

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

10th to 16th August, 2020

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

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Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund**:

1. The fund will support short term debt financing to small and marginal farmers.
2. It aims to invest in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure assets through interest subvention and credit guarantee.

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. Under the **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund**, banks and financial institutions will provide one lakh crore in loans to cooperative societies, farmer producer companies, self-help groups, entrepreneurs, startups and infrastructure providers. The objective is to provide **medium to long-term debt financing** for setting up of **post-harvest infrastructure** and community assets for marketing of farm produce.

Statement 2 is correct. The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund is a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets through **interest subvention and credit guarantee**.

The duration of the scheme shall be from FY2020 to FY2029 (10 years). Under the scheme, **Rs. 1 Lakh Crore** will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans with interest subvention of 3% per annum and credit guarantee coverage under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme for loans up to Rs. 2 Crore.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanism (SMAM)**:

1. It is being implemented in all the states to promote the usage of farm mechanization and increase the ratio of farm power to cultivable unit area.
2. The scheme promotes establishment of 'Custom Hiring Centres' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small landholding.

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.

India accounts for 2.4% of the world's geographical area and 4% of its water resources, but has to support 17% of the world's human population and 15% of the livestock. To increase productivity, timely and precise field work is necessary. To make it possible, agricultural machines take an important role.

Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is being implemented in all the states, to promote the usage of farm mechanization and increase the ratio of farm power to cultivable unit area up to 2kW/ha.

The Mission objectives are as follows:

- Increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers and to the regions where availability of farm power is low;
- Promoting '**Custom Hiring Centres**' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small landholding and high cost of individual ownership;

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- Creating hubs for hi-tech & high value farm equipments;
- Creating awareness among stakeholders through demonstration and capacity building activities;
- Ensuring performance testing and certification at designated testing centers located all over the Country.

About 80% of the land holdings in India are operated by small and marginal farmers. These farmers cannot invest in costly farm machinery and depend on hiring of implements to carryout agricultural operations in their fields.

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the **Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G)**:

1. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
2. Open Defecation Free Plus certification for SBM-G includes ODF sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management.

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.

In rural areas Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen is being the **Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti**.

The **Phase II of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)** till 2024-25 will focus on **Open Defecation Free Plus (ODF Plus)**, which includes ODF sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

ODF plus as an area where along with regular availability and usage of toilets, management of solid and liquid waste, cleanliness of water resources, maintenance of public and household toilets and awareness on personal hygiene are at their highest.

Q.4) The '**Little Boy**' and '**Fat Man**' are code names for which of the following missions?

- a) The only two nuclear weapons ever used in warfare
- b) SpaceX 'Starship' spacecrafts for Moon and Mars
- c) Pakistan's plan to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir
- d) India's strategy to separate Bangladesh from erstwhile Pakistan

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Little Boy** and **Fat Man** are the only two nuclear weapons ever used in warfare.

Little Boy was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, it was the first nuclear weapon used in a war. 'Fat Man' was dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki on August 9, 1945.

Operation Gibraltar, 1965 was the codename given to the strategy of Pakistan to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir, and instigate the locals in starting a rebellion against India.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the **Quit India Movement**:

1. C. Rajagopalachari supported and actively campaigned for spread of Quit India Movement in South India.
2. Aruna Asaf Ali and Jayaprakash Narayan were active participants in the movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. On 14 July 1942, the **Congress Working Committee met at Wardha** and resolved that it would authorise Gandhi to take charge of the non-violent mass movement.

The Resolution, generally referred to as the 'Quit India' resolution, was to be approved by the All India Congress Committee meeting in Bombay in August. **C. Rajgopalachari, quit the Congress** over this decision, and so did some local and regional level organizers.

Statement 2 is correct. On 7 to 8 August 1942, the **All India Congress Committee met in Bombay** and ratified the 'Quit India' resolution. Gandhi called for 'Do or Die'. The next day, on 9 August 1942, Gandhi, members of the Congress Working Committee and other Congress leaders were arrested by the British Government under the Defence of India Rules.

The leadership of the movement went into hands of net generation leaders like **Aruna Asaf Ali, Jayprakash Narayan, Usha Mehta, RamManohar Lohia, Biju Patnaik** etc.

Q.6) Who among the following has released the **EnviStats India 2020** report?

- a) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) None of the above

Correct answer: D

Explanation: **EnviStats – India 2020** has been released by the **National Statistical Office**, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

The report contains **statistical information** about the condition of the environment – climate, water and wetlands, geology and geography, soil and land, forests and biodiversity, and air and water quality. It also provides data about the availability and use of minerals, energy, land, crops, livestock and water as well as air and water pollution and solid waste management.

Q.7) Which of the following **weapon system(s)** have been barred from import in India beyond December 2020?

1. Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft
2. Light Combat Helicopters
3. Ship-borne Cruise Missiles

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: **Department of Military Affairs (DMA)**, Ministry of Defence (MoD) has prepared a list of **101 items** for which there would be an embargo on the import beyond the timeline. The embargo on imports is planned to be progressively implemented between 2020 to 2024.

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Option 1 is incorrect. **Fifth Gen Fighter Aircraft** has **not** been listed in the import embargo list put out by the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), Ministry of Defence (MoD).

Option 2 and 3 are correct. The list of 101 embargoed items comprises of not just simple parts but also some high technology weapon systems like artillery guns, assault rifles, corvettes, sonar systems, transport aircrafts, light combat helicopters (LCHs), Short Range Surface to Air Missiles (Land variant), Shipborne Cruise Missiles etc.

The **light combat helicopters (LCHs)**, **Shipborne Cruise Missiles** and other 67 weapon systems have indicative import embargo date of December 2020.

Q.8) Which of the following is/are correct statement(s) regarding the **Indus Water Treaty**?

1. The waters of the Eastern Rivers, Sutlej, Beas and Jhelum, are available for the unrestricted use of India.
2. It provides for the formation of Indus Water Commission with members from India and Pakistan.

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

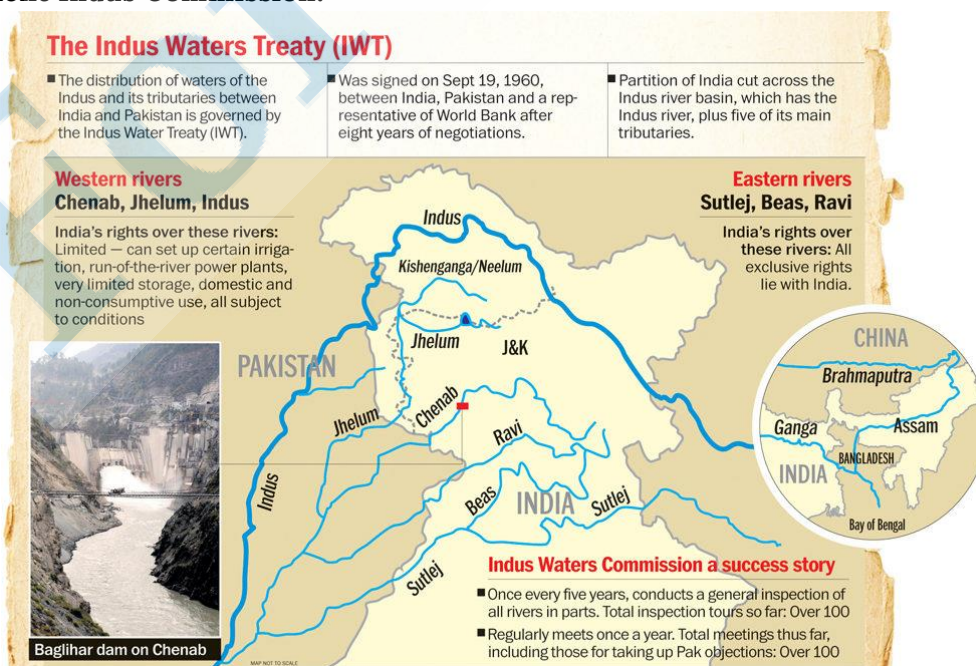
Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. Under the Indus Water Treaty 1960, '**Eastern Rivers**' means The Sutlej, The Beas and The Ravi taken together and '**Western Rivers**' means The Indus, The **Jhelum** and The Chenab taken together.

All the waters of the **Eastern Rivers** shall be available for the unrestricted use of **India**, except as otherwise expressly provided in the treaty.

