Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

5th to 11th April, 2021

Science & Technology

- **Q.1)** Which one of the following is the first Mission, aimed at studying the deep interiors of Mars?
- a) Insight Mission
- b) MarCO Mission
- c) MAVEN Mission
- d) Express Mission

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- InSight short for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport is a NASA Mission.
- This Mission aims at studying the deep interiors of Mars. It is the first program to analyze the interior of the Red Planet, beneath its surface i.e. its crust, mantle, and core.
- Part of: InSight mission is part of NASA's Discovery Program (1992).
 - o Discovery Program is a series of Solar System exploration missions. NASA funds these missions through its Planetary Missions Program Office.
- **Q.2)** Consider the following statements regarding forest fires
- 1. Ground fires are more damaging compared to surface fires.
- 2. On hill slopes, if the fire starts middle of the hill, it spreads fast upwards and less likely to spread downwards.

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. Ground Fires are more damaging than surface fires, as they can destroy vegetation completely. Ground fires burn underneath the surface by smoldering combustion and are more often ignited by surface fires.

Statement 2 is correct. On hill slopes, if the fire starts downhill, it spreads up fast as heated air adjacent to a slope tends to flow up the slope spreading flames along with it. If the fire starts uphill, there is less likelihood of it spreading downwards.

- **Q.3** Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the recently launched Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) Scheme?
- 1. Land identification number will same as aadhaar no. of the land owner.
- 2. Every plot of land in the country will be covered under the scheme.
- 3. The government will use the longitude and latitude of a land parcel for land identification Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only

d) All of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently the Department of Land Resources informs the Standing Committee on Rural Development about the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) Scheme.

The Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) scheme was launched in 10 States in 2021. It will roll out across the country by March 2022.

Key Features of the Scheme:

- Under the scheme, authorities issue a **14-digit identification number** to every plot of land in the country.
- Also known as "**the Aadhaar for land**", It is a unique number to identify every surveyed parcel of land. It will prevent land fraud, especially in rural India where proper land records are not available.
- The longitude and latitude of a land parcel will be the basis for its identification. It will depend on detailed surveys and geo-referenced cadastral maps.
- The land records database will gradually integrate with the records of revenue courts and bank on a voluntary basis.
- **Q.4)** HSN Code was recently seen in the news. Which one of the following statements correctly describes the HSN Code?
- a) It is an international nomenclature for the classification of products.
- b) It is a new form of secret messaging code which uses proteins in bacteria.
- c) It is a code used to identify the resistance of resistors in Electronics
- d) It is the secret code used by Naxals for communication

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The Harmonized System of Nomenculture is a six-digit identification code. It was introduced in 1988 by World Customs Organization(WCO).

Purpose: It is an international nomenclature for the classification of products. It allows participating countries to classify traded goods on a common basis for customs purposes.

The code is also called the **universal economic language** for goods. It is a multipurpose international product nomenclature.

The HSN code currently comprises around 5,000 commodity groups. Each Code is a unique six-digit code that has numbers arranged in a legal and logical structure. There are well-defined rules to achieve uniform classification.

• Of the six digits, the first two denote the HS Chapter, the next two give the HS heading, and the last two give the HS subheading.

Significance: HSN Code helps in harmonizing customs and trade procedures. Thus, it reduces the costs of international trade.

Recently, Indian Government made the 6 digit HSN (Harmonized System of Nomenclature) code a mandatory for a GST taxpayer having a turnover of more than Rs 5 crore in a financial year. This rule comes into effect from April 1,2021.

- **Q.5)** Which of the following correctly describes the "ProrIISe Software", recently seen in the news?
- a) It is a software of the Indian Institute of Science to find qualified persons from reserved category for faculty positions.
- b) It is a software aims to automate the legal and bureaucratic part of the patent process for intellectual property
- c) It is a software aims to track the applications filed in Production Linked Incentive Scheme
- d) It is a software to provide online certification for the courses completed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, (IISc) and Prorigo Software Pvt. Ltd. have jointly developed a software ProrIISe.

ProrIISe Software aims to automate the legal and bureaucratic part of the patent process for intellectual property developed by Indian academicians in large and small institutes.

Significance: This software is available at a lesser cost when compared to the software available outside India which was the only choice available until now.

Read more about ProrIISe Software

Q.6) Consider the following paragraph.

It is a technology used worldwide to protect naval ships from enemy's radar and Radio Frequency (RF) missile seekers. It is an electronic countermeasure technology. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed 3 variants of this technology recently. Under this technology, A very less quantity of material will be deployed in the air acts as a decoy. It will deflect the enemy's missiles for the safety of the ships.

Which of the following correctly identifies the technology described above?

- a) Advanced Chaff Technology
- b) Electro Magnetic Pulse (EMP) weapon technology
- c) Full Authority Digital Engine Control technology
- d) Tactical UAVs.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: Advanced Chaff Technology: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed an Advanced Chaff Technology. It will safeguard the naval ships against enemy missile attack. The DRDO developed three variants of this chaff technology namely:

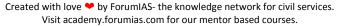
- Short Range Chaff Rocket (SRCR)
- Medium Range Chaff Rocket (MRCR) and
- Long Range Chaff Rocket (LRCR).

Read more about Advanced Chaff Technology

Electro Magnetic Pulse (EMP) weapon technology: The HPM weapon system is a technology used against an opponent's network. HPM weapons knock out opponent's electrical equipment rather than people. In future, HPM weapons may be used to counter incoming anti-ship/anti-aircraft/ anti-tank missiles.

Full Authority Digital Engine Control technology: It is a technology used in aircraft engines.

Tactical UAVs: These are the UAVs, operating up to a maximum altitude of 15000 ft and having an endurance of 24 Hrs with a payload of IR/EO sensors.



Q.7) Consider the following statements

- 1. It is a multilateral maritime exercise led by the French Navy.
- 2. French Navy, Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and the United States Navy (USN) are participating in the exercise.
- 3. Indian Navy is participating in the exercise for the first time.

Which one of the following Exercise is described in the statements above?

