

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

14th to 20th September, 2020

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the **Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha**:

1. Constitution mandates the Deputy Speaker to be chosen from among the members of the opposition parties in the Lok Sabha.
2. The salaries and allowances of the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha are expenditure charged upon Consolidated Fund 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: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Article 93** states that the House of the People shall, as soon as may be, choose two members of the House to be respectively Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

There no provision for the Deputy Speaker to be mandatorily be from the opposition party members.

Statement 2 is correct. The **salaries and allowances** of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the **Deputy Speaker** of the House of the People are the **expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India**.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**:

1. Manufacturing sector has highest weightage in IIP calculation.
2. Base year for current IIP calculations is 2011-12.

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: The **Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** are released on 12th of every month (or previous working day if 12th is a holiday) with a six weeks lag and compiled with data received from source agencies, who in turn receive the data from the producing factories/ establishments.

Statement 1 is correct. The weightage of **Manufacturing, Mining and Electricity** production in overall Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is **77.63 per cent, 14.37 per cent and 7.99 per cent** respectively.

Statement 2 is correct. There have been nine revision of base year of all-India IIP since the beginning of its dissemination with first being 1937. Currently base year for IIP calculations is **2011-12**.

Q.3) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Serathang - Arunachal Pradesh
2. Nathu La pass - Sikkim
3. Lipulekh Pass - Uttarakhand

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Option 1 is incorrectly matched. **Sherathang** is a town in **Sikkim** near the Nathula Pass in India. The location is the site for **excise, customs and checking** for trade between India and China. Rinqingang is the corresponding location in China.

Option 2 is correctly matched. **Lipulekh** is a Himalayan pass on the border between **Uttarakhand** state and the Tibet region of China, near their trijunction with Nepal.

Option 3 is correctly matched. **Nathu La** is a mountain pass in the Himalayas in East **Sikkim** district. It connects the Indian state of Sikkim with China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

Ministry of External Affairs organizes Kailash Mansarovar Yatra during June to September through two different routes - Lipulekh Pass (Uttarakhand) and Nathu La Pass (Sikkim).

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **Singapore Convention on Mediation**:

1. India has signed and ratified the convention.

2. The convention is yet to enter into force.

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: The Singapore Convention on Mediation also called **UN Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation** which was opened for signature in August 2019, it is an international agreement regarding the recognition of mediated settlements.

Statement 1 is incorrect. As of September 2020, the Convention has 53 signatories, including the United States, China and India.

In 2019, **India was among the first group of signatories** to the 'Singapore Mediation Convention'. It is yet to be ratified.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation **came into force recently** and will provide a more effective way for enforcing mediated settlements of corporate disputes involving businesses.

Q.5) Which of the following is/are *not* covered by the definition of '**foreign source**' under the **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010**?

- 1. Government of any foreign country
- 2. International Monetary Fund
- 3. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

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: The **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010** regulates foreign donations and ensures that such contributions do not adversely affect internal security.

Some of the **Foreign Sources**, as defined in **Section 2(1) (j) of FCRA, 2010** include:

-the **Government of any foreign country** or territory and any agency of such Government;

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

-any international agency, **not being** the United Nations or any of its specialized agencies, the World Bank, **International Monetary Fund** or such other agency as the Central Government may notify;

*Central Govt. has notified several international bodies to be **not** covered by the definition of 'foreign source'. The list among others includes **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**, Geneva.*

-a trade union in any foreign country or territory;

-a foreign trust or a foreign foundation;

-a society, club or other association or individuals formed or registered outside India;

-a citizen of a foreign country.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020**:

1. It has been published by Indian Cancer Society.

2. Tobacco related cancers are estimated to constitute more than one-fourth of all cancers 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. In India, the **National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP)** under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with its network of cancer registries was started in December 1981 with the coordinating center at Bengaluru. Presently it is operated by the **ICMR-National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR)**, Bengaluru.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the report **Tobacco related cancers** are estimated to constitute **27%** of all cancers in India.

Report of National Cancer Registry Programme 2012-2016

Projection of Cancer Cases in India

Table 14.2 Cancer Burden by Broad Anatomical Sites of Cancer - 2020 and 2025

Broad Anatomical Sites of Cancer	2020		2025	
	No. of Cases	(%)	No. of Cases	(%)
All Sites	1392179	100.0	1569793	100.0
Tobacco Related Cancers	377830	27.1	427273	27.2
Gastro Intestinal Tract	273982	19.7	310142	19.8
Cervix Uteri	75209	5.4	85241	5.4
Breast	205424	14.8	232832	14.8
Corpus Uteri and Ovary	70400	5.1	79765	5.1
Lymphoid & Haematopoietic Malignancies	124931	9.0	138592	8.8
Prostate	41532	3.0	47068	3.0
Central Nervous System	32729	2.4	36258	2.3

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding **Parliament of India**:

1. Constitution provides for maximum gap of six months between last sitting in one session and the first sitting in the next session of a house.

2. The President may from time to time prorogue and dissolve either House of the Parliament.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

3. Attorney-General of India has the right to speak/take part in the proceedings of any joint sitting of the Houses.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. 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. [Article 85(1)]

Statement 2 is incorrect. The President may from time to time— (a) **prorogue** the Houses or either House; (b) **dissolve** the House of the People. [Article 85(2)]

The Council of States is **not be subject to dissolution**, but as nearly as possible one-third of the members thereof retire on the expiration of every second year. [Article 83(1)]

Statement 3 is correct. Every Minister and the **Attorney-General of India** shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote. [Article 88]

Q.8) Which of the following is/are the school(s) of **Tibetan Buddhism**?

- 1. Gelug
- 2. Nyingma
- 3. Sowa-Rigpa

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: **Tibetan Buddhism** has four major schools, namely **Nyingma**, (8th century), **Kagyu**, (11th century), **Sakya**, (1073), and **Gelug**, (1409).

Sowa-Rigpa is one of the oldest, living and well documented **medical traditions** popular in the world. The term 'Sowa Rigpa' is derived from Bhoti language which means 'Knowledge of Healing'. It is an ancient medical system which was enriched in the entire Trans-Himalayan region.

Q.9) What is the mandate of the recently constituted **Rajiv Mehrishi committee**?

- a) Economic impact of interest waivers under COVID-19 related loan moratorium
- b) Assess the adequate size of capital reserves that the RBI should hold
- c) Financial parameters for restructuring of loans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- d) Constitution of the Public Debt Management Agency

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The government has recently set up an expert committee headed by **former comptroller and auditor general (CAG) Rajiv Mehrishi** to assess the impact of “**waiving of interest and waiving of interest on interest on the Covid-19-related moratorium**” on the economy and financial stability.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had in March this year allowed banks to offer a three-month moratorium on principal and interest payments beginning March 1 to provide relief to borrowers hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. This was later extended by another three months to August 31.

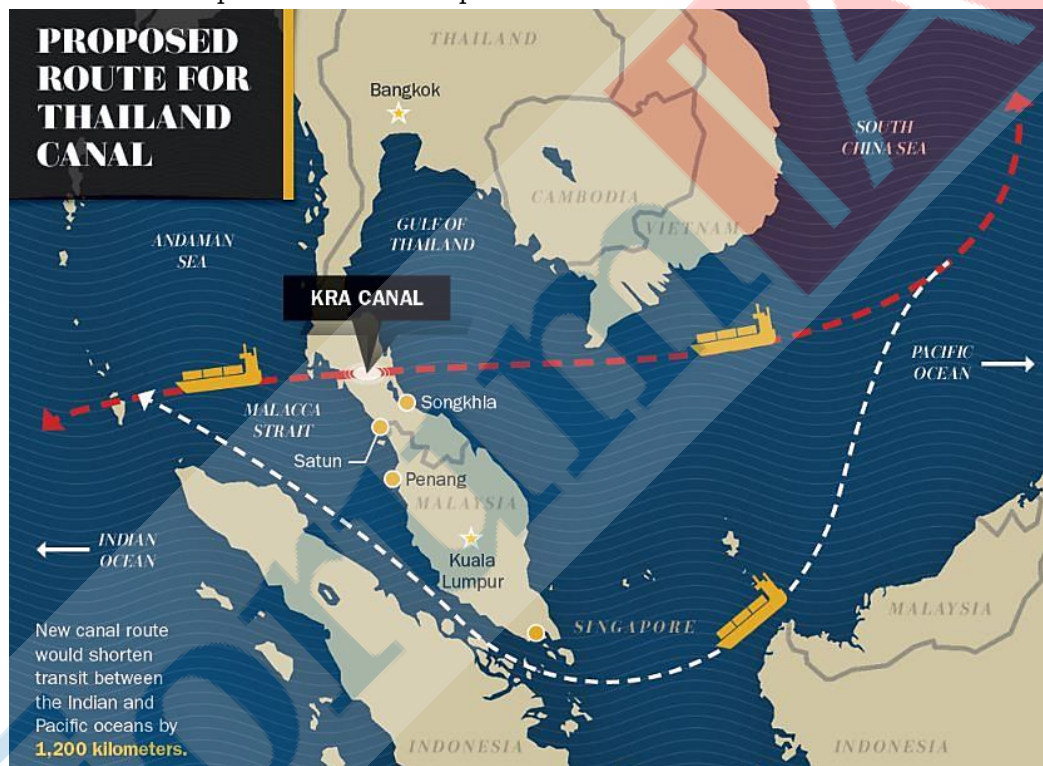
Q.10) The proposed **Kra Isthmus canal** would connect which of the following water bodies?

