

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

3rd to 9th May, 2021

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Science & Technology

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Polar Motion:

1. Melting of glacial ice and changes in stored underground fresh water can cause changes in Polar Motion.
2. It describes the movement of the Earth's rotation axis w.r.t the Earth surface

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: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Changes in how much fresh water is stored underground affects polar drift, too. Once this groundwater is pumped up to the surface for use as drinking water or for agriculture, it eventually flows into rivers and oceans, redistributing that water weight on Earth's surface.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is a periodic rotation of the Earth's spin axis about a mean axis, somewhat like the wobble of a spinning top.

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment (GRACE) mission:

1. Mission included twin spacecrafts that flew around the Earth.
2. It was a joint mission between NASA & Roscosmos.
3. It provided key insights into where dry soils are contributing to drought around the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment, or GRACE, mission flew twin spacecraft in tandem around Earth to study key changes in the planet's waters, ice sheets and the solid Earth.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** it was joint mission under NASA & German Aerospace Center
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Among its innovations, GRACE has monitored the loss of ice mass from Earth's ice sheets, improved understanding of the processes responsible for sea level rise and ocean circulation, provided insights into where global groundwater resources may be shrinking or growing and where dry soils are contributing to drought, and monitored changes in the solid Earth

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.3) India is prone to earthquakes. In this respect, consider the statements below:

1. Epicentre is the point where energy is released during an earthquake.
2. National Center for Seismology (NCS), under ISRO, is the nodal agency for monitoring earthquake activity in India.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

• **Statement 1 is incorrect:**

- **Focus:** The point where the energy is released is called the focus of an earthquake. It is also called the Hypocentre.
- **Epicentre:** The energy waves travelling in different directions reach the surface. The point on the surface, nearest to the focus, is called the Epicentre.

• **Statement 2 is incorrect:** NCS works under Ministry of Earth Sciences

Q.4) Which of the following is/are correct properties of the new strain of virus classified as Variants of Concern (VoC)?

1. increase in transmissibility
2. less effective against antibodies generated due to infection or vaccination
3. An increased ability to cause severe/life-threatening disease

Answer using the codes 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: Statement 1 is correct. In many countries, including India the VOC, by virtue of increased transmissibility, has started off a new wave(s) of epidemic transmission.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Immune to antibodies generated by previous vaccination or infection: Most vaccines were made using antigens made from D614G variant. However, these vaccines show low efficacy on the South African, Brazil and UK variants. Hence, reinfection can occur in spite of immunity provided by earlier D614G infection or vaccination.

Statement 3 is correct. Virulence: It is the ability to cause severe/life-threatening disease. The UK variant has the worse virulence. The South Africa and Brazil variants do not seem to have higher virulence.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding **Pyrolysis**

1. It is a process of chemically decomposing materials at high temperatures
2. In this process the oxygen is used to attain high temperatures

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation:

- **Pyrolysis** is a process of chemically decomposing organic materials at elevated temperatures in the absence of oxygen.
- The process typically occurs at temperatures above 430 °C (800 °F) and under pressure.
- It simultaneously involves the change of physical phase and chemical composition of organic material. Pyrolysis is an irreversible process.
- Pyrolysis is used to convert biomass into Synthesis Gas or Syngas and biochar

Read more: [Project Pyrasol](#)

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding Zoonotic diseases:

1. These are infectious diseases that are transmitted from animal to humans or vice-versa.
2. Some diseases begin as zoonoses but can later mutate to human-only strains
3. West Nile virus is an example of a zoonotic disease.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Zoonotic diseases are those which are transmitted to humans from animals. Anthro-zoonotic diseases are the one which are transmitted from humans to animals.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Some diseases like HIV do begin as zoonoses but can later mutate to human-only strain also.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** West Nile Virus (WNV) infection is a mosquito-borne zoonotic disease. The virus is transmitted among birds via the bite of infected mosquitoes and incidentally humans and other mammals also became infected.

Q.7) Brucellosis, recently seen in news, is caused by:

- a) Bacteria
- b) Fungi
- c) Parasite
- d) Virus

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.8) R21/Matrix M was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- It is a new earth like planet have the potential to support life
- It is a new vaccine showing promising results to contain Malaria
- It is a new robot that can solve all the matrix problems.
- It is a new formula that can be aimed to contain the Covid-19 infections

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Phase 2b clinical trials of R21/Matrix M (a new malaria vaccine) have shown the efficacy of 77%. It is a new version of RTS, S — another candidate against malaria. Experts believe that this new version could be a game-changer in curtailing the spread of malaria across the globe, especially during pandemic times.

Read more: [R21/Matrix M](#)

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding to 5g Technology.

- 5G provide better energy efficiency of devices and stable of network connections compare to 4G
- 5G has higher latency when compared to 4G
- 5Gi Technology has developed by India to enhance rural coverage.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- 5G services will provide up to 1 Gbps (Gigabit per second) of download speed. It is 100 times higher than the existing network speed. The upload time will also increase drastically.
- The energy efficiency of devices and stability of network connections will improve further with the 5G technology.
- 5G services work across the low, medium and high-frequency spectrums. This will avoid any network congestions.
- 5G services will have ultra-low latency (time taken by a network to respond). Latency for is predicted to be below 10 milliseconds, and in best cases around 1 millisecond. Latency for 4G is around 20-30 milliseconds.

