

## *10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation*

1st - 10th MAY, 2020

*THIS IS A K 99?LY DOCUMENT CONTAINING ALL MCQS ASKED IN 10 PM  
CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ BY FORUMIAS.*

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**Q.1)** Which of the following statements is/are correct about “**Electrostatic Disinfection Machine**”?

1. It is designed and developed by CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI).
2. Electrostatic Disinfection Machine works on the electrostatic principle.
3. The machine uses very less disinfection material as compared to conventional methods.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect: CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organization (CSIR-CSIO), Chandigarh, has designed and developed an innovative technology (Electrostatic Disinfection Machine) for effective disinfection and sanitization to fight with corona pandemic.

Statement 2 is correct: Electrostatic Disinfection Machine is developed based on the electrostatic principle. It produces uniform and fine spray droplets of disinfectants in the size range of 10-20 micro-metres to kill microorganisms and viruses. Due to the small size of droplets, the surface area of spray droplets increases thereby enhancing the interaction with harmful microorganisms and coronavirus.

Statement 3 is correct: The machine uses very less disinfection material as compared to conventional methods, which helps to save natural resources with negligible increase of chemical waste in the environment.

**Q.2)** “**Hospital Care Assistive Robotic Device (HCARD)**” a robot that has recently been in the news, is developed by which of the following institutes?

- a) CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur
- b) IIT-Bombay
- c) IIT-Delhi
- d) IISc-Bangalore

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Healthcare workers at hospitals are risking COVID-19 infection while taking care of those infected by it 24/7. Perhaps the level of risk may get reduced hereafter with the help of a new friend, HCARD. The robotic device HCARD, in short for Hospital Care Assistive Robotic Device, can help frontline healthcare workers in maintaining physical distance from those infected by coronavirus. HCARD is developed by Durgapur-based CSIR lab, Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute. The device is equipped with various state-of-the-art technologies and works both in automatic as well as manual modes of navigation.

**Q.3)** Consider the following statements with respect to “**The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)**”:

1. It is a subsidiary wing of the United Nations office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) to provide a definitive source of data and analysis on internal displacement.
2. Every year IDMC releases a Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID).

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect: The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) is the world's definitive source of data and analysis on internal displacement. Since the establishment in 1998 as part of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), IDMC have offered a rigorous, independent and trusted service to the international community. Their work informs policy and operational decisions that improve the lives of the millions of people living in internal displacement, or at risk of becoming displaced in the future.

Statement 2 is correct: The Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) is an annual flagship report of IDMC, synthesizes the latest statistics, country/situation assessments, thematic and policy analyses. Each year it presents the most up-to-date estimates of new displacements by conflict and disasters, and the total cumulative numbers of IDPs worldwide. The GRID is the global reference for internal displacement data and analysis and is widely used by policy-makers, national governments, UN agencies, international NGOs, journalists and academics.

**Q.4)** Which of the following is/are member countries of “Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC)”?

1. Myanmar
2. Hong Kong
3. Papua New Guinea
4. Chinese Taipei

Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, is the premier forum for facilitating economic growth, cooperation, trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region. APEC's 21 Member Economies are the United States; Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; The Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Republic of Korea; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

**Q.5)** “Rangapahar Wildlife Sanctuary” is located in which of the following state?

- a) Manipur
- b) Nagaland
- c) Sikkim
- d) Chhattisgarh

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Rangapahar Reserve Forest (Nagaland) happens to be one of the most famous destinations in Dimapur. The unique vegetation that has medicinal values and wildlife of this place makes it a prominent one. You will also find a wide variety of bird species in this area, which is why it is the preferred place for bird watchers and wildlife enthusiasts. The medicinal plants of this forest are preserved and are used for preparing medicines for multiple illnesses. Animals such as bears, deer, chitals, wild goats, and many more can be

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easily sighted in the sanctuary. However, this place is also home to several endangered species, which are found in this area only. The total area covered by the forest is around 49.4 acres of land and is a good retreat for nature lovers. As this sanctuary is located at a central region of Dimapur, it is close to other popular tourist destinations such as the Triple Falls, Dzukou valley, Japfu peak, Veda peak, and Mokokchung village, and others which make it easy for tourists to go from one destination to another.

**Q.6)** Consider the following statements regarding **Sixth Schedule of Constitution**;

1. Any increase or decrease in the areas of the autonomous district under the schedule requires a constitutional amendment.
2. Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 provisions of citizenship for migrants do not apply to areas under sixth schedule.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The Governor may, by public notification, increase or decrease the areas of the autonomous districts (after considering the report of commission on the administration of autonomous districts and autonomous regions). Statement 2 is correct. Provisions on citizenship for illegal migrants under Citizenship (Amendment) act 2019 do not apply to the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, or Tripura, as included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution.

**Q.7)** Which of the following is/are a **rating agency**?

1. S&P
2. Moody's
3. Goldman Sachs
4. Fitch
5. CRISIL

Select the correct answer using code below;

- a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Rating agencies are companies that rate a debtor's ability to pay back debt by making timely principal and interest payments and the likelihood of default. All except Goldman Sachs, which is an investment banking company, are rating agencies.

**Q.8)** Consider the following statements regarding **National Mission on Clean Ganga**;

1. Prime Minister is the chairperson of National Ganga Council.
2. Contribution to the Clean Ganga fund is eligible for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

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d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG) is registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act 1860. The chairperson for National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga (referred as National Ganga Council) is the Prime Minister.

Statement 2 is correct. Contribution to the Clean Ganga Fund set-up by the Central Government for rejuvenation of river Ganga is eligible for CSR expenditure.

**Q.9)** Consider the following statements regarding **Bacteriophage**;

1. It is a kind of bacteria that infects viruses.
2. Phage therapy refers to the use of bacteriophage to treat viral infections.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The viruses that infect bacteria are called bacteriophage or phages.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Phage therapy refers to use of bacteriophages to treat pathogenic bacterial infections.

Trivia: Before antibiotics were discovered, there was considerable research on use of phages against viral infections which declined with the advent of various antibiotics. But with antibiotic resistance increasing there is a renewed interest in the field of Phage therapy.

**Q.10)** Consider the following statements regarding '**Chak-Hao**';

1. It is a Vitamin A rich wheat variety of Manipur.
2. It has been granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Chak-Hao is a scented glutinous black rice variety, it is a centuries old cultivation of Manipur.

Statement 2 is correct. It has been given a GI tag under Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

**Q.11)** Consider the following statements regarding **President's Electoral College**;

1. Nominated members of Parliament and State legislatures cannot vote in Presidential elections.
2. As per constitution, legislatures of NCT of Delhi, the Union territories of Pondicherry and Jammu & Kashmir are eligible to vote in Presidential elections.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Article 54 of the Constitution states “the President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament; and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States”.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Delhi and Puducherry were included as Electoral College members under Article 54 through the 70th Constitution Amendment Act of 1992. The J&K Reorganization Act mentions that J&K Legislature would have the same powers as its Puducherry counterpart but there has been no amendment to constitution for inclusion of legislature new UT of J&K in the President's electoral college.

**Q.12)** Consider the following statements **Delimitation of electoral Constituencies**;

1. Previous delimitation of constituencies was done after the 2011 census.
2. The Constitution has been amended to freeze the delimitation of Parliamentary constituencies till 2026.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The present delimitation of constituencies has been done on the basis of 2001 census figures under the provisions of Delimitation Act, 2002. Statement 2 is correct. 84th Constitutional Amendment Act 2002 froze the delimitation of constituencies till the first census after 2026. Thus, the present Constituencies carved out on the basis of 2001 census shall continue to be in operation till the first census after 2026.

**Q.13)** Which of the following has the highest weightage in the **Index of Eight Core Industries**?

- a) Electricity generation
- b) Petroleum Refinery
- c) Steel production
- d) Crude Oil

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 per cent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The industry-wise weights indicated in the ICI are Coal 10.33 %, Crude Oil production 8.98 %, Natural Gas 6.88%, Petroleum Refinery 28.04 %, Fertilizers 2.63 %, Steel 17.92 %, Cement production 5.37 % and Electricity generation 19.85%.

A similar question has been asked by UPSC in 2015 prelims.

**Q.14)** Consider the following statements regarding alcohol-based **Hand Sanitizers**;

1. They are inflammable.
2. They are more effective than soaps against all kinds of germs & chemicals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are flammable due to their alcohol content.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Soap and water are more effective than hand sanitizers at removing certain kinds of germs, like Cryptosporidium, norovirus, and Clostridium difficile and also the hand sanitizer cannot remove harmful chemicals.

**Q.15)** Consider the following statements regarding **International Energy Agency:**

1. World Energy Outlook (WEO) is the annual publication of IEA.
  2. A candidate country for IEA membership must be a member of the OECD.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The World Energy Outlook (WEO) of IEA provides critical analysis and insights on trends in energy demand and supply, and what they mean for energy security, environmental protection and economic development.

Statement 2 is correct. The IEA was born with the 1973-1974 oil crisis, when industrialized countries found they were not adequately equipped to deal with the oil embargo imposed by major producers. The IEA is made up of 30 member countries and a candidate country to the IEA must be a member country of the OECD.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has reported that it expects global energy demand to decrease considerably this year amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Q.16)** “**Year of Awareness on Science & Health (YASH)**” is recently in news, is launched by which of the following?

- a) Department of Health & Family Welfare
- b) Department of Health Research
- c) Department of Science & Technology (DST)
- d) NITI Aayog

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology (DST) has launched a programme on health and risk communication ‘Year of Awareness on Science & Health (YASH)’ with focus on COVID-19. It is a comprehensive and effective science and health communication effort for promoting grass-root level appreciation and response on health and would help saving and shaping the lives of people at large, as well as build confidence, inculcate scientific temper and promote health consciousness among them.

**Q.17)** Which of the following river is famous for “**frozen river trek**” in India?

- a) Indus River
- b) Satluj River
- c) Brahmaputra River

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d) Zaskar River

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Featuring a surreal backdrop of nature colours, the Frozen River Trek, commonly known as the Chadar Trek, is one of the challenging treks in the Ladakh region. During the winter season, the Zaskar River converts into ice, giving trekkers a perfect platform for trekking. The trail to the Zaskar valley is going to be a challenging yet exciting one as the ice walls are vertical cliffs, which are up to 600 m high, and the Zaskar river is narrow, approximately 5 m wide. Once upon the time, the trail used to be a traditional trade route.

**Q.18)** Under which of the following Act, the **Central Pollution Control Board** was established in India?

- Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.
- Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act, 1974.
- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** India participated in the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in June 1972 to take appropriate steps for the preservation of the natural resources of the earth which, among other things, include the preservation of the quality of air and control of air pollution. Based on the concluding guidelines of this conference, the Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act was formulated by the government of India in 1974. Under this act, one Central board and numerous State boards shall be appointed by notification in the Official Gazette called Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) respectively with effect from a date not later than six months of the commencement of this Act.

**Q.19)** Which of the following is/are reasons for less developed “**Corporate Bond Market**” in India?

- Predominance of Bank loans
- Crowding out effect by government bonds
- FII's participation is high

Choose the correct code from given below options:

- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** The Economic Survey 2010–11, cites many reasons for the less developed bond market in India-

- Predominance of banks loans;
- FII's participation is limited;
- Pensions and insurance companies and household are limited participants because of lack of investor confidence; and
- Crowding out by government bonds.



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**Q.20)** Consider the following statements with respect to “**Green Climate Fund**”:

1. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world’s largest dedicated fund helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
2. It was set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010.

Which of the following above statements is/are NOT correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct: The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world’s largest dedicated fund helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change.

Statement 2 is correct: GCF was set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010. GCF has a crucial role in serving the Paris Agreement, supporting the goal of keeping average global temperature rise well below 2 degrees C. It does this by channeling climate finance to developing countries, which have joined other nations in committing to climate action.

**Q.21)** Consider the following statements regarding **Artemis program**:

1. It is a mission of NASA for exploration of Jovian planets.
2. NASA aims to land the first woman on the Moon through the mission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Artemis is NASA’s ongoing project to land a crewed module on the Moon by 2024. NASA is collaborating with various commercial and international partners such as the European Space Agency (ESA), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and the Australian Space Agency (ASA) in this project.

Statement 2 is correct. With the Artemis program, NASA will land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024. Apollo 17 (1972) was the final Moon landing mission of NASA’s Apollo program, and remains the most recent time humans have travelled beyond low Earth orbit (International Space Station).

