# **Forum** AS

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

December, 2021

#### **Environment**

# **Q.1)** With reference to **Nilgiri Flycatcher**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are endemic to the southern Western Ghats and confined to higher elevations.
- 2. It is a Critically Endangered species under 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: A

#### **Explanation**

#### Statement 1 is correct.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is a LC (Least Concerned) species under IUCN Redlist.

Source: Endemic Western Ghats flycatchers could lose third of their range due to climate

# change: Study

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

- 1. Their species of great albatrosses have the longest wingspans of any extant birds.
- 2. They are found widely in the Southern Ocean and the North Atlantic.

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

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

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

#### **Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The wandering albatross (Diomedea exulans) are large flying seabirds. Their species of the genus Diomedea (great albatrosses) have the longest wingspans of any extant birds.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** They are found widely in the Southern Ocean and the North Pacific. They are absent from the North Atlantic.

Source: Article

# Q.3) Nairobi and Tunis declarations sometimes seen in news are related to?

- a) Vaccine IPRs
- b) Disaster Risk reduction
- c) DNA cloning
- d) Illegal wildlife trade

#### Correct Answer: B

#### **Explanation**

• Tunis declaration was adopted at the Africa Arab Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in Tunis in 2018. Under it, 25 African countries have adopted DRR strategies and action plans aligned with the Sendai Framework.

• The Nairobi Declaration underlines the need to deliver commitments on the Programme of Action (PoA) for implementing the Sendai Framework (related to Disaster Risk Reduction) in Africa.

Source: Article

# Q.4) With reference to Great Green Wall Initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative is limited to the Sahel region of Africa.
- 2. It was launched by World Bank in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### 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**: It aims to restore 100 million hectares of degraded land, sequester 250 million tonnes of carbon and create 10 million jobs for the people in the Sahel region of Africa by 2030.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: GGW Initiative was launched by the African Union.

Source: Article

# Q.5) With reference to Bio-jet fuel, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has ultra-low Sulphur content as compared with conventional jet fuel.
- 2. Bio-jet fuel can also be produced from used cooking oil.

#### 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-jet fuel can be produced from used cooking oil, tree-borne oils, short gestation oilseed crops grown off-season by farmers and waste extracts from edible oil processing units.

Source: Article

# **Q.6)** With reference to **Gangetic Dolphin**, consider the following:

- 1. It is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act.
- 2. It is listed as vulnerable in the IUCN protected 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 A**

#### Explanation

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** *Wildlife Protection Act:* Gangetic Dolphin is protected under Schedule I of the Act. Further, Vikramshila Ganges Dolphin Sanctuary was established in Bihar under this Act.

- Threats: construction of dams and barrages, and increasing pollution
- IUCN Red List: Endangered
- **CITES:** Appendix I

Source: Article

- Q.7) With reference to Global Methane Initiative, consider the following:
- 1. It is a partnership between governments of various countries.
- 2. The forum has been created to achieve global reduction in natural methane emission.

# 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:** Global Methane Initiative (GMI) is a voluntary, international partnership that brings together national governments, private sector entities, development banks, NGOs and other interested stakeholders in a collaborative effort to reduce methane gas emissions and advance methane recovery and use as a clean energy source.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The forum has been created to achieve global reduction in anthropogenic methane emission.

Source: PIB

- Q.8) With reference to Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF), consider the following statements:
- 1. The CAF Act established a National CAF under the Public Account of India.
- 2. This Fund will be primarily spent on afforestation to compensate for the loss of forest cover, regeneration of forest ecosystem, wildlife protection and infrastructure development.

# 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.

Source: Afforestation funds released to States

# Q.9) Issi Saaneq sometimes seen in news is a species of?

- a) Dinosaur
- b) Spider
- c) Frog
- d) Butterfly

# **Correct Answer: A**

# **Explanation**

• The two-legged Issi saaneq dinosaur lived about 214 million years ago in what is now Greenland. It was a medium-sized, long necked herbivore and a predecessor of the sauropods, the largest land animals ever to live.

Source: Indian Express

# Q.10) With reference to Physella Acuta, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a highly invasive snail species.
- 2. It is found in all continents except Antarctica.

# 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.

- It is tiny snail with a striking, pellucid golden-yellow shell. It was recently found in the Edappally canal in Kochi and has been flagged as an invasive species that could play havoc with native ecosystems.
- First described by J.P.R. Draparnaud in 1805, *Physella acuta* is considered native to North America but is now found in all continents except Antarctica. The snail was first reported in India in the early 1990s. It is believed to have reached Kerala through the aquarium trade, a major vector for invasive species.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.11) Project RE-HAB sometimes seen in news is associated with?

- a) Auto-detection of armed drones
- b) Creation of Bee fences
- c) Web 3.0 interface reassembling
- d) Scanning of deforested areas

# **Correct Answer: B**

#### Explanation

• Under Project RE-HAB, "Bee-fences" are created by setting up bee boxes in the passage ways of elephants to block their entrance to human territories. The boxes are connected with a string so that when elephants attempt to pass through, a tug or pull causes the bees to swarm the elephant herds and dissuade them from progressing further.

• It is a cost-effective way of reducing human-wild conflicts without causing any harm to the animals. It is scientifically recorded that elephants are annoyed by the honey bees. Elephants also fear that the bee swarms can bite their sensitive inner side of the trunk and eyes. The collective buzz of the bees is annoying to elephants that force them to return.

Source: PIB

# Q.12) With reference to Kyhytysuka sachicarum, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a marine reptile belonging to an important transitional time during the Early Cretaceous epoch.
- 2. Its name is based on an ancient Muisca culture in Columbia.

#### 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.

- *Kyhytysuka sachicarum* reptile belongs to an important transitional time during the Early Cretaceous epoch, some 130 million years ago.
- At this time, the Earth was coming out of a relatively cool period, had rising sea levels, and the supercontinent Pangea (supercontinent that incorporated almost all the landmasses on Earth) was splitting into northern and southern landmasses.
- This reptile was named Kyhytysuka which translates to 'the one that cuts with something sharp' to honour the ancient Muisca culture in Columbia that existed there for millennia.

Source: Article

# Q.13) Chocolate-bordered Flitter discovered recently belongs to which of the following species?

- a) Bird
- b) Butterfly
- c) Spider
- d) Lizard

# **Correct Answer: B**

#### Explanation

• Chocolate-bordered Flitter (*Zographetus Dzonguensis*) is a golden yellow butterfly discovered in Dzongu in North Sikkim.

Source: Article

### Q.14) With reference to Lesser Florican, consider the following:

- 1. It is also known as kharmore and is smallest in the bustard family.
- 2. It is listed as vulnerable in IUCN (International Union For Conservation of Nature) status.

# 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 a is correct: The lesser florican (Sypheotides indicus), also known as the likh or

kharmore, is the smallest in the bustard family

Statement b is incorrect: IUCN Status: Endangered

Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

CITES: Appendix II

Threats: The bird is threatened both by hunting and habitat degradation.

Source: Aricle

# Q.15) FL-2027 or FC-5 sometimes seen in news is a?

a) Commercial potato variety

- b) Blockchain based Encryption algorithm
- c) Cryogenic transportation container
- d) High yielding variety of rice

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

# **Explanation**

• The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights (PPV&FR) Authority has revoked a PVP (Plant Variety Protection) certificate granted to PepsiCo India Holding (PIH) on a potato variety (FL-2027) on multiple grounds.

Source: Article

#### Q.16) With reference to Wetlands, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under Ramsar Convention, it is mandatory on the part of the Government of India to protect and conserve all the wetlands in the territory of India.
- 2. They are covered with hydric soils.
- 3. Wetlands are often referred to as Kidneys of the Earth.

# 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:** Ramsar Convention is not legally binding.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Wetlands are covered with hydric soils. In such soils, the spaces between each grain of soil are filled with water. These soils are anaerobic- the soil lacks oxygen.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Wetlands play an important role in maintaining the quality of water in deep-water ecosystems. Wetlands trap the sediments suspended in water- a process called sediment trapping. They also remove phosphorus and nitrogen and help

prevent eutrophication of lakes and ponds. For this function, wetlands are often referred to as Kidneys of the Earth.

Source: Article

# **Q.17) Operation Softgold** was sometime seen in news. The operation is related to which of the following?

- a) To curb smuggling of precious metals from foreign countries.
- b) To protect Indian citizen from Afghanistan.
- c) To tackle illegal trade in Shahtoosh shawls (made from Chiru wool).
- d) To transport Humanitarian aid to neighboring countries to tackle the Covid pandemic.

# Correct Answer: C

# Explanation

"Operation Softgold" was undertaken from October, 2018 to March, 2019 to tackle illegal trade in Shahtoosh shawls (made from Chiru wool). During the operation, 350 shawls were found.

Source: The Hindu

# **Q.18)** With reference to **weaver bird**, consider the following statements:

- 1. Finn's weaver bird is listed as "vulnerable" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List.
- 2. The bird is primarily found in Terai grasslands in Uttarakhand and western Uttar Pradesh, apart from a few pockets in Assam.

### 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: A

#### Explanation

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: Finn's weaver (Ploceus megarhynchus) bird, numbering less than 500 in India, which until now was listed as "vulnerable" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List has been uplisted to "endangered" category.

Statement 2 is correct.

Source: TOI

# Q.19) With reference to Great Indian Bustard, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is endemic to Indian subcontinent.
- 2. They are herbivores.
- 3. It is listed as critically endangered in the IUCN red list of species.

### 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: C

#### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**: It is endemic to the Indian subcontinent. It is found in Rajasthan (Desert National Park), Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh in India and parts of Pakistan.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Great Indian Bustards are omnivores. They prey on various arthropods, worms, small mammals, and small reptiles.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is a Critically Endangered species with less than 150 birds left in the wild.

Source: Article

# **Q.20)** Consider the following statements

- 1. Microplastics are **s**mall plastic pieces less than five nanometers long which can be harmful to ocean and aquatic life.
- 2. Carbon paper, medical waste and glass are examples of biodegradable waste.

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- Microplastics are small plastic pieces less than five millimeters long which can be harmful to our ocean and aquatic life. Carbon Paper, glass, medical waste are all example of non-biodegradable waste.

# Q.21) Buxa Tiger Reserve is located in which of the following state?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) West Bengal

# **Correct Answer: D**

#### Explanation

An increase in the forest density and the big cat prey base, especially deer, had attracted a Royal Bengal tiger, a first such sighting in 23 years, to the Buxa Tiger reserve.

Buxa Tiger Reserve lies in Alipurduar district of West Bengal. Its northern boundary runs along the international border with Bhutan. The Phibsoo Wildlife Sanctuary of Bhutan is contiguous to the north of BTR.

Source: Indian Express

#### Q.22) Operation Birbil sometimes seen in news is associated with?

- a) Illegal trade of wild cat and wild bird species.
- b) prohibition of the sale of meat of wild animals in wet markets
- c) poaching, transportation and illegal trade of live turtles and tortoises.
- d) illegal wildlife trade over the internet using social media platforms.

# **Correct Answer: A**

#### **Explanation**

# Operations conducted by WCCB against illegal wildlife trade -

- **Operation Save Kurma:** It focuses on the poaching, transportation and illegal trade of live turtles and tortoises.
- **Operation Turtshield:** It was taken up to tackle the illegal trade of live turtles.
- Operation Softgold: To tackle illegal trade in Shahtoosh shawls (made from Chiru wool).
- **Operation LESKNOW**: To bring the attention of the enforcement agencies within the country towards the illegal wildlife trade in lesser-known species such as Deer, Wild Boar, Jackal, Mongoose, Monitor Lizard, Sea cucumber and Pangolin.
- Operation Clean Art: To drag the attention of enforcement agencies towards illegal wildlife trade in Mongoose hairbrushes.
- **Operation THUNDERBIRD:** It concentrated mainly **on illegal** trade in species such as Tigers and other Asian big cats, Bears, Pangolins, Reptiles, Red Sanders, Sea-cucumber and seahorses.
- Operation Birbil: To curb illegal trade in wild cat and wild bird species.
- **Operation Wildnet:** It was aimed to draw the attention of the enforcement agencies within the country to focus their attention on the ever-increasing illegal wildlife trade over the internet using social media platforms.
- Operation Freefly: It was conducted to check the illegal trade of live birds.
- **Operation Wetmark**: It was taken up to ensure the prohibition of the sale of meat of wild animals in wet markets across the country.

**Source**: Article

# Q.23) With reference to Thrips Parvispinus, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an invasive insect species.
- 2. It has the capability to reproduce asexually.
- 3. The species is endemic to Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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

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

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

#### Explanation

- Statement 1 & 2 are correct
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Species is from Indonesia and was discovered in India in 2015.

Source: Article

#### Q.24) With reference to Indian Flapshell Turtle, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a freshwater species.
- 2. It is listed as critically endangered in the IUCN red list.
- 3. They are known to be omnivorous.

# 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: C

#### **Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Indian Flapshell turtle (*Lissemys punctata*) is a freshwater species of turtle found in South Asia.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: They are listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN red list of species.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: They are known to be omnivorous. Its diet consists of frogs, shrimp, snails, aquatic vegetation, plant leaves, flowers, fruits, grasses and seed.

Source: Article

# Q.25) With reference to Indian Desert Cat, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is mostly found in Kazakhstan, western India, China and Mongolia.
- 2. It is listed as vulnerable in the IUCN red list of species.

### 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:** It is mostly found in Kazakhstan, western India, China and Mongolia.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: IUCN Status: The Least Concern

Source: Article

# **Q.26)** With reference to **Gharials**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is listed as endangered in the IUCN red list of species.
- 2. They are the only living crocodilian with visible sexual dimorphism.

# 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**

Statement 1 is incorrect: IUCN Status: Critically Endangered

- Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I
- **CITES:** Appendix I

**Statement 2 is correct:** Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) is a fish-eating crocodile. It is also the only living crocodilian with visible sexual dimorphism.

Source: Article

Q.27) With reference to Beas Conservation Reserve, consider the following statements:

- 1. The reserve hosts the only known population in India of the endangered Indus River dolphin.
- 2. The Reserve is located in Himachal Pradesh.
- 3. Recently, the Critically Endangered Gharial has been successfully reintroduced in the Beas River where it had become extinct half a century ago.

#### 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) 3 only

#### Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation**

Statement 1 and 3 are correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Beas Conservation Reserve is located in Punjab. It spreads over a 185-km stretch of the Beas river. The reserve has been notified as a Ramsar Site in January, 2020.

**Source**: Reintroduced gharials thriving in Beas reserve: experts

Q.28) With reference to Olive Ridley turtles, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are the smallest and most abundant of all sea turtles found in the world.
- 2. The grouping of Male turtles in sea is called as Arribada.

# 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**: Olive ridley turtles have a unique habit of mass nesting called Arribada. Under this, thousands of female turtles come together on the same beach to lay eggs.

The Odisha coast has three arribada beaches at Gahirmatha, the mouth of the Devi river, and in Rushikulya, where about 1 lakh nests are found annually.

Source: Olive Ridley turtles: Turtle trail to get a boost with mass tagging mission

### **Schemes and Programs**

- Q.1) 6x6x6 Strategy was seen in news recently. The strategy is related to which of the following?
- a) TB elimination
- b) Space missions
- c) Reduce the prevalence of Anaemia
- d) School education

# Correct Answer: C **Explanation:**

The 6x6x6 strategy under Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) implies six age groups, six interventions and six institutional mechanisms. This strategy focuses on ensuring supply chain, demand generation and strong monitoring using the dashboard for addressing anemia both due to nutritional and non-nutritional causes.

Source: Centre mulls new testing modes after anaemia surge

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

- 1. It is a mobile-based solution to help in capturing photos with Geo- Tags for the works which have the asset as an output.
- 2. The application is used by Ministry of Road and Transport to identify completed projects.

# 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**: The application is used by Ministry of Panchayati Raj to Geotag the assets in at least three stages viz. (i) before the start of the work, (ii) during the work, and (iii) on completion of work.

