

## *10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation*

10th to 15th January, 2022

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

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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**Q.1) Gap junction delta 2b sometimes seen in news is a?**

- a) A specific type of protein found in Zebrafish
- b) Gap between two electrons in a semiconductor
- c) Cold fusion nuclear reactor developed by China
- d) Deepest point in Pacific Ocean

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- A particular type of protein in the cerebellum of zebrafish

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.2) With reference to Piezoelectric Effect, consider the following statements:**

1. It is the ability of certain materials to generate an electric charge in response to applied mechanical stress.
2. One of the unique characteristics of the piezoelectric effect is that it is irreversible.

**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 effect is reversible in nature, meaning that materials exhibiting the direct piezoelectric effect (the generation of electricity when stress is applied) also exhibit the converse piezoelectric effect (the generation of stress when an electric field is applied).

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.3) Desulfovibrio vulgaris sometimes seen in news is a?**

- a) Bacteria employed in cleaning of marble statues
- b) Parasite that attaches itself to the insides of the intestines of animals.
- c) Fungus native to grasslands in Europe and North America.
- d) Blue-green algae found in many lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- It is a type of bacteria which was first used in 1980s to clean a marble monument at the Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, USA.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.4) With reference to ISRO's space missions, consider the following:**

1. Trishna is the upcoming collaborative mission between ISRO and NASA.
2. India's first satellite was Bhaskara.

**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:**

NISAR is the upcoming collaborative mission between ISRO and NASA.

Trishna: It stands for Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment. It is a joint mission of ISRO and CNES, the French space agency. It is meant for accurate mapping of land surface temperature. It is scheduled for a 2024 launch.

India's first satellite was Aryabhata.

Source: Yojana

**Q.5)** With reference to Aditya L1 mission, consider the following:

- 1. The mission aims to study the sun's atmosphere.
- 2. It is launched by NASA.

**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:** Aditya-L1 is the India's first dedicated scientific mission, which aims to send a satellite to study sun's chromosphere. The objective of the mission is to study the dynamic nature of the sun's outer most layers, the corona and the chromosphere.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is the mission of ISRO.

Source: [Article](#)

**Q.6)** With reference to **eDNA or Environmental DNA**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a nuclear or mitochondrial DNA that is released from an organism into the environment.
- 2. Sources of eDNA include faeces, mucus, gametes, shed skin, carcasses and hair.

**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: [DNA from air may help identify, track animals in the wild: Studies](#)

**Q.7)** With reference to **Brahmos Missile**, consider the following:

1. It is a joint collaboration between DRDO and Russia.
2. It is a medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft or land.

**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:** [The hindu](#)

**Q.8)** With reference to **National Atlas & Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a subordinate department under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
2. One of its functions is to compile the National Atlas of India in Hindi, English and other regional languages.
3. It is also famous for publication of Braille Atlas for Visually Impaired.

**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:** NATMO was established in 1997. It is a subordinate department under the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology.
- **Statement 2 is correct: Functions:** **a)** Compilation of the National Atlas of India in Hindi, English and other regional languages **b)** Preparation of thematic maps based on socio-economic, physical, cultural, environmental, demographic and other issues **c)** Preparation of maps/atlasses for visually impaired **d)** Digital mapping and training using Remote sensing, GPS and GIS technology **e)** Training and **f)** Research & Development.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** NATMO has become popularized with the publication of Braille Atlas for Visually Impaired (India), edition 2017 in English Braille Script. It was developed with an indigenous manual embossing method. For this, it was also conferred the National Award on "Science & Technology Intervention for Physically Challenged".

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.9)** With reference to **Tuberculosis**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a viral disease.
2. Common symptoms of active lung TB are cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats.

**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:** TB is caused by a bacterium called **Mycobacterium tuberculosis**, belonging to the Mycobacteriaceae family consisting of about 200 members.

**Statement 2 is correct**

**Source:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/cant-afford-to-neglect-tb-care-7714986/>

**Q.10) With reference to Heartbeat and Binary stars, consider the following statements:**

1. Path of heartbeat stars resemble an electrocardiogram of the human heart.
2. Binary stars have both heartbeats as well as pulsations.