- a) Gulf of Mexico with the Pacific Ocean
- b) Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara
- c) Caribbean Sea with the Pacific Ocean
- d) Gulf of Thailand with the Andaman Sea

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The Thai Canal or **Kra Isthmus Canal** is a project that would connect the **Gulf of Thailand with the Andaman Sea** across the Kra Isthmus in southern Thailand.

The canal would provide an alternative to transit through the Straits of Malacca and shorten transit for shipments of oil to Japan and China.



Q.11) Which of the following country(s) shares land border with **Afghanistan**?

- 1. China
- 2. Uzbekistan
- 3. India

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: **Afghanistan**, a mountainous landlocked republic in Central Asia is bordered by **Tajikistan**, **Turkmenistan**, and **Uzbekistan** to the north, **Iran** in west, **Pakistan** in east

and south and it has a small stretch of border in north east with both **China** and **India** (PoK).



Q.12) Which of the following is/are related to the **Israel's** relations with Arab world?

1. Arab Peace Initiative
2. Abraham Accords

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: Option 1 is correct. **Arab Peace Initiative** was proposed by Saudi Arabia in 2002, and endorsed by the Arab League in the same year.

The initiative called for normalizing relations between the **Arab world and Israel**, in exchange for full Israeli withdrawal from the territories it captured in the 1967 war, including the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights, a “just settlement” of the Palestinian refugee issue and the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Option 2 is correct. The **Abraham Accord** was agreed to by Israel and the United Arab Emirates in August, 2020. It aims to normalize the relations between the two countries.

Q.13) Which of the following **International Labour Organization (ILO)** conventions have been ratified by **India**?

1. Worst forms of Child Labour Convention
2. Equal Remuneration Convention
3. Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organised Convention

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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: India is a founder member of the International Labour Organization, which came into existence in 1919. At present the ILO has 186 Members.

The eight **Core Conventions of the ILO** (also called fundamental/human rights conventions) are:

- Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No.105)
- Equal Remuneration** Convention (No.100)
- Discrimination (Employment Occupation) Convention (No.111)
- Minimum Age Convention (No.138)
- Worst forms of **Child Labour** Convention (No.182)

(The above Six have been ratified by India)

-Freedom of **Association** and Protection of Right to **Organised Convention** (No.87)

-Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No.98)

(These two have not been ratified by India)

Q.14) Subramania Bharati was associated with which of the following literary/journalistic works?

- 1. Swadesamitran
- 2. Kuyil Pattu
- 3. Gnanaratham

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: Chinnaswami Subramania Bharati (1882-1921) was an Indian writer of the nationalist period and is regarded as the father of the modern Tamil style.

Bharati's best-known works include **Kaṇṇan pattu** (1917), **Panchali sapatham** (1912; Panchali's Vow), and **Kuyil pattu** (1912). Many of his English works were collected in Agni and Other Poems and Translations and Essays and Other Prose Fragments (1937).

As a working journalist, his writings in **Swadesamitran** and India made an important contribution to Tamil political vocabulary. He wrote stories, commentaries, and was also the pioneer of column writing in Tamil.

The exposure to political affairs led to his involvement in the extremist wing of the Indian National **Congress** party, and, as a result, he was forced to flee to Pondicherry (now Puducherry), a French colony, where he lived in exile from 1910 to 1919.

Q.15) Which of the following constitute the term 'Hybrid Warfare'?

- 1. Disinformation and fake news
- 2. Economic manipulation
- 3. Use of proxies and insurgencies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Hybrid warfare is an emerging notion in conflict studies. It refers to the use of unconventional methods as part of a multi-domain war-fighting approach. These methods aim to disrupt and disable an opponent's actions without engaging in open hostilities.

It generally involves a combination of activities, including disinformation, fake news, economic manipulation, use of proxies and insurgencies, non-state actors with advanced military capabilities, diplomatic pressure and military actions.

Hybrid warfare is employing multiple, diverse tactics simultaneously against an opponent.

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the **Phosphine gas**:

- 1. It is a colorless flammable gas.
- 2. It is an artificially produced gas and does not occur naturally.

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. **Phosphine** is a colorless, flammable, and explosive gas at ambient temperature.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is a **natural** gaseous carrier of phosphorus in its biogeochemical cycles, has been found ubiquitously present in the environment. Small amounts occur naturally from the breakdown of organic matter.

Recent discovery of phosphine on Venus has sparked debate on presence of life outside Earth.

On rocky planets such as Venus and Earth, phosphine can only be made by life—whether human or microbe. Phosphine is manufactured as an agricultural fumigant, is used in the semiconductor industry, and is a by-product of meth labs. But phosphine is also made naturally by some species of anaerobic bacteria—organisms that live in the oxygen-starved environments of landfills, marshlands, and even animal guts.

Q.17) Arrange the following events in chronological order:

- 1. Breakout of World War II
- 2. Tripuri session of the Indian National Congress
- 3. Establishment of the Forward Bloc

Select the correct answer using the code give below:

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Tripuri session of the Congress was held from 8 to 12 **March 1939**. Subhash Chandra Bose was re-elected the President of INC at the Tripuri Session in 1939 by defeating Gandhiji's candidate Pattabhi Sitaramayya.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Forward Bloc was formed by Subhash Chandra Bose on 3 **May 1939**, after he resigned from Congress President Ship on 29 April 1939.

World War II broke out on 1 **September 1939** when Germany invaded Poland. Britain and France went to Poland's aid and declared war on Germany on 3 September 1939.

Q.18) The **Methane Hydrates** can be found in which of the following location(s)?

1. Beneath permafrost
2. Shallow sediments along continental margins

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

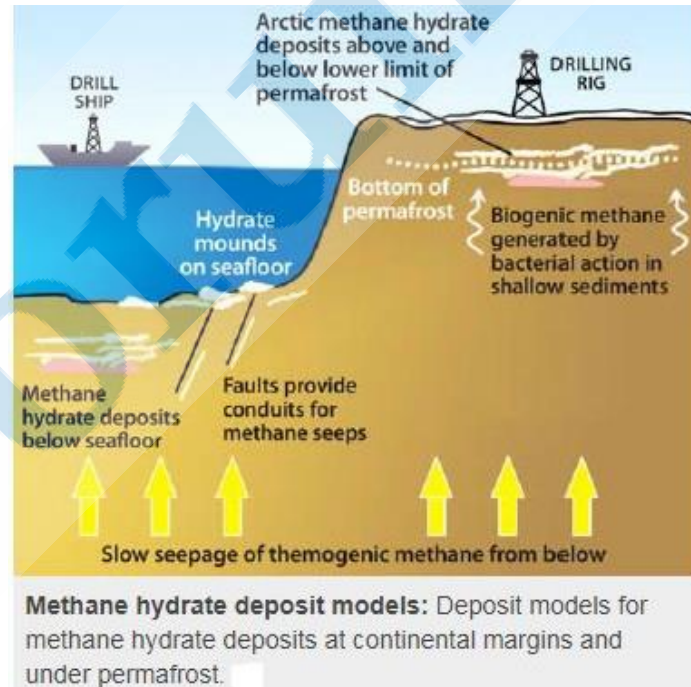
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Methane hydrates consist of molecules of natural gas (the chief constituent of natural gas; methane) enclosed within a solid lattice of water molecules. When brought to the earth's surface, one cubic meter of gas hydrate releases 164 cubic meters of natural gas.

Gas hydrate deposits are found wherever methane occurs in the presence of water under elevated pressures and at relatively low temperatures, such as **beneath permafrost or in shallow sediments along deepwater continental margins.**

In a recent study conducted by researchers at the Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, have found that the methane hydrate deposits are located in the Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin are of biogenic origin.



Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the **Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act**:

1. It authorized the British government to detain people for up to 2 years without trial.
2. Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt threw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly against the passage of the Act.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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: The **Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act (Rowlatt Act) of 1919**, was a repressive legislation enacted in British India, following the report of a committee under Justice Rowlatt. The report had recommended the continuation of special wartime powers for use against revolutionary conspiracy and terrorist activity.

