

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

5th to 11th October, 2020

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

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Q.1) Who among the following can vote through **postal ballot** in India?

1. A person subjected to preventive detention.
2. A public servant on election duty.

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: **Postal ballot** allows a voter to cast her/his vote remotely by recording her preference on the ballot paper and sending it back to the election officer before counting.

A **voter on election duty** on election duty, i.e. any polling agent, any polling officer, presiding officer or other public servant, who is an elector in the constituency and is by reason of his being on election duty unable to vote as the polling station where he is entitled to vote, can vote through postal ballot.

Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 confers voting rights on the electors subjected to **preventive detention**. As per Rule 18 of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, the electors under preventive detention are entitled to cast their votes by post.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)**:

1. It is an indicator of business activity based exclusively on the value of change in production volume.
2. PMI value above 50 denotes expansion in business activity.

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 **purchasing managers' index (PMI)** is an economic indicator that surveys purchasing managers at businesses that make up a given sector. The most common PMI surveys are the manufacturing PMI and the services PMI.

It is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of some key business variables from the month before.

The most common elements include: New orders, Factory output, Employment, Suppliers' delivery times and Stocks of purchases.

The most common answers include: Improvement, No change and Deterioration.

Statement 2 is correct. A figure **above 50** denotes **expansion** in business activity. Anything below 50 denotes contraction. Higher the difference from this mid-point greater is the expansion or contraction.

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016**:

1. The code applies to companies as well as individuals.
2. Insolvency Professionals administer the resolution process and manage the assets of the debtor.
3. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India is the regulator over Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies and Information Utilities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016** applies to companies and individuals. The proceedings of the resolution process are adjudicated by the National Companies Law Tribunal (NCLT), for companies; and the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT), for individuals.

Statement 2 is correct. **Insolvency Professionals** are a specialised cadre of licensed professionals. These professionals administer the resolution process, manage the assets of the debtor, and provide information for creditors to assist them in decision making.

Statement 3 is correct. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was established under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).

It has **regulatory oversight** over the Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professional Entities and Information Utilities.

Q.4) Which of the following language(s) is/are *not* listed in the **eighth schedule** of the Constitution?

- 1. English
- 2. Dogri
- 3. Garhwali

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: D

Explanation: The **Eighth Schedule** to the Constitution consists of the following 22 languages:

(1) Assamese, (2) Bengali, (3) Gujarati, (4) Hindi, (5) Kannada, (6) Kashmiri, (7) Konkani, (8) Malayalam, (9) Manipuri, (10) Marathi, (11) Nepali, (12) Oriya, (13) Punjabi, (14) Sanskrit, (15) Sindhi, (16) Tamil, (17) Telugu, (18) Urdu (19) Bodo, (20) Santhali, (21) Maithili and (22)

Dogri.

Of these languages, 14 were initially included in the Constitution. Sindhi language was added in 1967. Thereafter three more languages viz., Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were included in 1992. Subsequently Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santhali were added in 2004.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the **Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council**:

- 1. Every decision of the GST Council is taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting.
 - 2. Two-third of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council constitute the quorum at its meetings.
 - 3. The vote of the Central Government has a weightage of one third of the total votes cast.
- 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

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Correct answer: C

Explanation: **Goods & Services Tax Council** is a constitutional body for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to Goods and Service Tax. The GST Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister and other members are the Union State Minister of Revenue or Finance and Ministers in-charge of Finance or Taxation of all the States.

Statement 1 is correct. Every decision of the Goods and Services Tax Council is taken at a meeting, by a majority of **not less than three-fourths** of the weighted votes of the members present and voting

Statement 2 is incorrect. **One-half** of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall constitute the **quorum** at its meetings.

Statement 3 is correct. In the GST Council meeting; the vote of the **Central Government has a weightage of one third** of the total votes cast, and the votes of all the State Governments taken together have a weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)**:

1. It is a statutory body established under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act) 2012.
2. The commission may inquire into complaints and take suo-motu notice of matters relating to deprivation and violation of child rights.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** is a statutory body under the **Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005** under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

The Commission's Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

Statement 2 is correct. The commission may **inquire** into complaints and take **suo-motu** notice of matters relating to-

- Deprivation and violation of child rights;
- Non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children;
- Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and to provide relief to such children.

NCPCR also monitors the implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

Q.7) Where is **Dhauasidh Hydro Project** located?

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Karnataka
- d) Uttarakhand

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Correct answer: A

Explanation: The Union Government has recently given approval for the construction of 66 Megawatt **Dhulasidh hydroelectric projects** in Hamirpur district, **Himachal Pradesh**. It is a run of river scheme on river **Beas** with a concrete gravity dam. The dam would create a reservoir of about 20 Kilometer. The project is being implemented by the **Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVNL)**.

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. India has declared that its carbon emissions will peak before the year 2030.
2. China aims to achieve carbon net-zero emissions by the year 2060.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. India has **not declared** any peak year for carbon emissions. India's pledges under the **Paris agreement** are:

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

Statement 2 is correct. **China's President** made two announcements at UNGA recently:

- China would become carbon net-zero by the year 2060. Net-zero is a state in which a country's emissions are compensated by absorptions and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.
- China's carbon emissions will peak before 2030.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the **Char Dham Pariyojna**:

1. The projects under it lie within the State of Uttarakhand only.
2. The Border Road Organization (BRO) is executing the complete project by itself.

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. **Char Dham National Highway (NH)** connectivity programme comprises projects of improvement/development of 889 km length of NHs leading to **Yamunotri Dham, Gangotri Dham, Kedarnath Dham, Badrinath Dham**. Projects under Char Dham lie within the State of **Uttarakhand** only.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The works under Char Dham Pariyojna are being implemented on Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode of contract. These projects are being implemented **by 3 executing agencies** of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, viz, Uttarakhand State PWD, **Border Road Organization (BRO)** and National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL).

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Q.10) The **monetary policy** of Reserve Bank of India targets which of the following Inflation Index?

- a) Consumer Price Index (CPI) Rural
- b) Consumer Price Index (CPI) Combined
- c) Wholesale Price Index (WPI)
- d) Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI)

Correct answer: B

Explanation: As per the **RBI Act 1934 (amended 2016)**, the Central Government shall, in consultation with the Bank, determine the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index, 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.

As per the Act, the **CPI Combined** published by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is used as inflation targeting index.

Q.11) Which of the following subject(s) is/are listed in the **Concurrent List of Seventh Schedule**?

- 1. Trade and commerce in foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils
- 2. Adulteration of foodstuffs
- 3. Trade unions; industrial and labour disputes

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: **Entry 33** in the concurrent list is: Trade and commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of,— (a) the products of any industry where the control of such industry by the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest, and imported goods of the same kind as such products; (b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils; (c) cattle fodder, including oilcakes and other concentrates; (d) raw cotton, whether ginned or unginned, and cotton seed; and (e) raw jute.

Entry 18 in the concurrent list is: Adulteration of foodstuffs and other goods.

Entry 22 in the concurrent list is: Trade unions; industrial and labour disputes.

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The speaker is not bound to accept the resignation of a member if s/he is satisfied that such resignation is not voluntary or genuine.
- 2. Constitution mandates to hold by-elections within six months of a seat getting vacated, either due to resignation or the death of a legislator.