**Q.22)** Consider the following statements regarding **Cytokine storm**:

1. It is the result of the immune response of the body.
2. A cytokine storm affects the healthy cells of the body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

Cytokines are a category of small proteins important in cell signaling. These are small proteins released by many different cells in the body, including those of the immune system where they coordinate the body's response against infection and trigger inflammation. Sometimes the immune response goes into an overdrive, an uncontrolled level of cytokine leads to more and more immune cells attacking the infection, immune cells spread beyond infected body parts and start attacking healthy tissues. It can be fatal and has been seen in COVID-19 cases.

**Q.23)** Consider the following statements regarding **Saffron spice**;

1. India is the largest global producer of Saffron.
2. Kashmir Saffron is a recognized Geographical Indication.
3. Karewa soil formations of Kashmir are favorable for the Saffron cultivation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Iran is the largest Saffron producing country. But the quality of Kashmir Saffron is considered much better than the low cost Saffron produced in Iran and other countries like Spain, Greece etc.

Statement 2 is correct. Kashmiri saffron has been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.

Statement 3 is correct. The Karewas are composed of sand, silt, clay, shale, mud, lignite, gravel and loessic sediments. Karewa formations are useful for the cultivation of Zafran, a local variety of saffron in Kashmir.

**Q.24)** Consider the following statements regarding '**One nation-one ration card**' scheme;

1. It aims to link all Ration cards with Aadhar Cards.
2. The card holder resident of one state will be able to avail ration in any other state.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The scheme on "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" is being implemented by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, in this the target is to implement a One nation-one ration card scheme nationwide by linking all the ration cards all over the country with Aadhar cards and organizing food grain distribution mechanism in its entirety through Point of Sale (PoS) machine is in the final stage.

Statement 2 is correct. Once the "One Nation One Ration Card" scheme is implemented across the nation and for that data of all ration cards will be connected to one server and any beneficiary, anywhere in the country, will be able to pick up their grain from any public distribution system.

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**Q.25)** Consider the following statements regarding **Chief of Defence Staff;**

1. CDS is rank of a four-star General with salary and perquisites equivalent to a Service Chief.
  2. CDS is the head of the Department of Military Affairs in the Ministry of Defence.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Chief of Defence Staff is the rank of a four-star General with salary and perquisites equivalent to a Service Chief.

Statement 2 is correct. The Chief of Defence Staff heads the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), created within the Ministry of Defence and functions as its Secretary.

Other duties and functions of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) include:

To act as the Principal Military Advisor to Raksha Mantri on all Tri-Service matters.

To function as the Permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee

To administer the Tri-Service organizations/agencies/commands.

To be a member of Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Raksha Mantri.

To function as the Military Advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.

**Q.26)** Which of the following statements is correct regarding **May Day?**

- a) International Workers' Day is celebrated on this day
- b) It is celebrated on first of May
- c) It is a distress call sign in radio communications
- d) Both (a) and (b)

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** International Workers' Day aka May Day is a celebration of labourers and the working classes that is promoted by the international labour movement. May Day is also a holiday in some parts of Europe for the celebration of the return of spring.

The distress call in radio communication is 'mayday'; convention requires that the word be repeated three times in a row during the initial emergency declaration ("Mayday mayday mayday") to prevent it being mistaken for some similar-sounding phrase.

**Q.27)** Consider the following statements regarding **Pooram festival;**

1. It is an annual festival in temples of Kerala.
2. 'Kodiyettam' is the flag hoisting ceremony starting the festival.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

It is an annual festival, which is celebrated in temples in Valluvanad area and other adjoining parts of north-central Kerala. Thrissur Pooram is the largest and most famous of all poorams. The pooram officially begins from the event of flag hoisting (Kodiyettam).

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**Q.28)** Consider the following statements regarding **GISAID initiative**;

1. It promotes international sharing of all influenza virus sequences.
2. Indian government hosts the database of the information under initiative.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The GISAID (Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data) platform was launched on the occasion of the Sixty-first World Health Assembly in May 2008. It promotes the international sharing of all influenza virus sequences, related clinical and epidemiological data associated with human viruses and provides public access through its database (named EpiFlu).

Statement 2 is incorrect. In 2010 Germany became the official host of the GISAID platform and EpiFlu database.

**Q.29)** Consider the following statements regarding **Bannerghatta National Park**;

1. Bengal Tigers roam at this National Park.
2. The Krishna river flows through the park.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Fauna at the park include elephants, Bengal Tiger, wild boar, spotted deer etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Krishna river flows through northern parts of Karnataka, the park is in South. Suvarnamukhi stream runs through the Bannerghatta National Park.

**Q.30)** Consider the following statements;

1. Corporate tax and Goods & services tax are indirect taxes.
2. Personal income tax is a direct tax.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Corporate tax levied on the companies registered under the Company law in India on the net profit they make. It is a direct tax. Goods and Service Tax (GST) is an indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services.

Statement 2 is correct. Direct taxes include income tax, property tax, corporate tax etc.

A direct tax is paid directly by an individual or organization to the government, the burden of tax cannot be shifted in case of direct taxes while the indirect tax though paid by any entity, its burden is shifted to the end consumer.

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**Q.31)** Consider the following statements with respect to “**International Financial Services Centres (IFSC)**”:

1. IFSC is a jurisdiction that provides financial services to resident and non-resident Indians in Foreign currencies.
2. GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) located in Gandhinagar is India’s first International Financial Services Centre.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** International Financial Services Centres (IFSC)

Statement 1 is correct: International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) is a jurisdiction that provides financial services to resident and non-resident Indians in foreign currencies. They are intended to provide Indian corporations with easier access to global financial markets, and to complement and promote the further development of financial markets in India.

Statement 2 is correct: GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) located in Gandhinagar is India’s first International Financial Services Centre.

**Q.32)** “**Project Coswara**”- is an attempt to build a diagnostic tool for Covid-19 based on respiratory, cough and speech sounds is launched by which of the following?

- a) IISc-Bangalore
- b) IIT-Madras
- c) AIIMS-Delhi
- d) IIT-Khargpur

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Project Coswara by Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore is an attempt to build a diagnostic tool for Covid-19 based on respiratory, cough and speech sounds. The word Coswara is an amalgamation of Co (from corona) and Swara (sound in sanskrit). The project is being pursued in three stages:

- Data Collection
- Modeling
- Diagnostic Tool

**Q.33)** Which of the following is/are have been given “**Geographical Indication (GI) tags**”?

1. Palani Panchamirtham
2. Tirur Betel vine
3. Kakinada gottam kaja

Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A Geographical Indication (GI) is a name or sign used on certain products which corresponds to a specific geographical location or origin (e.g. a town, region, or country). Approved by the Geneva-headquartered World Trade Organization, a GI tag

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recognises the place of origin of a product and the specific qualities or means of production associated with it. GI Tag acts as a certificate and it is a way of ensuring that similar products from elsewhere cannot be sold under this name. In the month of September 2019, the government allotted Geographical Indication (GI) tags to four new products from the states of Tamil Nadu, Mizoram and Kerala.

- Palani Panchamirtham, a 'prasadam' or religious offering in temples: Palani Town, Tamil Nadu
- Tawlhlohpuan, is a fine quality fabric woven: Mizoram
- Mizo Puanchei, essentially a shawl, is considered the most colourful textile: Mizoram
- Tirur betel vine valued for its medicinal and cultural usages: Malappuram district of Kerala
- 'Odisha rasagola', for the delectable eastern sweet: Odisha

**Q.34) "Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary" is located in which of the following state?**

- a) West Bengal
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Bihar

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary is located in the Begusarai district of Bihar and was founded in the year 1987. It is spread over an area of about 68 sq km and is the largest freshwater oxbow lake in Asia. Yes, you read that right. It is generally known for its beautiful population of migratory as well as indigenous birds.

**Q.35) Which of the following state has launched a new higher education model called as "Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE)"?**

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Kerala

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Rajasthan government has launched a new higher education model called as Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE). This new higher education model will help in distribution of faculties and movable assets among the government colleges at the district level to rationalize the availability of resources. The model will also create a pool for sharing of facilities.

**Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;**

1. The treaty is not yet in force.
2. China, the United States and Iran have not ratified the treaty.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The treaty was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 September 1996 but has not entered into force, as eight out of 44 specific nations have not ratified/signed the treaty. The treaty will enter into force 180 days after the 44 states listed in Annex 2 of the treaty have ratified it.

Statement 2 is correct. China, Egypt, Iran, Israel and the United States have signed but not ratified the Treaty; India, North Korea and Pakistan have not signed it.

**Q.37)** Consider the following statements regarding the ‘**Perseverance**’ rover mission;

1. It is ISRO’s next mission to Mars after Mangalyaan.
2. It is part of a project to bring Mars samples back to earth.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. It is part of NASA’s Mars Exploration Program, it is scheduled to launch on 17 July 2020, and touch down in Jezero crater on Mars on 18 February 2021.

Statement 2 is correct. The Perseverance rover will seek signs of ancient life and collect rock and soil samples for possible return to Earth.

**Q.38)** Consider the following statements regarding “**Human Challenge Trial**”;

1. It delays the time taken for vaccine development.
2. The candidates are intentionally infected with the virus to judge the efficacy of the immunization.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Human Challenge study of a vaccine development has potential for reducing the time for vaccine development. But it has some serious ethical concerns. Typical vaccine trials take a long time because thousands of people receive either a vaccine or a placebo, and researchers’ track who becomes infected in the course of their daily lives.

Statement 2 is correct. A challenge study could in theory be much faster: a much smaller group of volunteers would receive a candidate vaccine and then be intentionally infected with the virus, to judge the efficacy of the immunization.

“1daysooner” initiative is registering candidates for the Human Challenge trial of COVID-19 Vaccine.

**Q.39)** Consider the following statements regarding **Copernicus Programme**;

1. It is a programme of European Union.
2. It is a military satellite constellation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Copernicus is the European Union's programme coordinated and managed by the European Commission in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA), the EU Member States and EU Agencies.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Copernicus is an Earth observation programme served by a set of dedicated satellites (the Sentinel families) and contributing missions (existing commercial and public satellites).

**Q.40)** Consider the following statements regarding **University Grants Commission;**

1. It is a society registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.
2. It allocates and disburses the funds to Universities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. UGC was formally established in 1956 as a statutory body of the Government of India through an Act of Parliament for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of university education in India. Statement 2 is correct. It allocates and disburses, out of the Fund of the Commission, grants to Universities. It has been vested with two responsibilities: that of providing funds and that of coordination, determination and maintenance of standards in institutions of higher education.

**Q.41)** Which of the following correctly describes **geo-fencing**?

- a) It is a global service for monitoring earth's atmosphere
- b) It creates a virtual boundary around specific location
- c) It refers to the fencing being deployed at Mexico-US border
- d) It is a proposed set of earth protection satellite system

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** A geofence is a virtual perimeter for a geographic area. Geofencing is a location-based service in which an app or other software uses GPS, RFID, Wi-Fi or cellular data to trigger a pre-programmed action when a mobile device or RFID tag enters or exits a virtual boundary set up around a geographical location, known as a geofence.

**Q.42)** Consider the following statement regarding **Remdesivir;**

1. It is an antiviral drug developed by Serum Institute of India.
2. It was originally developed to treat Ebola.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2



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**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Remdesivir is an antiviral medication developed by the American biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences.

Statement 2 is correct. Remdesivir was originally developed to treat Ebola virus disease. Gilead Sciences later observed that remdesivir had antiviral activity in vitro against multiple filoviruses, pneumo viruses, paramyxoviruses, and coronaviruses.

**Q.43)** Consider the following statements regarding **Svमित्वा Scheme**;

1. It is under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. It aims to provide rural people with the right to document their residential properties.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. SVAMITVA scheme is a new initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Statement 2 is correct. This scheme will help in streamlining planning and revenue collection in rural areas and ensuring clarity on property rights; the scheme will also enable creation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plans engaging Drone Surveying technology.

**Q.44)** The **'Unified Geologic Map of the Moon'** has been released by:

- a) SpaceX
- b) United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- c) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- d) Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO)

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** USGS, in collaboration with NASA and the Lunar Planetary Institute, has come up with the first of its kind map of the Moon called Unified Geologic Map of the Moon. It shows orthographic projections – that is, representations of 3-dimensional objects on a 2-dimensional map – of the geology of the moon's near side and far side.

**Q.45)** Which of the following is correctly matched?

1. Paracel Islands - South China Sea
2. Rakhine - Myanmar
3. Chechnya - Russia

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All are correctly matched.