5Gi Technology

- 5Gi stands for** 5G Radio Interface Technology. It has been developed by the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, Centre of Excellence in Wireless Technology and the IIT-Hyderabad.
- Purpose:** 5Gi technology is primarily meant to enhance rural coverage. It facilitates much larger reach of the 5G towers and radio networks. Hence, it is a major breakthrough for bridging the rural-urban digital divide in 5G deployment.
- Approved by:** 5Gi standard has also been approved by the International Telecommunications Union.

Read more: [5G Technology](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding antimatter:

1. It was created in equal amounts along with matter after the Big Bang
2. Anti-matter particles can be created in a lab

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: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Antimatter is the opposite of normal matter. More specifically, the sub-atomic particles of antimatter have properties opposite those of normal matter. For example, the electrical charge of antimatter particles is reversed.
 - The creation of antimatter happened along with matter after the Big Bang
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In 2018, physicists at CERN, the massive underground particle research lab in Europe, revealed that they created an antimatter particle in the lab as a part of the ALPHA experiment.
 - The scientists created an atom of 'antihydrogen'

Q.11) Ayush-64 was recently seen in news. In this regard, consider the following statements:

1. It is an ayurvedic drug developed for the management of mild cases of COVID infection
2. The drug is based on a formulation of multiple herbs
3. Ingredients of the drug have anti-pyretic properties

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Ayush-64 is an Ayurvedic drug developed by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), the apex body for research in Ayurveda under the Ministry of Ayush
 - The drug was originally developed in 1980 for the management of Malaria.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Ayush-64 is a polyherbal formulation i.e. use of more than one herb.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Drugs' ingredients showed notable antiviral, immune-modulator, and antipyretic properties.

Q.12) Consider the following statement on **Crew Mission**

1. It is a collaboration of NASA and European Space Agency
2. The mission aims to perform the manned mission to Mars in a decade.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: US launched 4 astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a collaboration between NASA and SpaceX under the Commercial Crew Program. The mission is called Crew-2 Mission.

The Crew missions aim to perform research operations in International Space Stations.

- Crew 1 Mission conducted microgravity studies at the ISS.
- Crew 2 Mission aims to conduct research on a series of Tissue Chips.

Read More: [Crew Mission](#)

Q.13) Mayflower 400 was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following is correctly describes it?

- a) It is a new type of flowering species that provide more honey.
- b) It is a new supercomputer that can perform high precision monsoon prediction
- c) It is the world's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) ship which is completely autonomous
- d) It is the new giant planet identified in the milky way

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Mayflower 400** is an unmanned and completely autonomous ship. It is powered by Artificial Intelligence and the Sun's energy via solar panels.
- **Purpose:** Main aim of this ship is to study marine pollution and analyze plastics in the water. It will also track the aquatic animals. The ship is set to sail on a transatlantic voyage.

Read more: [Mayflower 400](#)

Q.14) Burning of which of the following sources will produce Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)

1. wood
2. coal
3. natural gas

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)** belongs to one of the highly reactive gases known as oxides of nitrogen or nitrogen oxides (NO_x). Other nitrogen oxides include nitrous acid and nitric acid.
- **Formation:** NO_2 is formed when fossil fuels like coal, oil, gas and diesel are burned at high temperatures. It is also formed during the burning of wood and natural gases.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.15) Natural gas is often seen in news. In this regard consider the statements below:

1. It contains high amounts of methane and small amounts of carbon dioxide & water vapor
2. Shale is a form of unconventional natural gas

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Natural gas is a fossil energy source that formed deep beneath the earth's surface. Natural gas contains many different compounds.
 - The largest component of natural gas is **methane** (CH₄).
 - Natural gas also contains smaller amounts of **natural gas liquids** (NGL, which are also hydrocarbon gas liquids), and **nonhydrocarbon gases**, such as carbon dioxide and water vapor.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In some places, natural gas moved into large cracks and spaces between layers of overlying rock. The natural gas found in these types of formations is sometimes called **conventional natural gas**.
 - In other places, natural gas occurs in the tiny pores (spaces) within some formations of shale, sandstone, and other types of sedimentary rock. This natural gas is referred to as **shale gas or tight gas**, and it is sometimes called **unconventional natural gas**.
 - Natural gas also occurs with deposits of crude oil, and this natural gas is called **associated natural gas**.
 - Natural gas deposits are found on land, and some are offshore and deep under the ocean floor. A type of natural gas found in coal deposits is called **coalbed methane**

Q.16) Consider the following regarding **Genetically Modified Mosquitoes (GMM)** released in US

1. These are Female Aedes aegypti mosquitoes
2. This is for the first time in the world a GMM has been released in wild

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:

Recently, Biotech firm Oxitec has released its Genetically Modified Mosquitoes(GMM) in Florida, USA.