Statement 1 is correct. The **Rowlatt Act** entitled the British to arrest anyone found suspicious of plotting against the British Raj. Under this act, those supposed to be involved in revolt against the British could be sentenced to a term of up to **2 years in jail, without any trial**. It also placed severe restrictions on the freedom of the press.

The Act aroused opposition among Indian nationalists and this was channelled by Mohandas Gandhi into a nationwide satyagraha, known as the Rowlatt agitation, which ended with the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt** threw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly on 8 April 1929 against the passage of the **Public Safety Bill and the Trade Disputes Bill** which would reduce the civil liberties of citizens.

Q.20) Which of the following language(s) have the status of 'Classical Language' in India?

- 1. Sanskrit
- 2. Kannada
- 3. Hindi

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: Six languages have been conferred the status of 'Classical Language' in India till now: **Tamil** (2004), **Sanskrit** (2005), **Kannada** (2008), **Telugu** (2008), **Malayalam** (2013), and **Odia** (2014).

Criteria for conferring the status of Classical Language:

- High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years.
- A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers.
- The literary tradition to be original and not borrowed from another speech community.
- The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

Till date, Hindi has not been granted the Classical Language status.

Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14th September. It was on this day in 1949 that the constituent assembly adopted Hindi written in Devanagari as the official language of the country.

Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the **Contempt of Court**:

- 1. Scandalizing the Court is a criminal offence in India.
- 2. Supreme Court and High Courts derive their contempt powers from the Constitution.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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 **Contempt of Courts Act, 1971** divides contempt into civil and criminal contempt.

-**Civil contempt** refers to the willful disobedience of an order of any court.

-**Criminal contempt** includes any act or publication which: (i) '**scandalises**' the court, or (ii) prejudices any judicial proceeding, or (iii) interferes with the administration of justice in any other manner.

'**Scandalising the Court**' broadly refers to statements or publications which have the effect of undermining public confidence in the judiciary.

Statement 2 is correct. The **superior courts (Supreme Court and High Courts)** derive their contempt powers from the Constitution.

Article 129 and 215 provide that Supreme Court and every High Court (respectively) shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself.

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the **Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees**:

- 1. It has members from Lok Sabha only.
- 2. The committees consider the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments and make a report to the Houses.

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 **Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee** consists of 31 members; **21 members from Lok Sabha**, nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and **10 from Rajya Sabha** nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

A **Minister** is not eligible to be nominated as a member of any of the Standing Committees.

Statement 2 is correct. **Functions** of the Committee:

- to consider the **Demands for Grants** and make Reports on the same to the Houses;
- to examine such Bills as are referred to the Committee by the Speaker, Lok Sabha or the Chairman, Rajya Sabha as the case may be, and make Reports thereon;
- to consider Annual Reports of the concerned Ministries/Departments and make Reports thereon; and
- to consider national basic long-term policy documents presented to the Houses.

Q.23) Which of the following statement correctly defines a **Zero FIR**?

- a) Reporting crime without naming the criminal
- b) Reporting crime without naming the victim
- c) Registering FIR in a crime irrespective of the jurisdiction
- d) Suo-moto registration of FIR by police

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Correct answer: C

Explanation: **First Information Report (FIR)** is prepared by the police based on a complaint or available information in the case of cognizable offences. The information or the complaint is provided by an informant as per Section 154 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Zero FIR is a FIR lodged in any police station irrespective of the location of incidence or jurisdiction of the police station. It is later transferred to the appropriate jurisdictional police station.

Based on the **Justice Verma Committee** report, the Home Ministry, in 2013, issued an advisory to all states and union territories asking the police to register **Zero FIR** if an informant comes with the details of a cognizable crime irrespective of the jurisdiction in order to initiate investigation at the earliest.

Cognizable offences are those which do not require an order from magistrate, and which requires the police to take immediate action on receipt of complaint or information.

Q.24) Where is the **Spalte Glacier** located?

- a) Antarctica
- b) Siberia
- c) Alaska
- d) Greenland

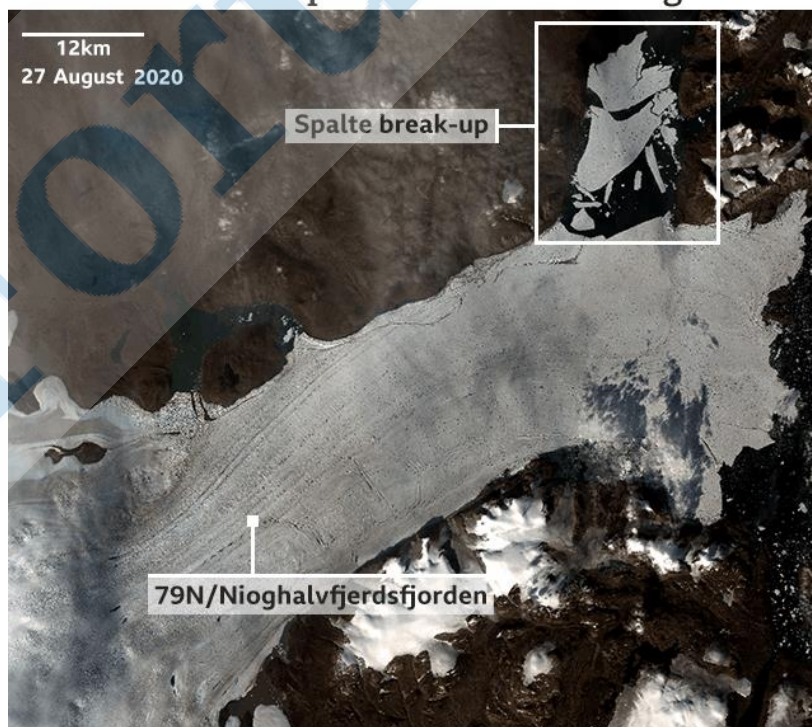
Correct answer: D

Explanation: **Nioghalvfjærdsfjorden or 79N** is roughly 80km long by 20km wide and is the floating front end of the Northeast Greenland Ice Stream - where it flows off the land into the ocean to become buoyant.

At its leading edge, the glacier splits in two, with a minor offshoot turning directly north. It's this offshoot, or tributary, called **Spalte Glacier**, that has now disintegrated.

The ice feature was already heavily fractured in 2019; this summer's warmth has been its final undoing. Spalte Glacier has become a flotilla of icebergs.

NE Greenland: Spalte Glacier disintegrates



Source: Copernicus Data/ESA/Sentinel-2B/PromiceGL

BBC

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.
Visit academy.forumias.com for our mentor based courses.

ForumIAS

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the **Brain Templates**:

1. It is a standard representation from various brain images to understand brain functionality.

2. NIMHANS has developed Indian Brain Templates.

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. **Brain template** is a standard/gross representation from various brain images to understand brain functionality in diseased conditions.

When brain scans (MRI) are taken, they need to be compared to a standard brain template — a model or standard for making comparisons from a group of individual brain scans.

This helps researchers identify parts of the brain.

Statement 2 is correct. The **National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS)** has recently developed an Indian Brain Templates (IBT) and a brain atlas.

The neuroscientists studied over 500 brain scans of Indian patients to develop five sets of Indian brain templates and a brain atlas for five age groups covering late childhood to late adulthood (six to 60 years).

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding the **PM Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19**:

1. The scheme covers accidental death on account of COVID-19 related duty.

2. The scheme covers individuals only in the age group 18-60.

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. **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19** is an accident insurance scheme covers; loss of life due to COVID19, and accidental death on account of COVID-19 related duty.

Statement 2 is incorrect. This **Central Sector Scheme** provides an insurance cover of Rs. 50 lakhs. Individual enrolment is not required and there's **no age limit** for this scheme.

It was announced on 30th March this year for a period of 90 days and it was extended for a further period of 90 days up to 25th September. The scheme has now been extended for another 180 days.

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. Currency revaluation refers to the increase in value of one currency relative to another based on supply and demand in the forex market.

2. A Currency appreciation is a calculated upward adjustment to a country's official exchange rate by central bank.

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The definitions of appreciation and revaluation have interchanged.

Currency appreciation refers to the increase in value of one currency relative to another in the forex markets. In a floating rate exchange system, the value of a currency constantly changes based on supply and demand in the forex market.

A **revaluation** is a calculated upward adjustment to a country's official exchange rate relative to a chosen baseline, such as wage rates, the price of gold, or a foreign currency. In a fixed exchange rate regime, only a decision by a country's government, such as its central bank, can alter the official value of the currency.

Q.28) Which of the following **National Identity Element(s) of India** have adaptation(s) from **Ashoka's reign**?

1. State Emblem of India
2. National Flag
3. National Calendar

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 **state emblem** is an adaptation from the **Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka**. In the state emblem, adopted by the Government of India on 26 January 1950, only three lions are visible.

In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures in high relief of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the Capital is crowned by the Wheel of the Law (Dharma Chakra).