- a) Exercise La Pérouse
- b) Pabbi-Antiterror-2021
- c) Exercise Vajra Prahar 2021
- d) AMPHEX 21

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

- Exercise La Pérouse is a multilateral maritime exercise led by the French Navy.
- Location: The Eastern Indian Ocean Region.
- **Participants:** French Navy, Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and the United States Navy (USN) are participating in the exercise.
- Indian Navy is participating in the exercise for the first time.

Q.8) Consider the following statement with respect to Wolf-Rayet stars. Which of the following statements is/are **incorrect** about it?

- 1. They are one of the darkest objects in the universe.
- 2. They have completely lost their outer hydrogen.
- 3. The surface temperature of WR stars is lower than the $Sun\,$

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: B

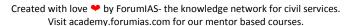
Explanation: Wolf-Rayet stars are highly luminous objects. The surface temperature of WR stars is a thousand times more than the Sun.

They are massive stars. Further, they have completely lost their outer hydrogen. So the WR stares fusing helium or heavier elements in the core.

The study of certain types of massive luminous supernovae explosion can help probe these stars that remain a mystery for scientists.

Read more: Wolf-Rayet stars

- **Q.9) 'Culex'** is sometime seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes the term?
- a) It is a Supernova explosion traced by Indian Scientists
- b) It is a household mosquito which are known to be the carriers of some serious diseases
- c) It is a new mutated variant of Corona Virus
- d) It is a new super computer invented by the ISRO scientists





Correct Answer: B

Explanation: With the change in season and rise in temperature, culex or common house mosquitoes have made a reappearance across Delhi.

About Culex or Common House Mosquitoes:

- **Culex** is a genus of mosquitoes. They are known carriers of some serious diseases. They can fly up to a distance of 1-1.5 km.
- **Diseases:** Culex mosquitoes serve as a vector of one or more important diseases. Such as the West Nile virus, Japanese Encephalitis or St. Louis encephalitis, Cat Que Virus (CQV), filariasis and avian malaria.
- **Presence of Culex Mosquitoes:** They are present in hot and humid regions throughout the globe. They are not found in extreme northern latitudes.

Read More: Culex or Common House Mosquitoes

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding National Super Computing Mission

- 1. Param Shakti is the first supercomputer assembled indigenously in India.
- 2. Phase III of the mission aims to take the computing speed to around 45 Terabytes.

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. Param Shivay, the first supercomputer assembled indigenously, was installed in IIT (BHU), followed by Param Shakti and Param Brahma at IIT-Kharagpur and IISER, Pune, respectively.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The network of supercomputers through the country will soon reach to around 16 Petaflops (PF). Phase III, to be initiated in January 2021, will take the computing speed to around 45 Petaflops.

- **Q.11)** An oxygen enrichment unit device concentrates the oxygen from the air around by selectively removing which of the following gases?
- a) Carbon dioxide
- b) Hydrogen
- c) Nitrogen
- d) Ozone

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: An oxygen enrichment unit is a device, which concentrates the oxygen from the air around by selectively removing nitrogen to supply an oxygen-enriched air. Read More -

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding National Knowledge Network (NKN)

- 1. It aims to interconnect all institutions of higher learning and research with a high-speed data communication network.
- 2. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the implementing agency of NKN.

Which of the statement(s) 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:

- National Knowledge Network (NKN) was established in 2010. Its objective is to interconnect all institutions of higher learning and research with a high-speed data communication network. It will be helpful to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaborative research.
- Implementation: National Informatics Centre (NIC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, is the implementing agency.

Q.13) Which of the following states has Coal Bed Methane Resources in India

- 1. Jharkhand
- 2. Himachal Pradesh
- 3. Tamil Nadu
- 4. Karnataka
- 5. Assam

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: According to the Petroleum and Natural Resources data the following states have the Coal Bed Methane resources.

Sl. No	STATE	Estimated CBM Resources (BCM)
1	JHARKHAND	722.08
2	RAJASTHAN	359.62
3	GUJARAT	351.13
4	ORISSA	243.52
5	CHATTISGARH	240.69
6	MADHYA PRADESH	218.04
7	WEST BENGAL	218.04
8	TAMILNADU	104.77
9	ANDHRA PRADESH	99.11
10	MAHARASHTRA	33.98
11	NORTH EAST	8.50
	Total CBM Resources	2599.48

Polity

- **Q.1)** Consider the following statements:
- 1. Horizontally enforceable Fundamental Right means that the Right is enforceable against the State only.
- 2. Vertically enforceable Fundamental Right means that the Right is enforceable against the State and 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: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. Horizontally enforceable Fundamental Right means that the Right is enforceable against the State and Individuals.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Vertically enforceable Fundamental Right means that the Right is enforceable against the State only.

Q.2) Which of the following correctly describes the term "honourable acquittal", recently seen in news?

- a) It is the acquittal available to the persons holding constitutional positions like the President, Prime Minister, etc.
- b) It is the form of acquittal when the accused is acquitted after the full consideration of the evidence.
- c) It is the form of acquittal provided by the court in cases of the benefit of the doubt.
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: An honourable acquittal is when the accused is acquitted after full consideration of the evidence. In this acquittal, the prosecution fails miserably to prove the charges levelled against the accused. So the accused is completely free from the charges framed against him. However, if this parameter is not met, the acquittal can be based on the benefit of the doubt. Recently the Supreme Court held that acquittal in a criminal case does not automatically qualify a candidate for appointment to the public post. Furthermore, the court also held that,

- A public employer can reject a candidate if the candidate is unsuitable.
- The government can consider acquittals under the benefit of the doubt as a reason for unsuitability.
- The court also held that the **honourable acquitted** persons are suitable for public employment.

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Patent Act 1970.

- 1. Indian Patent Act allow the evergreening of patents.
- 2. The Act permit Indian government to use, manufacture, import or sell a patented invention under the Compulsory licensing.

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: Indian Patent Act 1970 is the only legislation that till date that governs patents in India. It first came into force in 1972. It was amended in 2005.

The Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks or CGPDTM is the body responsible for the Indian Patent Act.

Section 3(d) of the Indian Patent Act 1970 does not allow patents to the inventions or minor changes to the known substance unless it differs significantly in properties with regard to efficacy. This means that the Indian Patent Act does not allow the evergreening of patents. (Statement 1 is incorrect).