- The researchers have bioengineered male Aedes aegypti mosquitoes. Further, the genetically engineered males carry a specific gene that prevents the female from producing essential protein for survival.
- As the gene passes to their offspring, it will kill the female descendant at the early larval stages.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

- This is the First time they have been released in US.
- Previously these GMM were released in Brazil, the Cayman Islands, Panama and Malaysia. Also, *A. aegypti* populations fell by at least 90% in those locations.

Read more: [Genetically Modified Mosquitoes](#)

Q.17) mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub has been in news recently. In this respect, consider the statements below:

1. It is an initiative by WHO to expand the capacity of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to produce COVID-19 vaccines
2. It will work on a hub & spoke model
3. Technology transfer hubs previously used for development of influenza vaccine production

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The World Health Organization has called for a technology-transfer hub on mRNA vaccines to increase their production in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)
- **Statement 2 is correct:** WHO will facilitate the establishment of one (or more, as appropriate) technology transfer hub(s) that will use a **hub and spoke model** to transfer a comprehensive technology package and provide appropriate training to interested manufacturers in LMICs. This initiative will initially prioritize the mRNA-vaccine technology² but could expand to other technologies in the future
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Technology transfer hubs have been supported previously by WHO to enable the successful development and transfer of processes for adjuvant production (*an adjuvant is a drug or other substance, or a combination of substances, that is used to increase the efficacy or potency of certain drugs*) and for influenza vaccine production

Q.18) Mucormycosis was sometimes in news, is caused by:

- a) Bacteria
- b) Fungi
- c) Virus
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- Mucormycosis (previously called zygomycosis) is also known as Black Fungus infection
- It is a serious but rare fungal infection caused by a group of molds called mucormycetes. These molds are present naturally in the environment.
- The infection can occur in almost any part of the body. However, the infection is not contagious. This means that it cannot transmit between people or between people and animals.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

- Treatment of this infection is possible with prescription antifungal medicine. If not detected early, the infection can be fatal. It can also lead to loss of vision or jaw in others.

Q.19) Which of the following is/are a Greenhouse Gas?

1. Nitrogen Trifluoride
2. Water Vapour
3. Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation All of the above are Greenhouse Gases

- Many greenhouse gases occur naturally in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, and nitrous oxide, while others are synthetic. Those that are man-made include the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), as well as Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Government Schemes & Initiatives

Q.1) Indian Navy has recently Launched Operation Samudra Setu-II, with which one of the following aims?

- a) To protect Indian waters from encroachment of any foreign ship
- b) To cooperate with US navy to contain Chinese maritime activities
- c) To protect Indian coastlines in Bay of Bengal from encroachment of Rohingyas
- d) To bring oxygen-filled cryogenic containers to India from abroad

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The Indian Navy has launched Operation Samudra Setu-II.

- **The Indian Navy launched this** operation with the aim to bring oxygen-filled cryogenic containers to India from abroad.
- This is because the country is facing a severe shortage of medical oxygen in the wake of a massive spike in new Covid-19 cases.
- **As part of the mission, Seven Indian Naval ships, namely** Kolkata, Kochi, Talwar, Tabar, Trikand, Jalashwa, and Airavat, are participating. These ships will carry shipments of liquid medical oxygen-filled cryogenic containers and associated medical equipment from various countries to India.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding **India accepting foreign aid for disasters**.

1. India in past has never accepted any foreign aid to tackle any disasters
2. Indian government at present is directly accepting gifts, donations, and aid from foreign nations.

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: Indian Government is at present accepting gifts, donations, and aid from foreign nations. It is because India is facing a massive shortage of oxygen, drugs and related equipment amid a surge in Covid cases.

Foreign Aid to India:

- India is accepting foreign aid for the first time in 16 years. State Governments are also free to procure life-saving devices and medicines from foreign agencies.
- Earlier, India accepted aid from foreign governments several times. It includes Uttarkashi earthquake (1991), Latur earthquake (1993), Gujarat earthquake (2001), Bengal cyclone (2002) and Bihar floods (July 2004).
- However, this policy was changed 16 years ago. India refused to accept foreign aid after the Kashmir earthquake in 2005, Uttarakhand floods in 2013, Kashmir floods in 2014 and Kerala Floods in 2018.

Further, India is not directly accepting the foreign aid. First countries are delivering their aid to red cross in India, then India is accepting the aid.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding **Large Area Certification Scheme** for organic certification

1. It is a part of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
2. The areas having chemical input usage history have to undergo a transition period to qualify as an organic land under this scheme.

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: A

Explanation:

Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under its flagship scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY) has launched the Large Area Certification Scheme.

- **Purpose:** To provide a unique and quick organic certification to harness the potential land areas for organic products.
- **Under LAC**, each village in the area is considered as one cluster/group. Documentations are simple and maintained village-wise.
- **All farmers** with their farmland and livestock need to adhere to the standard requirements. After verification, they will get certified as a group. Once issued they don't need to go under conversion period. So, the farmers do not have to wait for 2-3 years for marketing PGS organic certified products.

Read more: [Large Area Certification Scheme](#)

Q.4) SUTRA model, recently seen in news, is used for which of the following?

