# **Forum** AS

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

25 Oct to 31 Oct, 2021

#### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

# Q.1) Exercise Konkan Shakti is a tri-services joint exercise between India and which other country?

- a) UK
- b) France
- c) Germany
- d) USA

# Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation:**

• It is the first ever tri-services joint exercise between India and UK.

Source: Article

#### Q.2) With reference to OSOWOG initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. The idea for this initiative was proposed in the first assembly session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- 2. One of its aims is to build and scale interregional energy grids.

#### Which of the statements given above 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.

The concept of the OSOWOG Initiative was first outlined at the First Assembly of the ISA in late 2018.

- **Aim**: It envisions building and scaling interregional energy grids to share solar energy across the globe, leveraging the differences of time zones, seasons, resources, and prices between countries and regions.
- **Benefits:** The initiative will help de-carbonise energy production, which is today the largest source of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: Article

# Q.3) In which of the following geographical regions Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are located?

- 1. Indian Ocean
- 2. South China Sea
- 3. Atlantic Ocean

#### 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**

• SIDS are located in the Caribbean, the Pacific, and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea (AIS).

Source: Article

#### Q.4) With reference to Ashagabat Agreement, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international transport and transit corridor facilitating transportation of goods between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf.
- 2. India is not a part of this agreement.

#### 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**: Ashgabat Agreement is an international transport and transit corridor facilitating transportation of goods between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf. The Ashgabat Agreement aims to develop the shortest trade route between Central Asian countries and Iranian and Omani ports.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The multimodal transport agreement signed by the governments of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Pakistan, India and Oman.

Source: TheHindu

#### Q.5) Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, is in which of the following countries:

- a) Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan
- b) UK and France
- c) Israel and Palestine
- d) Azerbaijan and Armenia

#### **Correct Answer D**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement d is correct:** Nagorno-Karabakh is a disputed territory internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan but mostly governed by the Republic of Artsakh, de facto independent state with an Armenian ethnic majority backed by neighboring Armenia.

Source: TheHindu

# **Q.6)** With reference to **Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS)**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative of India, Japan and the US.
- 2. Under this initiative, the member countries have committed an initial funding of \$10 million

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

### Correct Answer: B

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: India along with Australia, the UK and small island developing states(SIDS) will be launching a new initiative named "IRIS (Infrastructure for Resilient Island States)" on the sidelines of the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, UK.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The IRIS initiative is aimed at creating a coalition for putting in place infrastructure that can withstand disasters and lessen economic losses in island nations. Under this initiative, Australia, India and the UK have committed an initial funding of \$10 million. More countries including Japan are expected to contribute to the initiative.

Source: India, UK, Australia to launch IRIS at COP26

# Q.7) With reference to Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative of G20 countries.
- 2. The partnership will focus on Maximising the opportunities arising from the fourth industrial revolution.

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

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

#### **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: Partnership on New Industrial Revolution(PartNIR) is a programme of partnership among BRICS nations

**Statement 2 is correct**: The partnership will focus on Maximising the opportunities arising from the fourth industrial revolution.

Source: Minister of State for Communications chairs 7th Meeting of BRICS Communications
Ministers

#### Q.8) Which of the following countries are members of G7:

- a) Germany, USA, China and UK
- b) Italy, UK, India and Australia
- c) Canada, UK, USA and Russia
- d) Italy, Japan, France and Germany

#### **Correct Answer D**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement d is correct:** G7 currently consists of **US, UK, Germany, Japan, Italy, France and Canada.** The major purpose of the G-7 currently is to discuss and sometimes act to help resolve global problems, with a special focus on economic issues. The group has discussed financial crises, monetary systems, and major world crises such as oil shortages.

Source: G7 countries reach breakthrough on digital trade and data

#### **Q.9) Greenhouse Gas Bulletin Report,** is released by which of the following organization:

- a) Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- b) International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC)
- c) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- d) Green Peace

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement c is correct:** The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has released its Greenhouse Gas Bulletin Report ahead of COP26 in Glasgow, UK.