Option 2 is correct. The **National Flag** is a horizontal tricolor of India saffron at the top, white in the middle and India green at the bottom in equal proportion.

In the centre of the white band is a **navy-blue wheel** which represents the chakra. Its design is that of the wheel which appears on the abacus of the **Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka**. Its diameter approximates to the width of the white band and it has 24 spokes.

Option 3 is incorrect. The **national calendar** based on the **Saka Era**, with Chaitra as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from 22 March 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for the following official purposes. It commenced in 78 AD.

Q.29) Which of the following is/are the potential impact(s) of **sale of Government securities** by the Reserve Bank of India?

1. Increase in liquidity in the market.
2. Increase in interest rates.

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: Option 1 is incorrect. When the RBI feels that there is **excess liquidity** in the market, it resorts to **sale of securities** thereby sucking out the rupee liquidity. Similarly,

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

when the liquidity conditions are tight, RBI may buy securities from the market, thereby releasing liquidity into the market.

Option 2 is correct. When the RBI pursues a **tight monetary policy**, it takes money out of the system by selling government securities. This **raises interest rates** because the demand for credit is high that lenders price their loans higher to take advantage of the demand.

The purchase of securities by RBI on other hand has potential to lower the lending rates in economy as it increases the money supply.

Q.30) India's **Forex Reserve** comprises of which of the following assets?

1. Foreign Currency Assets
2. Gold
3. Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)

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: India's forex reserves comprise **foreign currency assets (FCAs)**, **gold reserves**, **special drawing rights (SDRs)** and India's reserve position with the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**.

The country's foreign exchange reserves rose to reach a lifetime high of \$542.013 billion in the week ended September 4.

2. Foreign Exchange Reserves

Item	As on September 4, 2020		Variation over					
			Week		End-March 2020		Year	
	₹Cr.	US\$ Mn.	₹Cr.	US\$ Mn.	₹Cr.	US\$ Mn.	₹Cr.	US\$ Mn.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Total Reserves	3964198	542013	-9535	582	362043	64206	886510	112405
1.1 Foreign Currency Assets	3644856	498362	-10826	269	311041	56149	799337	101157
1.2 Gold	274417	37521	1392	321	43890	6943	78477	10170
1.3 SDRs	10841	1482	-27	2	41	50	571	49
1.4 Reserve Position in the IMF	34083	4647	-75	-9	7070	1064	8125	1029

* Difference, if any, is due to rounding off

Guidotti Rule suggests that the countries should hold external assets sufficient to ensure that they could live without access to new foreign borrowings for up to twelve months.

Q.31) Which of the following is/are basis for '**reasonable restrictions**' on fundamental right to **freedom of speech and expression** under the Constitution?

1. Contempt of court
2. Defamation
3. Decency or morality

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: **Article 19(2)** provides for power of state to put **reasonable restrictions** on 'freedom of speech and expression' in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, **decency or morality**, or in relation to **contempt of court**, **defamation** or incitement to an offence.

Q.32) Which of the following country(s) share border with the **Persian Gulf**?

1. Bahrain
2. Syria
3. 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: C

Explanation: **Persian Gulf** is bordered on the north, northeast, and east by **Iran**; on the southeast and south by part of **Oman** and by the **United Arab Emirates**; on the southwest and west by **Qatar**, **Bahrain**, and **Saudi Arabia**; and on the northwest by **Kuwait** and **Iraq**.



Q.33) Arrange the following **States** chronologically in order of their formation since 1947:

1. Gujarat
2. Nagaland
3. Punjab

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

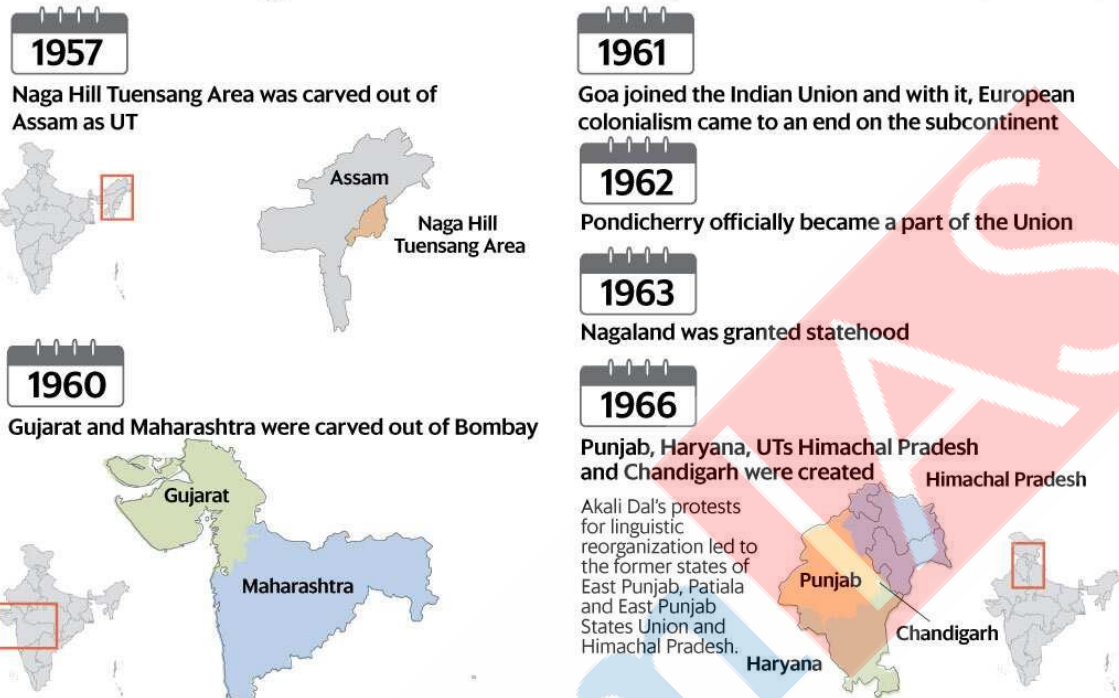
Explanation: **Gujarat** was part of Bombay Presidency in British India but on 1 May **1960** Gujarat was separated and formed as an independent state.

Nagaland state was formed on 1 December **1963** when it was separated from Assam.

Punjab state was created after the merger of Patiala princely state with eight other similar states. In **1966**, Haryana was separated as an independent state from this merger. Chandigarh is the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana.

Chart 2

Linguistic reorganization continues right after 1956 SRC (1956-1966)



Q.34) Consider the following statements regarding the **Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network**:

1. It is a coordination body of bilateral and multilateral donors and agencies working for development of persons with disabilities.
2. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India is a member of the 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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network** is a coordination body of bilateral and multilateral donors and agencies, the private sector and foundations working to enhance the inclusion of persons with disabilities in international development and humanitarian action.

The (GLAD) Network was launched in London in December 2015, by a group of like-minded partners who recognize that to realize the promise of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** to leave no one behind, and to further the principles reflected in the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. No organization/Ministry from **India** is a member of the Network. The permanent co-chair of the GLAD Network is the **International Disability Alliance (IDA)**. The rotating co-chairs are the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.35) Which of the following international conventions/protocols is/are related to the **Ozone layer depletion**?

1. Montreal Protocol
2. Kyoto Protocol
3. Stockholm Convention

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Option 1 is correct. The principal aim of the **Montreal Protocol** is to protect the **ozone layer** by taking measures to control total global production and consumption of substances that deplete it, with the ultimate objective of their elimination on the basis of developments in scientific knowledge and technological information.

Option 2 is incorrect. **Kyoto Protocol** operationalized the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by committing industrialized countries and economies in transition to limit and reduce **greenhouse gases (GHG)** emissions in accordance with agreed individual targets.

Option 3 is incorrect. **Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants** aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants.

The scientific confirmation of the depletion of the ozone layer led to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed by 28 countries, on 22 March 1985. In September 1987, this led to the drafting of The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

On 16th September 2009, the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol became the first treaties in the history of the United Nations to achieve universal ratification.

The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer reached agreement at their 28th Meeting of the Parties on 15 October 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda to phase-down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding the **Solar Cycle 25**:

1. It has concluded in 2019 and the Solar Cycle 26 has begun.
2. The beginning of the solar cycle is the solar maximum, when the Sun has the most sunspots.

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: The **solar cycle** is the cycle that the Sun's magnetic field goes through approximately every 11 years. This means that the Sun's north and south poles switch places. Then it takes about another 11 years for the Sun's north and south poles to flip back again.

