

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

19th to 24th April, 2021

POLITY

Q.1) Which of the following is provided for by the **article 324 of the constitution of India?**

1. Governor of a State, shall, when so requested by the Election Commission, make available to the Election Commission such staff as may be necessary.
2. The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for all elections to Parliament shall be vested in Election Commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Article 324 providing for powers of the Election Commission of India states:

--The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of every State and of elections to the offices of President and Vice-President held under this Constitution shall be vested in a Commission.

--The President, or the Governor of a State, shall, when so requested by the Election Commission, make available to the Election Commission or to a Regional Commissioner such staff as may be necessary for the discharge of the functions conferred on the Election Commission.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Power of President to promulgate Ordinances:**

1. It has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament.
2. It may be withdrawn at any time by the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct. The **Article 123 of the Constitution** states that;

-- If at any time, except when both Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such Ordinances as the circumstances appear to him to require.

-- An Ordinance promulgated under this article shall have the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament, but every such Ordinance—

--shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament and shall cease to operate at the expiration of six weeks from the reassembly of Parliament, or, if before the expiration of that period resolutions disapproving it are passed by both Houses, upon the passing of the second of those resolutions; and

--may be withdrawn at any time by the President.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.3) The Concept of 'Principled Distance' is seen in news recently, it is used in reference to

- a) Center-state relations
- b) Principle of Secularism
- c) Market regulations
- d) Separation of power between executive and legislative

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The concept of principled distance entails a state to maintain equal distance from all religion. It meant peaceful coexistence of all religions or inter-religious toleration and also meant equal feeling of respect towards all established religions and their practices. Indian secularism allows for principled state intervention in all religions. Such intervention betrays disrespect to some aspects of every religion.

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Parliament is empowered to prescribe the number of Judges constituting the Supreme Court of India.
- 2. Judges of the Supreme Court hold office until they attain the age of sixty-five year.

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.

Article 124 of the Constitution states that there shall be a *Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other Judges.*

Parliament last year passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill to increases the **number of judges in Supreme Court number from 30 to 33.**

The Judges remain in office until they reach the retirement age — **65 for Supreme Court judges and 62 for high court judges.**

Q.5) Consider the Following Statements

- 1. Covid-19 is notified disaster under disaster management act, 2005
- 2. Epidemics Disease act allows the use of fund from National disaster Response Fund

Which of statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. In 2020, Ministry of Home Affairs decided to treat COVID-19 as a notified disaster for the purpose of providing assistance under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

Statement 2 is incorrect. Though the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, gives the Central and State Governments overarching powers, it lacks provisions enabling them to speedily set up

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- 19th to 24th April, 2021

management systems required for a coordinated and concerted response. Also, it does not provide for use of funds from NDRF, for that enforcement of NDMA 2005 is required.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding oath mentioned in the Constitution of India

1. The President of India and the Governor of a state will swear an oath to uphold the constitution and the laws.
2. The Judges of the Supreme court and High Court will swear an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution.

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

Statements are interchanged.

Explanation

- The President of India and the Governor of a state will swear an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution.
- The Judges of the Supreme court and High Court will swear an oath to uphold the constitution and the laws.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES/INITIATIVES

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding **National Assessment and Accreditation Council**:

1. It has been established by All India Council for Technical Education.
2. It has made it mandatory for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to undergo accreditation.

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 Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** is an autonomous institution established by the University Grants Commission (UGC), under Section 12-ccc of the UGC Act of 1956, for assessing and accrediting higher education institutions (HEIs) of the country. It is registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act of 1960, Karnataka Societies Registration Rules of 1961 and is headquartered at Bangalore.

Statement 2 is correct. The **University Grants Commission (UGC)** through a gazette notification dated 19th January 2013, has made it mandatory for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to undergo accreditation.

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Evergreening seeks to extend the term of patent protection without requiring an inventive step.
2. Indian Patent Act allows grant of patent for "incremental innovations" in pharmaceutical drugs.

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 **concept of evergreening** seeks to extend the term of protection without requiring an inventive step.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Section 3(d) of the Indian Patent Act** restricts grant of patent for "incremental innovations" in many drugs unless it provides significant therapeutic advantages to existing molecules.

Section 3(d) says that the mere discovery of a new form of a known substance which does not result in the enhancement of the known efficacy of that substance or the mere discovery of any new property or new use for a known substance or of the mere use of a known process, machine or apparatus unless such known process results in a new product or employs at least one new reactant, is not patentable.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.3) The tri-services **Joint Logistics Node (JLN)** have been operationalised in which of the following locations?

1. Mumbai
2. Guwahati
3. Dehradun

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: To enable our Armed Forces to conduct successful operations, it is essential that they be provided with sound logistics support during all stages of the war. Keeping these in mind, Chief of Defence Staff operationalised and dedicated to the Services 3rd Joint Logistics Node (JLN) in Mumbai through video conferencing from New Delhi on April 01, 2021.

These JLN's will provide integrated logistics cover to the Armed Forces for their small arms ammunition, rations, fuel, general stores, civil hired transport, aviation clothing, spares and also engineering support in an effort to synergise their operational efforts.