Source: CO2 emissions in 2020 above decadal average

#### Q.10) Changing Wealth of Nations report is released by which of the following?

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

### **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation**

• Changing wealth of nations report is released by the World Bank

Source: DTE

#### Q.11) Climate Vulnerability Index, released by which of the following organization?

- a) International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- b) Green Peace
- c) Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)
- d) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement c is correct:** Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) has released its first-of-its-kind district-level climate vulnerability assessment or Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI). The index has analyzed 640 districts in India and found that 463 of these are vulnerable to extreme floods, droughts and cyclones etc.

Source: Indan Express

#### **GEOGRAPHY**

#### Q.1) Palin is a tributary of which of the following rivers?

- a) Subansiri
- b) Lohit
- c) Barak
- d) Dibang

#### **Correct Answer: A**

### Explanation

• Palin is a tributary of Subansiri. It's in news because of a recent discovery of 3 fish species (Aborichthys uniobarensis, Aborichthys barapensis and Aborichthys palinensis). And these fish species are distributed in streams like Senki, Barap and Palin.

#### Q.2) Palk Strait, is a strait between which of the following countries:

- a) India and Sri Lanka
- b) India and Bangladesh
- c) Sri Lanka and Bangladesh
- d) India and Pakistan

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** The **Palk Strait** is a strait between the Tamil Nadu state of India and the Jaffna District of the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.

Source: TheHindu

#### Q.3) With reference to Atmospheric Rivers, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a flowing column of condensed water vapor in the atmosphere.
- 2. Global warming will lead to decrease in intensity of atmospheric rivers.

#### 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
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Atmospheric rivers are projected to grow longer, wider and wetter in a warming climate.

Source: DTE

#### Q.4) Arrange the following seas from North to South direction:

- 1. Celebes
- 2. Banda
- 3. Ceram

#### Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

### **Correct Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

The correct order from North to South -

- Celebes Sea
- Ceram Sea
- Banda Sea

These seas are around Sulawesi Island which is in news as museum scientists there have discovered 28 new species of beetles.

Source: Indian Express

#### Q.5) Eaglenest wildlife sanctuary, is located in which of the following Indian state:

- a) Odisha
- b) West Bengal
- c) Sikkim
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

#### **Correct Answer D**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement d is correct:** Eaglenest or Eagle's Nest Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area of India in the Himalayan foothills of West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh. It conjoins Sessa Orchid Sanctuary to the northeast and Pakhui Tiger Reserve across the Kameng river to the east.

Source: <u>DTE</u>

#### Q.6) Parambikulam Dam is located in which of the following state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Goa

#### Correct Answer: A

### **Explanation:**

Parambikulam Dam is an embankment dam on the Parambikulam River, Parambikulam located in the Palakkad district in the Western Ghats of Kerala.

The Parambikulam Aliyar Project agreement was signed between Kerala and Tamil Nadu on May 29, 1970, with retrospective effect from November 1958. It provides for the diversion of 30.5 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) annually from Kerala to Tamil Nadu. The dam is operated and maintained by Tamil Nadu but the ownership rests with Kerala.

Source: Clearing the air on water: On Parambikulam Aliyar Project

#### Q.7) Barak Valley is located in which of the following Indian State?

- a) Manipur
- b) Nagaland
- c) Bihar
- d) Assam

# Correct Answer: D

#### **Explanation:**

The Barak Valley is located in the southern region of the Indian state of Assam. The region is named after the Barak river.

The Barak valley mainly consists of three administrative districts of Assam namely Cachar, Karimganj, and Hailakandi. The main city of the valley is Silchar.

Source: The Hindu

#### Q.8) Sundarbans National Park, is located in which of the following Indian State:

- a) West Bengal
- b) Odisha
- c) Assam
- d) Madhya Pradesh

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** The Sundarbans National Park is a national park, tiger reserve, and biosphere reserve in West Bengal, India.

