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Topic 1: Electoral Reforms & Voter Exclusion: ECI's Special Intensive Revision (SIR)

(GS Paper II: Elections, Representation of the People Act, Constitutional Bodies)

Context & Core Issue:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) conducted a **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** of electoral rolls, which involved a house-to-house re-enumeration by Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

Electors not re-enrolled were marked as **"Absent, Shifted, Dead, Duplicate" (ASDD)**, resulting in approximately **13.3 crore exclusions** across India.

Excluded voters were initially compelled to re-register as "first-time voters" using **Form 6**, thereby forfeiting their original Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers and history of enrolment.

Supreme Court Intervention & ECI Reversal:

The Supreme Court flagged the mandatory use of Form 6 as an **"error"** and a **"structural incongruity"**.

The Bench permitted the use of the original **Enumeration Form** or **Form 8** (used for correction/shifting of entries).

In response, the ECI issued relaxations across **seven States** (Delhi, Maharashtra, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Telangana, and Nagaland), permitting excluded electors to retain their old EPIC numbers.

Homeless individuals and residents of demolished slums can now be registered through simple BLO field verification.

Constitutional & Legal Framework:

Article 324: Grants the ECI superintendence, direction, and control over the preparation of electoral rolls.

Section 21 of the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950: Governs the preparation and revision of rolls; **Section 21(3)** empowers the ECI to conduct a special revision at any time for reasons recorded in writing.

Registration of Electors Rules, 1960:

Rule 18: Mandates due notice and hearing before deleting any name, reaffirming principles established in Lal Babu Hussein (1995).

Rule 21(1): Empowers the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) to rectify omissions caused by "inadvertence or error" without requiring fresh enrolment.

Critical Concerns & Way Forward:

Presumption of Citizenship: Requiring enrolled electors to repeatedly establish their eligibility subverts the presumption of citizenship.

Geographical Inequity: Reliefs were restricted to seven States, leaving earlier-concluded revisions (e.g., in Bihar and West Bengal) unrectified.

Reform Imperative: Uniform application of Rule 21(1) across all States and institutional separation between citizenship inquiries (under the Citizenship Act, 1955) and routine roll management.

Topic 2: Democratic Dissent, Student Mobilization & the Right to Protest

(GS Paper II: Fundamental Rights, Pressure Groups, Role of Civil Society)

Context & Core Issue:

Campus protests—ranging from anti-paper leak agitations to demonstrations against electoral roll exclusions—reflect a continuum of unresolved institutional and student grievances.

The state's administrative response has included enforcing **peace bonds**, imposing charges under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA)**, and denotifying established assembly venues like **Jantar Mantar**.

Historical Continuity & Changing Forms of Mobilization:

Student activism in India has historically catalyzed wider systemic changes (e.g., the 1974 anti-Emergency protests emerging from a Gujarat university fee hike movement).

Notable movements include the 2015 Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) strike, the "Occupy UGC" movement for non-NET fellowships, and protests addressing social equity and gender justice.

Modern Evolution: Protests have integrated digital resistance (satire, reels, memes on platforms like Instagram and Reddit) and broadened to issues such as artificial intelligence regulation, public sector disinvestment, and examination leakages.

Constitutional Dimensions & Judicial Precedents:

Articles 19(1)(a) and 19(1)(b): Guarantee freedom of speech, expression, and peaceful assembly without arms, subject to

reasonable restrictions under **Article 19(3)** (public order, sovereignty, and integrity).

In Re: Ramlila Maidan Incident (2012): Reaffirmed the right to peaceful protest as a fundamental constitutional right that cannot be arbitrarily curtailed by administrative fiat.

Amit Sahni v. Commissioner of Police (2020 - Shaheen Bagh): Clarified that while the right to protest is protected, public roadways and transit routes cannot be occupied indefinitely.

Way Forward:

Implement the **Lyngdoh Committee (2006)** recommendations to ensure regular, democratic student union elections as structured grievance redressal mechanisms.

Restore designated peaceful demonstration sites in accordance with Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan v. Union of India (2018), and restrict anti-terror laws strictly to bona fide national security offenses.

Topic 3: Meritocracy, Exam Governance & the "Republic of Non-Toppers"

(GS Paper II & IV: Governance, Public Examinations, Administrative Ethics, Social Justice)

Context & Theoretical Framework:

The widespread discontent surrounding paper leaks—exemplified by the cancellation of national medical entrance tests impacting over two million candidates—has triggered the **"cockroach movement"**. The agitation challenges the conventional premise of meritocracy, wherein competitive examination rank serves as a lifelong character certificate and moral immunity, shielding officials from scrutiny while disenfranchising the non-topper majority as a "demographic dividend gone sour".

