

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

1st - 7th June, 2020

*THIS IS A MONTHLY DOCUMENT CONTAINING ALL MCQS ASKED IN 10 PM
CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ BY FORUMIAS.*

10 PM Compilation for the Month of June (First week), 2020

Q.1) Which of the following is/are correctly matched:

1. McMahon Line - India and China
2. Line of Actual Control - India and Pakistan
3. Radcliff Line - India and Tibet Autonomous Region

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **McMahon Line** is the boundary line between the Tibetan region of China and the North-east region of India as per the **1914 Shimla convention** signed between Tibetan and British representatives.

The **LAC** is the demarcation separating the Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.

The **Radcliffe Line** was the boundary demarcation line between the Indian and Pakistani portions of the Punjab and Bengal provinces of British India; it was named after Cyril Radcliff, chairperson of the boundary commissions.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding **India and China**:

1. Both countries are members to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and G-20.
2. Both countries have free trade agreement with each other under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **SCO comprises eight Member States: China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.**

The **G20** is made up of 19 countries and the European Union. The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, **China**, Germany, France, **India**, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK and the US.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)** is the free trade agreement between ASEAN countries and its FTA partners including China. **India is an FTA partner of ASEAN but opted out of RCEP in November 2019.**

Q.3) Which of the following is/are potential results of providing a **Universal Basic Income**?

1. Demand side inflation
2. Reduced labour force participation rate

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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. A **Universal Basic Income** would provide cash at hand; therefore inflation could be triggered because of the increase in demand for goods and services.

Statement 2 is correct. Free income may **disincentivize people to get jobs**, and make work seem optional. People would have the freedom to return to school, finish college or stay home to care for a relative and thereby reduce the labor force participation rate.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **UDAN scheme**:

1. The scheme aims to provide international airline connectivity to Tier II cities of India.
2. The participating States except north-eastern states, share 20 percent burden of the VGF under the scheme.

Which of statements given above 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. **UDAN-RCS (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik)** is a regional airport development and "Regional Connectivity Scheme" (RCS) to further enhances the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country.

Statement 2 is correct. The payment of VGF is made to the Selected Airline Operator from the RCF and the State Governments are asked to reimburse the applicable share (**20% for states other than for North-Eastern States and Union Territories of India, where the ratio will be 10%**) towards VGF for respective RCS Routes.

'Viability Gap Funding or VGF' means the financial support provided to the Selected Airline Operator for operation of RCS Flight(s) from the Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) of the Scheme. VGF is provided for RCS Flights for a period of three years from the date of commencement of operations of such RCS Flights.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the **Code on Occupation Safety, Health and Working Condition 2019**:

1. The Code will be applicable on organizations employing at least 10 workers, all mines and docks.
2. The Code provides for Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Boards at the national and state level.
3. The Code provides for the central government to fix a national floor wage.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Code on Occupation Safety, Health and Working Condition 2019** applies to organisations employing at least 10 workers, and to all mines and docks; covering both employees and workers. Employees include individuals in managerial and administrative positions as well.

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Statement 2 is correct. The Code provides for **Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Boards** at the national and state level to be set up by respective governments to advise them on the standards, rules, and regulations to be framed under the Code.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Wages are not defined in this Code. According to the **Code on Wages, 2019**, the central government will fix a floor wage, considering living standards of workers.

Note: As of today (01-06-2020) the Code on Occupation Safety, Health and Working Condition 2019 is yet to be passed by the parliament. The standing committee submitted its report on Feb 11, 2020.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **IMF Policy Tracker** launched recently:

1. It tracks the economic responses governments are taking to limit the human and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The tracker is a comparative study and will be used by IMF to provide supplementary funding to deserving countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Policy tracker of IMF** summarizes the key economic responses governments are taking to limit the human and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The tracker includes 193 economies.

Statement 2 is incorrect. No such provision has been announced. As per the IMF; the tracker focuses on discretionary actions and might not fully reflect the policies taken by countries in response to COVID-19, such as automatic insurance mechanisms and existing social safety nets which differ across countries in their breadth and scope. The information included is not meant for comparison across members.

Q.7) The Constitution of India explicitly provides for '**Social Justice**' in:

1. Preamble
2. Fundamental duties
3. Directive principles of state policy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Option 1 is correct. The **preamble** states that it "...aims to secure to all its citizens: **JUSTICE, social, economic and political**; LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship..."

Option 2 is incorrect. There is no explicit provision of Social Justice in Fundamental duties under the constitution.

Option 3 is correct. **Article 38(1) in the Constitution** of India states that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it

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may a social order in which **justice, social, economic and political**, shall inform all the institutions of the national life.

Q.8) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Falcon 9 - United States of America
2. Ariane 5 - China
3. Soyuz - Russia

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: **Falcon 9** is a launch vehicle designed and manufactured by a commercial company SpaceX of the **United States**.

Ariane 5 is a space launch vehicle developed and operated by Arianespace for the **European Space Agency**.

Soyuz is a family of rocket launch systems developed by **Russia**.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding **Group of Seven (G-7)** countries:

1. There is no country in the group from the Africa continent.
2. Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) was established at the initiative of G-7 countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The **Group of Seven (G7)** is an international intergovernmental economic organization consisting of the seven advanced economies in the world: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In response to mounting concern over money laundering, the **Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF)** was established by the G-7 Summit that was held in Paris in 1989.

Q.10) The **Amery Ice Shelf (AIS)** is located in:

- a) Antarctica
- b) Greenland
- c) Siachen
- d) Arctic

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Amery Ice Shelf (AIS)** is one of the largest glacier drainage basins in the world located on the east coast of Antarctica.

The **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa** has predicted a 24 per cent increase in the expansion of the Amery Ice Shelf (AIS) boundaries in Antarctica by 2021 and another 24 per cent by 2026 from its 2016 positions.

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Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the **Delimitation Commission**:

1. Its orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner of India is the chairperson of the delimitation commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Delimitation Commission** in India is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.

These orders come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India. The copies of its orders are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but no modifications are permissible by them.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **commission is chaired a person who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court** and is appointed by the Central Government. The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner is ex officio member to the commission.

Q.12) Which of the following states/country shares its border with the **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**?