Compulsory Licensing (CL) is the method of granting permission by the government to entities to use, manufacture, import or sell a patented invention without the patent owner's consent. The Patents Act in India deals with CL. (**Statement 2 is correct**)

Q.4) Consider the following paragraph.

It is an informal agreement between India and Pakistan to resolve the boundary dispute. The terms and conditions of the agreement are not yet formalised. Pakistan PM announced this agreement. It is promulgated four years after Kargil and two years after the Indian Parliament got attacked.

Which of the following correctly identifies the agreement described above?

- a) Shimla Agreement
- b) Ceasefire Agreement, 2003
- c) Karachi Agreement
- d) Border Defence cooperation Agreement

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Karachi Agreement of 1949

- This agreement was signed after the India Pakistan war of 1947 and supervised by the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan.
- The agreement established a Ceasefire line along the disputed regions of Kashmir.

Shimla Agreement of 1972

- This agreement was signed after the Bangladesh liberation war of 1971.
- Under this agreement both the countries agreed to resolve the disputes bilaterally.
- The agreement converted the ceasefire line into a Line of Control (LoC).

Ceasefire Agreement of 2003

- This agreement came after four years of Kargil and two years after the Indian Parliament got attacked.
- Pakistan PM announced the Ceasefire on LoC on November 26, 2003. So, it is not a formalised document. But it has certain important points such as,
 - o Creating a buffer Zone within 500 yards of LoC.
 - o Proper fencing on LoC can be done by countries.
 - o No firing will be done by both the countries on LoC.

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Read more about ceasefire violations and agreements

Border Defence cooperation Agreement of 2013

This is an agreement is between India and China. This agreement aims to reduce misunderstandings and improve communication. Article VI of the agreement prohibits either side from tailing the patrols of the other "in areas where there is no common understanding of the line of actual control".

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to the Chief Justice of India (CJI)

- 1. The procedure to appoint the CJI is not clearly mentioned anywhere in the Constitution.
- 2. Salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of his/her terms and conditions cannot be altered even during emergencies.

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 Constitution of India **does not have any specific provision** for criteria and procedure for appointing the CJI.
- The closest mention is in **Article 126.** It deals with the appointment of an acting CJI.
- The procedure to appoint the next CJI is laid out in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) between the government and the judiciary.
- The Constitution of India given the power to the Parliament to decide the salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges. This includes both the Judges and CJI of the Supreme Court.
- However, his terms and conditions cannot alter to their disadvantage after they get appointed. It can be altered only when there is a financial emergency.

Q.6) Which one of the following statements is incorrect about Tribunals Reforms Ordinance 2021

- a) It increases the appellate authority of the tribunals to more acts.
- b) It abolishes the appellate authority of tribunals under some of the laws.
- c) It provides for establishment of more tribunals in the tribal areas.
- d) It transforms all tribunals into district Courts.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: President of India promulgated Tribunal Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance 2021.

Purpose of the Ordinance:

- It dissolves at least eight existing appellate tribunals. Now, High Courts and certain other bodies will be the appellate bodies under 9 acts.
- Further, it also amends the Finance Act 2017.

The above-mentioned nine laws where the existing appellate authorities have been replaced are:

1. The Cinematograph Act, 1952.

- 2. The Trade Marks Act, 1999.
- 3. The Copyright Act, 1957.
- 4. The Customs Act, 1962.
- 5. The Patents Act, 1970.
- 6. The Airports Authority of India Act, 1994.
- 7. The Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002.
- 8. The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- 9. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001.

Q.7) The term **manzyu** has sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes the term?

- a) It is a Chinese system aims to develop superiority over other countries.
- b) It is a Japanese concept of mutual development of all sections of society.
- c) It is a word used to describe democracy with Chinese character in Hong Kong.
- d) It is a word used by ASEAN countries to denote unity among them.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- The term democracy does not denote the western type of democracy in Hong Kong. They follow 'Democracy with Chinese characteristics.
- Under this concept, democracy stands for more than electoral campaigns, voting etc.
- In Cantonese(a Sino-Tibetan language), **These characters are called manzyu**. Man means People and zyu means rule. In simple, People's rule.
- *Manzyu* can suggest a system in which those who rule(zhu) has to listen and provide for the people(*man*).
- Under this, Rulers can be more responsive in different ways. Such as listening to protest slogans, reading petitions, and engaging in dialogue with representatives of social groups, etc.

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Lok Adalats

- 1. Lok Adalats are judicial Bodies.
- 2. Any case pending before the Court cannot be referred to the Lok Adalat.

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. Lok Adalat is one of the alternative dispute redressal mechanisms, it is a forum where disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. Lok Adalats have been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Statement 2 is incorrect.

Nature of Cases to be Referred to Lok Adalat

1. Any case pending before any court.

2. Any dispute which has not been brought before any court and is likely to be filed before the court.

Provided that any matter relating to an offence not compoundable under the law shall not be settled in Lok Adalat.

- Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding Tribunals in India.
- 1. Tribunals are part of the Constitution since the enactment of Constitution
- 2. Article 323 provides for two types of tribunals. Namely, Administrative Tribunals and Tribunals for other matters.

Which of the statement(s) 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 Tribunal is a quasi-judicial institution. They were set up to deal with problems such as resolving administrative or tax-related disputes.

Initially, Tribunals were not a part of the Constitution. **Swaran Singh Committee** recommended including Tribunals as a part of the Constitution.

Based on that, the Forty-second Amendment Act, 1976 provided constitutional status to **Tribunals.** Tribunals are placed under Part XIV-A. This part has only two articles:

- Article 323-A deals with Administrative Tribunals. These tribunals resolve disputes related to the recruitment and service conditions of persons engaged in public service.
- Article 323-B deals with tribunals for other matters. These tribunals resolve disputes related to Taxation, Foreign exchange, Industrial and labour, Land reforms, import and export, Food, Ceiling on urban property, etc.
- **Q.10)** Which of the following statements best describes the aim of Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021;
- a) It aims at removal of copyright protection to the research materials.
- b) It allows copying 20% of the material protected under copyright.
- c) It adopts electronic means as primary mode of communication and working in the Copyright Office.
- d) It exempts copyright societies from making the royalty amount public.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The Government of India has notified Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021. In India, the copyright regime is governed by the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013. The Copyright Rules, 2013 were last amended in the year 2016.