The Paracel Islands is a disputed (China-Vietnam) archipelago located in the South China Sea.

Rakhine State is a state in Myanmar.

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Chechnya is in southwestern Russia, situated on the northern flank of the Greater Caucasus range.

**Q.46) “Global Energy Transition Index”** released by which of the following institution?

- a) International Energy Agency
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Resource Institute
- d) The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Global Energy Transition Index is released by **World Economic Forum** which has rank the economies on how well they are able to balance energy security and access with environmental sustainability and affordability.

**Q.47)** Consider the following statements with respect to “**Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**”:

- 1. It is established by passing resolution of union executive.
- 2. It is just advisory body like Niti Aayog.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) is a **statutory body established through an Act of Parliament, 2008.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Promoting basic research in Science and Engineering and to provide financial assistance to persons engaged in such research, academic institutions, research and development laboratories, industrial concerns and other agencies for such research and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto are the primary and distinctive mandate of the Board.

**Q.48) “ATULYA”** is recently in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) Microwave sterilizer
- b) Wind Shield
- c) Stealth Frigate
- d) Stealth Radar

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** **Defense Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)**, Pune, a deemed university supported by Defense Research and Development Organization has come up with a cost-effective solution to disintegrate corona virus. A microwave sterilizer named as ‘ATULYA’ can be operated in portable or fixed installations and helps in disintegrating the virus by differential heating in the range of 56 to 60 Celsius temperatures.

**Q.49) “National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB)”** is recently in news, is located in which of the following cities?

- a) Lucknow
- b) Bangalore

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- c) New Delhi
- d) Hyderabad

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** NIAB, Hyderabad is aimed to harness novel and emerging biotechnologies and take up research in the cutting edge areas for improving animal health and productivity. The Institute's focus of research will be on Animal Genetics and Genomics, Transgenic Technology, Reproductive Biotechnology, Infectious Diseases, Bioinformatics and Nutrition Enrichment. Researchers from the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB) have developed a biosensor named “eCovSens”. eCovSens detects the presence of novel coronavirus antigens in human saliva within 30 seconds using just 20 micro-litres of the sample.

**Q.50)** Which of the following statements is NOT correct about “**Pulicat Lake**”?

- a) It is located at the border of the states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- b) Pulicat Lake is popular as a flamingo-watching site.
- c) It is the second largest brackish water lake in the country.
- d) None.

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Pulicat Lake is the second-largest **brackish water lake** in the country, the beautiful Pulicat Lake lies at the border of the states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu on the Barricade Island of Sriharikota. Also called Pazhaverkadu, the lake is popular as a flamingo-watching site and for water activities. The prime season to visit is between October and March as during that time, over 20,000 migratory birds come to the lake for breeding purposes. The lake is also known for the **Pulicat Bird Sanctuary** and attracts a number of tourists. Besides flamingos, one can also sight storks and kingfishers. The Pulicat Lake is situated about 60 km from Chennai in the Tiruvallur District. Spanning an area of 159 sq km, it is surrounded by colonial buildings from the Dutch-era.

**Q.51)** Which of the following releases the World **Press Freedom Index**?

- a) The Committee to Protect Journalists
- b) Oxfam International
- c) Reuters
- d) Reporters Without borders

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** The Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking of countries compiled and published by **Reporters Without Borders**. It is based on the NGO's own assessment of the countries' press freedom records in the given year.

Reporters Without Borders (RSF) is an independent NGO with consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF). It is based in Paris, France.

**Q.52)** Consider the following statements regarding “**eCovSens**”;

1. It is an antibody based testing kit for COVID-19.
2. It has been indigenously developed in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

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d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct. **National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB)**, Hyderabad, has developed a biosensor 'eCovSens' that can detect the novel coronavirus in saliva samples. The biosensor consists of a carbon electrode and the coronavirus antibody. The antibody is capable of binding with the spike protein found on the outer layer of the virus. An electrical signal is generated when the antigen and antibody binds.

**Q.53)** Consider the following statements regarding **C-130J aircraft**;

1. It is a military transport aircraft.
2. It is indigenously developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. C-130J Super Hercules is a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft. The Indian Air Force purchased C-130J-30s in 2008 at a cost of US\$1.059 billion for its special operations forces in a package deal with the US government under its Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is developed and produced by **Lockheed Martin Corporation**, an American aerospace company.

**Q.54)** Consider the following statements regarding **Immunoglobulin**;

1. These are the antibodies produced in response to a disease.
2. Some immunoglobulin can cross the placenta in a pregnant woman to help protect her baby.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Antibody, also known as an immunoglobulin**, is a large, Y-shaped protein; they are produced by specific immune cells called plasma cells in response to bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms as well as exposures to other substances that are recognized by the body as "non-self" harmful antigens.

Statement 2 is correct. **IgG is the only antibody class that can cross the human placenta.** Placental transfer of maternal IgG antibodies to the fetus is the mechanism that provides protection to the babies while their humoral response is inefficient.

**Q.55)** Consider the following statements regarding **Jute Production**;

1. The first jute mill in India was established at Rishra, Bengal.
2. Jute can be used as a geotextile.
3. Burlap is a finer quality of jute.

Select the correct answer using code below;

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- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

### **Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The first jute mill was established at Rishra (Bengal), on the river Hooghly near Calcutta in the year **1855, by Mr. George Aclend**. Mr. George Ackland brought jute spinning machinery from Dundee (U.K). In 1959, the first power driven weaving factory was set up.

Statement 2 is correct. Geotextiles are permeable fabrics which, when used in association with soil, have the ability to separate, filter, reinforce, protect, or drain. Jute being eco-friendly has distinguishing features such as: High moisture absorption capacity, flexibility and drainage properties. Geo jute is used in erosion control, separation, filtration and drainage in civil engineering work, and agricultural uses.

Statement 3 is correct. **The hessian, a finer quality of jute is called Burlap**. Burlap bags are used to ship and store grain, fruits and vegetables, flour, sugar, animal feeds and other agricultural commodities.

### **Q.56) Consider the following statements regarding Unicode Consortium;**

1. It is an intergovernmental organisation having observer status at the United Nations.
2. Government of India is a non-voting institutional member of consortium.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

### **Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Unicode Consortium is a non-profit organization** with purpose to maintain and publish the Unicode Standard which was developed to replace existing character encoding schemes which are limited in size and scope, and are incompatible with multilingual environments.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **India is an institutional member with voting power.**

#### The Unicode Consortium Members

##### Full Members (Voting)



##### Institutional Members (Voting)



##### Supporting Members (Voting)



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**Q.57)** Consider the following statements regarding **Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)**;

1. It is a sub unit under Bombay Stock Exchange of India.
2. It is regulated by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd is an independent commodity exchange based in India. It was established in 2003 and is based in Mumbai. It is a commodity derivatives exchange that facilitates online trading of commodity derivatives transactions.

Statement 2 is correct. It operates under the regulatory framework of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Earlier it was regulated by the **Forward Markets Commission (FMC), which got merged with the SEBI in 2015.**

**Q.58)** Consider the following statements regarding **CITES** (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora);

1. Its secretariat is administered by UNEP.
2. Commercial trade of the species listed in any Appendices of CITES is not permitted.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The **CITES Secretariat is administered by UNEP** and is located at Geneva, Switzerland. CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN, in 1975 CITES entered in force.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Appendix I** contains about 1200 species, these are threatened with extinction and are or may be affected by trade. Commercial trade in wild-caught specimens of these species is illegal (permitted only in exceptional licensed circumstances).

**Appendix II** contains about 21,000 species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction, but may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with the survival of the species in the wild. No import permit is necessary for these species under CITES.

**Appendix III** lists about 170 species, these are species that are listed after one member country has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling trade in a species.

**Q.59)** Consider the following statements;

1. New Development Bank & Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank are initiatives of and for BRICS nations.
2. China & India are the largest shareholders of voting power in AIIB.
3. India functions only as a contributing nation and does not receive loans from AIIB.

Select the correct answer using code below;

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

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**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **New Development Bank** is a multilateral development bank operated by the BRICS states. The bank's primary focus of lending is infrastructure projects. The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** is a multilateral development bank that aims to support the building of infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific region but it is not limited to BRICS nations, The bank currently has 78 members as well as 24 prospective members from around the world.

Statement 2 is correct. China, India and Russia have the largest voting powers in AIIB.

Statement 3 is incorrect. India has borrowed from AIIB for projects in Water, Roadways infrastructure in various states. AIIB also committed to invest in the **National Investment & Infrastructure Fund**.

**Q.60)** Which of the following is correct regarding **CE certification** seen on goods packaging;

- a) It is issued by United States of America
- b) It indicates conformity with health, safety, and environmental protection standards
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** The letters 'CE' appear on many products traded on the extended Single Market in the **European Economic Area (EEA)**. They signify that products sold in the EEA have been assessed to meet high safety, health, and environmental protection requirements. The CE marking is also found on products sold outside the EEA that have been manufactured to EEA standards.

**Q.61)** Which of the following is/are factors responsible for **Zoonoses**?

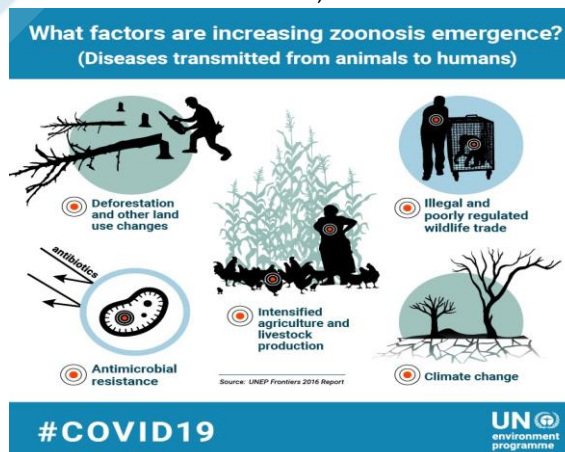
- 1. Deforestation and other land use changes
- 2. Poorly regulated Wildlife trade
- 3. Intensified livestock production
- 4. Climate Change

Select the correct answer answer using code below;

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All are the factors that have potential to increase the zoonoses (disease or infection transmissible from animals to humans).



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**Q.62)** Which of the following are **industry chambers** in India;

1. FICCI
2. Assocham
3. CII

Select the correct answer using code below;

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All given above are industry chambers in India. The chambers of industry are associations of business organisations which put forward the unified demand of industries to governments & try to maintain a healthy business environment by cooperation.

The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** was established in 1927, on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi by GD Birla and Purshottamdas Thakurdas, it one of the largest, and the apex business organization in India.

**Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** is another non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in India's development process. It was founded in 1895 and is celebrating 125 years in 2020.

The **Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)** is one of the apex industry associations of India. The organisation represents the interests of trade and commerce in India, and acts as an interface between issues and initiatives. It was established in 1920.

**Q.63)** What is 'Nudol' that has been in news recently;

- a) a potential treatment for COVID-19
- b) an anti-satellite missile
- c) a dwarf planet inside the solar system
- d) a new species of spider discovered in Western ghats

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** The Nudol is a Russian anti-ballistic missile interceptor that also functions as an anti-satellite weapon. It is designed to deflect a nuclear attack on Moscow and important industrial regions of Russia.

**Q.64)** Consider the following statement regarding **Hepatitis** disease;

1. It is a bacterial disease affecting liver cells.
2. All Hepatitis infections Vaccine preventable.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Hepatitis is **inflammation of the liver** tissue. It is commonly caused by a viral infection.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Vaccine is available against hepatitis A and hepatitis B but not against hepatitis C. Hepatitis B vaccine also prevents hepatitis D. There is no globally



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recognized and available vaccine for hepatitis E, a vaccine to prevent hepatitis E virus infection has been developed and is licensed in China, but is not yet available elsewhere.

**Q.65)** Consider the following statements regarding **JAGA Mission**;

1. It is a Union Government initiative to improve standards of living slum areas.
2. It has been awarded the World Habitat Award 2019.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission "JAGA"** is a society under Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha. "JAGA" aims at transforming the slums into liveable habitat with all necessary civic infrastructure and services at par with the better off areas within the same urban local body (ULB) and to continuously improve the standard of the infrastructure and services and access to livelihood opportunities.

Statement 2 is correct. World Habitat Awards recognise and highlight innovative, outstanding and sometimes revolutionary housing ideas, projects and programmes from across the world. It is given by the World Habitat partnership with UN-Habitat. Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission won the Bronze award in 2019.