Source: [Yojana October Summary] Digital Local Governance - Explained, pointwise

#### Q.3) With reference to Model Retail Outlet Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Scheme aims to enhance service standards and amenities across their Retail Outlets of petroleum products.
- 2. The scheme is launched by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

#### 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**: Model Retail Outlet Scheme was launched by Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.

Source: <u>Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum</u> Corporation Limited launch

### Q.4) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0, consider the following:

- 1. It aims to empower Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood.
- 2. The scheme is launched by Ministry of Skill Development and 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 the statements are correct More about the scheme: PMKVY

Source: Article

# Q.5) With reference to National Family Benefit Scheme, consider the following:

- 1. The scheme is launched in 1995 under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).
- 2. The scheme is applicable to BPL (Below Poverty Line) families 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** 

Both the statements are correct.

#### **About National Family Benefit Scheme**

1) Launched in 1995 under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). 2) Restricted to BPL families. 3) Rs. 20000 will be given as a lump sum assistance to the bereaved household in the event of death of the bread-winner

Source: Indian Express

### Q.6) With reference to Smart Cities Mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- 2. The implementation of the Mission at the City level will be done by Urban Local Bodies.

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

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

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**Correct Answer: A** 

**Explanation** 

Statement 1 is correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The implementation of the Mission at the City level will be done by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). SPV is promoted by the state/Union Territory and the urban local body, with a 50% equity shareholding each. The SPV formed as a limited company is governed by the Companies Act, 2013.

Source: Govt extends Smart Cities Mission timeline to 2023

# Q.7) With reference to Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), consider the following statements:

- 1. The project is funded completely by government budget.
- 2. The project aims to improve the safety and operational performance of selected dams across the whole country.

# 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**: It is an externally aided project with the financial assistance of the World Bank(WB) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB).

**Statement 2 is correct**. The government has recently approved the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) Phase II & Phase III. Under it, the project aims to improve the safety and operational performance of selected dams across the whole country along with institutional strengthening and generating revenue for sustainable operation and maintenance of dams.

Source: Rajya Sabha Passes The Landmark 'Dam Safety Bill (2019)'

# Q.8) With reference to Child Protection Services Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- 2. The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the scheme equally cover rural and urban children.

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

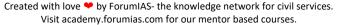
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Correct Answer: D

#### **Explanation**

#### Both statements are correct.

• It is a centrally sponsored scheme under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.





- Under the scheme, support is provided to States and UT Governments for delivering services for children in need and difficult circumstances.
- The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the scheme, support inter-alia ageappropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. and equally covers rural and urban children.

Source: Article

# **Q.9)** With reference to **Central Universities Common Entrance Test (CUCET)**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched in the year 2010 to conduct Common Entrance Test for Central Universities.
- 2. Currently all the central universities hold CUCET.

# 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**: Currently, 12 central universities hold CUCET with the assistance of the National Testing Agency(NTA).

Source: Common entrance test for central varsities: plan, criticism

# Q.10) With reference to National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) scheme, consider the following:

- 1. It aims to ensure the availability of credit risk cover for projects and other high-value exports, desirable from the point of view of national interest.
- 2. The scheme is developed by Ministry of Finance.

# 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:** It has been set up by the Government of India to facilitate medium and long-term exports, which are commercially viable, considering the limitations of the ECGC Limited in providing adequate cover on its own and non-availability of reinsurance cover to such exporters.

NEIA aims to ensure the availability of credit risk cover for projects and other high-value exports, which are desirable from the point of view of national interest, but which ECGC is unable to underwrite at terms which will not affect the competitiveness of the exports.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The scheme is developed by Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Source: PIB

Q.11) PRAGYATA Guidelines is related to which of the following?

- a) Health checkups in government hospitals.
- b) Skill development for MGNREGA workers.
- c) Digital education for schools.
- d) Cyber security.

# Correct Answer: C

### **Explanation**

The guidelines brief on various modes of digital education including online mode that depends more on availability of internet, partially online mode that utilizes the blended approach of digital technology and other offline activities, and offline mode that utilizes television and radio as a major medium of instruction of education.

Source: PIB

# Q.12) With reference to Jeevan Pramaan, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an online Pension Sanction and Payment Tracking System for the pensioners.
- 2. Pensioners of Central Government, State Government or any other Government organization can take benefit of this facility.

# 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**: It is a biometric-enabled Aadhaar-based Digital Life Certificate for pensioners.
- Statement 2 is correct

**Source**: Article

- **Q.13) National Health Accounts Report** was released by which of the following organisation/Ministry?
- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI)
- c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- d) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)

#### Correct Answer: C

# **Explanation**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released the National Health Accounts Report for 2017-18. But the report is produced by National Health Systems Resource Centre (It is designated as National Health Accounts Technical Secretariat in 2014 by the Health Ministry).

Source: Per capita out-of-pocket health expenditure sees decline: report

### Q.14) With reference to 'Mission Zindagi' campaign, consider the following statements:

- 1. The campaign aims to control smuggling of goods through air.
- 2. It is organised by Indian Air Force.

#### 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**: It aims to improve the Air Force personnel's mental health and stress management through workshops and lectures.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Challenges facing Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) - Explained, pointwise

# Q.15) She is a changemaker programme has been launched by which of the following?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) National Commission for Women
- c) Association for Women's Rights in Development
- d) National federation of Indian Women

#### Correct Answer: B

#### Explanation:

• National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched a pan-India capacity building programme named 'She is a Changemaker'.

Source: Article

# Q.16) With reference to Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims to bring behavioural change in the society towards birth and rights of a girl child.
- 2. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

# 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**: The scheme is being implemented by a coordinated effort by the Ministry of WCD, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of HRD.

Source: Panel flags poor fund utilisation in Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme

#### Q.17) 'We Think Digital' Programme was launched by which of the following organisation?

- a) Google
- b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

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- c) Facebook
- d) Ministry of Women and Child Development

# Correct Answer: C

# **Explanation**

'We Think Digital' Programme was launched by Facebook in partnership with the National Commission for Women (NCW) and Cyber Peace Foundation.

Under this, Facebook will provide digital literacy training to 1 lakh women across seven states (Uttar Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Bihar).

Source: NCW Launches Online Resource Center on Cyber Safety Under 'We Think Digital' Programme

- **Q.18) Red Dot campaign** was sometime seen in the news. The campaign is related to which of the following?
- a) Open Defecation Free cities
- b) Solid waste management
- c) Rain water harvesting
- d) Road traffic regulation

# Correct Answer: B

#### **Explanation**

Pune introduced the Red Dot campaign to manage sanitary waste. It is a one-of-its-kind initiative where citizens, workers and administration unanimously accepted their responsibility, making it a lesson for other cities in India. This was achieved through a well-planned mechanism of collection, channelisation and disposal.

Source: NITI Aayog and CSE release 'Waste-wise cities' – compendium of best practices in municipal solid waste management

- Q.19) With reference to **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin**, consider the following statements:
- 1. It aims to provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families, who are homeless or living in kutcha house.
- 2. Beneficiaries will be identified by 3 stage validation process Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011, Gram Sabha, and geo-tagging.

# 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 the statements are correct.

Source: PIB

# Q.20) With reference to Pragati Scholarship Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme aims to provide assistance for the advancement of girls pursuing Technical Education alone.

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2. The scheme was launched by NITI Aayog.

# 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**: The scheme was launched by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

**Source**: Scholarship scheme under AICTE to encourage girls students to pursue Technical Education

# Q.21) With reference to Atal Innovation Mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to promote the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- 2. This mission was launched by Ministry of Science and Technology.

#### 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:** Atal Innovation Mission is a flagship initiative launched to promote the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was launched by NITI Aayog.

Source: PIB

#### **Q.22)** With reference to **Project Re-Hab**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is intended to create bee fences to reduce elephant attacks in human habitations using honeybees
- 2. This mission is launched by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

#### 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.

Project RE-HAB is a sub-mission of KVIC's **National Honey Mission**. Under this Project, "Beefences" are created by setting up bee boxes in the passageways of elephants to block their entrance to human territories.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched Project RE-HAB (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees) in Assam.

Source: Article

# Q.23) SAMPANN sometimes seen in news is a?

- a) An online pension processing and payment system.
- b) A platform focused on the power sector and renewable energy sector.
- c) Technology Innovation Platform focusing on Machine Tools sector.
- d) System for implementation of Tax collection in local body councils

#### Correct Answer: A

### **Explanation**

• It is a seamless online pension processing and payment system for Department of Telecommunications pensioners. It provides direct credit of pension into the bank accounts of pensioners.

Source: Article

# Q.24) With reference to Samajik Adhikarita Shivir, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a camp organized for distribution of aids and assistive devices to 'Divyangjan' and senior citizens.
- 2. It is organised by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD).

# 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 a camp organized for distribution of aids and assistive devices to 'Divyangjan' under the Assistance to Disabled Persons (ADIP) Scheme and to Senior Citizens under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana.

Organized by: Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in association with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO).

Source: <u>Union Minister inaugurates 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivir' for distribution of aids and</u> assistive devices to 'Divyangjan' and Senior Citizens

# Q.25) With reference to National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme under the National Health Mission (NHM).
- 2. Aim is to eliminate leprosy in each of the districts by 2025.

### 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:** Scheme aims at eliminating leprosy in each of the districts by 2030. Strategies for Leprosy elimination include early case detection; complete treatment of detected cases, and containing the onset of disease in close contacts of the index cases (persons diagnosed with leprosy).

Source: Article

# **Q.26)** With reference to **Atmanirbhar Hastshilpkar Scheme**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme provides financial assistance to artisans in the form of term loans for incomegenerating activities.
- 2. The scheme covers artisans from all over India.

# 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: B**

# **Explanation**

Statement 1 is correct.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The scheme is limited to North Eastern Region.

Source: NEDFI Announces New Scheme Atmanirbhar Hastshilpkar Scheme for the Artisans under Ministry of Doner

### Q.27) With reference to SAMRIDH Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- 2. It will focus on accelerating start-ups by providing customer connect and investor connect.

# 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**: Scheme has been launched by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme will focus on accelerating the 300 start-ups by providing customer connect, investor connect, and international immersion in the next three years.

Source: Article

# Q.28) Report on the State of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in India has been released by?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister
- c) Ministry of Education
- d) Centre for Education Growth and Research

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

# **Explanation**

• The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has released the report on the State of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in India.

Source: Article

# **Q.29)** Consider the following statements:

- 1. **PM POSHAN (Poshan SHAkti Nirman) Scheme** was earlier popularly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme.
- 2. It covers all school children studying in Classes I-V in Government, Government-Aided Schools.

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 – CCEA(Cabinet committee on economic affairs) cleared the **PM POSHAN** (**POshan SHAkti Nirman**) **Scheme** for providing one hot cooked meal in Government and Government-aided schools from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

It was earlier known as 'National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools' popularly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

This is a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme which covers all school children studying in Classes I-VIII in Government, Government-Aided Schools.

# Q.30) With reference to National Helpline Against Atrocities (NHAA), consider the following statements:

- 1. The helpline is available across country in two languages, Hindi and English.
- 2. It has been launched by Ministry of Law and Justice.

# 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.

• Helpline is available in Hindi, English and regional languages too.

• It has been launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Source: Article

# Q.31) With reference to Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), consider the following statements:

- 1. It formulates policies pertaining to Central Public Sector Enterprises and collects and maintains information in the form of a Public Enterprises Survey.
- 2. It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

#### 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: A**

# **Explanation**

- Statement 1 is correct
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The DPE works under Ministry of Finance.

Source: Article

# Q.32) With reference to North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
- 2. The scheme also covers projects related to social infrastructure relating to primary and secondary sectors of education and health.

# 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

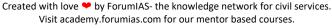
#### **Explanation:**

### Both statements are correct.

#### About NESIDS scheme:

- North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme(NESIDS) was approved by the Government of India as a Central Sector Scheme in 2017.
- The scheme aims to fill up the gaps in creation of infrastructure in specified sectors in North east till March, 2020.
- The scheme will cover the projects of (a)physical infrastructure relating to water supply, power and connectivity enhancing tourism and (b)Social infrastructure relating to primary and secondary sectors of education and health.
- The funds under the scheme will be distributed among eight North Eastern States on the basis of well-defined criteria on certain parameters such as area, population, Human Development Index, road density among others.

Source: Article





### Q.33) With reference to Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims to promote engagement amongst the people of different states and Union Territories.
- 2. Ministry of Culture has been designated Nodal Ministry for coordination of the programme.

# 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**: Ministry of Human Resource Development is the nodal ministry for this scheme.

Source: Article

# Q.34) State Health Index is released by?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) National Council for Applied Economic R esearch
- c) Ministry of Finance
- d) Centre for Public Policy Research

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

#### **Explanation**

• The index is released by NITI Aayog.

Source: Article

# Q.35) With reference to Central Sector Scheme of Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- 2. The formation and promotion of FPOs are based on the Produce Cluster Area approach alone.

#### 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**: Under the scheme, the formation and promotion of FPOs are based on the Produce Cluster Area approach and specialized commodity-based approach. While adopting a cluster-based approach, the formation of FPOs will be focussed on "One District One Product" for the development of product specialization.

Source: DTE

# **Q.36) Star Rating Protocol of Garbage Free Cities** was launched by which of the following Ministry/Organization?

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

# Correct Answer: C Explanation

Source: Azadi@75 Star Rating Protocol of Garbage Free Cities- Toolkit 2022: MoHUA launches roadmap to make Urban India 'Garbage Free'

# Q.37) With reference to 'Conformity Assessment Scheme (CAS) of milk products, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been developed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) with the help of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).
- 2. It has brought product and process certification under one umbrella with a unified logo.

# 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.

Source: Prime Minister launches a Portal and Logo dedicated to the Conformity Assessment Scheme of milk products, in Varanasi

### Q.38) Good Governance Index was prepared by which of the following?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Department of Personnel and Training
- c) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

#### Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation

Recently, the government released the Good Governance Index 2021 prepared by DARPG on Good Governance Day.

Source: PIB

# Q.39) With reference to State Energy Efficiency Index, consider the following statements:

- 1. It tracks the progress of Energy Efficiency initiatives in both states and union territories.
- 2. It is developed by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in association with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE).

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

a) 1 only

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

#### Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation**

#### Both statements are correct.

- It tracks the progress of Energy Efficiency (EE) initiatives in 36 states and union territories based on 97 significant indicators. It was first released in 2018.
- It is developed by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in association with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE).

Source: Article

# Q.40) With reference to Godhan Nyay Yojana, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a scheme of Bihar Government.
- 2. Under the scheme, the government will procure cow dung from farmers at a fixed procurement rate.

# 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:** Chhattisgarh Government has launched 'Godhan Nyay Yojana' on the occasion of Hareli festival.
- Statement 2 is correct:

Source: Natural farming: ICAR to research on, demonstrate and promote natural farming

#### **Q.41)** With reference to **Gram Ujala scheme**, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the scheme, LED bulbs will be distributed at a highly subsidised rate at ₹10 for household.
- 2. The scheme is implemented on a pan India basis.

# 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**: The scheme is implemented across villages in five states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Source: CESL achieves 50 lakhs LED bulb distribution milestone under flagship Gram Ujala

# Q.42) With reference to PM-YUVA Mentorship Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. Its goal is to create a pool of authors below the age of 30 years who are ready to express themselves and project India on any international platforms.
- 2. NITI Aayog is the implementing agency for this scheme.

### 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**: National Book Trust under the Ministry of Education is the implementing agency for this scheme.

Source: Article

# Q.43) With reference to E-AUSHADHI Platform Collaborative Campaign on Nutrition, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under this campaign, herbal plants will be planted in Anganwadis, schools and kitchen gardens to ensure the easy availability of medicinal plants.
- 2. It was launched by the Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Rural Development.

# 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**: It was launched by the Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Source: Year end Review: Ministry of Ayush

### **Q.44)** With reference to **Jute-ICARE**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched by National Jute Board (NJB).
- 2. The objective is to support the small and marginal jute growers with adequate pre- and postharvesting operations.

# 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.

Source: 2021- A Year of Game Changing Reforms for Ministry of Textiles

# **Q.45)** Which of the following benefits occur in **offshore wind energy initiatives** in comparison with onshore wind energy plants?