Government Sanction Letter for establishment of JLN's in Mumbai, Guwahati and Port Blair was signed on October 12, 2020. The JLN's in Guwahati and Tri-Services, Andaman and Nicobar Command, Port Blair were operationalised on January 01, 2021.

Q.4) What is the utility of the recently launched **“MyNEP2020” Platform?**

1. Seeking suggestions/inputs for development of National Professional Standards for Teachers
2. Seeking suggestions/inputs for development of National Mission for Mentoring Program membership

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: Union Education Minister recently launched the “MyNEP2020” Platform of NCTE Web Portal. The platform seeks to invite suggestions/inputs/membership from the stakeholders for preparing draft for development of National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) and National Mission for Mentoring Program membership (NMM).

The “MyNEP2020” platform will be operational from 1st April 2021 to 15th May 2021. This exercise of digital consultation envisages the participation of teachers, education professionals, academicians, & other stakeholders in preparing the documents on teacher policy for sustainable and positive change in the Teacher's Education Sector.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the **E-way Bill system**:

1. It needs to be generated for the movement of goods from one place to another, having value more than Rs 50,000/-.
2. It has been incorporated with the validations of the vehicle number with VAHAN system.

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- 19th to 24th April, 2021

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: E-Way Bill system was launched by National Informatics Centre (NIC) as per the directions of the GST Council in 2018. E-Way Bill needs to be generated for the movement of goods from one place to another, having value more than Rs 50,000/-. This has replaced the need of e-way bill of multiple states with one e-way bill. E-way Bill has helped in reducing the transport time in movement of the goods.

The system has also been enhanced regularly to improve the user experience and friendliness. Validations of the vehicle number with VAHAN system and auto calculation of the distance between source and destination pin-codes for movement of goods, are the major enhancements carried out.

E-Way Bill System under GST regime has achieved a new milestone of generation of 7.12 Crores E-way Bills in the month of March 2021. This is the highest number of e-way bills generated in any month during last three years' journey of E-Way Bill system.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020**:

- 1. It empowers the state government to exempt any new factory from the provisions of the Code in order to create more economic activity and employment.
- 2. It has explicitly excluded mines from the definition of a factory.

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 Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH&WC) Code, 2020 has been enacted after amalgamating of thirteen different labour legislations and to simplify the laws regulating the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions in establishments.

Statement 1 is correct. The code empowers the state government to exempt any new factory from the provisions of the Code in order to create more economic activity and employment.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The bill introduced in 2019 excluded mines from the definition of a factory. The bill passed in parliament in 2020 removed this provision.

The Central Government has constituted Expert Committees comprising of industry and subject experts from both public and private sector across the country to review the existing rules and regulations on safety, health and working conditions standards, pertaining to factories, docks and construction work.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.7) The **SPICE+ form** was launched by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to fulfill which of the following purpose?

- a) Dissolution of a Company
- b) Incorporation of a Company
- c) Declaration of a company as bankrupt
- d) All of the above

Correct answer: B

Explanation: SPICE is an abbreviation for Simplified Proforma for Incorporating a Company Electronically and as the name suggests it is an application form for incorporating/registering a company with MCA. The company here means any kind of firm may it be a Private limited company, Public Limited Company, One Person Company, Nidhi Company, Section 8 Company or Producer Company.

The MCA launched SPICE+ form in February 2020 and thereby integrating 10 different services across 3 Central Government Ministries/Departments (Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Labour & Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance) and 3 State Governments (Maharashtra, Karnataka and West Bengal):

Name Reservation, Company Incorporation, Director Identification Number, EPFO Registration No., ESIC Registration Number, PAN, TAN, Profession Tax Registration Number for the state of Maharashtra, Karnataka and West Bengal, Bank Account number and GSTN Number (on Optional basis).

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding the '**AIM-PRIME**' initiative:

- 1. It aims to promote and support science-based deep-tech startups & ventures across India.
- 2. Atal Innovation Mission has partnered with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to launch this nationwide program.

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: In a major push towards deep technology and driving the country to become a digitally transformed nation, **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, **NITI Aayog** has launched AIM-PRIME (Program for Researchers on Innovations, Market-Readiness & Entrepreneurship), an initiative to promote and support science-based deep-tech startups & ventures across India.

In this regard, AIM has joined hands with **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)** to launch this nationwide program which will be implemented by Venture Center - a non-profit technology business incubator.

The first cohort of the program is open to technology developers (early-stage deep tech startups, and scientists/ engineers/ clinicians) with strong science-based deep tech business ideas. The program is also open to CEOs and Senior incubation managers of AIM Funded Atal Incubation Centers that are supporting deep tech entrepreneurs.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to the recently released "New Covid-19 vaccine policy"

1. This policy aims to provide vaccination coverage to everyone aged 18 and older
2. The central government will procure 100% of vaccines used in the vaccination drive.
3. This is the fourth phase of India's Covid-19 vaccination policy

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: C

Explanation: The Government of India has announced the **fourth phase** of its New Covid-19 vaccine policy. This phase expands its vaccination coverage to everyone aged 18 and older from May 1.