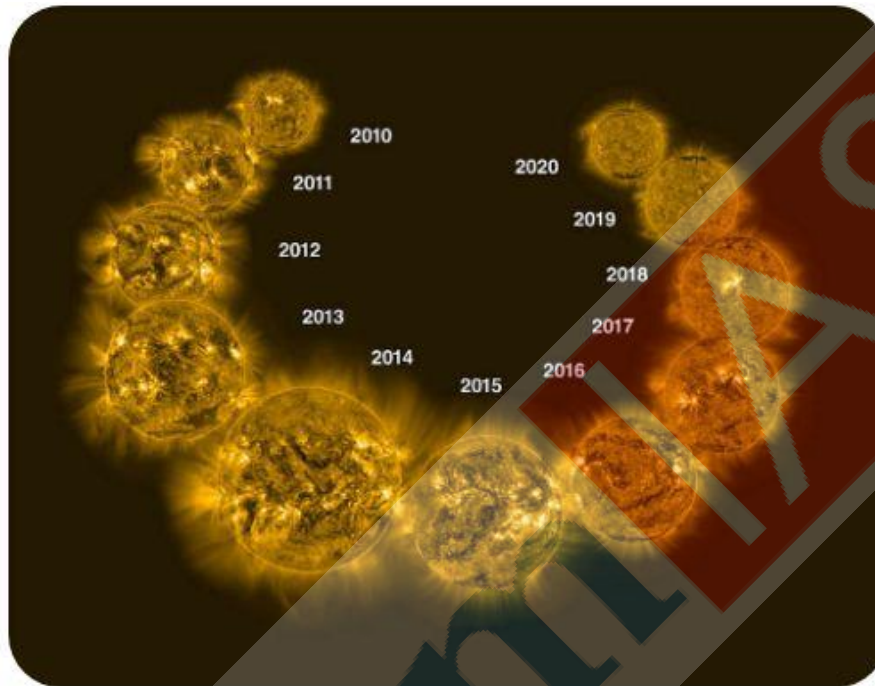
Statement 1 is incorrect. Recently, scientists from **NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA** announced their predictions about the new solar cycle, called **Solar Cycle 25**, which they believe has begun.

The **Solar Cycle 25 Prediction Panel**, an international group of experts co-sponsored by NASA and NOAA, announced that solar minimum occurred in December 2019, marking the

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

start of a new solar cycle. Because our Sun is so variable, it can take months after the fact to declare this event. Scientists use sunspots to track solar cycle progress.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **beginning of a solar cycle is a solar minimum**, or when the Sun has the least sunspots. Over time, solar activity and the number of sunspots increase. The middle of the solar cycle is the solar maximum, or when the Sun has the most sunspots. As the cycle ends, it fades back to the solar minimum and then a new cycle begins.



Evolution of the Sun in extreme ultraviolet light from 2010 through 2020, as seen from the telescope aboard Europe's PROBA2 spacecraft. Credit: Dan Seaton/European Space Agency (Collage by NOAA/JPL-Caltech)

Q.37) The 'Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef' program has been launched under which of the following group/organisation?

- a) Group of Twenty (G-20)
- b) United Nations Environment Program
- c) World Wide Fund for Nature
- d) International Union for Conservation of Nature

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Environment Ministerial Meeting (EMM) of the G20** countries took place recently through video conferencing under the Presidency of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The **Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef** program under the G20 aims to strengthen the implementation of existing frameworks to prevent, halt, and reverse land degradation within G20 member states and globally, taking into account possible implications on the achievement of other SDGs and adhering to the principle of doing no harm.

The **Global Coral Reef R&D Accelerator Platform** is an innovative action-oriented initiative aimed at creating a global research and development (R&D) program to advance research, innovation and capacity building in all facets of coral reef conservation, restoration, and adaptation, and strengthen ongoing efforts and commitments made to enhance coral reefs conservation and their further degradation.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)**:

1. It is a UN specialized agency established to manage the administration the Chicago Convention.
2. India is not a member of the ICAO.

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 **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)** is a UN specialized agency, established by States in 1944 to manage the administration and governance of the **Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention)**.

ICAO works with the Convention's 193 Member States and industry groups to reach consensus on international civil aviation **Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs)** and policies in support of a safe, efficient, secure, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible civil aviation sector.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **India** is a member of ICAO, and currently part of Council States 2019-2022.

The ICAO, under its *Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme* and the *Universal Security Audit Programme*, regularly conducts safety and security audits of all countries which are signatory to the Chicago Convention.

The audits conducted by the ICAO in 2012 and 2015 indicated a need to amend the Aircraft Act to give proper recognition to the regulators under the Act.

The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill 2020 seeks to provide statutory status to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), and the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau (AAIB).

Q.39) Consider the following statements regarding the proposed **Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA)**:

1. ITRA is proposed to be an Institution of National Importance (INI).
2. It aims to develop patterns of teaching in medical education in Ayurveda and pharmacy.

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 **Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill 2020** has been passed by Rajya Sabha recently. The Bill was earlier passed in Lok Sabha on 19th March, 2020.

This paves the way to establish a state-of-the-art Ayurvedic institution called the **Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA)** at Jamnagar, Gujarat, and to confer the status of **Institution of National Importance (INI)** to it.

ITRA will be the **first institution** with INI status in the AYUSH Sector, and this will enable the institution to be independent and innovative in the matter deciding course content and pedagogy.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Statement 2 is correct. The **objective** of the Institute will be to: (i) develop **patterns of teaching** in medical education in Ayurveda and pharmacy, (ii) bring together educational facilities for training of personnel in all branches of Ayurveda, (iii) attain self-sufficiency in postgraduate education to meet the need for specialists and medical teachers in Ayurveda, and (iv) make an in-depth study and research in the field of Ayurveda.

Q.40) Which of the following constitute the 'Public debt' of India?

1. Liabilities of Central Government contracted against the Consolidated Fund of India
2. Public Account Liabilities of the Central Government

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: A

Explanation: Public Debt denotes liabilities payable by the Central Government, which are contracted against the **Consolidated Fund of India**, as provided under Article 292 of the Constitution of India.

It excludes liabilities contracted against Public Account.

Public Debt has been further classified under two heads, i.e., **Internal Debt and External Debt**. Internal debt is categorized into marketable and non-marketable securities.

Marketable government securities include G-secs and T-Bills issued through auction. **Non-marketable** securities include intermediate treasury bills issued to state governments, special securities issued to national Small Savings Fund among others.

Most of the **external debt** is sourced from multilateral agencies such as International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Asian Development Bank (ADB), etc. and official bilateral agencies.

Public Account Liabilities include liabilities on account of National Small Saving Fund (NSSF), State Provident Funds, Reserve Funds and Deposits, and Other Accounts.

Q.41) Which of the following organisation has published the **Human Capital Index 2020**?

- a) World Bank
- b) United Nations Development Program
- c) International Labour Organisation
- d) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Human Capital Index** is a report prepared by the World Bank; it is an international metric that benchmarks key components of human capital across countries.

Measuring the human capital that a child born today can expect to attain by her 18th birthday, the HCI highlights how current health and education outcomes shape the productivity of the next generation of workers. The HCI was launched in 2018 as part of the **Human Capital Project (HCP)**.

The **2020 Human Capital Index** update includes health and education data for 174 countries - covering 98 per cent of the world's population - up to March 2020, providing a pre-pandemic baseline on the health and education of children, with the biggest strides made in low-income countries.

India has been ranked at the 116th position.

Q.42) Consider the following statements regarding the **Kosi River**:

1. It flows through China and Bhutan before entering India.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

2. It meets Ganga River on the left bank.

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. **Kosi River** drains the northern slopes of the Himalayas in the Tibet Autonomous Region and the southern slopes in **Nepal** before entering India.

It is also known as **Saptakoshi** for its seven upper tributaries. These include the Tamur Koshi, Arun River and Sun Koshi. The Sun Koshi's tributaries from east to west are Dudh Koshi, Bhote Koshi, Tamba Koshi and Indravati Koshi.

Statement 2 is correct. The Saptakoshi crosses into northern Bihar where it branches into distributaries before joining the **Ganges** near Kursela in Katihar district.



Q.43) Which of the following correctly defines the term '**Serial interval**' in epidemiology?

- a) Time taken for a patient to show symptoms after being infected
- b) Duration between symptom onset of a primary case and symptom onset of its secondary cases
- c) Time taken for a vaccine to induce antibody development in human body
- d) Number of people getting infected by spread of disease from one person

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **serial interval** of an infectious disease represents the duration between symptom onset of a primary case and symptom onset of its secondary cases, i.e. the time duration between a primary case-patient (infector) having symptom onset and a secondary case-patient (infectee) having symptom onset.

The serial interval helps to gauge the **effectiveness of infection control** interventions while also indicating rising population immunity and forecast future incidence. The more

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

quickly persons who contracted a disease are identified and isolated; the shorter the serial interval becomes and cuts down opportunities for transmission of the virus.

Q.44) Consider the following statements regarding the **Brucellosis disease**:

1. It is an infectious disease caused by a bacterium.
2. It mostly spreads by eating or drinking unpasteurized or raw dairy products.

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.