- 1. Offshore wind turbines are more efficient.
- 2. Offshore wind turbines produce electricity when consumer demand is at its highest.
- 3. Offshore wind turbines have longer operating hours.
- 4. Offshore wind tariffs are lower.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

#### **Correct Answer C**

### **Explanation**

Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct.

Offshore wind tariffs in India are expected to range between Rs 7-9 per unit, compared to Rs 2.8-2.9 per unit for onshore wind. This is due to the following reason, The action of waves and even high winds, particularly during storms or hurricanes, can damage wind turbines. Eventually, offshore wind farms require maintenance that is more costly and difficult to perform.

Source: India has achieved its NDC target with total non-fossil based installed energy capacity of 157.32 GW which is 40.1% of the total installed electricity capacity

# Q.46) With reference to Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an alternative new model introduced for selling off the power by the renewable developers in the open market.
- 2. Contracts under GTAM would also include non-solar Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs)

# 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

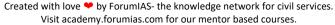
### Correct Answer: c

#### Explanation

### Both statements are correct.

It is an alternative new model introduced for selling off the power by the renewable developers in the open market without getting into long term PPAs.

• It aims to benefit buyers of RE through competitive prices and transparent and flexible procurement. Sellers will also be benefitted by getting access to Pan India Market.



The GTAM contracts will be segregated into Solar RPO( Renewable purchase obligation) & Non-Solar RPO.

Source: Article

# Q.47) With reference to PM Yuva Mentorship Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is aimed at training 75 aspiring writers below 30 years.
- 2. A consolidated scholarship of Rs. 50,000 per month for a period of six months per author will be paid under this scheme.

# 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.

Source: PIB

# Q.48) With reference to PM Ujjwala Yojana consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to replace the unclean cooking fuels mostly used in rural India with the clean and more efficient LPG(Liquefied Petroleum Gas).
- 2. The scheme is launched by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

# 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 the statements are correct.

**Source: Article** 

### Science and Technology

- Q.1) With reference to Satellite Communications (SATCOM), consider the following statements:
- 1. Satellite communication is cheap and can provide connectivity to inaccessible areas alone.
- 2. It refers to any communication link that involves the use of an artificial satellite in its propagation path.

# 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**: Satellite communication is expensive. Along with other regions, it can also reach inaccessible areas.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Satellite communications could improve quality of existing mobile networks

- Q.2) Project SWADESH was seen in news. The project is related to which of the following?
- a) Humanitarian and Rescue mission of Indian Army in Myanmar.
- b) Indigenization of semiconductor chips.
- c) Unique brain initiative to help researchers for managing brain disorders.
- d) ISRO's mission to Mars and Jupiter.

#### Correct Answer: C.

### **Explanation:**

SWADESH is a unique brain initiative focussing on certified neuroimaging, neurochemical, neuropsychological data and analytics that are made accessible to researchers for managing brain disorders.

It is also the first large-scale multimodal neuroimaging database designed specifically for the Indian population with big-data architecture and analytics for various disease categories under one platform.

Source: SWADESH, World's First Multimodal Brain Imaging Data and Analytics, Developed at DBT-National Brain Research Centre, Haryana

- Q.3) With reference to James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), consider the following statements:
- 1. It is a large infrared telescope to study "every phase" in the history of the universe, including the Big Bang, the formation of solar systems.
- 2. It is built with the collaboration between NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Canadian Space Agency.

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

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

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Correct Answer: C Explanation

Both the statements are correct.

**Source**: Indian Express

- Q.4) Kalashnikovs, in news, is related to which of the following:
- a) Russian designed assault rifle
- b) Russian made nuclear submarine
- c) French made laser guided precision bomb
- d) Indigenously developed air to air missile

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### Explanation

**Statement a is correct:** A Kalashnikov rifle is an automatic assault rifle based on the original design of Mikhail Kalashnikov. They were originally manufactured in the Soviet Union but these rifles and their variants are now manufactured in many other countries.

Source: Article

# Q.5) With reference to Polar-Areas Stellar-Imaging in Polarisation High-Accuracy Experiment (PASIPHAE), consider the following statements:

- 1. The survey is conducted by NASA and ISRO.
- 2. The survey will use two high-tech optical polarimeters to observe the northern and southern skies, simultaneously.

# 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: It is an international collaborative sky surveying project.

Statement 2 is correct.
Source: Indian Express

# Q.6) Sydney Dialogue is related to which of the following?

- a) Disaster Risk management
- b) Cyber and critical technologies
- c) Development of Super computers
- d) Disarmament of nuclear weapons

#### Correct Answer: B

# **Explanation**

**Sydney Dialogue:** It is an initiative of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. It is an annual summit of cyber and critical technologies to discuss the fallout of the digital domain on the law and order situation in the world.

Source: India-ITU Joint Cyberdrill 2021 commences

# Q.7) With reference to Bacteriophages used in Phage therapy and antibiotics, consider the following statements:

- 1. Unlike antibiotics, bacteriophages are effective across a broad spectrum of infections.
- 2. They have relatively fewer side effects and almost always result in a cure.

# 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**: Bacteriophages are effective while antibiotics are effective across a broad spectrum of infections, making them easy to administer even if the exact pathogen has not been identified.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: Given the targeted <u>effectiveness</u> of bacteriophages, these treatments have relatively fewer side effects and almost always result in a cure.

**Source**: Article

# Q.8) With reference to Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It can be transacted using wallets backed by the blockchain.
- 2. One of its drawbacks is the loss of seigniorage due to lower transaction costs.

# 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:** CBDC will result in higher seigniorage due to lower transaction costs.

Source: Article

# Q.9) With reference to NASA's Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD), consider the following statements:

- 1. The payload for LCRD is hosted onboard a satellite in a geosynchronous orbit.
- 2. A laser uses infrared light and has a shorter wavelength than radio waves.

### 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.

- LCRD is NASA's first-ever laser communications system.
- **Purpose:** It has been launched to help demonstrate the benefits of space-to-ground laser communications also called optical communications.
- **Orbit:** The LCRD payload is hosted onboard the US Department of Defense's Space Test Program Satellite 6 (STPSat-6). It will be in a geosynchronous orbit over 35,000 km above Earth.
- Laser communications and radio waves use different wavelengths of light. The laser uses infrared light and has a shorter wavelength than radio waves. This will help the transmission of more data in a short time.

**Source**: Article

# Q.10) With reference to Gaganyaan mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. GSLV Mk III would be the launch vehicle used in this mission.
- 2. Vyommitra a space rover has been developed to accompany the Gaganyaan crew.

# 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: GSLV Mk III will be the launch vehicle used for this mission.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Vyommitra is a spacefaring human robot, not a rover.

**Source:** Article

# Q.11) Taenia solium sometimes seen in news is a?

- a) Worm
- b) Spider
- c) Algae
- d) Frog

### Correct Answer: A

#### Explanation

• It is the pork tapeworm.

**Source**: Article

#### Q.12) With reference to Natural Gas, consider the following statements:

- 1. The largest component of natural gas is methane.
- 2. The volume of natural gas in its liquid state is smaller than its volume in its gaseous 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

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#### Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation

#### Both statements are correct.

- **Statement 1 is correct**: Natural gas is a fossil energy source that formed deep beneath the earth's surface. Natural gas contains different compounds. The largest component of natural gas is methane, a compound with one carbon atom and four hydrogen atoms (CH<sub>4</sub>)
- Statement 2 is correct: The volume of natural gas in its liquid state is about 600 times smaller than its volume in its gaseous state. This process makes it possible to transport natural gas to places where pipelines do not reach.

Source: Article

# Q.13) With reference to **World Wide Web**, consider the following statements:

- 1. Web 1.0 enabled users to participate in content creation on social networks, blogs, sharing sites and more.
- 2. Web 2.0 is known as read-write web and used on-premise/cloud storage systems.

# 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**: Web 1.0 is regarded as the first generation of the World Wide Web. Also known as the Syntactic web or Read only web. Mostly, Web 1.0 was limited to searching the info and reading what's already there. There was very little in the way of user interaction or content contribution.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Web 3.0: The future of internet? – Explained, pointwise

#### **Q.14) S-400 missile system**, is related to which of the following country:

- a) USA
- b) Russia
- c) Israel
- d) China

#### **Correct Answer B**

#### Explanation

Statement b is correct: S-400 Triumf Missile System is a mobile, surface-to-air missile system (SAM) developed by Russia. It can detect, track and destroy hostile strategic bombers, jets spy planes, missiles and drones at a range of 380-km.

**Source: Indian Express** 

# Q.15) With reference to Nuclear Fusion, consider the following statements:

- 1. It powers our Sun.
- 2. Fusion process causes no poisonous radiation.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: C

#### Both statements are correct.

- Nuclear *Fusion* reactions power *the Sun* and other stars. In a *fusion* reaction, two light nuclei merge to form a single heavier nucleus.
- Nuclear fusion is a potentially inexhaustible source, and it has no dangerous side effects.
- Fusion causes no poisonous radiation. There are no emissions of carbon compounds, or any other pollutants.

Source: Article

**Q.16)** Mi-17V5 was sometime seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) Indigenous cruise missiles
- b) New space project of ISRO
- c) Russian-made helicopters
- d) New Chinese attack submarines

# Correct Answer: C

# Explanation

Mi-17V5 is a Russian-made helicopter which is produced by Kazan Helicopters. It was inducted into the Indian Air Force on 17 February 2012.

It has a digital flight data recorder and a cockpit voice recorder onboard to monitor flight parameters and cockpit conversations respectively. The helicopter also has the capability to land on unprepared sites at night and in adverse weather conditions.

Apart from India, this helicopter is also used by the air forces of nearly 60 countries, including Russia and Iraq, and is also part of the erstwhile Afghan Air Force.

Source: Explained: The helicopter CDS General Bipin Rawat was in

# **Q.17)** With reference to **Ambergris**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a solid, inflammable substance produced in the digestive system of all whales.
- 2. It is used to produce perfumes and traditional medicines.

# 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**: Ambergris is a solid, waxy, flammable substance of a dull grey or blackish colour produced in the digestive system of sperm whales.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Explained: What is ambergris, the floating gold?

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Q.18) With reference to Web 3.0, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the next version of the internet, where services will run on blockchain.
- 2. The Web 3.0 is also called as Metaverse.

## 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**: Both are not correlated. The metaverse is about creating digital avatars and interacting with others in virtual spaces, be it offices or arcades. It does not have to be on a blockchain.

Source: Web 3.0: The future of internet? - Explained, pointwise

# Q.19) Which of the following is India's first private Cryogenic Engine?

- a) Aryabhatta
- b) Kalam
- c) Dhawan-1
- d) Rohini

#### Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation:**

Skyroot Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based space technology startup, has successfully test-fired the Dhawan-1 engine and is planning to launch Vikram-1 and Vikram-2 launch vehicles in a few years.

Dhawan-1 is India's first privately developed, fully cryogenic rocket engine. It runs on two high-performance rocket propellants — liquid natural gas (LNG) and liquid oxygen (LoX).

The engine was developed using 3D printing with a superalloy.

Source: India's First private Cryogenic Engine - Hyderabad-based rocket men aim for the stars

# Q.20) With reference to Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD), consider the following.

- 1. It is the first-ever laser communications system of ISRO.
- 2. LCRD aims to speeding up space communications.

## 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:** . LCRD is the first-ever laser communications system of NASA. It will help NASA in test optical communication in space.

Statement 2 is correct.

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Source: Indian Express

## **Q.21)** With reference to **Trans Fat**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are unsaturated type of fats produced only through artificial ways.
- 2. India aimed to eliminate trans-fat in foods by 2022.
- 3. The risk of type 2 diabetes increases with trans fat consumption.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: B

## **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: Trans fat can occur both naturally and artificially.

Naturally-occurring trans fats are produced in the gut of some animals and foods made from these animals (e.g., milk and meat products) may contain small quantities of these fats.

Artificial trans fats are created in an industrial process that adds hydrogen to liquid vegetable oils to make them more solid.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: India adopted no such targets. Countries such as Bangladesh, India, the Philippines and Ukraine are adopting best-practices to eliminate trans fat.

#### Statement 3 is correct.

Source: Poor nations lag in removing unhealthy trans fat from food - WHO report

## Q.22) With reference to Neurocysticercosis (NCC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a zoonotic disease.
- 2. Those with NCC cannot spread the disease to other people.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation

#### Both statements are correct.

- Neurocysticercosis (NCC) is a zoonotic disease. It is a neurologic infection caused when a human consumes meat from or is indirectly in contact with a pig infected with tapeworm.
- Those with NCC cannot spread the disease to other people. But people with taeniasis (tapeworm infection in the intestine) may spread tapeworm eggs to other people if they do not practice good hygiene (e.g. handwashing after they use the toilet).

**Source**: Article

## Q.23) With reference to Parker Solar probe, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is part of NASA's Living with a Star program.
- 2. Spacecraft is the first to enter the outer boundaries of the Sun.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: c

### **Explanation**

#### Both statements are correct.

- 1. **Statement 1 is correct:** Parker Solar Probe is part of NASA's Living With a Star program to explore aspects of the Sun-Earth system that directly affect life and society.
- 2. **Statement 2 is correct:** Recently, NASA's Parker Solar Probe reached the sun's extended solar atmosphere, known as the corona, and spent five hours there. The spacecraft is the first to enter the outer boundaries of the sun.

Source: Article

# Q.24) With reference to Bhu Parikshak, consider the following statements:

- 1. It provides real time soil analysis reports using near Infrared Spectroscopy technology.
- 2. It can detect Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium.

## 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.

- Bhu Parikshak is a portable soil testing device that can detect soil health in just 90 seconds through an embedded mobile application.
- The device is based on Near Infrared Spectroscopy technology that can provide real time soil analysis reports on smartphones.
- The device can detect **six important soil parameters** namely -Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Organic Carbon, Clay contents and Cation Exchange Capacity. It also recommends the required dose of fertilizers for the field and crops.

Source: Article

## Q.25) With reference to Log4Shell, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a remote code execution (RCE) vulnerability.
- 2. The vulnerability could allow the attacker full control of the affected server.
- 3. It affects users directly.

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

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

# Correct Answer: C Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Log4Shell vulnerability is a flaw in one of the most widely used server software. It is a remote code execution (RCE) vulnerability, which means attackers can use it to remotely execute arbitrary code on a server and steal data.
- Statement 2 is correct: It is a vulnerability in a logging library that is used by almost every big company in the world, including Apple Inc., Microsoft Corp., Amazon.com Inc., Google LLC, and more. Since this library is present everywhere across applications, the vulnerability could allow the attacker full control of the affected server.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Log4Shell doesn't affect users directly.

Source: Article

## Q.26) With reference to OSCAR 1, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched into a Low Earth Orbit.
- 2. It is world's first non-governmental satellite.

## 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.

## **About OSCAR-1 Satellite**

- OSCAR 1 is the first amateur radio satellite launched by Project OSCAR. It was launched into **low Earth orbit (LEO).**
- This satellite was the world's first non-governmental satellite.
- It was also the first satellite constructed by a collection of private individuals.
- The satellite lasted for around 22 days, and **transmitted the letters "HI" in Morse code**. These letters were chosen in particular over other possibilities because the letters "HI" was and still remains an internationally recognised friendly greeting between radio amateurs.

Source: Article

## **Q.27)** With reference to **Leprosy**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a protozoic disease.
- 2. It is transmitted by breathing airborne droplets from the affected individuals and can be contacted at any age.

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:** Leprosy is also known as **Hansen's Disease.** Leprosy is a chronic, progressive **bacterial infection.** It is caused by a bacterium called **Mycobacterium Leprae**, which is an acid-fast rod-shaped bacillus.

**Statement 2 is correct: Mode of Transmission:** Mainly by breathing airborne droplets from the affected individuals. It can be contacted at any age.

Source: PIB

## Q,28) With reference to Stand-off Anti-Tank(SANT), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an indigenously designed and developed air-to-surface missile.
- 2. The missile is developed to improve the strike capability of Navy.