Source: DTE

#### Q.9) In which of the following countries, Aral Sea is situated:

- a) Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan
- b) Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan
- c) Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan
- d) Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement c is correct:** The Aral Sea is situated in Central Asia, between the Southern part of Kazakhstan and Northern Uzbekistan.

Source: Chief Election Commissioner of India visits Uzbekistan as an International Observer for Presidential Elections

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

# Q.1) Namdhapa Tiger Reserve, as seen in news is located in which of the following states?

- a) Manipur
- b) Tripura
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Mizoram

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement c is correct:** It is India's easternmost tiger reserve. It is located in the Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh near the international border with Myanmar. The area is located between Dapha Bum ridge of Mishmi Hills, outspurs of North Eastern Himalayas and Patkai Ranges.

Source: Save hornbills, for they are the gardeners of tropical forests: Study

#### Q.2) With reference to polar ice caps, consider the following statements:

- 1. Antarctic marine ice has 500 times more iron than the ice above it.
- 2. Melting permafrost releases Methane into the atmosphere.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation:**

#### Both statements are correct.

- The Antarctic is greening because of the irreversible melting of sea ice, which is green in color. In 2016, it was discovered that marine ice has 500 times more iron than the ice above it. This iron comes from the rocks under the Antarctic ice sheet which, when glaciers pass over them, are ground into a fine powder. The ice-bound iron oxidizes in contact with seawater.
- Rapidly melting permafrost in the poles is also releasing trapped greenhouse gases like methane into the atmosphere.

Source: DTE

#### Q.3) Bugun Liocichla sometimes seen in news is a species of?

- a) Bird
- b) Frog
- c) Fish
- d) Butterfly

# Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation:**

• Bugun liocichla was the first bird to be discovered in India since its independence.

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Source: DTE

# Q.4) With reference to various terms related to environment pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, consider the following statements:

- 1. Carbon neutrality is also referred to as net-zero carbon dioxide emission wherein you can't add any carbon dioxide to the air.
- 2. Tipping point is a level of change in system properties beyond which a system reorganizes, often abruptly, and does not return to the initial state.

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

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

### **Correct Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Carbon neutrality does not means adding no CO2 to the air. It means that if you do add carbon dioxide into the air you take out the same amount.
- Statement 2 is correct

Source:  $\underline{DTE}$ 

- **Q.5) Trigonopterus corona** was recently seen in news. Which of the following correctly explains it?
- a) A newly discovered plant species in Western Ghats.
- b) A mutated variant of Corona virus.
- c) A newly discovered beetle in Indonesian island.
- d) A new butterfly species discovered in Amazon forests.

#### Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation:

Scientists have discovered a new species of beetle named Trigonopterus corona on the **Indonesian island of Sulawesi.** 

**Note**: It is not the only insect species to be named after the pandemic. In April 2021, a new species of caddisfly (a moth-like insect) was collected near a stream in Kosovo and named *Potamophylax coronavirus*.

Source: Trigonopterus corona: A beetle species named after coronavirus

#### Q.6) Semnopithecus entellus sometimes seen in news is a species of?

- a) Primate
- b) Fish
- c) Spider
- d) Lizard

#### **Correct Answer: A**

#### Explanation

• It is a species of primate known as Gray Langur.

Source: Article

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#### Q.7) Blue carbon is associated with which of the following?

- 1. Mangroves
- 2. Oceans
- 3. Tidal marshes

#### Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

# Correct Answer: D

# Explanation:

- The coastal ecosystems of mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrass meadows contain large stores of carbon deposited by vegetation and various natural processes over centuries. These ecosystems sequester and store more carbon often referred to as 'blue carbon' per unit area than terrestrial forests.
- The ability of these vegetated ecosystems to remove carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere makes them significant net carbon sinks, and they are now being recognised for their role in mitigating climate change.

