

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

21st to 26th June, 2021

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

International Relations

Q.1) Which of the following organisation recently released the **Global Peace Index**?

- a) Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP)
- b) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- c) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- d) The Global Peace Foundation

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The 15th edition of Global Peace Index 2021 has been released.

- **The Global Peace Index** is released by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), an international think tank.
- **Aim:** The index presents the most comprehensive analysis of trends in peace. It ranks countries according to their levels of peacefulness and identifies potential determinants of peace.
- **Coverage:** The index measures the peacefulness of 163 countries and territories. It covers 99.7% of the world's population.
- Key findings of the 2021 index
 - **India** has been ranked 135th in the 2021 Global Peace Index.
 - **Iceland** has topped the peace index. It was followed by New Zealand, Denmark, and Portugal.
 - **Out of the 10 most peaceful countries** in the world, 8 are from Europe.
 - **Afghanistan is the least peaceful** country in the world for the fourth consecutive year.

Read more: [Global Peace Index](#)

Q.2) Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) Only an army general can become the Theatre command
- b) India used its Theatre command in Kargil war.
- c) While India's Eastern Theatre command is operational, its western theatre command is still under consideration.
- d) Strategic Forces Command is a joint command of India.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: A theatre command is a military structure wherein all the assets of the army, air force and navy in a particular theatre of war are under the operational control of a three-star general.

India operates the 4th largest military in the World, but with each service acting independent of each other There is no Theatre command of India.

Source- [The Hindu](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding **Antarctic Treaty**

1. The treaty facilitates militarization and scientific research in the Antarctic Continent
2. It is the only example of a single treaty that governs a whole continent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Recently, the 60th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty was celebrated.

- The Antarctic treaty remains the only example of a single treaty that governs a whole continent.
- The Antarctic Treaty was signed between 12 countries in Washington on 1st December 1959
- The Treaty makes the the Antarctic Continent a demilitarized zone to be preserved for scientific research only.
- Antarctica is defined as all of the land and ice shelves south of 60°S latitude.
- Head Quarters: Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Source: [Down To Earth](#)

Q.4) Which of the following is also known as the Strasbourg court?

- a) European Court of Human Rights
- b) International Criminal Court
- c) Permanent court of settlement
- d) International Military tribunal

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR or ECtHR), also known as the Strasbourg Court is an international court of the Council of Europe which interprets the European Convention on Human Rights. The court hears applications alleging that a contracting state has breached one or more of the human rights enumerated in the Convention or its optional protocols to which a member state is a party. The European Convention on Human Rights is also referred to by the initials "ECHR". The court is based in Strasbourg, France.

Source: [Article](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding **Black Softshell Turtle**

1. It is a freshwater turtle species found in India and Bangladesh.
2. It is a vulnerable species in IUCN Red list
3. It does not have any legal protection under the Indian Wildlife Protection Act,1972

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently, The Hayagriva Madhava Temple Committee in Assam has signed an MoU with Turtle Survival Alliance India, Help Earth, and Assam Forests Department to conserve the Black Softshell Turtle.

- **Black Softshell Turtle** is a species of freshwater turtle. It is found in India and Bangladesh.
- **Distribution:**
 - Brahmaputra's drainage and Near Temple Ponds in Assam
 - Bangladesh (Chittagong and Sylhet)
- **IUCN Status:** Critically Endangered
- **Indian Wildlife Protection Act,1972:** It does not enjoy legal protection.
- **Significance:**
 - Temple Ponds in Assam conserve Turtles based on religious grounds.
 - At the Bayazid Bostami shrine in Chittagong, Bangladesh, the black softshell turtle is known as mazari(inhabitant).

Read more: [Black Softshell Turtle](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:**

1. The framework is implemented by UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC)
2. It is the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Sendai Framework is implemented by United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- Statement 2 is correct: It was adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held from March 14 to 18, 2015 in Sendai, Miyagi, Japan. It is the

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Pygmy Hog:

1. It is native to alluvial grasslands in the foothills of the Himalayas.
2. It is an indicator species.
3. It's listed as a vulnerable species in the IUCN Red List.

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: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Pygmy Hog is the smallest member of the pig family. It is native to alluvial grasslands in the foothills of the Himalayas at elevations of up to 300 m. The only known population of Pygmy Hog lives in Assam, India and possibly southern Bhutan.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Pygmy Hog is an indicator species. Its presence reflects the health of its primary habitat, the tall, wet grasslands of the region.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is listed as an Endangered species in the IUCN Red List.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary was seen in news recently. In which of the following states is the sanctuary located in?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Kerala

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Recently, the Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary received a nod from the National Tiger Conservation Authority's (NTCA) technical committee to become the 4th Tiger reserve of Rajasthan. This will be the 52nd Tiger Reserve of India.

- The tigers were believed to have disappeared from the sanctuary in 1999. The sanctuary currently has leopards, sambhars, chitals, wildboars, smaller cats, caracals, chinkaras and nilgai.
- The total area of 1,017 sq. km that has been identified as the reserve area comprising two forest blocks
 - Bhilwara, territorial forest block of Bundi and
 - Indargarh – It falls under the buffer zone of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve (RTR).