- Under the new rules, the Centre will automatically receive only 50% of vaccines produced by manufacturers.
- The remaining 50% can be acquired by the states directly or by private hospitals and industrial establishments at a price.

Read More: [India's "New Covid-19 vaccine policy"](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme

1. The Scheme replaced Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS).
2. RoDTEP scheme will provide benefits for only electronic products.
3. The scheme will result in cost competitiveness of exported products in international markets.

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) 1 only

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The scheme replaced the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS). MEIS was not compliant with the rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme covers all export goods starting from January 1, 2021.

Statement 3 is correct. The scheme would lead to the cost competitiveness of exported products in international markets, because it will refund the embedded central, state, and local duties or taxes to exporters that were previously non-recoverable. Such as:

- Central & state taxes on the fuel used for transportation of export products
- The duty levied by the state on electricity used for manufacturing
- Mandi tax levied by APMCs
- Lastly, Toll tax & stamp duty on the import-export documentation.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA):

1. It provides guaranteed 100 days of wage employment per year to each rural household.
2. It is a demand driven scheme.
3. Minimum one-third of the workers should be women.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

What is MGNREGA?

- The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is an employment guarantee act.
- It was introduced in 2005 through the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.
- In 2010, NREGA renamed as MGNREGA.

Objectives:

- To provide **guaranteed 100 days** of wage employment per year to each rural household
- Creation of durable rural assets
- Social inclusion of women, SCs and STs
- Strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions

Key Features:

- **Demand driven scheme:** Worker to be hired when he demands and not when the Government wants it.
- Gram Panchayat is mandated to provide employment with 15 days of work application, failing which worker is entitled to unemployment allowance
- Payment of wages within 15 days of completion of work, failing which worker is entitled to delay compensation of 0.05%/ day of wages earned
- **Minimum one-third of the workers should be women.**
- Wages to be paid according to the Minimum Wages Act 1948 for agricultural labourers in the State
- Social Audit to be done by Gram Sabha

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/ORGANISATIONS

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding **base erosion and profit shifting**?

1. It refers to tax planning strategies used by multinational enterprises that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules.
2. The developing suffer disproportionately due to BEPS.

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: Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) refers to tax planning strategies used by multinational enterprises that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to avoid paying tax. Developing countries' higher reliance on corporate income tax means they suffer from BEPS disproportionately.

BEPS practices cost countries USD 100-240 billion in lost revenue annually. Working together within OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, over 135 countries and jurisdictions are collaborating on the implementation of 15 measures to tackle tax avoidance, improve the coherence of international tax rules and ensure a more transparent tax environment.

Q.2) Which of the following institution has released the **Global Food Policy Report, 2021**?

- a) International Food Policy Research Institute
- b) International Rice Research Institute
- c) Food and Agriculture Organization
- d) International Fund for Agricultural Development

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has released the Global Food Policy Report, 2021 with theme of "Transforming Food Systems After COVID-19".

--The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the pandemic restrictions resulted in half of India's poor people deprived of nutritious food.

--The midday meal program of India that covers 80% of primary-school-age children in the country, was affected due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

--About 50% of households in India reported that women spent more time fetching firewood and water in comparison with the previous year.

--The efforts of India to incorporate migrant workers into social protection programs were a huge success.

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. India is a signatory to the 1972 World Heritage Convention.
2. The theme of the International Day for Monuments and Sites 2021 is "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures".

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. India is a signatory to the **1972 World Heritage Convention** and ratified it on 14 November 1977.

Statement 2 is correct. In 1982, UNESCO's General Conference established 18 April as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, in many countries also celebrated as World Heritage Day. The day is promoted by ICOMOS globally, and the theme for 2021 is "**Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures**".

Q.4) India and Russia both are members to which of the following groups?

1. G20
2. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
3. Collective Security Treaty Organization

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: The **G20** comprises 19 countries and the European Union. The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. The **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation. The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan).

The **Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)** is an intergovernmental military alliance in Eurasia that consists of selected post-Soviet states: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the European Council:

1. The members of the European Council are the heads of state or government of the 27 EU member states.
2. It is one of the EU's legislating 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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The members of the **European Council** are the heads of state or government of the 27 EU member states, the European Council President and the President of the European Commission.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The European Council defines the EU's overall political direction and priorities. It is **not one of the EU's legislating institutions**, so does not negotiate or adopt EU

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

laws. Instead, it sets the EU's policy agenda, traditionally by adopting 'conclusions' during European Council meetings which identify issues of concern and actions to take.

Q.6) Which of the following institution has published the **Global Wind Report, 2021**?

- a) International Energy Agency
- b) Global Wind Energy Council
- c) International Renewable Energy Agency
- d) International Energy Forum is

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)** has recently released the report Global Wind Report, 2021.

-- The world's capacity to generate electricity from wind jumped 53% in 2020.

-- China and the United States accounted for 75% of the new installations and over half the world's wind power capacity.

-- The world currently has a total wind energy capacity of 743 GW. This has helped avoid an annual CO₂ emission of over 1.1 billion tonnes which is equivalent to the volume of carbon South America emits in a year.