Sociological & Political Reconfigurations:

Francis Fukuyama's Concept of Isothymia: The movement represents a demand for equal institutional respect and human dignity irrespective of competitive ranking or exam credentials.

"Second Plebeianisation": Following the first plebeianisation of the 1990s (which diversified legislative representation along caste lines), ordinary citizens are reclaiming public discourse and active policy authorship.

Broadening Nationalism: Expanding nationalistic discourse beyond border security and cultural identity to include the right to secure livelihood, fair examinations, and transparent administration.

Economic Convergence: The structural deterioration of the labor market—where average monthly regular salaried wages hover

around **₹26,850**—has unified toppers and non-toppers under shared employment precarity.

Governance Reforms:

Strict implementation of the **Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024**, securing the end-to-end custody chain of examination materials.

Shift toward job-rich macroeconomic growth to reduce disproportionate public dependence on high-stakes competitive examinations.

Topic 4: Macroeconomic Trilemma & Monetary Policy Management

(GS Paper III: Indian Economy, Monetary Policy Framework, External Sector)

Context & The RBI's Strategic Trilemma:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) faces competing priorities: **containing inflation**, **arresting rupee depreciation**, and **moderating sovereign bond yields**.

Using policy interest rates to curb inflation and support the exchange rate raises the government's borrowing costs. For instance, on October 21, the RBI rejected all bids at a **₹23,000 crore** Treasury Bill auction to resist market-driven yield increases.

Monetary Policy & Foreign Exchange Intervention:

Inflation Targeting Deviation: Despite inflation breaching the flexible inflation targeting threshold, the policy rate was raised belatedly by

only **25 basis points**, leaving real interest rates in negative territory to safeguard growth.

Forex Market Scale vs. Depletion: Heavy foreign exchange reserve drawdowns proved insufficient to halt currency depreciation. The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) estimated daily rupee onshore/offshore turnover at **$185 billion** (2025), vastly outpacing sustainable central bank intervention capacity.

Collateral Distortion: Currency defense strategies tightened domestic liquidity and drove up hedging costs for domestic firms.

External Relief & Policy Outlook:

Transient relief materialized via external tailwinds: a price correction in global artificial intelligence stocks (e.g., NVIDIA, TSMC, SK Hynix), Brent crude declining below **$98/barrel**, and Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) inflowing **$4.1 billion** in early November.

Policy Prescription: The RBI must reaffirm primary allegiance to its statutory **inflation-targeting mandate**, permit the exchange rate to function as a natural shock absorber, and rebuild forex buffers during capital inflow phases.

Topic 5: Renewable Energy Transition: Grid Absorption & Supply Chains

(GS Paper III: Infrastructure, Energy Transition, Environmental Conservation)

Context & Global Ambitions:

Global clean energy additions reached **692 GW** in the previous year (approx. 97% solar and wind). Total global renewable capacity reached **5,149 GW** in 2025.

COP31 hosts Türkiye and Australia introduced the **"35 by 35" target**, seeking to raise electricity's share of final energy consumption to **35% by 2035**.

India possesses approx. **308 GW of non-fossil capacity** (targeting 500 GW), ranking as the world's third-largest renewable capacity holder.

Structural Bottlenecks in the Clean Energy Transition:

Dispatchability vs. Capacity: Power purchase agreements typically compensate for raw generation rather than grid-synchronized dispatchability, leading to high curtailment rates and financial strain on Discoms.

Storage Deficit: India's installed battery energy storage systems (BESS) stood at only **~9 GWh** in mid-2026.

Grid Underinvestment: IRENA projects that annual global grid investments must double from **$0.5 trillion to $1 trillion**.

Supply Chain Concentration: Cleantech supply chains remain highly centralized, with China commanding **70% of global cleantech manufacturing investment**.

Emerging Demand Pressures (AI & Data Centres): Global data centre electricity demand is projected to double from **485 TWh to**

950 TWh by 2030 (accounting for 1.5% to 3% of global electricity consumption), alongside substantial water requirements.

Policy Initiatives & Recommendations:

Domestic Capacity: India has expanded solar module manufacturing to **~262 GW** and solar cell capacity to **~37 GW**.

Programmatic Support: Approval of **$19 billion** under **Green Energy Corridor Phase III** (aiming to evacuate 135 GW by 2032–33 and develop 50 GWh BESS), along with the **National Critical Minerals Mission** and **National Green Hydrogen Mission**.