Source: [Times of India](#)

Q.5) Nagarhole Tiger Reserve recently in news is located in which of the following states?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

d) Telangana

Correct Answer: b

Explanation

- Nagarahole Tiger Reserve previously known as **Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarahole) National Park**, was named after the river 'Nagarahole' which literally means 'Serpent River' (Nagara=Serpent; Hole=River) in Kannada language.
- Nagarahole tiger reserve forms a critical connecting habitat for tigers and elephants to other areas of Western Ghats through Brahmagiri wildlife sanctuary and to the Eastern Ghats through Bandipur Tiger reserve.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding **Ambergris**

1. It is a solid waxy substance originating in the intestine of the sperm whale
2. Ambergris has bad fragrances.
3. Sperm Whales are found in temperate and tropical waters throughout the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Recently, the Mumbai Police has arrested five people and seized nearly 9 kg of Ambergris.

About Ambergris:

- Ambergris, French for grey amber, is generally referred to as whale vomit.
- It is a solid waxy substance originating in the intestine of the sperm whale
- It floats around the surface of the water body and at times settles on the coast.
- Because of its high value it is referred to as floating gold. 1 kg of ambergris is worth Rs 1 crore in the international market.
- It is used in the perfume market, especially to create fragrances like musk

About Sperm whale:

- Sperm whale, (*Physeter catodon*), also called cachalot, the largest of the toothed whales, easily recognized by its enormous square head and narrow lower jaw.
- They are found in temperate and tropical waters throughout the world.
- Protection Status:
 - IUCN Red List: Vulnerable
 - Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: schedule I
 - CITES: Appendix I

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

History/Art and culture

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding **Hayagriva Madhava Temple** in Assam

1. The temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu
2. The temple is revered by Buddhists also, as they believe that here only Buddha attained Nirvana.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Recently, The Hayagriva Madhava Temple Committee in Assam has signed an MoU with Turtle Survival Alliance India, Help Earth, and Assam Forests Department to conserve the Black Softshell Turtle.

- **The Hayagriva Madhava temple** exists in a hilly place which is located at Hajo nearby Guwahati, Assam. The temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- **Built by:** The present temple structure was constructed by King Raghudeva Narayan in 1583.
 - According to Historians, the temple was built during the Pala period of 10th-12th century A. D.
- **Significance:** The temple is revered by Buddhists also, as they believe that the Hayagriva Madhava temple is the place where Buddha attained Nirvana. Thus, the temple becomes an ancient pilgrimage centre for both Hindus and Buddhists.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.2) In which of the following place the **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)** is planned?

- a) Arikamedu
- b) Lothal
- c) Baruch
- d) Muziri

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways sign an MoU for Cooperation in Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex(NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.

About NMHC:

- It would be developed as an international tourist destination, where the maritime heritage of India from ancient to modern times would be showcased.
- There will also be many pavilions where all coastal states in India and union territories can showcase their artifacts and maritime heritage.
- The unique feature of NMHC is the recreation of ancient Lothal city, which is one of the prominent cities of the ancient Indus valley civilization.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- According to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Lothal had the world's earliest known dock, which connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding **Savitribai Phule**

1. She is the first female teacher in India
2. She opened the Home for the Prevention of Infanticide where Brahmin widows could safely deliver their children and leave them for adoption if they so desired.
3. she wrote '*Mang Maharanchya Dukhavisatha*' (About the Grief of Mahar and Mangs)' at the mere age of fourteen)

Answer using the codes given below

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: About Savitribai Phule:

- Savitribai Phule was an Indian activist, thinker, social reformer and writer from Maharashtra.
- Savitribai along with her husband Jyotirao Phule had played an important role in improving women's rights in India.

Contributions:

- She established the Mahila Seva Mandal to raise awareness for issues concerning women's rights.
- She became the first female teacher in India in 1848 and opened a school for girls along with her husband Jyotirao Phule.
- She opened a women's shelter called the Home for the Prevention of Infanticide where Brahmin widows could safely deliver their children and leave them there to be adopted if they so desired.

Note: **Muktabai Salve** wrote '*Mang Maharanchya Dukhavisatha* (About the Grief of Mahar and Mangs)' at the mere age of fourteen. She was a student of school for girls set up by Savitribai Phule and Jyotiba Phule.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Read more: [Savitribai Phule](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements

1. He was born in the city of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
2. He was a 15th century mystic poet, saint and social reformer and a proponent of the Bhakti Movement.
3. The major part of his work was collected by the fifth Sikh guru, Guru Arjan Dev.
4. His legacy is still going on through a separate sect and He was best known for his two-line couplets

The above statements reflect which of the following personality.

- a) Ramananda
- b) Chaitanya

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- c) Sant Kabir Das
- d) Tulsidas

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Recently, Sant Kabir Das Jayanti was observed on 24th June, 2021 to mark the birth anniversary of Sant Kabirdas.