It aims to ensure smooth and flawless compliance in the light of the technological advancement in digital era by adopting electronic means as primary mode of communication and working in the Copyright Office

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding Administrative Tribunals and Tribunals for other matters

- 1. Parliament alone can establish tribunals for other matters. But the Administrative tribunals can be established by both Parliament or State legislatures
- 2. Parliament can establish hierarchy of administrative tribunals at central, state and district level

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The Forty-second Amendment Act, 1976 provided two types of Tribunals

- Article 323-A deals with Administrative Tribunals.
- Article 323-B deals with tribunals for other matters.
- Few differences between these tribunals are

Article 323-A (Administrative Tribunals)	Article 323-B (Tribunals for other matters)
Parliament alone can establish these tribunals	establish these tribunals
Only one tribunal at the centre level and Only one for each state (or two or more states)	Government can establish hierarchy of Tribunals at each level.

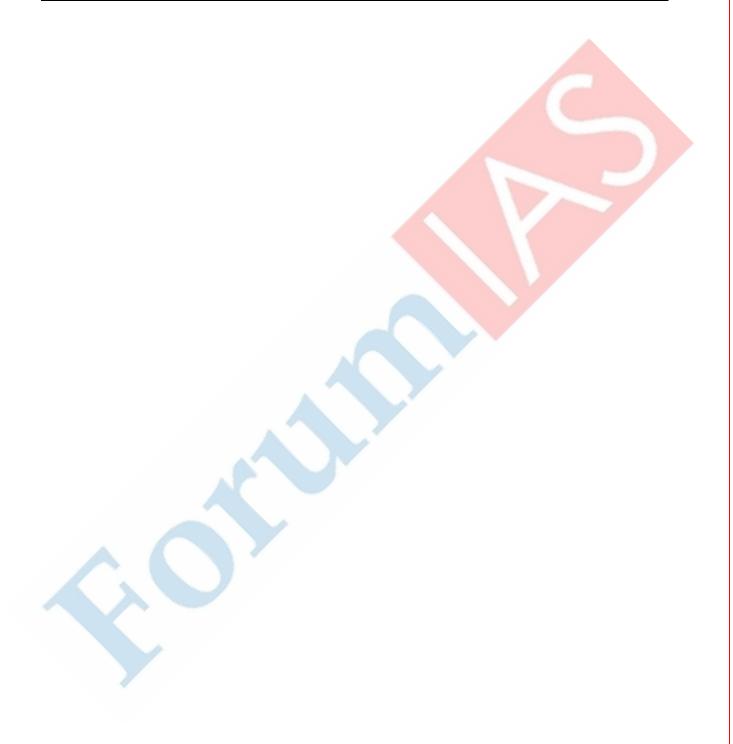
Q.12) Shantilal H. Shah Committee has sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes the committee?

- a) It was established for sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes in India
- b) It recommended legislation for Abortions in India
- c) It is a committee recommended steps to prevent stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh
- d) It recommended computerization of Banking Industry and Public Sector Disinvestment

Correct Answer: B Explanation:

Committee		Mandate
Justice Rohini Pane		committee for sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes in India
Shantilal H.	Shah	The committee stated that abortion and reproductive rights
Committee		need to be regulated by law in 1966
		Following that, the Government enacted the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act in 1971.
Justice	Madan	It is a single member committee recommended steps to prevent
B. Lokur Committee		stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh

Rangarajan Committee computerization of Banking Industry and Public Sector Disinvestment



Environment

Q.1) Which one of the following releases India State of Forest Report?

- a) National Bio-diversity Authority
- b) Indian Institute of Forest Management
- c) Forest Survey of India
- d) Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Forest Survey of India (FSI) is a premier national organization under the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests. It is responsible for the assessment and monitoring of the forest resources of the country regularly.

FSI was established on June 1,1981. The Forest Survey of India succeeded the "Pre Investment Survey of Forest Resources" (PISFR). PISER is a project initiated in 1965 by the Government of India with the sponsorship of FAO and UNDP.

FSI is headquartered at Dehradun in Uttarakhand.

It releases a **biennial report called the State of Forest Report (SFR)**. The first ISFR released in 1987. So far, 16 biennial assessment of Forests has been done.

The last report was released in 2019. The 2019 report for the first time created a **national** forest inventory.

Q.2) Which of the following are the possible reasons for forest fires?

- 1. Tourists
- 2. Lack of soil moisture
- 3. Slash and Burn Cultivation
- 4. Volcanic eruption

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Forest fires occurs due to both man-made and natural causes Man-Made causes include,

- Manmade fires are high particularly in places where people visit forests. People leave burning bidis, cigarette stubs or other inflammable materials inside the forest.
- **Slash and Burn Cultivation:** This is one of the major reasons for the fire in India's Northeastern region.
- In some places, **people deliberately cause a fire**. For example, the recent fire in Simlipal National Park in Odisha is due to deliberation. Villagers set dry leaves to fire in order to collect mahua flowers. (The local people use these flowers in preparation for a local drink).
- **Other reasons** include, campfires, fireworks, mining works, etc can also cause forest fires.

Natural causes include,

- **Volcanic eruption:** Hot magma in the earth's crust is usually expelled out as lava during a volcanic eruption. The hot lava then flows into nearby fields or lands to start wildfires.
- **Heat waves:** Increased temperatures due to global warming are making the forests more vulnerable.
- **Climate Change:** Massive fires in the Amazon forests in Brazil and in Australia are primarily due to Climate Change.
- Lack of soil moisture: It is also seen as a key factor. For example, the recent Uttarakhand forest fires are due to this.
- Lightning strikes, Increased heat waves can also cause forest fires.
- Q.3) On which of the following rivers, World's highest railway bridge is being built?
- a) Chenab River
- b) Sutlej River
- c) Brahmaputra River
- d) Ravi River

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The Railways on Monday said it had completed the arch closure of the 1315m Chenab bridge, the world's highest railway bridge. The Chenab bridge is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project (USBRL) and completion of the steel arch is an important construction milestone.