Deployment of **~54 million smart meters** to enable demand-side digital public infrastructure and grid-edge storage.

Adoption of real-time electricity markets and **Contracts for Difference (CfD)**.

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Topic 6: Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) Tolling & Internal Security

(GS Paper III: Infrastructure, Technology & Security Architecture)

Operational Architecture:

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) introduced **Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF)** tolling, a barrier-less electronic tolling mechanism piloted at **Choryasi (Surat)** and expanded across seven plazas.

Unlike conventional boom-barrier plazas reliant solely on RFID readers, MLFF requires an automated dual-match between the vehicle's **FASTag** (NETC programme by NPCI) and its **High Security Registration Plate (HSRP)**.

Insufficient tag balance triggers an e-notice requiring payment within **72 hours**.

Emerging Security and Fiscal Hazards:

The "Unidentified Vehicle" Loophole: The removal of physical barriers allows vehicles with defective, concealed, or fraudulent plates to pass unimpeded.

Scale: At the Shahjahanpur plaza on NH-48, over **2.60 lakh out of 24 lakh vehicles** went unidentified. A vehicle can traverse the entire Gurgaon–Jaipur corridor (Daulatpura, Manoharpura, Shahjahanpur) toll-free.

Security & Revenue Leakages: Such vehicles present high risks of **smuggling, illegal sand mining, and GST evasion** via unmonitored e-way bill movements.

Mitigation Strategies Under Consideration:

Imposition of penalties exceeding **twice the toll rate** and filing of First Information Reports (FIRs) for plate tampering.

Integration of **VAHAN registration databases** with AI-driven visual recognition (matching vehicle make, model, and color within 10 minutes).

Enforcing HSRP compliance and conditioning vehicle registration renewals or transfers on the clearance of outstanding toll notices.

Topic 7: Inclusive Growth, Market Commodification & Global Protests

(GS Paper III: Inclusive Growth; GS Paper I: Social Issues / Polanyi's Thesis)

Theoretical Framework: Karl Polanyi's The Great Transformation (1944):

Embeddedness: Argues that economic markets were historically subordinated to and embedded within social relations.

Fictitious Commodities: Treating **land, labor, and money** as market commodities sold for profit undermines human society, as they are not originally produced for sale.

The Double Movement: Expanding free-market deregulation inevitably induces a societal counter-movement demanding protection and state intervention.

Contemporary Manifestations of Commodification:

The transition from ownership to a "rentier economy" across housing, public commons, and culture.

Global demonstrations reflect this structural crisis rather than isolated corruption:

France: Student and trade union protests over schooling and cost-of-living spikes.

Albania: Movements against coastline privatization by state-favored oligopolies.

Brazil: Mobilization securing the 40-hour workweek.

United States: Midterm electoral revolts linked to inflation and geopolitical conflict.

Policy Imperatives for Inclusive Growth:

In India, inclusive growth formally debuted in the **Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007–12)** ("Rapid and More Inclusive Growth"), defined by participation, equitable benefit sharing, and redressing historical disadvantages.

Global Coordination: Addressing mobile cross-border capital via mechanisms like the **OECD/G20 Global Minimum Corporate Tax** and regulatory oversight of speculative investments in artificial intelligence.

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15 UPSC-Style Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. With reference to the revision of electoral rolls in India, consider the following statements:

Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 empowers the Election Commission of India to order a special revision of electoral rolls at any time for reasons recorded in writing.

Under the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, Rule 18 requires notice and a hearing before an elector's name can be deleted from the electoral roll.

An Electoral Registration Officer cannot correct clerical omissions on the roll without the affected elector filing Form 6.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q2. In the context of Indian election administration, which of the following best describes the significance of Rule 21(1) of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960?

(a) It empowers the Booth Level Officer to issue summary detention notices to duplicate electors.
(b) It allows the Electoral Registration Officer to restore names omitted by inadvertence or error without requiring them to apply as new electors.
(c) It mandates the mandatory linkage of Aadhaar with the Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC).
(d) It specifies the rules for determining the citizenship status of immigrant populations.