**Q.66)** Consider the following statements regarding **share market trading**;

1. Bear market represents a market on rise.
2. Bull market represents a declining market.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Both statements are incorrect.

This terminology is used for the prevailing conditions in a share market and economy. The bull market represents a rising market and sound economy while a bear market represents a declining market and slowing economy. Bulls are the investors expecting a rise in value of shares and bears are investors betting on decreasing value stocks.

**Q.67)** Consider the following statements regarding **Super Moon**;

1. It appears when the full moon appears near the apogee.
2. Apogee is the nearest point in the moon's orbit with respect to earth.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

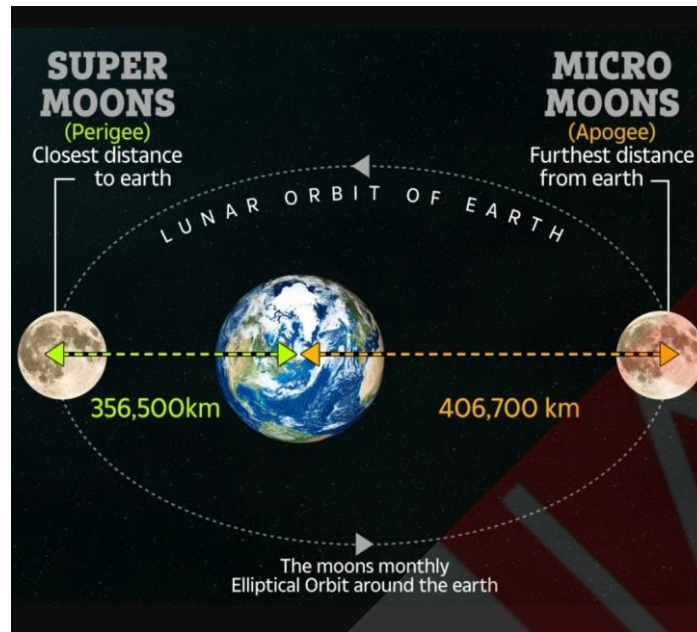
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. A supermoon is a new or **full moon closely coinciding with the moon's position on perigee.**

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Statement 2 is incorrect. **Perigee is the closest point** while apogee is the farthest position on the moon's orbit with respect to earth.



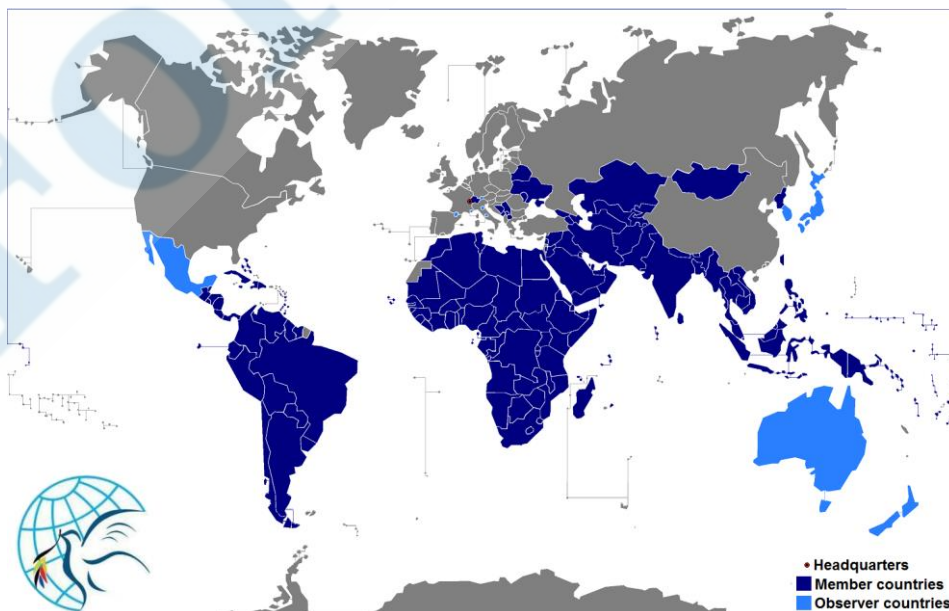
**Q.68)** Consider the following statements regarding Non Aligned Movement;

1. The USA, Russia and China are observers at NAM.
  2. The Bandung Principles fulfillment is essential criteria for NAM membership.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. China has the observer status while the USA and Russia are not having any status at NAM.



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Statement 2 is correct. The principles that govern relations among large and small nations, known as the "Ten Principles of Bandung", were proclaimed at Bandung Conference 1955. Such principles were adopted later as the main goals and objectives of the policy of non-alignment. The fulfillment of those principles became the essential criterion for Non-Aligned Movement membership;

**Q.69)** Consider the following statements regarding plasma therapy;

1. It requires transfusion of RBC and WBC from a recovered person to an infected person.
2. It has been recommended by ICMR for treatment of COVID-19 patients.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 incorrect. It is based on plasma transfusion which contains the antibodies, RBC and WBC are not part of blood plasma.

Statement 2 is incorrect. ICMR has not recommended the use of plasma therapy for general treatment. It is still being tested under clinical trials.

**Q.70)** Consider the following statements;

1. Indonesia has decided to shift capital from Sumarta to Java island.
2. Line of the Equator passes through Indonesia.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Indonesia has decided to move its capital from Jakarta (Java island) to Borneo island. The current capital, Jakarta, home to more than 10 million people, sits on swampy land and is sinking almost 25cm per year.

Statement 2 is correct. The equator passes through the following countries: Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Maldives, Indonesia and Kiribati.

**Q.71)** Consider the following statements with respect to features of "Fifth Schedule":

1. The President is empowered to declare an area to be a scheduled area.
2. Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribe's advisory council to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Fifth Schedule.

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Statement 1 is correct: The **president is empowered to declare an area to be a scheduled area**. He can also **increase or decrease its area**, alter its boundary lines, rescind such designation or make fresh orders for such re-designation on an area in consultation with the governor of the state concerned.

Statement 2 is correct: Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribe's advisory council to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes. It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state legislative assembly.

**Q.72)** Consider the following statements with respect to “UNFCCC”:

1. The ultimate objective of the UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.
2. UNFCCC is the parent treaty of Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement.

Which of the following above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** UNFCCC stands for **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**. The Convention has near universal membership (197 Parties) and is the parent treaty of the 2015 Paris Agreement. The main aim of the Paris Agreement is to keep the global average temperature rise this century as close as possible to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. **The UNFCCC is also the parent treaty of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol**. The ultimate objective of all three agreements under the UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system, in a time frame which allows ecosystems to adapt naturally and enables sustainable development.

**Q.73)** Under which of the following legal provisions/Acts, a “**Producer organization**” can be registered?

1. Cooperative Societies Act.
2. Producer Company under Section 581(C) of Indian Companies Act, 1956, as amended in 2013.
3. Societies registered under Society Registration Act, 1860.
4. Public Trusts registered under Indian Trusts Act, 1882.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Producer Organization can be registered under any of the following legal provisions:

- **Cooperative Societies Act/ Autonomous or Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies Act** of the respective State
- **Multi-State Cooperative Society Act, 2002**
- Producer Company under Section 581(C) of **Indian Companies Act, 1956**, as amended in 2013

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- Section 25 Company of Indian Companies Act, 1956, as amended as Section 8 in 2013
- Societies registered under **Society Registration Act, 1860**
- Public Trusts registered under **Indian Trusts Act, 1882**

**Q.74) “Neelambar Pitambar JAL Sammridhi Yojana (NPJSY)”** scheme is recently in news, is launched by which of the following state?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Odisha

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Faced with the possibility of a steep rise in the rate of unemployment in villages following the arrival of large scale stranded migrant workers from other States, the **Jharkhand government** on Monday launched three labour intensive programmes to restore the rural economy. Three schemes are:

**Birsa Harit Gram Yojana (BHGY):** The BHGY is envisaged at bringing over two lakh acres of unused government fallow land under the afforestation programme. About five lakh families will be provided 100 fruit-bearing plants. The initial plantation, maintenance, land work and afforestation will be taken up through MNREGA.

**Neelambar Pitambar JAL Sammridhi Yojana (NPJSY):** As per NPJSY, the government is aiming at creating agro water storage units by arresting rainwater and runaway groundwater. Nearly 5 lakh acre of cultivable land can be irrigated through the initiative, said the State government. An estimated 10 crore person days will be generated through the scheme in the next 45 years.

**Veer Sahid Poto Ho Khel Vikas Scheme (VSPHKVS):** Under VSPHKVS, as many as 5,000 sports grounds will be developed across the State. The government hopes to generate one crore person days through the scheme in the current financial year.

**Q.75) “Shanta Kumar Committee”** is related to which of the following?

- a) NABARD
- b) State Co-operatives
- c) Primary Health
- d) FCI

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Government of India (GoI) set up a **High Level Committee (HLC)** in August 2014 with **Shri Shanta Kumar as the Chairman**, six members and a special invitee to suggest restructuring or unbundling of FCI with a view to improve its operational efficiency and financial management.

**Q.76) Consider the following statements regarding Pulitzer Prize:**

1. It is given in fields of journalism, literature and music.
2. It is administered by ‘Reporters Without Borders’.
3. Only a US citizen is eligible for any Pulitzer award.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

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**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Pulitzer award was established in **1917** by provisions in the will of **Joseph Pulitzer**, a newspaper publisher. It is given in fields of newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition  
Statement 2 is incorrect. The award is administered by **Columbia University, USA**.  
Statement 3 is incorrect. Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for the Prizes in Books, Drama and Music (except US History category). For the Journalism competition, entrants may be of any nationality, but work must have appeared in U.S. newspaper, magazine or news site that publishes regularly.

**Q.77)** Consider the following statements regarding **Moon missions**:

1. USA and Russia are the only countries to have landed crewed missions to the Moon.
2. There have been no crewed missions to moon in 21st century.
3. Till now, all manned and unmanned landings have taken place on the near side of the Moon.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **USA is the only country** till date to have landed manned missions on Moon surface. Total 12 men have landed on moon in six missions of NASA.

Statement 2 is correct. The **last crewed Lunar mission was undertaken in December 1972**.

Statement 3 is incorrect. All manned missions have landed on near side of the moon. **Chang'e 4** unmanned spacecraft of China made the first landing on the far side of the Moon in 2019.

Trivia: All six Apollo lunar missions had a third crew member who remained on board the command module.

**Q.78)** Consider the following statements regarding **mRNA**:

1. It carries the information for making proteins.
2. The process of making mRNA from DNA is called translation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The DNA cannot be decoded directly into proteins; it is first transcribed **into mRNA which carries the information for making proteins**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. mRNA is synthesized in the nucleus using the nucleotide sequence of DNA as a template. The information in DNA is transferred to a messenger RNA (mRNA) molecule, this process is called **transcription**. The flow of information occurs through the **sequential processes of transcription (DNA to RNA) and translation (RNA to protein)**.

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**Q.79)** Consider the following statements regarding **Bharat stage emission standards**:

1. These are developed by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
2. The government has decided to skip the BS-IV standards and directly implement BS-V norms.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The Bharat stage emission standards are developed and instituted by **Central Pollution Control Board**, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India decided to skip the BS-V norms and implement the BS-VI norms directly throughout the country from April 1, 2020 to curb pollution across the country. In 13 major cities, **Bharat Stage IV** emission norms have been in place since April 2010 and it has been enforced for entire country since April 2017.

**Q.80)** Which of the following is correct regarding '**Mission Samudra Setu**' in news recently?

- a) a proposed bridge between India-Sri Lanka as part of Ramayana heritage circuit.
- b) an Indian Navy mission to bring back Indian citizens from overseas
- c) a maritime route between India-Afghanistan to boost bilateral trade
- d) a maritime doctrine of India regarding relations with Indian Ocean countries

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Indian Navy launched Operation "Samudra Setu" (Sea Bridge) as part of national efforts to repatriate stranded Indian citizens from overseas due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Q.81)** Consider the following statements regarding **High Courts** of India:

1. As per the constitution every High Court is a court of record.
2. A Judge of a High Court subscribes to an oath or affirmation before the President of India.
3. Judge of a high court is appointed by the President of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Article 215** of the constitution states "Every High Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself." A court of record is one whose proceedings are recorded and available as evidence of fact perpetually.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Article 219** of the constitution states "every person appointed to be a Judge of a High Court shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the Governor of the State, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule".

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Statement 3 is correct. **A Judge of a High Court is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.**

**Q.82) Aggregate Demand** in an economy can be increased by:

1. Increase in income tax rates
2. Lowering of repo rates by RBI

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Higher income tax rates reduce the spending power of consumers (earning individuals) which in turn reduces the demand.