- a) Screening of early-stage genetic diseases in plants
- b) Advanced cryptography employed in blockchain
- c) Research programmes for indigenous cattle
- d) Prediction of the trajectory of COVID cases in India

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

'Susceptible, Undetected, Tested (positive), and Removed Approach' (SUTRA) is a mathematical model devised by IIT scientists to predict active COVID cases in country. model uses three main parameters to predict the course of the pandemic.

- The first is called **beta, or contact rate**, which measures how many people an infected person infects per day.
- It is related to the **RO value**, which is the number of people an infected person spreads the virus to over the course of their infection
- The other two parameters are '**reach**', which is a measure of the exposure level of the population to the pandemic, and '**epsilon**' which is the ratio of detected and undetected cases

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP):

1. NSAP is a centrally sector scheme under the Ministry of Rural Development.
2. It aims to provide financial assistance only to elderly, widows and persons with disabilities in the form of social pensions.
3. National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) is a sub-scheme of NSAP

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a centrally sponsored scheme
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It aims to provide financial assistance to the elderly, widows and persons with disabilities in the form of social pensions. It currently covers more than three crore people who are below the poverty line (BPL), including about 80 lakh widows, 10 lakh disabled and 2.2 crore elderly.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** NSAP has 5 components: Presently NSAP comprises of five schemes, namely:
 - Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)
 - Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)
 - Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)
 - National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)
 - Annapurna

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP):

1. It grants organic farming certification through a process of third-party certification
2. Implemented by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
3. Organic products covered under the bilateral agreement with NPOP need not to be recertified for import in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:**
 - NPOP grants organic farming certification through a process of third-party certification.
 - It involves the accreditation programme for Certification Bodies, standards for organic production, promotion of organic farming etc.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is implemented by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The NPOP standards for production and accreditation system have been recognized by the European Commission, Switzerland and USA as equivalent to their respective accreditation systems.
 - This enables India to export unprocessed plant products to these countries without the requirement of additional certification. NPOP also facilitates export of Indian organic products to the United Kingdom even in the post Brexit phase.
 - NPOP has also been recognized by the Food Safety Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) for trade of organic products in the domestic market. Organic products covered under the bilateral agreement with NPOP need not to be recertified for import in India.

News: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1716297>

Q.7) UDID portal was sometimes seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is a new portal for registering medical oxygen demand by people
- b) It is an online portal for registering complaints against government officials
- c) It is an online portal to provide training for newly recruited public servants
- d) It is the portal that aims to create a National Database for Person with Disabilities

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: About UDID Portal:

- **Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities(UDID)** project is an initiative of the DEPwD. The project has been under implementation since 2016.
- **Aim:** The aim is to build a holistic end-to-end integrated system for Issuance of Universal ID & Disability Certificates for Persons with Disabilities. This ID will contain their identification and disability details.
- **Vision:** The UDID project aims to create a National Database for PwDs. Further, it aims to issue a Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) to each person with disabilities.

[Read More](#) -

Q.8) 'ID-Art' App was seen in the news recently. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is an app that identifies and recover the stolen cultural property and reduce smuggling of cultural property.
- b) This is an app for a virtual tour of Indian Archaeological sites during the Covid-19 times.
- c) This is an app consisting geographical locations of global Art museums
- d) This is an app of UNESCO to receive applications for recognising global heritage sites.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: INTERPOL has launched an app called 'ID-Art' to better protect cultural heritage.

- **'ID-Art' App** aims to help identify the stolen cultural property, reduce smuggling. The app also increases the possibility of recovering stolen works and artefacts.
- **INTERPOL's database:** The app enables users to get mobile access to the Interpol database of stolen works of art. Further, the user can be a law enforcement agency or a general public

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

- **Stolen Works of Art Database:** More than 52,000 items registered as stolen in Interpol's "Stolen Works of Art" database. The app allows users to immediately cross-check an object among the database.

Read more: [ID-Art App](#)

Q.9) 'Offshore model' was seen in the news recently. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- This is a model to generate electrical energy away from land, especially in coastal areas.
- This a model of relocating of a company's business process to a country that is not in the same geographical region.
- This is a model that predicts the global offshore investments of corporate companies
- This is a model that calculates the tax value for corporates operating in low tax countries.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: In simple terms, it is the relocation of a company's business process to a country that is not in the same geographical region. For example, a company in the US might have the majority of its employees working in India or China due to various benefits. It is also called the Work from home model.

According to analysts, Indian Offshore Model will Dominate Global IT Sector for atleast a decade.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

International Relations

Q.1) World Press Freedom Index is released by

- Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- World Justice Project
- Transparency International
- None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- India's rank: 142/180
- Released by:** Paris based Reporters Without Borders (RSF)
- It has been published every year since 2002 by **Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders.**
- Based in Paris, RSF is an independent NGO with **consultative status** with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF).
 - OIF is a 54 French-speaking nations collective.
- The Index ranks countries and regions according to the level of freedom available to journalists. However, it is **not an indicator on the quality of journalism.**
- The parameters include pluralism, media independence, media environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency, and the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information.

Q.2) Competitiveness and Resilience Partnership, or CoRe is launched between the US and which of the following country?