Pakistan shall receive for unrestricted use all those waters of the **Western Rivers** which India is under obligation to let flow except for domestic, non-consumptive uses, also for agricultural use, generation of hydro-electric power with limitations provided in annexures to the treaty.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the treaty, India and Pakistan shall each create a permanent post of Commissioner for Indus Waters and the two Commissioners shall together form **the Permanent Indus Commission**.



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Q.9) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Ratle Hydroelectric Plant - Chenab River
2. Dul Hasti Hydroelectric Plant - Jhelum River
3. Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant - Ravi River

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: Option 1 is correctly matched. The **Ratle Hydroelectric Plant** is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric power station currently under construction on the **Chenab River**, in Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir.

Option 2 is incorrectly matched. **Dul Hasti** is a 390 MW hydroelectric power plant in Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir, India built by NHPC. The power plant is a run-of-the-river type on **Chandra River**, a tributary of Chenab River,

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project** is a run-of-the-river power project on the **Chenab River** in the Ramban district, Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan often accuses India of violation of Indus Water Treaty regarding construction of these power plants. India does have the right to build power plants on 'western rivers' under IWT provide it does not impede the water flow to Pakistan.

Q.10) What is '**Loya Jirga**', that was in news recently?

- a) A Tibetan ancient immunity booster herbal combination
- b) A traditional consultative body of Afghanistan
- c) A cultural exchange pact between Central Asian countries and India
- d) An ancient Buddhist canonical text in Mongolian tradition

Correct answer: B

Explanation: A **Loya Jirga**, or "grand council" in Pashto, is a mass national gathering that brings together representatives from the various ethnic, religious, and tribal communities in **Afghanistan**.

Loya Jirga is a **centuries-old institution** that has been convened at times of national crisis or to settle national issues. Historically, it has been used to approve a new constitution, declare war, choose a new king, or to make sweeping social or political reforms.

It is considered the "highest expression" of the Afghan people, but its decisions are not legally binding and any verdict it hands out must be approved by the Afghan parliament and the President.

As Afghanistan recently convened a 'Loya Jirga' to decide on freeing about 400 Taliban fighters convicted for 'serious crimes' including murder and abductions.

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ayushman Bharat Yojana**:

1. It aims to transform the existing Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres across the country.
2. Eligible beneficiaries can avail health cover benefits under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme for COVID-19 testing and treatment.

Which of the statements given above 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. Ayushman Bharat comprises of two inter-related components:

-Health and Wellness Centres: Government has announced the creation of 1,50,000 Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) by transforming the existing Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres.

-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY): It aims at providing a health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to over 10.74 crores poor and vulnerable families.

Statement 2 is correct. Government has notified the **COVID- 19 testing and treatment** coverage under the Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana- PMJAY.

Q.12) Which of the following statement is/are correct regarding the **Network Attached Storage (NAS)?**

1. It enables multiple user devices to access data from centralized disk capacity.
2. NAS devices do not have any keyboard or display interface and are managed from the connected computers.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

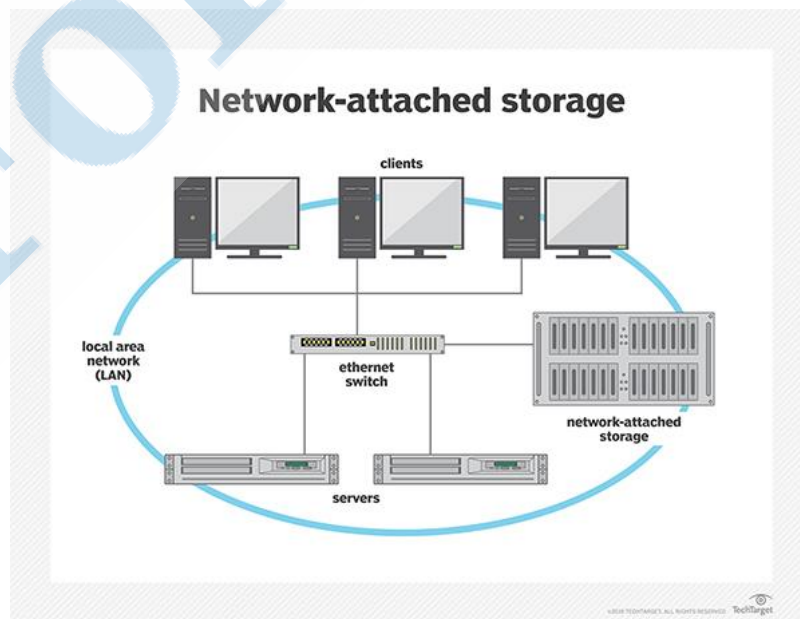
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Network Attached Storage (NAS) is a dedicated file storage system which can be connected to many different devices at the same time and allows access to the same disk. Users on a **local area network (LAN)** access the shared storage via a standard Ethernet connection.

NAS device has its **own file server capabilities** to store and managed access to files but **does not have** any keyboard or display interface and are managed from the connected machine/computers.



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Q.13) Which of the following **weapon system(s)** is/are correctly matched?

1. Pinaka - Multi-barrel Rocket Launcher
2. Mareech - Advanced Torpedo Defence System
3. Astra - Inter Continental Ballistic Missile

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: Option 1 is correctly matched. **Pinaka is a multiple rocket launcher** produced in India and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation for the Indian Army.

Option 2 is correctly matched. **Maareech Advanced Torpedo Defence System** is a torpedo detection and countermeasure system used by the Indian Navy.

BEL has launched fully indigenized Maareech Integration facility for manufacturing, integration and testing of Anti Torpedo Defence System Maareech which has been designed by DRDO.

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Astra is India's first beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile** indigenously designed and developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation. The maximum range of Astra is 110 km in head-on chase and 20 km in tail chase.

Q.14) Where is **Mount Sinabung** volcano located?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Hawaii
- c) Japan
- d) Argentina

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Mount Sinabung** volcano is in northern **Sumatra, Indonesia**. It had been inactive for centuries until it **erupted suddenly in 2010** and twice in recent week. It is a Pleistocene-to-Holocene stratovolcano with many lava flows on its flanks.

Indonesia has around 147 volcanoes and 76 of them are active volcanoes and spread along the islands of Java, Lesser Sunda, Sumatra, and Celebes.

Most active volcanos of Indonesia are: Merapi, Kaba, Kerinci, Anak **Krakatau**, Papandayan, Slamet, Bromo, Semeru, Batur, Rinjani, Sangeang Api, Rokatenda, Egon, Soputan, Lokon, Gamalama, Dukono, Karangetang, Ibu, and Talang.

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding the **Optical Fiber Cable:**

1. It allows data transmission using light pulses by application of total internal reflection.
2. It consists of a core surrounded by a cladding material with a higher index of refraction.

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

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. An **optical fiber cable** is a type of cable that has a number of **optical fibers bundled together**. All optical fibers use a core of hair-like transparent silicon covered with less refractive indexed cladding to avoid light leakage to the surroundings.

Statement 2 is incorrect. An optical fiber typically consists of a transparent core surrounded by a transparent **cladding material with a lower index of refraction**. Light is kept in the core by total internal reflection.

There are two major categories:

-**Step index fiber optic cabling:** core surrounded by the cladding, which has a single uniform index of refraction.

-**Graded index fiber optic cabling:** refractive index of the optical fiber decreases as the radial distance from the fiber axis increases.

Total internal reflection: the complete reflection of a light ray reaching an interface with a less dense medium when the angle of incidence exceeds the critical angle.

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the **Asian elephant**:

1. Female Asian Elephants don't have tusks.
2. It is classified as Endangered species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

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. In **Asian elephants**, only males have tusks, both male and female African elephants are tusked.

The **elephant is Earth's largest land animal**, although the Asian elephant is slightly smaller than its African cousin. Asian elephants can be identified by their smaller, rounded ears.

They live in forested regions of India and throughout Southeast Asia, including Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos. About a third of Asian elephants live in captivity.

Statement 2 is correct. The Asian elephant is classified as **Endangered** by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.

The beta version of National Portal on human elephant conflict called "Surakhsya" for collection of real time information has been launched recently.

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)**:

1. It is a five-year investment plan to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens.
2. The NIP will be completely funded from domestic resources.