Statement 2 is correct. Lower repo rate increases liquidity by providing cheaper loans to banks, which can further pass the relaxations to individual/corporate borrowers and increase consumer spending and investment.

**Q.83) Consider the following statements regarding Herd Immunity:**

1. It develops only when every individual in the population gets vaccinated.
2. The natural herd immunity can be acquired through many people getting infected.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Herd immunity does not require every individual to be vaccinated.** The Herd immunity refers to indirect protection from infectious disease that occurs when a large percentage of a population has become immune to an infection. It means that even people who aren't vaccinated, or in whom the vaccine doesn't trigger immunity, are protected because people around them who are immune can act as buffers between them and an infected person.

Statement 2 is correct. It can be developed in two ways: **Many people contract the disease** and in time build up an immune response to it (natural immunity) or **many people are vaccinated** against the disease to achieve immunity.

**Q.84) Consider the following statements regarding African Swine Fever Virus:**

1. It is a zoonotic virus.
2. The first outbreak of ASF virus in India has been in 2020.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: B

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Zoonotic diseases are the ones that can transfer from animals to humans. African swine fever (ASF) is a severe viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs; it **does not spread from animals to humans.**



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Statement 2 is correct. Previous outbreaks have been reported in Africa and parts of Europe, South America, and the Caribbean. The National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal, has confirmed African Swine Fever (ASF) in Assam recently. The central government has informed that it is the first instance of the disease in the country.

**Q.85)** Which of the following is correct regarding 'degrowth' that has been in news recently?

- a) a global slowdown due to COVID-19 pandemic
- b) a limit to consumerist growth
- c) a concept of perpetually distressed MSME sector
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Degrowth is socio-economic political movement that opposes the traditional ideas of economic growth which they say have led to severe inequalities, climate change and unsustainable exploitation of resources. It proposes a sustainable growth as against the growth fueled by Consumerism. Degrowth highlights the importance of autonomy, care work, self-organization, commons, community, localized production, work sharing, happiness and conviviality.

**Q.86)** Consider the following statements with respect to “National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP)”:

- 1. NMCP is proposed by National Manufacturing Policy, 2011.
- 2. NMCP objective is to develop global competitiveness among MSMEs.

Which of the following above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP).

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) was initiated in 2007-08.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) is the nodal programme of the Government to develop **global competitiveness among Indian MSMEs**. This programme targets at enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector through the following schemes:(a) **Lean Manufacturing** Competitiveness Scheme for MSMEs;(b) **Promotion of Information & Communication Tools (ICT)** in MSME sector;(c) **Technology and Quality Up gradation** Support to MSMEs;(d) **Design Clinics** scheme for MSMEs;(e) Enabling Manufacturing Sector to be Competitive through **Quality Management Standards (QMS) and Quality Technology Tools (QTT)**;(f) **Marketing Assistance and Technology Up gradation** Scheme for MSMEs;(g) **Setting up of Mini Tool Room** under PPP Mode;(h) National campaign for building awareness on **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**;(i) Support for Entrepreneurial and **Managerial Development** of SMEs through Incubators.(j) **Bar Code** under Market Development Assistance (MDA) scheme.

**Q.87)** Which of the following is/are features of “National Education Policy, 2019”?

- 1. The policy aims to universalize the pre-primary education by 2030.
- 2. A new independent State School Regulatory Authority (SSRA) to be created.

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3. Policy proposes new Curricular and Pedagogical Structure, with 5+3+3+4 design covering the children in the age group 3-18 years.
  4. There will be physical restructuring of schools according to new academic restructuring.
- Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation: Salient features of NEP 2019:**

- The policy aims to **universalize the pre-primary education by 2025** and provide foundational literacy/numeracy for all by 2025.
- It proposes **new Curricular and Pedagogical Structure, with 5+3+3+4 design** covering the children in the age group 3-18 years. Under this, Pre-Primary & Grades 1-2 is considered as foundational Stage; Grades 3-5 as Preparatory Stage; Grades 6-8 as Middle Stage and Grades 9-12 as Secondary Stage. This is an academic restructuring only; there will be no physical restructuring of schools.
- Children learn languages, most quickly between 2-8 years, and multilingualism has great cognitive benefits for students. Therefore a **three-language formula** has been proposed.
- It proposes the **teaching of other classical languages** and literature, including Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Pali, Persian, and Prakrit in schools.
- A new independent **State School Regulatory Authority (SSRA)** to be created.
- It aims to **consolidate 800 universities & 40,000 colleges** into around 15,000 large, multidisciplinary institutions.
- The policy proposes three **types of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs): Research Universities, Teaching Universities and Autonomous degree-granting colleges**
- It aims to **provide autonomy to all higher education institutions**. Higher education institutions to be governed by Independent Boards with complete academic and administrative autonomy
- An **autonomous body called the National Research Foundation (NRF)** to be set up through an Act of Parliament.
- **Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog or the National Education Commission** - apex body - to be constituted. It will be chaired by the Prime Minister and will comprise eminent educationists, researchers, Union Ministers, representation of Chief Ministers of States, eminent professionals from various fields.
- **MHRD to be re-designated as the Ministry of Education (MoE).**
- **Increase in public investment** by the Central and State Governments to 20% of overall public expenditure over a 10 year period.

**Q.88)** Consider the following statements with respect to **“Value Added Tax (VAT)”**:

1. VAT first time introduced in 2001 in India to replace sales tax.
2. VAT is replaced by Goods & Service Tax (GST) in January 2017.

Which of the following codes below given is/are **NOT** correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Value Added Tax.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Value Added Tax (VAT) is an **indirect value added tax** which was introduced into Indian taxation system on **April 1, 2005**. As a taxation concept, VAT replaced Sales Tax. VAT was introduced to make India a single integrated market. On June 2, 2014, VAT was implemented in all states and union territories of India, except Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Goods and Services Tax (GST), which has replaced the Central and State indirect taxes such as VAT, excise duty and service tax, was implemented on **July 1, 2017**.

**Q.89) "Mouling National Park" is in which of the following state?**

- a) Assam
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Nagaland
- d) Manipur

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Mouling park is named after a mountain peak nearby "Mouling" which also means **red poison or red blood**. Situated in the upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh and spread across 483 square km of area has Siang river flowing on the west and Siring, Subong, Semong and Krobong river on the Easter ends. There is tiger, panthers, elephant, hog deer, python, barking deer, sambal deer, buffalo and red panda which could be spotted here. Besides animals, there are several species of birds and plants as well which could be seen here. Tourist near and around the park indulge in rafting, angling and trekking. The Mouling National park is a very isolated area and there are weaker signals for communication and almost no scope of transportation either. Closest towns from this park are Along (130km) and Pasighat (180km), and all offices of the forest department are located outside the park. The weather is extremely humid in Yingkiong and in the lower elevation temperature ranges from 15 degrees Celsius to 38 degrees Celsius while in the winters the upper region experiences snowfall.

**Q.90) "Long March 5B" satellite launch vehicle is recently in news, is related to which of the following?**

- a) China
- b) Japan
- c) South Korea
- d) North Korea

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The Long March 5B rocket is a **new version of the Long March 5 launcher, China's most powerful rocket**. Designed to lift massive payloads into **low Earth orbit**, the Long March 5B rocket flies without a second stage and stands a bit shorter than the full-size Long March 5 configuration. The launcher's lift capability to low Earth orbit is around 55,000 pounds, or 25 metric tons, according to Chinese state media. The Long March 5B version — using a "stage-and-a-half" launch architecture — is tailored to launch large modules for China's planned space station.

**Q.91) Consider the following statements regarding Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS):**

1. It has been developed by National Payments Corporation of India.

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2. It facilitates financial transactions without providing the bank account number.  
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. AePS has been developed by NPCI to further the **financial inclusion** in country by facilitating the transactions with help of Aadhar card numbers and microATMs.

Statement 2 is correct. **The user does not need to mention the bank account number**, only Aadhar authentication is required and the account should be linked to UID. The services which can be availed through AePS are: Cash Withdrawal, Cash Deposit, Balance Enquiry, Aadhaar to Aadhaar Fund Transfer, Mini Statement.

**Q.92)** Which of the following steps have been taken by **RBI to boost economic growth** during COVID-19 pandemic?

- 1. Increase in 'Ways and Means Advances (WMA)' limits
- 2. Reduction in Repo rate
- 3. Providing liquidity to NBFCs by TLTRO

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **RBI provides loans to Center and State governments through 'Ways and Means Advances (WMA)'**, it has recently increased the limits twice for the borrowings done by state governments to provide much needed liquidity. Statement 2 is correct. The central bank has cut the repo rate to provide cheaper money to banks who can pass the lower interest further to end borrower.

Statement 3 is correct. RBI has announced **targeted long-term repo operation (TLTRO)** amounting almost rupees 50,000 crore under which banks will get three-year funding from RBI to invest in investment grade papers of NBFCs and micro finance institutions.

**Q.93)** Consider the following statements regarding **Hong Kong**:

- 1. The Basic Law of Hong Kong is set to expire in 2020.
- 2. Hong Kong functions as special administrative region (SAR) of China under 'one country two system' principle.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **The Basic Law of Hong Kong is a national law of China** that serves as the de facto constitution of the Hong Kong. Its main principles were

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agreed under **Sino-British joint declaration** when Hong Kong returned to Chinese sovereignty from British colonial system. It will expire in 2047.

Statement 2 is correct. Hong Kong basic law has ensured that it functions as separate economic unit having different currency and regulations than Mainland China. As per the law, Hong Kong has separate legal, economic, political systems but is under the sovereignty of China as **a special administrative region (SAR) of China** as per 'one country two system' principle.

**Q.94)** Consider the following statements regarding **European Union**:

1. There are two permanent members from European Union to UN Security Council.
2. Schengen Area consists of all members of European Union.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Five permanent members of UNSC are China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States**; of which only France is part of European Union after Brexit.



Statement 2 is incorrect. **Schengen Area consists of 26 European countries**, who have abolished their internal borders, for the free and unrestricted movement of people. Of 27 EU members 22 are part of Schengen area; Ireland has opted out, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, and Romania—are legally obliged to join the area in the future. Although not members of

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the EU, countries like Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Lichtenstein are also part of the Schengen zone.

**Q.95)** Consider the following statements regarding **Aarogya Setu**:

1. It works by accessing the GPS and Bluetooth of the device.
2. It is an open source software.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The application asks for the **location and Bluetooth access** in the mobile device. It uses the location data to assess if the device holder has been in proximity of someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Open Source Software are those whose **source code has been made public so that anyone can inspect, audit enhance the software**. The source code of Aarogya Setu has not been made public 'yet'.

**Q.96)** '**Darbar Move**' has been in news recently, what does it relate to?

- a) Shifting of capital between Jammu and Srinagar
- b) Checkmate within five moves in Chess
- c) Abolishing the privy purse of Royal families
- d) Moving of decision-making power from parliament to PMO

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** The bi-annual shift of capital of Jammu & Kashmir between Srinagar and Jammu is called Darbar move. It is almost 148 year old practice since the Dogra dynasty rule in J&K.