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. **Article 190(3) of the Constitution** states that if a member of a House of the Legislature of a State resigns his seat by writing under his hand addressed to the speaker and his resignation is accepted by the Speaker his seat shall thereupon become vacant;

Provided that in the case of resignation, if from information received or otherwise and after making such inquiry as he thinks fit, the Speaker is satisfied that such resignation is **not voluntary or genuine**, he shall not accept such resignation.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is not mandated in the Constitution, rather under the **Representation of the People Act, 1951**, the election commission is supposed to hold by-elections within six months of a seat getting vacated, either due to resignation or the death of a legislator.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Case fatality ratio (CFR) is the proportion of individuals diagnosed with a disease who die from that disease.
2. The infection fatality ratio (IFR) for a disease estimates proportion of deaths among all infected individuals.

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.

There are two measures used to assess the proportion of infected individuals with fatal outcomes. The first is infection fatality ratio (IFR), which estimates this proportion of deaths among all infected individuals. The second is case fatality ratio (CFR), which estimates this proportion of deaths among identified confirmed cases.

The true severity of a disease can be described by the **Infection Fatality Ratio**:

$$\text{Infection fatality ratio (IFR, in \%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of infected individuals}} \times 100$$

Serological testing of a representative random sample of the population to detect evidence of exposure to a pathogen is an important method to estimate the true number of infected individuals.

Case fatality ratio (CFR) is the proportion of individuals diagnosed with a disease who die from that disease and is therefore a measure of severity among detected cases:

$$\text{Case Fatality ratio (CFR, in \%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of confirmed cases of disease}} \times 100$$

Q.14) What does the **Good Friday Agreement** relate to?

- a) Northern Ireland governance
- b) Nagorno-Karabakh disputed territory
- c) Second Libyan Civil War
- d) Israel Palestine conflict

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Belfast Agreement** is also known as the **Good Friday Agreement**, because it was reached on Good Friday, 10 April 1998. It was a peace agreement between

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the British and Irish governments, and most of the political parties in **Northern Ireland**, on how Northern Ireland should be governed.

This agreement helped to bring to an end a period of conflict in the region called the Troubles. In 1998 - after nearly two years of talks and 30 years of conflict - the Good Friday agreement was signed. This resulted in a new government being formed that would see power being shared between Unionists and Nationalists.

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding **Hepatitis C**:

1. It is a major cause of liver cancer.
2. It can spread through exposure to blood from infected person.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Hepatitis C is a liver disease** caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV): the virus can cause both acute and chronic hepatitis, ranging in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness. Hepatitis C is a major cause of liver cancer.

Statement 2 is correct. The hepatitis C virus is a **bloodborne** virus: the most common modes of infection are through exposure to small quantities of blood. This may happen through injection drug use, unsafe injection practices, unsafe health care, transfusion of unscreened blood and blood products, and sexual practices that lead to exposure to blood.

This year's Nobel Prize winners in Medicine; Harvey J. Alter, Michael Houghton and Charles M. Rice made seminal discoveries that led to the identification of a novel virus, Hepatitis C virus.

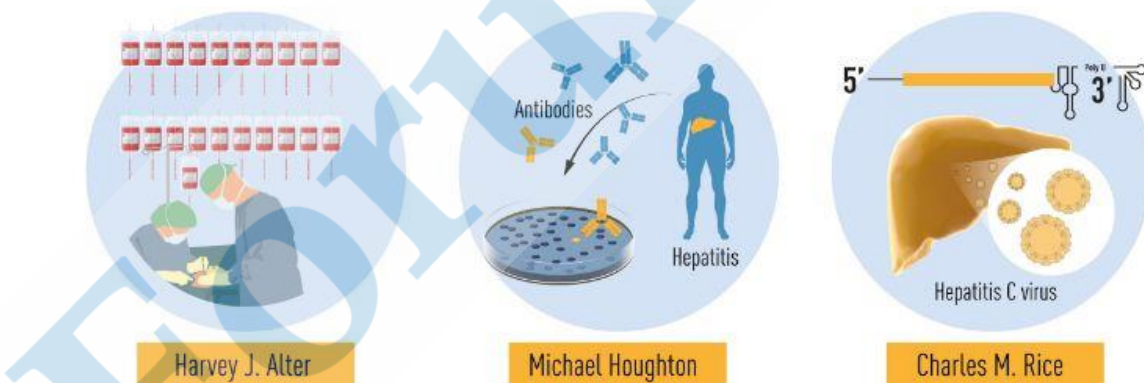


Figure Summary of the discoveries awarded by this year's Nobel prize. The methodical studies of transfusion-associated hepatitis by Harvey J. Alter demonstrated that an unknown virus was a common cause of chronic hepatitis. Michael Houghton used an untested strategy to isolate the genome of the new virus that was named Hepatitis C virus. Charles M. Rice provided the final evidence showing that Hepatitis C virus alone could cause hepatitis.

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the **RAISE 2020 Summit**:

1. It is being organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and NITI Aayog.
2. The Summit aims to chart a course for using Artificial Intelligence for social transformation.

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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: Statement 1 is correct. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and NITI Aayog are organizing the **RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020'**, a Mega Virtual Summit on Artificial Intelligence-AI from 5th to 9th of October.

Statement 2 is correct. RAISE 2020 is a global meeting of minds to exchange ideas and chart a course for using **AI for social transformation**, inclusion and empowerment in areas like Healthcare, Agriculture, Education and Smart Mobility, among other sectors.

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the **Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART)**:

- 1. It is targeted to achieve Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations within the Torpedo range.
- 2. It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

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 **Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART)** has been successfully flight tested recently from Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.

Statement 1 is incorrect. SMART is a missile assisted release of lightweight Anti-Submarine Torpedo System for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations **far beyond Torpedo range**. This launch and demonstration is significant in establishing Anti-Submarine warfare capabilities.

Statement 2 is correct. It has been developed by **DRDO**, a number of DRDO laboratories including DRDL, RCI Hyderabad, ADRDE Agra, NSTL Visakhapatnam have developed the technologies required for SMART.

Q.18) The **New Caledonia** is a French overseas territory in which of the following Ocean?

- a) Indian Ocean
- b) Pacific Ocean
- c) South Atlantic Ocean
- d) North Atlantic Ocean

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **New Caledonia** is a French overseas territory in **South Pacific Ocean**. It is rich in resources and accounts for around 10% of the world's nickel reserve.

New Caledonia enjoys a large degree of autonomy but depends heavily on France for matters like defence and education.

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Following bouts of violence in the 1980s over the issue of independence, several agreements were signed including the 1998 Noumea Accord, which set out a roadmap for greater autonomy for the territory.

Under this agreement, New Caledonia is allowed up to three referendums on independence. The first took place in November 2018, where voters rejected independence from France by 56.4% to 43.6%, with a turnout of about 81%.

It has again voted to remain French with 53.26% of votes in October 2020. Turnout was at 85.6%. A third referendum can take place by 2022, if requested by a third of the local assembly.

Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP)**:

1. It aims to achieve country wide elimination of Hepatitis C by 2030.
2. Its components include prevention, diagnosis as well as treatment of Hepatitis.

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 **National Viral Hepatitis Control Program** was launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the World Hepatitis Day, 28th July 2018.

It is an integrated initiative for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis in India to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.3 which aims to ending viral hepatitis by 2030.

Statement 1 is correct. Aim of the program:

- Combat hepatitis and achieve country wide elimination of Hepatitis C by 2030;
- Achieve significant reduction in the infected population, morbidity and mortality associated with Hepatitis B and C viz. Cirrhosis and Hepato-cellular carcinoma (liver cancer);
- Reduce the risk, morbidity and mortality due to Hepatitis A and E.