### 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**: The missile is expected to further strengthen the arsenal of the Indian Air Force(IAF). In recent times, SANT is the third in the series of indigenous stand-off weapons which has been tested. The others were the long-range bombs and smart anti airfield weapons.

Source: <u>DRDO & Indian Air Force successfully flight-test indigenous Stand-Off Anti-Tank</u>
Missile

# Q.29) With reference to SMART system developed by DRDO, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under this mechanism the torpedo is launched from a supersonic missile system.
- 2. This missile system is canister-based.

## 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.

#### What is the SMART System?

- Torpedoes, self-propelled weapons that travel underwater to hit a target, are limited by their range. To overcome that, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed the SMART system.
- This SMART system comprises a mechanism by which the torpedo is launched from a supersonic missile system with modifications that would take the torpedo to a far longer range than its own.

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• For example, a torpedo with a range of a few kilometres can be sent a distance to the tune of 1000 km by the missile system from where the torpedo is launched.

Source: Article

## **Q.30)** With reference to **Spanish Flu,** consider the following statements:

- 1. Spanish flu was caused by an H1N1 influenza virus.
- 2. Sore through, congestion, chills, pains in the body are the symptoms associated with this flu

## 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

Source: Livemint

## Q.31) With reference to IXPE Mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a joint effort by NASA and ISRO.
- 2. The instruments onboard the mission will observe polarized X-rays from neutron stars and supermassive black holes.

# 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: It is a joint mission by NASA and Italian Space Agency.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: IXPE carries three state-of-the-art space telescopes. Each of the three telescopes hosts one light-weight X-ray mirror and one detector unit. These will help observe polarized X-rays from neutron stars and supermassive black holes.

Source: Article

# Q.32) With reference to Gaming addiction, consider the following statements:

- 1. World Health Organization (WHO) has included gaming disorder in its list of mental health conditions.
- 2. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders -V, is yet to classify gaming disorder as a mental health condition.

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

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

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# Correct Answer: A

## **Explanation**

- Statement 1 is correct
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: DSM of Mental Disorders includes gaming disorder as a mental health condition.

Source: Article

## Q.33) With reference to James Webb Telescope, consider the following statements:

- 1. It will be situated near the second Lagrange point of the Earth-Sun system.
- 2. It will be able to look back over 13.5 billion years to see the first stars and galaxies of the early universe.
- 3. The telescope works in the infrared spectrum.

## 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: D

### **Explanation**

#### All statements are correct

- **James Webb Telescope** is an international collaboration between NASA, European Space Agency(ESA), and the Canadian Space Agency.
- Once in space, the telescope will be situated near the **second Lagrange point of the Earth-Sun** system, which is around 1,500,000 km from Earth and directly opposite the Sun.
- The telescope will be able to look back over 13.5 billion years to see the first stars and galaxies of our early universe.
- The telescope works in the infrared spectrum, collecting infrared light from the object it is focused on.
- **But why infrared?** Infrared light is electromagnetic radiation with longer wavelengths than visible light. This particular trait of the telescope would help it look farther back in time more effectively than other telescopes. It will also help scientists look into the atmosphere of stars, which is usually shrouded with dust and gas during formation.

Source: Article

## **Q.34)** With reference to **Killer Robots**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are fully autonomous weapons that would be able to select and engage targets without meaningful human control.
- 2. India, Russia, and the United States are negotiating a new legally binding instrument to regulate killer robots.

## 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**: India, Russia, and the United States have said that the existing international humanitarian law is sufficient and opposed negotiation of a new legally binding instrument on killer robots.

Source: Killer robots aren't science fiction. A push to ban them is growing

# Q.35) With reference to Controlled Aerial Delivery System of 500 kg capacity (CADS-500), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is used for precise delivery of payloads up to 500 kgs at a predetermined location.
- 2. It uses Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System for the coordinates, altitude and heading sensors for the heading information during its flight.

## 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**: CADS-500 uses Global Positioning System(GPS) for the coordinates, altitude and heading sensors for the heading information during its flight. It also has an onboard electronics unit that autonomously steers its flight path using waypoint navigation towards the target location by operating controls.

Source: CADS-500: DRDO conducts flight demonstration of Controlled Aerial Delivery System

### Q.36) With reference to Canine Parvovirus, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a zoonotic disease.
- 2. There is presently no cure for the Parvovirus.

## 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: Canine Parvovirus is not zoonotic.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Parvovirus has no cure and inoculating a puppy or a dog gives them a fighting chance against the infection.

Source: Article

## Q.37) With reference to Rudram, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile.
- 2. The missile mainly targets communication, radar and surveillance systems of the enemy.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: B

### **Explanation**

- Statement 1 is incorrect: It is a New Generation Anti-Radiation Missile
- Statement 2 is correct

Source: Article

Q.38) Vihangam was sometime seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is a new software that aims to identify cyber attacks in government websites.
- b) It is an Internet-based system integrated with a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).
- c) It is a new type of digital currency that rivals bitcoins.
- d) It is a new species of butterfly identified in Western Ghats.

#### Correct Answer: B

### **Explanation**

Source: 'VIHANGAM'- Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) at Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

## Q.39) Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) include which of the following?

- 1. Killer robots
- 2. Bombs
- 3. Drones

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

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

## **Correct Answer: D**

#### **Explanation**

- Killer Robots are fully autonomous weapons that would be able to select and engage targets without meaningful human control.
- The idea of killer robots has been explored widely in science fiction movies including *Terminator*, *Blade Runner*, and *Robocop*.
- Collectively, these weapons fall under **Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems** (**LAWS**) which can include bombs, dog-like robots, and more that can use AI and other digital technologies to make decisions on the battlefield. It doesn't include drones, which are manned remotely by pilots.

**Source**: Article

# Q.40) With reference to James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) and Hubble Space Telescope (HST), consider the following statements:

1. HST can observe mainly in the ultraviolet and visible parts of the spectrum. On the other hand, JWST will primarily study the universe in the infrared spectrum.

2. HST was present at the Earth-Sun L2 Lagrange point. On the other hand, JWST will orbit the Earth.

## 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**: Hubble orbits the Earth at an altitude of ~570 km. Webb will not orbit the Earth, instead it will sit at the Earth-Sun L2 Lagrange point, 1.5 million km away. This means that Webb will orbit the Sun along with the Earth, but will stay fixed at the same spot in relation to the Earth and the Sun.

Source: Explained: NASA's flagship telescope, and its successor

# Q.41) With reference to Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Batteries, consider the following statements:

- 1. They can store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy.
- 2. Ministry of Commerce and Industry is the nodal ministry for recently launched Production Linked Incentive scheme for manufacturing of ACC battery storage.

## 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:** ACCs are the new generation of advanced storage technologies. They can store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy. The cells then can convert it back to electric energy as and when required.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises is the nodal ministry for the scheme.

Source: Article

#### Q.42) With reference to medical oxygen, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is included in the World Health Organization's List of Essential Medicines.
- 2. It can cause Retrolenticular fibroplasia in premature infants if they exposed to higher levels of oxygen concentrations.

# 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.

- Due to the indispensable use of medical oxygen, the World Health Organisation include this on their **List of Essential Medicines**.
- It can cause **Retrolenticular fibroplasia** in premature infants if they exposed to oxygen concentrations greater than 40%. In short, it is a condition of abnormal growth of blood vessels in the eye. Retrolenticular fibroplasia is the leading cause of child blindness today in the world.

Source: Article

# Q.43) With reference to Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements:

- 1. Due to national security interests, its primary service area is restricted within Indian territory.
- 2. Satellites of the IRNSS constellation are parked in both Geostationary orbits and Geosynchronous orbits.

# 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**: It is designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as the region extending up to 1500 km from its boundary, which is its primary service area. An Extended Service Area lies between primary service area and area enclosed by the rectangle from Latitude 30°South to 50° North, Longitude 30°East to 130°East.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: Three satellites are located in suitable orbital slots in the geostationary orbit and the remaining four are located in geosynchronous orbits with the required inclination and equatorial crossings in two different planes.

Source: Article

# Q.44) ASIGMA sometimes in news is a?

- a) In-house messaging application developed by Indian Army.
- b) A Twofish Data Encryption algorithm used in communication software
- c) Bomb defusing Robot used to safely disable explosive ordnance.
- d) A space telescope jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.

### **Correct Answer: A**

#### **Explanation**

• ASIGMA (Army Secure IndiGeneous Messaging Application) is a new generation, state of the art, web-based application developed entirely in-house by team of officers of the Corps of Signals of the Army.

Source: Article

## **Q.45)** With reference to **Pralay Missile**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a surface-to-surface conventional quasi-ballistic missile aims to defeat interceptor missiles.
- 2. It can strike targets up to 60-70 km from the launchers.

# 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**: The missile has the ability to change its path after covering a certain range in the mid-air. The missile has a range of 150-500 kilometres.

The indigenous Pinaka can strike targets up to 60-70 km from the launchers; while variants of the Prithvi missile can strike the target upto 250-350 km away. The territory between them where the key targets be located in wartime will be will the Shourya, Prahar and Pralay missile systems.

Source: DRDO conducts maiden launch of indigenously developed new generation surface-tosurface missile 'Pralay'

## Q.46) With reference to Public Key Cryptography, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of communication where people exchange messages that can only be read by one another.
- 2. Incoming messages are encrypted with the sender's public key.

# 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: Public-key cryptography also called asymmetric cryptography is communication where people exchange messages that can only be read by one another.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Incoming messages are encrypted with the recipient's public key and can only be decrypted with their corresponding private key.

Source: Article

#### Q.47) With reference to Molnupiravir, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was initially developed to treat influenza.
- 2. It works by introducing errors into the SARS-CoV-2 virus' genetic code.
- 3. India is the first country to approve the anti-viral COIVD-19 pill.

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

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

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## d) 1 and 2 only

## **Correct Answer: D**

### **Explanation**

- Statement 1 and 2 are correct
- Statement 3 is incorrect: UK is the first country to approve Molnupiravir,

Source: Article

## **Q.48)** With reference to **Taste the TV (TTTV)**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a prototype lickable TV screen that can imitate food flavours.
- 2. The TV uses a carousel(device that rotates) of 10 flavour canisters to create the taste of a particular food.

## 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.

## Q.49) With reference to Pollen, consider the following statements:

- 1. They are essential for the sexual reproduction of flowering plants.
- 2. Pollen can cause Atopic dermatitis in humans.

## 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.

- Pollen is a fine yellowish powder released by plants. They are essential for the sexual reproduction of flowering plants and plants that produce cones. Each pollen grain contains male gametes necessary for fertilisation.
- **Pollen** produced by plants are considered major outdoor airborne allergens responsible for allergic rhinitis, asthma, and atopic dermatitis in humans.
- **In India,** about 20-30% of the population suffers from allergic rhinitis/hay fever and approximately 15% develop asthma.

**Source:** Article

## **Q.50)** With reference to **SRIJAN Portal**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an online portal that aims to promote indigenisation of defence items production by providing information about defence equipment.
- 2. It is an initiative of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

# 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

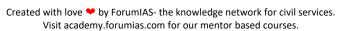
**Correct Answer: A** 

**Explanation** 

Statement 1 is correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: It is an initiative of Ministry of Defence.

Source: Positive Indigenisation list: More defence systems to be locally manufactured





#### **International Relations**

## Q.1) Exercise 'Dosti' is a coast guard exercise between which of the following countries?

- 1. India
- 2. Sri Lanka
- 3. Myanmar
- 4. Maldives

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

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

#### **Correct Answer C**

# Explanation

The 15th edition of the biennial trilateral coast guard exercise 'Dosti' involving India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka is underway in the Maldives.

**Source:** Indian Express

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

- 1. The grouping was founded under the leadership of India.
- 2. All members of the grouping are nuclear powers.
- 3. India has never assumed the chairmanship of the grouping.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: C

## **Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** RIC (Russia-India-China) grouping was founded in the late 1990s under the leadership of Yevgeny Primakov, a Russian politician, as a counterbalance to the Western alliance.
- Statement 2 is correct: All three countries are nuclear powers.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** India took over the chairmanship of RIC after the last meeting of the three foreign ministers in Russia in 2020.

Source: Article

# Q.3) Global Cybersecurity Index is released by?

- a) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- b) World Bank (WB)
- c) Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS)
- d) World Economic Forum (WEF)

## **Correct Answer: A**

### **Explanation**

• The index is released by ITU

**Source: Article** 

## **Q.4) World Migration Report,** is released by which of the following organization:

- a) International Organization for Migration
- b) International Labor Organization
- c) Global Migration Group
- d) United Nation Development Programme

#### **Correct Answer A**

### **Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** It is a **biennial** report published by the "International Organization for Migration" (IOM) of the UN.

The report quoted the regular **data collation by** the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

Source:Article

## Q.5) G20 Troika consists of which of the following countries?

- 1. India
- 2. China
- 3. Indonesia
- 4. Italy

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

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

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

## Explanation

• G20 consists of Indonesia, Italy, and India - the current, previous and incoming G20 Presidencies.

Source: Article

# Q.6) With reference to International Telecommunication Union (ITU), consider the following statements:

- 1. Its membership is open to all member States of the United Nations.
- 2. It maintains a Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) containing all registered frequency assignments.

# 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.

- Its membership is open to all Member States of the United Nations. There are currently 193 Member States of the ITU
- The Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) is the ITU database containing all registered frequency assignments. It is also known as the Master Register.

Source: Article

## **Q.7)** With reference to **Global Gateway Plan**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The plan was envisaged by United Nations.
- 2. The plan aims to mobilise EURO 300 billion by 2027 in public and private infrastructure investment around the world.

## 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 plan was envisaged by European Commission. The EU will use its European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus to finance the project.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: The Hindu

# **Q.8)** With reference to **India Young Water Professional Programme**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme aims to provide a structured platform for capacity building with strategic and long-term investment to support the water management reforms in India.
- 2. The Program will be implemented by the Israel India Water Centre.

#### 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: The Program will be implemented by the Australia- India Water Centre (a consortium of Australian and Indian universities).

Source: India Young Water Professional Programme Launched

# Q.9) With reference to Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the world's largest regional security organization.
- 2. Its participating states includes only European countries.

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## 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**: The participating States are from North America, Europe and Asia.

Source: Article

# **Q.10)** With reference to **Minsk Agreements**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These agreements were signed to stop the ongoing conflict between pro-Russian separatists and the Ukraine administration in the Donbas region.
- 2. The US mediated all the Minsk Agreements.

## 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: B

#### **Explanation**

Statement 1 is correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: US never mediated these agreements.

Source: Explained: What are the Minsk agreements on the Ukraine conflict?

## Q.11) Ekuverin is a joint military exercise between India and which other country?

- a) Maldives
- b) Thailand
- c) Indonesia
- d) Brunei

#### Correct Answer: A

## Explanation

• *Ekuverin* is a joint military exercise held between India and Maldives. It is held between the armies of India and Maldives.

Source: PIB

## Q.12) World Inequality Report is released by?

- a) World Inequality Lab
- b) Global Inequality Research Initiative
- c) International Inequalities Institute
- d) Digital Inequality Group

# Correct Answer: A

### **Explanation**

• World Inequality Report is released by the World Inequality lab

Source: DTE

## Q.13) Which of the following countries are a part of PANEX 21?

- 1. Bhutan
- 2. Nepal
- 3. Thailand

## 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**

• The Indian Army is organising a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief exercise with a special focus on relief in the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. The exercise has been called PANEX 21 and will involve Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand and India—BIMSTEC countries.

Source: Article

# Q.14) World Inequality Report, is published by which of the following organization?

- a) International Labour Organization
- b) World Inequality lab
- c) World Institute for development
- d) World Economic Forum

#### **Correct Answer B**

## Explanation

Statement b is correct: The World Inequality Lab, a research centre at the Paris School of

Economics, released the 2022 World Inequality Report (WIR)

Source: Indian Express

# Q.15) With reference to United Nation Conference on Law of Seas (UNCLOS), consider the following statements:

- 1. The US has signed but not ratified the treaty.
- 2. As per India's Exclusive Economic Zone Act, foreign warships including submarines cannot enter or pass through the territorial waters of India.