Read More -

- Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Mahendragiri Hill
- 1. Mahendratanaya River originates from this hill.
- 2. This hill was declared a biosphere reserve.

Answer using the codes given below

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Mahendragiri hill has many water streams and the origin of the Mahendratanaya River.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Odisha government has moved a proposal to declare is as a biosphere reserve. Also, Similipal Biosphere Reserve was Odisha's first such reserve and was notified in 1996.

Read more -

Q.5) Consider the following statements

- 1. India's largest freshwater lake is in Himachal Pradesh.
- 2. India's Largest brackish water lake is in Odisha.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The largest freshwater lake in India is Wular Lake. Wular Lake is the largest lake in India. In fact, it is one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia. It is situated in Jammu and Kashmir.

Statement 2 is correct. Chilika is one of India's largest brackish water coastal lakes. Located south of the mouth of the Mahanadi River in unspoilt Orissa, this lake was once a bay of the ocean until it was silted up by monsoon tides.

Q.6) In which one of the following states, government has not notified tracts for Opium cultivation?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Punjab
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: B Explanation:

The NDPS Act empowers the Central Government to permit and regulate cultivation of opium poppy for medical and scientific purposes. The Government of India notifies the tracts where opium cultivation can be licensed as well as the General Conditions for issuance of license every year. These notifications are commonly referred to as Opium Policies. Opium cultivation is permitted in the notified tracts in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Economics

- **Q.1)** Consider the following statements regarding the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)?
- 1. It is launched as a part of the Covid-19 relief package called the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
- 2. The aim of the scheme is to provide collateral-free loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)
- 3. RBI will provide the guarantee for the persons taking loan under the scheme 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

Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme(ECLGS) was launched as part of the Covid-19 relief package called the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Aim: To provide Rs 3 lakh crore worth of collateral-free, government guaranteed loans to micro, small and medium enterprises(MSMEs) across India. It aimed to mitigate the distress caused by the coronavirus-induced lockdown.

National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC) is the guarantee provider under the ECLGS scheme.

Recently the government extends the Rs. 3-lakh-crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) until 30th June 2021. It also widens its scope to new sectors, including hospitality, travel and tourism.

Read more

- **Q.2)** Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the KV Kamath Committee constituted by the RBI?
- 1. The committee was formed to identify the sectors to be considered for the one-time restructuring of loans.
- 2. The RBI rejected the committee report as it recommended nearly 26 sectors for restructuring.

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: RBI had formed a five-member committee under the chairmanship of KV Kamath to make recommendations on the financial parameters and the sectors to be considered for the one-time restructuring of loans impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic.

What did the committee recommend? The committee has recommended five financial ratios for 26 sectors which could be factored by lending institutions while finalizing a resolution plan for a borrower.

Reserve Bank of India has broadly accepted its recommendations and implemented it.

Q.3) Which of the following are the functions of Spices Board India?

- 1. Export promotion of all spices and assisting exporters of Spices.
- 2. Regulation of quality of spices for exports through its quality evaluation.
- 3. Assist farmers in Post-harvest improvement of all spices
- 4. Research, Development and Regulation of domestic marketing of Cardamom (Small & Large).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Spices Board is one of the five Commodity Boards functioning under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

Purpose: It is an autonomous body responsible for the export promotion of the 52 scheduled spices and development of Cardamom (Small & Large).

Functions: The main functions of the Spices Board are,

- Research, Development and Regulation of domestic marketing of Small & Large Cardamom:
- Post-harvest improvement of all spices;
- Export promotion of all spices. Further, it will assist the exporters in technology upgradation, quality management, brand promotion, research & product development;
- Development of spices in the North East;
- Regulation of quality of spices for exports through its quality evaluation services; etc.

Q.4) Consider the following regarding to Foreign Direct Investments.

- 1. Reinvested earning of an FDI holder is not considered as an FDI.
- 2. Intra-company debt transactions between direct investors and affiliate enterprises are considered as FDI.

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: FDI is the category of international investment. It reflects the objective of obtaining a lasting interest from a resident entity in one economy to an enterprise in another economy.

FDI consists of three components:

• **Equity capital:** It is the FDI purchase of shares of an enterprise in a country other than its own.

- **Reinvested earnings:** It comprises the direct investors' share (in proportion to direct equity participation) of earnings not distributed. Such retained profits by affiliates are reinvested.
- **Note:** The earnings of the share are distributed to the investor in the form of dividends by affiliates, or earnings not remitted.
- Intra-company loans or intra-company debt transactions: It refers to short- or long-term borrowing and lending of funds between direct investors (or enterprises) and affiliate enterprises.

Read more: Foreign Direct Investment inflows in India

Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC).

- 1. It buys the Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) from banks only.
- 2. ARCs are constituted under The RBI Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) is a specialized financial institution. They will buy the Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) from banks and financial institutions. (Statement 1 is incorrect)

They will clean up the balance sheets of banks and financial institutions. This helps banks to concentrate on normal banking activities.

Legal Basis: Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 provides the legal basis for the setting up of ARCs in India. **(Statement 2 is incorrect)**

Regulated by: ARCs function under the supervision and control of the Reserve Bank of India.

- Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding Priority Sector lending (PSL)
- 1. Foreign banks are exempted from PSL targets
- 2. Bank lending to NBFCs is not considered as PSL by RBI

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

• **Priority Sector lending (PSL):** It means those sectors which the Government and RBI consider as important for the development of the basic needs of the country and are to be given priority over other sectors. The banks are mandated to encourage the growth of such sectors with adequate and timely credit.

- Under this, Commercial banks including foreign banks are required to mandatorily earmark 40% of the adjusted net bank credit for priority sector lending. (**Statement 1 is incorrect**.)
- Regional rural banks and small finance banks will have to allocate 75% of adjusted net bank credit to PSL.

Categories: a) Agriculture b) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises c) Export Credit d) Education e) Housing f) Social Infrastructure g) Renewable Energy and h) Others

Recently RBI released a Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies. Under the new RBI policy, Bank lending to NBFCs (other than microfinance institutions) for the sectors that contribute significantly to the economy in terms of export and employment. This will continue as priority sector lending (PSL) till September 30, 2021. (Statement 2 is incorrect.)