**Q.97)** Consider the following statements:

1. The tenure of US president is same as of India's President.
2. The US president gets elected after getting majority of the popular votes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

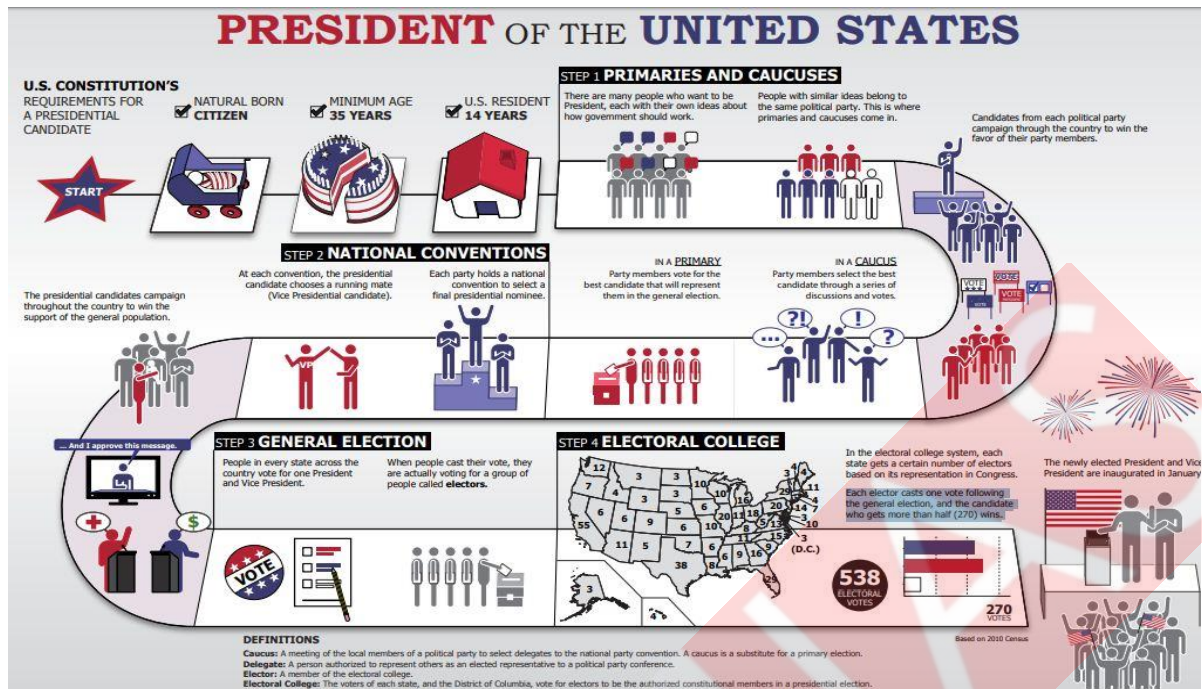
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **The tenure of US president is four years** while in case of Indian President, it is five years.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The majority of individual popular votes in US presidential election do not guarantee the victory. US Presidential system is based on a unique system of **Electoral College**. People in general election vote in the President's & Vice President's elections, while they actually vote for a group of people called electors. Each state gets a certain number of **electors based on its representation in Congress**. Each elector casts one vote following the general election, and the candidate who gets more than half (270) wins.

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**Q.98)** Which of the following correctly defines 'force majeure'?

- Unparalleled power of Supreme Court under article 142
- Clause in contracts regarding unforeseeable circumstances
- Force enough to move a satellite out of Earth's gravitational field
- A global power forcing other countries to follow its diktats

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** 'Force Majeure' is a clause in contracts that relieves the parties in contracts from obligations in case of some unforeseen circumstances.

**Q.99)** Consider the following statements regarding 'Vande Bharat Mission':

- It is in response to the crisis due current pandemic COVID-19.
- It aims to bring back Indians stranded overseas.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct. Government of India has launched a comprehensive mission 'Vande Bharat' to bring back Indians stranded overseas due to current global pandemic COVID-19.

Note of caution: **Do not confuse it with 'Vande Bharat Express'** (Train 18), which is an Indian semi-high speed electric multiple unit train.

**Q.100)** Which of the following relates to a nuclear radiation leak accident?

- Chernobyl disaster
- Three Mile Island accident

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only

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- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** The **Chernobyl disaster was a nuclear accident that occurred in 1986**, at a reactor in the **Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Soviet Union (today Ukraine)**. It is considered the worst nuclear accidents; the official death toll released was 31 while the estimates by various NGOs range above tens of thousands.

In 1979 at **Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in USA** a cooling malfunction caused part of the core to melt in the reactor. Some radioactive gas was released a couple of days after the accident. There were no injuries or adverse health effects from the Three Mile Island accident.

**Q.101) "Nsafe" is recently in news, is related to which of the following?**

- a) Nuclear Safety
- b) Nitrogenous fertilizer
- c) CoVID-19 face mask
- d) Nuclear Submarine

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** With face masks becoming mandatory to deal with the COVID19 pandemic, an **IIT-Delhi startup 'Nanosafe Solutions'** has launched an **antimicrobial and washable face mask 'NSafe'**. The said mask is reusable up to 50 laundering, thus greatly cutting down the cost of use. IIT-Delhi said that the 'NSafe' mask is a triple-layered product consisting of inner hydrophilic layer for comfort, middle layer having antimicrobial activity and outer most layer having water and oil repellent behavior. "NSafe mask has 99.2% bacterial filtration efficiency [at 3 microns] along with breathability and splash resistance".

**Q.102) Which of the following is/are responsibilities of "National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)"?**

1. Lay down policies on disaster management.
2. Approve the National Plan.
3. Recommend provision of funds for the purpose of mitigation.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

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

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** NDMA, as the apex body, is mandated to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters. Towards this, it has the following responsibilities:-

- **Lay down policies** on disaster management ;
- **Approve the National Plan;**
- Approve **plans prepared by the Ministries or Departments** of the Government of India in accordance with the National Plan;
- **Lay down guidelines to be followed by the State Authorities** in drawing up the State Plan;



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- **Lay down guidelines to be followed by the different Ministries or Departments** of the Government of India for the Purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects;
- **Coordinate the enforcement and implementation** of the policy and plans for disaster management;
- **Recommend provision of funds** for the purpose of mitigation;
- **Provide such support to other countries** affected by major disasters as may be determined by the Central Government;
- **Take such other measures for the prevention** of disaster, or the mitigation, or preparedness and capacity building for dealing with threatening disaster situations or disasters as it may consider necessary;
- Lay down broad policies and guidelines for the functioning of the **National Institute of Disaster Management**.

**Q.103)** Which of the following **Article of Indian Constitution** have the provisions related to “**Preventive Detention**”?

- a) Article 20
- b) Article 21
- c) Article 22
- d) Article 23

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The **Article 22 of the Indian Constitution** provides safeguards against the misuse of police powers to make arrests and detentions.

**Q.104)** Consider the following statements with respect to “**Trade Unions Act, 1926**”:

1. At least 20% of the office bearers of a union should be actually engaged or employed in the industry with which the trade union is concerned.
2. To dissolve trade union, at least 20% of the members should sign the dissolution.

Which of the following statements is/are **NOT** correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Trade Unions Act, 1926.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** At least **50%** of the office bearers of a union should be actually **engaged or employed** in the industry with which the trade union is concerned, and the remaining 50% or less can be outsiders such as Lawyers, politicians, social workers etc.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** A registered trade union can be dissolved in accordance with the rules of the union. A **notice of dissolution signed by any seven members and the secretary of the union** should be sent to the registrar within **14 days** of the dissolution. On being satisfied the registrar shall register the notice and the union shall stand dissolved from the date. The funds of the union shall be divided by the Registrar amongst its members in the manner prescribed under the rules of the union or as laid down by the government.

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**Q.105)** Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary”?

1. It is first bird sanctuary in India.
2. It is located in Kerala.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary.

**Statement 1 is correct:** Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary was declared way back in 1936, which was the “first” Birds Sanctuary in India.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Vedanthangal bird sanctuary is situated in Tamil Nadu. The vedanthangal lake region attracted a variety of birds such as pintail, garganey, grey wagtail, blue-winged teal, common sandpiper.

**Q.106)** Consider the following statements regarding **Luhman 16**:

1. It is a binary brown dwarf system.
2. It is the closest brown dwarf system to Sun.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

**Brown dwarfs are objects heavier than planets but lighter than stars.** Luhman 16 is a binary brown dwarf system of **Luhman 16A and 16B**. At 6.5 light-years it is the closest brown dwarf system. Both brown dwarfs weigh about 30 times as much as Jupiter.

A team of astronomers have discovered that **Luhman 16A shows signs of cloud bands** like those seen on Jupiter and Saturn.

**Q.107)** Consider the following statements regarding **mangrove forest system**:

1. Total Mangrove cover is almost one-third of Tropical Forests of the world.
2. Gujarat after West Bengal has highest mangrove cover in India.
3. Mangrove forests help in sediment deposition.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

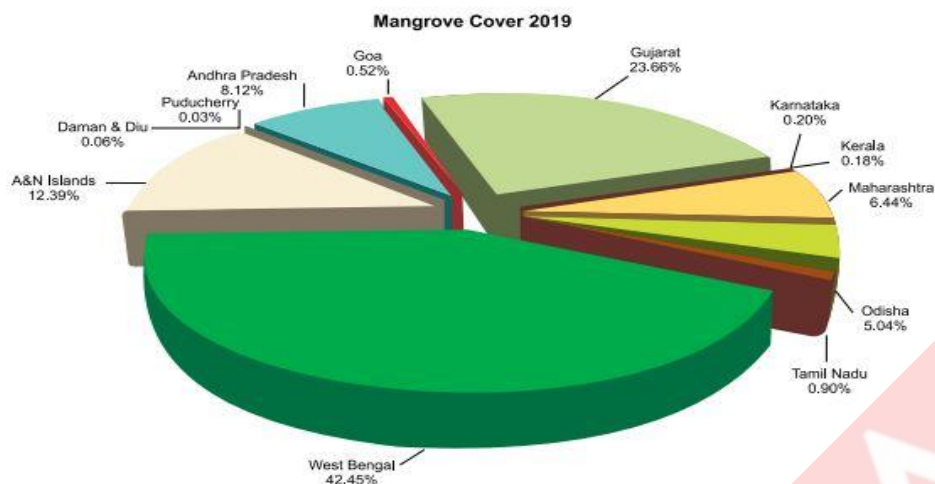
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The total Mangrove cover in the world is 15 million hectares which is **1% of the Tropical Forests of the World**. Asia has the largest share of the world’s mangroves. About **40% of world’s Mangrove Cover is found in South East Asia and South Asia** followed by South America, North Central America and West and Central Africa.

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Statement 2 is correct.



Statement 3 is correct. Mangroves have a complex root system it slows down water flows and **enhance sediment deposition**. They act as a zone of land accretion due to trapping of fine sediments including heavy metal contaminants.

**Q.108)** Consider the following statements regarding **Bengal Tiger**:

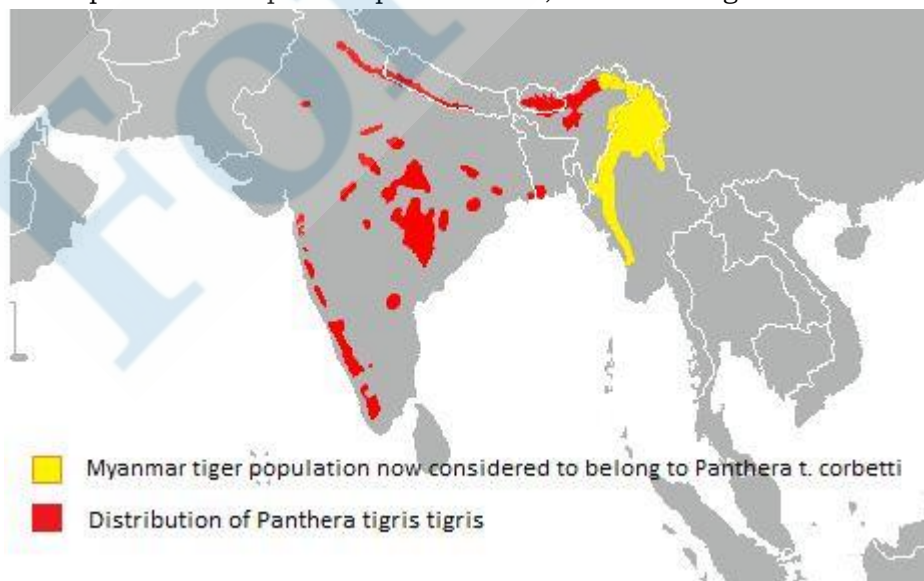
1. It is endemic to its habitat of Sundarban Mangroves in India and Bangladesh.
2. It is listed in the critically endangered category in IUCN Red list.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The population of Bengal tiger is native to Indian subcontinent but **not endemic to Sundarbans**. They inhabit tropical moist evergreen forests, tropical dry forests, tropical and subtropical moist deciduous forests, mangroves, subtropical and temperate upland forests, and alluvial grasslands.



Statement 2 is incorrect. It is listed as **endangered in IUCN red list**.

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**Q.109)** Consider the following statements regarding **Jagannath Puri, Odisha**:

1. It is one of the four pilgrimages (Char Dham) defined by Adi Shankaracharya.
2. The 'Rath Yatra' is an annual festival at Jagannath Puri.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri and Rameswaram** are the Char Dham Vaishnavite pilgrimage sites in India. These were defined by Adi Shankaracharya.

Statement 2 is correct. It is annual festival which commemorates **Jagannath's annual visit to Gundicha Temple**. The deities Lord Jagannath, his elder brother Lord Balabhadra and younger sister Devi Subhadra, along with Sudarshan, are taken out of the main shrine of Jagannath Temple and placed in the Ratha (Chariot) and yatra moves to Gundicha Temple.