-- India's total installed wind power capacity was 38GW, the fourth largest installed wind power capacity in the world.

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the participating nations in the **Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process (HoA-IP)**?

- 1. Pakistan
- 2. Russia
- 3. China

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 Heart of Asia provides a platform for sincere and results-oriented regional cooperation by placing Afghanistan at its center, in recognition of the fact that a secure and stable Afghanistan is vital to the prosperity of the Heart of Asia region.

This platform was established to address the shared challenges and interests of Afghanistan and its neighbors and regional partners. The Heart of Asia is comprised of 15 participating countries, 17 supporting countries, and 12 supporting regional and international organizations.

The participating countries are Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Uzbekistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.8) Consider the following statements with reference to the USCIRF Recommendation of "Country of Particular Concern" on India

1. The report classify countries with worst violations of religious freedom
2. The recommendations are binding on the US government

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The USCIRF (US Commission on International Religious Freedom) has recommended classifying India as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC). It is due to the worst violations of religious freedom in India in 2020.

Recommendation by USCIRF:

- The US administration should impose targeted sanctions on Indian individuals and entities for 'severe violations of religious freedom'.
- The US administration should promote interfaith dialogue and the rights of all communities at forums such as Quadrilateral [the Quad].
- The US Congress should raise issues in the U.S-India bilateral space by hosting hearings, writing letters, and constituting Congressional delegations.

But the recommendations given by the USCIRF are non-binding on the US Government.

Read more: [USCIRF Recommends "Country of Particular Concern" Tag for India](#)

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding **Exercise Khanjar**

1. It is a Military Exercise between India and Turkmenistan.
2. It is conducted for the first time this year.

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:

- **Exercise Khanjar** is a Joint Special Forces Military Exercise between **India and Kyrgyzstan**.
- **Initiated in:** The exercise was started in the year 2011. This is the **Eighth Edition of the Exercise**.
- **Aim:** The exercise aims to boost the strategic partnership between India and Kyrgyzstan. It also focuses on high-altitude, mountains and counter-extremism drills.

Read more: ["Exercise Khanjar" - A military exercise between India and Kyrgyzstan](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.10) What is the **Kafala system**?

- a) A framework defining the relationship between migrant workers and their employers
- b) A system of granting citizenship to refugees
- c) An agricultural system exclusive to middle east countries
- d) An intergovernmental extradition arrangement

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **kafala, or sponsorship, system** defines the relationship between foreign workers and their local sponsor, or kafeel, which is usually their employer. It is found in the **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)** countries—Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates—as well as Jordan and Lebanon.

Under this system, the state gives local individuals or companies sponsorship permits to employ foreign laborers. It was created to supply cheap, plentiful labor in an era of booming economic growth, and its defenders argue that it benefits local businesses and helps drive development.

The system has become increasingly controversial, and there is growing recognition that it is rife with exploitation. The lack of regulations and protections for migrant workers' rights often results in low wages, poor working conditions, and employee abuse.

Q.11) Which of the following statement is correct regarding 'Leaders Summit on Climate'?

- a) It was attended by all United Nation's member states.
- b) It was hosted by European Union
- c) China didn't participate in the summit.
- d) US announced to double its annual financing commitments to developing countries by 2024.

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Option d is correct. U.S. President Joe Biden announced that the U.S. would cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 50%-52% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels, in a clean break with the Trump administration policies on climate action. Mr. Biden also announced that the **U.S. would double, by 2024**, its annual financing commitments to developing countries, including a **tripling of its adaptation finance by 2024**.

- US president **hosts the Leaders Summit on Climate** on Earth Day.
- **The summit coincides** with the fifth anniversary of the opening of the **Paris Agreement** on climate change for signature.

Q.12) Consider the following statements with regarding **the Earth day**

1. Earth day is celebrated after signing the Rio declaration on environment and development.
2. The theme of Earth day 2021 is "Restore Our Earth"

Which of 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- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Correct answer: B

Explanation:

- **World Earth Day** is celebrated every year on 22nd April. It was celebrated for the first time in the year 1970. (Rio Declaration is signed on 1992)
- **World Earth day 2021 theme: 'Restore Our Earth'**. The theme focuses on natural processes, emerging green technologies and innovative thinking to restore the world's ecosystems.

Read More : [World Earth day](#)

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding Boao Forum for Asia

1. It is aimed to promote regional economic integration in Asia
2. The forum is modelled based on the World Economic Forum
3. It is called Davos of the East.

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Boao Forum for Asia(BFA):

- **Boao Forum for Asia (BFA)** is a **non-profit international organization** founded in the year 2001.
- **Purpose:** The Forum is committed to **promoting regional economic integration** in Asia. It also aims at bringing Asian countries even closer to their development goals.
- **Significance:** Boao Forum is modelled on the World Economic Forum held annually in Davos, Switzerland. So it also called Davos of the East.

Read more: [Boao Forum for Asia\(BFA\)](#)

Q.14) Which one of the following organization releases Energy Transition Index 2021?