Source: Article

#### Q.8) Which of the following are the Green House Gases?

- a) Carbon dioxide, Ozone and Nitrogen
- b) Water Vapor, Methane and Nitrous oxide
- c) Ozone, carbon Monoxide and Sulphur Oxide
- d) Methane, Ozone and Nitrogen dioxide

#### **Correct Answer B**

#### Explanation

**Statement b is correct:** The Primary GHGs are: Water Vapour, Carbon dioxide, Methane, Nitrous oxide and Ozone

Other GHGs are carbon monoxide, fluorinated gases, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), black carbon (soot), and brown carbon.

Among the greenhouse gases, only water vapour can absorb both incoming (UV) and outgoing (infrared) radiation.

Source: DTE

- 1. They are found in almost all the parts of India.
- 2. It is listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN red list of species.

Q.9) With reference to Hanuman Langur, consider the following statements:

#### 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**: Hanuman Langurs are found in almost all the parts of India. They are easily spotted in the Bandhavgarh National Park and Sariska Tiger Reserve.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: It is listed as Least Concern (LC) in the IUCN red list of species.

Source: Article

# Q.10) With reference to Bio-Energy Carbon Capture and Storage, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under this method CO<sub>2</sub> is captured from biomass-based power plants.
- 2. One of the drawbacks of this method is that it threatens food security.

#### 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.

- **Bio-Energy Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS)**, captures CO<sub>2</sub> from biomass-based power plants.
- Issues: Economic viability of the technology is also highly uncertain the cost is estimated at \$15-400 per tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e. Besides, BECCS threatens **food security** by promoting diversion of land for biofuel production. It is estimated that rolling out BECCS at scale will require up to 3,000 million hectares about twice the land currently under cultivation globally.

Source: Article

# Q.11) With reference to Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program, consider the following statements:

- 1. It seeks to address high-mountain development issues using the conservation of the snow leopard as a flagship species.
- 2. Program was launched by UNEP.

#### 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
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** GSLEP was not launched by UNEP. In the 2013 Bishkek Declaration, the 12 snow leopard range countries endorsed a comprehensive, long-term

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Global Snow Leopard Conservation Program – this was the birth of GSLEP. It is a unique alliance of range country governments and non-governmental partners.

Source: DTE

Q.12) With reference to IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a global organization consisting only of government representatives.
- 2. World Conservation Strategy report is published by the IUCN.

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

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

#### **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The IUCN is a global union composed of both government as well as civil society organizations. Its members include States, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples' organizations, experts, government agencies, etc.

**Statement 2 is correct:** IUCN published the World Conservation Strategy, a document that helped define the concept of 'sustainable development' and shaped the global conservation and sustainable development agenda.

Source: Unesco World Heritage forests: India's Sundarbans among 5 sites with highest 'blue carbon' globally

### Q.13) Everglades National Park, in news is related to which of the following country:

- a) India
- b) USA
- c) Australia
- d) United Kingdom

#### **Correct Answer B**

#### **Explanation:**

Statement b is correct: Everglades National Park in the United States.

Source: Unesco World Heritage forests: India's Sundarbans among 5 sites with highest

'blue carbon' globally

#### **Polity**

- **Q.1)** With reference to the **cadre allocation of IAS officers**, consider the following statements:
- 1. Under the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules, 1954, it is mandatory for the Central Government to consult the state government.
- 2. The Centre has to consult with both the home state and the State to which allocation was made.

#### 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**: Under the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules, 1954, it is mandatory for the Central Government to consult the state government.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: According to the recent SC judgment, the Cadre Rules are satisfied when the consultation was made with the State to which allocation was made (Not with the state to which the candidate belongs).

Source: UPSC candidates have no right to cadre of choice: Supreme Court

#### Q.2) With reference to Refugees, consider the following statements:

- 1. India is not the signatory to 1951 Refugee convention under which UNHCR operates.
- 2. India has its own national law for protection of refugees.