Statement 2 is correct. **Components** of NVHCP: Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment, Monitoring and Evaluation, Surveillance and Research; and Training and Capacity Building.

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Q.20) Which of the following region(s) form part of the **United Kingdom**?

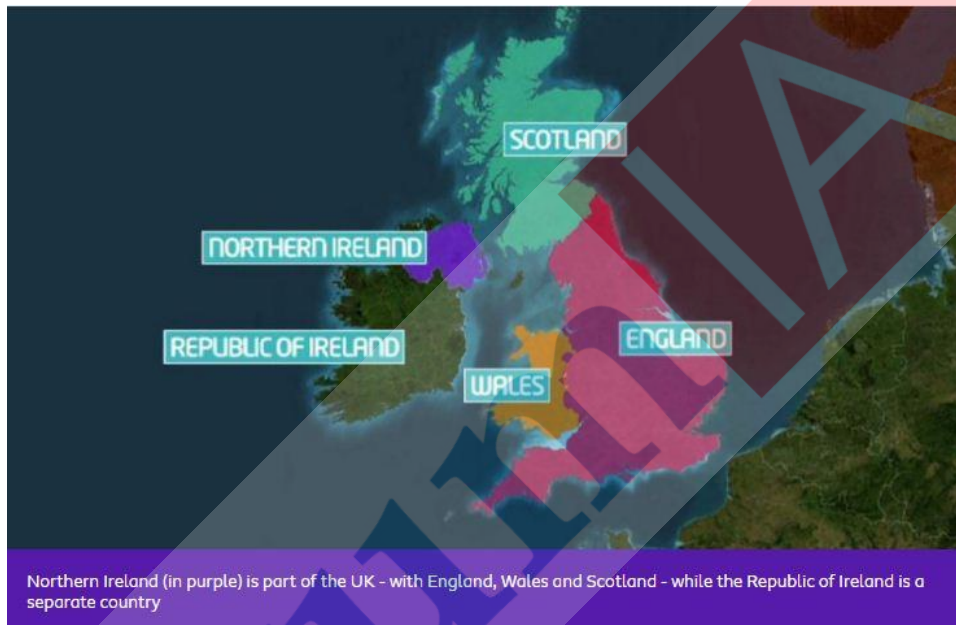
1. Wales
2. Northern Ireland
3. Scotland

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 **United Kingdom** is a state made up of the historic countries of **England, Wales and Scotland, as well as Northern Ireland.**



The Internal Market Bill of UK government seeks to create a single uniform market across the four nations of the U.K. It is being disputed by many in UK as well as EU for it breaking the international law by going back on the Withdrawal Agreement Bill signed by the Boris Johnson government in January 2020.

Q.21) Vaccine(s) is/are available for which of the following disease(s)?

1. Hepatitis A
2. Hepatitis B
3. Hepatitis C

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: **Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver.** When the liver is inflamed or damaged, its function can be affected. The common hepatitis viruses are hepatitis A virus, hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus.

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Hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C are liver infections caused by three different viruses. Although each can cause similar symptoms, they are spread in different ways and can affect the liver differently.

Hepatitis A is usually a short-term infection. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C can also begin as short-term infections, but in some people, the virus remains in the body and causes chronic (long-term) infection. There are vaccines to prevent hepatitis A and hepatitis B; however, there is **no vaccine for hepatitis C**.

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding **diagnostic tests**:

1. A test with high Sensitivity correctly identifies patients who do not have the disease.
2. A test with high Specificity correctly identifies patients infected with the disease.

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 definitions of **Sensitivity and Specificity** have been interchanged in the statements.

The **sensitivity of a test (also called the true positive rate)** is defined as the proportion of people with the disease who will have a positive result. A highly sensitive test is one that correctly identifies patients with a disease.

The **specificity of a test (also called the true negative Rate)** is the proportion of people without the disease who will have a negative result. The specificity of a test refers to how well a test identifies patients who do not have a disease.

Q.23) Consider the following statements regarding the **COVID-19 RT-PCR** test:

1. Real time RT-PCR is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material.
2. The test uses sample from the upper and lower respiratory system.
3. The real time RT-PCR cannot be used to detect past infections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Real time RT-PCR** is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific **genetic material** in any pathogen, including a virus.

In order for an **RNA virus** like the COVID-19 virus to be detected early in the body using real time RT-PCR, scientists need to convert the RNA to DNA (because only DNA can be copied or amplified). This is a process called 'reverse transcription'. Scientists amplify a specific part of the transcribed viral DNA hundreds of thousands of times to accurately confirm that the virus is present.

Statement 2 is correct. The RT-PCR test for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in upper and lower respiratory specimens (such as nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs, sputum, lower respiratory tract aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage, and nasopharyngeal wash/aspirate) collected from individuals suspected of COVID-19.

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Statement 3 is correct. The real time RT-PCR **cannot** be used to detect past infections it can only detect the current infections.

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

1. The AYUSH products are regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
2. The AYUSH Ministry has released the Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for the management of 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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **AYUSH products** are regulated under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940** by the Drugs Controller General of India through the State Governments.

Statement 2 is correct. The **National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga** for the management of Covid-19 has been released recently as per the Report & Recommendations of the Interdisciplinary Committee.

The AYUSH Ministry has also setup an Interdisciplinary Committee for Integration of Ayurveda and Yoga Interventions in the 'National Clinical Management Protocol: COVID-19, which was chaired by Dr V M Katoch, former Director General ICMR and group of experts.

Q.25) The **Nobel Prize in Physics 2020** has been awarded for which of the following discovery/research?

1. The discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity
2. The discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy
3. The discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star

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 and 2 are correct. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the **Nobel Prize in Physics 2020** with

--one half to **Roger Penrose** “for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity”;

--other half jointly to **Michel Mayor and Andrea Ghez** “for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy”.

Option 3 is incorrect. Part of **Nobel Prize in Physics 2019** was awarded to James Peebles “for theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology” and Michel Mayor “for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star”.

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding **Black Holes**:

1. The 'event horizon' is the boundary defining the region of space around a black hole from which not even light can escape.
2. Black holes can form when the center of a massive star collapses-in upon itself.

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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: Statement 1 is correct. A black hole is an astronomical object with a gravitational pull so strong that nothing, not even light, can escape it. A **black hole's "surface," called its event horizon**, defines the boundary within which the velocity needed to escape exceeds the speed of light, which is the speed limit of the cosmos. Matter and radiation fall in, but they can't get out.

Statement 2 is correct. The smallest ones are known as **primordial** black holes. These are thought to have formed in the early universe, soon after the big bang.

The most common type of medium-sized black holes is called **stellar** black holes. These black holes form when the center of a very massive star collapses in upon itself. This collapse also causes a supernova, or an exploding star, that blasts part of the star into space.

The largest black holes are called **supermassive**. Scientists think supermassive black holes formed at the same time as the galaxy they are in. The size of the supermassive black hole is related to the size and mass of the galaxy it is in.

Q.27) Which of the following is/are types of **Ecosystem Services** derived from nature?

- 1. Provisioning Services
- 2. Regulating Services
- 3. Cultural Services

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 **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment**, a major UN-sponsored effort to analyze the impact of human actions on ecosystems and human well-being, defined Ecosystem Services as "the benefits people derive from ecosystems" and identified four major categories of ecosystem services: provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services.

Provisioning services are: The products obtained from ecosystems, including, for example, genetic resources, food and fiber, and fresh water.