- a) The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)
- b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- c) Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF)
- d) United Nations Institute for Training and Research(UNITAR)

Correct Answer B

Explanation: The World Economic Forum (WEF) has released the Energy Transition Index, 2021.

About Energy Transition Index (ETI), 2021:

Energy Transition Index is an annual report by the World Economic Forum (WEF). It prepares the report in collaboration with Accenture.

Purpose: The ranking aims to enable policy-makers and businesses to plan for a successful energy transition.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

GEOGRAPHY

Q.1) What is the **long period average of monsoon rainfall** in India as per IMD?

- a) 88cm
- b) 96cm
- c) 102cm
- d) 86cm

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has forecast a 'normal' monsoon for this year. In the agency's parlance, normal implies that the country will get 96% to 104% of the 88 cm that it gets from June-September.

This quantity, called the Long Period Average (LPA), is a mean of monsoon rainfall from 1961-2010.

Q.2) Hot Springs and Gogra post have been in news recently, where are they located?

- a) Ladakh
- b) Jammu Kashmir
- c) Sikkim
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Both of these are close to the Chang Chenmo river in the Galwan sub-sector of the LAC in eastern Ladakh. While Hot Springs is just north of the Chang Chenmo river, Gogra Post is east of the point where the river takes a hairpin bend coming southeast from Galwan Valley and turning southwest.

The area lies close to Kongka Pass, one of the main passes, which, according to China marks the boundary between India and China. India's claim of the international boundary lies significantly east, as it includes the entire Aksai Chin area as well.

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

- 1. Barakah - Saudi Arabia
- 2. Fukushima - Japan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The 5,600MW **Barakah nuclear power plant (NPP) in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi** is the first nuclear power project in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It is located in the Al Dhafra of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi on the Arabian Gulf.

The **Fukushima Dai-Ichi Nuclear Power Station** is an out of commission nuclear plant located in the towns of Futaba and Ohkuma, 250km north of Tokyo city in **Japan**. Units 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the nuclear complexes were damaged in a series of events after the 11 March 2011 earthquake (Tohoku-Chihou-Taiheiyou-Oki Earthquake) and tsunami that struck the nation.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ken-Betwa linking project**:

1. Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have signed a tripartite agreement with the Centre for implementation of the project.
2. It aims to transfer surplus water from the Betwa basin to the deficit Ken basin.

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's first river interlinking project, connecting the **Ken and Betwa rivers in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh**, is finally set to be implemented. After resolving their differences over sharing of water, the chief ministers of UP and MP on March 22 signed a tripartite agreement with the Centre.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The project aims to transfer "surplus" water from the Ken basin in M.P. to the "deficit" Betwa basin in U.P.

The Ken-Betwa project is part of the national river linking project which proposes to connect 14 Himalayan and 16 peninsular rivers with 30 canals and 3,000 reservoirs in order to irrigate 87 million hectares of land. It has the status of a national project, as the Centre will contribute 90% of the cost.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding blood **coagulation**:

1. It is an important process that prevents excessive bleeding when a blood vessel is injured.
2. Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a type of clot that forms in a mostly in vein of heart.

Which of the statements given above is/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. **Blood clotting, or coagulation**, is an important process that prevents excessive bleeding when a blood vessel is injured. Platelets (a type of blood cell) and proteins in blood plasma work together to stop the bleeding by forming a clot over the injury.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)** is a type of clot that forms in a major vein of the leg or, less commonly, in the arms, pelvis, or other large veins in the body.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Dexamethasone**:

1. It is an antiviral drug.
2. It is used for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressant effects.

Which of the statements given above is/is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: **Dexamethasone** is a **corticosteroid** used in a wide range of conditions for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressant effects.

It was tested in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 in the United Kingdom's national clinical trial RECOVERY and was found to have benefits for critically ill patients.

According to preliminary findings shared with WHO, for patients on ventilators, the treatment was shown to reduce mortality by about one third, and for patients requiring only oxygen, mortality was cut by about one fifth.

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Genetic modification (GM) technology allows the transfer of genes for specific traits between species.
2. GM Mustard is the only GM crop approved in India.

Which of the statements given above is/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- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)** can be defined as organisms (i.e. plants, animals or microorganisms) in which the genetic material (DNA) has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination. Genetic modification (GM) technology allows the transfer of genes for specific traits between species.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Bt Cotton** is the only GM crop introduced in India in 2002. Bt brinjal was recommended for commercialisation in October 2009, after it completed regulatory evaluation in seven years, and is still under moratorium.

Q.4) Which of the following gene editing can be done through **CRISPR-Cas9 system**?

1. Deleting fragment of DNA
2. Inserting a new gene

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: **Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats** of genetic information that some bacterial species use as part of an antiviral system. A CRISPR-associated (Cas) endonuclease, or enzyme, that acts as “molecular scissors” to cut DNA at a location specified by a guide RNA.

Three main categories of genetic edits can be performed with CRISPR/Cas9:

--**DISRUPT:** If a single cut is made, a process called non-homologous end joining can result in the addition or deletion of base pairs, disrupting the original DNA sequence and causing gene inactivation

--**DELETE:** A larger fragment of DNA can be deleted by using two guide RNAs that target separate sites. After cleavage at each site, non-homologous end joining unites the separate ends, deleting the intervening sequence.