Brucellosis is a bacterial disease caused by various *Brucella* species, which mainly infect cattle, swine, goats, sheep and dogs. Humans generally acquire the disease through direct contact with infected animals, by eating or drinking contaminated animal products, or by inhaling airborne agents.

Most cases are caused by ingesting **unpasteurized** milk or cheese from infected goats or sheep. Person-to-person transmission is rare. The disease causes flu-like symptoms, including fever, weakness, malaise and weight loss.

Authorities of Lanzhou city, China recently confirmed that several thousand people have tested positive for bacterial disease brucellosis due to a leak caused by a biopharmaceutical company in 2019.

Q.45) Which of the following potential **COVID-19 vaccines** have been indigenously developed in India?

1. COVAXIN
2. ZyCov-D
3. ChAdOx1

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: ChAdOx1 has been developed by the **Oxford University** in collaboration with **AstraZeneca**. It utilizes a replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus to deliver a SARS-CoV-2 protein to induce a protective immune response.

COVAXIN is a COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech, developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - National Institute of Virology (NIV).

ZyCov-D is also a candidate for COVID-19 vaccination indigenously developed in India. It is the plasmid DNA-vaccine being developed by Zydus Cadilla.

In Phase-2 trials now, both are being tested for their ability to produce a satisfactory immune response.

Q.46) Consider the following statements regarding the **Charter of the United Nations**:

1. General Assembly (UNGA) elects the non-permanent members of the Security Council.
2. The UNGA cannot make recommendations on peace and security matters which are at that time being addressed by the Security Council.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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: The UNGA is comprised of all 193 Members of the United Nations. The Assembly meets from September to December each year (main part), and thereafter, from January to September (resumed part).

Statement 1 is correct. According to the Charter of the United Nations, decisions of the **General Assembly** on important questions shall be made by a **two-thirds majority** of the members present and voting. These questions include:

-recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security, the election of the **non-permanent members of the Security Council**, the election of the members of the Economic and Social Council, the election of members of the Trusteeship Council, the admission of new Members to the United Nations, the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership, the expulsion of Members.

Statement 2 is correct. Under the **UN Charter**, while the **Security Council** is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests.

Despite the UN Charter's provision limiting the General Assembly's powers with regard to peace and security matters; there may be cases when the Assembly can act.

In accordance with the General Assembly's "Uniting for Peace" resolution of November 1950, in the case there appears to be a threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression and if the Security Council fails to act, owing to the negative vote of a permanent member, then the General Assembly may act.

This resolution was invoked only once in UN peacekeeping history, when in 1956 the General Assembly established the First UN Emergency Force (UNEF I) in the Middle East.

Q.47) Which of the following is/are the **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)** of India under the **Paris Agreement**?

- 1. To reduce the emissions intensity of GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 below 2005 levels.
- 2. To increase the share of non-fossil-based energy resources to 40 percent of installed electric power capacity by 2030.
- 3. To create an additional carbon sink of 2.5–3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

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 India's **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)** under Paris Agreement.

India's national climate action plans, known in UN parlance as nationally determined contributions (NDCs), under the Paris Agreement set three major goals—

-To reduce the **emissions intensity** of GDP by 33%–35% by 2030 below 2005 levels.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

-To increase the share of **non-fossil-based energy resources** to 40% of installed electric power capacity by 2030, with help of transfer of technology and low-cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF).

-To create an **additional (cumulative) carbon sink** of 2.5–3 GtCO₂e through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Q.48) Consider the following statements regarding the **electricity sector of India**:

1. Central sector installed capacity accounts for more than half of India's total installed capacity.
2. Coal based thermal power plants account for more than half of India's total installed capacity.

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. **Central Sector** having an installed capacity of 94,027 MW accounts for about **25.2% of total installed capacity**.

1.Total Installed Capacity (As on 31.08.2020) - Source : Central Electricity Authority (CEA)

Sector	MW	% of Total
Central Sector	94,027	25.2%
State Sector	103,617	27.8%
Private Sector	174,298	47.0%
Total	3,71,977	

Statement 2 is correct. **Coal based** thermal power plants having 1,99,595 MW installed capacity account for **53.6% of total installed capacity**.

Fuel	MW	% of Total
Total Thermal	2,31,421	62.1%
Coal	1,99,595	53.6%
Lignite	6,360	1.7%
Gas	24,957	6.7%
Diesel	510	0.1%
Hydro (Renewable)	45,699	12.3%
Nuclear	6,780	1.8%
RES* (MNRE)	88,793	23.8%
Total	371,977	

* Installed capacity in respect of RES (MNRE) as on 31.08.2020.

RES (Renewable Energy Sources) include Small Hydro Project, Biomass Gasifier, Biomass Power, Urban & Industrial Waste Power, Solar and Wind Energy.

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.
Visit academy.forumias.com for our mentor based courses.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.49) Consider the following statements regarding the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**:

1. The Animal Welfare Board of India has been established under the act.
2. To kill any animal even if required by the religion of any community is a punishable offence under the act.

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 **Animal Welfare Board of India** is a statutory advisory body on Animal Welfare Laws and promotes animal welfare in the country, established in 1962 under Section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Section 11** of the act lists a series of offences, which vary from abandoning an animal to kicking it, mutilating it or killing it, and prescribes the punishment for all these offences.

Section 28 however states that —nothing contained in this Act shall render it an offence to kill any animal in a manner required by the religion of any community.

Q.50) Consider the following statements regarding the **Union Council of Ministers**:

1. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Parliament.
2. Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
3. The Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President.

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: Constitution mandates that there shall be a **Council of Ministers** with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice. [Article 74(1)]

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Council of Ministers shall be **collectively responsible** to the **House of the People**. [Article 75(3)]

Statement 2 is correct. The **Prime Minister** shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister. [Article 75(1)]

Statement 3 is correct. The Ministers shall hold office during the **pleasure of the President**. [Article 75(2)]

Q.51) Consider the following statement regarding the **Djibouti Code of Conduct**:

1. It is aimed at repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean.
2. India has joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct as Observer.

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCOC)**, established in January 2009, is aimed at repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Western Indian Ocean Region, the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

Statement 2 is correct. **India** has recently joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment (**DCOC/JA**) as **Observer**.

DCOC/JA is a grouping on maritime matters comprising 18 member states adjoining the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, the East coast of Africa and Island countries in the IOR. India joins Japan, Norway, the UK and the US as Observers to the DCOC/JA.

Q.52) Consider the following statements regarding the **India-Japan relations**:

1. India has signed Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) with Japan for greater defense cooperation.
 2. Malabar exercise is a bilateral exercise between India-Japan naval forces.
- 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 **Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)** between **Japan's Self-Defense Forces and India's armed forces** was signed recently.

The agreement will cover the reciprocal provision of supplies and services during joint exercises and training missions, UN peacekeeping operations, humanitarian relief operations, operations to cope with disasters in the territory of both parties or a third country, and evacuation of nationals of India and Japan from overseas in exigencies.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Exercise Malabar** is a **trilateral** naval exercise involving the **United States, Japan and India**.

'Dharma Guardian' is the annual military training exercise between Indian Army and Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces.

Q.53) Consider the following statements regarding the **Blue Flag certification**:

1. It is an eco-label awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators.
 2. The certification is accorded by UN Environment Program under Ramsar 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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The iconic **Blue Flag** is one of the world's most recognized voluntary eco-labels awarded to **beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators**.

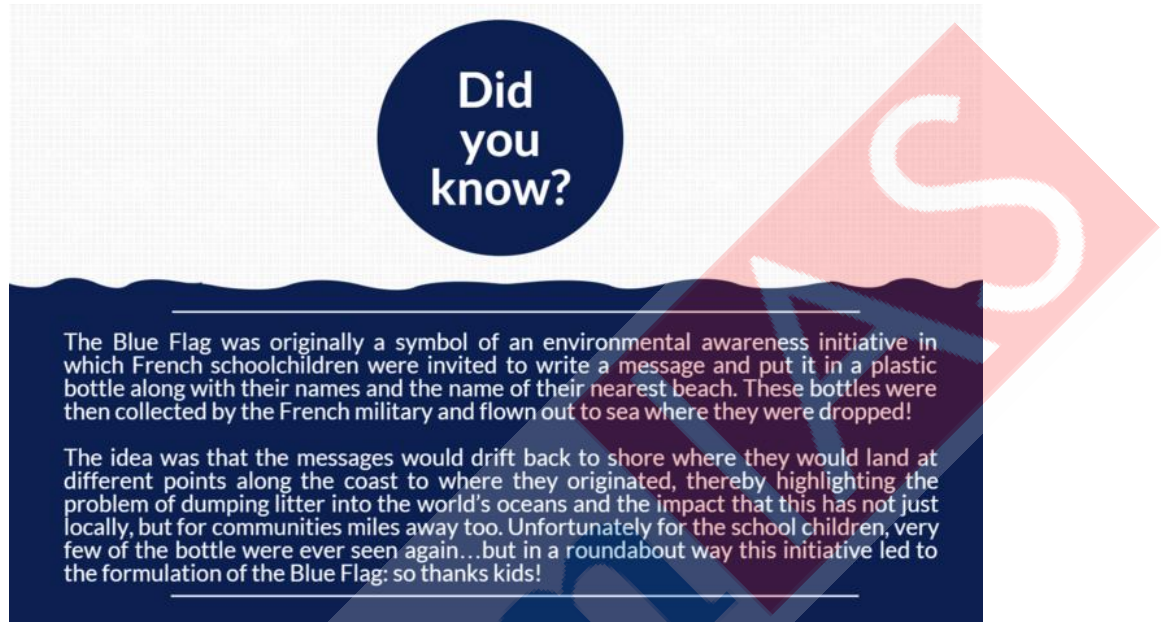
In order to qualify for this prestigious award, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety-related and access-related criteria must be met and maintained.