1. Himachal Pradesh
2. Punjab
3. China
4. Uttarakhand
5. Afghanistan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

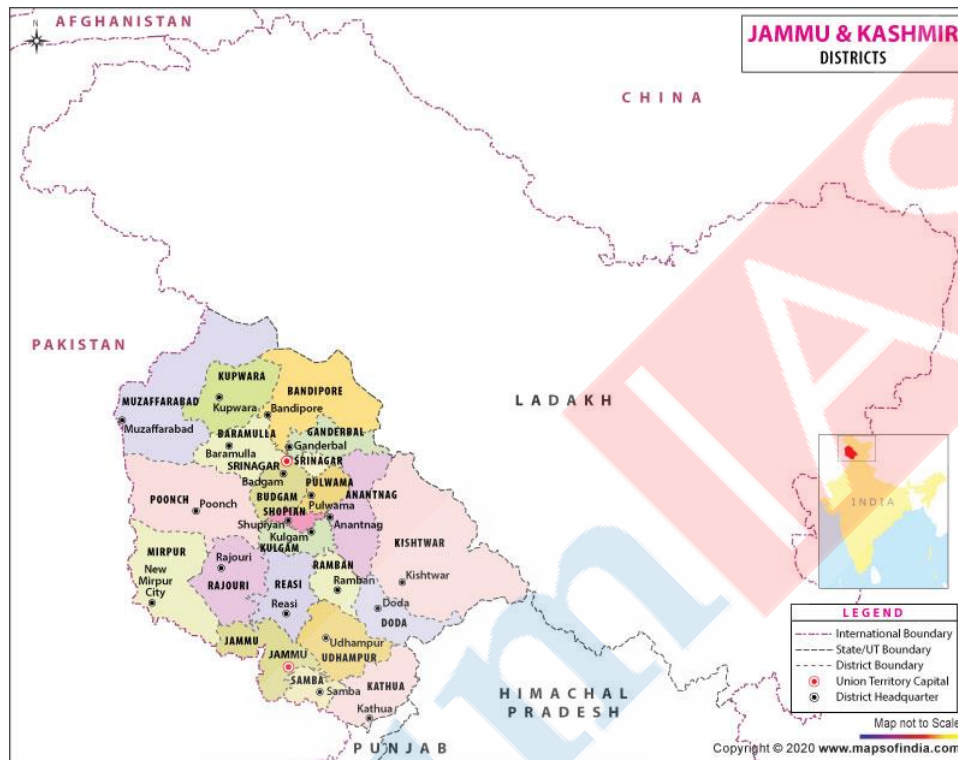
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: UT of Jammu and Kashmir shares its border with **Pakistan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and UT of Ladakh.**



Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the **Social Stock Exchange**:

1. It is a platform on which companies raise capital to fulfill the corporate social responsibility norms.
2. The Ishaat Hussain committee recommended on the establishment of Social Stock Exchanges in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Social stock exchange (SSE)** is a platform on which social enterprises, volunteer groups and welfare organizations are listed so that they can raise capital through debt, equity and mutual funds.

Statement 2 is correct. The SSE was proposed in the budget speech in July 2019. The proposed exchange will be under the regulation of Securities and Board Exchange of India (SEBI) which formed an expert panel headed by **Ishaat Hussain** to suggest structure, norms for social stock exchanges.

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Q.14) Consider the following statements regarding the **Bar Council of India**:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It lays down standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates.
3. It recognizes the Universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an advocate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Bar Council of India** is a statutory body created by Parliament under the **Advocates Act, 1961**.

Statement 2 is correct. Its functions includes to lay down standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates, procedure to be followed by its disciplinary committee and the disciplinary committees of each State Bar Council and to safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of advocates.

Statement 3 is correct. It **recognizes the Universities** whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an advocate. It also visits and inspects Universities or directs the State Bar Councils to visit and inspect Universities for this purpose.

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Center for Seismology (NCS)**:

1. It is a statutory body tasked with the monitoring of earthquake activity in the country.
2. It is responsible for the operation and maintenance of national seismological network.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **National Center for Seismology (NCS)** is the nodal agency of the Government of India for monitoring of earthquake activity in the country. It is an attached office of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India**.

Statement 2 is correct. **NCS maintains and operates National Seismological Network** of 115 stations having state of art equipment. NCS monitors earthquake activity all across the country through its 24x7 round the clock monitoring center. NCS also monitors earthquake swarm and aftershock through deploying temporary observatory close to the affected region.

Q.16) Which of the following can be considered a **supply side constraint(s)** for economic growth?

1. Stringent quality and safety norms
2. Intermittent electricity supply
3. High cost of credit

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the mentioned factors are potential supply side constraints for economic growth in a country.

Over-regulation and stringent norms often discourage the industrial growth and investments.

A **regular and cost-effective electricity supply** is vital for most of the industrial units which can make or break the profit margins for a company.

Credit availability at reasonable cost is one of the basic factors for industrial growth and expansion, a higher cost of credit in-effect hampers the overall expansion of the economy.

Q.17) The Constitution of India provides for **power of the President** to:

1. Prorogue and dissolve either house of the parliament.
2. Summon each house of the Parliament to meet such that six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the first sitting in the next session.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Council of States is a Permanent House** and is not subject to dissolution. Almost one third of its members retire every 2nd year and an equal number of members are chosen to replace them.

Constitution under **article 85(2)** provides that the President may from time to time (a) prorogue the Houses or either House; (b) dissolve the House of the People.

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 85(1)** of the constitution provides that the President shall from time to time summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.

Q.18) Consider the following statements **regarding Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In):**

1. It has been notified as the national agency for cyber incident response under the Information Technology Act, 2000.
2. It is responsible for collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents in India.

Which of the statements given above is are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Under **Section 70B (1) of the Information Technology Act**, government has notified the CERT-In, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to serve as national agency for incident response. It has been assigned following functions:

- collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents.
- forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents.
- emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents.

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- coordination of cyber incidents response activities.
- issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents.

Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the **PM SVANidhi scheme**:

1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. It offers a micro-credit facility to the urban & rural street vendors.
3. Scheme provides an interest subsidy for timely payment of loans availed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the statements given above are correct.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has announced a scheme for street vendors named **PM Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi** (PM SVANidhi).

The vendors can avail a **working capital loan of up to Rs. 10,000**, which is repayable in monthly installments in the tenure of one year.

On timely or early repayment of the loan, an **interest subsidy** of 7% per annum will be credited to the bank accounts of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer on six monthly basis.

Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding **India's National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Portal**:

1. It has been developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in collaboration with the World Bank.
2. The portal will enable sharing of resources such as articles, startups and investment funds in AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. India's **National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Portal** called www.ai.gov.in has been launched recently. It has been jointly developed by the **Ministry of Electronics and IT and IT Industry**. National e-Governance Division of Ministry of Electronics and IT and NASSCOM from the IT industry will jointly run this portal.

Statement 2 is correct. The portal is to be a one stop digital platform for AI related developments in India, sharing of resources such as articles, startups, investment funds in AI, resources, companies and educational institutions related to AI in India.

Visit [Factly](https://www.factly.com) for more.

Q.21) Which of the following is/are components of **Social Vaccine**?

1. Social mobilization through education and awareness
2. Addressing behavioral aspects of health protection
3. Extensive clinical trials to develop potent vaccine

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 and 2 are correct. **Social Vaccine** refers to **educational and behavioral measures** that can be used to raise public consciousness about unhealthy situations; Social vaccine involves spreading education on how to protect oneself and others.