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

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **National Infrastructure Pipeline** is an effort to augment India's infrastructure through an identified investment of **INR 111 Lakh crores between FY 2020-25**. It is a first-of-its-kind, whole-of-government exercise to provide world-class infrastructure across the country, and improve the quality of life for all citizens. Statement 2 is incorrect. It aims to improve project preparation, **attract investments (both domestic and foreign)** into infrastructure, and will be crucial for target of becoming a \$5 trillion economy by FY 2025.

The NIP project database is hosted on India Investment Grid (IIG) and the online dashboard as a one-stop solution for all stakeholders looking for information on infrastructure projects in India has been recently unveiled by the Finance Minister.

Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding the **Goods & Services Tax (GST) in India:**

1. It is a single slab tax rate for all goods and services.
2. It is a destination-based tax.
3. Alcohol for human consumption is not under the purview of GST.

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

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. GST in India is not a single slab tax. It has four major tax slabs: **5%, 12%, 18% and 28%**.

Statement 2 is correct. GST is a **destination based tax**; therefore the goods and services will be taxed at the place where they are consumed and not at the origin.

Statement 3 is correct. **Alcohol for human consumption** is currently out of GST system and the power to tax it remains with the states.

Petroleum products and Electricity are also out of the purview of GST in India.

Q.19) Which of the following is/are located in the **South China Sea**?

1. Mischief Reef
2. Natuna Islands
3. Paracel Islands

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

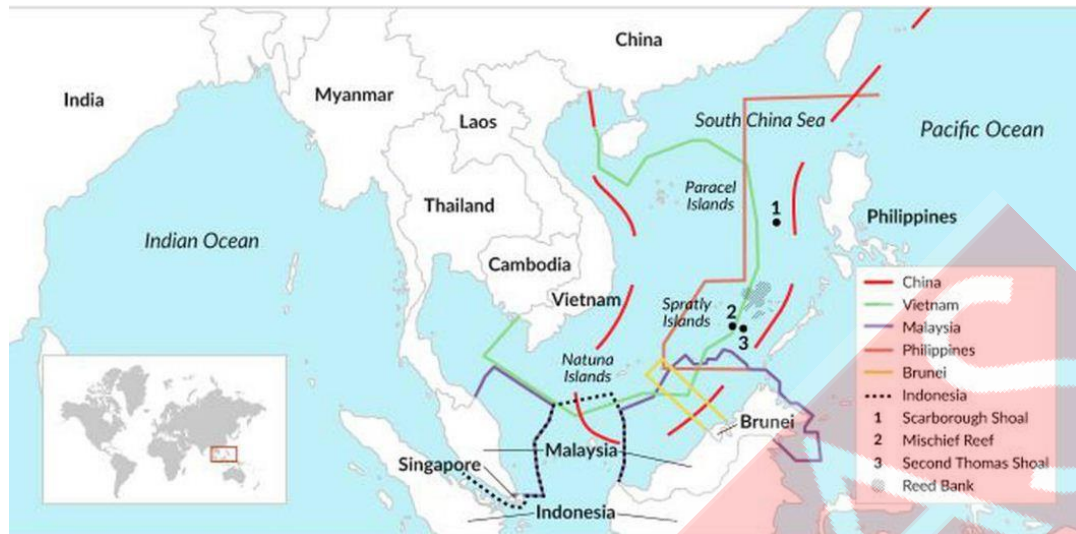
Explanation: All of the above islands/reef are in the South China Sea.

Mischief Reef is a reef/atoll surrounding a large lagoon in the SE of Dangerous Ground in the east of the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. It has been occupied and controlled by the PRC since 1995, and is also claimed by the Republic of China (Taiwan), the Philippines and Vietnam.

The **Natuna Islands** are a 272-island archipelago of Indonesia, located in southern part of South China Sea. Indonesia's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off the coast of Natuna is slightly overlapped by China's disputed South China Sea claim.

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The **Paracel Islands**, also known as Xisha Islands are a disputed archipelago in the South China Sea. It is claimed by China, Taiwan and Vietnam.



Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the administration of the **World Health Organization (WHO)**:

1. The World Health Assembly attended by delegations from all Member States is the decision-making body of WHO.
2. India has been recently elected the Chair of World Health Organization's Executive Board.

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 **World Health Assembly** is the decision-making body of WHO. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board.

The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to **determine the policies of the Organization**, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget.

The **Executive Board is composed of 34 technically qualified members** elected for three-year terms. India (Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Health and Family Welfare) has been elected as chair of World Health Organization's Executive Board in May 2020.

Q.21) Which of the following correctly defines the **Sputnik V**?

- a) Russia's manned mission to Moon
- b) A Fifth Generation Fighter Jet
- c) Lander and Rover mission to Mars
- d) COVID-19 vaccine developed by Russia

Correct answer: D

Explanation: **Sputnik V** is potential **COVID-19 vaccine** developed by the Gamaleya Institute in Moscow, uses two strains of **adenovirus** as its base.

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After tweaking the adenovirus to remove its disease causing ability, genes that code for the coronavirus's "spike" protein — a structure that plugs into cells to trigger infection — have been added to it, which the immune system should recognize and use to target the pathogen should the body ever become exposed.

The vaccines developed by CanSino Biologics in China and Oxford University and AstraZeneca in Britain also use adenoviruses as their base.

Russia named the newly approved vaccine "Sputnik V," in reference to the world's first artificial satellite launched by Russia in 1957.

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the **Permanent Court of Arbitration**:

1. It was established by the San Francisco Conference, 1945.
2. India is a Contracting Party and has acceded to the PCA's founding convention.

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 PCA was established by the **Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, concluded at The Hague in 1899** during the first Hague Peace Conference.

The Conference had been convened at the initiative of Czar Nicolas II of Russia "with the object of seeking the most objective means of ensuring to all peoples the benefits of a real and lasting peace, and above all, of limiting the progressive development of existing armaments."

It provides a forum for the resolution of international disputes through arbitration and other peaceful means. The cases span a range of legal issues involving territorial and maritime boundaries, sovereignty, human rights, international investment, and international and regional trade.

Statement 2 is correct. **India is a contracting party** to the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, 1899.

Important cases of India in PCA:

-**Bangladesh v. India** (Bay of Bengal Maritime Boundary) settled in 2014.

-**Italian Marine Case:** PCA recognized (July, 2020) the functional immunity of the two Italian marines, noting that they were engaged in a mission on behalf of the Italian Government. However, Italy was required to find an agreement with India in order to compensate for the two deaths and for the physical and moral damages suffered by the crew members and the vessel.

Q.23) Consider the following statements regarding the **Biodiesel**:

1. Biodiesel is produced from vegetable oils, fats or greases.
2. It cannot be blended with the with petroleum diesel.

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. **Biodiesel**, also called Green Diesel is a liquid fuel produced from **renewable sources**, such as new and used vegetable oils and animal fats and is a cleaner-burning replacement for petroleum-based diesel fuel.

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Biodiesel is **nontoxic and biodegradable** and is produced by combining alcohol with vegetable oil, animal fat, or recycled cooking grease.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Like petroleum-derived diesel, biodiesel is used to fuel compression-ignition (diesel) engines. Biodiesel **can be blended** with petroleum diesel.

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the **Assam Accord**:

1. It is a Memorandum of Settlement signed between representatives of the Government of India and the leaders of the Assam Movement.
2. It mandates for providing constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards to protect cultural, social, linguistic identity of the Assamese people.

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 Assam Accord was a **Memorandum of Settlement (MoS)** signed between representatives of the Government of India and the leaders of the **Assam Movement** in New Delhi on **15 August 1985**.

A six-year agitation demanding identification and deportation of illegal immigrants was launched by the **All Assam Students' Union (AASU)** in 1979 concluded with the signing of the Assam Accord.

Among other things the **clause 6 of the accord** states "constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards, as may be appropriate, shall be provided to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people."

Home Ministry in 2019 set up a committee under High Court judge Biplab Kumar Sarma to make recommendations on implementation of Clause 6.

Q.25) What does '**Krishi Megh**', that has been launched recently, relate to?

- a) Micro-Weather forecasting application by India Meteorological Department (IMD)
- b) Data Center for Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- c) Soil Moisture content data aggregator at national level
- d) Farmer Welfare programs portal by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Agriculture Minister recently launched **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**'s data recovery center called 'Krishi Megh'.

It aims to protect the data of the government's premier research body Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It has been set up at **National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM)** in Hyderabad. It has been built to mitigate the risk, enhance the quality, availability and accessibility of e-governance, research, extension and education in the field of agriculture in India.