**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.**

- Scientists have discovered a peculiar binary star named HD73619 in the Cancer constellation, one of the closest open star clusters to the Earth. The star **shows heartbeat but no signs of pulsations/vibrations** activity, contrary to the norm of binary stars sporting both heartbeats as well as pulsations.
- **What are the heartbeat stars?**
- The name heartbeat comes from the resemblance of the path of the stars to an electrocardiogram of the human heart. Here, each star travels in a highly elliptical orbit around a common centre of mass. The distance between the two stars varies drastically as they orbit each other.
- When the stars are at their closest, there is a sudden increase in the brightness, with amplitude going up to several parts per thousand. As they move apart, the light variation falls and becomes almost flat. This results in alternating peaks and troughs in their light curves.
- The pulsation activity of the stars is due to oscillations in the component stars when they are the closest.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.11) With reference to India's aircraft carriers, consider the following statements:**

1. INS Vikrant is India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier.
2. Presently, the Indian Navy operates a single aircraft carrier, INS Vishal, bought from Russia.

**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:** INS Vikrant is India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier (IAC-1).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Currently, the Indian Navy operates a single aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya, which was bought from Russia.

**Source:** [Article](#)

## **GEOGRAPHY**

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

1. Mexico
2. EL Salvador
3. Guatemala

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

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

• The correct order from North to South is: Mexico – Guatemala – El Salvador  
El Salvador has been in news since it adopted Bitcoin as legal tender. Moreover, Yucatan peninsula was also in news recently wrt Mayan civilization.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.2) Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, in news, belongs to which of the following Indian state:**

- a) Haryana
- b) Punjab
- c) Delhi
- d) Rajasthan

**Correct Answer C**

**Explanation**

**Statement c is correct:** The Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the Southern Delhi Ridge, Shooting Range Road, Tulaghabad, New Delhi

**Source:** [TOI](#)

**Q.3) With reference to **Mahakali River**, consider the following statements:**

1. The river originates in Chemayungdung glacier near Mansarovar lake.
2. Mahakali Treaty signed between India and Nepal recognizes the Mahakali River as a boundary river between the two countries.
3. It joins Ghaghra River, a tributary of the Ganges.

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

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The river originates at Kalapani in the Himalayas in the Pithoragarh district in Uttarakhand.

**Statement 2 and 3 are correct.**

Source: [New bridge to connect India, Nepal to come up in Dharchula](#)

**Q.4)** With reference to **Alps mountain range**, consider the following statements:

1. The Alps Mountain chain in Europe is the most densely populated mountainous region in the world.
2. Aconcagua is the highest peak in the Alps mountain range.

**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:** Aconcagua is a mountain of the Andes mountain range, in Mendoza Province, Argentina. It is the highest mountain in the Americas, the highest outside Asia. Mont Blanc is the highest peak of the Alps.

Source: [Raksha mantri Shri Rajnath Singh flags-in India's First multidimensional adventure sports expedition conducted by NIMAS in France](#)

**Q.5)** Arrange the following countries from North to South:

1. Kenya
2. Ethiopia
3. Tanzania

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

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

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

The correct order is: Ethiopia – Kenya – Tanzania

- Kenya was in news recently. The Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has signed a Joint Development Agreement with Africa50 to develop the Kenya Transmission Project.

Source: [Article](#)

**Q.6)** With reference to **Aravalis**, consider the following:

1. They are the fault mountains.
2. They run in South west direction starting near Delhi and passing through Haryana, Rajasthan and ending in Gujarat.

**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:** Aravalli Range is one of the most popular mountain ranges and the oldest fold mountain ranges in the world which stretching about 300 miles from the northeast to the southwest.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The **Aravalli Range** (also spelled *Aravali*) is a mountain range in Northern-Western India, running approximately 670 km (430 mi) in a south-west direction, starting near Delhi, passing through southern Haryana and Rajasthan, and ending in Gujarat. The highest peak is Guru Shikhar at 1,722 metres (5,650 ft)

**Source:** [TOI](#)

## **SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS**

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**Q.1) With reference to Smart Cities Mission, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. There is no standard definition or template of a smart city.

**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 Cities Mission?**
  - **The Smart Cities Mission** was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in 2015.
  - **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- **What is a Smart City?**
  - There is no standard definition or template of a smart city. In the context of our country, the six fundamental principles on which the concept of Smart Cities is based are:

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.2) Justice Tarkunde Committee sometimes in news is associated with?**

- a) Digital Surveillance
- b) Electoral reforms
- c) Disinvestment
- d) Unemployment and public welfare

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- Jayprakash Narayan on behalf of the Citizens For Democracy had appointed Tarkunde Committee to study and report on scheme for electoral reforms in 1974.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.3) With reference to Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar, consider the following statements:**

1. It has been instituted by NITI Aayog.
2. It is open to all categories of schools including the Private schools in both rural and urban areas.