**Q.110)** Consider the following statements:

1. A minister is not eligible to be member of Public Accounts Committee.
2. The chairperson of Public Accounts Committee is appointed by Speaker amongst the members of Lok Sabha elected to the Committee.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. A **Minister is not eligible to be elected as a member of the Committee**, and if a member of Committee is appointed to hold such an office they cease to be member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

Statement 2 is correct. PAC consists of **15 members from Loksabha and 7 members from Rajyasabha**. The Chairperson of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst the members of Lok Sabha elected to the Committee.

**Q.111)** Consider the following statements regarding **Buddhism**:

1. Buddha Purnima is celebrated to commemorate birth of Gautam Buddha.
2. Buddha refers to himself as 'Tathagata' in several Pali canons.
3. Maitreya is regarded as future Buddha in Buddhist literature.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Buddha Purnima commemorates the birth date of Buddha**, celebrated on the full moon day of the Vaisakha month.

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Statement 2 is correct. **Tathagata is the Pali/Sanskrit word meaning “one who has thus (tatha) gone (gata)” or “one who has thus (tatha) arrived (agata)”**. Gautama Buddha uses it when referring to himself in the Pali Canon.

Statement 3 is correct. As per tradition, **Maitreya** is a bodhisattva who will appear on Earth in the future when the teaching of Buddha decays completely.

**Q.112)** Which of the following are part of **National Action Plan for Climate Change**:

1. National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
2. National Mission on Sustainable Habitat
3. National Water Mission
4. National Mission for Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF)** is the **coordinating Ministry** of NAPCC. The NAPCC comprises eight missions:

- National Solar Mission
- National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
- National Mission on Sustainable Habitat
- National Water Mission
- National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem
- National Mission for a Green India
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
- National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

**Q.113)** Consider the following **Styrene**:

1. It is used in plastic manufacturing industry.
2. Chronic exposure to the gas has effects on the central nervous system (CNS) of humans.
3. It is a colorless liquid kept at temperatures below 20 degree Celsius to prevent evaporation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Styrene is primarily used in the **production of polystyrene plastics and resins**.

Statement 2 is correct. **Chronic/long-term exposure to styrene in humans results in effects on the central nervous system (CNS)**, such as headache, fatigue, weakness, and depression, CSN dysfunction, hearing loss, and peripheral neuropathy.

Statement 3 is correct. Styrene is a derivative of benzene, a **colorless oily liquid that evaporates easily** so it must be kept at temperatures under 20°C. It has a sweet smell, but high concentrations have a less pleasant odor.

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**Q.114)** Which of the following is correctly matched?

1. Amicus curiae - a solicitor for the executive
2. Suo moto - on its own motion
3. Prima facie - based on the first impression

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Option 1 is incorrect. An '**amicus curiae**' literally means '**friend of the court**', they are someone who are not a party to a case but are permitted by the court to advise it in respect to some matter of law.

Option 2 is correct. '**Suo moto**' is a Latin legal term which means "**on its own motion**" and implies that an action was taken by a group or person on their own.

Option 3 is correct. '**Prima facie**' is a Latin expression meaning based on the **first impression**; accepted as correct until proved otherwise.

**Q.115)** Which of the following is/are means of **decreasing the money supply in economy**?

- a) Quantitative Easing
- b) Helicopter Money
- c) Decreasing Bank rate
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** None of the options given reduces money supply; rather they are instruments of increasing the money supply.

**Quantitative easing (QE)** is a form of monetary policy in which a central bank purchases long-term securities from the open market in order to increase the money supply.

**Helicopter money** is the term used for a large sum of new money that is printed and distributed. For more on this visit: <https://blog.forumias.com/what-is-helicopter-money-and-why-its-use-is-advocated-against-corona-pandemic/>

**Bank rate** is the interest rate at which central bank lends money to banks. Lowering it increases the money supply.

**Q.116)** Consider the following statements regarding **Disaster Management Act, 2005**:

1. Prime Minister is the Chairperson of National Disaster Management Authority.
2. Minister of Home Affairs is the chairperson of Nation Executive committee.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson** of National Disaster Management Authority.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the act "the Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government having administrative control of

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the disaster management”, therefore **Union Home Secretary** is the chairperson of National Executive Committee.

**Q.117)** Which of the following statements is/are correct about “**India Meteorological Department (IMD)**”?

1. It was established in the period of Viceroy Lord Mayo.
2. It detect and locate earthquakes and to evaluate seismicity in different parts of the country for development projects.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation: India Meteorological Department (IMD).**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** IMD was established in the period of Viceroy **Lord Northbrook**.

**Statement 2 is correct:** One of the mandates of IMD is to **detect and locate earthquakes and to evaluate seismicity** in different parts of the country for development projects.

**Q.118)** Which of the following statements is/are **NOT** correct about “**Factories Act, 1948**”?

1. No adult worker shall be required or allowed to work in a factory for more than 48 hours in a week.
2. The Act is applicable to any factory whereon twenty or more workers are working with the aid of power.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation: Factories Act, 1948.**

**Statement 1 is correct:** According to the Act, provision of working hours of adults, no adult worker shall be required or allowed to work in a factory for more than **48 hours in a week**. There **should be a weekly holiday**.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Act is applicable to **any factory whereon ten or more workers** are working, or were **working on any day of the preceding twelve months**, and in any part of which a **manufacturing process is being carried on with the aid of power**, or is ordinarily so carried on, or whereon **twenty or more workers** are working, or were working on any day of the preceding twelve months, and in any part of which a manufacturing process is being carried on **without the aid of power**, or is ordinarily so carried on; but this does not include a mine, or a mobile unit belonging to the armed forces of the union, a railway running shed or a hotel, restaurant or eating place.

**Q.119)** Which of the following is/are the **parameters** for ranking various universities and institutions under “**National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)**”?

1. Teaching, Learning and Resources.
2. Research and Professional Practices.
3. Outreach and Inclusivity.
4. Graduation Outcomes.

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5. Perception.

Choose the correct code from below given options:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2, and 5 only
- c) 2, 3 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) was approved by the MHRD and launched by Minister of Human Resource Development on **29th September 2015**. This framework outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country. The methodology draws from the overall recommendations broad understanding arrived at by a Core Committee set up by MHRD, to identify the broad parameters for ranking various universities and institutions. The **parameters broadly cover “Teaching, Learning and Resources,” “Research and Professional Practices,” “Graduation Outcomes,” “Outreach and Inclusivity,” and “Perception”**.

**Q.120) “World Happiness Report”** is released by which of the following Institution?

- a) WEF
- b) World Bank
- c) United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- d) UNESCO

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The World Happiness Report is a landmark survey of the state of global happiness that ranks 156 countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be. The **report is produced by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network in partnership with the Ernesto Illy Foundation**.

**Q.121) “Berne Convention of 1886”** related to which of the following?

- a) Primary Health Care
- b) Primary education
- c) Free trade market in Europe
- d) Rights of authors

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The Berne Convention, adopted in 1886, deals with **the protection of works and the rights of their authors**. It provides creators such as authors, musicians, poets, painters etc. with the means to control how their works are used, by whom, and on what terms. It is based on three basic principles and contains a series of provisions determining the minimum protection to be granted, as well as special provisions available to developing countries that want to make use of them.

**Q.122) Consider the following statements regarding Rushikulya River:**

- 1. It is a major tributary of Mahanadi River.
  - 2. Rushikulya beach is a major nesting ground for Olive Ridley turtles.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2



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**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Rushikulya river originates in Daringbadi hills of the Eastern Ghats range and meets the Bay of Bengal at Puruna Bandha in Ganjam, Odisha.** The catchment area of the Rushikulya basin is 8024 sqkm.

Statement 2 is correct. The mouth for Rushikulya river is a major nesting ground for the Olive Ridley turtles. The mass nesting, known by the Spanish term 'arribada' is an annual phenomenon at Rushikulya beach although in some years (2002, 2007, 2016 and 2019) turtles have skipped the beach. Olive Ridley sea turtles are listed as vulnerable in IUCN red list.

**Q.123)** Consider the following statements regarding **Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB):**

1. India is a regional member in both the multilateral banks.
2. India receives funding from both of them for Infrastructural projects.
3. India is the second largest overall shareholder in both banks.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

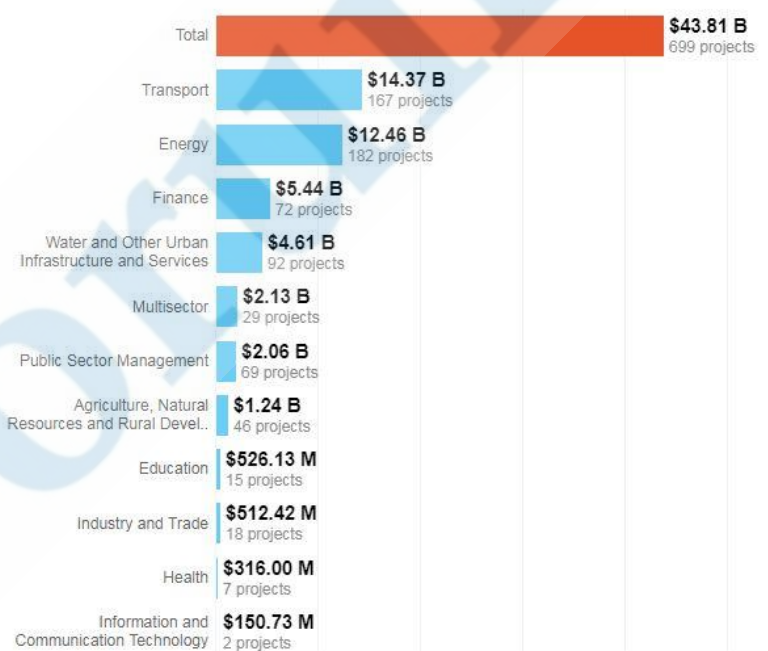
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Correct answer: A

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **India is a regional member in both banks.**

Statement 2 is correct. India receives funds from both the banks for infrastructure projects.

India: Cumulative Lending, Grant, and Technical Assistance Commitments  
as of 31 December 2018



Source: Asian Development Bank. *ADB and India: Fact Sheet*

Statement 3 is incorrect. **India is the second largest shareholder in AIIB** after China (26.5%). India (7.6%) and Russia (6.0%) are second and third largest shareholders. **Japan and USA are largest shareholders in ADB** with 15.65% each; India has 6.3% shareholding of ADB.

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**Q.124)** Consider the following statements regarding '**Solidarity Trial**':

1. It aims to find a treatment for COVID-19.
2. The effect of Hydroxychloroquine on COVID-19 is being tested under the trial.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct. "Solidarity trial" is an international clinical trial to help find an effective treatment for COVID-19, **launched by the World Health Organization** and partners. **India is also participating** in the trial and 5 Indian hospitals have been approved to join WHO's Solidarity Trial.

The Solidarity Trial will compare four treatment options against standard of care, to assess their relative effectiveness against COVID-19:

- Remdesivir**; previously tested as an Ebola treatment,
- Lopinavir/Ritonavir**; a licensed treatment for HIV,
- Interferon beta-1a**; used to treat multiple sclerosis,
- Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine**; used to treat malaria and rheumatology conditions respectively.

**Q.125)** Consider the following statements regarding **National Green Tribunal**:

1. The tribunal has powers of a civil court.
2. It has jurisdiction over relief and compensation under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The Tribunal's orders are enforceable; the powers vested to it are the same as to a **civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908**. The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure but is guided by principles of **natural justice**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Any person seeking relief and compensation for environmental damage involving subjects in the legislations mentioned in Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 can approach the Tribunal, which are:

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991;
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

It does not have jurisdiction over the grievances under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

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**Q.126)** Which of the following is/are part of **Monetary Policy** management?

1. Government spending
2. Taxation laws
3. Interest rates managing demand & supply of money

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Options 1 and 2 are incorrect. **Fiscal policy refers to government revenue/expenditure management**, therefore the government spending and taxation laws are part of fiscal policy management.

Option 3 is correct. **Monetary policy refers to management of demand and supply of money** in circulation. The Central bank of a country is generally the regulator for monetary policy which it manages through interest rates it offers to banks.

**Q.127)** Consider the following statements regarding **Lipulekh pass**:

1. It is situated near India-China border in Uttarakhand.
2. It is one of the routes used for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

**Lipulekh pass is in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand near tri-junction of India, China and Nepal.** Pilgrims use this pass to crossover to China for Kailash Mansarovar yatra. The Nathu La pass in Sikkim is another route used for Mansarovar yatra.