It has **33 stringent criteria** in **four major heads**—environmental education and information, bathing water quality, environment management and conservation and safety and services in the beaches.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Blue Flag programme** is operated under the auspices of the **Foundation for Environmental Education** and is headquartered in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Eight beaches of the country have been recommended for the coveted 'Blue Flag' international eco-label: Shivrajpur in Gujarat, Ghoghla in Daman and Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri in Karnataka, Kappad in Kerala, Rushikonda in Andhra Pradesh, Golden in Odisha and Radhanagar in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



Q.54) Consider the following statements **government procurement**:

1. Government e Marketplace (GeM) facilitates online procurement of Goods & Services required by various Government Departments in India.
2. Entities of countries not allowing participation of Indian companies in their Government procurement are not allowed to participate in Government procurement 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: Statement 1 is correct. **Government e Marketplace (GeM)**, facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organisations / PSUs. GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.

It provides the tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate the government users, achieve the best value for their money.

Statement 2 is correct. Government has recently amended the **Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017** enabling nodal Ministries and Departments to notify higher minimum local content requirement for local suppliers.

Further, as per the Order, **entities of countries** which do not allow Indian companies to participate in their Government procurement for any item, shall **not be allowed** to participate in Government procurement in India for all items related to that nodal Ministry or Department, except for the list of items published by the Ministry or Department permitting their participation.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the **pulmonary edema**:

1. It is caused by excess fluid in the lungs making it difficult to breathe.
2. High-altitude pulmonary edema is caused by increased pressures in heart.

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. **Pulmonary edema** is a condition caused by excess fluid in the lungs. This fluid collects in the numerous air sacs in the lungs, making it difficult to breathe. Pulmonary edema that develops suddenly (acute pulmonary edema) is a medical emergency requiring immediate care.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Pulmonary edema** that isn't caused by increased pressures in your heart is called **non-cardiogenic** pulmonary edema.

High-altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE) is a life-threatening form of **non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema** (fluid accumulation in the lungs) that occurs in otherwise healthy people at high altitudes.

There have been reports of risks of High-altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE) to the soldiers deployed at Pangong Tso and other heights recently.

Q.56) Consider the following statements regarding the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**:

1. It aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.
2. An ICT Grand Challenge has been launched under the mission to develop a Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System.

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. **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** aims at providing **Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC)** to every rural household by 2024. The programme focuses on service delivery at the household level, i.e. water supply regularly in adequate quantity and of prescribed quality.

Statement 2 is correct. **National Jal Jeevan Mission** in partnership with **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MEITY)** has launched an (Information and communications technology) **ICT Grand Challenge** to create innovative, modular, and cost-effective solution to develop a 'Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System' to be deployed at the village level.

The ICT grand challenge will be inviting proposal from Indian Tech start-ups, MSMEs, Indian Companies, Indian LLPs.

It will provide support at ideation Stage, prototype development stage, deployment stage. The pilot will be conducted at 100 villages. The successful developers will be given an opportunity to join the MEITY supported incubator/ CoEs for further nurturing of their solution.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding **Air Transport Bubbles**:

1. These are temporary arrangements between two countries for restarting international flight services which are suspended due to COVID-19 pandemic.
2. India has not entered any Air Bubble agreement in view of rising spread of the COVID-19.

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. **“Transport Bubbles” or “Air Travel Arrangements”** are temporary arrangements between two countries aimed at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

They are **reciprocal** in nature, meaning airlines from both countries enjoy similar benefits. Statement 2 is incorrect. **India has entered into Air Bubble agreements with 10 countries** viz. USA, Canada, France, Germany, UK, Maldives, UAE, Qatar, Afghanistan and Bahrain, till 13.09.2020.

Q.58) Consider the following statements regarding the **Foreign Investments in the Defence Sector**:

1. Hundred Percent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under automatic route is permitted for companies seeking new industrial licenses.
2. Foreign Investments in the Defence Sector is subject to scrutiny on grounds of National Security

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 Government of India has recently reviewed the **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in Defence sector**.

Statement 1 is incorrect. 100 percent FDI is allowed: **Automatic** up to 74% and **Government** route beyond 74% wherever it is likely to result in access to modern technology or for other reasons to be recorded.

FDI up to 74% under automatic route shall be permitted for companies seeking **new industrial licenses**.

The **existing licensees** require mandatory submission of a declaration with the Ministry of Defence in case change in equity/shareholding pattern or transfer of stake by existing investor to new foreign investor for FDI up to 49%, within 30 days of such change. Proposals for raising FDI beyond 49% from such companies will require Government approval.

Statement 2 is correct. Foreign Investments in the Defence Sector shall be subject to **scrutiny on grounds of National Security** and Government reserves the **right to review** any foreign investment in the Defence Sector that affects or may affect national security.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.59) Consider the following statements regarding the **Vaishvik Bharatiya Vaigyanik Summit**:

1. It is being organized by the Ministry of External Affairs.
2. The summit is to involve Indian Diaspora working across the world to enhance the knowledge-base of Indian Research and Academic Institutions.

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. **Global Summit of NRI Researchers** called **Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (Vaibhav) Summit** is a collaborative initiative by **S&T and Academic Organisations of India** to enable deliberations on thought process, practices and R&D culture with a problem-solving approach for well-defined objectives.

The virtual summit will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 2nd October 2020.

[The Hindu says it is being organized by Department of Science & Technology and Defence Research & Development Organisation]

Statement 2 is correct. It is aimed at developing mechanisms for involving Indian Diaspora working in top universities and R&D organisations across the world, to further enhance the **knowledge-base of Indian Research and Academic Institutions**.

Summit aims to give an impetus to the objectives of **Atal Innovation Mission** by leveraging the collaborative experience and deep expertise of International and Indian subject experts.

Vaibhav summit seeks active support and ideation from **Indian Diaspora** for developing skills of Indian aspirants in alignment with the New Educational Policy.

Q.60) Which of the following strategic agreements has **India** signed with the **United States of America**?

1. Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement
2. Communications, Compatibility and Security Agreement
3. Industrial Security Agreement

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: The India-U.S. foundational agreement for mutual logistics support, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (**LEMOA**) was signed in **2016**.

US-India concluded the third foundational agreement, Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (**COMCASA**), which is meant for secure encrypted communications, in **2018**.

The Industrial Security Agreement (**ISA**) signed in **2019** is part of the General Security of Military Information Agreement (**GSOMIA**).

The General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA), which is for information safety, was signed in **2002**.

The last one remaining is the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Cooperation (**BECA**).

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Q.61) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Kibithoo - Assam
2. Sumdorong Chu - Ladakh
3. Pasighat - 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) 3 only

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Option 1 is incorrectly matched. **Kibithu** or Kibithoo is a town in **Arunachal Pradesh** in Anjaw district. It is one of the easternmost permanently populated towns of India.

Option 2 is incorrectly matched. **Sumdorong Chu** is a tributary of the Nyamjang Chu River that flows along the India-China border between the Tibet and the Tawang district of **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Option 3 is correctly matched. **Pasighat** is in the East Siang district in the Indian state of **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Q.62) **Tagin tribe** is inhabitant of which of the following State/UT?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Odisha

Correct answer: C

Explanation: The **Tagin or Ghasi Miri tribe** is one of the major tribes of **Arunachal Pradesh**, which is a member of the larger designation of Tani Tribes, the descendants of Abu Tani.

Mostly Tagins are in Upper Subansiri district but are also found to be dispersed among the adjoining districts especially in West Siang and Papum Pare.

The most important festival of the Tagins is the **Si-Donyi Festival**, involves the veneration of the earth (si) and the sun (donyi).

Q.63) Consider the following statements:

1. Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) refers to formation of a blood clot in a vein.
2. Blood clots in veins can break loose and travel through the bloodstream.

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.