**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 award has been instituted by Ministry of Education.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The award is open to all categories of schools. i.e. Government, Government aided and Private schools in both rural and urban areas.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.4)** With reference to **Solar Hydrogen Programme**, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched during the International Solar Alliance (ISA) assembly.
2. The programme aims to produce emission-free fuel at \$2 per kg, which is much lower than the current \$5 per kg.

**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.**

**Source:** [Government initiatives to tap green energy: Centre explodes plan to run ships fully on clean energy](#)

**Q.5)** With reference to **hate speech**, consider the following:

1. K Viswanathan Committee recommended a stricter law to curb online hate speech.
2. India has a specialized legislation to govern hate speech.

**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**

**Source:** [Hate speech in the time of free speech](#)

**Q.6)** With reference to **International Cooperation Scheme**, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme can be availed both by Central or State Government Organizations.
2. It is being implemented by Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

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

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The scheme can be availed by (a) Central or State Government Organisations (b) Enterprise of Industry Associations and (c) registered societies or Trusts and Organisations which are associated with promoting and developing MSME.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** it is being implemented by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.7) With reference to District Skill Committees (DSCs), consider the following statements:**

1. They function under the guidance of State Skill Development Missions (SSDM).
2. They are headed by the Collector.

**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.**

- District Skill Committees (DSCs) function **under the guidance of State Skill Development Missions (SSDM)**. These DSCs play a key role in addressing the skill gap and assessing demand at the district level.
- DSC is composed of all the significant district development departmental officers. The DSCs are headed by the **District Collector**.
- More than 700 District Skill Committees (DSC) set up across states over the last decade.

**Source:** [Article](#)

## **Polity and Governance**

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**Q.1) Hyderabad Declaration** was recently seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) Climate change
- b) e-Governance
- c) E-mobility
- d) Infrastructure

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

In the 24th National Conference on e-Governance the 'Hyderabad Declaration' on e-Governance was adopted. The declaration aims to bring citizens and governments closer through digital platforms and transform citizen services through the use of technology.

Source: [24th National Conference on e-Governance 2021 successfully concludes at Hyderabad](#)

**Q.2) Mekedatu dam issue** is seen in news recently. It is a dispute between which of the following states?

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**Q.3)** Article 212 of the Indian constitution, is related to which of the following:

- a) Courts not to inquire into the proceedings of the legislature.
- b) Ordinance making power of Governor.
- c) Appointment and conditions of the office of a Judge of a High Court.
- d) Transfer of a Judge from one High Court to another.

**Correct Answer A**

**Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** under Article 212, courts do not have jurisdiction to inquire into the proceedings of the legislature.

Source: [Indian express](#)

**Q.4)** With reference to **Law Commission of India**, consider the following:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. The recommendations of law commission are binding on the government.

**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 Law Commission is neither a statutory nor a constitutional body. The Law Commission is an executive body which is established by the government for a fixed tenure.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Commission submits reports to the government on various matters of a legal nature. The reports are not binding on the government, which can either reject or accept them.

**Source:** [The Hindu](#)

**Q.5) Article 19 of the constitution,** is related to which of the following:

- a) Right to Freedom
- b) Right to Equality
- c) Right against exploitation
- d) Right to Freedom of religion

**Correct Answer A**

**Statement A is correct:** There are six fundamental rights of Indian Constitution along with the constitutional articles related to them are mentioned below:

- 1. Right to Equality (Article 14-18)
- 2. Right to Freedom (Article 19-22)
- 3. Right against Exploitation (Article 23-24)
- 4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Article 25-28)
- 5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Article 29-30)
- 6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

**Source:** [The Hindu](#)

**Q.6) With reference to Central Institute of Classical Tamil, consider the following statements:**

- 1. The institute is engaged in the task of developing Tamil through various programmes of its own.
- 2. It is an autonomous Institute of higher research, functioning under the Ministry of Culture.