Regulating services are: The benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem processes, including, for example, the regulation of climate, water, and some human diseases.

Cultural services are: The non-material benefits people obtain from ecosystems through spiritual enrichment, cognitive development, reflection, recreation, and aesthetic experience, including, e.g., knowledge systems, social relations, and aesthetic values.

Supporting services are: Ecosystem services that are necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services. Some examples include biomass production, production of atmospheric oxygen, soil formation and retention, nutrient cycling, water cycling, and provisioning of habitat.

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Ecosystem services provided by New Delhi's National Zoological Park are estimated to have generated Rs 422.76 crore in 2019-20 as per the study by the Energy and Resources Institute commissioned by Central Zoo Authority.

Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding the **Central Zoo Authority (CZA)**:

1. It is a statutory body under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. No zoo can be operated in India without being recognised by the CZA.

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 **Central Zoo Authority** was established as a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment & Forests by the Government of India in the year 1992 by adding a separate chapter in the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**. The Authority consists of a Chairman, ten members and a Member Secretary.

Statement 2 is correct. Its functions include recognizing or derecognizing zoos and further Section 38H(1) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides that 'no zoo shall be operated without being recognised by the CZA'.

Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding the **World Habitat Day 2020**:

1. The theme for this year is 'Housing For All — A Better Urban Future'.
2. Indian city of Indore is the host of Global Observance of World Habitat Day 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: Statement 1 is correct. In 1985 the United Nations designated the first Monday of October every year as World Habitat Day. The World Habitat Day 2020 theme is **Housing For All — A Better Urban Future**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Indonesian city of **Surabaya** is the host of Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2020.

The Habitat Scroll of Honour award was launched by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in 1989. The award, a plaque engraved with the name of the winner and their achievement is presented to the winners during the Global Observance of World Habitat Day.

Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding the **Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)**:

1. It is part of the COVAX pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.
2. It has launched a Global network of Laboratories for centralized assessment of COVID-19 Vaccines.

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. **COVAX** is the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator

The ACT Accelerator is a ground-breaking global collaboration to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines.

COVAX is co-led by Gavi, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO. Its aim is to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world.

Statement 2 is correct. The international non-profit, **Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)** has launched a 'Global network of Laboratories for centralized assessment of COVID-19 Vaccines'.

The clinical sample testing laboratories selected for this collaborative vaccine network are: Nexelis (Canada) and Public Health England (PHE; UK), VisMederi Srl (Italy), Viroclinics-DDL (The Netherlands), icddr,b (formerly International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research Bangladesh), and **Translational Health Sciences and Technological Institute (THSTI, India)**.

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ensemble forecasting**:

1. It is a forecasting methodology using a single set of conditions.
2. It can be used for optimization of weather forecasting.

Which of the statements give 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 **Ensemble Forecasting**, instead of running just a single forecast, the computer model is run a **number of times from slightly different starting conditions**. The complete set of forecasts is referred to as the ensemble, and individual forecasts within it as ensemble members.

Statement 2 is correct. Various countries have migrated to ensemble weather forecasting for optimal results. A forecast is an estimate of the future state of the atmosphere. It is created by estimating the current state of the atmosphere using observations, and then calculating how this state will evolve in time using a numerical weather prediction computer model.

The ensemble forecasts give the forecaster a much better idea of what weather events may occur at a particular time. By comparing these different forecasts, the forecaster can decide how likely a particular weather event will be.

Q.32) Which of the following statements correctly defines **Quasars**?

- a) Remote celestial objects emitting exceptionally large amounts of energy
- b) A rapidly spinning neutron star
- c) A star system consisting of two stars orbiting around their common barycenter
- d) Star that have exhausted their nuclear fuel

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Quasars** are extremely **remote** celestial objects, **emitting** exceptionally large amounts of energy.

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Quasars are believed to produce their energy from **supermassive black holes** in the center of the galaxies in which the quasars are located. Because quasars are so bright, they drown out the light from all the other stars in the same galaxy.

Q.33) Consider the following statements **Doppler Radars**:

1. The Doppler Effect causes the received frequency of a source to differ from the sent frequency if the distance between the source and the receiver is changing.
2. The frequency of the received wave forms increases with increasing distance between source and receiver.

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

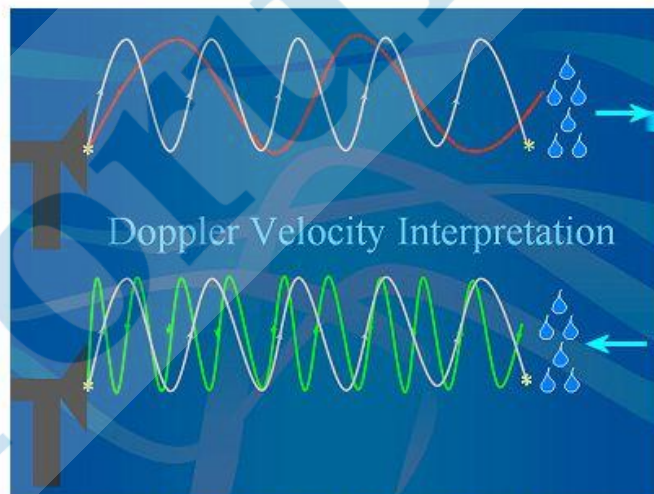
Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. When wave energy like sound or radio waves travels from two objects, the wavelength can seem to be changed if one or both of them are moving. This is called the **Doppler effect**.

The Doppler effect causes the received frequency of a source (how it is perceived when it gets to its destination) to **differ from the sent frequency** if there is motion that is increasing or decreasing the distance between the source and the receiver.

Statement 2 is incorrect. When the **distance** between the source and receiver of electromagnetic waves remains **constant**, the **frequency** waves is the **same** in both places.

When the **distance** between the source and receiver of electromagnetic waves is **increasing**, the **frequency** of the received wave forms is **lower** than the frequency of the source wave form. When the **distance** is **decreasing**, the **frequency** of the received wave form will be **higher** than the source wave form.



In the image above, the grey line is the transmitted signal. You can see how the returned energy changes its wavelength characteristics when it hits a target moving away or toward the radar (red and green line, respectively)

Q.34) Consider the following statements regarding **Platform work**:

1. Platform workers use an online platform to access other organizations or individuals to solve specific problems or to provide specific services.
2. As per Code on Social Security 2020, central government will set up social security fund for platform workers.

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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Code on Social Security** provides definition of **Platform Work** as a work arrangement outside of a traditional employer-employee relationship in which organizations or individuals use an online platform to access other organizations or individuals to solve specific problems or to provide specific services.

Statement 2 is correct. The Code on Social Security, 2020 states that the central government will set up **social security funds for unorganized workers, gig workers and platform workers**.

Further, state governments will also set up and administer separate social security funds for unorganized workers. It also makes provisions for registration of all three categories of workers - unorganized workers, gig workers and platform workers.

Q.35) The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2020 has been awarded for which of the following research?

- a) The development of lithium-ion batteries
- b) The phage display of peptides and antibodies
- c) The design and synthesis of molecular machines
- d) The development of a method for genome editing

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2020** has been awarded jointly to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna "**for the development of a method for genome editing**."

Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna have discovered one of gene technology's sharpest tools: the **CRISPR/Cas9 genetic scissors**. Using these, researchers can change the DNA of animals, plants and microorganisms with extremely high precision.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019: John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino "for the development of lithium-ion batteries".