NAARM, Hyderabad has been chosen as it lies in a different seismic zone with regard to the Data Centre at ICAR-IASRI in New Delhi.

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding the **Student Entrepreneurship Programme**:

1. It is an initiative of the NITI Aayog-Atal Innovation Mission.
2. Students are provided with opportunity to transform their innovative prototypes into fully functioning products.

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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.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, in collaboration with Dell Technologies recently launched the second edition of **Student Entrepreneurship Programme (SEP 2.0)** for young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs).

SEP 2.0 will allow student innovators to work closely with **Dell volunteers**. They will receive mentor support; prototyping and testing support; end-user feedback; intellectual property registration and patenting of ideas, processes, and products; manufacturing support; as well as the launch support of the product in the market.

Under **SEP 1.0 (2019)**, the top 6 teams of ATL Marathon—a nationwide contest where students identify community challenges and create grassroots innovations and solutions within their ATLs—got a chance to transform their innovative prototypes into fully functioning products, which are now available in the market.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**:

1. The scheme provides coverage for post-harvest losses on individual farm basis.
2. Farmers are not required to pay any premium under this scheme.

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: Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) aims at supporting sustainable production in agriculture sector by way of -

-providing financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen events

-stabilizing the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming

-encouraging farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices

-ensuring flow of credit to the agriculture sector.

Statement 1 is correct. Risks leading to crop loss are to be covered under the scheme:

-Yield Losses (standing crops, on notified area basis)

-Prevented Sowing (on notified area basis) due to adverse weather conditions

-**Post Harvest Losses** (individual farm basis): available upto a maximum period of 14 days from harvesting for those crops which are kept in “cut & spread” condition to dry in the field after harvesting, against specific perils of cyclone / cyclonic rains, unseasonal rains throughout the country.

-Localized calamities (individual farm basis)

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Scheme provides for a uniform premium** of 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops. In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium to be paid by farmers is 5%.

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Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding the **Hindu Succession Act**:

1. It is applicable to any person who is a Hindu, Buddhist, Jaina or Sikh by religion.
2. The act provides for equal rights of daughters to ancestral property as that of a son.

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. **Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act** confers the status of '**coparcener**' to a daughter. Coparcener is a person who has a birthright to parental property.

Statement 2 is correct. This Act applies (a) to any person, who is a Hindu by religion in any of its forms or developments, including a Virashaiva, a Lingayat or a follower of the Brahmo, Prarthana or Arya Samaj, (b) to any person who is a **Buddhist, Jaina or Sikh** by religion, and (c) to any other person who is not a Muslim, Christian, Parsi or Jew by religion.

The Supreme Court recently held that the Hindu Succession Act 1956 amended in 2005, which gives daughters equal rights to ancestral property, will have a retrospective effect.

Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding **Monetary Policy** of Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

1. The Monetary Policy framework in India is based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation targeting.
2. RBI Governor does not generally have a vote and votes only in the event of an equality of votes in Monetary Policy Committee.

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. In May 2016, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934** was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation targeting framework.

The amended RBI Act also provides for the **inflation target** to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in **every five years**.

Accordingly, the Central Government has notified 4 per cent **Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation** as the target for the period from August 5, 2016 to March 31, 2021 with the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent and the lower tolerance limit of 2 per cent.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the amended RBI Act:

The **Monetary Policy Committee** consists of the following Members:

- the Governor of the Bank—Chairperson, ex officio;
- Deputy Governor of the Bank, in charge of Monetary Policy—Member, ex officio;
- one officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board—Member, ex officio; and
- three persons to be appointed by the Central Government—Members.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is required to meet at least four times in a year.

-The quorum for the meeting of the MPC is four members.

-**Each member of the MPC has one vote**, and in the event of an equality of votes, the **Governor** has a second or casting vote.

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Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding **Right to Freedom of Religion** under the Constitution of India:

1. Government is empowered to provide for opening of Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of Hindus.
2. Every religious denomination has the right to own and acquire movable and immovable property.

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 25(2)** provides for State's power with regard to Right to Freedom of Religion. It empowers State to make any law—

-regulating or restricting any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice;

- providing for **social welfare and reform** or the throwing open of Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of Hindus.

The reference to Hindus is construed as including a reference to persons professing the Sikh, Jaina or Buddhist religion.

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 26 of the Constitution** provides that 'subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right—

-to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes;

-to manage its own affairs in matters of religion;

-to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and

-to administer such property in accordance with law

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding **Cryogenic Engines**:

1. Cryogenic engine uses Liquid Oxygen and Liquid Hydrogen as propellants.
2. It provides more thrust for every kilogram of propellant compared to solid and liquid propellant rocket stages.

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.

Cryogenic engines use **Liquid Oxygen and Liquid Hydrogen** as propellants which liquefy at -183 deg C and -253 deg C respectively.

A Cryogenic rocket stage is more efficient and provides **more thrust for every kilogram** of propellant it burns compared to solid and earth-storable liquid propellant rocket stages.

Specific impulse (a measure of the efficiency) achievable with cryogenic propellants (liquid Hydrogen and liquid Oxygen) is much higher compared to earth storable liquid and solid propellants, giving it a substantial payload advantage.

However, cryogenic stage is technically a very complex system compared to solid or earth-storable liquid propellant stages due to its use of propellants at extremely low temperatures and the associated thermal and structural problems.

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Q.32) The **Lisboa+21 Declaration** relates to which of the following issue?

- a) Youth Policies and Programmes
- b) Drug and Organized Crimes
- c) Climate Change Adaption & Mitigation
- d) Conservation of Critically Endangered Bird Species

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Lisboa+21 Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes 2019** was adopted in World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth 2019.

In 1998, several commitments on youth policy fields were stated in the **Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes**, as part of the outcomes of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, organized by the Portuguese Government in collaboration with UN-System partners.

Twenty-one years later, in 2019, it reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1995 and 2007, which provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people around the world, within fifteen youth priority areas.

International Youth Day was designated by the United Nations (UN) in the year 1999 to be observed on 12 August. The theme for 2020 is 'Youth Engagement for Global Action'.

Q.33) Consider the following statements regarding the **Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Act, 2020**:

- 1. It provided for a mechanism for resolution of pending tax disputes related to income tax and corporation tax.
- 2. The disputes involving undisclosed foreign income or assets are not covered under the said mechanism.

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 **Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Act, 2020** provides a mechanism for **resolution of pending tax disputes** related to income tax and corporation tax.

It proposed a resolution mechanism under which an appellant can file a declaration to the designated authority to initiate resolution of pending direct tax disputes. Based on the declaration, the designated authority will determine the amount payable by the appellant against the dispute and grant a certificate.

Once the designated authority issues the certificate, appeals pending before the Income Tax Appellate Tribunals and the Commissioner (Appeals) will be deemed to be withdrawn. In case of appeals or petitions pending before the Supreme Court and High Courts, the appellant is required to withdraw the appeal or petition.

Statement 2 is correct. The proposed mechanism **does not cover certain disputes**: (i) where prosecution has been initiated before the declaration is filed, (ii) which involve persons who have been convicted or are being prosecuted for offences under certain laws (such as the Indian Penal Code), or for enforcement of civil liabilities, and (iii) involving **undisclosed foreign income** or assets.

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Q.34) Consider the following statements regarding the **Great Hornbill**:

1. In India, it is found only in the Eastern Himalayan region.
2. It is classified as a Vulnerable species in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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 **Great Hornbill (Buceros bicornis)** also known as the great Indian hornbill or great pied hornbill, is one of the larger members of the hornbill family. It is found in the **Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia**.

In India, its habitat spreads over **Eastern Himalaya and Western Ghats**.

Statement 2 is correct. Due to habitat loss and hunting in some areas, the great hornbill is classified as **Vulnerable** on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (changed from near threatened in 2018) and in the Appendix I of CITES.

Q.35) Arrange the following events of **post-independence India** in chronological order:

1. The Indo–Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation
2. Operation Gibraltar by Pakistan
3. Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) operation in Sri Lanka

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Operation Gibraltar was the codename given to the strategy of Pakistan to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir, and instigate the locals in starting a rebellion against India.

-In **August 1965**, Pakistan Army's Azad Kashmir Regular Force troops, disguised as locals, entered Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistan. The operation sparked the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965.

Indo–Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation was a treaty signed between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic on **August 09, 1971** that specified mutual strategic cooperation.