--**CORRECT OR INSERT:** Adding a DNA template alongside the CRISPR/Cas9 machinery allows the cell to correct a gene, or even insert a new gene, using a process called homology directed repair.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ingenuity Helicopter**:

1. It has tested powered, controlled flight on another planet for the first-time ever.
2. It landed on Mars along with the Perseverance rover.

Which of the statements given above is/is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: The **Mars Helicopter, Ingenuity**, is a technology demonstration to test powered flight on another world for the first time. It hitched a ride to Mars on the **Perseverance** rover. Once the rover reached a suitable "helipad" location, it released Ingenuity to the surface so it

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

could perform a series of test flights over a 30-Martian-day experimental window. The first flight was successfully performed on April 19, 2021.

For the first flight, the helicopter took off, climbed to about 10 feet (3 meters) above the ground, hovered in the air briefly, completed a turn, and then landed.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **Quantum dots (QDs)**:

1. These are man-made nanoscale crystals made of semiconductors.
- 2 They are used as labels for imaging molecules because of their very narrow fluorescence spectra.

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: Quantum dots (QDs) are man-made nanoscale crystals that that can transport electrons. When UV light hits these semiconducting nanoparticles, they can emit light of various colors.

Quantum dots are particularly significant for optical applications owing to their bright, pure colors along with their ability to emit rainbow of colors coupled with their high efficiencies, longer lifetimes and high extinction coefficient.

These artificial semiconductor nanoparticles that have found applications in composites, solar cells and fluorescent biological labels. They are used as labels for imaging molecules because of their very narrow fluorescence spectra, brightness and resistance to photobleaching.

Q.7) Which of the following exactly describes the term **Chimeras**?

- a) These are the type of butterfly identified in North Eastern India
- b) These are the organisms that are made up of the cells of two distinct species.
- c) These are the group of space debris that threaten International Space Stations.
- d) These are protected areas created by artificial forests.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Chimeras** are organisms that are made up of the cells of two distinct species.
- Researchers at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in the US have for the first time created the first monkey embryo containing human cells.
- This particular field of research is called “chimera research”.

Read more: [chimera research](#)

Q.8) What is **Parosmia**?

- a) Loss of taste
- b) Loss of Skin sensation
- c) Loss of three-dimensional vision
- d) Distortions in the sense of smell

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Parosmia is a medical term. It describes a condition in which affected individuals experience distortions in the sense of smell. A person with parosmia is able to detect certain odours. But they might experience the smell of certain things as different and often unpleasant. People who are recovering their sense of smell following a loss from a virus or an injury typically experience parosmia.

Ageusia is a condition, characterized by a complete loss of taste function of the tongue.

Anosmia is the partial or complete loss of the sense of smell. This loss may be temporary or permanent.

Q.9) Consider the following benefits regarding **Hydrogen as a potential energy source**.

1. Hydrogen can be used as fuel to transport heavy vehicles such as Railways, shipping and trucks etc
2. Hydrogen can be used as a potential energy storage device.
3. Unlike the solar which needs to charge frequently, Hydrogen can benefit long-distance travels.

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- It can be used as fuel for long-distance mobility. For example, Railways, shipping and trucks etc can use Hydrogen as a fuel.
- It can co-exist with the Electric vehicle in long-distance travel. As the EVs require charging of vehicle which is not feasible for long-distance travel. For example, 1KG of hydrogen can give 100KM range for a car.
- Hydrogen can also act as a carrier device to store energy.

Q.10) Consider the following regarding Coal as a potential energy source

1. India does not planned any coal based power plant after announcing its climate change targets
 2. Largest Coal reserves of India are found in the state of Orissa
- Which of statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) Both 1 and 2
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer D

Explanation: According to the 2017 data, almost 94 GW of coal-based power plants are planned (announced, pre-permitted or permitted) or already under construction in India.

Jharkhand has the largest coal reserves in India. This is followed by Orissa and Chattisgarh. Together these three states has 68% of total coal reserves of India

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.11) With reference to Distributed Ledger Technology, consider the following statements:

1. DLT can potentially improve access to finance for unbanked populations
2. It enables recording of interactions, without a need for a centrally coordinating authority
3. Blockchain is a type of DLT

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

All statements are correct

- DLT is a decentralized database managed by multiple participants, across multiple nodes. Blockchain is a type of DLT where transactions are recorded with an immutable cryptographic signature called a hash. The transactions are then grouped in blocks and each new block includes a hash of the previous one, chaining them together, hence why distributed ledgers are often called blockchains.
- Blockchain/ DLT are the building block of “internet of value,” and enable recording of interactions and transfer “value” peer-to-peer, without a need for a centrally coordinating entity. “Value” refers to any record of ownership of asset -- for example, money, securities, land titles -- and also ownership of specific information like identity, health information and other personal data.
- DLT could increase efficiency and lower remittance costs, and potentially improve access to finance for unbanked populations, who are currently outside the traditional financial system

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding RESPOND program:

1. Under the program, ISRO provides financial support for conducting research & development activities to further biodiversity conservation.
2. Program is managed by Centre for Science & Environment

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

Both statements are incorrect

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:**
 - ISRO launched the **RESPOND (Research Sponsored)** programme in the 1970s.
 - **Objective:** The objective is to establish strong links with premier academic institutions through financial assistance to carry out R&D projects relevant to space. Further, ISRO will derive useful outputs of such R&D projects and use that in ISRO programmes

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

- Under the programme, ISRO provides financial support for conducting research and development activities. Projects related to space science, space technology and space applications in universities and academic institutions in India will get such financial support.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The programme is under the administration of the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL). PRL is an autonomous unit under the Department of Space.