Q3. Consider the following landmark Supreme Court cases and their associated subjects:

Lal Babu Hussein case (1995): Procedural safeguards and notice before voter deletion

In Re: Ramlila Maidan Incident (2012): Right to peaceful protest under Article 19

Amit Sahni v. Commissioner of Police (2020): Prohibition of indefinite occupation of public roads for protest

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one pair
(b) Only two pairs
(c) All three pairs
(d) None of the pairs

Q4. With reference to the recommendations of the Lyngdoh Committee (2006), often seen in the news, it is associated with:

(a) Reforms in agricultural marketing and APMC deregulation
(b) Conduct and regulation of student union elections in universities
(c) Overhaul of high-stakes national entrance examinations
(d) Guidelines for cross-border infrastructure financing

Q5. The term "Isothymia", associated with political philosopher Francis Fukuyama, refers to:

(a) The excessive desire to be recognized as superior to others
(b) The psychological tendency of markets to treat labor as a commodity
(c) The universal human demand to be recognized and respected as an equal
(d) The apathy of democratic citizens during periods of economic boom

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Q6. With reference to the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to prevent organized paper leaks and fraudulent practices in public and entrance examinations.
2. It completely abolishes the conduct of computer-based tests across central government recruitment.

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

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy operations:

Higher policy interest rates typically curb inflation and stabilize the exchange rate, but increase the government's borrowing costs.

A negative real interest rate occurs when the nominal policy rate is lower than the rate of inflation.

According to the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the daily global turnover of the Indian rupee is small enough to be fully stabilized by the RBI's foreign exchange reserves alone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q8. In monetary economics, the term "Exchange Rate as a Shock Absorber" implies that:

(a) A pegged currency guarantees complete insulation against domestic price inflation.
(b) Allowing a flexible exchange rate to depreciate or appreciate cushions the domestic economy from external macroeconomic volatility.
(c) Central banks should exhaust foreign exchange reserves to maintain an immutable currency value.
(d) Domestic interest rates must be tied permanently to the US Federal Reserve funds rate.

Q9. With reference to the global renewable energy transition, consider the following statements:

The "35 by 35" global electrification target proposed in multilateral forums aims to increase electricity's share in final energy use to 35% by 2035.

India has surpassed 300 GW of non-fossil fuel power generation capacity.

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) projects that global annual grid investments must decline due to the extreme cost-competitiveness of solar photovoltaics.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q10. With reference to the Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase III in India, consider the following:

It includes financial support for the evacuation of renewable power across inter-state and intra-state transmission lines.

It incorporates targets for the deployment of grid-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

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

Q11. Which country currently accounts for approximately 70% of global cleantech manufacturing investment, raising concerns over concentrated supply chains?

(a) Germany
(b) United States
(c) China
(d) Japan

Q12. With reference to Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling on Indian National Highways, consider the following statements:

It eliminates physical boom barriers at toll plazas to enable non-stop electronic toll collection.

The deduction of the toll fee relies strictly on an automated match between the vehicle's FASTag and its registered number plate.

Unidentified vehicles crossing MLFF plazas are mechanically impounded on-site by automated barriers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding the FASTag system in India:

It operates using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

It functions under the National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) programme developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Integration with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) e-way bill system helps track commercial vehicle movements.

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

Q14. In his seminal work The Great Transformation (1944), Karl Polanyi classified which of the following as "fictitious commodities"?

Land
Labor
Manufactured Machinery
Money

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q15. In the context of economic history and sociology, Karl Polanyi's concept of the "Double Movement" refers to:

(a) The dual circulation of fiat currency alongside gold reserves in mercantilist economies
(b) The simultaneous expansion of self-regulating free markets and the spontaneous societal reaction demanding social protection and state regulation
(c) The simultaneous migration of rural agrarian workers to urban industrial centres and service hubs

(d) The cyclical alternation between fiscal stimulus and austerity during industrial recessions

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Answer Key & Explanations

1. (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Section 21 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 governs the revision of electoral rolls, and Section 21(3) allows the ECI to conduct a special revision at any time for reasons recorded in writing.

Statement 2 is correct: Rule 18 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 provides for prior notice and a fair hearing before any name is struck off the roll, as reinforced in Lal Babu Hussein (1995).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under Rule 21(1) of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) has the power to rectify names omitted by "inadvertence or error" without forcing voters to re-enrol through Form 6 as new electors.

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2. (b) It allows the Electoral Registration Officer to restore names omitted by inadvertence or error without requiring them to apply as new electors.

Explanation:

Rule 21(1) of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 enables the ERO to correct erroneous deletions and restore electors to the rolls with their original EPIC numbers. This provision became central after the Supreme Court declared forcing eligible citizens onto Form 6 (meant for new voters) an administrative incongruity.