A social vaccine is a process of **social and political mobilization** which involves government and other institutions' efforts to intervene with interventions, applied to populations rather than individuals, aimed at mitigating the structural social and economic conditions that make people and communities vulnerable to disease.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The medical vaccines help develop immunity against disease, while social vaccines develop the ability of communities to resist and change social and economic structures, practices and processes that have a negative impact on health.

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding **COVID-19 RT-PCR test**:

- 1. It is a test for identification of SARS-COV-2 RNA from the sample.
- 2. The test can be used to detect past infections of SARS-COV-2 in a healthy person.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **SARS-Cov-2 is an RNA virus**, it relies on infiltrating healthy cells to multiply and survive. The sample to be tested is treated with several chemical solutions to remove substances, such as proteins and fats, and extracts the RNA present in the sample. The extracted RNA is a mix of a person's own genetic material and, if present, the SARS-COV-2 RNA.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **RT-PCR test cannot detect** if a person has had the virus in past and then cleared it, i.e. whether a person had the disease, this test only detects whether the active virus is present.

Q.23) The **National Crisis Management Committee** is chaired by:

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Cabinet Secretary
- c) Minister of Home Affairs
- d) Principle Secretary to Prime Minister

Correct answer: B

Explanation: A **National Crisis Management Committee** ensures the effective coordination and implementation of relief measures and operations in wake of a calamity. It is chaired by the **Cabinet Secretary**. Other members include Secretary to Prime Minister, Secretary (MHA), Secretary (Agri & Coopn.) etc.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is headed by the Prime Minister.

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Q.24) Which of the following is/are characteristics of **monsoon rainfall** over India?

1. The monsoon rainfall has a declining trend with decreasing distance from the sea.
2. Western Ghats receive more rainfall than the Eastern Ghats.
3. The wet spells of the monsoon are interspersed with rainless interval known as 'breaks'.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **monsoon rainfall has a declining trend with increasing distance from the sea**. As the rain bearing winds move over land, the moisture depletes and farther the winds move lesser is the rainfall.

Statement 2 is correct. **Western Ghats receive more rain than the Eastern Ghats** as it lies in the rain fed area of Arabian branch of the monsoon. Further the Western Ghats drains the rain-bearing winds which cause rainfall on the western slopes. The Bay of Bengal branch on the hand moves almost parallel to Eastern Ghats.

Statement 3 is correct. The **monsoon rains occur in wet spells** of few days duration at a time. The wet spells are interspersed with rainless interval known as 'breaks'. These breaks in rainfall are related to the cyclonic depressions mainly formed at the head of the Bay of Bengal, and their crossing into the mainland.

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the **Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime**:

1. It is a network of prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners.
2. It was established as a custodian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime** is a non-profit registered and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, working as a network of prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners who are dedicated to seeking new and innovative strategies and responses to organized crime.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** acts as custodian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its protocols.

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding **International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005**:

1. India is a member to this global health security agreement.
2. It puts obligations on States Parties to notify World Health Organization of events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern.

Which of the statements given above 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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **International Health Regulations, (2005)**, represent an agreement between 196 countries including all **WHO Member States** (India as well) to work together for global health security.

Statement 2 is correct. **PHEIC** is defined in the IHR (2005) as “an extraordinary event which is determined to constitute a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease and to potentially require a coordinated international response”.

The IHR (2005) puts obligations on States Parties to notify WHO of events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern according to defined criteria.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding **Rajyasabha membership**:

1. The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir does not have any representation in the Rajyasabha.
2. A member nominated to the House is subject to disqualification if he/she joins a political party within the first six months of taking seat in the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. As per the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir will have four members to the Rajyasabha. Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the provisions of the Tenth Schedule, a member may be disqualified as a member, if he voluntarily gives up the membership of his political party. A member nominated to the House by the President, however, is allowed to join a political party if he/she does so within the first six months of taking seat in the House.

Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding **Cyclone Nisarga**:

1. It has developed over the Arabian Sea.
2. The name of the cyclone has been proposed by India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Cyclonic Storm Nisarga** is a tropical cyclone which started as a deep depression in the Arabian Sea and headed towards the coastline of Indian state of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The word **Nisarga** literally means **nature**. This name has been proposed by **Bangladesh**.

Q.29) Which of the following is/are a public authority under the **Right to Information Act, 2005**?

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1. authority established by or under the Constitution
2. authority established by law made by Parliament or State legislature
3. non-Government organisation substantially financed by the appropriate government

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All are termed as public authority under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

As per **section 2(h) of the act "public authority"** means any authority or body or institution of self-government established or constituted—(a) by or under the Constitution;

(b) by any other law made by Parliament;

(c) by any other law made by State Legislature;

(d) by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government, and includes any—(i) body owned, controlled or substantially financed;

(ii) non-Government organisation substantially financed, directly or indirectly by funds provided by the appropriate Government.

Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding **Remdesivir**:

1. It is an anti-malarial drug.
2. It is part of the Solidarity Trials initiative of World Health Organisation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect. Remdesivir is not an antimalarial drug. It is a broad-spectrum antiviral medication developed by the biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences.

Statement 2 is correct. Remdesivir was previously tested as an Ebola treatment and is now being tested for COVID-19. It is part of the Solidarity trials initiative of drug efficacy testing for COVID-19 launched by WHO. Other drugs part of the trial are: Lopinavir/Ritonavir, Interferon beta-1a and Hydroxychloroquine.

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**:

1. Women in parliament (1995–2020) report has been published by the IPU.
2. India and China both are members of the IPU.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Inter-Parliamentary Union** is the global organization of national parliaments. IPU was created in 1889 and it has 179 Member Parliaments, 13 Associate Members.

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“**Women in parliament: 1995–2020 - 25 years in review**” report has been published by the IPU, it states that overall percentage of women in parliaments has reached 24.9 per cent in 2020, up from 11.3 per cent in 1995.