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

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

#### Correct Answer A

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct:** India is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Status Convention. India is also not a signatory to the 1967 Refugee Status Protocol. 1951 Refugee Status Convention is also called as the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951. It is a United Nations Multilateral Treaty that defines refugees and the rights of these refugees who are granted asylum and the responsibilities of the nations that grants asylum to them.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** India does not have a national refugee protection framework.

Source: Source: Livemint

# Q.3) With reference to Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a non-constitutional, non-permanent and independent body.
- 2. For administrative, logistic, planning and budgeting purposes, the NITI Aayog serves as the Nodal Agency for EAC-PM.

#### 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 the statements are correct.

EAC-PM is a non-constitutional, non-permanent and independent body constituted to give economic advice to the Government of India, specifically the Prime Minister.

Aim: To highlight key economic issues facing the country to the government of India from a neutral viewpoint.

For administrative, logistic, planning and budgeting purposes, the NITI Aayog serves as the Nodal Agency for the EAC-PM.

Source: EAC-PM: 3 new members inducted



#### **Schemes and Programs**

- **Q.1)** With reference to **Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme**, consider the following statements:
- 1. The Gold Bonds are issued as Government of India Stock under the Government Securities (GS) Act, 2006.
- 2. The bonds are restricted for sale to resident individuals, Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs), trusts, universities and charitable institutions only.

#### 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 Gold Bonds are issued as Government of India Stock under the Government Securities (GS) Act, 2006.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The bonds are restricted for sale to resident individuals, Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs), trusts, universities and charitable institutions.

Source: PIB

### Q.2) With reference to NIPUN Bharat Mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims for a robust skill development architecture in the age group of sixteen to eighteen years.
- 2. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will implement this mission.

#### 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:**

#### Both statements are incorrect.

• **NIPUN Bharat Mission aims** to improve foundational literacy and numeracy of children in the age group of three to nine years.

#### **Key Features of the Mission:**

- **Implementation**: The mission will be implemented by the Union Education Ministry in collaboration with states through the flagship school education program Samagra Shiksha.
- **Target:** The mission has set a target that by 2026-27, every Class 3 child should be able to read with understanding at the rate of at least 60 words per minute. Further, the child should be able to read and write numbers up to 9,999 and solve simple multiplication problems.
- **Survey**: A National Achievement Survey of Class 3 students will be conducted to set a baseline to track the future progress of the mission.

• **Mother Tongue:** The mission also emphasizes the importance of using a child's mother tongue in teaching, a principle of the National Education Policy 2020.

Source: Article

- **Q.3)** With reference to **National Maritime Foundation (NMF)**, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is India's first maritime think-tank for conducting independent and policy-relevant research on 'matters maritime'.
- 2. Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) is organised by the National Maritime Foundation.

#### 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 the statements are correct.

It is India's first maritime think-tank for conducting independent and policy-relevant research on 'matters maritime'. It is an autonomous think-tank. But its intellectual and organizational development is supported by the Ministry of Defence and the Indian Navy. It is Located in New Delhi.

Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) is organised by the National Maritime Foundation.

Source: INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE 2021

- **Q.4)** With reference to the **container-based hospitals under Health Infrastructure Mission**, consider the following statements:
- 1. These are mobile hospitals that will be kept ready at all times.
- 2. These hospitals will be stationed in New Delhi and Chennai.

#### 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 the statements are correct.

For the first time in Asia, two container-based hospitals with comprehensive medical facilities will be kept ready at all times under the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission. One mobile unit will have 22 containers with 100 beds each.

These mobile hospitals will be stationed in New Delhi and Chennai. These hospitals can be swiftly mobilized by rail or air to respond to any calamity or disaster in the country.

Source: PM ABHIM (Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission) - Explained, pointwise

**Q.5)** With reference to **Light House Projects (LHPs)**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are model housing projects based on conventional technologies.
- 2. These houses will be disaster-resilient, environment-friendly, cost-effective.

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

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

#### **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: These are model housing projects with houses built with shortlisted alternate technology suitable to the geo-climatic and hazard conditions of the region.