#### 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.

- US has neither signed nor ratified the UNCLOS treaty.
- Section 4(2) of India's Exclusive Economic Zone Act, allows foreign warships including submarines to enter or pass through the territorial waters. However, it requires prior notice to the Central Government. They are also required to navigate on the surface and show their flags.

Source: Article

**Q.16) Sister States arrangement** was sometimes seen in news. The relationship is between India and which of the following country?

- a) Russia
- b) USA
- c) Germany
- d) Australia

#### Correct Answer: C

### **Explanation**

Some States and Cities of India and Germany have entered into twinning arrangements. For example, Mumbai and Stuttgart are sister cities since 1968. Karnataka and Bavaria, Maharashtra and Baden-Wurttemberg have Sister State arrangements.

Source: India-Germany relations post-merkel era - Explained, pointwise

# Q.17) Which of the following is recently added in UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity?

- a) Durga Puja
- b) Pushkar Fair
- c) Jagannath Rath Yatra
- d) Suraj Kund mela

## **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO's 2003 Convention on Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has inscribed 'Durga Puja in Kolkata' on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during its 16<sup>th</sup> session being held at Paris, France

Source: PIB

# Q.18) Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere (GEACPS) sometimes seen in news is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) Russia
- b) China
- c) Japan
- d) South Korea

## Correct Answer: C

### **Explanation**

• In the 1930s, Japan started dreaming of a "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" created by annexing chunks of mainland Asia.

Source: Article

# Q.19) Which of the following countries is/are a part of India-Central Asia dialogue and Shanghai Cooperation Organization?

- 1. Kazakhstan
- 2. Turkmenistan
- 3. Kyrgyzstan

## 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: C

## Explanation

- It is a ministerial-level dialogue between India and the Central Asian countries namely Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
- Turkmenistan is not a part of SCO.

Source: Article

**Q.20)** Recently Humanitarian trust fund for Afghanistan was set up by which of the following organization/event?

- a) India- Central Asia dialogue
- b) Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
- c) Regional Security Dialogue
- d) Summit for Democracy

#### Correct Answer: B

#### **Explanation**

A meeting of foreign ministers from the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) agreed to establish a humanitarian trust fund to address the growing economic crisis in Afghanistan which has left millions facing hunger over the winter.

Source: Indian Express

# Q.21) Global Competitiveness Report is released by which of the following organizations?

- a) WB
- b) UNCTAD
- c) WEF
- d) WTO

# Correct Answer: C Explanation

• The report is released by World Economic Forum (WEF)

Source: Article

# Q.22) With reference to World Food Programme (WFP), consider the following statements:

- 1. It was initially launched as an experiment to provide food aid through the United Nations (UN) system.
- 2. Its operations are funded entirely by the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

## 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:** WFP was created in 1961 as an experiment to provide food aid through the UN system and in 1965, it was enshrined as a fully-fledged UN programme. It launched its 1st development program in Sudan.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Its operations are funded entirely by voluntary donations from world governments, corporations and private donors. It raised US\$8 billion in 2019.

Source: Article

# Q.23) With reference to United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW or CCWC), consider the following statements:

- 1. The convention was concluded this year and so far it is not signed by any of the UN member nations.
- 2. The convention covers land mines, booby traps, incendiary devices, blinding laser weapons and clearance of explosive remnants of war.

## 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 convention was concluded at Geneva on October 10, 1980, and entered into force in December 1983. 125 nations are party to this convention. The convention seeks to prohibit or restrict the use of certain conventional weapons which are considered excessively injurious or whose effects are indiscriminate.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Indian Express

## Q.24) With reference to Nord Stream 2 pipeline, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an offshore natural gas pipeline being constructed from Russia to Germany.
- 2. It is built across the Caspian Sea.

## 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**: It is built across the Baltic Sea.

Source: A whiff of trouble in the Nord Stream pipeline

# Q.25) Global Cybersecurity Index(GCI) was released by which of the following organisation?

- a) Australian Strategic Policy Institute
- b) International Telecommunication Union
- c) Norton by Symantec
- d) World Economic Forum

#### Correct Answer: B

### **Explanation**

Source: YEAR END REVIEW-2021: DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

# **Q.26)** With reference to **Counter-Terrorism Committee of UNSC**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was established in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in the US.
- 2. India will chair the Counter-Terrorism Committee in 2022 for the first time.

## 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**: India will chair the Counter-Terrorism Committee of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in January 2022 after 10 years.

Source: AIR

# **Q.27) Euromaidan movement** was sometime seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) Enactment of Environmentally friendly policies in Europe.
- b) Overcoming European Superiority in Japan.
- c) Removal of Pro-Russian President in Ukraine.
- d) Providing first priority to European Union in external relations of the US.

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# Correct Answer: C Explanation

In 2014, the then Russian-leaning Ukrainian President decided to join the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Union instead of the EU. Later, mass protests (Euromaidan movement) in Ukraine led to his ouster.

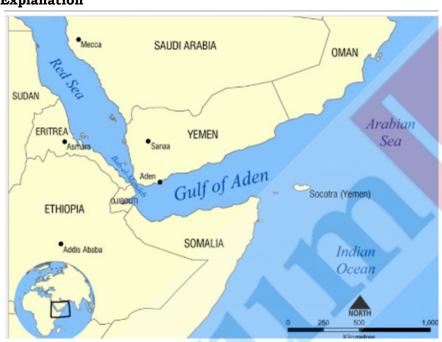
led to his ouster. Source: Ukraine conflict and its implications for India - Explained, pointwise

#### **GEOGRAPHY**

# Q.1) Bab-el-Mandeb strait is connecting which of the following seas?

- a) Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea
- b) Red Sea and Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea
- c) Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea
- d) Irish Sea & Atlantic Ocean

# Correct Answer: B **Explanation**



Source: Seapower

## Q.2) With reference to Western Ghats, consider the following:

- 1. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala are the six Indian states covered by the Western Ghats.
- 2. Western Ghats are also known as Anaimalai hills and cardamom Hills in Kerala.

## 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.

Another name of western Ghats: Sahyadri in Maharashtra.

- Nilgiri hills in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- Anaimalai hills and Cardamom hills in Kerala.

Source: DTE

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- **Q.3)** With reference to **Western Ghats**, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- 2. Western Ghats are also known as Anaimalai hills and Cardamom hills in Kerala

## 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.

here are a few local names given to the Western Ghats:

- Sahyadri in Maharashtra
- Nilgiri hills in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu
- Anaimalai hills and Cardamom hills in Kerala

Source: Article

# Q.4) With which of the following Nagaland, share its border with:

- a) Arunachal Pradesh, Myanmar and Tripura
- b) Meghalaya, Myanmar and Manipur
- c) Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Mizoram. Manipur and Meghalaya

#### **Correct Answer C**

## **Explanation**

**Statement c is correct:** It is one of the smaller states of India. Nagaland is bounded by the Indian states of **Arunachal Pradesh** to the northeast, **Manipur** to the south, and **Assam** to the west and northwest and the country of **Myanmar** (Burma) to the east.

Source: TOI

#### **Q.5) Mount Semeru** is located in which of the following country?

- a) Indonesia
- b) India
- c) The USA
- d) France

#### Correct Answer: A

## Explanation:

Recently, Mount Semeru volcano of Indonesia erupted which killed at least 14 persons and left dozens injured.

Semeru, or Mount Semeru, is an active volcano in East Java, Indonesia. It is located in a subduction zone, where the Indo-Australia plate subducts under the Eurasia plate. It is the highest mountain on the island of Java.

This stratovolcano is also known as Mahameru, meaning "The Great Mountain" in Sanskrit.

# Q.6) Match the following Ports with their respective Countries.

- 1. Bandar Abbas Iraq
- 2. Kyaukpyu Myanmar
- 3. Hambantota- Seychelles
- 4. Gwadar- Pakistan

## Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

#### **Correct Answer** D

**Explanation**- Bandar Abbas port is situated in Iran, Hambantota in Sri Lanka, Gwadar in Pakistan and Kyaukpyu in Myanmar.

## **Q.7)** Consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Kharif crop.
- 2. It is a tropical as well as sub-tropical crop.
- 3. It needs hot and humid climate with an average temperature of 21°C to 27°C.
- 4. Medium and heavy soils where irrigation facilities are available are ideal for its cultivation.

# Which of the above points are best suited to the crops mentioned below.

- a) Rice
- b) Sugarcane
- c) Jute
- d) Cotton

## **Correct Answer B**

#### **Explanation Statement b is correct**

### Geographical Conditions of Growth:

- It is a tropical as well as sub-tropical crop.
- Sugarcane in North India is of the sub-tropical variety and has low sugar content. Also sugar factories have to remain shut in winter seasons in North India. Also, sugarcane juice begins to dry up because of the long dry season in north India.
- Sugarcane in South India is of the tropical variety and high sugar content and high yield.
- It grows well in hot and humid climate with a temperature of 21°C to 27°C and an annual rainfall of 75-100cm.
- Medium and heavy soils where irrigation facilities are available are ideal for its cultivation.
- It can be grown on a variety of soils and needs manual labour from the time of sowing to harvesting.
- It is a long maturing crop planted between February and April. Harvesting begins in October and November.
- It is a soil-exhausting crop and thus needs regular application of manure or fertilisers.

**Source: Indian Express** 

## Q.8) Panna Tiger reserve, belongs to which of the following Indian state:

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

#### **Correct Answer C**

## **Explanation**

**Statement c is correct:** Panna National Park is a national park located in Panna and Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh in India

Source: The Hindu

## Q.9) With reference to glaciers, consider the following statements:

- 1. Pro Glacial lakes are formed due to retreating glaciers.
- 2. Himalayan mountains hold the world's third-largest amount of glacier ice following Antarctica and the Arctic.

## 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.

- **Retreating glaciers**, usually result in the formation of lakes at their tips. These lakes are called **proglacial lakes**. These proglacial lakes are often bound by sediments, boulders, and moraines. If the boundaries of these lakes are breached, then flooding will take place downstream of that glacial lake.
- Himalayan mountains are referred to as the third pole because they hold the world's third-largest amount of glacier ice following Antarctica and the Arctic.

**Source**: Article

# Q.10) Which of the following countries do not share border with Iran?

- 1. Georgia
- 2. Azerbaijan
- 3. Uzbekistan

#### 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: C Explanation

• Iran is bounded to the north by Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, and the Caspian Sea, to the east by Pakistan and Afghanistan, to the south by the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, and to the west by Turkey and Iraq.

Source: Article

## Q.11) Which of the following group of countries shares land border with Afghanistan?

- a) Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
- b) Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan
- c) Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- d) Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgystan

### **Correct Answer A**

### Explanation

Statement a is correct: Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan share land borders with Afghanistan



Source: Article

# Q.12) Port Maputo sometimes seen in news is located in which of the following countries?

- a) Madagascar
- b) Mauritius
- c) Maldives
- d) Mozambique

#### Correct Answer: D

# Explanation

• India sent food aid through INS Kesari (landing ship tank) to Mozambique under the eight edition of **Mission Sagar**. It was delivered at **Port Maputo** of Mozambique.

**Source:** Article

## Q.13) Devi River is a tributary of which of the following rivers?

- a) Mahanadi
- b) Godavari
- c) Krishna

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# d) Narmada

# Correct Answer: A

# **Explanation**

• It is one of the principal distributaries of Mahanadi. It flows through Jagatsinghpur district and Puri district across Odisha state in India and joins the Bay of Bengal.



## **Modern History-Personalities**

## Q.1) with reference to Lachit Borphukan, consider the following:

- 1. He was a commander in the erstwhile Ahom Kingdom.
- 2. Battle of Saraighat was won by Ahoms against the Mughals forces because of the leadership skills of Lachit Borphukam.

## 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.

Lachit Borphukan was a **commander in the erstwhile Ahom kingdom**. He is known for his leadership in the 1671 Battle of Saraighat that thwarted an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam.

He defeated the Mughal Army by brilliant uses of the terrain, guerrilla tactics, clever diplomatic negotiations to buy time, military intelligence and by exploiting the sole weakness of the Mughal forces—its navy.

Source: PM pays tributes to Lachit Borphukan

## **Q.2)** Consider the following statements:

- 1. He served as a first Indian MP in the British Parliament.
- 2. He is known as Grand Old man of India.
- 3. He was the founder of London India Society.
- 4. He acted as a mentor to Gopal Krishna Gokhale

#### Which of the above points, are talking about the personality mentioned below?

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Vallabhbhai Patel
- c) Dadabhai Naoroji
- d) Ram Manohar Roy

## Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation

## Statement c is correct:

**About Dadabhai Naoroji:** He is considered as Grand Oldman of India. Also, The **London India Society** was an Indian organization founded in London in March 1865 under the leadership of Dadabhai Naoroji and W.C. Banerjee.

**As a British MP:** He used the British institution to fulfil Indian interests. He passed a resolution in British Parliament to bring reforms in the Indian Civil Service.

**As a mentor:** He mentored Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Pherozesha Mehta, Romesh Chunder Dutt and other leaders.

Source: Livemint

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

- 1. They rendered martial services in return for hereditary nish-kar jagirs and titles.
- 2. During the Paika Rebellion, several Kondhs rose up in revolt against the British.

# 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 Paikas were a class of military retainers who had been recruited since the 16th century by kings in Odisha from a variety of social groups to render martial services in return for hereditary rent-free land (nish-kar jagirs) and titles.
- The Paik Rebellion was an armed rebellion against the British East India Company's rule in 1817.
- In 1817, several Kondhs descended from the Ghumusar area to rise in revolt against the British.
- Bakshi Jagabandhu, the hereditary chief of the militia army of the Gajapati King of Khurda led an army of Paikas to join the uprising of the Kondh.

Source: Article

# **Q.4)** Consider the following statements:

- 1. The regulating Act of 1773 was passed during his term.
- 2. He abolished the system of dastaks which were misused by company officials and traders earlier.
- 3. Civil and criminal courts were established during his period.

Which of the below personalities are linked with the points mentioned above:

- a) Robert Clive
- b) Warren Hastings
- c) Lord Hastings
- d) Lord Cornwallis

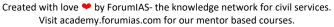
#### Correct Answer B

## Explanation:

#### Statement b is correct:

- Hastings abolished the system of dastaks which were misused by company officials and traders earlier.
- He enforced a uniform tariff of 2.5% for Indian and foreign goods.
- Civil and criminal courts were established. Two appellate courts were established at Calcutta, one for civil (Sadar Diwani Adalat) and one for criminal (Sadar Nizamat Adalat) cases
- The criminal court was to have an Indian judge.
- The Regulating Act of 1773 was passed during his term.

Source: Indian Express



## Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. He was a ruler of the kingdom of Benares.
- 2. Later on he transferred the domain to the East India Company, under the control of Warren Hastings.
- 3. His fort was at Shivala Ghat.

## Which of the below personalities are linked with the points mentioned above:

- a) Ranjit Singh
- b) Chait Singh
- c) Suheldev
- d) Prithvi Raj

## **Correct Answer: B**

### Explanation

- Maharaja Chait Singh was a ruler of the Kingdom of Benaras. He acquired the throne of Banaras in 1771 with the help of British authorities.
- In 1773, the Maharaja transferred the domain to the East India Company, under the control of Warren Hastings.
- Under British terms, the Maharaja was forced to contribute cavalry and maintenance grants for the company's sepoy battalions. But he refused to comply with the British orders.
- After this, British soldiers were deployed at the Raja's fort at the Shivala Ghat. But the soldiers were killed in the conflict and the governor-general was forced to retreat.

Source: Article

## Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. He was imprisoned in Alipore Bomb case.
- 2. His literary works include The Future Evolution of Man, Bhagavad Gita and Its Message.
- 3. He was proficient in two classical and several modern European languages.

#### Which of the below personalities are linked with the points mentioned above:

- a) R C Dutt
- b) Aurobindo Ghose
- c) Bipin Chandra Pal
- d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

## Correct Answer: b

## Explanation

Source: Indian Express

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In England, he organized a secret society called 'Lotus and Dagger'.
- 2. He was associated with the Journals and periodicals like the 'Jugantar' and Bande Mataram.
- 3. Some of his important writings are the Life Divine, Savitri, Essay on the Gita.