**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:** To carry out higher research on Classical Tamil at international levels not to be found elsewhere globally.
  - The institute is engaged in the task of developing Tamil through various programmes of its own.
  - The institute is also responsible for the Kural Peedam Award. It is a lifetime achievement presidential award given to eminent scholars of classical Tamil.
  - **Located in:** Chennai
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It functions under Min of Education.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.7) Article 163 of the constitution**, is related to which of the following:

- a) Council of Ministers to aid and advise Governor.
- b) The Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the CM.
- c) The Governor of each State shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed as a Judge of a High Court to be Advocate General for the State.
- d) Conduct of business of the Government of a State.

**Correct Answer A**

**Explanation**

**Statement a is correct.**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**Q.8) With reference to Governor**, consider the following statements:

- 1. He cannot be a member of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- 2. He is given immunity from any criminal proceedings, even in respect of his personal acts.

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

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

**Statement 1 is correct:** He cannot be a member of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. If he has been a member of either of the house, he should vacate the seat on his first day as Governor in the office.

**Statement 2 is correct:** He is given immunity from any criminal proceedings, even in respect of his personal acts

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**Q.9) With reference to CVC**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a constitutional body.
- 2. It works under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

**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:** Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is an apex Indian governmental body created in 1964 to address governmental corruption. In 2003, the Parliament enacted a law conferring statutory status on the CVC.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The CVC is not controlled by any Ministry/Department. It is an independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament.

**Source:** [TOI](#)

ForumIAS

**Bills, Acts and Regulations**

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**Q.1)** With reference to **Mediation**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a way of resolving conflicts where two or more parties decide to reach an agreement with the support of a third, neutral party.
2. India has a standalone legislation that facilitate mediation.

**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:** In India, though mediation finds legitimacy in some specific laws such as the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, the Companies Act, 2013, the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, and the Consumer Protection Act, 2019; there is no standalone legislation as yet.

Source: [Mediation Bill: Salient Provisions, Potential Challenges and the Way Forward – Explained, pointwise](#)

**Environment- Bio diversity and conservation**

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**Q.1)** With reference to **Red Sanders**, consider the following statements:

1. It is classified as Near Threatened in the IUCN Red list.
2. It is listed under Appendix II of CITES and thus banned from international trade.

**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 species is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Andhra Pradesh. It was classified as 'near threatened' in 2018 and has now joined the 'endangered' list once again in 2021.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is listed under Appendix II of CITES and is banned from international trade. The harvest of the tree is also restricted at the state level, but despite this illegal trade continues.

**Source:** [DTE](#)

**Q.2)** Which of the following countries form a part of the Central Asian Flyway?

1. Maldives
2. India
3. Russia

**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**

- A flyway is a geographical region within which a single or a group of migratory species completes its annual cycle – breeding, moulting, staging and non-breeding. Central Asian Flyway (CAF) covers a large area of Eurasia between the Arctic and Indian Oceans. It is one of the nine most important flyways of migratory birds around the world.
- Including India, there are 30 countries under the Central Asian Flyway. It extends from the northernmost breeding grounds in the **Russian Federation (Siberia)** to the southernmost non-breeding (wintering) grounds in **West and South Asia**, the **Maldives** and **British Indian Ocean Territory**.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.3)** With reference to Black Eagle, consider the following statements:

1. It is a scavenging bird found in the hills of Eastern and Western Ghats.
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: D**

**Explanation**

**Both statements are incorrect.**

- Black eagle is a **hunter** and not a scavenging bird found in the hills of Eastern and Western Ghats and the Himalayan foothills.
- The species is almost entirely black that can grow up to 81 cm. It has a grey-yellow beak with a black tip and yellow feet.
- **IUCN Status:** Least Concern (LC)

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.4)** Pakke Tiger Reserve sometimes seen in news is located in which of the following states?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Bihar
- d) Assam

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh. As per the India State of the Forest Report 2021, it has the highest forest cover, at nearly 97%, amongst the tiger reserves.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.5)** Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary sometimes seen in news is located in which of the following?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Haryana
- c) Bihar
- d) Jharkhand

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- The *Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary*, lies alongside the Northern tip of the River Ganga in Uttar Pradesh, flowing thru the districts of Muzzafarnagar and Bijnore. The sanctuary extends all the way to the districts of Hapur and Amroha. The regions of Khaadar, Khola and Bangar are also assimilated in the total spread of the sanctuary.

**Source:** [Article](#)

## **Art and culture**

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**Q.1) Jallikattu Festival**, belongs to which of the Indian state:

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

**Correct Answer C**

**Explanation**

**Source:** [The Hindu](#)

**Q.2) With reference to National Youth Festival (NYF), consider the following statements:**

- 1. It has been conducted since independence.
- 2. It is organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with one of the State Governments.