**Statement 2 is correct**: These houses will be disaster-resilient, environment-friendly, cost-effective, and have speedy construction technologies.



#### **Economy**

- Q.1) With reference to International Securities Identification Number (ISIN), consider the following statements:
- 1. It is a 5-digit numeric code that uniquely identifies a specific security.
- 2. The ISIN code is the only common securities identification number that is universally recognized.
- 3. It is used for uniquely identifying securities like stocks, bonds warrants and commercial papers.

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

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

#### **Correct Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: An ISIN is a 12-digit alphanumeric code that uniquely identifies a specific security.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The ISIN code is the only common securities identification number that is universally recognized.

**Statement 3 is correct**: It is used for uniquely identifying securities like stocks, bonds warrants and commercial papers.

Source: The Hindu

**Q.2)** With reference to Zero Budget Natural Farming, consider the following statements:

- 1. In this method, neither fertiliser nor pesticide is used.
- 2. Only 10 % of water is to be utilised for irrigation in ZBNF as compared to traditional farming techniques.

#### 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**: 'Zero Budget' means without using any credit, and without spending any money on purchased inputs. 'Natural farming' means farming with Nature and without chemicals. Under ZBNF, neither fertiliser nor pesticide is used.

Basic concept of ZBNF, which is different from organic farming, is to ensure that profit from supplementary crops is enough to cover the cost of production of the main crop.

**Statement 2 is correct**: Only 10 % of water is to be utilised for irrigation as compared to traditional farming techniques.

Source: The Hindu

- **Q.3)** With reference to the **National Formulary of India (NFI)**, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is published for the first time in 2021.
- 2. It aims to promote rational use of medicines in the country.
- 3. It is published by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

#### Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: This year is the sixth edition of the Publication. The 6th Edition of NFI 2021 has been drafted by adopting the principle 'do not miss critical and do not overload' the information by revising the appendices, chapters and drug monographs.

Statement 2 is correct: It aims to promote rational use of medicines in the country.

**Statement 3 is incorrect**: NFI has been published by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)

Source: PIB



#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### Q.1) TW Pictoris sometimes seen in news is a?

- a) Cataclysmic variable star system
- b) A stationary radio telescope
- c) Near Earth object
- d) Anti-satellite weapon system

# Correct Answer: A Explanation:

- TW Pictoris is a cataclysmic variable system located about 1,400 light-years away in the constellation of Pictor.
- It consists of a white dwarf that feeds from a surrounding accretion disk fuelled by hydrogen and helium from its smaller companion star. As the white dwarf accretes it becomes brighter.

Source: Indian Express

#### Q.2) With reference to learning difficulties, consider the following statements:

- 1. Dyslexia causes problems with reading, writing and spelling.
- 2. Dysgraphia is a term that refers to trouble with writing.

#### 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.

- Dyslexia is a learning disability causing problems with reading, writing and spelling.
- Dysgraphia is a term referring to trouble with writing

**Source**: Article

#### Q.3) With reference to food fortification, consider the following statements:

- 1. For rice fortification, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is the nodal agency.
- 2. There is no direct link between Anaemia and iron deficiency.

#### 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**: For rice fortification, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is the nodal agency. Fortification of milk was started in 2017 under

which the National Dairy Development Board of India (NDDB) is pushing companies to add vitamin D.

• **Statement 2 is correct**: There is no direct link between anaemia and iron deficiency. Anaemia is high among poor children in the rural areas but iron deficiency is more among the urban and rich across the country.

Source: Article

#### **Q.4)** With reference to **Dyscalculia**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a learning disability in math. People with this disease have trouble with math at many levels.
- 2. Many times, dyscalculia comes with other learning disorders, such as dyslexia or dysgraphia.
- 3. There are medications available for this disease to boost brain's quantitative ability.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: D

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is correct**: It is a learning disability in math. People with this disease have trouble with math at many levels. They often struggle with key concepts like bigger vs. smaller.