Statement 2 is correct. Both **China (National People's Congress)** and **India (Sansad)** are members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

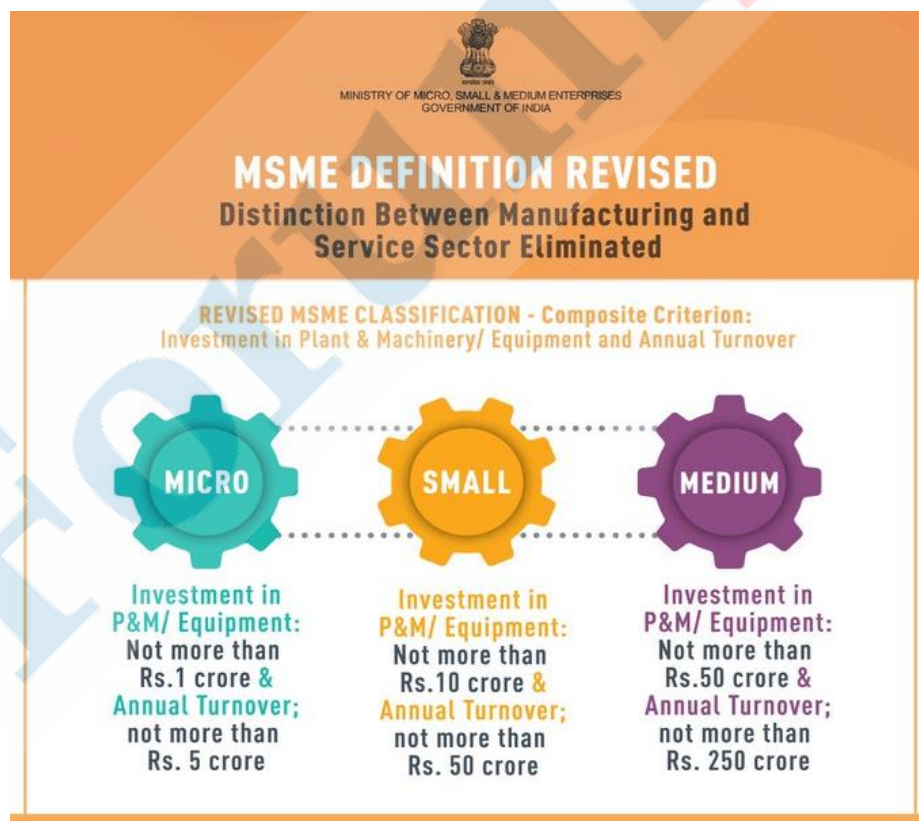
Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the **revised definition of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)**:

1. The services and manufacturing sector units to have different criteria for classification into MSMEs.
 2. The criteria of classification to include investment as well as turnover of the enterprise.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. As per the new definition of MSMEs a new composite formula of classification for manufacturing and service units has been notified. Now, there will be **no difference between manufacturing and service sectors**. Statement 2 is correct. The formula for classification of MSMEs will be based **on investment on plant & machinery/equipment and also the annual turnover**.



NOTE: Aspirants are requested to take note that the definition of medium enterprise has been further revised from what was announced in the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan press briefings.

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Q.33) Consider the following statements regarding **Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)**?

1. The patients of SARI are immune from the COVID-19 disease.
2. SARI can be caused by the infection from Influenza A virus.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. SARI patients are not immune to COVID-19. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) is an acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$, difficulty in breathing and recent onset of cough. **The symptoms are very much similar to cases of COVID-19 disease** therefore the SARI and Influenza like Illness (ILI) patients are being priority tested and surveilled.

Statement 2 is correct. Influenza A (H1N1), human rhinovirus (HRV) and human adenovirus (HAdV) are some of the viruses causing SARI.

Q.34) Which of the following is correct regarding the proposed **Farming Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020**?

1. It creates a barrier-free inter-state agricultural trade and commerce market outside the markets notified under State Agricultural Produce Marketing legislations.
2. The electronic trading in transaction platform for ensuring a seamless trade electronically has been proposed.
3. The farmers will not be charged any cess or levy for sale of their produce.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the statements given above are correct.

The ordinance aims to create **One India, One Agriculture Market**. It will promote barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade and commerce **outside the physical premises of markets notified under State Agricultural Produce Marketing legislations**.

The ordinance also proposes an electronic trading in transaction platform for ensuring a seamless trade electronically.

The farmers will not be charged any cess or levy for sale of their produce under this Act. Further there will be a separate dispute resolution mechanism for the farmers.

Note: The ordinance is yet to be issued [04-06-2020]. Question is based on Cabinet briefing/PIB release.

Q.35) Consider the following statements regarding the recently launched **Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) scheme**:

1. The scheme has been launched by the Ministry of Commerce.
2. It aims to increase India's share in global textile production.

Which of the statements given above 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: D

Explanation: Both statements are incorrect.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has launched the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing.

The scheme proposes production linked incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in mobile phone manufacturing and specified electronic components including Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) units.

Under this, the government will provide an incentive of 4% to 6% on goods manufactured in India and covered under target segments to eligible companies for a period of five years.

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding the **State of India's Birds Report 2020:**

1. It has been prepared and released by the Birdlife International.
2. The report warns about the steep decline in population of the Indian Peafowl over past decade.

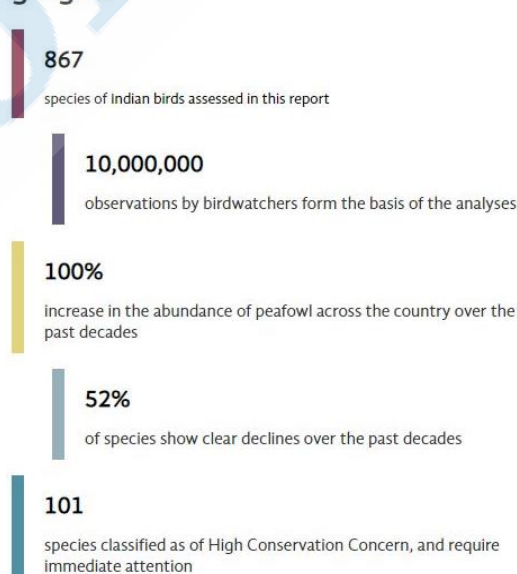
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Statement 1 is incorrect. The report is a **collaboration of ten institutions**, spanning both governmental and non-governmental institutions: Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), **National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)**, National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS-TIFR), Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF), Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Wetlands International South Asia (WI-SA), Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and World Wide Fund for Nature India (WWF-India). Statement 2 is incorrect. Report points out the **abundance of India's national bird**, the Indian Peafowl (IUCN Status: Least Concern), has increased dramatically over the past decades.

Highlights



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Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the **Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA)**:

1. It addresses the water management of the Inter-State River Cauvery among the States of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Union territory of Puducherry.
2. It is chaired by a serving judge of Supreme Court or High Court of the party states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Statement 1 is correct. Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal adjudicated on matters regarding the Inter-State River Cauvery and the river valley thereof among the States of **Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Union territory of Puducherry**. The Central Government notified the 'Cauvery Water Management Authority' to give effect to the decision of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal as modified by the Supreme Court vide its Order in 2018.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Chairman is appointed by the Central Government** with tenure of five years or till sixty-five years of age, whichever is earlier, amongst the serving officers, namely: - who is a **senior and eminent engineer** with wide experience in water resource management; **or an All India Service Officer**, in the rank of Secretary or Additional Secretary to the Government of India with experience in water resources and inter-State water sharing issues.

Q.38) Which of the following is/are components of the **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)**?

1. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)
2. Har Khet ko Pani
3. Per drop more crop
4. Watershed development

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All are components of **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)**.

AIBP includes major and minor irrigation projects including national projects.

Har Khet Ko Pani covers command area development and water management, minor irrigation (both surface and ground water) Repair, restoration and renovation of water bodies.

Per Drop more Crop targets promoting efficient water conveyance and precision water application devices like drips, sprinklers, pivots, rain-guns in the farm (Jal Sinchan).

Watershed Development includes effective management of runoff water; in-situ soil and moisture conservation activities such as ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development etc.

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Q.39) Consider the following statements regarding the **India Energy Exchange (IEX)**:

1. It provides a trading platform for renewable Energy Certificates and Energy Saving Certificates.
 2. It is regulated by the Securities Exchange Board of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **IEX is a power exchange** providing the providing a nationwide, automated trading platform for electricity, Renewable Energy Certificates and Energy Saving Certificates.

Statement 2 is incorrect. IEX is approved and regulated by **Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)** which is a statutory authority constituted under the Electricity Act 2003.

Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the **SWADES initiative**:

1. It aims to create a skillset database of citizens returning under the Vande Bharat Mission.
 2. The collected information will be shared with the companies for suitable placement opportunities in the country.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Union Government has launched an initiative named '**SWADES**' (**Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support**) to conduct a skill mapping exercise of the citizens returning under the Vande Bharat Mission. This is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Ministry of External Affairs**.

SWADES aims to create a database of qualified citizens based on their skillsets and experience to tap into and fulfill demand of Indian and foreign companies.

The collected information is planned to be shared with the companies for suitable placement opportunities in the country. The returning citizens are required to fill up an online SWADES Skills Card.

Q.41) Consider the following statements regarding the **Department of Military Affairs**:

1. It is headed by the Chief of the Army Staff.
 2. Its mandate includes promoting use of indigenous equipment by the defence Services.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Chief of Defence Staff** heads the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), created within the Ministry of Defence and functions as its Secretary.

Statement 2 is correct. **The mandate of DMA** includes:

- The Armed Forces of the Union, namely, Army, Navy and Air Force as well as the Territorial Army.
- Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence comprising of Army Headquarters, Naval Headquarters, Air Headquarters and Defence Staff Headquarters.
- Procurement exclusive to the Services except capital acquisitions, as per prevalent rules and procedures.
- Promoting jointness in procurement, training and staffing for the Services through joint planning and integration of their requirements.
- Facilitation of restructuring of Military Commands for optimal utilisation of resources by bringing about jointness in operations, including through establishment of joint / theatre commands.
- **Promoting use of indigenous equipment by the Services.**

Q.42) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the **Indian Elephant**?

1. It has been declared as National Heritage Animal by the government.
2. It is listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. The Asian Elephant is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All statements are correct.

The Government of India has declared **Indian elephant as National Heritage Animal**. Indian elephant is also provided highest degree of legal protection by listing it in **Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.

Indian elephant is one of three extant recognized subspecies of the Asian elephant and native to mainland Asia.

Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) of which Indian Elephant is a subspecies is listed as **Endangered in IUCN Red list**.

Q.43) Consider the following statements regarding the **Information Technology Act, 2000**:

1. The act provides for the legal recognition to the Electronic Signatures in India.
2. The act makes intermediaries liable for all third-party information made available by them.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Correct answer: A

Statement 1 is correct. Section 5 of the **Information Technology Act, 2000** provides for legal recognition to the authenticity of **electronic signature**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Section 79 provides for exemption from liability of intermediary.** It states that an intermediary shall not be liable for any third-party information, data, or communication link made available or hasted by him, if-

(a) the function of the intermediary is limited to providing access to a communication system over which information made available by third parties is transmitted or temporarily stored or hasted; or

(b) the intermediary does not - (i) initiate the transmission, (ii) select the receiver of the transmission, and (iii) select or modify the information contained in the transmission.

(c) the intermediary observes due diligence while discharging his duties under this Act and also observes such other guidelines as the Central Government may prescribe in this behalf.

Q.44) Which of the following correctly defines the term **Factory Farming?**

- a) Intensive mechanized crop production
- b) Corporate farming
- c) Intensive livestock farming
- d) Contract farming

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Factory farming refers to intensive livestock farming in which **large numbers of livestock are raised in a small area**. The main motive of the farming is to maximize production at minimal cost. The term is mainly used for farming of pigs, cattle, and chicken for producing meat, dairy products and eggs.

Factory farming is often criticized for cruelty to animals, unhygienic conditions and illicit use of chemicals and drugs to maximize production.

Q.45) Consider the following statements regarding the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS):**

- 1. It is a decadal survey to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators in India.
- 2. It is released by the National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** was launched in April 2017. The first Annual Report (July 2017- June 2018) covering both rural and urban areas was released in 2019. The objective of PLFS is:

-to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the Current Weekly Status (CWS)

-to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both usual status (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually.

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Statement 2 is correct. Second Annual Report has been recently released by the **National Statistical Office, MoSPI** on the basis of Periodic Labour Force Survey conducted during July 2018-June 2019.

Q.46) India has signed **military logistics support agreement** with:

1. United States of America
2. South Korea
3. France
4. Australia

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: India has signed with Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) with the **United States (US)**, Implementing Arrangement Concerning Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support with **Singapore**, Agreement for the Provision of Reciprocal Logistics Support between the Armed Forces with **France**, Agreement to Extend Logistical Support to each other's navies with the **Republic of Korea (ROK)** and most recent Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA) with **Australia**.

Q.47) Which of the following is correctly matched?

1. Namkha Chu - Ladakh
2. Barahoti - Arunachal Pradesh
3. Trig Heights - Uttarakhand

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

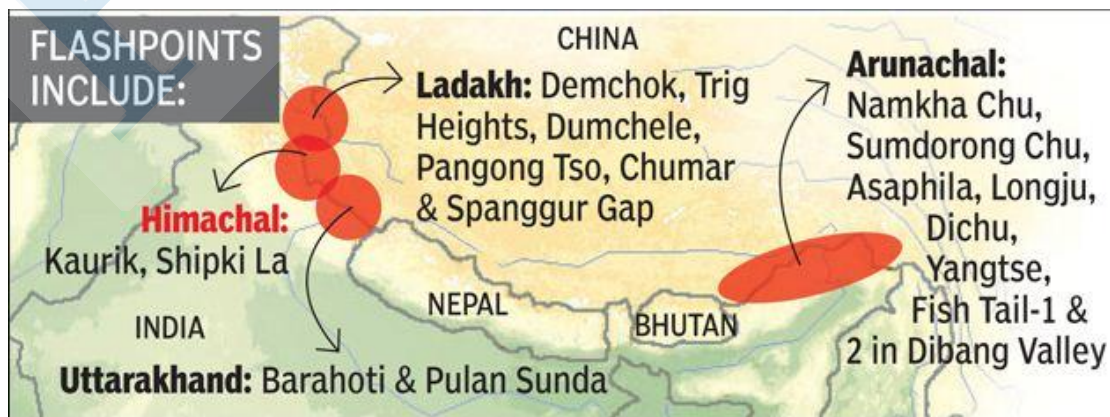
Correct answer: D

Explanation: All are incorrectly matched.