ForumIAS

ECONOMY

Q.1) Which of the following is/are powers of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**?

1. inspect the bank and its books and accounts
2. direct the bank to initiate insolvency resolution process in respect of a default
3. inspect for compliance with the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999

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 **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** regulates and supervises Public Sector And Private Sector Banks. Under the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, it can:

- inspect the bank and its books and accounts;
- examine on oath any director or other officer of the bank;
- cause a scrutiny to be made of the affairs of the bank;
- give directions to secure the proper management of the bank;
- call for any information of account details;
- direct the bank to initiate insolvency resolution process in respect of a default, under the provisions of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

RBI has powers under other laws as well, which include, inter alia, the power under section 12 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 to inspect for compliance with the Act and rules etc. made there under.

Q.2) The **Sudarshan Sen Committee** has been set up by Reserve Bank of India for what purpose?

- a) Review of the working of asset reconstruction companies (ARCs)
- b) Review Inflation Targeting policy of RBI
- c) Review of Small and Payment Banks
- d) Review of NBFC regulation in India

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The RBI recently set up a committee headed by Sudarshan Sen, former executive director, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to undertake a **comprehensive review of the working of asset reconstruction companies (ARCs)** in the financial sector ecosystem and recommend suitable measures for enabling them to meet the growing requirements. The panel will:

- review the existing legal and regulatory framework applicable to ARCs and recommend measures to improve efficacy of ARCs.
- review the role of ARCs in the resolution of stressed assets, including under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), and give suggestions for improving liquidity in and trading of security receipts.
- review the business models of ARCs.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Revaluation is an official rise of the value of the currency in relation to a foreign currency in a fixed exchange rate system.
2. Currency depreciation is the loss of value of a country's currency, typically in a floating exchange rate 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. Revaluation is a change in a price of a good or product, or especially of a currency, in which case it is specifically an official rise of the value of the currency in relation to a foreign currency in a fixed exchange rate system.

Statement 2 is correct. Currency depreciation is the loss of value of a country's currency with respect to one or more foreign reference currencies, typically in a floating exchange rate system in which no official currency value is maintained.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **Non-fungible tokens (NFTs)**:

1. These are cryptographic assets on blockchain.
2. Each NFT is entirely unique.
3. A Bitcoin is an NFT.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 and 2 are correct.

Non-fungible tokens or NFTs are cryptographic assets on blockchain with unique identification codes and metadata that distinguish them from each other. Unlike cryptocurrencies, they cannot be traded or exchanged at equivalency.

Statement 3 is incorrect. **A bitcoin is fungible** — by trading one for another bitcoin, and nothing in value changes hands. NFTs, on the other hand, are a class of cryptocurrency assets in which each item, or token, is entirely unique.

Most NFTs are part of the Ethereum blockchain. Ethereum is a cryptocurrency, like bitcoin or dogecoin, but its blockchain also supports these NFTs.

NFTs can be anything digital (such as drawings, music, your brain downloaded and turned into an AI), but a lot of the recent trend is around using the tech to sell digital art.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Agriculture uses majority of the fresh water resources in India.
2. Canal irrigation share in agriculture in India is more than that of groundwater irrigation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Agriculture irrigation accounts for nearly 78%** followed by domestic use 6%, industries 5% of water resources use in India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Only about half of India's gross cropped area (198 million hectares) is irrigated. Groundwater contributes about 64 per cent, canals 23 per cent, tanks 2 per cent and other sources 11 per cent to irrigation.

As per the UN's report on Sustainable Development Goal-6 (SDG-6) on "Clean water and sanitation for all by 2030", India achieved only 56.6 per cent of the target by 2019.

As per the Niti Aayog's Composite Water Management Index (2019), 75 per cent households in India do not have access to drinking water on their premises and India ranks 120th amongst 122 countries in the water quality index.

Q.6) Bitcoin has seen almost a 10-fold increase in its price since the last year. Which of the following factors has contributed to this surge?

1. Increased institutional exposure to Bitcoin
2. Global progress in fostering a friendlier legislative environment for cryptocurrencies
3. Large supply reduction

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Private Cryptocurrencies are too volatile and pose a threat to India's financial stability. For instance, Bitcoin's price has risen more than 10-fold over the last year due to:

- Increased institutional exposure to Bitcoin
- Global progress in fostering a friendlier legislative environment for cryptocurrencies
- Large supply reduction coupled with increasing demand.