3. (c) All three pairs

Explanation:

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Lal Babu Hussein (1995) mandated notice, inquiry, and procedural fairness before deleting electors suspected of lacking citizenship.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: In In Re: Ramlila Maidan Incident (2012), the Supreme Court ruled that peaceful assembly and protest are fundamental rights under Article 19 that cannot be curtailed arbitrarily.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: In Amit Sahni v. Commissioner of Police (2020), concerning the Shaheen Bagh protests, the Supreme Court ruled that public streets cannot be blocked indefinitely and demonstrations must occur in designated areas.

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4. (b) Conduct and regulation of student union elections in universities

Explanation:

The Lyngdoh Committee (2006) was constituted pursuant to Supreme Court orders to formulate guidelines for depoliticizing and conducting transparent, regular student union elections across Indian universities and colleges.

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5. (c) The universal human demand to be recognized and respected as an equal

Explanation:

Francis Fukuyama uses isothymia (derived from Greek roots meaning "equal dignity/spirit") to define the democratic struggle for equal standing and respect, contrasting with megalothymia (the urge to dominate or be seen as superior). In the context of student protests, non-toppers assert their worth as equal citizens rather than basing their dignity solely on examination ranks.

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6. (a) 1 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024 was enacted to address organized examination cartels, paper leaks, and tampering with recruitment processes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Act does not ban computer-based testing; rather, it introduces stringent statutory penalties for systemic malpractices across all forms of public examinations.

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7. (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Rate hikes help rein in inflation and support the currency by maintaining rate differentials, but they escalate sovereign debt servicing costs, forcing tradeoffs at government bond auctions.

Statement 2 is correct: When the benchmark nominal policy rate is below prevailing headline inflation, the real interest rate is negative.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) noted that daily onshore and offshore rupee turnover reached **$185 billion** in 2025, an order of magnitude that makes sustained, unilateral forex intervention by the central bank impossible without depleting reserves.

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8. (b) Allowing a flexible exchange rate to depreciate or appreciate cushions the domestic economy from external macroeconomic volatility.

Explanation:

In open-economy macroeconomics, a flexible currency acts as an automatic shock absorber: when an external shock hits, currency depreciation alters relative prices (making imports dearer and exports cheaper), mitigating output losses without requiring distortionary monetary intervention.

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9. (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Proposed by COP31 hosts Türkiye and Australia, "35 by 35" aims to lift the share of electricity in final energy consumption to 35% by 2035.

Statement 2 is correct: India has crossed roughly **308 GW** of installed non-fossil capacity as it progresses toward its 500 GW milestone.

Statement 3 is incorrect: IRENA estimates that annual global grid investments must roughly double—from **$0.5 trillion to $1.0 trillion**—to absorb variable clean energy and prevent widespread generation curtailment.

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10. (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Green Energy Corridor Phase III supports the transmission infrastructure required to evacuate up to 135 GW of renewable capacity by 2032–33.

Statement 2 is correct: The initiative integrates roughly **50 GWh** of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to ensure grid balance and dispatchability.

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11. (c) China

Explanation:

According to International Energy Agency (IEA) findings, China accounts for **70% of global clean technology manufacturing investment**, concentrating key supply chains such as solar photovoltaic cells, wafers, and critical mineral processing.

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12. (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) removes physical boom barriers, allowing free traffic movement across highway tolling corridors.

Statement 2 is correct: The system automatically verifies that the windscreen FASTag matches the vehicle's High Security Registration Plate (HSRP) via overhead cameras and RFID gantries before debiting the account.

Statement 3 is incorrect: MLFF gantries lack physical barriers; unidentified vehicles cross unimpeded, prompting authorities to rely on post-facto measures such as e-notices, VAHAN data matching, and penal FIRs.

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13. (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: FASTags employ passive Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology affixed to vehicle windscreens.

Statement 2 is correct: The system runs under the National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) architecture managed by the NPCI.

Statement 3 is correct: Commercial e-way bills are tied to FASTag identifiers to curb tax evasion and ensure compliance with GST transit requirements.

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14. (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

In The Great Transformation, Polanyi argued that **land, labor, and money** are "fictitious commodities" because none of them are initially produced for market sale—land is nature, labor is human activity, and money is a purchasing power token. Subjecting them

strictly to price mechanisms leads to severe social dislocation. Manufactured machinery is a genuine market commodity.

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15. (b) The simultaneous expansion of self-regulating free markets and the spontaneous societal reaction demanding social protection and state regulation

Explanation:

Polanyi's "Double Movement" describes the structural dialectic of modern capitalism: as market mechanisms expand to commodify all aspects of life, society inevitably mounts a counter-movement (via trade unions, protective labor laws, social safety nets, and public provision) to protect itself from economic destabilization.