Namkha Chu is a stream in **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Barahoti is in Chamoli district of **Uttarakhand**.

Trig Heights is in **Ladakh UT**.



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Q.48) Consider the following statements regarding **'The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP):**

1. It aims to provide skilling resources to citizens returning under Vande Bharat Mission.
2. The program provides internship opportunities in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Smart Cities across the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **'The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)'** - A program for providing internship and experimental learning opportunities **to fresh graduates in urban sector.**

Statement 2 is correct. The program provides internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Smart Cities** across the country and a portal for TULIP has been launched. An MoU has been signed between **MoHUA & AICTE** for Implementation.

Q.49) Consider the following statements regarding the **Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code 2016:**

1. The code is applicable to partnership firms and individuals in relation to their insolvency or bankruptcy.
2. It is not applicable to the financial service providers unless notified by the Central government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code 2016** is applicable to companies incorporated under the companies act, limited liability partnerships, partnership firms and individuals in relation to their insolvency, liquidation, voluntary liquidation or bankruptcy.

Statement 2 is correct. The code provides exception for **"financial service provider"** engaged in the business of providing financial services in terms of authorization issued or registration granted by a financial sector regulator (like RBI, SEBI, IRDA etc.).

Article 227 of the code provides that the Central Government may, in consultation with the appropriate financial sector regulators, notify financial service providers for the purpose of their insolvency and liquidation proceedings, which may be conducted under this Code.

Q.50) Consider the following statements regarding the **World Environment Day (WED) 2020:**

1. New Delhi is the host city for WED 2020.
2. The theme for WED 2020 is 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.

Which of the statements given above 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: D

Explanation: Both are incorrect statements.

Since 1974, **World Environment Day** has been celebrated every year on 5 June. **New Delhi was host city in 2018 and the theme that year was 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.**

Columbia is the host city for WED 2020. As per UN website "this year, the theme is **Biodiversity** – a concern that is both urgent and existential. Recent events, from bushfires in Brazil, the United States, and Australia to locust infestations across East Africa – and now, a global disease pandemic – demonstrate the interdependence of humans and the webs of life, in which they exist."

Some websites (including Wikipedia) are quoting theme as "Time for Nature" while some as "Biodiversity — it's time for nature".

Q.51) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Bhopal Gas tragedy - Potassium Isocyanate
- 2. Fukushima Daiichi - Nuclear radiation
- 3. Visakhapatnam gas leak - Styrene

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Option 1 is incorrect. The **Bhopal gas tragedy** was a **methyl isocyanate (MIC)** gas leak incident in December 1984 at the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Option 2 is correct. The **Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster** was a nuclear radiation accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Okuma, Japan in 2011.

Option 3 is correct. The **Visakhapatnam gas leak** was an industrial accident in May 2020 that occurred at the LG Polymers in which people were exposed to **Styrene**.

Q.52) Which of the following is/are **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)** recognized by the World Health Organisation?

- 1. Ebola
- 2. Dengue
- 3. Rabies
- 4. Leprosy
- 5. Snakebite envenoming

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

Correct answer: B

Explanation: **Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)** are a diverse group of diseases that prevail in tropical and subtropical conditions in 149 countries. WHO lists includes:

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Buruli ulcer, Chagas disease, **Dengue** and Chikungunya, Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease), Echinococcosis, Foodborne trematodiasis, Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), Leishmaniasis, **Leprosy** (Hansen's disease), Lymphatic filariasis, Mycetoma, chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses, Onchocerciasis (river blindness), **Rabies**, Scabies and other ectoparasites, Schistosomiasis, Soil-transmitted helminthiasis, **Snakebite envenoming**, Taeniasis/Cysticercosis, Trachoma and Yaws (Endemic treponematoses).

Q.53) Consider the following statements regarding the **Patents Act, 1970**:

1. Term of a patent granted under the act is twenty years from date of filing of the application.
2. The act provides for conditional compulsory licensing of patented products.
3. An invention mentioning new biological material that is not available in public is not patentable.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Act provides **term of patent in India as 20 years** from the date of filing the patent application. In case of applications filed under the Patent Cooperative Treaty (PCT), the term of 20 years begins from the international filing date.

Statement 2 is correct. The act provides that at any time **after the expiration of three years** from the date of the grant of a patent, any person interested may make an application to the Controller of Patents for grant of compulsory license on patent on any of the following grounds, namely:

- (a) that the reasonable requirements of the public with respect to the patented invention have not been satisfied, or
- (b) that the patented invention is not available to the public at a reasonably affordable price, or
- (c) that the patented invention is not worked in the territory of India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The act provides that if the applicant mentions a **biological material** in the specification and if such material is not available to the public, the application shall be completed by depositing the material to an international depository authority under the Budapest Treaty.

Q.54) Consider the following statements:

1. Follow on Public Offer refers to a private company issuing shares to public for the first time.
2. Rights issue refers to issue of shares to existing shareholders.
3. Preferential Offer refers to issue of shares to any select person or group of persons on a preferential basis.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

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Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. A private company issuing its shares for first time to go public is called Initial-public offer (IPO). **FPO (Follow on Public Offer)** is a process by which a company, which is already listed on an exchange, issues new shares.

Statement 2 is correct. A **rights issue** is an offer to existing shareholders of a company to purchase additional new shares in the company.

Statement 3 is correct. A **preferential issue** is an issue of shares or convertible securities by companies to a select group of investors; it does not include rights issue or public issues.

Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the **Solicitor General of India:**

1. It is a constitutional office.
2. A person appointed as Solicitor General is not eligible for reappointment.
3. He/she cannot defend an accused person in a criminal prosecution, without the permission of the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Solicitor General is not a constitutional** post, unlike the Attorney General of India which finds mention in the constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A person who has held the post of Law officer such as Solicitor General is **eligible for reappointment**.

Statement 3 is correct. There are certain restrictions on the Law Officers of the government like they cannot defend an accused person in a criminal prosecution, without the permission of the Government of India or accept appointment to any office in any company or corporation without the permission of the Government of India.

Q.56) Consider the following statements regarding the **draft Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2020:**

1. No person other than a Qualified Remote Pilot under these rules shall operate a Nano class UAS in India.
2. A citizen of India of age 18 years or more is eligible to be authorized by DGCA as UAS operator and owner.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued draft Unmanned Aircraft System Rules, 2020.**

Statement 1 is incorrect. The rules state that “no person other than a Qualified Remote Pilot 'under these rules shall operate a UAS in India *except* the Nano class of UA.”