- India
- Europe
- Australia
- Japan

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Competitiveness and Resilience Partnership, or CoRe was announced between US and Japan to support the funding of **new-age technologies.**

- The funding will be used for the deployment of secure 5G networks to build digital infrastructure in developing countries.
- Given the Chinese ambitions to dominate the development of new-age technologies such as **5G and quantum computing** the announcement of **CoRe is significant** as it act as a counterbalance to Chinese tech ambitions.

Q.3) World is facing a refugee crisis. Consider the following statements regarding 1951 Refugee convention:

- India is neither a party to the convention nor its 1967 Protocol.
- Convention defines a refugee's obligations to host countries.
- UNHRC serves as a guardian of the 1951 Convention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India is not party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol and does not have a national refugee protection framework
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The 1951 Refugee Convention is the key legal document that forms the basis of UNHCR's work. It defines the term 'refugee' and outlines the rights of the displaced, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them. The convention also defines a refugee's obligations to host countries and specifies certain categories of people, such as war criminals, who do not qualify for refugee status.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Correct answer is UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees), not UNHRC (UN Human Rights Council).
- **UNHCR** serves as the guardian of 1951 convention

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR):

1. Countries that have ratified the covenant are mandatorily obligated to take legislative measures to protect the rights enshrined in the treaty.
2. India is still not a state party to the covenant.

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: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The United Nations International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) attempts to ensure the protection of civil and political rights. It was adopted by the United Nations' General Assembly on December 19, 1966, and it came into force on March 23, 1976. The International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the ICCPR and its two Optional Protocols, are collectively known as the **International Bill of Rights**.
- Countries that have ratified the Covenant are obligated to protect and preserve basic human rights and to take administrative, judicial, and legislative measures in order to protect the rights enshrined in the treaty and to provide an effective remedy.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India is a state party to ICCPR

Q.5) Consider the following terms associated with Refugees.

1. An asylum seeker is someone who claims to be a refugee but whose claim hasn't been evaluated.
2. A refugee is a person who fled his country due to the risk of serious human rights violations and persecution.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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: C

Explanation:

Who is a refugee?

A refugee is a person who fled his country due to the risk of serious human rights violations and persecution there. These refugees have a right to international protection under the UN Refugee Convention and its protocol.

Who is an asylum-seeker?

An asylum seeker is someone who claims to be a refugee but whose claim hasn't been evaluated. An asylum seeker will turn into a refugee if the claim is evaluated and justified.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD) is a legal process used by governments or UNHCR (UN High Commission for Refugees) to determine the refugee status of an asylum seeker under international, national or regional law.

Who is a migrant?

Migrants are persons moving to another country not due to direct threat or persecution but due to improving their lives. Migrants can return home if they wish (But refugees and asylum seekers cannot).

Q.6) Baghdad Conference was some time seen in news. Which of the following correctly explains it?

- a) It is conference between the Turkey and Armenian people
- b) It is a conference that established the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
- c) It is a conference between Afghanistan government and Taliban to derive peace settlement
- d) This is a conference between Iran and Iraq to bring peace in the region

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries(OPEC):

- It is a permanent, intergovernmental Organization created at the Baghdad Conference in 1960. Its founding members are Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.
- **Purpose:** To manage the supply of oil in an effort to set the price of oil in the world market. Further, it also aims to manage price fluctuations that might affect the economies of both producing and purchasing countries.
- **Members:** Algeria, Angola, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela
- **Secretariat:** Vienna, Austria.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding G7:

1. All G7 members are also a part of G20
2. Russia and Canada both are members of G7

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** All countries who are members of G7 are also a part of G20
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Russia is not a part of G7. Russia joined G7 in 1998. After this G7 was renamed as G8. But it was kicked out in 2014 after its annexation of Crimea. So now it's back to G7

Q.8) Which of the following joint exercises conducted between India and the UK

1. Exercise Indradhanush
2. Exercise Ajeya Warrior
3. Exercise Konkan

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

India and UK held the following bilateral exercises

- Exercise Indradhanush –Joint Air Force
- Exercise Ajeya Warrior - Joint military exercise
- Exercise Konkan - Joint Navy exercise

Q.9) Which of the following are the founding members of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)?

1. Iran
2. Iraq
3. Kuwait
4. Saudi Arabia
5. Venezuela
6. Oman
7. Yemen

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- b) 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 7 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3 only

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- OPEC was established in 1960 by its founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela

Q.10) Global Innovation Partnership is launched between India and which of the following countries?

- a) The USA
- b) The UK
- c) Australia
- d) Japan

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Global Innovation Partnership** has been launched by the Government of India and the UK.
- **Purpose:** The GIP will support Indian innovators to scale up their innovations in third countries. Thereby helping innovators to explore new markets and become self-sustainable.
- **Under GIP**, Indian entrepreneurs and innovators will receive seed funding, grants, investments and technical assistance. They will test, scale up and take innovative development solutions to select developing countries.

Read More: **Global Innovation Partnership**

Q.11) World Food Price Index is released by which of the following institution?

- a) Food and Agriculture Organization
- b) Hunger watch
- c) Agriculture and Biodiversity Community
- d) Sustainable Harvest International

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The **World Food Price Index** was released by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) .

According to the index, world food prices have increased for the 11th consecutive month in April. Further, the prices also hit their highest level since May 2014.