-The treaty was seen as a deviation from India's sustained position of non-alignment in the Cold War and in the prelude to the Bangladesh liberation war with Pakistan.

The **Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF)** was the Indian military contingent performing a peacekeeping operation in Sri Lanka between **1987 and 1990**.

Q.36) Which of the following **conservation reserve(s)** is/are correctly matched?

1. Sariska Tiger Reserve - Rajasthan
2. Pakke Tiger Reserve - Assam
3. Nameri National Park - Arunachal Pradesh

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

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Correct answer: A

Explanation: Option 1 is correctly matched. **Sariska Tiger Reserve** is in the Alwar district, Rajasthan. It mainly comprises scrub-thorn arid forests, dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and rocky hills. This area was a hunting preserve of the Alwar state and was declared a wildlife reserve in 1955.

In 2004, it was reported that no tigers were sighted in the reserve. In July 2008, two tigers from Ranthambhore National Park were relocated to Sariska Tiger Reserve. Another female tiger was relocated in February 2009. **By 2020, the tiger population in the reserve has risen to 20.**

Option 2 is incorrectly matched. **Pakke Tiger Reserve**, also known as Pakhui Tiger Reserve, in the Pakke Kessang district of Arunachal Pradesh. The habitat types are lowland semi-evergreen, evergreen forest and Eastern Himalayan broadleaf forests.

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Nameri National Park** is in the eastern Himalayas in the Sonitpur District of Assam, Nameri shares its northern boundary with the Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh.

The vegetation type of Nameri is of semi-evergreen, moist deciduous forests with cane and bamboo brakes and narrow strips of open grassland along rivers **Jia- Bhoroli and Bor Dikorai**.

Q.37) Which of the following right(s) is/are provided for by the **Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006?**

1. Right to own, use or dispose of minor forest produce.
2. Right of conversion of leases issued by any local authority or any state government on forest land to titles.
3. Rights of settlement and conversion of forest villages revenue villages.

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: The **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006** recognizes and vest forest rights in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes (FDSTs), where they are scheduled, with respect to forest land and their habitat. Some of the rights are:

- living in the forest for habitation or for **self-cultivation** for livelihood;
- right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of **minor forest produce**,
- rights of **settlement and conversion** of all forest villages, old habitation, un-surveyed villages and other villages in forests, whether recorded, notified or not into **revenue villages**;
- conversion of **pattas or leases** issued by any local authority or any state government on forest land to titles, and other traditional customary rights.
- customary rights **exclude hunting, trapping or extracting** body parts of any wild animal.

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the '**Raman**' rocket engine:

1. It has been indigenously developed in India.
2. ISRO has used the Raman Engine to power its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Hyderabad-based startup **Skyroot Aerospace** recently declared that it has successfully tested an **upper-stage rocket engine** becoming the first Indian private company to build a homegrown rocket engine.

The engine **Raman, named after Nobel laureate CV Raman** has fewer parts and weighs lesser than a conventional rocket engine.

Statement 2 is incorrect. ISRO has not used the said engine. The Skyroot Aerospace aims to launch satellite by its vehicle Vikram-I into a lower earth orbit by end-2021.

Q.39) Who among the following has recently released the **“Elephants, Not commodities”** Report?

- a) World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF)
- b) TRAFFIC
- c) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- d) World Animal Protection

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The third edition of the report, **‘Elephants. Not commodities’**, was released on **World Elephant Day (12 Aug)** by **World Animal Protection**, an international non-profit animal welfare organization. It compares research spanning a decade into elephant tourism, assessing venues across Thailand, India, Laos, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Malaysia.

According to the report, **India is home to the second highest number**, after Thailand, of **elephants used in tourism in Asia**, and of the 21 venues housing 509 elephants, the report found 45% (225) of the elephants were kept in severely inadequate conditions.

Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the Constitutional provisions on **Supreme Court of India**:

1. Constitution provides for the seat of the Supreme Court in Delhi.
2. The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction in regard to questions as to constitutional validity of Central laws.

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. **Article 130** provides for the Seat of Supreme Court: **The Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi** or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Article 131A** was inserted by the Constitution **(Forty-second Amendment)** Act, 1976 which provided for exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in regard to questions as to constitutional validity of Central laws. This provision was later **omitted by the Constitution (Forty-third Amendment) Act, 1977**.

Q.41) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Arihant - Nuclear-powered Submarine
2. Sarthak - Offshore Patrol Vessel

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3. Airavat - Amphibious Warfare Vessel

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 above are correctly matched.

INS Arihant is the lead ship of India's Arihant class of **nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines**. The 6,000 tonne vessel was built under the Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) project at the Ship Building Centre in the port city of Visakhapatnam.

Recently an **Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV)** for the Indian Coast Guard was launched today and re-christened as Indian Coast Guard Ship '**Sarthak**'. It has been designed and built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited.

INS Airavat is a **Shardul-class amphibious warfare vessel** of the Indian Navy. It was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers in Kolkata. Primarily designed for amphibious assault operations, Airavat's missions also include **humanitarian assistance & disaster relief (HADR)** during natural disasters, including tsunamis, cyclones and earthquakes.

Q.42) Consider the following statements regarding the **One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG)** initiative:

- 1. It is an initiative of the International Energy Agency.
- 2. It aims to build a global ecosystem of interconnected renewable energy resources.

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. **OSOWOG is India's initiative**. 'One Sun One World One Grid' (OSOWOG) was first put out by Indian Prime Minister in October 2018 while addressing the inaugural function of the **2nd Global RE-Invest** meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association and the first assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

The vision behind the OSOWOG is "**The Sun Never Sets**".

Statement 2 is correct. OSOWOG is India's initiative to build a **global ecosystem of interconnected renewable energy resources**. The blueprint for the OSOWOG will be developed under the World Bank's technical assistance programme.

OSOWOG is planned to be completed in **three phases**. The first phase will entail interconnectivity within the Asian continent; the second phase will add Africa and the third phase will globalise the whole project.

Q.43) Consider the following statements regarding the **AMRUT Scheme**:

- 1. The scheme aims to ensure basic civic amenities in select urban and rural clusters.
- 2. Odisha has topped among all states in effective implementation of AMRUT scheme.

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 **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)** was launched with an aim of providing basic civic amenities like water supply, sewerage, urban transport, parks as to improve the quality of life for all especially the poor and the disadvantaged.

The Mission covers covering **500 cities** that include all cities and towns with a population of over one lakh with **notified Municipalities**.

Statement 2 is correct. According to the ranking of the states released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, **Odisha** has topped the list in effective implementation of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme by securing 85.67 per cent of marks. Chandigarh and Telangana have secured second and third positions with 75.08 and 74.04 per cent respectively.

Q.44) Consider the following statements regarding **India-Maldives relations**:

1. Indian armed force's Operation Cactus averted the 1988 coup attempt in Maldives.
2. By the Maritime Boundary Treaty of 1976, Maldives recognized Minicoy Islands as an integral part 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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **1988 Maldives coup attempt** was orchestrated by a group of Maldivians led by businessman Abdullah Luthufi and assisted by armed mercenaries of a Tamil secessionist organisation from Sri Lanka, the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), to overthrow the government in the island republic of Maldives.

The attempt was foiled with the help of **Indian Armed Forces Operation Cactus**.

Statement 2 is correct. India's relationship with the Maldives is free of any politically contentious issues. The one-time claim of Maldives to **Minicoy Island** was resolved by the **Maritime Boundary Treaty of 1976** between the two countries, whereby Maldives has recognized Minicoy as an integral part of India.

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

1. Tonga - South Atlantic Ocean
2. Villingili Island - Indian Ocean
3. Palm Islands - United Arab Emirates

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: Option 1 is incorrectly matched. **Tonga is a Polynesian kingdom** of more than 170 **South Pacific** islands, many uninhabited, most lined in white beaches and coral reefs and covered with tropical rainforest.

Option 2 is correctly matched. **Villingili** is an island of Addu Atoll in **Maldives**. India has announced a USD 500 million-package to the Maldives for the connectivity project in the

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island nation to connect Male with three neighbouring islands- **Villingili, Gulhifahu and Thilafushi.**

Option 3 is correctly matched. **Palm Islands** are three artificial islands, Palm Jumeirah, Deira Island and Palm Jebel Ali, on the coast of **Dubai, United Arab Emirates.**

Q.46) Consider the following statements regarding the international efforts to eliminate **Child Labour:**

1. All member countries of the UN International Labour Organization (ILO) have ratified the ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
 2. UN General Assembly has declared 2021 as the Year for the Elimination of Child Labour.
- 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. **All 187 countries** that are members of the UN International Labour Organization (ILO) have **ratified ILO Convention No. 182** on the Worst Forms of Child Labour to protect children from the worst forms of child labour, including slavery, prostitution and trafficking.