**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:** NYF has been conducted since 1995
- **Statement 2 is correct**

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.3) With reference to Jallikattu**, consider the following statements:

- 1. An ancient reference to Jallikattu is found in a seal discovered at Mohenjodaro.
- 2. It is considered a traditional way for the peasant community to preserve their pure-breed native bulls.

**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.**

**Source:** [Jallikattu banned in Vellore, nearby districts ahead of Pongal as COVID-19 cases see spike](#)

## **ECONOMY**

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**Q.1) With reference to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), consider the following statements:**

1. It is an apex organization established under Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
2. It is a statutory body.
3. The raw materials for Khadi can be cotton, silk, or wool.

**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 is an apex organisation 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:** Khadi refers to hand-spun and hand-woven cloth. The raw materials may be cotton, silk, or wool, which are spun into threads on a charkha. Khadi was launched in 1920 as a political weapon in the Swadeshi movement of Mahatma Gandhi.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.2) Cavallo Effect sometimes seen in news is associated with?**

- a) The inflation-producing effects of high interest rates.
- b) Relation of demographic dividend with decline in fertility.
- c) Gain in tax revenue with decrease in tax rates.
- d) Variation in spending on a certain good with variations in household income.

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- The inflation-producing effects of high interest rates is called the 'Cavallo effect'. This idea suggests that inflation is associated with cost-push factors, such as high interest rates, which boost the cost of working capital and thus make the production cost higher.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.3) With reference to Natural Farming, consider the following statements:**

1. It involves chemical-free farming and livestock-based farming methods.
2. Natural farming is also called as Organic farming.

**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:** In organic farming the soil is replenished by applying organic manure like cow dung. But since cow dung contains very little nitrogen, massive amounts have to be applied, which may be difficult for a farmer to arrange.
  - Natural farming works on the principle that there is no shortage of nutrients in soil, air and water, and healthy soil biology can unlock these nutrients.
  - Organic farming is more about certification, while natural farming is a gradual process. But, there is relative flexibility in natural farming for adoption. This makes it easier for small farmers to transition.

**Source:** [Natural Farming – process, advantages and challenges – Explained, pointwise](#)

**Q.4)** Which of the following is/are the benefits of having bullet train/High-speed Rail in India?

1. Adoption of new technologies.
2. Improve India's GDP.
3. Decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

**Select the correct answer from the codes given below.**

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

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation**

All statements are correct.

**Source:** [High-Speed Rail Project and its challenges in India – Explained, pointwise](#)

**Q.5)** With reference to Free Trade Agreements, consider the following:

1. Under FTAs, two or more countries or trading blocs primarily agree to reduce or eliminate customs tariff and non-tariff barriers on substantial trade between them.
2. FTAs and Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs), both maintain a positive list of products on which duty is to be reduced.

**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:** FTAs are arrangements between two or more countries or trading blocs that primarily agree to reduce or eliminate customs tariff and non-tariff barriers on substantial trade between them, but (in contrast to a common market) capital or labor may not move freely.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The key difference between an FTA and a PTA is that while in a PTA there is a positive list of products on which duty is to be reduced; in an FTA there is a negative list on which duty is not reduced or eliminated.

Source: [Article](#)

**Q.6) With reference to Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR), consider the following statements:**

1. It is the India's first and only approved bullet train.
2. Indian Railways is the implementing agency of the project.

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

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

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** National High Speed Rail Corporation is the implementing agency.

Source: [Article](#)

**Q.7) Whapasa, Acchadana, Beejamrit** was sometime seen in news. These terms are related to which of the following?

- a) Space projects
- b) Defence technologies
- c) Farming techniques
- d) Marine organisms

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

Source: [Natural Farming – process, advantages and challenges](#)

**Q.8) With reference to Sugarcane, consider the following statements:**

1. Sugarcane can grow in any soil which can retain moisture.
2. India is the largest producer of Sugarcane 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**

- Sugarcane is grown as a Kharif Crop. It needs a hot and humid climate with an average temperature of 21 °C to 27 °C and about 75-150 cm rainfall. Sugarcane is a water-intensive

crop. It can grow in any soil which can retain moisture, however deep rich loamy soil is considered ideal for sugarcane.