DVT (deep vein thrombosis) is a blood clot in a vein, usually the leg. Leg pain or swelling may occur, but there may also be no symptoms.

DVT can be very serious because blood clots in veins can break loose, travel through the **bloodstream** and get stuck in lungs. This is called a **pulmonary embolism**. A pulmonary embolism can be life threatening and needs treatment straight away.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (SCTIMST), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, has recently developed a device for the prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT). Scientists have come up with a device that can facilitate flow of blood from the veins in the legs thus preventing DVT.

Q.64) What is the major objective of the recent **Intra-Afghan talks in Doha**?

- a) Agreement on Afghanistan's future political system
- b) Resolution of Afghanistan's border dispute with Pakistan
- c) Afghanistan's relation with the United Nations system
- d) Limit the eastward expansion of ISIS

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The Taliban and the Afghan government began historic **peace talks in Doha, Qatar** recently after almost two decades of war. It is aimed at shaping a **power-sharing government** that would end decades of war that have consumed Afghanistan and left millions dead and displaced.

India attended the start of the intra-Afghan talks in Doha and conveyed that the peace process must be **Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled**, that respect national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, promote human rights and democracy, ensure interest of minorities, women and the vulnerable, effectively address violence across the country.

AFGHANISTAN

The Intra-Afghan talks

WHAT'S ON AGENDA

- The West-backed Afghan leadership and the Taliban armed group are holding their first direct negotiations in Doha, Qatar aimed at achieving lasting peace.
- They will focus on: a permanent ceasefire, the political future of Afghanistan and social equality.

WHY NOW?



- The talks initially scheduled for March were delayed due to differences over a prisoner exchange.
- Under the US-Taliban deal signed in February, the Afghan government was to release 5,000 Taliban prisoners, while 1,000 government troops were to be freed by the armed group.
- The prisoner swap concluded last week.

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?



- This is a historic opportunity for the two sides to end the 20 years of war that has killed more than 160,000 people

WHAT IS AT STAKE?



- The political future of Afghanistan after US withdrawal



- Law enforcement and security



- Gains made for gender justice and social equality since the Taliban government was toppled in 2001

Q.65) The **United in Science 2020** report has been compiled by which of the following organisation?

- a) World Meteorological Organization

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

- b) Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge
- c) European Union Science Hub
- d) National Science Foundation, USA

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **United in Science 2020** Report has been compiled by the **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** under the **direction** of the **United Nations Secretary-General** to bring together the latest climate science related updates from a group of key global partner organizations: WMO, Global Carbon Project (GCP), UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Met Office.



Q.66) Consider the following statements regarding the **Immunoglobulins (Ig)**:

1. These are proteins made by the immune system to fight foreign antigens.
 2. Immunoglobulin G (IgG) is the most abundant type of antibody in human body.
- 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 immune system develops a defense against antigens, which are substances that can stimulate the immune system. This defense is known as the immune response and usually involves the production of:

-**Protein molecules (immunoglobulins** or antibodies, the major component of humoral immunity) by B-lymphocytes (B-cells)

-Specific cells, including T-lymphocytes (also known as cell-mediated immunity).

Statement 2 is correct. There are **five immunoglobulin classes** (isotypes) of antibody molecules: IgG, IgM, IgA, IgE, and IgD.

-**Immunoglobulin A (IgA)**, which is found in high concentrations in the mucous membranes, particularly those lining the respiratory passages and gastrointestinal tract, as well as in saliva and tears.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

-**Immunoglobulin G** (IgG), the most abundant type of antibody, is found in all body fluids and protects against bacterial and viral infections.

-**Immunoglobulin M** (IgM), which is found mainly in the blood and lymph fluid, is the first antibody to be made by the body to fight a new infection.

-**Immunoglobulin E** (IgE), which is associated mainly with allergic reactions. It is found in the lungs, skin, and mucous membranes.

-**Immunoglobulin D** (IgD) exists in small amounts in the blood.

Q.67) Consider the following statements regarding planet **Venus**:

1. It is the hottest planet in our solar system.
2. The United States of America is the only nation to land spacecraft on the surface of Venus.

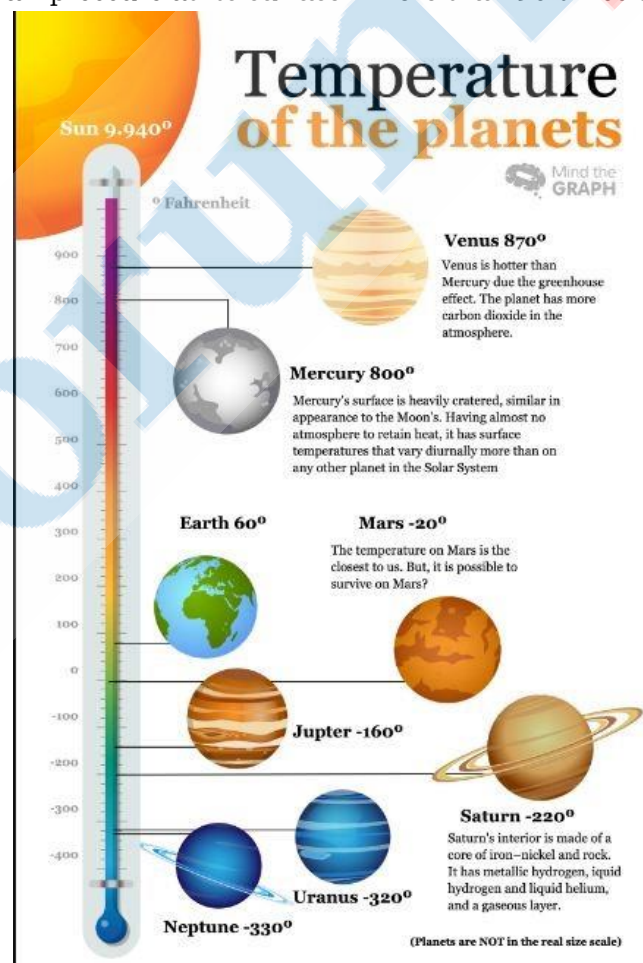
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Venus** has a thick, toxic atmosphere filled with carbon dioxide and it's perpetually shrouded in thick, yellowish clouds of mostly sulfuric acid that trap heat, causing a runaway greenhouse effect.

It's the **hottest planet** in our solar system, even though Mercury is closer to the Sun. Venus has crushing air pressure at its surface – more than 90 times that of Earth.



10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

Statement 2 is incorrect. The former **Soviet Union is the only nation** to land on the surface of Venus to date, though the spacecraft did not survive long in the harsh environment.

The Soviet Union's **Venera 13** in 1982 survived the intense heat and crushing pressure of Venus' surface for around two hours and transmitted color images from the surface of Venus.

Q.68) The **Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir** is proposed across which of the following river?

- a) Cauvery River
- b) Godavari River
- c) Krishna River
- d) Vaigai River

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir** is a proposed gravity dam across **Cauvery River** in Karnataka. It aims to store 67 tmc water, a part of which will be pumped to Bengaluru and Kanakapura.

The project is estimated to submerge parts of **Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary** and adjoining reserve forests.

Tamil Nadu has been opposing the project claiming that it violates the decisions of the Supreme Court and the Cauvery Tribunal.

Q.69) Consider the following statements regarding the **Doing Business Report**:

- 1. It is a World Bank Group flagship publication measuring the regulations that enhance and constrain business activity.
- 2. It covers enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency, areas of business regulation in 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: Statement 1 is correct. **Doing Business** is a **World Bank Group** flagship publication, it is a series of **annual** studies measuring the regulations that enhance business activity and those that constrain it. Doing Business presents quantitative indicators on business regulations and the protection of property rights that can be compared across 190 economies—from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe—and over time.

Statement 2 is correct. Doing Business covers **12 areas of business regulation**. Ten of these areas—starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, **enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency**.

Doing Business also measures regulation on employing workers and contracting with the government, which are not included in the ease of doing business score and ranking.

The World Bank has paused the publication of its 'Doing Business' report because of statistical irregularities.

Q.70) Which of the following is/are dominant policy **objectives** of keeping **forex reserves**?

- 1. Maintaining confidence in monetary and exchange rate policies.
- 2. Reduce external vulnerability by maintaining foreign currency liquidity to absorb shocks during times of crisis.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 14th to 20th September, 2020

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: Major policy **objectives** in regard to forex reserves:

- maintaining **confidence** in monetary and exchange rate policies,
- enhancing **capacity** to intervene in forex markets,
- limiting external **vulnerability** by maintaining foreign currency liquidity to absorb shocks during times of crisis including national disasters or emergencies;
- providing confidence to the markets especially credit rating agencies that external obligations can always be met, thus reducing the overall costs at which forex resources are available to all the market participants, and
- incidentally adding to the comfort of the market participants, by demonstrating the backing of domestic currency by external assets.