- **Q.7)** Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Pre-Pack Insolvency Resolution'?
- a) It allows creditors and debtors to work on an informal plan and then submit it for approval.
- b) It sets a minimum amount that a company has to pay in case of insolvency.
- c) It provides for the control of experts on the company's management after start of insolvency process.
- d) It is a resolution plan solely prepared by creditors to defaulting company's management before starting an insolvency process.

Correct Answer: A Explanation;

- **IBC Amendment Ordinance 2021** amends the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- **The Amendment** allows the use of Pre-Packaged insolvency resolution as an alternative resolution mechanism for MSMEs. The threshold limit to trigger the Pre-Packaged insolvency resolution is between Rs 10 lakh to 1 Crore.
- A pre-pack resolution is a form of restructuring that allows creditors and debtors to work on an informal plan and then submit it for approval.
- **Under this system**, financial creditors will agree to the terms of a potential investor. Further, they will seek approval of the resolution plan from the <u>National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)</u>.

International Relations

- **Q.1)** Consider the following statements Shantir Ogroshena military exercise:
- 1. 2021 edition of this exercise held in Sri Lanka.
- 2. Indian Army is participated in the Exercise.

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: Shantir Ogroshena is a Multinational Military Exercise. The 2021 edition of the Exercise held in Bangladesh. (Statement 1 is incorrect.)

It is held there to commemorate the birth centenary of Bangladesh's 'Father of the Nation' Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The DOGRA Regiment of the Indian Army is participating in the exercise.

Read more

- Q.2) The E9 Initiative, recently seen in news, it is associated with which of the following fields?
- a) Defense Sector
- b) COVID Vaccine
- c) Education
- d) Refugees

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

• A consultation meeting is scheduled under E-9 Initiative. This consultation meeting will be the 1st of the 3-phase process to co-create a Digital Learning initiative. The target population will be marginalized children and youth especially girls.

Read More - "E9 Initiative" to Accelerate Digital Learning

- **Q.3)** Consider the following statements NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).
- 1. It is an intergovernmental military alliance between North American and European countries
- 2. The members of NATO follow a system of collective defense.

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:

• North Atlantic Treaty Organization also called North Atlantic Alliance is an intergovernmental military alliance.

- It was formed in 1949 with the signing of the Washington Treaty. It consists of 30 countries from North America and Europe. It is headquartered at Brussels, Belgium. (Statement 1 is correct)
- The goal of NATO is to safeguard the Allies freedom and security by political and military means.
- The members of NATO follow a **system of collective defence**. Under this, if one member of the alliance is attacked, then it is considered as an attack on all members. (Statement 2 is correct).
- **Q.4)** "**SAMADHAN** doctrine" is sometime seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes the term?
- a) It is a doctrine aimed to bring peace in border districts of India and China.
- b) It is a doctrine aimed at creating peace in Afghanistan between the Afghan government and Taliban
- c) It is the one-stop solution for all the Left Wing Extremism problem in India.
- d) It is a doctrine aimed to bring peace between Indian states in river disputes.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: SAMADHAN doctrine is the one-stop solution for the LWE problem. It encompasses the entire strategy of government from short-term policy to long-term policy formulated at different levels. SAMADHAN stands for-

- **S** Smart Leadership,
- **A-** Aggressive Strategy,
- **M** Motivation and Training,
- **A-** Actionable Intelligence,
- **D** Dashboard Based KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and KRAs (Key Result Areas),
- **H** Harnessing Technology,
- **A-** Action plan for each Theatre,
- **N** No access to Financing.

Read more about Left wing extremism in India

- **Q.5)** What are all the possible factors responsible for the prolonged protest in Myanmar against military rule?
- 1. A decade of partial democracy in Myanmar
- 2. Shortage of cash and inflation in economy
- 3. The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on industry
- 4. Support of armed insurgent groups to the protesters

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: After the military coup in February, Myanmar again fall under military rule. The pro-democracy protests are getting intense. Recently Myanmar's military celebrated its Armed Forces Day on March 27. But on that day alone military killed more than 100 unarmed protesters in various parts of the country. The reasons for continued protests are,

- The military rule at present followed after a decade of partial democracy. The people enjoyed their freedoms under the elected government for a decade. So, people are opposing military rule at present.
- The **challenge with the banking system.** The banks in Myanmar are also on the brink of collapse. Most of the bank staffs are on strike against military rule. This resulted in a **shortage of cash and inflation** of essential goods.
- After the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic the industries were not functioning well in Myanmar. The Military rule hampered the industrial recovery. So, **the Industrial Workers** also protesting continuously.
- Support of armed insurgent groups for protesters. The insurgent groups oppose the military as they are they take strict measures to control the insurgents. So, the insurgent groups provide support to the protesters.

Q.6) Which of the following organizations collectively considered as International Bill of Human Rights?

- 1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)
- 2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- 3. International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights(ICESCR)
- 4. United Nation Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The International Bill of Human Rights consists of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

- This includes 30 civil and political rights and freedoms. These 30 rights cover a wide gamut of Human rights including the social, economic and cultural rights to the individual.
- India took active participation during the formation of UDHR.
- UDHR is not a treaty. So, there is no legal obligation for signatory countries to follow the provisions of UDHR.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

- The ICCPR is a **key international human rights treaty.** The ICCPR also covers a wide range of civil and political rights.
- The countries ratifying the ICCPR have to take the necessary steps to protect and preserve basic human rights.

- The UN Human Rights Committee is tasked with monitoring the implementation of ICCPR
- The Covenant was adopted by the UNGA in 1966. It came into force in 1976.
- 173 countries including India have ratified the ICCPR.

International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights(ICESCR)

- It is a multilateral treaty adopted by UNGA(UN General Assembly)
- It commits its parties to work toward the granting of economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCR) to the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories and individuals. This includes labour rights, Right to Health, Right to Education, etc.
- The Covenant is monitored by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- 171 countries including India have ratified the ICESCR.

United Nation Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

- It is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system. Further, It is made up of 47 United Nations Member States which are elected by the UN General Assembly.
- It conducts a **Universal Periodic Review** of all the UN members once in four years.
- The **OHCHR** (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) is the secretariat of UNHRC.