About World Food Price Index:

- **The index** was introduced in 1996 to help in monitoring the developments in the global agricultural commodity markets.
- **Purpose:** The index is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities.
- **Commodities:** It consists of the average of five commodity group price indices. Such as cereal, vegetable, dairy, meat and sugar. Also, these five indices is given weightage based on the average export shares.
- **Base Year:** The Base Year for the index is 2014-16.

Read More: [Food and Agriculture Organization](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Geography

Q.1) Equator passes through which of the following countries:

1. Peru
2. Ecuador
3. Colombia

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- Equator doesn't pass through Peru



Q.2) Which of the following are the reason for frequent Earth Quake in North-Eastern India?

1. High presence of alluvial soil in the region
2. Increase in the use of high-technology equipment
3. Development projects in North East
4. Unscientific Buildings in the region

Answer using the codes given below

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Correct Answer: D

Explanation Vulnerability of Northeast Region to Earthquake:

- **High Seismicity Level:** Northeast is located in the highest seismological zone. The Kopili Fault Zone is a seismically active area, so it falls into the highest Seismic Hazard Zone V. It is associated with collisional tectonics because the Indian Plate is subducting beneath the Eurasian Plate.
- **Nature of Soil:** Kopili fault zone and its neighbouring areas are characterized by alluvial soils. These alluvial soil have a higher potential of trapping seismic waves. Thus making the region the most earthquake-prone zone in North East India.
- **Terrain:** The region has a significant amount of mountainous terrain that demands explosions for building a tunnel, road, etc. infrastructure. This enhances the probability of earthquakes.
- **Untapped Potential:** The region has not seen robust development like the rest of India. Thus, a greater number of development projects like mining, dam construction, etc. in the region are under planning. It may enhance earthquake probability in the future.
- **High-technology equipment and tools:** There has been an increase in the use of high-technology equipment and tools in the manufacturing and service industries. This has made them susceptible to disruption even by moderate ground shaking.
- **Unscientific Buildings:** Many buildings in the cities of Shillong, Gangtok etc. are constructed on the sloping ground. That too by excavating some part of the hill.
- The open ground storey, heavy overhangs, heavy rooftops, and irregular plan shapes are common in buildings that make them seismically more vulnerable.

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Galapagos islands is a double world heritage site, since both land and sea are protected.
2. Sangay volcano is a type of composite volcano.

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: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is a **double World Heritage site** (both land and sea are protected).
 - In 1978 UNESCO designated Galapagos as the first World Heritage site and the Galapagos Marine Reserve received the same status in 1998
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Sangay volcano is a stratovolcano. Stratovolcanoes are also called as composite volcanoes. These volcanoes are characterized by a steep profile and periodic, explosive eruptions.

Q.4) Consider the following pairs

Puppets - State

1. **Kathputli** – Rajasthan
2. **Kundhei** — Karnataka
3. **Gombeyatta** — Odisha

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

4. **Bommalattam** — Tamil Nadu

Which of the above pairs matched correctly?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Types of puppetries and state

- Kathputli – Rajasthan
- Kundhei — Odisha
- Gombeyatta — Karnataka
- Bommalattam — Tamil Nadu
- Putola Nach – Assam

Q.5) In which of the following states is Kamlang Tiger Reserve situated?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Manipur
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Sikkim

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

Recently, the white-bellied heron was spotted at Walong in the Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh. This is the first time the white-bellied heron was sighted at a height of 1,200 meters above sea level in India.

- It is one of the rarest birds in the world. At present, it is found only in Bhutan, Myanmar and the **Namdapha Tiger Reserve** in Arunachal Pradesh, India.
- But the bird has also recorded in the **Kamlang Tiger Reserve** in Lohit district in Arunachal Pradesh through camera trap images.

Q.6) **Xylophis Deepaki** was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is the new species of snake identified in South India
- b) It is a new strain of the Covid-19 virus
- c) It is a new soybean variety that provide more yields
- d) It is the new butterfly identified in Amazon forests

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

- It is a new snake species discovered recently in Tamil Nadu.
- It is a tiny wood snake of just 20 cm length with iridescent scales.
- The species is named in honour of Indian herpetologist Deepak Veerappan. As he contributed in erecting a new subfamily Xylophiinae to accommodate wood snakes.
- **About wood snakes:** These are harmless and often found while digging soil in farms and under the logs in the Western Ghat forests

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to White-bellied Heron:

1. It is endemic to Andes mountain ranges
2. It is listed as critically endangered in IUCN-red list

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: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is one of the rarest birds in the world. At present, it is found only in Bhutan, Myanmar and the Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh, India.
 - But the bird has also recorded in the Kamlang Tiger Reserve in Lohit district in Arunachal Pradesh through camera trap images.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is listed as **Critically Endangered (CE)** in the IUCN-red list and in Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 under **Schedule IV**

Q.8) Consider the following statements on the **Mass nesting of Olive Ridley turtles** on the Odisha coast.