Nano Unmanned Aircraft weigh less than or equal to 250 grams.

Statement 2 is correct. — To be authorized by the **Director-General of Civil Aviation** as Authorized UAS Importer, Authorized UAS Manufacturer, Authorized UAS Trader, Authorized UAS Owner or Authorized UAS Operator, an applicant shall be:

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- (i) An individual who is— (a) **a citizen of India**, and (b) **18 years of age or more**; or
- (ii) a company or a body corporate provided that— (a) it is registered and has its principal place of business within India, and (b) the Chairman and at least two-thirds of its directors are citizens of India.
- (iii) a firm or an association of persons or body of individuals or a local authority or any legal entity, whether incorporated or not, Central and State Government or an agency thereof.

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding the **Near-Earth Objects (NEO)**:

1. Near-Earth objects (NEOs) refer to asteroids and comets close to the Earth's orbit.
2. A Potentially Hazardous Asteroid NEO is one that will necessarily enter the Earth's atmosphere.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Near-Earth Objects (NEOs)** are comets and asteroids that have been nudged by the gravitational attraction of nearby planets into orbits that allow them to enter the Earth's neighborhood.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Potentially hazardous objects** are NEOS with an orbit that can make close approaches to the Earth and large enough to cause significant regional damage in the event of impact on earth. As per **NASA**, **Potentially Hazardous Asteroids (PHA)** are NEAs whose Minimum Orbit Intersection Distance (MOID) with the Earth is 0.05 au or less. It is not necessary that asteroids classified as PHAs will impact the Earth; it only means there is a possibility for such a threat.

Q.58) Consider the following statements regarding the **Global Vaccine Summit, 2020**:

1. India participated in this summit hosted by the United Kingdom.
2. The summit raised funds for the World Health Organisation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The Vaccine Summit 2020 was hosted recently by London, United Kingdom. India also participated in the summit.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The summit was to raise the funds for **Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance**. World leaders have pledged an additional US\$ 8.8 billion for Gavi. India also pledged \$15 million as India's contribution to the Gavi.

Q.59) Consider the following statements regarding the **Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance 2020**:

1. It limits the regulation of supply of food stuffs to only under extraordinary circumstances like war, famine, steep price rise or calamity.
2. Stock limits may be imposed in case of hundred percent price rise of horticulture produce and fifty percent price rise of non-perishable agricultural food stuffs.

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Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The ordinance states that the supply of such **food stuffs** (including cereals, pulses, potato onions, edible oilseeds and oils) as the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, specify, may be **regulated only under extraordinary circumstances** which may include war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity of grave nature.

Further any action on imposing stock limit shall be based on price rise and an order for regulating stock limit of any agricultural produce may be issued under this Act only if there is —

- (i) **Hundred percent** increase in the retail price of horticulture produce; or
- (ii) **Fifty percent** increase in the retail price of non-perishable agricultural foodstuffs, over the price prevailing immediately preceding twelve months, or average retail price of last five years, whichever is lower.

Q.60) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ordinance making power of the President:**

1. Constitution provides that an ordinance issued shall be void if it makes any provision which Parliament is not competent to enact under the Constitution.
2. Ordinance issued by the President is not subject to Judicial Review.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The article **123(3) of the constitution** provides that if and so far as an Ordinance makes any provision which Parliament would not under this Constitution be competent to enact, it shall be void.

Therefore the Ordinance issued by the President has same limitations and powers as the laws enacted by the Parliament.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **ordinance is subject to judicial review** as any other act of the parliament.

In **RC Cooper vs. Union of India (1970)** the Supreme Court held that the President's decision could be challenged on the grounds that 'immediate action' was not required; and the Ordinance had been passed primarily to by-pass debate and discussion in the legislature.

In **AK Roy vs. Union of India (1982)** Supreme Court argued that the President's Ordinance making power is not beyond the scope of judicial review.

In **DC Wadhwa vs. State of Bihar (1987)** Court stated that the legislative power of the executive to promulgate Ordinances is to be used in exceptional circumstances and not as a substitute for the law-making power of the legislature.

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Q.61) Consider the following statements regarding the **United Nations Security Council membership**:

1. The non-permanent members elected by General Assembly get a term of two years at UNSC.
2. India has not been a non-permanent member to UNSC in last decade.
3. European states are ineligible for non-permanent membership due to their over-representation as permanent members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The Council is composed of 15 Members: Five permanent members: China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and ten non-permanent members elected for **two-year terms** by the General Assembly.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India have been permanent member of UNSC in: 1950 – 1951, 1967 – 1968, 1972 – 1973, 1977 – 1978, 1984 – 1985, 1991 – 1992 and **2011 – 2012**.

India is likely to be elected for eighth time for the 2021-22 term.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The **10 non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis**: five for African and Asian States; one for *Eastern European* States; two for the Latin American and Caribbean States; and two for *Western European* and other States.

Q.62) Which of the following is/are components of the PM-KUSUM scheme?

1. Installation of grid-connected solar power plants in the rural areas.
2. Installation of standalone off-grid solar water pumps to fulfill irrigation needs of farmers.
3. Solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All are components of **PM- Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM)** scheme.

The KUSUM Scheme provides for:-

- (i) installation of **grid-connected solar power plants** each of Capacity up to 2 MW in the rural areas;
- (ii) installation of **standalone off-grid solar water pumps** to fulfill irrigation needs of farmers not connected to grid; and
- (iii) **solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps** to make farmers independent of grid supply and also enable them to sell surplus solar power generated to DISCOM and get extra income.

Q.63) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Productivity Council (NPC)**:

1. It is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

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2. It provides services in the areas of Consultancy and Capacity Building in the domains of Energy, Environment, Business process and Productivity improvement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **National Productivity Council of India (NPC)**, established in the year 1958, is an autonomous organization under **Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

Statement 2 is correct. NPC has been providing consultancy and training services in areas of Industrial Engineering, Agri-Business, Economic Services, Quality Management, Human Resources Management, Information Technology, Technology Management, Energy Management, Environmental Management etc., to the Government and Public & Private sector organizations.

Q.64) Consider the following statements regarding the **Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H)**:

- 1. It is a statutory organization under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- 2. It has the mandate of publishing Pharmacopoeias for formulations used in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy systems of Medicine.

Which of the statements given above is are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. It is not a statutory body and comes under **Ministry of AYUSH**.

Cabinet has given its approval to re-establish Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) as Subordinate Office under Ministry of AYUSH by merging into it the Pharmacopoeia Laboratory for Indian Medicine (PLIM) and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory (HPL). Presently, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) is an autonomous body under the aegis of Ministry of AYUSH.