The **Pacific island nation Tonga** deposited its ratification instruments with the ILO recently, becoming the final country to do so.

Ending child labour has been one of the main goals of the ILO, which was founded in 1919. The UN agency estimates that 152 million children worldwide are affected, with 73 million in hazardous work.

Statement 2 is correct. The **UN General Assembly** has urged the international community to step up efforts to eradicate forced labour and child labour, and declared **2021 as the Year for the Elimination of Child Labour.**

Q.47) Consider the following statements regarding the **Faceless Assessment & Faceless Appeal on Taxation:**

1. The Income tax assessment appeals are to be randomly allotted to officers across the country.
2. Cases relating to Serious Frauds, Benami Cases and International Taxation are not to be covered under the Faceless Assessment & Faceless Appeal.

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.

Along with the launch of **'Transparent Taxation — Honoring the Honest'** platform, Government also unveiled faceless appeal and expanded the scope of faceless assessment, **eliminating physical interface** between taxpayers and tax authority.

It does away with territorial jurisdiction and substitutes individual discretion with team-based assessment, thereby bringing in transparency.

The **exceptions are:** Serious Frauds, Major Tax Evasion, International Tax, Black Money and Benami Property.

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FEATURES

- Selection only through system using data analytics & AI
- Abolition of territorial jurisdiction
- Automated random allocation of cases
- Central issuance of notices with Document Identification No. (DIN)
- No physical interface, No need to visit income tax office
- Team-based assessments and Team-based review
- Draft assessment order in one city, review in another city & finalisation in third city

EXCEPTIONS

CASES RELATING TO:

- Serious frauds, Major Tax Evasion, Sensitive & Search matters
- International tax
- Black Money Act & Benami Property

Q.48) Which of the following disease has the highest average **Case fatality Rate**?

- Middle East respiratory Syndrome (MERS)
- Ebola virus disease (EVD)
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
- COVID-19

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **case-fatality rate** is the proportion of persons with a particular condition (cases) who die from that condition.

The overall case-fatality rate of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (**MERS-CoV**) infection is around **35%**.

Ebola virus disease (EVD), formerly known as Ebola haemorrhagic fever, is a rare but severe, often fatal illness in humans. The **average EVD case fatality rate is around 50%**. Case fatality rates have varied from 25% to 90% in past outbreaks.

The case-fatality ratio of **SARS** is estimated to range from 0% to more than 50% depending on the age group affected, with an overall CFR estimate of approximately 15%. A global **case-fatality ratio of 11%** was recorded at the end of the outbreak (2003).

COVID-19 fatality rate has been hovering significantly below 5% globally. **India's CFR has been reported to be around 2%**.

Q.49) Consider the following statements regarding the **Sixth Schedule**:

- The Governor may, by public notification increase or diminish the area of any autonomous district.
- Any amendment to the schedule requires the parliamentary majority as stated under the article 368 of the constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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- 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 **Governor may, by public notification** create a new autonomous district, increase the area of any autonomous district, diminish the area of any autonomous district, unite two or more autonomous districts or parts thereof so as to form one autonomous district.

Provided that no order shall be made by the Governor except after consideration of the **report of a Commission** to inquire into and report on the administration of autonomous districts and autonomous regions.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Parliament may from time to time by law amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any of the provisions of the Sixth Schedule. **No such law is deemed to be an amendment of the Constitution for the purposes of article 368**, therefore does not require the two-thirds majority of houses in Parliament.

Q.50) What was the mandate of the **J. Satyanarayana Committee**?

- a) National Digital Health Blueprint
- b) Western Ghats Ecology Preservation
- c) SEBI Insider Trading norms
- d) Feasibility of River Linking Projects

Correct answer: A

Explanation: J. Satyanarayana, Former Chairman, UIDAI later chaired the **National Digital Health Blueprint (NDHB) Committee**.

The National Digital Health Blueprint was prepared by a Health Ministry panel headed by J. Satyanarayana with an objective to create a **framework for the national health stack proposed in 2018 by the NITI Aayog**. The final report was submitted in October 2019 to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

National Health Stack (NHS) by NITI Aayog has defined clear timelines, targets and the resources required for this digital convergence of healthcare programmes in India. NDHB aims to help in providing a common platform for integration of existing applications in health domain and data which has existed in silos, either in public health facilities, or, in private healthcare facilities, in India.

Q.51) Consider the following statements regarding the **Contempt of Courts** on India:

1. Supreme Court, High Courts and Sub-ordinate Courts are empowered by the Constitution to punish for their respective contempt.
2. Fair criticism of judicial act does not amount to contempt of court.

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. **Superior courts (Supreme Court and High Courts)** derive their contempt powers from the Constitution. The **Contempt of Court Act** outlines the procedure in relation to investigation and punishment for contempt. The **Act additionally allows the High Court** to punish for contempt of subordinate courts.

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Statement 2 is correct. **Fair criticism** of judicial act and accurate report of judicial proceeding does not amount to its contempt. A person shall not be guilty of contempt of court for publishing any fair comment on the merits of any case which has been heard and finally decided.

Q.52) What is the utility of the recently launched **SRIJAN** portal?

- NITI Aayog-AIM app innovation challenge
- Partner the private sector in indigenization efforts of Defence sector
- E-commerce platform for indigenous textile sector
- Industry-academia collaboration for Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Defence Minister recently launched a portal **SRIJAN** which is a one stop shop online portal that provides access to the vendors to take up items for **indigenization**.

The main objective of the portal is to **partner the private sector** in indigenization efforts of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), OFB and the Armed Forces. The portal will be a non-transactional online market place platform.

DPSUs/OFB/SHQs will **display their items** on this portal, which they have imported or going to import, each item having sizeable import value. They will also display those items which have been planned in the coming years, for indigenization.

The **Indian industry** will be able to show their interest in those items for which they can design, develop and manufacture as per their capability or through joint venture with OEMs.

Q.53) Which of the following states have the autonomous districts as defined under the **Sixth Schedule**?

- Assam
- Manipur
- Nagaland
- Tripura

Select the correct answer using the code give below:

- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 1 and 4 only

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Sixth Schedule** currently includes 10 autonomous district councils in four northeastern States — **Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura**.

Sixth Schedule provides to safeguard the rights of tribal population through the formation of Autonomous District Councils (ADC). ADCs are bodies representing a district to which the Constitution has given varying degrees of autonomy within the state legislature.

Q.54) Consider the following statements regarding the **Sickle Cell Disease**:

- These are genetically inherited red blood cell disorders.
- The sickle cells die early, which causes a constant shortage of red blood cells.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Sickle Cell Disease is a group of **inherited red blood cell disorders**.

Healthy red blood cells are round, and they move through small blood vessels to carry oxygen to all parts of the body. In someone who has SCD, the red blood cells become hard and sticky and look like a C-shaped farm tool called a “sickle”.

The **sickle cells die early**, which causes a constant shortage of red blood cells. Also, when they travel through small blood vessels, they get stuck and clog the blood flow. This can cause pain and other serious problems such as infection, acute chest syndrome and stroke.

Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding constitutional provisions on the **President of India:**

1. The President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chief Justice of India, resign from office.
2. S/he can only be removed from office as in the manner a judge of Supreme Court is removed.

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. **Article 56** provides for the term of office of President.

The President shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office:

Provided that—

-the President may, by writing under his hand **addressed to the Vice-President**, resign his office;

-the President may, for violation of the Constitution, be removed from office by impeachment in the manner provided in article 61;

-the President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.

Any resignation addressed to the Vice-President shall forthwith be communicated by him to the Speaker of the House of the People.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The separate provision on **impeachment of the President** is provided under **article 61 of the Constitution**. S/he can only be removed an investigation and resolution is passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Houses.

Q.56) Which of the following is/are key components of the **National Health Stack** proposed by the NITI Aayog?