1. The Rushikulya river mouth is considered as the world's largest nesting beach for Olive Ridley Turtles
2. The Olive Ridley turtles in the past skipped the mass nesting on Rushikulya river mouth

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: B

Explanation:

- **The Rushikulya river mouth** is considered the second-biggest nesting site for Olive Ridley Turtles in India.
- The Gahirmatha marine sanctuary in Odisha is considered the world's largest nesting beach for Olive Ridley Turtles.
- The mass nesting near the Rushikulya river mouth is likely to be missed in 2021. As the time for nesting is almost over.
- But this won't be the first time they won't come for mass nesting. In 2002, 2007, 2016 and 2019, the turtles had not shown up at Rushikulya.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Polity

Q.1) Rule of speciality or Principle of Specialty was some time seen in news. Which of the following correctly explains it?

- It is one of the principle that governs the extradition of persons
- It is a rule that allows certain persons to have special rights in the management of company shares
- It is a rule of biology that governs the mutation of genes
- It is a rule in international relations that govern special relations with close allies

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Under the UK Extradition Act 2003, the Secretary of State makes a decision based on 3 things:

- Extradition shouldn't result in Death Penalty
- Rule of speciality must be followed post the extradition
 - Rule of speciality or Principle of Specialty:** This states that the extradited person cannot be punished for any other offence but only for the offence for which he is being extradited. So, India cannot conduct a trial on Nirav Modi for any other pre-extradition offences.
- The fugitive is shouldn't have been extradited to U.K from another country

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the principle of non-refoulement:

- This principle applies to all migrants at all times, irrespective of migration status.
- It is a part of customary international law and hence, absolute.
- The prohibition of refoulement is explicitly included in the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct:** Under international human rights law, the principle of non-refoulement guarantees that no one should be re-turned to a country where they would face torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and other irreparable harm. This principle applies to all migrants at all times, irrespective of migration status.
- Statement 2 is incorrect:** The principle of non-refoulement forms an essential protection under international human rights, refugee, humanitarian and customary law
- Statement 3 is correct:** Refoul means to refuse entry to a country and repatriate. Under international human rights law the prohibition of refoulement is explicitly included in the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from En-forced Disappearance (ICPPED). In regional instruments the principle is explicitly found in the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention of Torture, the American Convention on Human Rights, and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.3) Consider the following statement on Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act.

1. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act was enacted on the State list.
2. State legislatures can enact a law on the left-over matters of RERA.

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: B

Explanation:

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act was enacted by Central government on two entries of concurrent list. Such as Contracts and the transfer of property.

Being the concurrent list, the state government laws enacted prior to the enactment of the RERA becomes unconstitutional.

But the recent Supreme Court judgement on West Bengal Housing Industry Regulation Act (WB HIRA) mentions that if any areas have been left out in the central legislation, the state legislatures can provide cognate(related) legislation.

Read more: [Real Estate \(Regulation and Development\) Act](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements about **Reservation in India**

1. At present the maximum reservation provided by central government is within 50%
2. Centre alone has the powers to notify backward classes

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: B

Explanation:

- In 1990, the government accepted the recommendations of the Mandal Commission and implemented it. By this, the **reservation in India raised to 49.5 per cent.**
 - 22.5% reservation for SCs and STs (7.5% for STs, 15% for SCs)
 - 27% reservation for the OBCs
- The government under the **103rd Constitution Amendment Act, 2019** again provided a 10% reservation for the EWS in India. The Act also amended Article 15 and 16 correspondingly.
- So at present, the total reservation stands at 59.5 per cent. Few State governments also provide the reservation over and above 59.5 per cent. **(Statement 1 is wrong)**
- The Supreme Court recently declared the Maratha reservation law as unconstitutional. The judgement also upheld the constitutional validity of the 102nd Amendment Act, the **President alone has the power to notify backward classes** from now on. Further, the **Central List will now be the “only list” for the SEBC.** This means that the **Centre alone is empowered to identify SEBC from now on.**

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.5) Justice M.G. Gaikwad committee was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following is correctly describes the committee?

- It is a committee that recommended reservation for Maratha community
- It is a committee that recommended the Covid-19 containment plan to contain second wave
- It is a committee that recommended reforms to resolve pending cases in Judiciary
- It is a committee that recommended steps towards gender equity in judiciary

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: Maharashtra government appointed a nine-member Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission headed by Justice M.G. Gaikwad. The commission recommended reservation for the Marathas in 2018.

In 2018 itself, the Maharashtra government enacted a law, it provides 16 per cent reservation to the Maratha community in jobs and admissions. But recently the Supreme court held that as unconstitutional.

Q.6) Patent is a powerful Intellectual Property Right. In this respect, consider the following statements:

- A process patent allows for manufacturing of a patented product by modification of the process.
- India's Intellectual Property regime has moved from process patenting to product patenting in pharma sector

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct:** A product patent ensures that the rights to the final product is protected, and anyone other than the patent holder can be restrained from manufacturing it during a specified period, even if they were to use a different process. A process patent enables any person other than the patent holder to manufacture the patented product by modifying certain processes in the manufacturing exercise
- Statement 2 is correct:** India moved from product patenting to process patenting in the 1970s, which enabled India to become a significant producer of generic drugs at global scale, and allowed companies like Cipla to provide Africa with anti-HIV drugs in the 1990s.
 - But due to obligations arising out of the TRIPS Agreement, India had to amend the Patents Act in 2005, and switch to a product patents regime across the pharma, chemicals, and biotech sectors.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding federalism in India

- India is considered as a federal state with subsidiary unitary features
- The term 'Federal' does not figure anywhere in the constitution

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only 1
- Only 2

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: According to Australian Constitutional expert K.C. Wheare Indian constitution is “quasi-federal”. He also clarifies that the “Indian Union as a unitary state with subsidiary federal features rather than a federal state with subsidiary unitary features.” The term 'Federal' does not figure anywhere in the constitution

Q.8) Product and Process are types of which Intellectual Property?