**Q.128)** Consider the following statements regarding **Factories Act, 1948**:

1. It is applicable to factories working with aid of power and employing 10 or more people.
2. The act empowers state governments to exempt factories of act's provisions in case of public emergency.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The act defines '**factories**' as units working with aid of power and employing 10 or more people and units working without aid of power and employing 20 or more people.

Statement 2 is correct. **Section 5** of the act states "**In any case of public emergency** the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, exempt any factory or class or description of factories from all or any of the provisions of this Act for such period and subject to such conditions as it may think fit: provided that no such notification shall be

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made for a period exceeding three months at a time.” Further the explanation the section says ““public emergency” means a grave emergency whereby the security of India or of any part of the territory thereof is threatened, whether by war or external aggression or internal disturbance.”

**Q.129)** Consider the following statements regarding **Gulf cooperation council**:

1. Iraq & Iran are not members of GCC.
  2. All members of GCC are members of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **GCC members:** Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **OPEC members:** Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Libya, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Nigeria, Gabon, Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Congo.

**Q.130)** Which of the following is/are objectives of **palliative care**?

1. Relief from pain and other distressing symptoms.
2. Quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

**According to World health Organisation** “Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual.”

This form of care is offered alongside curative or other treatments one may be receiving.

Palliative care: provides relief from pain and other distressing symptoms;

affirms life and regards dying as a normal process;

intends neither to hasten or postpone death;

offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death;

offers a support system to help the family cope during the patients illness and in their own bereavement;

uses a team approach to address the needs of patients and their families, including bereavement counseling, if indicated.

**Q.131)** Which of the following is correctly matched?

1. INS Vikramaditya - Aircraft Carrier
2. INS Airavat - Amphibious ship

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3. AH-64E Apache - Attack Helicopter

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All are correctly matched.

**INS Vikramaditya is a modified Kiev-class aircraft carrier** and the flagship of the Indian Navy, which entered service in 2013. India purchased it from Russia.

**INS Airavat is Indian Navy's Shardul-class amphibious warfare ship.** Amphibious warfare ships are employed to land and support ground forces, such as marines, on enemy territory during an amphibious assault. Their missions also include humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).

**The Boeing AH-64 Apache is an American attack helicopter.** Indian air force also operates these attack helicopters.

**Q.132)** Which of the following reports is/are published by International Monetary Fund (IMF) twice a year?

- 1. World Economic Outlook
- 2. Global Financial Stability Report
- 3. Fiscal Monitor

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** As part of its **World Economic and Financial Surveys**, the IMF publishes flagship reports on multilateral surveillance twice a year: **World Economic Outlook (WEO), Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR), and Fiscal Monitor (FM).**

**Q.133)** Recently, which country took decision to end female genital mutilation (FGM)?

- a) Sudan
- b) Egypt
- c) Peru
- d) Bangladesh

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** **Sudan's decision to outlaw the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM)** is a landmark victory for women's rights in a country that is still in a transition from dictatorship to democracy.

**Q.134)** With reference to the 'MiG-29 Fulcrum', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is a twin-engine aircraft designed and developed by Dassault Aviation.
- 2. It was inducted into Indian Air Force (IAF) in 2005.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only

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- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** MiG-29 Fulcrum.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** MiG-29 Fulcrum **designed by the Mikoyan Design Bureau, Russia** is a twin-engine air superiority fighter which was initially optimized for air-to-air combat role.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** MiG-29 Fulcrum was **inducted in the Soviet Air Force in 1982 and in the Indian Air Force (IAF) during the period 1986-1991.**

**Q.135)** Which one of the following statements is **NOT** correct about 'Patriot Missile system'?

- a) It is a long-range, all-altitude, all-weather air defense system.
- b) It is developed by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control.
- c) It is in service throughout the US, Germany, Greece, Israel and India.
- d) None.

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Patriot (MIM-104) is a **long-range, all-altitude, all-weather air defence system** to counter tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and advanced aircraft. It is **produced by Raytheon in Massachusetts and Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in Florida.** Patriot is in **service throughout the US, Germany, Greece, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Korea, Poland, Sweden, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Romania, Spain and Taiwan.** US forces deployed the Patriot missile systems during the **2003 Iraq conflict.**

**Q.136)** With reference to the 'Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led organization.
2. It was founded in 1955.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

**Statement 1 is correct:** **CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization,** playing a proactive role in India's development process.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** **Founded in 1895 and celebrating 125 years in 2020,** India's premier business association has more than 9100 members, from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs.

**Q.137)** Consider the following statements regarding **Cess**:

1. It is kind of tax on tax levied for specific purposes.
2. State governments cannot impose Cess.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Cess is a type of tax on tax.** It is levied to fulfill a specific purpose, eg. education cess, Krishi Kalyan cess etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **It can be levied by state governments** on goods over which it has power of taxation. Recently a *COVID cess* was announced by Haryana government on Liquor sale in the state.

**Q.138)** Consider the following statements regarding **Fiat money**:

1. It does not have intrinsic value.
  2. It is based on the gold standard.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Fiat money does not have any intrinsic value.** It is a government-issued currency and gives monetary control to central banks as they can control how much money is printed.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **It is not backed by a physical commodity**, such as gold or silver, but by the government that issued it. The currency backed by a physical commodity is called Commodity money.

**Q.139)** Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Caracas : Venezuela
2. Malé : Mauritius
3. Muscat : UAE

Select the correct answer using code below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** **Caracas is the capital city of Venezuela.**

**Malé is the capital city of Maldives. Port Louis is the capital city of Mauritius.**

**Muscat is capital of Oman. Abu Dhabi is capital city of UAE.**

**Q.140)** Consider the following statements regarding '**Llama**':

1. It is a domesticated Camelid species of central African region.
  2. It is used as beast of burden and a source of fiber.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **'Llama' is a South American camelid.** It is domesticated in Andean cultures since pre-Columbian era.

Statement 2 is correct. It is majorly domesticated for use as **beast of burden, meat and source of fiber. Quechua is language family spoken by natives of the Peruvian, Bolivian and Ecuadorian Andes** and some other highlands of South America. In Quechua ethnic groups, many traditional handicrafts are an important aspect of material culture for Llama is an important source of fiber.

**A study published in journal 'Cell' recently proposed the potential use of antibodies from Llama for treatment of COVID-19.**

**Q.141)** Consider the following statements regarding **Perpetual bonds**:

1. These bonds do not have maturity date mentioned with them.
2. Consol bonds are perpetual bonds.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

Perpetual bonds are generally issued by governments to finance themselves by selling **bonds with no maturity date.** They are not redeemable but provide a steady source of fixed income for bond holder. **Consol bonds** are perpetual bonds that were issued by US and British governments in past. Some of the notable perpetual bonds in existence are those that were issued by the British Treasury for World War I and the South Sea Bubble of 1720.

It has been suggested that Indian government should issue perpetual bonds to finance itself out of current crisis.

**Q.142)** Consider the following statements regarding **Hog Cholera**:

1. It is caused by the same virus which causes African swine fever.
2. This disease affects pigs exclusively.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. African swine fever virus (ASFV) is a large, double-stranded DNA virus in the Asfarviridae family. **Classical Swine Fever virus (Hog Cholera)** is a small, positive single-stranded, enveloped RNA virus belonging to the genus Pestivirus within the Flaviviridae family.

Statement 2 is correct. African swine fever as well as Classical Swine Fever is a **viral disease affecting pigs exclusively.**

**Q.143)** Consider the following statements:

1. Duties on alcohol for human consumption are in State List under seventh schedule of constitution.



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2. Alcohol for human consumption does not come under purview of GST law.  
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. State list entry under seventh schedule mentions: Duties of excise on the following goods manufactured or produced in the **State: (a) alcoholic liquors for human consumption, (b) opium, Indian hemp and other narcotic drugs and narcotics;** but not including medicinal and toilet preparations containing alcohol.

Statement 2 is correct. **Alcohol for human consumption, Petroleum products and Electricity are kept outside the purview of GST in India.**

**Q.144)** Which of the following correctly defines 'Corona-Killer 100'?

- a) a protective gear for healthcare workers
- b) an automated disinfecting unmanned aerial vehicle
- c) a potential COVID\_19 vaccine developed by Serum institute of India
- d) an alcohol-based sanitizer developed by DRDO

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** An ISO-9001 company **Garuda Aerospace has brought out an Automated Disinfecting Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)** that aids in Sanitization of Public Places, Hospitals & Tall buildings. This Corona-Killer -100 sanitization drone which is currently being used in 26 cities was selected as one of the top 10 socio economic innovations by NITI Aayog in 2016.

**Q.145)** Consider the following statements regarding **Hypoxia**:

- 1. It refers to a condition of oxygen deprivation at tissue level in body.
- 2. Silent hypoxia is a condition of very low oxygen level in blood cells with unexpectedly low symptoms.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Hypoxia is a medical condition in which the body or a part of the **body is deprived of adequate oxygen supply at the tissue level.** If the oxygen levels fall below 90 per cent (of normal range) in blood, patients could begin feeling lethargy, confusion, mental disruptions because of inadequate quantities of oxygen reaching the brain while levels below 80 per cent can result in damage to vital organs.

Statement 2 is correct. In **acute or silent hypoxia**, a person's oxygen level in blood cells and tissue can drop without any initial warning, patients have extremely low levels of oxygen concentration, yet they do not show signs of breathlessness. There have been reports of silent hypoxia with COVID-19 patients who did not experience shortness of breath or coughing until their oxygen levels had plummeted to such a degree that it led to organ failures.

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**Q.146)** Consider the following statements regarding **GARUD portal**:

1. It has been launched by Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It provides fast track exemptions to private agencies for COVID-19 related drone operations.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Both statements are incorrect.

The '**Government Authorisation for Relief Using Drones**' (**GARUD**) portal has been launched by Ministry of Civil Aviation and DGCA.

It provides fast track conditional exemptions to **government agencies** for COVID-19 related RPAS (Remotely Piloted Aircraft System)/ drone operations.

**Q.147)** With reference to the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was established after the 26/11 attacks to promote police intelligence.
2. It was established by executive resolution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The Government of India vied **Resolution No.8/136/68-P.I (Pers.I) dated 28.08.1970** formally established the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), under the Ministry of Home Affairs giving a new orientation to then existing Police Research and Advisory Council (1966) for the following reasons and with **the primary objective of modernization of police force**.

**Q.148)** With reference to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which of the following statements is/are **NOT** correct?

1. ICMR was earlier called as Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) and it is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world.
2. ICMR is the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

**Statement 1 is correct:** As early as in 1911, the **Government of India set up the Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) with the specific objective of sponsoring and coordinating medical research in the country**. After independence, several important

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changes were made in the organization and the activities of the IRFA. It was re-designated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with considerably expanded scope of functions. The ICMR is funded by the Government of India through the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the **apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research**, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world.

**Q.149)** 'Polavaram irrigation project' is recently in news, it is being constructed on which of the following river?

- a) Godavari
- b) Krishna
- c) Pennar
- d) Cauvery

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The Polavaram Irrigation Project on **River Godavari** is a Multipurpose one conferring Irrigation benefits in the upland areas of Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna Districts.

**Q.150)** Arrange the following insurance companies in the chronological order of their formation in pre-independent India:

- 1. Oriental Life Insurance Company
- 2. Madras Equitable
- 3. Bombay Mutual

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 2-1-3
- b) 1-2-3
- c) 3-2-1
- d) 1-3-2

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** **1818** saw the advent of life insurance business in India with the establishment of the **Oriental Life Insurance Company in Calcutta**. This Company however failed in 1834. In **1829, the Madras Equitable** had begun transacting life insurance business in the Madras Presidency. 1870 saw the enactment of the British Insurance Act and in the last three decades of the nineteenth century, the **Bombay Mutual** (1871), Oriental (1874) and Empire of India (1897) were started in the Bombay Residency.

**Q.151)** With reference to the 'National Family Health Survey (NFHS)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. First survey of NFHS was conducted in 1996-97.
- 2. International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) is the nodal agency for providing coordination and technical guidance for the survey.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** NFHS.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) in India was initiated in the early 1990s with the first NFHS being conducted in 1992-93. Since then, India has successfully completed four rounds - NFHS-2 in 1998-99, NFHS-3 in 2005-06 and NFHS-4 in 2015-16.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of India, designated the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) Mumbai, as the nodal agency, responsible for providing coordination and technical guidance for the survey.