- **India is the second-largest producer of sugarcane after Brazil.** In India, the largest sugarcane producing state in India is Uttar Pradesh, followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bihar.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.9) With reference to Self-Reliant India Fund (SRF), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a Category-II Alternative Investment Fund registered with SEBI.
2. The fund is aimed at providing growth capital to the deserving and eligible units of the MSME sector.

**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 a Category-II Alternative Investment Fund registered with SEBI with Mother Fund / Daughter Fund structure.
- The fund is aimed at providing growth capital to the deserving and eligible units of the MSME sector. The total size of the fund is Rs. 50,000 Crore where Rs.10,000 Crore will come from the Government of India and Rs.40,000 Crore through Private Equity / Venture Capital funds.

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.10) Which of the following benefits will occur in **natural farming**?**

1. Increase farmers net income.
2. Makes soil impermeable.
3. Keeps microbes and other organisms like earthworms.
4. Reduce the dependence on credit.

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation**

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Natural farming helps the soil become porous and retain more water.

**Source:** [Natural Farming – process, advantages and challenges – Explained, pointwise](#)

**Q.11) With reference to the proposed Gold Exchange in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Buying and selling of Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) on the Gold Exchange would be done on the basis of a deposit of underlying physical gold.
2. RBI would be the sole regulator of the entire ecosystem of the proposed exchange.

**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:** Gold Exchange **would be a national platform for buying and selling EGRs** issued against physical gold. Investors can trade in EGRs on stock exchanges and the proposed gold exchange. **The transaction in a gold exchange has been divided into three parts**—conversion of physical gold into EGR, trading of EGR on a stock exchange and conversion of EGR into physical gold.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** SEBI would **regulate the entire ecosystem of the proposed gold exchange**. It would be the sole regulator for the exchange, including for vaulting, assaying gold quality and fixing delivery standards.

**Source:** [Article](#)

## **International Relations**

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**Q.1)** With reference to **Exercise Sea Dragon**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a multinational exercise conducted by China.
2. India and Australia take part in this exercise.

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

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

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is an annual US-led, multinational exercise.

**Statement 2 is correct:** United States, India, Australia, Canada, Japan and South Korea.

Source: [Exercise Sea Dragon: India and five other nations begin anti-submarine exercise with US](#)

**Q.2)** With reference to Africa50 platform, consider the following statements:

1. All African countries are members of the platform.
2. It is an infrastructure investment platform that contributes to Africa's economic growth.

**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:** Currently the platform has 31 shareholders comprised of 28 African countries.

Source: [PIB](#)

**Q.3)** Rubber-Rice pact sometimes seen in news is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) India - Thailand
- b) China - Sri Lanka
- c) Bangladesh - Philippines
- d) Vietnam - Indonesia

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- The Rubber-Rice Pact was signed in 1952 in the wake of the food crisis in Sri Lanka. Under the Pact, China supplied rice to Sri Lanka at lower than market prices and purchased rubber, which was the only exportable commodity of Sri Lanka at that time, at prices higher than international prices.

Source: [Article](#)

**Q.4) With reference to Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), consider the following statements:**

- a) It imposes legally binding obligations on its members.
- b) India is formally included as member of the regime.
- c) It was formed by G7 industrialized countries.

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

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

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The MTCR is not a treaty and does not impose any legally binding obligations on Partners (members). Rather, it is an informal political understanding among states that seek to limit the proliferation of missiles and missile technology.
- **Statement 2 and 3 are correct**

**Source:** [Article](#)

**Q.5) With reference to Henley Passport Index, 2022, consider the following:**

- 1. India's ranking in the index is not improving for second time in the year.
- 2. The index is based on exclusive data provided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

**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**

**Source:** [Henley Passport Index 2022: India's passport rank improves to 83 from 90](#)

**Q.6) Which of the following group of countries are member of G7 grouping?**

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

**Correct Answer A**

**Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** The Group of Seven (G-7) is an informal bloc of industrialized democracies—**France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Japan, the United States, and Canada**—that meets annually to discuss issues of common interest like global economic governance, international security and energy policy.

**Source:** [Indian Express](#)

## **Reports and Ranking**

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**Q.1) Global Risk Report**, is released by which of the following organization:

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) International Monetary fund
- d) World Trade Organization

**Correct Answer A**

**Explanation**

**Statement a is correct:** It is published by the World Economic Forum. The Global Risks Report series tracks global risks perceptions among risk experts and world leaders in business, government, and civil society.

**Source:** [DTE](#)