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018: Frances H. Arnold "for the directed evolution of enzymes", George P. Smith and Sir Gregory P. Winter "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies".

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017: Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution".

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016: Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Sir J. Fraser Stoddart and Bernard L. Feringa "for the design and synthesis of molecular machines".

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding the recently approved 'Natural Gas Marketing Reforms':

1. The affiliate companies can participate in the bidding process for sale of gas.
2. It will grant marketing freedom to the Field Development Plans (FDPs) of certain Blocks with Production Sharing Contracts.

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: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has recently approved '**Natural Gas Marketing Reforms**'.

-- The policy aims to provide standard procedure for sale of natural gas in a transparent and competitive manner to discover market price by issuing guidelines for sale by contractor through **e-bidding**.

-- The policy has also permitted **Affiliate companies** to participate in the bidding process in view of the open, transparent and electronic bidding. This will facilitate and promote more competition in marketing of gas. However, rebidding will have to be done in case only affiliates participate, and there are no other bidders.

-- The policy will also grant marketing freedom to the **Field Development Plans** (FDPs) of those Blocks in which Production Sharing Contracts already provide pricing freedom.

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the **Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of Cybersecurity** between India and Japan:

1. It will provide India with the access to Five Eyes intelligence database.
2. Both countries commit to an interoperable, free, fair and secure cyberspace environment.

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 Union Cabinet has recently given its approval for signing a **Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC)** in the field of cybersecurity between India and Japan. Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Five Eyes (FVEY)** is an intelligence alliance comprising **Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States**. These countries are parties to the multilateral UKUSA Agreement, a treaty for joint cooperation in signals intelligence.

Statement 2 is correct. The MoC will enhance cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including capacity building in the area of cyberspace; protection of critical infrastructure; cooperation in emerging technologies; sharing information on cyber security threats/incidents and malicious cyber activities etc.

India and Japan commit to an **open, interoperable, free, fair, secure and reliable cyberspace environment** and to promote the Internet as an engine of innovation, economic growth, and trade and commerce that would be consistent with their respective domestic laws and international obligations, and with their wide-ranging strategic partnership.

Q.38) What is '**Kasturi Cotton**'?

- a) India's premium Cotton brand
- b) Genetically modified cotton variety
- c) Pest resistant hybrid Cotton seeds indigenously developed by PUSA
- d) Anti-bacterial cotton variety

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Ministry of Textiles** has launched the 1st ever **Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton** on 2nd World Cotton Day on 7th October, 2020. Now India's premium Cotton would be known as '**Kasturi Cotton**' in the world cotton Trade.

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Cotton is one of the principal commercial crops of India: It provides livelihood to about 6.00 million cotton farmers. India is the 2nd largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world. India produces about 6.00 Million tons of cotton every year which is about 23% of the world cotton. India produces about 51% of the total organic cotton production of the world.

Q.39) Consider the following statements regarding the **Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)**:

1. India has ratified the Stockholm Convention but new amendments in various Annexes of the convention cannot be enforced on it unless further ratified by India.
2. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has powers to ratify chemicals under the Convention in respect of domestically regulated POPs.

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. India had ratified the **Stockholm Convention** on January 13, 2006 as per Article 25(4), which enabled it to keep itself in a default "**opt-out**" position such that amendments in various Annexes of the convention cannot be enforced on it unless an instrument of ratification/ acceptance/ approval or accession is explicitly deposited with UN depositary.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Union Cabinet recently delegated** its powers to ratify chemicals under the Stockholm Convention to Union Ministers of **External Affairs (MEA) and Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC)** in respect of POPs already regulated under the domestic regulations thereby streamlining the procedure.

Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the **Pusa Decomposer**:

1. It is a microbial-based strategy that degrades the agricultural waste.
2. It has the disadvantage not being ecofriendly and reducing nutrient capacity of soil.

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. **Pusa Decomposer Technology** is a microbial-based strategy (liquid formulation & capsules) which degrades the waste (pit or windrows).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The recycling of this agri-waste is both an ecological necessity and economic compulsion. Similarly, vegetable, fruit, and kitchen waste when degraded properly are great sources of nutrient-rich compost.

Pusa Decomposer converts waste into **nutrient-enriched compost**. This is an eco-friendly and environmentally useful technology.

It is being proposed as a solution for stubble disposal in farm fields around Delhi which is usually burned by farmers causing pollution.

Q.41) Consider the following statements regarding the **CRISPR technology**:

1. It is used to alter DNA sequences and modify gene function.

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2. The technology has been adapted from the natural defense mechanisms of bacteria. 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. **CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats)** technology is a tool for editing genomes. It allows researchers to easily alter DNA sequences and modify gene function.

CRISPRs are specialized stretches of DNA. The protein **Cas9 (CRISPR-associated-9)** is an enzyme that acts like a pair of **molecular scissors**, capable of cutting strands of DNA.

Its many potential applications include correcting genetic defects, treating and preventing the spread of diseases and improving crops.

Statement 2 is correct. CRISPR technology was adapted from the **natural defense mechanisms of bacteria and archaea (the domain of single-celled microorganisms)**.

These organisms use CRISPR-derived RNA and various Cas proteins, including **Cas9**, to foil attacks by viruses and other foreign bodies. They do so primarily by chopping up and destroying the DNA of a foreign invader. When these components are transferred into other, more complex, organisms, it allows for the manipulation of genes, or "editing."

Q.42) Global Network of Advanced Manufacturing Hubs (AMHUBs) is a project of which of the following organisation?

- a) World Bank
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) International Renewable Energy Agency
- d) Intel Corporation

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **Advanced Manufacturing HUB or AMHUB** is one of the 19 platforms designed by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**. This platform focuses on engaging entire regional production ecosystems to identify and address regional opportunities and challenges brought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) by amplifying regional success stories, sharing best practices & incubating new partnerships

The Global Network of AMHUBs uses the Forum's platform to aggregate and accelerate regional efforts to adapt to the future of advanced manufacturing and production and highlight key regional case examples on the global stage, while creating a feedback loop wherein best practices from around the world are conveyed to the regional level to further amplify the impact potential of this network.

Guidance, nodal investment promotion and facilitation agency of the state of Tamil Nadu has partnered with the World Economic Forum (WEF) to establish India's first advanced manufacturing hub (AMHUB) in Tamil Nadu.

Q.43) Consider the following statements regarding the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India:

- 1. CAG has the authority to inspect any office of accounts under the control of the Union or of a State.
- 2. The Governor of a State can request the CAG to audit the accounts of a corporation established by law of state legislature.

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: C

Explanation: The **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and can only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Statement 1 is correct. The Comptroller and Auditor-General, in connection with the performance of his duties have **authority to inspect any office of accounts** under the control of the Union or of a State, including treasuries and such offices responsible for the keeping of initial or subsidiary accounts, as submit accounts to him.

Statement 2 is correct. The Governor of a State, where he is of opinion that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, can **request the Comptroller and Auditor-General to audit** the accounts of a corporation established by law made by the Legislature of the State.

Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971

Q.44) The **Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)** relates to which of the following issue?

- a) Doubling farmers' income by 2022
- b) Control of air pollution in Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR)
- c) Increasing solar power capacity to 100GW by 2022
- d) Eliminating child labour practices

Correct answer: B

Explanation: In pursuant to the Supreme Court's order dated December 02, 2016 in the matter of **M. C. Mehta vs. Union of India** regarding air quality in National Capital Region of Delhi, a **Graded Response Action Plan** was prepared and notified for implementation under **different Air Quality Index (AQI)** categories namely, Moderate & Poor, Very Poor, and Severe as per National Air Quality Index.