- a) Patents
- b) Copyrights
- c) Industrial Design
- d) Geographical Indication Tag

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

About Patents and Intellectual Property:

- A patent is a type of intellectual property right. It is an exclusive right granted by a government to an inventor for a limited, pre-specified time.
- It provides an enforceable legal right to prevent others from copying the invention.

Types of Patents:

- Product Patent: No person can manufacture the patented product without the consent of the patent holder even if he/she uses an alternative process.
- Process Patent: Under this only the process is protected. A person can manufacture the patented product using an alternate process.

Type of regime in India:

- India moved from product patenting to process patenting in the 1970s. This enabled it to become a significant producer of generic drugs at global scale.
- It allowed companies like Cipla to provide Africa with anti-HIV drugs in the 1990s.
- However due to obligations arising out of the TRIPS Agreement, it had to amend the Patents Act in 2005. This made a switch to a product patents regime across the pharma, chemicals, and biotech sectors.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the **Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in India**.

1. In the Lok Sabha election, the MCC applies to both the Union and the State Governments.
2. During the Assembly elections for a state, the Union government cannot introduce new schemes specific to that state

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: C

Explanation: Model Code of Conduct (MCC) will come into operation from the date the election is announced by the Election Commission.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

- MCC prohibits using official resources for electoral activities, announcing financial grants, new schemes, etc on the party in power.
- In the Lok Sabha election, the MCC applies to both the Union and State Governments.
- During the Assembly elections for a state, the Union government cannot introduce new schemes specific to that state
- For bye-elections, the application of MCC is similar and restricted to the District concerned

ForumIAS

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Economics

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Repo Rate (RR):

1. A cut in Repo rate supports economic growth
2. Reverse Repo Rate is generally lower than repo rate

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is the interest rate at which the central bank of a country lends money to commercial banks. Hence, a decrease in RR means money is infused into the economy which makes lending cheaper thereby encouraging enhanced borrowing. This leads to economic growth.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Reverse Repo is the interest rate paid to commercial banks when they deposit their excess funds in the central bank or when the central bank borrows money from them. At a given point in time, the reverse repo rate provided by RBI is generally lower than the repo rate. While repo rate is used to regulate liquidity in the economy, reverse repo rate is used to control cash flow in the market.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

1. State Governments have the power to negotiate FDI directly with overseas banks/institutions
2. The approval for FDI is decentralised in India

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: A

Explanation:

- The Centre encourages states to negotiate loans / FDI directly with overseas banks/institutions. Such initiatives have helped some states in their economic development and reduced their financial dependence on the Centre. For example, Gujarat Government in 2014 set up international desks independently in the USA, China, Japan for facilitating FDI inflows
- Even many states are negotiating with foreign investors, they do not have the power to bring FDI into their state. In India, the approval for FDI is centralised. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) being the nodal Ministry for FDI approvals.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 3rd to 9th May, 2021

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding sovereign debt rating:

1. It assesses the ability of government to pay back debt after considering economic, market and political risks
2. A lower level of rating allows the country to borrow at low rates

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: A

Explanation:

• **Statement 1 is correct:**

- International agencies evaluate the credit worthiness of national governments, assessing their ability to pay back debt after considering economic, market and political risks.
- These ratings are a kind of forward assessment of a nation's ability to meet its financial obligations in time and in full.

• **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Credit ratings focus only on a single aspect of credit, the ability of the borrower to ensure timely payment of interest and principal. A higher level of rating would imply lower risk, allowing the country to borrow at low rates as opposed to one with lower rating.

Q.4) Consider the following statements on **Social Stock Exchanges (SSE)**

1. It allows investors to invest in select social enterprises or social initiatives.
2. In India, there is no such Stock Exchanges has been set up so far.

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: C

Explanation:

• **Social Stock Exchange (SSE)** is a platform that allows investors to invest in select social enterprises or social initiatives.

- **Social Enterprise** is a revenue-generating business. The primary aim of social enterprise is to achieve a social objective such as providing healthcare or clean energy.

• **Aim:** To help social and voluntary enterprises to raise capital in form of equity or debt or a unit of the mutual fund.

• The proposal to set up SSEs in the country was first floated during the Union Budget in 2019.

• **In 2019, SEBI constituted** a group under the chairmanship of Tata group veteran Ishaat Hussain.

• **In 2020, SEBI again** set up the Technical Group(TG) under Harsh Bhanwala, ex-Chairman, NABARD. This time for getting further expert advice and clarity on SSE. That committee submitted its report recently.