About Sant Kabirdas:

- **Panth of Kabir:** It is a religious community that considers him as the founder and Kabir's legacy is still going on through this sect.
- Kabir Das' writings had a great influence on the Bhakti movement and includes titles like Kabir Granthawali, Anurag Sagar, Bijak, and Sakhi Granth.
- He was best known for his two-line couplets, known as '**Kabir Ke Dohe**'.
- His verses are found in Sikhism's scripture **Guru Granth Sahib**.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements on **Right to be Forgotten (RTBF)**

1. It is a right to remove private information about a person from Internet searches and other directories under some circumstances.
2. It is mentioned explicitly in the Indian Constitution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The Delhi High Court ordered the removal of easy access from one of its own judgments. The move respected the petitioner's **right to be forgotten (RTBF)** and aimed to prevent post-acquittal stigmatization

Right to be Forgotten

- It is a right to remove private information about a person from Internet searches and other directories under some circumstances.
- It empowers individuals to ask organisations to delete their personal data.
- Likewise, it allows the individuals to determine the development of their life in an autonomous way without being perpetually stigmatized for a specific action performed in the past.
- It is not explicitly available to the Indian masses. However, it has been implicitly recognised by courts as part of the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution

Read more: [Right to be forgotten](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding **Inland waterways in India:**

1. The first waterway to be declared National was the Allahabad to Haldia stretch of the Ganga – Bhagirathi-Hooghly
2. Cost of developing waterway is much less as compared to rail or road.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- Rivers, lakes, canals, backwaters and reservoirs primarily constitute the source for inland waterways. A stretch of water, not part of the sea, over which craft of a carrying capacity not less than 50 tonnes can navigate when normally loaded is called navigable inland waterway.
- The first waterway to be declared National was the Allahabad to Haldia stretch of the Ganga – Bhagirathi-Hooghly.
- **Cost savings:**

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- Fuel and Energy Efficient: It is fuel-efficient compared to the other modes of transport, rail and road. For example, the Integrated National Waterways Transportation Grid Study states that one litre of fuel will move 24 tons through one kilometer on road, 85 on rail and 105 km on inland water transport. Further, 1 HP can 150 kg on road, 500 kg on rail and 4000 kg on water.
- Cost of developing waterways is much lower than rail & road.
- Reduces transportation and transition losses

- Read More [here](#)

Source: [Article](#)

Q.3) Which of the following is a type of micro-irrigation?

1. Spray irrigation
2. Sub-surface irrigation
3. Bubbler irrigation

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

There are mainly five types of Micro Irrigations System

- Sprinkler irrigation
- Drip irrigation
- Spray irrigation
- Sub-surface irrigation
- Bubbler irrigation

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding penal provisions for suicide attempts in India

1. Section 301 mentions punishment for people for suicide attempts.
2. mental healthcare act abolished all form of punishment for suicide attempts.

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. Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code provides for the penal provision for attempting suicide. If a person is suffering from any mental trauma or illness, he or she should be given reformatory treatment rather than a deterrent punishment which is "simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year [or with fine, or with both]".

Statement 2 is incorrect. In 2017, Parliament passed the Mental Healthcare Act. Section 115 (1) of the Act provides, that any person who attempts to commit suicide shall be presumed,

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

unless proved otherwise, to have severe stress and shall not be tried and punished under the said Code.

However, this law applies only to those suffering from mental illness. There is presumption of severe stress in case of an attempt to die by suicide.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Betting and gambling is listed under the Concurrent List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
2. The Information Technology Act 2000 explicitly prohibits online betting and gambling.

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. 'Betting and gambling' is listed as **Entry 34 under the State List** of Seventh Schedule under the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Information Technology Act 2000** regulates cyber activities in India but does not explicitly regulate or mention online betting or gambling. Various states have their own legislation on gambling, and most States have an exemption for games of skill.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the "Gupta period":

1. Gupta Empire is often hailed as the Golden period of Indian Architecture.
2. Only Hindu temple architecture reached climax in Gupta Age.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: The emergence of the Gupta Empire in 4th century A.D. is often hailed as the "Golden period of Indian Architecture".

- While the earlier Gupta rulers were Buddhists and continued the traditions of Buddhist architecture, temple architecture came to the fore front under the patronage of the Hindu rulers of the later Gupta phase.
- Temple architecture reached its climax during this period. Similarly, Buddhist and Jain art also reached its peak during the Gupta Age.
- The Gupta rulers, especially in the later phase, were Brahmanical rulers. However, they showed exemplary tolerance for all other religions.
- Three principal deities were worshipped – Vishnu in the Northern and Central part of India, Shiva in the Southern part and Shakti in the Eastern part of India as well as in the Malabar coast or South-west part of India.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding **Electoral Trust Scheme**

1. The Scheme lays down a procedure for grant of approval to an electoral trust
2. The scheme was notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

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: For the first time, an electoral trust (under Electoral Trust Scheme, 2013) has declared donation through electoral bonds. But it hasn't revealed the names of the political parties that received the money, citing anonymity guaranteed under the electoral bond scheme.

According to the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR), this "practice is against the spirit of the Electoral Trusts Scheme, 2013.