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change had notified for implementation of Graded Response Action Plan through Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority in 2017.

The Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA) has directed Delhi and neighboring States to implement air pollution control measures under "very poor" and "severe" category air quality of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) from October 15, including a ban on the use of diesel generators, except for emergency activities.

Q.45) Consider the following statements regarding the **Television Rating Points (TRP)**:

- 1. It represents the traffic of viewers a television channel or program receives.
- 2. Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) is a statutory body measuring TRPs 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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Television Rating Points (TRPs)** represent how many people, from diverse socio-economic categories, watched which channels for how much time during a particular period of hours/days/week/months.

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Television ratings in turn influence programmes produced for the viewers. Better ratings would promote a programme while poor ratings will discourage a programme. It also has commercial impact as program/channel with higher ratings is able to attract more and profitable advertisements.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India** is a **Joint Industry Company** founded by stakeholder bodies that represent Broadcasters, Advertisers, and Advertising and Media Agencies.

The I&B Ministry notified the Policy Guidelines for Television Rating Agencies in India in January 2014 and registered BARC in July 2015 under these guidelines, to carry out television ratings in India.

Q.46) Which of the following institution has published the **Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020** report?

- a) World Bank
- b) United Nations Development Programme
- c) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- d) Asian Development Bank

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The Poverty and Shared Prosperity biennial series published by the **World Bank** provides a global audience with the latest and most accurate estimates on trends in global poverty and shared prosperity.

Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune report presents new estimates of COVID-19's impacts on global poverty and inequality. Harnessing fresh data from frontline surveys and economic simulations, it shows that pandemic-related job losses and deprivation worldwide are hitting already-poor and vulnerable people hard, while also partly changing the profile of global poverty by creating millions of "new poor."

Global extreme poverty is expected to rise for the first time in 20 years because of the disruption caused by COVID-19. Around 9.1% to 9.4% of the world will be affected by extreme poverty in 2020.

Q.47) Consider the following statements regarding the **Gyan Circle Ventures**:

- 1. It is a Technology Business Incubator (TBI) funded by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- 2. It aims to provide investments, infrastructure and mentoring support for innovation and startups.

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 Minister of Education recently inaugurated the **Gyan Circle Ventures, a Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology funded Technology Business Incubator (TBI)** of Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City (Chittoor), Andhra Pradesh.

Gyan Circle Ventures would function as a **Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0)** incubation center as approved by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

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TIDE 2.0 scheme promotes tech entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting ICT startups primarily engaged in using emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Block-chain, Robotics etc. in pre-identified areas of societal relevance.

Statement 2 is correct. The Gyan Circle Ventures will serve as a hub for innovation and startups by providing support, in various phases, via **investments, infrastructure and mentoring**.

The TBI would have an Advisory Committee comprising leading Industrialists, entrepreneurs and technical experts. It would enable incubatees to leverage these expert mentors and networks from both academia and the industry.

Q.48) Who among the following has been awarded with **Nobel Prize in Literature 2020**?

- a) Louise Glück
- b) Peter Handke
- c) Bob Dylan
- d) Olga Tokarczuk

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Nobel Prize in Literature 2020** has been awarded to American poet and essayist **Louise Glück** “for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal”.

The Nobel Prize in Literature 2019: Peter Handke “for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience”.

The Nobel Prize in Literature 2018: Olga Tokarczuk “for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life”.

Bob Dylan was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2016.

Q.49) As per the Constitution, which of the following is/are basis for **reasonable restrictions on the right to assemble peaceably and without arms**?

- 1. Public order
- 2. Sovereignty and integrity of India

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: **Article 19(1)(b)** provides for fundamental right to assemble peacefully and without arms.

Further, **Article 19(3)** of the Constitution provides for power of the State to provide for any law imposing reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right to assemble peaceably and without arms in the interests of the **sovereignty and integrity of India or public order**.

Supreme Court has recently stated that that public places cannot be occupied indefinitely for protests.

Q.50) Which of the following was/were the recommendation(s) of the **Justice J.S. Verma Committee**?

- 1. It rejected the proposal for chemical castration for crimes against women.
- 2. Electoral candidates should be disqualified for committing sexual offences.
- 3. It proposed death penalty for the offence of rape.

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Justice Verma Committee was constituted to recommend amendments to the Criminal Law so as to provide for quicker trial and enhanced punishment for criminals accused of committing sexual assault against women. The Committee submitted its report in January 2013.

Statement 1 is correct. The Committee **rejected the proposal for chemical castration** as it fails to treat the social foundations of rape.

Statement 2 is correct. The Committee recommended the amendment of the Representation of People Act, 1951. The Committee was of the opinion that filing of charge sheet and cognizance by the Court was sufficient for disqualification of a candidate under the Act. It further recommended that **candidates should be disqualified for committing sexual offences**.

Statement 3 is incorrect. It opined that **death penalty should not be awarded** for the offence of rape as there was considerable evidence that death penalty was not a deterrence to serious crimes. It recommended life imprisonment for rape.

HIGHLIGHTS

Justice JS Verma Panel recommendations on **Sexual Crime Laws**

- Amendment of various sections of IPC to provide sterner punishment
- But no death penalty proposed for rapist. Age of juvenile can remain at 18
- Register every complaint of rape
- Eve-teasing, stalking, unsolicited sexual contact and voyeurism included
- Need for provisions to address sexual assault on homosexuals
- Crackdown on Khaps
- No politicisation of Law enforcement agencies
- Stopping politicisation of crime
- Ambiguity of the responsibility of law and order in Delhi must be removed
- Marital rape and rape of children at home must be prevented
- Sexual violence by personnel in uniform must be brought under common law
- An imminent need to review the continuance of AFSPA in areas as soon as possible
- Special commissioners for women's safety must be posted in conflict areas
- Necessary medical aid should not be delayed, even by private practitioners
- General laws related to detention of women during regular hours must be strictly followed
- Strong measures to ensure security and dignity of women in conflict areas
- Violation of equality of women is a constitutional violation
- All marriages must be registered, ensuring no dowry is demanded or taken
- Criminal law amendment bill 2012 should be amended
- Make journey in public transport safer, especially for women
- Juvenile homes have become breeding grounds of all sorts of sex crimes
- Government apathy towards missing children has to be shaken off, trafficking of minor children must be made a serious offence
- Non-discrimination for education for women and children must be ensured

What is needed to enforce laws is the sensitivity on the part of those who implement it (on tackling crime against women)

PTI GRAPHICS

Q.51) Consider the following statements regarding the **DNA barcoding**:

1. It is a methodology for rapidly and accurately identifying species by sequencing a short segment of standardized gene regions.
2. BIOSCAN is a global project that aims to generate barcode coverage for two million species.

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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **DNA barcoding** is a methodology for rapidly and accurately identifying species by sequencing a short segment of standardized gene regions and comparing individual sequences to a reference database.

Statement 2 is correct. **International Barcode of Life (iBOL)**, a Canadian not-for-profit corporation, after successful completion of BARCODE 500K in 2015, has launched project BIOSCAN in 2019 to generate barcode coverage for two million species.

Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), a subordinate organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and International Barcode of Life (iBOL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The MoU will enable ZSI to participate at the Global level programmes like Bioscan and Planetary Biodiversity Mission.

Q.52) Consider the following statements regarding **Political parties** in India:

1. Registration of political parties is governed by the explicit provisions provided under the Constitution.
2. All registered political parties are eligible to raise funds through electoral bonds.