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to World Cities Cultural Forum.

- 1. Delhi is participating in the upcoming World Cities Cultural Forum
- 2. Delhi is a member city in the World Cities Cultural Forum

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 World Cities Culture Forum was established in London in 2012. Eight cities as its member (London, New York City, Tokyo, Shanghai, Paris, Istanbul, Sydney and Johannesburg).

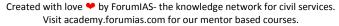
Organized by: It is an initiative of the **Mayor of London.** It is organised and coordinated by BOP Consulting, a specialist consulting firm.

Member Cities: The forum now has 43 participating member cities. Delhi is invited this year, but it is not a part of member cities.

Read more: World Cities Cultural Forum

It is going to benefit more to international player

- **Q.8) Washington Treaty** is related to which of the following international Organizations?
- a) World Trade Organization (WTO)
- b) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- c) The European Union
- d) International Labour Organization





Correct Answer: B Explanation:

Organization	Founding Agreement
World Trade Organization(WTO)	Marrakesh Agreement
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Washington Treaty
International Labour Organization	Versailles Peace Treaty
the European Union	Maastricht Treaty



Agriculture

Q.1) A new Mango variety named 'Sadabahar' is in news recently, which one of the following statements is incorrect about it?

- a) It is resistant to most major diseases and common mango disorders
- b) Its pulp has very less fiber content which differentiates it from other varieties
- c) This Mango can be grown round the year.
- d) The plants of this variety are biggest among all Mango varieties.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Sadabahar is a dwarf variety of mango. It can be grown regularly round the year. The dwarf is used to describe varieties or species of plants and animals which are much smaller than the usual size for their kind.

It is resistant to most major diseases and common mango disorders.

It is deep orange with sweet taste, and the pulp has very less fiber content which differentiates it from other varieties.

Read More - Farmer develops mango variety that bears fruits round the year (link)



Government Schemes & Initiatives

- Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Food Waste Index Report, 2021
- 1. Households waste more food than the food service and retail sector.
- 2. It was released by FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization)

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 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) releases the Food Waste Index Report 2021. (Statement 2 is incorrect)

The report found few major observations. Such as,

- **Food Waste:** An estimated 17% (931 million tonnes) of total global food production was wasted in 2019. Among them, 61% of the global waste came from households, 26% from food service and 13% from retail.
- Food Wastes across income groups: Household per capita food waste generation is broadly similar across country income groups. It suggests that action on food waste is equally relevant in high, upper-middle and lower-middle-income countries.
- **Hunger Across the World:** In 2019, some 690 million people were impacted by hunger and three billion were unable to afford a healthy diet.

Read more about the Food Waste Index

- **Q.2)** Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G).
- 1. The scheme aims to provide the pucca house with basic amenities.
- 2. Gram Panchayats verifies the eligible beneficiaries based on Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011.

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

- **Launched by:** Ministry of Rural Development in 2016 launched it.
- **Aim**: The aim is to provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families by the end of March 2022. People who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses are eligible for benefits
- **Beneficiaries:** Beneficiaries are identified as per the housing deprivation parameters and exclusion criteria prescribed under Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011. **Gram Sabha** verifies the eligible beneficiaries. (**Statement 2 is Incorrect**)
- **Target:** The scheme had a target of construction of 2.95 crore pucca houses for eligible rural households by March 2022.
- **However**, the number of beneficiaries has been reduced from 2.95 crores to 2.14 crore after **81 lakhs were found ineligible** as per Socio-Economic Caste Census(SECC)-2011.

• **Monitoring**: The programme implementation is being monitored not only electronically but also through community participation (Social Audit), Member of Parliament (DISHA Committee), Central and State Government officials, National Level Monitors, etc.

Read more:

- **Q.3)** With reference to the **National Policy on Electronics 2019** consider the following statements.
- 1. This is the first National policy focused on Electronics sector in India.
- 2. The policy aims to produce one billion mobile handsets in India by 2025. Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 only
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: National Policy on Electronics 2019 envisions positioning India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing. The policy aims to **address the shortcomings of 2012 National policy on electronics.** The policy aims to produce of one billion mobile handsets in India by 2025

Key objectives of National Electronic Policy 2019

- **Enable flow of investment and technology** leading to higher value addition in the domestically manufactured electronic products,
- Increased electronics hardware manufacturing in the country and their export.
- **Generating substantial employment opportunities.** Provide support for significantly enhancing availability of skilled manpower in the ESDM sector.
- Develop core competencies in all the sub-sectors of Electronics, including interalia Electronic components and Semiconductors, Telecommunication equipment, Medical electronics, Defence Electronics, Automotive electronics, Industrial Electronics, Strategic Electronics, etc., and Fabless Chip Design.
- Facilitate cost effective loans for setting up and expansion of electronics manufacturing units.
- **Promote path-breaking research**, grass root level innovations and early-stage Startups in emerging technology areas to solve real-life problems.
- Enhance understanding of cyber security issues/ concerns, risks and mitigation measures thereof pertaining to electronic products.
- Promote research, innovation and support to industry for green processes and sustainable e-Waste management, including safe disposal of e-Waste in an environment friendly manner, development of e-Waste recycling industry and adoption of best practices in e-Waste management.
- **Proactive role of states** in promotion of electronics manufacturing by providing conducive environment to promote investments.

Read more: National Policy on Electronics

Q.4) Consider the following pairs with reference to the Production Linked Incentive Scheme and the concerned Ministry/Departments.

PLI Scheme sector: Concerned Ministry/Department

- 1. Telecom & Networking Products: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 2. White Goods (ACs & LED): Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- 3. Automobiles & Auto Components: Department of Heavy Industries
- 4. High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) 3 Only

Correct Answer: D Explanation:

Sl. No	Notified PLI Scheme	Concerned Ministry/Department		
1	Electronic/Technology Products	Ministry of <mark>Electronics and Information</mark> Technology		
2	Pharmaceutical drugs	Department of Pharmaceuticals		
3	Telecom & Networking Products	Department of Telecom		
4	Food Products	Ministry of Food Processing Industries.		
5	White Goods (ACs & LED)	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.		
6	High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy		

		_
Sl. No	Other PLI Schemes	Concerned Ministry/Department
1	Automobiles & Auto Components	Department of Heavy Industries
2	Advance Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery	NITI Aayog and Department of Heavy Industries.
3	Textile Products (MMF segment and technical textiles)	Ministry of Textiles
4	Speciality Steel	Ministry of Steel

Read more: PLI Scheme(Today's 7 PM)

- Q.5) Anamaya initiative for tribal was launched recently by the government. It is associated with which one of the following areas?
- a) Left Wing Extremism
- b) Forest Rights
- c) Education
- d) Health and nutrition

Correct Answer: D **Explanation:**

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Union Minister of Tribal Affairs launched the Anamaya Initiative — a Tribal Health Collaborative.