## Which of the below personalities are linked with the points mentioned above:

- a) R C Dutt
- b) Aurobindo Ghose
- c) Bipin Chandra Pal

## d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

# Correct Answer: b

**Explanation** 

Source: Indian Express

# **Q.8)** Consider the following statements:

- 1. He propounded a philosophy of divine life on earth through spiritual evolution.
- 2. He was imprisoned in 1908 Alipore Bomb case.
- 3. Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol is an epic poem written by him.

Which of the above statements are referring to the names mentioned below:

- a) Barindra Ghose
- b) Sri Aurobindo
- c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- d) Mahatma Gandhi

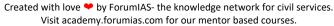
## **Correct Answer B**

## **Explanation**

Statement b is correct: Aurobindo Ghose was born in Calcutta on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1872. He was a yogi, seer, philosopher, poet, and Indian nationalist who propounded a philosophy of divine life on earth through spiritual evolution.

- Literary Works:
  - o An English newspaper called **Bande Mataram** (in 1905).
  - Bases of Yoga
  - o Bhagavad Gita and Its Message
  - o The Future Evolution of Man
  - o Rebirth and Karma
  - o Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol
  - o Hour of God

Source: PIB



## **Polity and Governance**

- **Q.1)** Which of the following is the presiding officer of the house:
- a) President of India
- b) Speaker
- c) Prime Minister of India
- d) Leader of opposition

#### **Correct Answer B**

### **Explanation**

**Statement b is correct:** Since the Indian System of Government follows the Westminster Model, the Parliamentary proceedings of the country are headed by a presiding officer, who is called the Speaker.

**Source: Indian Express** 

## Q.2) Kothari commission, is related to which of the following:

- a) To examine the centre state relations.
- b) To suggest changes in electoral laws.
- c) To probe the Babri Masjid demolition.
- d) To examine all aspects of education sector in India.

#### **Correct Answer D**

### Explanation

**Statement d is correct:** The Kothari Commission was appointed by the Government of India to overhaul the Indian Education sector.

Source: Livemint

## **Q.3)** With reference to **Article 124 (4)**, of the constitution, consider the following:

- 1. It deals with the procedure to be followed in case of removal of a Supreme Court judge.
- 2. Judge of SC can only be removed on the grounds of proved misbehavior and incapacity.

## 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

The Constitution of India also provides a set of regulations for the removal of the Supreme Court judge. **Article 124(4)** mentions those Removal regulations of the Supreme court judge as follows:

A judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a **majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House** present and voting has been presented to the president in same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

Source: Indian Express]

## Q.4) Article 142 of the constitution is related to?

- a) It deals with enforcement of decrees and orders of the Supreme Court.
- b) Power of President to consult Supreme Court on question of law or public importance.
- c) It deals with Appellate jurisdiction of Supreme Court in appeals from High Courts in regard to civil matters.
- d) Courts not to inquire into proceedings of Parliament.

#### **Correct Answer A**

## **Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** Article 142 "provide(s) a unique power to the Supreme Court, to do "complete justice" between the parties, i.e., where at times law or statute may not provide a remedy, the Court can extend itself to put a quietus to a dispute in a manner which would befit the facts of the case.

Article 142(1) states that "The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, and any decree so passed or order so made shall be enforceable throughout the territory of India in such manner as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, in such manner as the President may by order prescribe".

Source: **Business Standard** 

## Q.5) With reference to 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, consider the following:

- 1. This Act made the Panchayati Raj institutions in the country constitutional bodies.
- 2. Article 243-B, made it compulsory for every state to establish panchayats in their territories.

#### 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:

## Features of this act are:

- This Act made the Panchayati Raj institutions in the country constitutional bodies.
- Under Article 243-B, it has become compulsory for every state to establish panchayats in their territories.
- Article 243-G makes it mandatory for the state governments to devolve powers, responsibilities and authority to the panchayats.
- The gram panchayats have a fixed tenure of 5 years.
- State election commissions have been provided with the mechanism to conduct independent elections to the village panchayats.
- Article 243-D gives provisions for the due representation of women and SC/STs.
- The State Finance Commission should also evaluate the financial position of the panchayats every five years.

Source: The Hindu

# **Q.6) Freedom of speech and Expression,** is associated which of the following constitution article:

- a) Article 17
- b) Article 19
- c) Article 21
- d) Article 14

#### **Correct Answer B**

# **Explanation**

**Statement b is correct:** Article 19 guarantees six freedoms.

Speech and expression, Assembly, Association, Movement, Residence and Profession

**Freedom of speech and expression:** The State guarantees freedom of speech and expression to every person of India. However, the State can impose restrictions on the freedom of speech and expression in the interests of the integrity, security and sovereignty of the country, friendly relations with foreign nations, for public order, with respect to defamation, incitement to offence or contempt of court.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.7) With reference to Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2021, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Bill provides for the establishment of the National Registry of Clinics and Banks.
- 2. It also addresses the concerns of LGBTQ category for exercising the right of ART.
- 3. Child born through ART shall be deemed to be a biological child of the commissioning couple.

# 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: C

# Explanation

- Statement 1 and 3 are correct
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: One of the issues with the bill is that it doesn't address the concerns of LGBQ category wrt exercise of their ART rights.

Source: Article

# **Q.8) Right to Privacy,** protected under which of the following constitution article:

- a) Article 17
- b) Article 20
- c) Article 21
- d) Article 22

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation:**

Statement c is correct: Right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution.

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Source: Livemint

# Q.9) With reference to Joint Parliamentary Committee, consider the following:

- 1. It is a permanent body.
- 2. Members of the committee belongs only from the Lok Sabha

### 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: C

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: It is an adhoc body. It is set up for a given period of time and is aimed at addressing a specific issue.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Members are both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

**Source: Livemint** 

# Q.10) With reference to Constitution Day, consider the following:

- 1. It is celebrated every year on 26th January.
- 2. It is celebrated to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution in India.

# 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:** Constitution Day or Samvidhan Divas is celebrated in India on November 26 every year. 26th November 2021, marked as India's 72nd Constitution Day.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Constitution Day is also known as National Law Day. The day commemorates the adoption of the Constitution in India.

On this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India formally adopted the Constitution of India that came into force on 26 January 1950.

Source: Our constitution, A beacon of freedom

# Q.11) With reference to **Private member Bill**, consider the following statements:

- 1. An MP who is not a minister is a private member.
- 2. While a government Bill can be introduced and discussed on any day, a private member's bill can only be introduced and discussed on Fridays.

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.

Source: The Hindu

### Q.12) With reference to Dam Safety Bill 2019, consider the following statements:

- 1. National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) will ensure the nationwide implementation of dam safety policies and standards.
- 2. There is provision for an emergency flood warning system to address the safety concerns of downstream inhabitants.
- 3. India is the 3rd largest dam-owning nation in the world after China and USA.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: B

### **Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: NCDS will be constituted to help evolve uniform dam safety policies, protocols, and procedures, while NDSA (National Dam Safety Authority) will ensure the nationwide implementation of dam safety policies and standards.
- Statement 2 & 3 are correct

Source: Article

# **Q.13)** With reference to **CAG**, consider the following:

- 1. It is a statutory body
- 2. The CAG is eligible for any further office after the end of their tenure.

# 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 a constitutional body established under Article 148 of the Constitution of India. The Comptroller and Auditor General is appointed by the President of India and can be removed from office only in the manner and on the grounds that a Judge of the Supreme Court is removed.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The CAG is not eligible for any further office after the end of their tenure either in the Government of India or any State Government.

Source: Did poor government handling in Kerala cause 2018 floods? Yes, says CAG

# Q.14) With reference to Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), consider the following statements:

- 1. It was promulgated by the British in response to the Non-cooperation movement.
- 2. Only the Central government has the authority to impose the act in a state or parts of the state.
- 3. Armed forces can act independent of the district administration under the powers given by the act.

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

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

# **Correct Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

#### All statements are incorrect.

- **Statement is incorrect**: AFSPA was originally promulgated by the British in response to the Quit India movement in 1942. After Independence, India decided to retain the Act, which was first brought in as an ordinance and then notified as an Act in 1958.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: AFSPA can be imposed by the Center or the Governor of a state on the state or parts of it after it is declared "disturbed" under Section 3 of AFSPA Act.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Armed forces must act in cooperation with the district administration and not as an independent body.

Sources: Article

# **Q.15)** With reference to **Suspension of MPs**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The power to suspend an MP is vested in the chairman.
- 2. The maximum period of suspension is for the remainder of the session

### 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 power to suspend an MP is vested in the house, not the chairman. The chairman only names the member, while the Parliamentary Affairs minister or any other minister moves the motion for suspending the member.

**Statement 2** is correct: The maximum period of suspension is for the remainder of the session. Suspended members cannot enter the chamber or attend the meetings of the committees. He will not be eligible to give notice for discussion or submission. He loses the right to get a reply to his questions

# Q.16) Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, is related to which of the following:

- a) It provides special status to Jammu and Kashmir.
- b) Temporary power to Parliament to make laws with respect to certain matters in the State List.
- c) Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and procedure
- d) Imposition of President Rule on any state of India on the grounds of the failure of the constitutional machinery.

#### **Correct Answer A**

### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** Article 370 was included in the Indian Constitution on October 17, 1949, as a 'temporary provision', which exempts Jammu and Kashmir from the Indian Constitution.

Source: Article

# Q.17) Article 356 of the Indian constitution, is related to which of the following:

- a) President's Rule can be imposed on any state of India on the grounds of the failure of the constitutional machinery.
- b) Suspension of Fundamental rights under Article 19.
- c) President to specify castes, races or tribes that will be classified as 'Scheduled Castes' under the Constitution.
- d) Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assemblies of the States.

# **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** According to **Article 356, President's Rule** can be imposed on any state of India on the grounds of the failure of the constitutional machinery. This is of two types:

- 3. If the President receives a report from the state's Governor or otherwise is convinced or satisfied that the state's situation is such that the state government cannot carry on the governance according to the provisions of the Constitution.
- 4. Article 365: As per this Article, President's Rule can be imposed if any state fails to comply with all directions given by the Union on matters it is empowered to.

In simple words, President's Rule is when the state government is suspended and the central government directly administers the state through the office of the governor (centrally appointed).

Source: The Hindu

# Q.18) Right to Life and Personal Liberty, is enshrined in which of the following article:

- a) Article 21
- b) Article 22
- c) Article 14
- d) Article 19

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### **Explanation:**

**Statement a is correct:** Article 21 states "no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to a procedure established by law"

Source: Delhi Pollution-Looking at social. political facets of climate crisis can help in better adaptation

### **Q.19) Article 142 of the constitution,** is relate to which of the following:

- a) Enforcement of decrees and orders of the Supreme Court.
- b) President to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court.
- c) Civil and judicial authorities to act in aid of the Supreme Court Constitution Of India.
- d) Duties and Powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

#### **Correct Answer A**

#### Explanation

**Statement a is correct:** Article 142 of Constitution of India deals with **Enforcement of decrees and orders of the Supreme Court**. It states that the Apex Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing "complete justice" in any case pending before it.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.20) With reference to Ordinary Bills, consider the following statements:

- 1. It can be introduced only by the minister.
- 2. It can be introduced in both the houses I.e., Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- 3. Rajya Sabha can only detain bill for maximum 14 days.

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

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

#### **Correct Answer C**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** It can be introduced by either minister or member. **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Rajya Sabha can only detain bill for 6 months.

Source: Indian Express

# Q.21) With reference to Election Commission, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed by the President of India.

### 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:** The Election Commission of India is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office only through a process of removal similar to that of a Supreme Court judge for by Parliament

Source: Indian Express

# Q.22) Jaya Jaitly committee, is related to which of the following:

- a) To examine minimum age of marriage for girls.
- b) For repealing of AFSPA in North East region.
- c) For framing rules for efficient working of Parliament.
- d) For bringing reforms in Criminal Justice system of India.

#### **Correct Answer A**

# **Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** The committee has recommended the age of marriage for women be increased to 21 years

Source: Article

# Q.23) With reference to CBI, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. Establishment of CBI was recommended by Santhanam Committee.

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- A

#### **Explanation**

Statement 1 is incorrect: The CBI is not a statutory body. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption recommended the establishment of the CBI

Source: Indian Express

# Q.24) With reference to Fundamental Duties, consider the following statements:

- 1. The idea of Fundamental Duties is inspired from the Constitution of Russia.
- 2. These duties are also non-justiciable in nature.

### 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 the statements are correct.

- The idea of Fundamental Duties is inspired from the Constitution of Russia.
- These were incorporated in Part IV-A of the Constitution by the 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 on the recommendations of Swaran Singh Committee.
- Originally 10 in number, one more duty was added through the 86<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002. All the eleven duties are listed in Article 51-A of the Constitution (the sole Article in Part-IV-A).
- The fundamental duties serve as a reminder to citizens that while enjoying their rights, they have also to be quite conscious of duties they owe to their country, their society and to their fellow-citizens.
- However, like the Directive Principles, the duties are also non-justiciable in nature.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.25) With reference to Speaker, consider the following statements:

- 1. The speaker once elected is not eligible for re-election.
- 2. Speaker is the final interpreter of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha and the parliamentary precedents, within the House.

# 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 Speaker holds Office from the date of his/her election till immediately before the first meeting of the next Lok Sabha (for 5 years). The speaker once elected is eligible for re-election.

**Statement 2 is correct:** He/She is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha and the parliamentary precedents, within the House. In matters regarding interpretation of these provisions, he/she often gives rulings which are respected by members and are binding in nature.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.26) With reference to sixth schedule, consider the following statements:

- 1. It consists of provisions for the administration of tribal and non-tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- 2. Autonomous District Councils (ADC) under the schedule are like miniature states having specific powers and responsibilities in respect of legislature, executive and judiciary.

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

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

# Correct Answer: B

# **Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** sixth schedule has provisions wrt tribal areas only.
- Statement 2 is correct

Source: Article

# Q.27) With reference to Preamble, consider the following statements:

- 1. The ideals behind the Preamble to India's Constitution were laid down by Jawaharlal Nehru's Objectives Resolution.
- 2. It was adopted in our constitution on 26th January, 1950.

# 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: B**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement 1 is correct**. Nehru gave the objective resolution, which is the basis of the Preamble of the constitution

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

Source: The Hindu

#### Q.28) With reference to Central universities, consider the following statements:

- 1. Chancellors in central universities are appointed by the President.
- 2. The President has the right to authorize inspections of academic and non-academic aspects of the universities.

#### 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.

- Under the Central Universities Act, 2009, the President of India shall be the Visitor of a central university.
- With their role limited to presiding over convocations, Chancellors in central universities are appointed by the President in his capacity as Visitor.
- The VCs too are appointed by the Visitor from panels of names picked by search and selection committees formed by the Union government.
- The President, as the Visitor, also has the right to authorise inspections of academic and non-academic aspects of the universities and also to institute inquiries.

# Q.29) G Kishan Reddy committee is associated with which of the following?

- a) issues related to language, culture and conservation of land in the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- b) review of present ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian Private Sector Banks.
- c) Steps for preventing stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.
- d) to suggest measures to de-clog and improve the functioning of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

### **Correct Answer: A**

# Explanation

• In January 2021, the MHA announced that a committee under **G Kishan Reddy** would be formed to address "the issues related to the language of Ladakh, the culture of Ladakh and conservation of land in Ladakh". The committee is yet to submit its report.

Source: Article

# Q.30) Article 324 of the constitution, is related to which of the following:

- a) Superintendence, direction, and control of all elections to Parliament, the State legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice-President shall be vested in the ECI.
- b) No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex
- c) Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be on the basis of adult suffrage.
- d) Parliament may from time to time by law make provision with respect to all matters relating to, elections to either House of Parliament.

# **Correct Answer A**

Explanation

Statement a is correct.