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. **Registration of Political parties** is governed by the provisions of Section 29A of the **Representation of the People Act, 1951**.

A party seeking registration under the said Section with the Election Commission has to submit an application to the Commission within a period of 30 days following the date of its formation as per guidelines prescribed by the Commission in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 324 of the Constitution of India and Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

As per existing guidelines, the applicant association is asked to publish proposed Name of the party in two national daily newspapers and two local daily newspapers, on two days for submitting objections, if any, with regard to the proposed registration of the party before the Commission within 30 days from such publication. Notice so published is also displayed on the website of the Commission.

Election Commission of India has given a relaxation and has reduced the notice period from 30 days to 7 days for the parties who have published their public notice on or before 07.10.2020. This relaxation will remain in force till 20th October, 2020.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Any party that is registered under section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 and has **secured at least one per cent of the votes** polled in the most recent General elections or Assembly elections is eligible to receive electoral bonds.

The party is allotted a verified account by the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the electoral bond transactions can be made only through this account.

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Q.53) What is “**Sagittarius A***” that has been in news recently?

- a) Nearest solar system to our solar system
- b) A supermassive compact object at the centre of Milky Way
- c) Nearest star to Sun
- d) An asteroid heading towards Earth’s vicinity

Correct answer: B

Explanation: **Sagittarius A*** is a bright and very compact astronomical radio source at the **Galactic Center of the Milky Way**. Based on mass and increasingly precise radius limits, astronomers have concluded that Sagittarius A* is the Milky Way's central supermassive black hole.

Nobel Prize 2020 (Physics) winners Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez each lead a group of astronomers that, since the early 1990s, has focused on a region called Sagittarius A* at the centre of our galaxy. Their pioneering work has produced the most convincing evidence yet of a **supermassive black hole** at the centre of the Milky Way.

Q.54) **Varosha** beach has been news recently, where is it located?

- a) Cyprus
- b) Israel
- c) Scotland
- d) Lebanon

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Varosha** is an abandoned southern quarter of the **Cypriot city of Famagusta**. Its inhabitants fled during the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974, after years of inter-ethnic violence culminating in a coup inspired by Greece's ruling military junta, Turkey invaded Cyprus and occupied the northern third of the island.

As its troops approached Varosha, a Greek-Cypriot community, the inhabitants fled, intending to return when the situation calmed down. However, the resort was fenced off by the Turkish military and has been a ghost town ever since.

A **UN resolution of 1984** calls for the handover of Varosha to UN control and prohibits any attempt to resettle it by anyone other than those who were forced out.



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Northern Cyprus said on Tuesday it will reopen the beach area of an abandoned resort in no-man's land, a move condemned by Greek Cypriots. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has expressed concern over Turkey's decision to reopen the beach of Varosha in Cyprus.

Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the **Universal Postal Union (UPU)**:

1. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
 2. India is a member country of UPU.
- 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 **Universal Postal Union** established by the **Treaty of Bern of 1874**, is a **specialized agency** of the United Nations (UN). It is the primary forum for cooperation between postal sector players. It helps to ensure a truly universal network of up-to-date products and services.

Statement 2 is correct. Any member country of the United Nations may become a member of the UPU. Any non-member country of the United Nations may become a UPU member provided that its request is approved by at least two-thirds of the member countries of the UPU.

India is also a member country of UPU with **India Post** as designated operator.

World Post Day is observed every year on October 9. It marks the anniversary of the establishment of Universal Postal Union.

Q.56) Which of the following is/are potential applications of **Calcium nitrate**?

1. Agricultural fertilizer
 2. Waste water treatment
 3. As baking soda
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 3 only

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Calcium nitrate** also known as **Norwegian saltpeter** is mainly produced as a **fertilizer**, used for plant nutrition purposes, and for **wastewater treatment**. It is a source of both calcium and nitrogen, for plants.

'Calcium Nitrate' & 'Boronated Calcium Nitrate' is now being manufactured for the first time in India by Gujrat State Fertilizers and Chemicals -GSFC India Ltd. GSFC launched these two products in the retail market for the first time from Solan in Himachal Pradesh and Bhavnagar in Gujarat.

Sodium bicarbonate is commonly known as baking soda.

Q.57) Who among the following has been awarded with the **Nobel Peace Prize 2020**?

- a) Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict
- b) International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

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- c) Abiy Ahmed Ali for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighboring Eritrea”
- d) World Food Programme (WFP) for its efforts to combat hunger and contribution to bettering conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Nobel Peace Prize 2020** has been awarded to **World Food Programme (WFP)** "for its efforts to combat hunger, for its contribution to bettering conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas and for acting as a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict."

The **Nobel Peace Prize 2019**: Abiy Ahmed Ali "for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighboring Eritrea".

The **Nobel Peace Prize 2018**: Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad "for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict".

The **Nobel Peace Prize 2017**: International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) "for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons".

Q.58) Consider the following statements regarding the **RUDRAM** missile:

1. It is an Anti-Radiation Missile indigenously developed in India.
2. It can detect, classify and engage targets over a wide band of frequencies.

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 **RUDRAM** is first indigenous anti-radiation missile of the country being developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**).

It is a **new generation Anti-Radiation Missile** and was successfully Flight tested recently onto a radiation target located on Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.

Statement 2 is correct. It has **INS-GPS navigation** with Passive Homing Head for the final attack. The RUDRAM hit the radiation target with pin-point accuracy.

The Passive Homing Head can detect, classify and engage targets over a **wide band of frequencies** as programmed.

Q.59) Consider the following statements regarding the **Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)** for Electronics Manufacturing:

1. It provides a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the electronics value chain in India.
2. The scheme covers all electronics items manufacturing in India except mobile phones.

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 **Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)** for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing proposes a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the electronics value chain including electronic components and semiconductor packaging.

Incentive: The Scheme extends an incentive of **4% to 6% on incremental sales** (over base year) of goods manufactured in India and covered under target segments, to eligible companies, for a period of five years subsequent to the base year 2019-20.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Scheme is only applicable for target segments namely **mobile phones and specified electronic components**.

Specified Electronic Components: SMT components, Discrete semiconductor devices including transistors, diodes, thyristors, etc., Passive components including resistors, capacitors, etc. for electronic applications, Printed Circuit Boards (PCB), PCB laminates, prepregs, photopolymer films, PCB printing inks, Sensors, transducers, actuators, crystals for electronic applications, System in Package (SIP), Micro or Nano-electronic components such as Micro Electromechanical Systems (MEMS) and Nano Electromechanical Systems (NEMS), and Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) units.

Q.60) The **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** is a branch of which of the following fields of study?

- a) Artificial Intelligence
- b) Object Oriented Programming language
- c) Space Technology Development
- d) Biodiversity Conservation

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** is a branch of **artificial intelligence** that deals with the interaction between computers and humans using the natural language. The ultimate objective of NLP is to read, decipher, understand, and make sense of the human languages in a manner that is valuable. Most NLP techniques rely on machine learning to derive meaning from human languages.

Q.61) Consider the following statements regarding the **H-CNG**:

- 1. It is a blend of hydrogen and CNG, the hydrogen concentration being 18 percent.
- 2. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has allowed use of H-CNG in CNG engines.

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. CNG is compressed natural gas. **Natural Gas** is mainly composed of methane, it emits less air pollutants — carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter — than petrol or diesel.

