Responsibility
- B) Commercial Services Revenue
- C) Central Service Register
- D) Corporate Services Review

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Corporate Social Responsibility**

■ *Explanation: CSR stands for Corporate Social Responsibility — a self-regulatory business model where companies integrate social and environmental concerns in their operations and stakeholder interactions. Under Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013, companies with net worth ≥ ₹500 crore, turnover ≥ ₹1,000 crore, or net profit ≥ ₹5 crore must spend 2% of their average net profit on CSR activities.*

Q64. What does IPC stand for in India?

- A) Indian Penal Code
- B) Indian Police Council
- C) Indian Prosecution Committee
- D) Indian Procedural Code

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Indian Penal Code**

■ *Explanation: IPC stands for Indian Penal Code — enacted in 1860 during British rule, it was the main criminal code of India. In 2023, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023 replaced the IPC, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) replaced the CrPC, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) replaced the Indian Evidence Act. These came into force on 1 July 2024.*

Q65. What does MSME stand for?

- A) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- B) Manufacturing, Services and Market Enterprises
- C) Medium Scale and Market Enterprises
- D) Micro and Small Market Enterprises

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**

■ *Explanation: MSME stands for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises — businesses classified by their investment and turnover. Micro: investment ≤ ₹1 crore, turnover ≤ ₹5 crore; Small: investment ≤ ₹10 crore, turnover ≤ ₹50 crore; Medium: investment ≤ ₹50 crore, turnover ≤ ₹250 crore. MSMEs contribute ~30% of India's GDP and 45%+ of exports, employing over 11 crore people.*

Q66. What does PMJDY stand for?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
- B) Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojna
- C) Pradhan Mantri Janta Development Yojana
- D) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana**

■ *Explanation: PMJDY stands for Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana — India's national financial inclusion mission launched on 28 August 2014. It provides zero-balance savings accounts, RuPay debit cards, overdraft facility, and accident insurance. Over 53 crore accounts have been opened under PMJDY, connecting the unbanked population to the formal financial system.*

Q67. What does RERA stand for?

- A) Real Estate Regulatory Authority
- B) Real Estate Registration Act
- C) Residential Estate Rules and Authority
- D) Regional Estate Regulatory Act

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Real Estate Regulatory Authority**

■ *Explanation: RERA stands for Real Estate Regulatory Authority — established under the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016. RERA protects homebuyers' interests by mandating registration of real estate projects and agents, ensuring timely delivery of projects, and providing a grievance redressal mechanism. It has significantly improved transparency in India's real estate sector.*

Q68. What does NIMZ stand for?

- A) National Investment and Manufacturing Zone
- B) National Industrial Management Zone
- C) New Investment and Market Zone
- D) National Infrastructure and Manufacturing Zone

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Investment and Manufacturing Zone**

■ *Explanation: NIMZ stands for National Investment and Manufacturing Zone — large integrated industrial townships with world-class infrastructure planned under the National Manufacturing Policy 2011. NIMZs are greenfield projects with a minimum area of 5,000 hectares, providing integrated infrastructure including industrial plots, housing, and civic amenities. They are different from Special Economic Zones (SEZs).*

Q69. What does NSSO stand for?

- A) National Sample Survey Office
- B) National Statistical Survey Organisation
- C) National Social Security Operations
- D) National Survey and Statistics Office

✓ **Correct Answer: A) National Sample Survey Office**

■ *Explanation: NSSO stands for National Sample Survey Office — India's principal government agency conducting large-scale sample surveys (socio-economic, industrial, agricultural). It was merged into the National Statistical Office (NSO) in 2019 along with the Central Statistics Office (CSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).*

Q70. What does POCSO stand for?

- A) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences
- B) Prevention of Child Sexual Operations
- C) Protection of Child Safety Orders
- D) Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences**

■ *Explanation: POCSO stands for Protection of Children from Sexual Offences — the POCSO Act 2012 is a comprehensive law to protect children under 18 years from sexual abuse and exploitation. It defines sexual offences against children (penetrative assault, sexual harassment, pornography) and mandates mandatory reporting of such crimes, with strict punishments.*

Q71. What does BIS stand for in India?

- A) Bureau of Indian Standards
- B) Board of Industrial Standardisation
- C) Bureau of Infrastructure Standards
- D) Board of Indian Specifications

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Bureau of Indian Standards**

■ *Explanation: BIS stands for Bureau of Indian Standards — India's national standards body established under the BIS Act 2016, under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs. BIS develops Indian Standards (IS marks), operates the Hallmarking scheme for gold/silver jewellery, and manages the ISI mark for product certification. BIS was formerly known as the Indian Standards Institution (ISI).*

Q72. What does UIDAI stand for?

- A) Unique Identification Authority of India
- B) United Identity and Aadhaar Institution
- C) Universal Identity Administration of India
- D) Unique Identity Authority Index

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Unique Identification Authority of India**

■ *Explanation: UIDAI stands for Unique Identification Authority of India — the statutory authority established under the Aadhaar Act 2016, under the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY). UIDAI issues and manages the Aadhaar 12-digit biometric identity numbers. Over 1.38 billion Aadhaar numbers have been issued, making it the world's largest biometric ID programme.*

Q73. What does EPFO stand for?

- A) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation
- B) Employment and Pension Fund Office
- C) Employees' Pension and Finance Organisation
- D) Employment Provident Fund Organisation

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation**

■ *Explanation: EPFO stands for Employees' Provident Fund Organisation — a statutory body under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, established in 1952. EPFO manages the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), and Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (EDLI) for the organised sector workforce. It covers over 7 crore active subscribers.*

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