About the Scheme:

- Electoral Trust is a non-profit organization formed in India for orderly receiving of the contributions from any person.
- Electoral Trusts Scheme, 2013 was notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). The provisions related to the electoral trust are under Income-tax Act, 1961 and Income tax rules-1962.
- **Objective:** It lays down a procedure for grant of approval to an electoral trust which will receive voluntary contributions and distribute the same to the political parties.
 - A political party registered under section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 shall be an eligible political party and an electoral trust shall distribute funds only to the eligible political parties.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is often in news. In this respect, consider the following statements:

1. For filing a PIL, the plaintiff should have a personal interest or claim in the matter.
2. PIL cannot be filed against a private party.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** For filing a public interest litigation (Article 32 or Article 226 of the Constitution), the plaintiff need not have a personal interest or claim in the matter. The PIL must serve a matter of public interest.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A PIL cannot be filed against a private party. A private party, however, can be included as the respondent after the concerned authority is made a party to the PIL.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Source: [Article](#)

Q.9) KK Gupta commission sometimes seen in news is related to:

- Vaccine procurement and distribution
- Doubling farmers income
- Delimitation in Jammu & Kashmir
- Resolution of NPAs

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- Assembly seats in J&K were delimited in 1963, 1973 and 1995. The last exercise was conducted by the **Justice (retired) K K Gupta Commission** when the state was under President's Rule and was based on the 1981 census, which formed the basis of the state elections in 1996.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the National Emergency (Article 352):

- President proclaims a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet.
- President can declare a national emergency only on the actual occurrence of war or external aggression.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
- It may be noted that the president can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression or armed rebellion, if he is satisfied that there is an imminent danger.
- The President, however, can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet.
- This means that the emergency can be declared only on the concurrence of the cabinet and not merely on the advice of the prime minister.
- In 1975, the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi advised the president to proclaim emergency without consulting her cabinet. The cabinet was informed of the proclamation after it was made, as a fait accompli.
- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced this safeguard to eliminate any possibility of the prime minister alone taking a decision in this regard.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Geography and Agriculture

Q.1) Consider the following statements on **Biotech-Krishi Innovation Science Application Network (Biotech-KISAN)**

1. These hubs fulfil the technological requirement of farmers and generate agriculture and bio-resource related jobs
2. The programme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The Ministry of Science and Technology has issued a Special Call for the North East Region as a part of its Mission Programme “Biotech-Krishi Innovation Science Application Network (Biotech-KISAN)”.

- It is a scientist-farmer partnership scheme launched in 2017.
- It is a pan-India program, following a hub-and-spoke model. The Programme stimulates entrepreneurship and innovation in farmers and empowers women farmers.
- The Biotech-KISAN hubs are expected to fulfil the technology required to generate agriculture and bio-resource related jobs. Further, they also provide better livelihood by ensuring biotechnological benefits to small and marginal farmers.
- Farmers are also exposed to the best global farm management and practices.
- It is a farmer-centric scheme developed by and with farmers under the **Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology**.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “**Red Soils**” in India?

1. Red soils develop on old crystalline rocks.
2. Red soils differ from place to place on the basis of the parental rock material and climatic conditions.
3. Rich in minerals like potassium and Phosphorus.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Red soils.

Statement 1 is correct: Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau. Along the piedmont zone of the Western Ghat, long stretch of area is occupied by red loamy soil. Yellow and red soils are also found in parts of Odisha and Chattisgarh and in the southern parts of the middle Ganga plain.

Statement 2 is correct: The soil develops a reddish colour due to a wide diffusion of iron

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

in crystalline and metamorphic rocks. It looks yellow when it occurs in a hydrated form.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The fine-grained red and yellow soils are normally fertile, whereas coarse-grained soils found in dry upland areas are poor in fertility. **They are generally poor in nitrogen, phosphorous, Potassium and humus.**

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the **Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)**:

1. Farmers, Local representatives and other interested parties are the shareholders of FPO.
2. NABARD has dedicated funds to promote FPOs.

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: An FPO, formed by a **group of farm producers**, is a registered body with producers as shareholders in the organization.

- It deals with business activities related to the farm produce and it works for the benefit of the member producers.

- **Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is providing support for promotion of FPOs.**

- **NABARD has dedicated Funds like Producer Organisation Development Fund (PODF) and PRODUCE for promotion of FPOs.**

- Financing FPOs through NABARD's subsidiary NABKISAN Finance Ltd., digitisation of FPO data, development of performance measurement tool, etc. have also contributed to the ongoing efforts.