**Statement 2 is correct**: It is more than just difficulty with math. Many times, dyscalculia comes with other learning disorders, such as dyslexia or dysgraphia.

Note: Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability. It causes problems with reading, writing and spelling. Dysgraphia is a term that refers to trouble with writing.

**Statement 3 is incorrect**: The only way to get a diagnosis is through an evaluation as there is no medication available.

Source: Understanding dyscalculia and what it's like to live with it

#### Q.5) With reference to Agni Missiles V consider the following statements:

- 1. It is surface to air ballistic missile.
- 2. It is fuelled by liquid propellant only.
- 3. It is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead of about 1.5 tonnes.

#### Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

#### **Correct Answer B**

#### **Explanation:**

#### About Agni -V Missiles

Agni-V is the most advanced surface-to-surface indigenously built ballistic missile.

- The missile uses a three-stage solid-fuelled, is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with high degree of accuracy
- Agni-V is a fire and forget missile, which once fired cannot be stopped, except by an interceptor missile.
- It is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead of about 1.5 tonnes.
- It has been developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).
- The 5 missiles (P-A-T-N-A) developed under this program: Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Nag, Akash.

Source: TOI

#### Q.6) Project 1135.6 sometimes seen in news is associated with?

- a) Stealth-guided missile frigates
- b) Anti-Satellite weapon system
- c) Blockchain based decryption technology
- d) Ballistic Missile Defence Interceptor program

# Correct Answer: A Explanation:

• The Talwar-class frigates or Project 11356 are a class of stealth guided missile frigates designed and built by Russia for the Indian Navy

Source: PIB

Q.7) Varaha, Sajag, Sarthak are sometimes seen in news. These are related to which of the following?

- a) Riverine islands
- b) Frog species
- c) Offshore Patrol Vessels
- d) Attack submarines

# Correct Answer: C Explanation:

Recently, an Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV), Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sarthak has been commissioned and dedicated to the nation at Goa by the Indian Coast Guard.

Other OPVs such as Sajag, Vigraha, Varaha.

Source: Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Sarthak' dedicated to the Nation

#### **Governments Schemes and Initiatives**

#### Q.1) Operation Red Rose, in news, is related to which of the following:

- a) To enhance the production of red roses.
- b) It was an American military operation to capture Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.
- c) To curb illicit liquor trading and excise-related crimes.
- d) It is a Pacific Air Forces-sponsored exercise meant to provide realistic training in a simulated combat environment.

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement c is correct:** Operation Red Rose was launched to ensure that there should not be illicit or illegal movement of liquor in Punjab.

Source: Punjab uses tech against illicit brewing

#### Q.2) Srikrishna committee, in news, is related to which of the following:

- a) To examine issues related to data protection
- b) Formulating food policy in the long term
- c) Unemployment and Public Welfare
- d) To look into GST revenue shortfall faced by states

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** Government set up a committee of experts in 2017 under the chairmanship of Justice B.N. Srikrishna. The committee submitted a report titled, 'A Free and Fair Digital Economy: Protecting Privacy, Empowering Indians', a year later along with a draft Data Protection Bill.

Its focus was to ensure that citizens know how their data is processed, why it is being processed, for how long such data would be stored, where it's being stored, how secure it would be, etc. The major principles suggested by the committee are informed consent, data minimization, process limitation and the right to be forgotten embedded in the Bill

Source: We mustn't lose time on enacting a data protection law

#### Q.3) With reference to SAMBHAV, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a national level awareness programme being organised by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.
- 2. Under the initiative, students from different colleges/ITIs will be encouraged to take up entrepreneurship.

### 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.

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- SAMBHAV is a National Level Awareness Programme-2021 being organised by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, in New Delhi today, he emphasized that new products and services created by budding entrepreneurs can give a cascading effect, for stimulating related businesses or sectors
- The mass outreach program will be a one-month long initiative under the Ministry of MSME in which students from different colleges/ITIs from all parts of the country will be encouraged by 130 field offices of the Ministry to take up entrepreneurship. During the campaign the college students will be made aware of the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of MSME through Audio/Video film presentations.