Statement 2 is correct. It has the primary mandate of publishing **Pharmacopoeias and Formularies for drugs/formulations used in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H)** systems of Medicine.

Q.65) Consider the following statements regarding the **International Space Station**:

- 1. It revolves around earth in the geostationary earth orbit.
- 2. It is a collaborative project between five participating space agencies including ISRO.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

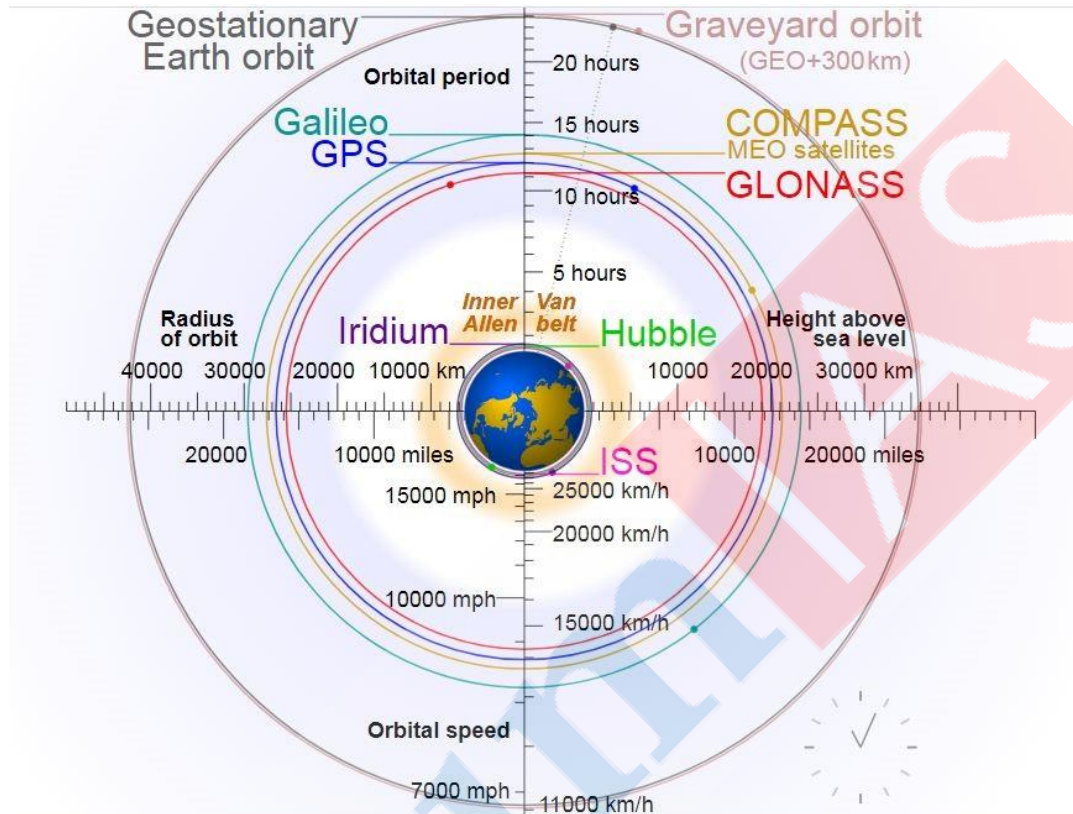
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. A low Earth orbit (LEO) is an Earth-centered orbit with an altitude of 2,000 km (1,200 mi) or less. The ISS maintains an orbit with an average altitude of 400 km (250 mi) in **Low Earth Orbit**.

Geostationary orbit is the **orbit** at 35,785 km (22,236 miles) above Earth.



Statement 2 is incorrect. The ISS program does not include ISRO; it is a multi-national collaborative project between five space agencies: **NASA (United States), Roscosmos (Russia), JAXA (Japan), ESA (Europe), and CSA (Canada).**

Q.66) Which of the following are threats for the **Gangetic Dolphin**?

1. Poaching for dolphin oil
2. Fragmented populations created by dams and barrages
3. Killing through entanglement in fishing gear

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the mentioned factors are threats for already **endangered (IUCN status) Gangetic Dolphin**.

Major Threats for its population are:

- Unintentional killing through entanglement in fishing gear.
- Poaching for dolphin oil, used as fish attractant and for medicinal purposes.

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- Habitat destruction due to development projects (e.g. water extraction and the construction of barrages, high dams and embankments), pollution (industrial waste and pesticides, municipal sewage discharge and noise from vessel traffic).
- Fragmented populations created by dams and barrages have degraded downstream habitat and created impoundments with high sedimentation and altered assemblages of fish and invertebrate species.

Q.67) Consider the following statements regarding the **Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)**:

1. It is an area of high pressure in equatorial latitudes.
2. The position of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) shifts to Gangetic plains in summer.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)** is a broad trough of **low pressure** in equatorial latitudes. The northeast and the southeast trade winds converge in the ITCZ.

Statement 2 is correct. The ITCZ lies more or less parallel to the equator, normally positioned about 5°N of the equator but **moves north or south with the apparent movement of the sun**. The position of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is over the **Gangetic plains in summer season**.

Q.68) Consider the following statements regarding **Legislative powers of Parliament**:

1. Parliament has exclusive powers to legislate on extra -territorial aspects in the interests of inhabitants of India.
2. Parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Concurrent List or State List.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Article 245(1)** of the Constitution states that parliament may make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India, and the Legislature of a State may make laws for the whole or any part of the State.

Article 245(2) states that no law made by Parliament shall be deemed to be invalid on the ground that it would have **extra territorial operation**.

Supreme Court has held that Parliament has powers legislate with respect to extra-territorial aspects in the interests of the well-being or security of inhabitants of India, but it did not have powers to legislate for any territory other than the territory of India or any part of it.

Statement 2 is correct. As per **article 248(1)** in the Constitution parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Concurrent List or State List.

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Q.69) Consider the following statements regarding the **Minor Forest Produce**:

1. Minor Forest produce is defined under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006.
2. Government provides Minimum Support Price to Tribal Gatherers for their minor forest produce.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006** defines minor forest produce as all non-timber forest produce of plant origin. It includes bamboo, brushwood, stumps, canes, cocoon, honey, waxes, Lac, Tendu leaves, medicinal plants, roots among others.

The scheme "**Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce through Minimum Support Price and development of Value chain for MFP**" of Ministry of Tribal affairs provides **MSP for MFP**.

Q.70) Consider the following statements regarding the **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)**:

1. It aims to produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides residues.
2. It is a component of Soil Health Management (SHM) under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The objective of **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** is to produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides residues by adopting eco- friendly, low- cost technologies.

Statement 2 is correct. The Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana is an elaborated component of **Soil Health Management (SHM) of major project National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)**. Under PKVY Organic farming is promoted through adoption of organic village by cluster approach and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for India certification.