- Besides, NABARD is running an awareness campaign on the role of FPOs in building resilience against climate change, increase in productivity and optimal efficiency in the agri value chain.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding plantation of Rubber in India:

1. There are no plant species in India that can breed with natural rubber.
2. Natural rubber is a native of warm humid Amazon forests.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

Both statements are correct

- Natural rubber is a native of warm humid Amazon forests and is not naturally suited for the colder conditions in the Northeast which is one of the largest producers of rubber in India.
- Due to this, the growth of young rubber plants remains suspended during the winter months. This leads to progressive drying of the soil.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- There are no plant species in India that can breed with natural rubber

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) Agricultural Ministry is planning to create a digital Agristack. In this light, consider the following statements:

1. Each farmer will be provided a unique farmer's ID, which will be linked to the Aadhaar number.
2. It will also contain details related to land ownership and soil health.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

Both statements are correct

- **Agristack:** The project will collect granular data to provide growers with a range of customized services. Like, what to plant, where to sell, market information on price movements, and linkages to formal credit arrangements.
- Each farmer will be provided a unique farmer's ID, which will be linked to her Aadhaar number.
- It will contain details related to land ownership, the crops she grows, soil health and the benefits available under government schemes such as direct cash transfers, crop insurance and subsidized credit.

Source: [Article](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

MAPPING

Q.1) Arrange the following countries from North to South:

1. Djibouti
2. Somalia
3. Eritrea
4. Sudan

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) 4-3-1-2
- b) 3-4-2-1
- c) 4-1-2-3
- d) 3-1-2-4

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- The correct order is – Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) Where are Pratas Islands located?

- a) South China Sea
- b) Bering Sea
- c) Sea of Okhotsk
- d) Sea of Marmara

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- The Pratas Islands are located in the northern part of the South China Sea under the jurisdiction of the Republic of China (Taiwan)

Source: [Article](#)

Q.3) Which of the following countries border Black Sea?

1. Bulgaria
2. Romania
3. Ukraine

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

All countries border Black Sea

- Six countries border with the Black Sea, including Ukraine to the north, Russia and Georgia to the east, Turkey to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west.

Source: [Article](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Q.4) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Pratas Islands – Taiwan
2. Cinque Islands – India
3. Bora Bora – Indonesia

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- In a recent news, People's Liberation Army planes, including bombers, fighter jets and surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft, flew east from the Chinese coast around the southern tip of Taiwan. The rest broke off and briefly darted further south toward tiny Pratas Island (Taiwan) in the South China Sea before turning back.
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) rescued nine crew from sinking vessel Ganga-I off Cinque Island on June 23, 2021

Source: [Article 1](#), [Article 2](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Economy

Q.1) Consider the following statements

1. Direct taxes go entirely to the Central government in India
2. As per recommendations of 15th Finance Commission, Central government is supposed to distribute 41% of its total revenue to the states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct. In India, direct taxes go entirely to the Central government.

Statement 2 is correct. As per 15th Finance Commission (FC) report, the Central government is supposed to distribute 41% of its gross tax revenues (reduced from 42% after the formation of new Union Territories in Jammu and Kashmir) to the State governments.

Source – [The Hindu](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements about the **Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020**

1. The new rules seek to ban all flash sales on e-commerce platforms.
2. The rules are released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

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

- **Specific flash sales or back-to-back sales** “which limit customer choice, increase prices and prevent a level playing field are **not allowed**” But other flash sales are permitted.
- **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has earlier released a few sets of rules to govern the e-commerce operators. Now, the **new rules** are issued by the **Consumer Affairs ministry** to deal with ‘unfair’ trade practices that hurt customers.

Read more: [e-commerce rules under the Consumer Protection Act](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding **World Investment Report 2021**

1. India’s FDI inflows decreased in 2020 along with the shrink in global investment flows.
2. The report is released by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Correct answer: B

Explanation: UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has released its World Investment report 2021

Key findings:

- **India was 5th biggest recipient:** India's FDI rose 27% to \$64 billion in a year when **global investment flows shrank** 35% to \$1 trillion. This peculiar phenomenon happened due to the following reason:
 - **Mergers and acquisitions (M&A)**, especially in the technology space due to increased demand for digital products and services.
 - India saw huge investments from overseas with major deals involving ICT (Implementation of information and Communication Technology), health, infrastructure, and energy.
- **India, China and Hong Kong** were among the countries saw a rise in 2020.
- **FDI outflows** from South Asia fell 12% to USD 12 billion, due to a drop in investment from India.

Read more: [World Investment Report 2021](#)

Q.4) Which of following statement is **incorrect** regarding recusal of judges?

1. Only CJJ can take the decision on recusal of a judge from a case.
2. Procedure for recusal is mentioned in the constitution.
3. A judge cannot recuse himself if there is no conflict of interest.

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: D

Explanation

Statement 1 is incorrect. The decision to recuse generally comes from the judge herself as it rests on the conscience and discretion of the judge to disclose any potential conflict of interest. In some circumstances, lawyers or parties in the case bring it up before the judge. If a judge recuses, the case is listed before the Chief Justice for allotment to a fresh Bench.

Statement 2 is incorrect. There are no formal rules governing recusals, although several Supreme Court judgments have dealt with the issue

Statement 3 is incorrect. there are some instances where judges have recused even if they do not see a conflict but only because such an apprehension was cast, there have also been several cases where judges have refused to withdraw from a case.

Q.5) Consider the statements below:

1. Economic growth rate is low
2. Inflation is high
3. Unemployment is high

Which type of inflation do above conditions indicate?