Q.7) Consider the following statement on digital currency.

1. Cryptocurrencies alone is considered as a digital currency
2. The digital transaction of money under net banking, UPI transfers is considered as a digitization of currency.

Which of statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Digital currencies include cryptocurrency, virtual currency and central bank digital currency

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

On the other hand, digital transaction of money under measures such as net banking, UPI transfer, NEFT etc are **not considered as digitization of currency**. This is because this money is the liability of banks and banks have to maintain reserves and deposits for such transactions.

Read more: [Central Bank Digital Currency](#)

Q.8) SC Garg Committee was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following exactly describes the committee?

- It is a committee appointed by the government of India to suggest measures for improving medical oxygen production
- It is an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Virtual Currencies that demanded ban on cryptocurrencies
- It is a committee that recommended universal access to financial services
- It is a committee formed to improve the situation of internal migrant labours

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- With the growth of digital currencies worldwide, various start-ups dealing with cryptocurrency have come up in India, such as Unocoin in 2013 and Zebpay in 2014. Further, their volatility is a cause of concern for India.
- The committee suggested a ban on private digital currencies, but it favors RBI backed National Digital Currency or central bank digital currency (CBDC). Further, the committee also drafted a bill Banning of Cryptocurrency & Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill.

Q.9) Consider the following pairs

- Sweden : Krona
- UAE : Sand Dollar
- China : e-RMB

Which of the above pair of cryptocurrencies are in correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation

- Sweden** is conducting real-world trials of their digital currency (**krona**)
- The Bahamas** already issued their digital currency "**Sand Dollar**" to all citizens
- China** started a trial run of their digital currency **e- RMB** amid pandemic. They plan to implement pan-china in 2022. This is the first national digital currency operated by a major economy

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.10) Which of the following is a potential impact of weakening of rupee against the dollar?

1. Imports will be costlier
2. Increased inflation
3. Reduction in cost of external borrowing

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- A weak rupee against the dollar makes imports costlier (Same commodity will cost more in dollars now). Some imports cannot be cut down such as oil, which can negatively affect India's current account deficit.
- This also poses an inflationary risk given that imports are costlier when the currency depreciates. Costlier oil means costlier vegetables and groceries since transportation costs go up.
- The external borrowing costs for Indian firms also moves up due to rupee weakening. This may dampen industry borrowing and slower economic growth

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Environment

Q.1) Blue Nature Alliance was seen in the news recently. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- It is an alliance of the Indian government and NGOs to save the river Ganga.
- It is an alliance of countries to search and rescue the lost Indonesian submarine
- It is an alliance of NGOs to conserve global ocean biodiversity.
- It is an alliance of developed countries to aid Oceanic nations to tackle climate change.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Blue Nature Alliance has been launched with a goal to restore 7 million square miles of ocean in five years.

- Blue Nature Alliance** is a global partnership. It was founded and led by Conservation International, Pew Charitable Trusts, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Munderoo Foundation and Rob & Melani Walton Foundation.
- Aim:** To safeguard global ocean biodiversity, build resilience to climate change, promote human well-being and enhance ecosystem connectivity.
- Target Oceans:** The Alliance has started by targeting seven ocean locations. This includes Antarctica, Fiji, Canada, Seychelles, Palau, the Western Indian Ocean and Tristan da Cunha, an island in the South Atlantic Ocean.

Read more: [Blue Nature Alliance](#)

Q.2) Net-zero emissions is a no longer an option but an undeniable necessity. Consider the statements below:

- Net-zero emissions would be achieved when all of the Carbon-Dioxide emissions are taken out from the atmosphere
- The concept of net-zero emissions is similar to climate neutrality.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both 1 and 2
- None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- Statement 1 is incorrect:** We will achieve net-zero emissions when any remaining human-caused GHG emissions (not just CO₂) are balanced out by removing GHGs from the atmosphere in a process known as carbon removal.
- Statement 2 is correct:** Climate Neutrality refers to the mitigation of all greenhouse gases (GHG), not just carbon dioxide. Note that carbon neutrality and climate neutrality are both different things. Climate neutrality is more inclusive while carbon neutrality only talks of carbon dioxide.

10 PM Compilation for the Week- 19th to 24th April, 2021

Q.3) With reference to findings of 'the State of the Global Climate 2020', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. 2020 was the warmest year on record.
2. La Niña induced cooling resulted in drop in sea level in 2020.
3. emission of major greenhouse gases increased in 2019 and 2020

Answer using the codes given below

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

Correct Answer C

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. 2020 was one of the three warmest years on record, despite a cooling La Niña event. The global average temperature was about 1.2° Celsius above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) level.

Statement 2 is correct. Since record-taking started in 1993 using the satellite altimeter, sea-level has been rising. However, there was a blip in summer of 2020 that recorded a drop in sea level. The WMO report says it is due to the La Niña induced cooling.

Statement 3 is correct. Not with standing the economic slowdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, emission of major greenhouse gases increased in 2019 and 2020. More to it, the level of greenhouse gas emission will be higher in 2021.