Source: PIB

#### Q.4) With reference to Sankalp Programme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.
- 2. The programme is launched by Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD).

#### 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:** It is an outcome-focused scheme marking a shift in the government's implementation strategy in vocational education and training from inputs to results. SANKALP aims to implement the mandate of the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM).

SANKALP engages with District Skill Committees (DSCs) to effectively reduce the mismatch between the supply and demand of skilled manpower in the country, thereby creating decent opportunities for the youth to work and earn.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** SANKALP is a World Bank loan assisted program. It was launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Source: Union Minister for Education and Skill Development inaugurates phase-II of Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship

#### Q.5) With reference to Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to assist farmers in transportation of agricultural products.
- 2. Scheme will focus on transporting perishable food products from the hilly areas, northeastern states and tribal areas.
- 3. E-KUSHAL platform has been launched under the scheme for information dissemination.

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

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

# Correct Answer: B Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: The scheme has been launched by Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- Statement 2 & 3 are correct

Source: Article

# Q.6) With reference to Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), consider the following statements:

- 1. This course will be available for all students who want to choose teaching as a profession after clearing secondary school.
- 2. The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has created the curriculum of this course

#### 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.

- **ITEP** is a four-year dual-major holistic bachelor's degree offering B.A B.Ed./ B.Sc B.Ed and B.Com B.Ed.
- This course will be available for all students who want to choose teaching as a profession after clearing secondary school.
- The **National Council for Teacher Education** (NCTE) has created the curriculum of this course to enable a student-teacher to get a degree in education as well as a specialised discipline such as history, mathematics, science, arts, economics, or commerce.

Source: Article

#### **Modern History**

- **Q.1)** With reference to **Azad Hind Government**, consider the following statements:
- 1. The Azad Hind Government had its own currency, court and civil code.
- 2. The provisional capital of the Azad Hind Government was Rangoon.
- 3. Rash Behari Bose was designated as the supreme advisor of the government.

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

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

# Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct**: The Azad Hind Government started functioning from Singapore, with 11 ministers and eight representatives from the INA. The Azad Hind Government had its own currency, court and civil code.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The provisional capital of the Azad Hind Government was Port Blair, while its capital-in-exile was Rangoon and Singapore.

**Statement 3 is correct**: S A Ayer headed the publicity and propaganda wing. Rash Behari Bose was designated as the supreme advisor.

Source: PIB Bhubaneswar along with State Culture Department organise a Joint Press Conference on Netaji's Azad Hind Government



#### Bills, Acts and Regulations - Acts - Security

- **Q.1)** With reference to **National Fund to Control Drug Abuse**, consider the following statements:
- 1. The National Fund to Control Drug Abuse was created in accordance with a provision of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
- 2. The Act states that the fund would be used to combat illicit trafficking of narcotics, rehabilitate addicts and prevent drug abuse.

#### 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 National Fund to Control Drug Abuse was created in accordance with a provision of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The Act states that the fund would be used to combat illicit trafficking of narcotics, rehabilitate addicts and prevent drug abuse.

Recently, The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has recently recommended that the National Fund to Control Drug Abuse be used to carry out de-addiction programmes, rather than just policing activities.

Source: Use anti-drug fund for de-addiction services, not just policing: Social Justice Ministry



#### **ANCIENT HISTORY**

- **Q.1)** With reference to Queen Heo Hwang-ok, consider the following statements:
- 1. Her father Padmasen ruled the ancient kingdom of Kausala.
- 2. Queen and her Indian connection are mentioned in the writings of Chinese travelers.

#### 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:** She was a Korean queen who is believed to have been born Princess Suriratna of Ayodhya, daughter of King Padmasen and Indumati. Padmasen ruled the ancient kingdom of Kausala, a region that extended from present-day UP to Odisha
- Statement 2 is incorrect: No Indian document or scripture has any record of her.

**Source**: Indian Express