- a) Deflation
- b) Stagflation
- c) Creeping inflation

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

d) Hyperinflation

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- In economics, stagflation or recession-inflation is a situation in which the inflation rate is high, the economic growth rate slows, and unemployment remains steadily high. It presents a dilemma for economic policy, since actions intended to lower inflation may exacerbate unemployment.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding **Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER)**

1. An increase in a nation's REER is an indication that its exports are becoming more cheaper
 2. An increase in a nation's REER is an indication that its imports are becoming more cheaper
- 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:

Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER)

- It is the weighted average of a country's currency in relation to an index or basket of other major currencies. The weights are determined by comparing the relative trade balance of a country's currency against that of each country in the index.
- An increase in a nation's REER is an indication that its exports are becoming more expensive and its imports are becoming cheaper. It is losing its trade competitiveness.

Source: [Livemint](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding **Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC):**

1. ARCs are regulated by RBI as a Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)
2. 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) is allowed in ARCs under the automatic route.
3. They can undertake lending activities too.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- ARC is a company registered under the Companies Act and registered with Reserve Bank of India under section 3 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002.
 - Securitization refers to the conversion of loans such as auto, house, credit cards, etc. of banks and lenders into debt instruments

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- **Legal basis of an ARC:** SARFAESI Act provides the legal basis of setting up an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) in India
- **Regulation:** ARCs are regulated by RBI as a Non-Banking Financial Company [NBFC] (under RBI Act, 1934). They function under the supervision and control of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- **100% foreign direct investment (FDI)** in asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) under the automatic route.
- ARCs are **not permitted** to undertake lending activities. They can only do securitization and reconstruction activities.
- One ARC can be a sponsor or investor in another ARC or it can acquire debt from another ARC.
- **Read in-depth about [ARC](#)**

Source: [Article](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Science and Technology

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the **International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor**:

1. It is a large-scale scientific experiment intended to prove the viability of fusion as an energy source.
 2. India is one of the participating countries in the project.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) is a large-scale scientific experiment that intends to prove the viability of fusion as an energy source.

ITER is currently under construction in the south of France. Seven partners—**China, the European Union, India, Japan, Korea, Russia and the United States**—have pooled their financial and scientific resources to build this fusion reactor.

ITER will not produce electricity, but it will resolve critical scientific and technical issues in order to take fusion to the point where industrial applications can be designed. By producing 500 MW of fusion power from 50 MW of power injected in the systems that heat the plasma—a "gain factor" of 10—ITER will open the way to the next step: a demonstration fusion power plant.

A fusion reactor would produce virtually no CO₂ or atmospheric pollutants, and its radioactive waste products would mostly be very short-lived compared to those produced by conventional nuclear fission reactors.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**:

1. It is a Statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
 2. The SERB-POWER scheme has been specifically designed to promote Women Scientists.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)** is a statutory body established through an Act of Parliament, 2008. The mandate is to support basic research in emerging areas of Science & Engineering.

Statement 2 is correct. "**SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)**", designed exclusively for women scientists was launched recently. SERB POWER Scheme will have two components namely (i) SERB-POWER **Fellowship** (ii) SERB-POWER **Research Grants**. While a Search-cum-Selection Committee constituted for the purpose will help in identifying the POWER Fellowship, the existing Programme

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Advisory Committee (PAC) mechanism will be used to select the POWER Research Grants. It is proposed to institute 25 POWER Fellowships annually. A total of 50 Power Grants each will be sanctioned in Level I & Level II per annum

Q.3) With regard to edge computing, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It can be used for automation of cars.
2. It requires extra bandwidth compared to traditional computing.
3. It can be used to monitor air quality and temperature patterns in a room

Answer using the codes given below

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct. In simple terms, Edge computing is a computing that's done at or near the source of the data, instead of relying on the cloud at one of a dozen data centers to do all the work. In case of edge computing data storage and processor will be in the car. So it can take instant decisions in case of emergency.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Edge computing has another huge benefit – it saves bandwidth, since data is not being sent on the network. In facial recognition and motion analytics cameras, for instance, the savings can be huge because those images require massive bandwidth. “The edge processor can process images and only relay the processed data to the data centre for further analytics, reducing traffic.

Statement 3 is correct. The edge devices monitor air quality and temperature patterns in a room and send alerts to the central building management system when any of the indices breach the threshold level. Company founder Harit Soni says the solution is being used by real estate services provider JLL India to monitor the air quality of office spaces it manages.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding **Nipah virus**

1. Case Fatality Rate (CFR) among Nipah virus infected person is higher than the Covid-19
2. Nipah Virus is an DNA or Deoxy-ribonucleic acid virus
3. There is no medicine or vaccines available against the virus.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently a survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Institute of Virology has picked up samples with the possible presence of antibodies against the Nipah virus. These samples were collected from some bat species on a cave in Mahabaleshwar, a popular hill station in Maharashtra.

About Nipah Virus:

- It is a zoonotic, RNA or Ribonucleic acid virus . It is closely related to Hendra virus

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- Nipah virus is considered dangerous as there is no medicine or vaccines available and the death rate among those affected is high. While the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) among COVID-19 affected patients is between 1-2%, that for Nipah infections is in the range of 65-100%.
- Fruit bats, also called flying foxes, are the animal reservoir for NiV in nature
- Infection with NiV is associated with encephalitis (swelling of the brain) and can cause mild to severe illness and even death.