Source: TheHindu

**Q.31)** With reference to **Election Laws (Amendment) Bill**, **2021**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The bill amends certain sections of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and 1951.
- 2. The bill made Linking Aadhaar Card with the Voter ID on a mandatory basis.
- 3. The bill allows voters turning 18 to get register in electoral rolls at four different times of the vear.

#### 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) 3 only

#### Correct Answer: C

Explanation

Statement 1 and 3 are correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Linking of the Aadhaar Card with the Voter ID will be allowed on a voluntary basis.

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Source: Linking Aadhaar with electoral rolls - Explained, pointwise

# Q.32) As per the Constitution, which of the following is/are basis for reasonable restrictions on the right to Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion?

- 1. Public order
- 2. Morality
- 3. Health

### 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

• Article 25 guarantees **the freedom of conscience**, the freedom to profess, practice and propagate religion to all citizens. considered as included in the profession of the Sikh religion. This Article provides that every religious denomination has the following rights, subject to morality, health and public order.

Source: Article

# Q.33) Mahajan Commission sometimes seen in news is associated with which of the following?

- a) Belgaum Border dispute
- b) Restructuring of Non-Performing Assets
- c) Civil Services reform
- d) Establishment of University Grants Commission

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

#### **Explanation**

• The government of India formed the Mahajan Commission under former chief justice Mehr Chand Mahajan in 1966. The Commission in its report granted 264 villages in the disputed region to Maharashtra and 247 villages to Karnataka. However, the commission ruled that the Belgaum should continue in Karnataka. While Maharashtra rejected the report, Karnataka demanded the status quo.

Source: Article

# Q.34) With reference to Right to be Forgotten, consider the following statements:

- 1. The right is not recognized by law in India.
- 2. European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) provide for the right to erasure of certain categories of personal data.

#### 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 right is not recognised by law in India, but the courts have held it to be an intrinsic part of the right to privacy. Petitions across courts have been seeking enforcement of this right, but it is not yet backed by statute in India.
- The European Union in 2018 adopted the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Article 17 of which provides for the right to erasure of certain categories of personal data

Source: Article

**Q.35) Belgaum Border Dispute** was recently seen in news. The dispute is related to which of the following states?

- a) Tamil Nadu and Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- c) Karnataka and Maharashtra
- d) Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

# Correct Answer: C Explanation

Source: Belgaum Border Dispute: Explained: Latest flashpoint in Belagavi border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka

#### Q.36) With reference to online gaming, consider the following statements:

- 1. Goa and Sikkim prohibit any sort of gambling, betting or wagering on games of chance.
- 2. E-sports were earlier played privately or on consoles in video game shops but are now played online in an organised way.

#### 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 states allow betting and gambling on games of chance.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: E-sports are the video games which, in the 1990s, were **played privately** or on consoles in video game shops but are **now played online** in an organised way between professional players, individually or as teams

#### **ECONOMY**

# Q.1) With reference to India's first National MPI (multidimensional poverty index), consider the following statements:

- 1. The index uses the globally accepted and robust methodology developed for Global MPI.
- 2. Health dimension is given the maximum weightage as compared to dimensions in the index.
- 3. Index is based on the Findings of the fifth National Family Health Survey.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: A

# Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Health, education and standard of living, all three dimensions are given equal weightage in the index.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Index is based on the findings of fourth National family Health Survey.

Source: Article

# Q.2) With reference to the recently released Public Sector Enterprise Policy, which of the following is/are classified as strategic sectors?

- Transport and telecommunications
- Banking and Insurance
- Power, Petroleum and Coal

### 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

The policy classifies public sector commercial enterprises into the strategic and non-strategic sector:

**Strategic Sector**: There would be a maximum of four public sector companies in strategic sectors. State-owned firms in other segments would be privatized eventually.

The following 4 sectors are covered under strategic sectors:

- Atomic energy, Space and Defence
- Transport and Telecommunications
- Power, Petroleum, Coal, and other minerals
- Banking, Insurance, and financial services

# Q.3) With reference to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an apex organisation under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- 2. It is a statutory body.
- 3. One of its social objectives is to provide employment.

### 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: KVIC is under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established under Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.
- Statement 3 is correct: It has the following objectives 1) The social objective of providing employment, 2) The economic objective of producing saleable articles, 3) The wider objective of creating self-reliance amongst the poor and building up of a strong rural community spirit.

Source: Article

Q.4) Which of the following results will occur by practicing Natural Farming?

- 1. Increased Farmers Income.
- 2. Decrease in yield.
- 3. Eliminate the application of chemical inputs.
- 4. Minimize the cost of production.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

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

#### Correct Answer C

# Explanation

The Benefits of Natural Farming includes,

- a) Improves Yield
- b) Increased Farmers Income
- c) Minimize the cost of production
- d) Ensure better Health as less use of fertilizers and pesticides, reduces the incidence of non-communicable diseases
- e) Employment Generation
- f) Eliminate the application of chemical inputs f) Environment Conservation g) Reduce Water Consumption h) Rejuvenate Soil Health and i) resilience to the crops against weather extremities.

Source: NITI Aayog organises knowledge sharing workshop on Natural Farming

### Q.5) With reference to **Ken-Betwa Link Project**, consider the following statements:

- 1. This project will spread across the districts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- 2. Both the Ken and Betwa river are tributaries of the river Yamuna.

# 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**: This project will spread across the districts of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: PIB

# Q.6) With reference to Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been designated as the lead agency for the Anti-Smuggling National Coordination Centre.
- 2. It works under Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 3. Operation Clean Art was conducted by the DRI.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: A

#### Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct
- **Statement 2 is incorrec**t: It works under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), Ministry of Finance.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Operation Clean Art was conducted by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB). DRI recently conducted Operation Molten metal to nab several Indian and foreign nationals suspected to be indulging in **smuggling gold** into India from Hong Kong using the air cargo route.

Source: Article

#### Q.7) With reference to Wage Rate Index, consider the following statements:

- 1. The base year for the index is 2010.
- 2. Index is released by the Labour bureau.

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

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

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#### Correct Answer: B

#### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: The base year has been changed from 1963-65 to 2016.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Index is released by Labour Bureau, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

Source: Article

# Q.8) Which of the following statements correctly defines the term Import Parity price -

- a) A method adopted by OPEC member countries to provide incentive to Asian Nations heavily dependent on oil imports.
- b) A Method Suggested by NITI Aayog to calculate Central issue price which takes into account the operational costs incurred by FCI.
- c) A measure of how Natural gas prices are calculated in country.
- d) A term related to Pricing of LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas).

### **Answer**- Option D

<u>Explanation</u>- **LPG pricing** in India is done on the basis of a formula — import parity price (IPP). The IPP is determined based on LPG prices in the international market, assuming that the fuel is imported into the country.

# Q.9) With reference to Account Aggregator (AA) framework, consider the following statements:

- 1. An Account Aggregator will be a new class of Non-Banking Finance Company approved by RBI.
- 2. It will allow lenders to conduct a speedy assessment of the creditworthiness of the

### 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.

• An AA is a new class of NBFC approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to manage consent for financial data sharing of users. It will allow lenders to conduct an easy and speedy assessment of the creditworthiness of the borrower.

Source: Article

#### **Q.10)** With reference to **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the cost paid by a bank to merchant for accepting payment from their customers via digital means.
- 2. The government abolished the MDR on transactions on RuPay debit cards.

# 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**: It is the cost paid by a merchant to a bank for accepting payment from their customers via digital means. The merchant discount rate is expressed in percentage of the transaction amount.

**Statement 2 is correct**. The government had abolished the merchant discount rate (MDR) on transactions using the RuPay debit card and the UPI from January 1, 2020.

Source: Neo-socialism: State's expanding tech biz

- Q.11) Sanrachna, Drishti, Surge and Kite were sometimes seen in news. These terms are related to which of the following?
- a) Projects aims to improve online education in Tribal districts.
- b) Awareness campaigns to improve Covid-19 vaccination.
- c) Platforms to foster technological innovations in heavy industries.
- d) Newly planned super computers.

#### Correct Answer: C

# **Explanation**

The Ministry of Heavy Industries has launched six web-based technology innovation platforms. SANRACHNA: It has been set up and maintained by BHEL. The platform focuses on the power sector and renewable energy sector.

DRISHTI: It has been set up and maintained by Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI), Bengaluru. It focuses on the various technologies associated with Capital goods.

KITE: It has been set up and maintained by AMTDC-IIT Madras. It focuses on Robotics and Virtual Reality, Machine Tools.

SURGE: It has been set up and maintained by HMT MTL Ltd- IISc Bangalore. It is a Technology Innovation Platform focussing on Machine Tools sector.

Source: Six Technology Innovation Platforms launched to foster technological innovations in Heavy Industries

- **Q.12)** India's **first Green Hydrogen Microgrid Project** will be set up in which of the following state?
- a) Gujarat
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Goa

#### Correct Answer: C

#### Explanation

NTPC Ltd has awarded a project of "Standalone Fuel-Cell based Micro-grid with hydrogen production using an electrolyser in NTPC Guest House at its Simhadri plant in Andhra Pradesh.

It is India's first Green Hydrogen based Energy Storage Project. Under this project, hydrogen would be produced using the advanced 240 kW Solid Oxide Electrolyser by taking input power from the nearby Floating Solar project.

Source: India's first and one of world's largest Green Hydrogen Microgrid Projects to be set up at Simhadri

# Q.13) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims to enhance physical access of water on farms and expand cultivable areas under assured irrigation.
- 2. Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme(AIBP) and Har Khet Ko Pani(HKKP) are the components of the Scheme.

#### 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.

Source: CCEA nod to extension of irrigation scheme

# Q.14) With reference to Char Dham programme, consider the following statements:

- 1. The works under Char Dham Pariyojna are being implemented on Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode of contract.
- 2. These projects connects bigger circuit of modern day Char Dham that connects Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri and Rameswaram.

# 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: B

#### Explanation

#### Statement 1 is correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The Char Dham programme is an initiative to improve connectivity to the Char Dham pilgrimage centres in the Himalayas namely Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath.

These four ancient pilgrimages sites in Uttarakhand are known as Chota Char Dham to differentiate them from the bigger circuit of modern day Char Dham sites namely Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri and Rameswaram.

Source: SC approves widening of three Char Dham highways

# **Q.15)** With reference to **GrapeNet**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative of Grape Export Promotion Council.
- 2. It is an internet-based Residue traceability software system, for monitoring fresh grapes exported from India to the European Union.

# 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**: It is a first of its kind initiative in India by the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce, the Government of India.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: [Yojana December Summary] GI Tagging of Rural Products - Explained, pointwise

# Q.16) With reference to Palm oil, consider the following statements:

- 1. India is world's largest importer of Palm Oil.
- 2. Palm oil is imported mainly from Indonesia and Malaysia.

# 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.

- India is the world's largest importer of palm oil, buying more than 9 million tonnes annually, mainly from Indonesia and Malaysia.
- Palm oil accounts for the lion's share of the total edible oil imports (around 62 per cent).

Source: Article

# Q.17) With reference to USO Fund, consider the following statements:

- 1. For USO Fund, a Universal Service Levy is charged from all the telecom operators on their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).
- 2. It is a statutory fund.

# 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

#### Both statements are correct.

The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 gave statutory status to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

#### How does it work?

- The funds come from Universal Service Levy (USL).
- The USL is charged from all the telecom operators on their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).
- These are then deposited into the Consolidated Fund of India, and prior parliamentary approval is required for dispatching.

Source: Article

# Q.18) With reference to Algo Trading, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are programmes that automatically monitor price-volume action and make trades without human intervention.
- 2. The algo runs on the investor system not on the broker system.

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

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

# Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation**

Statement 1 is correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The algo runs on the broker's systems and not on the investor's system.

Source: Algo trading: Sebi proposals and market concerns

# Q.19) With reference to Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a company registered under the Companies Act.
- 2. They are regulated by the RBI as Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).
- 3. One ARC cannot acquire debt from another ARC.

# 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: A**

#### Explanation

• **Statement 1 is correct:** 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.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** 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).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** One ARC can be a sponsor or investor in another ARC or it can acquire debt from another ARC.

Source: Article

# Q.20) With reference to the All-India Quarterly Establishment Based Employment Survey (AQEES), consider the following statements:

- 1. It enumerates data regarding employment in both organized and unorganized segments.
- 2. It covers sectors like Manufacturing, Construction and Agriculture.

# 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:** It covers the following nine selected sectors: Manufacturing, Construction, Trade, Transport, Education, Health, Accommodation and Restaurant, IT/BPO and Financial Services.

Source: Article

# Q.21) C Rangarajan committee is associated with which of the following?

- a) Resolution of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)
- b) Reforms in the Sugar sector.
- c) Small scale industries and trade policy
- d) Working of the capital market infrastructure institutions (MIIs)

# **Correct Answer: B**

# **Explanation**

• It is related to sugar sector reforms.

Source: Article

**Q.22) SAMARTH Udyog Bharat 4.0** scheme was recently seen in news. The scheme is related to which of the following?

- a) Skill development of Public Sector Banks.
- b) Ensure employment opportunities for artisans trained under Skill India programme.
- c) Create an eco-system for propagation of Industry 4.0.
- d) Fostering partnerships between Academia and Industry for capital goods.

Correct Answer: C

**Explanation** 

SAMARTH Udyog Bharat 4.0 was launched by the Ministry of Heavy Industries to facilitate and create an eco system for propagation of Industry 4.0 set of technologies in every Indian manufacturing by 2025, be it MNC, large, medium or small scale Indian company.

Source: Year-End- Review of Ministry of Heavy Industries – 2021

# Q.23) With reference to Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPRs), consider the following statements:

- 1. The International Energy Agency forbids trading of SPRs.
- 2. Japan has the highest global SPR capacity.

# 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: B

# Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct: The IEA forbids trading and typically allows release of stocks only during emergencies or supply shocks.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: USA has the highest global SPR capacity. Japan is at the second place and China is at the third position.

Source: Article

# **Q.24)** With reference to **Soybean meal**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the by-product from petroleum industry.
- 2. It is an essential commodity under Essential Commodities Act 1955.

#### 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: Soybean meal is the by-product of the extraction of soybean oil. It is the most important protein source used to feed farm animals. It is also used for human consumption in some countries.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: Centre declares Soya Meal as an Essential Commodity up to 30th June, 2022

#### Q.25) With reference to Tokenization of card data, consider the following statements:

- 1. The customer data will not be stored with either the merchant or the payment aggregator.
- 2. Token will be an algorithmically generated and encrypted number.

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

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

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#### Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation**

#### Both statements are correct.

- Tokenization is a process of replacing actual card details with a unique alternate code called the 'token'. Sensitive customer data such as card number and CVV (card verification value) are replaced with an **algorithmically generated encrypted token**.
- Transactions can be done using the tokens without disclosing any sensitive customer details. The customer data will, therefore, no longer be stored with either the merchant or the payment aggregator.
- Tokens, if breached, will have little value for hackers since these are randomly generated numbers. RBI has made card tokenization mandatory from 1 January, 2022.

Source: Article

# Q.26) Which of the following benefits occur to farmers while promoting Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs)?

- 1. Provide greater bargaining power.
- 2. Get low-cost and quality inputs.
- 3. Fragment land holding.
- 4. Realize higher returns.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

#### **Correct Answer D**

#### **Explanation**

Since FPOs enlarge farmers in collective farming it can address productivity issues emanating from small and fragmented farm sizes.

Source: Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) in India- Explained, pointwise

#### Q.27) With reference to National Policy on Biofuels, consider the following statements:

- 1. It prohibits the use of surplus food grains for production of ethanol for blending with petrol.
- 2. It encourages setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds.
- 3. It categorizes biodiesel as a basic biofuel.

# 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:** It allows use of surplus food grains for production of ethanol for blending with petrol with the approval of National Biofuel Coordination Committee.

- **Statement 2 is correct**: It encourages setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds, Used Cooking Oil, short gestation crops.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: The Policy categorizes biofuels as:
  - o **Basic biofuels-** First Generation (1G) bioethanol and; biodiesel
  - o **Advanced Biofuels** Second Generation (2G) ethanol, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to drop-in fuels, Third Generation (3G) biofuels, bio-CNG etc.