H-CNG is a blend of hydrogen and CNG, the ideal hydrogen concentration being **18%**. Tests by the Automotive Research Association of India and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) have found that compared to conventional CNG, use of H-CNG can reduce emission of carbon monoxide up to 70%, besides enabling up to 5% savings in fuel.

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Statement 2 is correct. The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has recently allowed use of **H-CNG (18% mix of hydrogen) in CNG engines**. A notification for amendments to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989, for inclusion of H-CNG as an automotive fuel has been published by the Ministry.

The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** has also developed specifications (IS 17314:2019) of Hydrogen enriched Compressed Natural Gas (H-CNG) for automotive purposes, as a fuel. Certain CNG-engine were tested to understand the emission reduction using H-CNG as compared to 'neat' CNG.

Q.62) Consider the following statements regarding the **Nagorno-Karabakh** region:

1. It is internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan.
2. It is bordered by Caspian Sea in the East.

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 region is internationally recognised as part of **Azerbaijan** but controlled by ethnic **Armenians**.

After the end of World War I and the Bolshevik revolution in Russia, the new Soviet rulers established the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region, with an ethnic Armenian majority, within the Soviet Socialist Republic of Azerbaijan in the early 1920s.

In 1988, towards the end of Soviet rule, Azerbaijani troops and Armenian secessionists began a violent war which left the de facto independent state in the hands of ethnic Armenians when a truce was signed in 1994.

Negotiations have so far failed to produce a permanent peace agreement

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is a **landlocked mountainous region**.



Q.63) Which of the following correctly defines the term '**monopsony**'?

- a) A single enterprise is being supplier of a particular commodity or service
- b) An industry being dominated by a small group of large suppliers
- c) An industry being dominated by small group of buyers
- d) A single buyer substantially controlling the market

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Correct answer: D

Explanation: A **monopsony** is a market condition in which there is only one buyer, the monopsonist. It is a market structure in which a single buyer substantially controls the market as the major purchaser of goods and services offered by many would-be sellers.

An **oligopoly** is a market structure in which a few firms dominate. When a market is shared between a few firms, it is said to be highly concentrated.

A **monopoly** contains a single firm that produces goods with no close substitute.

Q.64) Consider the following statements:

1. Vigyan Jyoti scheme encourages women scientists to pursue research in frontier areas of science and engineering, on problems of societal relevance.
2. KIRAN scheme aims to encourage girls in high school pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in higher education.

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: Scheme objectives have been interchanged in the given statements.

Vigyan Jyoti Scheme is intended to create a level-playing field for the meritorious girls in high school to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in their higher education. It also offers exposure for girl students from the rural background to help to plan their journey from school to a job of their choice in the field of science.

Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN): women scientists are being encouraged to pursue research in frontier areas of science and engineering, on problems of societal relevance and to take up S&T-based internship followed by self-employment.

Q.65) Which of the following most correctly defines **MICE Tourism**?

- a) Travelling for business purposes
- b) Tourism in wilderness environments
- c) Tourism product tailored for a particular audience/market segment
- d) Historical sites and monuments tourist attractions

Correct answer: A

Explanation: In tourism, travelling for business is referred to as **MICE tourism**; which stands for **Meetings, Incentives, Conference/ Conventions and Exhibitions/ Events**.

It is also referred to as the Meetings Industry. The travel sellers specializing in MICE are usually affiliated with large corporate agencies because it requires advance planning and organization. There are Conventions and Visitor Bureau (CVB), India Convention promotion Bureau (ICPB) and others, which are working for the promotion of MICE in India.

Q.66) Belarus is bordered by which of the following country(s)?

1. Russia
2. Ukraine
3. Lithuania

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: **Belarus** is a landlocked country bordered by **Russia** - its former imperial master - to the east and **Ukraine** to the south. To the north and west lie EU and NATO members **Latvia**, **Lithuania** and **Poland**.



President Lukashenko, an ally of Russia, nicknamed "Europe's last dictator", has been in power for 26 years.

Recently, there has been an opposition movement, demanding new, democratic leadership and economic reform. They say Lukashenko rigged the 9 August election - officially, he won by a landslide.

Q.67) Which of the following is/are 'Global Commons'?

- 1. High Seas
- 2. Atmosphere
- 3. Antarctica

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: **Global commons** have been traditionally defined as those parts of the planet that fall **outside national jurisdictions** and to which all nations have access.

International law identifies four global commons, namely the **High Seas, the Atmosphere, the Antarctica and the Outer Space**. These resource domains are guided by the principle of the common heritage of mankind.

The international conventions and treaties to govern global commons include:

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982 and instruments governed by the International Maritime Organization and UNEP's Regional Seas Conventions to govern the high seas;
- Antarctic Treaty System (ATS) ensuring the protection of the Antarctica fauna and flora;

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- A multitude of international environmental treaties that administer and protect the atmosphere and deal with the air pollution and atmospheric depletion, like the UNFCCC and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer;
- The Treaty on Principles governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

Q.68) Consider the following statements regarding the **Cat Que Virus**:

1. Domestic pigs are considered to be the primary mammalian hosts for CQV.
2. Humans can get infected through mosquitoes carrying CQV.

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 presence of the **Cat Que virus** has been largely reported in **Culex mosquitoes** in China and in **pigs** in Vietnam.

The **domestic pigs** are considered to be the primary mammalian hosts for CQV.

CQV belongs to the Simbu serogroup and infects both humans and economically important livestock species. **Humans** can get infected through **mosquitoes** as well.

In a study published in July in the Indian Journal of Medical Research, scientists from the Pune-based Maximum Containment Laboratory and ICMR-National Institute of Virology have noted the presence of antibodies against the Cat Que virus (CQV) in two human serum samples.

Q.69) Consider the following statements regarding the **Food Loss Index (FLI)**:

1. It examines the food loss along supply activities such as production, handling & storage, and processing.
2. It has been developed by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

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: Sustainable Development Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. SDG Target 12.3 seeks to halve global food waste at retail and consumer levels, as well as to reduce food loss during production and supply. In order to measure food waste and losses, two indices have been proposed: **Food Waste Index (FWI)** and **Food Loss Index (FLI)**.

Statement 1 is correct. The Food Loss Index examines the food loss along **supply activities** such as production, handling & storage, and processing. It focuses on food losses that occur from production up to (and not including) the retail level. It measures the changes in percentage losses for a basket of 10 main commodities by country in comparison with a base period.

Statement 2 is incorrect. To monitor SDG Target 12.3, **Food and Agriculture Organization** has created the Food Loss Index (FLI). The focus of the indicator is on percentages of food removed from the supply chain.

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Further, the **Food Waste Index** is currently in development at UN Environment. The FWI will measure tons of wasted food per capita, considering a mixed stream of products from processing through to consumption.

Q.70) Which of the following constitute the **internal debt of the Central Government**?

1. Treasury Bills
2. Non-marketable securities issued by 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: C

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 has been further classified under two heads, i.e., Internal Debt and External Debt.

Internal debt of the Central Government consists of marketable securities and nonmarketable securities.

- Marketable securities include fixed tenor and fixed/ floating rate **dated securities**, and short-term borrowings through **treasury bills**.

- **Nonmarketable securities** in internal debt are the special Central Government securities issued to National Small Savings Fund (NSSF), securities issued to international financial institutions, special securities issued against securitisation of balances under postal insurance and annuity funds (POLIF and RPOLIF), compensation & other bonds, special securities issued to public sector banks/ EXIM Bank and 14-day Intermediate Treasury Bills.