1. National Health Electronic Registries
2. A Federated Personal Health Records (PHR) Framework
3. A new Indian Medical Association

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

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Correct answer: A

Explanation: Proposed by NITI Aayog, **National Health Stack (NHS)** is to be the digital infrastructure built with the aim of making the health insurance system more transparent and robust, while factoring in the uniqueness of India's health sector, and the political realities of federalism.

The **National Digital Health Blueprint** was prepared by a Health Ministry panel headed by **J. Satyanarayana** with an objective to create a framework for the national health stack proposed in 2018 by the NITI Aayog.

The **five key components of the National Health Stack** are—

-**National Health Electronic Registries:** to create a single source of truth for and manage master health data of the nation;

-**A Coverage and Claims platform:** building blocks to support large health protection schemes, enable horizontal and vertical expansion of Rashtriya Swasthya Suraksha Mission by states and robust fraud detection;

-**A Federated Personal Health Records (PHR) Framework:** to solve twin challenges of access to their own health data by patients and availability of health data for medical research, critical for advancing our understanding of human health;

-**A National Health Analytics Platform:** to bring a holistic view combining information on multiple health initiatives and feed into smart policy making, for instance, through improved predictive analytics;

-**Other horizontal Components:** including, and not restricted to, unique Digital Health ID, Health Data Dictionaries and Supply Chain Management for Drugs, payment gateways etc. shared across all health programs.

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding the '**ATL AI Step Up Module**':

1. It provides a comprehensive set of learn it yourself Advanced modules to involve young students across the country.
2. It has been launched by the NITI Aayog in collaboration with NASSCOM.

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

After a successful launch of a unique initiative to take Artificial Intelligence (AI) to schools through 'ATL AI Modules', **Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog** in collaboration with **NASSCOM** launched the '**ATL AI Step Up Module**' for students in order to drive AI education and innovation to the next level in schools across the country.

The AI Step-up Module provides a comprehensive set of **learn it yourself Advanced modules** to those who wish to expand their knowledge base after becoming familiar with the basics of the AI discipline through the AI base module.

The **Base module** was specifically devised considering students as young as 12 years of age. Step up module has been exquisitely designed and presented to involve young students across the country to induce inclusive learning and to empower youngsters of our country to create AI integrated innovations.

Q.58) Consider the following statements regarding **Ice Stupas** in news recently:

1. It is a glacier grafting technique that creates artificial glaciers.
2. These are used for preserving winter water to offset the scarcity in summer.

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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.

Ice Stupa is a form of glacier grafting technique that creates artificial glaciers.

It is used for storing excess winter water in the form of **conical shaped ice heaps**. When water is scarce in the summer, the Ice Stupa melts.

These stupas store large **reserves of water** as ice through the winter and carry the potential to provide for irrigation and drinking water in summers.

Ice Stupa was invented by engineer, innovator and education reformist **Sonam Wangchuk**, who is the founder-director of the NGO Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL).

Q.59) The **Abraham Accord** relates to which of the following nations?

- a) France and Lebanon
- b) Israel and United Arab Emirates
- c) United States of America and North Korea
- d) France and United Kingdom

Correct answer: B

Explanation: On August 13, 2020, the **Israel-United Arab Emirates Peace Agreement or the Abraham Accord** was agreed and announced in a joint statement from the White House (USA).

Israel will now have diplomatic and economic relations with UAE, a country that had not recognized it. In return for recognition and relations, Israel has pledged to suspend its ambitions to annex parts of the West Bank.

The pact makes the Emirates only the third Arab country to have normal diplomatic relations with Israel along with **Egypt**, which signed a peace agreement in 1979, and **Jordan**, which signed a treaty in 1994.

Q.60) Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. Royal Assent to India Independence Act
2. The June 3rd Mountbatten Plan
3. First meeting of Constituent Assembly of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Constituent Assembly** met for the first time in New Delhi on **9 December, 1946** in the Constitution Hall which is now known as the Central Hall of Parliament House.

Mountbatten Plan was a declaration of the government of Great Britain on **June 3, 1947**, that provided for the partition of India into two states that were granted the rights of dominions.

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The **1947 Indian Independence Act** is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that partitioned British India; it received the **Royal Assent on 18 July 1947**.

Q.61) Which of the following island(s) is/are in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** Union territory?

1. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island
2. Swaraj Dweep
3. North Sentinel Island

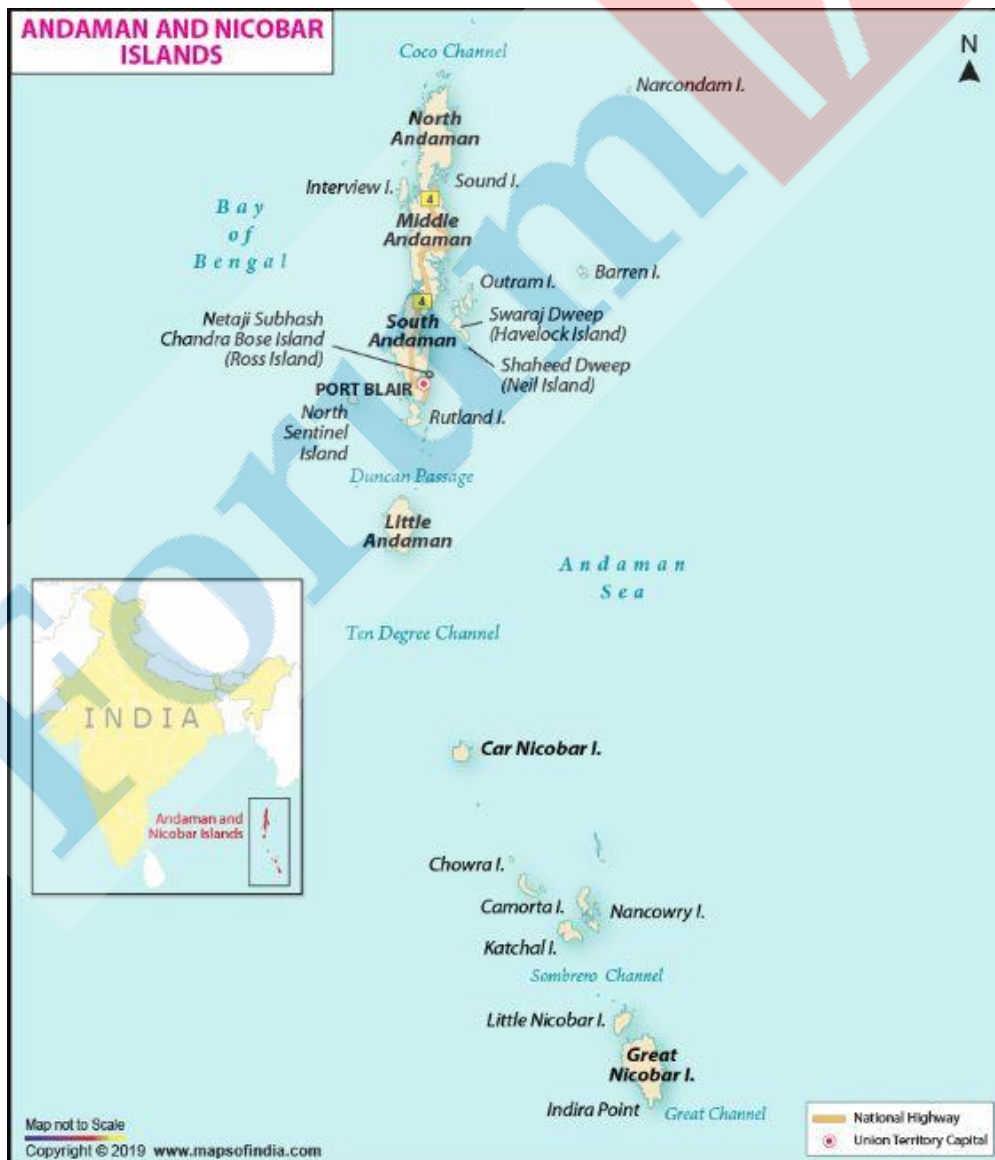
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the above are in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Union Territory.

The **Ross Island** was renamed Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep, the **Neil Island** as Shaheed Dweep and the **Havelock Island** as Swaraj Dweep in December 2018.



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Q.62) Consider the following statements regarding **BEEG (Bio - compost Enriched Eco - friendly Globule)** balls:

1. These are seed balls developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
2. There is no need for digging pits for planting saplings using BEEG balls.