Source: Article

# Q.28) With reference to Energy Efficiency Enterprise(E3) Certification Programme for the Brick manufacturing Sector, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Programme encourages customers to source bricks from such E3 certified manufacturing units.
- 2. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade will provide certification.

# 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: Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) will provide certification.

Source: Year End Review 2021 - Ministry of Power

# Q.29) With reference to eNAM, consider the following statements:

- 1. It networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
- 2. Implementation is being done by Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).

#### 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.

- It is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
- Implementation: Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

# Q.30) With reference to Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).
- 2. It focuses mainly on individuals engaged in unregulated sectors.

# 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.

- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).It is a skill certification component to enable Indian youth to take on industry relevant skill certification which will help them to secure a better livelihood.
- Individuals with prior learning experience or skills can register themselves and get assessed and certified under the RPL It focuses mainly on individuals engaged in unregulated sectors.



#### ART AND CULTURE

# Q.1) Namda craft is associated with which of the following?

- a) Walnut wood carving
- b) Metal work
- c) Wall painting
- d) Carpet weaving

# Correct Answer: D

### **Explanation**

• Namda craft is a rug made of sheep wool through felting technique instead of normal weaving process

Source: PIB

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

- 1. It is a festival celebrated by Kondhs.
- 2. It marks the arrival of spring and prays for a good upcoming harvest.

# 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

- Statement 1 is incorrect: it is celebrated by Konyak Naga tribe.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It celebrates the arrival of spring and prays for a good upcoming harvest.

Source: Article

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

- 1. The fort was known to early Europeans as the Gibraltar of the East.
- 2. Shivaji was coronated at Raigad by Gagabhatt where he took on the title of Chhatrapati.

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

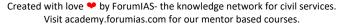
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Correct Answer: D

# Explanation

### Both statements are correct.

- Raigad is a hill fort situated in the Raigad district in Maharashtra. The British Gazette states the fort was known to early Europeans as the **Gibraltar of the East.**
- Its decisive feature is a mile and a half flat top, which has adequate room for buildings. In its prime, the fort had 300 stone houses and a garrison of 2,000 men.
- The fort, which was earlier called Rairi, was the seat of the Maratha clan Shirke in the 12th century.



- The fort changed hands a number of times from the dynasty of Bahaminis to the Nizam Shahis and then the Adil Shahis.
- In 1656, Chhatrapati Shivaji captured it. The fort not only helped Shivaji challenge the supremacy of the Adil Shahi dynasty but also opened up the routes towards Konkan for the extension of his power.
- Raigad fort had emerged as the seat of Shivaji's government.
- Moreover, Shivaji was coronated at Raigad by Gagabhatt where he took on the title of Chhatrapati.

Source: Article

# **Q.4)** With reference to **Hornbill Festival**, consider the following:

- 1. It is organized by the state government of Nagaland to promote tourism in the state.
- 2. The start of this festival also marks the Nagaland statehood day.

# 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.

Statement c is correct: The Hornbill Festival, which is called the 'Festivals of Festivals', is a 10-day annual cultural fest of Nagaland that showcases the rich and diverse Naga ethnicity through folk dances, traditional music, local cuisine, handicraft, art workshops etc. The start of this festival (December 1) marks the Nagaland statehood day.

Every year the Hornbill festival is celebrated between December 1 and December 10 in the northeast region and in the state of Nagaland. The festival is named after the Indian Hornbill Bird. It is a large and colourful forest bird. The festival is named after the bird as it is displayed in folklore of most of the tribals in the state of Nagaland.

Source: TOI

# **Q.5)** With reference to **Kashi Vishwanath temple**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The present structure was built in 1780 by Rani Ahilya Bai Holkar of Indore.
- 2. The temple's iconic 15.5 metre-high gold spire and gold dome were donated by Ranjeet Singh, the ruler of Punjab.
- 3. All the 12 Jyotirlingas, the holiest of Shiva temples, are located in and around Kashi temple.

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

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

Statement 1 and 2 are correct.

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**Statement 3 is incorrect**: Out of 12 Jyotirlingas, the southernmost of these is located at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu while the northernmost is located in the Himalayas at Kedarnath in Uttarkhand.

Source: PIB

### **Q.6)** Consider the following pairs.

Animal Sports - State

- 1. Eruthazhuvuthal Tamil Nadu
- 2. Kambala Andhra Pradesh
- 3. Bulbul fights Assam

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 only

# Correct Answer: C

# Explanation:

Recently, the Supreme Court allowed Maharashtra to hold the traditional bullock cart racing event, which has been prohibited since 2017. Other game sports are,

Animal Sports - State

- 1. Eruthazhuvuthal Tamil Nadu
- 2. Kambala Karnataka
- 3. Bulbul fights Assam

Source: Indian Express

# Q.7) With reference to excavations at Eran, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is situated on the left bank of the Bina River.
- 2. Remains of Chalcolithic culture have been found at this location.
- 3. In the ancient times, it was known as Tripuri.

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

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

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

# Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**: It is situated on the left bank of the Bina (ancient Venva) river and surrounded by it on three sides.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: The excavation at this site also revealed the remains of Chalcolithic culture with four major periods.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Its ancient name is Airikina

# Q.8) With reference to **Durga Puja**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first festival in Asia to achieve recognition as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- 2. It is an annual festival celebrated most notably in Maharashtra.

# 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**: It is an annual festival celebrated in September or October, most notably in Kolkata, West Bengal.

Source: <u>UNESCO inscribes 'Durga Puja in Kolkata' on the Representative List of Intangible</u> Cultural Heritage of Humanity

# Q.9) With reference to Tolkāppiyam, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was authored by Tolkappiyar.
- 2. It is considered the earliest of Tamil literary work.
- 3. The entire book consists of poems about a man and his wife.

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

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

#### Correct Answer: C

### **Explanation**

Statement 1 and 2 are correct.

**Statement 3 is incorrect**: It is a unique work on grammar and poetics. It consists of three parts of nine sections each. The three parts deals with Ezhuthu (letter), Col (word) and Porul (subject matter).

Source: <u>Dr. Subhas Sarkar releases the Hindi translation of Tolkāppiyam and the Kannada translations of 9 books of Classical Tamil literature</u>

# **Q.10)** With reference to **Apatani tribe**, consider the following statements:

- 1. These tribes belong to Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. The traditional handloom of this tribe is a type of loin loom, which is called Chichin.

### 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.

Source: Plea seeks GI tag for Arunachal Apatani textile product

#### Q.11) With reference to Kaavi art, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a kind of sculpture modelling.
- 2. This art was introduced by the Portuguese in India.

# 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**: It is a wall art found in Konkan region, especially in temples of Goa, parts of coastal Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: The art was introduced by the Portuguese who ruled Goa until 1961.

Source: Article

# Q.12) With reference to Tai Khamti people, consider the following statements:

- 1. They people follow Theravada Buddhism.
- 2. Presently they reside in the areas including Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

# 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.

• Tai Khamti people follow Theravada Buddhism. Their population is a little more than 1,00,000, and they live in areas straddling Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

**Source:** Article

# Q.13) Dree festival is celebrated by which of the following tribes?

- a) Apatani
- b) Shompen
- c) Garo
- d) Munda

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

**Explanation** The two most important festivals celebrated by the Apatani tribe is the **Dree festival**, which is celebrated in the Ziro plateau under the lower Subansari district, and the annual **Myoko festival**.

#### **GOVT SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Scheme for Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages of India (SPPEL), consider the following statements:

- 1. One of its objectives is to document and archive the country's languages that have become endangered or likely to be endangered in the near future.
- 2. All the mother tongues/languages of India spoken by less than 10,000 speakers are categorised as Endangered languages.

#### 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.

# **Explanation**

- SPPEL Scheme was initiated by the Government of India in 2013.
- **Objective:** To document and archive the country's languages that have become endangered or likely to be endangered in the near future.
- The scheme is monitored by the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) located in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- **Under the Scheme,** the CIIL works on the protection, preservation and documentation of all the mother tongues/languages of India spoken by less than 10,000 speakers which are called endangered languages.

**Source**: Article

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

- 1. It is used in heat-resistant glass and ceramics, flux additives for iron, steel and aluminum production.
- 2. India is the largest producer of Lithium in the world.

#### 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**: At present, the largest producer of the lithium was Australia followed by Chile and China.

Source: The mystery behind the high abundance of Lithium in some evolved stars traced

### Q.3) Jeevan Reddy Committee, is related to which of the following:

- a) To review the prevalent system of QR Codes in India for facilitating digital payments
- b) To address various risks that have been triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic
- c) Review the provisions of the AFSPA in the northeastern states
- d) To find the problems faced by the farmers in the recent farm bill.

#### **Correct Answer C**

### **Explanation**

**Statement c is correct: Justice BP Jeevan Reddy committee**: In 2004, the Central government appointed a five-member committee headed by Justice BP Jeevan Reddy to review the provisions of the AFSPA in the northeastern states.

Source: Indian Express

# Q.4) Global Health Security Index, is released by which of the following organization:

- a) World Bank
- b) International Labour Organization
- c) World Health Organization
- d) Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) and the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security.

#### **Correct Answer D**

#### **Explanation**

**Statement d is correct:** The document is jointly released by non-profits Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) and the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security.

Source:DTE

#### Q.5) With reference to Enforcement Directorate (ED), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is mandated with the task of enforcing the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act and Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
- 2. It is a statutory body.
- 3. Like CBI, Enforcement directorate can also register a case on its own.

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

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

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

# Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct
- Statement 2 is incorrect: It is not a statutory body. It is an agency under Min of Finance.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** ED, unlike CBI, cannot register a case on its own. It is required by the agencies such as CBI or state police to register an offense based on which the ED Case Information Report is filed by Enforcement Directorate.

# Q.6) Justice Jeevan Reddy committee, is related to which of the following:

- a) To review the provisions of AFSPA.
- b) To review the controversial farm laws.
- c) To provide guidelines for the use of drones in India.
- d) To review the guidelines on television rating agencies

#### **Correct Answer A**

### **Explanation**

**Statement a is correct: Justice BP Jeevan Reddy committee**: In 2004, the Central government appointed a five-member committee headed by Justice BP Jeevan Reddy to review the provisions of the AFSPA in the northeastern states.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.7) Project Devil, in news is relate to which of the following:

- a) It was launched by Indian Army to end the terrorism in Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- b) It was launched by DRDO for the development of a medium range Surface-to-Surface Missile.
- c) It was launched by government of India to end corruption and bring transparency in all the government organizations.
- d) It was launched by Indian Army to probe the killings in nagaland.

#### **Correct Answer B**

#### Explanation

**Statement b is correct:** "In 1972, Project Devil, was introduced by DRDO, for the development of a medium range Surface-to-Surface Missile was initiated. A large number of infrastructure and test facilities were established during this period.

Source: Indian Express

- **Q.8) Justice Madan Lokur Commission** was sometime seen in news. The commission is related to which of the following?
- a) Raising the legal age of marriage for women.
- b) Inquire into the alleged interception of mobile phones using Pegasus.
- c) Adopting new regulations for Algo trading in India.
- d) Protecting Western Ghats to mitigate floods and environmental degradation.

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

#### Explanation

The Supreme Court recently stayed all proceedings before Justice Madan Lokur Commission, set up by the West Bengal government. The commission would inquire into the alleged interception of mobile phones using military grade spyware Pegasus.

Source: Times of India

# Q.9) With reference to 'Meet the Champions' campaign, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a special school campaign jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- 2. The campaign kicked off by Olympic Gold medallist Neeraj Chopra.

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

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

# Correct Answer: C

#### **Explanation**

Both the statements are correct.

Source: PIB

# **Q.10)** With reference to **compassionate job**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a social security scheme to provide job to a dependent family member when a Government servant dies while in service or retires on medical grounds.
- 2. The compassionate employment is a vested right for all government employments.

# 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**: Supreme Court on hearing the appeal filed by the Union government said that compassionate employment is not a vested right. Earlier, the Madras High Court held to provide compassionate employment to the widow of the sergeant in IAF.

Source: Compassionate job not a vested right, says SC

# Q.11) With reference to Beej Gram Yojana, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to upgrade the quality of farmer's saved seeds.
- 2. Financial assistance is available for up to one acre per farmer for distribution of certified seeds at 50% of seed cost for cereal crops and 60% for pulses, oilseeds, fodder and green manure crops.

# 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 the statements are correct

Source: PIB

# Q.12) With reference to National Family Health Survey (NFHS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the world's largest household survey.
- 2. District-level estimates for many important indicators were introduced from the fourth NFHS.

# 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 NFHS is the world's largest household survey, (over 6,36,699 households).
- Since NFHS-4, the survey introduced district-level estimates for many important indicators and also included other UTs to provide holistic information.

Source: Article

# Q.13) With reference to National Oxygen Stewardship Program, consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme aims to empower all healthcare workers with the essential knowledge and skills on rational utilization of medical Oxygen.
- 2. At least one oxygen steward will be identified and trained in each district across the country.

# 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.

Source: Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar inaugurates National Oxygen Stewardship Program

### **Medieval History**

- Q.1) With reference to Guru Teg Bahadur, consider the following statements:
- 1. He was executed in Delhi under the orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.
- 2. He led to the transformation of the Sikh Community into a Military community. He is known as "Soldier Saint".
- 3. He founded Anandpur Sahib.

# 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: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 and 3 are correct.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Guru Hargobind led to the transformation of the Sikh Community into a Military community. He is known as "Soldier Saint".

Source: PIB



### Bills, Acts and Regulations - Acts - Children

- **Q.1)** With reference to **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**, consider the following statements:
- 1. The Act prescribe 18 and 21 years as the minimum age of consent for marriage for women and men, respectively.
- 2. The Act has a specific provision that would override any other laws on the issue.

#### 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**: The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act does not contain any provision that explicitly says the law would override any other laws on the issue.

Source: Raising the legal age of marriage for women - Explained, pointwise

- **Q.2)** With reference to **crimes committed by anti-national elements**, consider the following statements:
- 1. So far Crime Committed by Anti National Elements have not been studied in India.
- 2. The word 'anti-national' has not been defined in statutes.

#### 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**: In 2019, National Crime Records Bureau has released the annual 'Crime in India' report for 2017. It included for the first time a chapter on 'Crime Committed by Anti National Elements'. The chapter listed "North East insurgents, Left Wing Extremists and Terrorists (including Jihadi terrorists)" as the three anti-national elements.

#### Statement 2 is correct.

Source: 'Anti-national not defined in statutes'

# Q.3) With reference to Foreign Contribution Regulation (Amendment), Act 2020, consider the following statements:

- 1. The act states that foreign contributions must be received only in an FCRA account opened in the State Bank of India, New Delhi Branch.
- 2. The Act increases administrative expenses through foreign funds by an organisation to 50% from 20%.
- 3. The amendment forbids sub-granting by NGOs to smaller NGOs who work at the grassroots.

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

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

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

#### Explanation

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The Act decreases administrative expenses through foreign funds by an organisation to 20% from 50% earlier.

### Statement 1 and 3 is correct.

Source: Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act and NGOs - Explained, pointwise

# Q.4) With reference to the Data Protection Authority proposed under the Personal Data Protection Bill, consider the following statements:

- 1. It would be a statutory regulatory authority.
- 2. It will have the powers of a civil court to call for information from data fiduciaries.
- 3. Regulations drafted by the authority, to carry out the provisions of the bill, will have the force of the law.

# 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: d

#### Explanation

# All statements are correct.

- The bill recommends setting up of a **statutory regulatory authority (SRA**) called Data protection authority.
- DPA can **draft regulations** to carry out the provisions of the Bill. These will have force of law. This also means that most of the obligation and rights related to data protection will be based on these regulations and not on the parliamentary law.
- It has the power and the duty to promote **good data protection practices** and also facilitate their **compliance**
- Some chapters of the bill also have an all-encompassing omnibus general clause which give wide powers to DPA.
- Judicial or quasi-judicial powers: DPA will have the powers of a civil court to call for information, as well as conduct inquiries on data fiduciaries. It can under extreme cases even deny the right of any entity to carry out the business of a data fiduciary.