About Anamaya Initiative:

- Anamaya is a multi-stakeholder initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Piramal Foundation and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) are supporting it.
- Objectives:
 - o Anamaya Initiative aims to converge efforts of various Government organizations to improve the health and nutrition status of the tribal communities of India.
 - o It also aims to build a sustainable health ecosystem that will address the key health challenges of the tribal population.

Read More: Anamaya Initiative

Q.6) Recently, Chief Justice of India launched the Supreme Court's 'SUPACE Portal'. Consider the following statements in this regard

- 1. It is an artificial intelligence-based portal
- 2. The portal will provide the judges with all possible decisions of a case on the basis of

Which of the statement(s) 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. SUPACE is an artificial intelligence-based portal. It will make the research work easier for judges, thereby easing their workload.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The portal is not designed to make decisions. It only processes facts and makes them available to judges, looking for input for a decision.

Q.7) With reference to the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) consider the following statements

- 1. It is the largest association of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) worldwide
- 2. Election Commission of India is present Chair of the A-WEB

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Correct Answer: C Explanation:

- Association of World Election Bodies(A-WEB) was established in 2013 in South Korea. It is the largest association of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) worldwide.
- Purpose: achieving sustainable democracy around the world.
- **Chaired by:** A-WEB is currently chaired by India for the 2019-21 term.
- **Members:** At present A-WEB has 115 EMBs as Members & 16 Regional Associations/Organisations as Associate Members.
 - o ECI is very closely associated with the process of formation of A-WEB since 2011.
- **Secretariat:** Seoul, South Korea.
- **Programmes:** A-WEB undertakes Election Visitor and Observation Programmes in various countries. These programs aim to study various election management practices and share knowledge with other Member of EMBs.

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Global Gender Gap Report 2021.

- 1. India's rank improved in the 2021 index.
- 2. It is published by World Economic Forum.

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:

WEF releases the Global Gender Gap Report 2021.

- The World Economic Forum(WEF) publishes the **Global Gender Gap Report** annually since 2006.
- **Parameters:** The report ranks 156 countries on their progress towards gender parity in four dimensions. Namely,
 - Economic Participation and Opportunity
 - Educational Attainment
 - Health and Survival
 - Political Empowerment.
- India's ranking on the Index drops 28 places to 140 amongst the 156 nations. In 2020, India was ranked at 112th place in the report.
- India is the third-worst performer in the South Asia region. Only Pakistan and Afghanistan rank below India in this region.

Read More: Global Gender Gap Report

Q.9) Joint Logistics Node (JLN) has sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes the term?

- a) It is a collection of Logistics information of Ships in one single node
- b) It is a global collaboration of countries to develop single portal for Logistics
- c) It is a collection of logistical data of industries in India
- d) It is a single node for integrating military's logistics in India

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Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Chief of Defence Staff operationalises the third Joint Logistics Node (JLN) in Mumbai.

About Joint Logistics Node(JLN):

- **The JLN** has been established with an aim of integrating the military's logistics. Further, it aims to set up and improving the military's war-fighting ability.
- This is the third Node to be set up. The two other logistics hub were operationalised in Guwahati and Port Blair in January 2021.
- **Purpose:** The JLN will provide integrated logistics cover to all three armed forces. Especially for their small arms ammunition, rations, fuel, general stores, civil hired transport, aviation clothing, spares, and also engineering support.
- **Advantages**: The JLN will also provide advantages like saving manpower, economic utilization of resources apart from financial savings.

Read more: Joint Logistics Node

- **Q.10)** Consider the following statements regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
- 1. The scheme aims to provide skilled work for at least 100 days in a financial year.
- 2. Gram Panchayat is mandated to provide employment within 15 days of work application
- 3. If Gram Panchayat failed to provide job, then worker is entitled to unemployment allowance Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: MGNREG Scheme:

- **MGNREGS** is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world.
- **Launched in:** The scheme was initially launched in the 200 most backward rural districts of the country in 2006-07. The scheme was later extended to the entire country from 2008-09 onward.
- **Under the scheme**, every rural household whose adult member volunteers to do unskilled manual work is entitled to get at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year.
- Implementation: Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Government of India in association with state governments monitors the implementation of the scheme.

Key Features of the scheme:

- **Demand-driven scheme:** Worker to be hired when he demands and not when the Government wants it.
- **Gram Panchayat** is mandated to provide employment within 15 days of work application failing which worker is entitled to unemployment allowance

Read More: MGREGS

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding net-zero emission targets

- 1. These are part of the Paris Climate Agreement
- 2. It means reducing the country's greenhouse gas emissions and bringing it to Zero.

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:

Net-zero emission is the method of balancing the greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere by the greenhouse gas absorption from the atmosphere.

In zero-carbon emission, the country will focus on limiting carbon emission. But in Net-zero carbon the country will focus on bringing the net carbon emission to zero. (Statement 2 is incorrect)

These are not part of the Paris Climate Agreement. In fact, the developing countries are arguing that the adoption of Net-zero emissions target will dilute the commitments of Paris Agreement.

Read More: Net-Zero Emissions target

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding Madhu Kranti Portal

- 1. It is an initiative of National Bee Board (NBB) under the National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM).
- 2. It is a portal to sell quality honey to the people.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The Madhukranti portal is an initiative of National Bee Board. It is operated under the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission.

The main objectives of the Madhukranti portal are as follows:

- The portal has been developed to achieve the traceability source of honey and bee hive products on the digital platform.
- Also, the platform will help in checking the quality and source of adulteration of honey.