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding mRNA technology:

1. mRNA are single-stranded molecules carrying information from DNA to the cells.
2. Scientists can design mRNA and make them generate proteins on demand.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

Both statements are correct

Messenger RNA (or mRNA) refers to single-strand RNA molecules that carry instructions from our DNA to cells.

- mRNA tells them what proteins they should produce and when.
- For a while now, scientists have been able to design mRNA, introduce them into living cells, and get them to make proteins on demand.
- **Numerous applications:** Getting the body to produce proteins to supplement natural deficiencies, improve blood flow, or even reverse the effects of life-threatening diseases like multiple sclerosis.
- Perhaps the most ingenious use of this technology is in combating disease. If mRNA can instruct the body to produce proteins that mimic the shape of an invading virus (the spike protein in COVID's case), we can train our immune system in advance to identify dangers and create antibody defences for when a real virus comes along.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding Peter Pan Syndrome

1. It is a psychological condition that is used to describe an adult who is socially immature.
2. The WHO (World Health Organization) recognized Peter Pan Syndrome as a mental health disorder

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

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

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Recently, a special court in Mumbai granted bail to an accused of sexually assaulting a minor as he was suffering from Peter Pan Syndrome (PPS).

About Peter Pan Syndrome:

- It is a psychological condition that is used to describe an adult who is socially immature.
- People who develop behaviours of living life carefree, finding responsibilities challenging in adulthood, and basically never growing up suffer from PPS.
- The term was coined by psychologist Dan Kiley to explain the behaviour of such men who 'refuse to grow' and behave their age in 1983.
- Dan Kiley got the idea of PPS after noticing Peter Pan, a fictional character created by Scottish novelist James Matthew Barrie.
- The WHO (World Health Organization) does not recognise Peter Pan Syndrome as a health disorder, many experts believe it is a mental health condition that can affect one's quality of life.

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding **Trusted Telecom Portal (TTP)**

1. The Portal will mandate telecom service providers to use equipment through trusted or authentic sources only.
2. The portal is part of the national security directive.

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: Chinese telecom gear giant Huawei Technologies has sought permission for access to the government's 'Trusted Telecom Portal' so that it can share details about the telecom products which telecom service providers have agreed to buy from it.

What is the 'Trusted Telecom Portal (TTP)'?

Government recently launched a 'trusted telecom' portal as a part of the **national security directive** on the telecommunications sector.

- **Background:** The development has come following the government's efforts to ensure security of telecom networks, especially wrt fifth generation (5G) service. The initiative is widely believed to discourage the use of China-made gear in the country's core networks.
- The new portal is under the Cyber wing of the National Security Council Secretariat
- **Objective:** Portal will mandate telecom service providers to use equipment through trusted or authentic sources only.
- **How will it work?**
 - The TSPs will be able to access the Trusted Telecom Portal and indicate the telecom products they plan to buy, along with the vendor.
 - The details of these vendors, the products, the critical components and their sources are then populated in the portal by the telecom service providers. Vendors will also be given access to the portal.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- The government will assess the vendors and the sources of the components to determine trusted sources and trusted products and this decision will be intimated to the vendor and the telecom provider.

Q.8) Which of the following organization recently released '**Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2020**'?

- a) International Energy Agency (IEA)
- b) The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- c) International Energy Forum
- d) The Energy and Resources Institute(TERI)

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Recently, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) released the 'Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2020' report.

Key findings of the report:

- The year 2020 (with 261 GW installed) was a **record year for renewables deployment** despite the Covid-19- pandemic. The addition was almost 50% higher than that made in 2019 and represented 82% of the global new power capacity.
- **Replacing Coal with Renewables** will save operators USD 32 billion a year and reduce annual carbon dioxide emissions by around three billion tonnes.
- **Reducing Cost of Renewables:** In about 10 years (2010-2020), the cost of power produced from commercial solar PVs fell by 85%, concentrating solar power (CSP) 68%, onshore wind 68% and offshore wind 48%.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding **Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018**

1. A special court (designated under the PMLA, 2002) may declare an individual as a fugitive economic offender.
2. The value of the offence has to be at least Rs. 50 crore to declare a person as a Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO)

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 Enforcement Directorate has transferred assets worth Rs. 8,441.50 crore to public sector banks that suffered losses to the tune of Rs. 22,585.83 crore due to frauds committed allegedly by Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

- All the three have been declared 'Fugitive Economic Offenders' by PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act) Court in Mumbai.

About Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018:

- It seeks to confiscate properties of economic offenders who have left the country to avoid facing criminal prosecution or refuse to return to the country to face prosecution.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

- Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO): A person against whom an arrest warrant has been issued for committing an offence listed in the Act and the value of the offence is at least Rs. 100 crore.
- After hearing the application, a special court (designated under the PMLA, 2002) may declare an individual as a fugitive economic offender.
- It may confiscate properties which are proceeds of crime, Benami properties and any other property, in India or abroad.
- Upon confiscation, all rights and titles of the property will vest in the central government, free from encumbrances (such as any charges on the property).
- The central government may appoint an administrator to manage and dispose of these proper

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statement regarding **Delta Plus variant**

1. Delta Plus has the same mutation that was first seen in the Beta Variant in South Africa
2. This variant binds more easily to lung cells and is potentially resistant to monoclonal antibody therapy.