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. **IIT Kanpur** has developed seed balls named **BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule)** which will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in pandemic. It has been developed in collaboration with Agnys Waste Management Private Limited (start-up at IIT Kanpur).

Statement 2 is correct. **Seed Balls** are comprised of variety of **seeds, compost, and clay**. There is no need for digging pits for planting saplings. These seed balls germinate on coming in contact with water.

Q.63) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct regarding the **Sunspots**?

1. They appear dark on the surface of the Sun because they are cooler than other parts of the Sun's surface.
2. Solar minimum refers to time when the Sun has the least sunspots.

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: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Sunspots are areas that appear **dark** on the surface of the Sun. They appear dark because they are **cooler than other parts of the Sun's surface**. The temperature of a sunspot is still very hot though—around 3,500 degrees Celsius!

Sunspots are relatively cool because they form at areas where **magnetic fields are particularly strong**. These magnetic fields are so strong that they keep some of the heat within the Sun from reaching the surface.

The Sun's magnetic field goes through a cycle, called the **solar cycle**. Every 11 years or so, the Sun's magnetic field flips and the Sun's north and south poles switch places.

-The beginning of a solar cycle is a **solar minimum**: when the Sun has the least sunspots.

-The middle of the solar cycle is the **solar maximum**: when the Sun has the most sunspots.

-As the cycle ends, it fades back to the solar minimum and then a new cycle begins.

Q.64) Consider the following statements regarding **Ethanol**:

1. It is produced from by-product of the sugar industry.
2. The Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP) mandates Oil Marketing Companies to blend upto ten percent of ethanol in Petrol.

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: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Ethanol is a renewable biofuel because it is made from biomass. Fuel ethanol feedstocks include **grains and crops** with high starch and sugar content such as corn, sorghum, barley, sugar cane, and sugar beets. One of the most commonly used sources is **molasses**, a by-product of the sugar industry.

The **Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP)** seeks to achieve blending of Ethanol with motor spirit with a view to reducing pollution, conserve foreign exchange and increase value addition in the sugar industry enabling them to clear cane price arrears of farmers. Under EBP programme, OMCs are to blend upto **10% of ethanol in Petrol**.

To incentivize **2G Ethanol sector** and support this nascent industry, Government launched **Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (Jaiv Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana** in 2019 for providing financial support to Integrated Bioethanol Projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstock.

Q.65) In which of the case(s) is/was India involved in the **Permanent Court of Arbitration**?

1. The **Enrica Lexie (India v. Italy)** case
2. **Bay of Bengal Maritime Boundary (India v. Bangladesh)** case
3. **Kulbhushan Jadhav (India v. Pakistan)** case

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: Option 1 is correct. The **Enrica Lexie case** is a dispute about a shooting by two **Italian marines** off the western coast of India.

In July 2020, the Permanent Court of Arbitration recognized the functional immunity of the two Italian marines, noting that they were engaged in a mission on behalf of the Italian Government. However, Italy is required to find an agreement with India in order to compensate for the two deaths.

Option 2 is correct. The **Bangladesh v. India (Bay of Bengal Maritime Boundary)** case was settled by the PCA in 2014. The tribunal awarded Bangladesh 19,467 sq. km of the 25,602 sq. km sea area of the Bay of Bengal.

Option 3 is incorrect. The **Kulbhushan Jadhav case** is not under PCA. India in May 2017 approached the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**, asserting that Pakistani authorities were denying India its right of consular access to Jadhav in violation of the Vienna Convention.

Q.66) Which of the following correctly defines a **Drop-in Fuel**?

- a) A fuel that needs a complete overhaul of existing petroleum infrastructure
- b) A highly combustible fuel with no Sulphur content
- c) A fuel that has to be maintained at sub-zero temperature to be combustible
- d) A fuel fully compatible with existing petroleum infrastructure

Correct answer: D

Explanation: **Drop-in biofuels** are liquid bio-hydrocarbons that are **functionally equivalent to petroleum** fuels and are fully compatible with existing petroleum infrastructure.

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A drop-in fuel is a synthetic and **completely interchangeable substitute** for conventional petroleum-derived hydrocarbons (gasoline, jet fuel, and diesel). Therefore, it does not require adaptation of the engine, fuel system or the fuel distribution network. It can be used “as is” in currently available engines either in pure form and/or blended in any amount with other drop-in neat, drop-in blend, or conventional fuels.

Q.67) Where is the **Milne Ice Shelf** is located?

- a) Arctic Ocean
- b) North Pacific Ocean
- c) Siberia
- d) Antarctica

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Milne Ice Shelf (Canada)**, a fragment of the former **Ellesmere Ice Shelf**, is the second largest ice shelf in the **Arctic Ocean**.

It's the last fully intact ice shelf in the Canadian Arctic and has been reported to have collapsed losing more than 40% of its area.



Q.68) Which of the following **freedom fighter(s)** was/were deported to the **Cellular Jail, Andaman and Nicobar Islands**?

- 1. Barindra Kumar Ghose
- 2. Fazl-E-Haq Khairabadi
- 3. Batukeshwar Dutt

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

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Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Cellular Jail in Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands** is a prison where Indians fighting for freedom from the British were exiled and incarcerated under very inhuman conditions.

Today, a national memorial, it is called cellular because it was constructed to host only **individual cells** for the purpose of solitary confinement.

Some prominent inmates of the Cellular Jail were: Fazl-e-Haq Khairabadi, Yogendra Shukla, Batukeshwar Dutt, **Vinayak Damodar Savarkar**, **Sachindra Nath Sanyal**, Bhai Parmanand, Sohan Singh, Subodh Roy and Trailokyanath Chakravarty.

-**Barindra Kumar Ghose** and Aurobindo Ghosh were arrested in 1908 following the intensified police investigation after attempted killing of Kingsford by two revolutionaries Khudiram and Prafulla on 30 April 1908.

The trial (known as the Alipore Bomb Case) initially sentenced Barin Ghosh and Ullaskar Datta to death. However, the sentence was reduced to life imprisonment, by Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das and Barin was deported to the Cellular Jail in Andaman in 1909 along with other convicts.

-**Fazl-E-Haq Khairabadi** was covered by an amnesty after the Indian Rebellion of 1857 failed and was arrested by the British authorities on 30 January 1859 at Khairabad for inciting violence.

He was tried and found guilty of encouraging murder and role in the 'jihad'. He was sentenced for life to the prison at Kalapani (Cellular Jail) on Andaman Island, and his property was confiscated by the judicial commissioner of Awadh court.

-**Batukeshwar Dutt** along with Bhagat Singh was involved in the Central Legislative Assembly Bombing Case of 1929, passed away on 20th July 1965 after an illness at the age of 54. Dutt was sentenced to life imprisonment and deported to the Cellular Jail in Port Blair.

Q.69) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI)**:

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. The NTAGI a regulatory body monitoring and licensing the vaccine production 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: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI)** is not a statutory body. It was established by an **order of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** (MoHFW) in 2001 and has been reconstituted twice, in 2010 and 2013.

The NTAGI includes a **Standing Technical Sub-Committee (STSC)**. The STSC is tasked with undertaking technical review of scientific evidence on matters related to immunization policy and programmes. Final recommendations are drafted by the NTAGI taking into account the scientific review by the STSC and any other relevant evidence.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The NTAGI is **not a policy making body in its own right** and has no regulatory function.

The **overall objective of the NTAGI** is to provide advice to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the strategies to control the burden and appropriately evaluate the impact of **immunization on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) in the country**.

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The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 has sought inputs from Standing Technical Sub-Committee of National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) regarding the vaccine candidates for COVID-19.

Q.70) What is the utility of the recently launched '**Swasthya**' portal?

- a) Track the progress of the COVID-19 vaccine development
- b) Provide life-saving medicines at subsidized prices
- c) A database of health profile of all Indians
- d) Health and nutrition information of the tribal population of India

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** in collaboration with Piramal Swasthya, the Centre of Excellence has developed this **Tribal Health and Nutrition Portal 'Swasthya'**, a one-stop solution presenting all information pertaining to tribal health and nutrition related to Scheduled Tribe people.

It has a **dashboard, knowledge repository, partner segment, Sickle Cell Diseases (SCD) support corner**. The dashboard presents data curated from multiple sources for the 177 identified high priority tribal districts.

The Portal also has **research studies, innovations and best practices** on tribal community curated from multiple sources related to tribal health and nutrition.