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: A new variant of the coronavirus has been detected in some states. It is a further mutation of prevalent Delta variant which had a huge role to play in the country's second covid-19 wave. Health authorities here have termed the Delta Plus, or B.1.617.2.1, a variant of concern.

About Delta plus variant:

- **More transmissible:** This version evolved from its predecessor Delta. Further, Delta Plus also has the same mutation that was first seen in the Beta Variant in South Africa. This combination can make it all the more transmissible.
- The health ministry says this variant **binds more easily to lung cells** and is **potentially resistant to monoclonal antibody therapy**.
- There is also no data on **how existing treatments or even vaccines will work against** this variant.
 - **Vaccine escape** is possible if this variant evades the antibodies produced against the surface spike protein by developing shape-changing mutations in that protein.

Source: [Livemint](#)

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding **Project Seabird**

1. The project involves creation of a naval base at Karwar on the west coast of India
2. It is the project of Karnataka State government to provide a naval base to Indian Navy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Recently, the Union Defence Minister has reviewed the status of the Indian Navy's Project Seabird at the Karwar Naval Base.

About Project Seabird:

- **Project Seabird** is the largest naval infrastructure project at Karwar, Karnataka.
- **The project involves** creation of a naval base at Karwar on the west coast of India.
- **Upon completion**, the project will provide the Indian Navy with its largest naval base on the west coast and also the largest naval base east of the Suez Canal.

Phases of the Project Seabird:

- **Phase I** comprises construction of a deep-sea harbour, breakwaters, dredging, a township, a naval hospital, dockyard uplift centre and a ship lift.
- **Phase II** was cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security in 2012. It envisages expanding facilities to house additional warships and set up a new Naval Air Station among other plans.
- **Moreover**, the Navy's lone aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya** is also based at Karwar. The base also has the country's first sealift facility, a unique shiplift and transfer system for docking and undocking ships and submarines.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding **LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging)**

1. It is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges & variable distances.
2. These light pulses combined with other data recorded by the airborne system generate precise, three-dimensional information

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Recently, The Union Environment Minister has released detailed project reports of the light detection and ranging(LiDAR) based survey of forest areas in 10 states.

- **LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging):** It is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges & variable distances.
- **Working:** These light pulses combined with other data recorded by the airborne system generate precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics.
- **Instrument:** LiDAR instrument principally consists of a laser, a scanner, and a specialized GPS receiver. Airplanes and helicopters are the most commonly used platforms for acquiring LiDAR data over broad areas.
- **Applications:** LiDAR is used for agriculture, hydrology and water management systems, geology-related applications and also in archaeology.

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Misc.

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the **Dhole** wild dog:

1. It is endemic to Asian continent.
 2. It is listed as endangered in the IUCN Red List.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Dhole is the wild dog of Asia that was once found throughout much of the continent, but this species is now endangered and has a much restricted range.

It is an extant species in Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Myanmar; Nepal and Thailand.

Dhole is listed as **Endangered species in IUCN Red List** of Threatened Species with decreasing population trend. It is also listed in **CITES Appendix II**.

Q.2) Tax Inspectors Without Borders, is a joint initiative between OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) and which another organization?

- a) UNDP
- b) WB
- c) UNODC
- d) IMF

Correct answer: A

Explanation:

- Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) is a joint initiative of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) supporting countries in **building tax audit capacity**.
- TIWB Programmes complement the broader efforts of the international community to strengthen co-operation on tax matters and contribute to the domestic resource mobilization efforts of developing countries.

Source: [Pib](#)

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

Statutory, Regulatory and various Quasi-judicial Bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

1. It is a statutory body.
2. Union Finance Minister is the ex-officio chairman of the board.

Which of the above statements 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:** It is a statutory body as it was established in accordance with the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Chairman is nominated by the government and is usually an-IAS level officer.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT):

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) can hear appeals against the orders of NCLT and Competition Commission of India (CCI).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** NCLT is a quasi-judicial and a statutory body established under Companies Act 2013
- **Statement 2 is correct:** National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) was constituted under the Companies Act, 2013. It was established for hearing appeals against the orders of (a) National Company Law Tribunal(s) (NCLT) (b) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India and (c) Competition Commission of India (CCI).

Source: [Article](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT):

1. It is a quasi-judicial body.
2. An appeal against its orders lies in High Court only if a substantial question of law arises

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

10 PM Compilation for the Week - 21st to 26th June, 2021

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- ITAT is a quasi-judicial institution set up in January, 1941 and specializes in dealing with appeals under the Direct Taxes Acts. The orders passed by the ITAT are final, an appeal lies to the High Court only if a substantial question of law arises for determination.
- Read [more](#)

Source: [Pib](#)

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