

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

January 2022

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

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.1) Which of the following technology areas are included under Cyber Physical Systems?

1. Internet of Things (IoT)
2. Big Data
3. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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

- Cyber Physical Systems (CPS) are a new class of engineered systems that integrate computation and physical processes in a dynamic environment.
- It encompasses the technology areas of Cybernetics, the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, Artificial Intelligence (AI) among others.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) With reference to IHU Variant, consider the following statements:

1. The variant was reported to have 46 mutations, which is more than Omicron.
2. The WHO has called this variant as a variant of interest.

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: Till now, only France has reported a dozen cases. No other country has detected any new cases of the new variant. That is why, WHO has not yet called this IHU variant a variant of interest, a variant of concern or even a variant under investigation.

Source: [‘IHU’ variant of Covid-19: few cases, limited spread](#)

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

1. It attacks the central nervous system through the blood stream.
2. Oral Polio Vaccine is produced from wild-type poliovirus strains of each serotype that have been killed with formalin.

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:** Polio is transmitted from one person to another by oral contact with secretions or faecal material from an infected person. It attacks the central nervous system through the blood stream and damage the cells and paralyse the victim
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Oral Polio Vaccine consists of a mixture of the three live attenuated poliovirus serotypes (Sabin types 1, 2 and 3), selected for their lower neurovirulence and reduced transmissibility.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) With reference to GEC-Intra State Transmission System (InSTS) project, consider the following statements:

1. It aims at synchronizing electricity produced from renewable sources such as solar and wind with conventional power stations in the grid.
2. The project is being implemented across all states 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: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Project is being implemented across renewable-rich states.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) With reference to The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), consider the following statements:

1. It is as an autonomous society under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. Its aim is to develop reliable indigenous technologies for harvesting of non-living and living resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

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:** NIOT is under Min of Earth Sciences.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The aim of NIOT is to develop reliable indigenous technologies to solve various engineering problems associated with harvesting of non-living and living resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which is about two-thirds of the land area of India.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) Which of the following are the application areas for drones?

1. Anti-poaching actions
2. Precision crop monitoring
3. Anti-locust work

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

- All domains are the application areas for drones

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) With reference to UJALA Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It has become the world's largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programme.
2. Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) is the implementing agency for 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: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The programme has evolved to be the world's largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programme that addresses concerns like high electrification cost and high emissions that result from inefficient lighting.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a government company under the administrative control of Ministry of Power has been designated as the implementing agency for this programme.

Source: [Article](#)

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

1. It is the world's largest open-source developer community platform.
2. The platform is based on the Linux software.

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 platform uses the software Git, which was created in 2005 by Linus Torvalds, to track changes in a set of files and for coordination in software development.

Torvalds is the developer of the open-source operating system Linux.

Source: [Explained: What is GitHub, at the centre of online sexual harassment probe?](#)

Q.9) With reference to **CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (NPL)**, consider the following statements:

1. It calibrates the national standards of weights and measures.
2. Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation stone of NPL.

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.

Recently, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launches the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (NPL) New Delhi.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.10) Shukrayaan Mission was recently seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a newly proposed mission to study Sun.
- b) It is a new project of DRDO to create all weather dress for Army.
- c) It is a newly proposed mission to study Venus.
- d) It is a joint project of ISRO and NASA to study Saturn.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

Shukrayaan-1 is a proposed mission of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to study the surface and atmosphere of Venus.

Source: [ISRO gearing up for multiple space missions in 2022](#)

Q.11) With reference to Carbon Enhanced Metal-Poor (CEMP) stars, consider the following statements:

1. They are primarily characterized by diverse heavy elements and abundance patterns.
2. Their formation was from the ejected material of the first stars that formed after the Big Bang.
3. At the evolutionary stages, these Stars cannot produce elements heavier than iron.

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.

- CEMP Stars are primarily characterized by **diverse heavy elements** and **abundance patterns**. They were formed from the **ejected material of the first stars** that formed after the Big Bang.
- These stars are primarily classified into four groups, based on which groups of heavy elements are more abundant. These are mostly **dwarf stars, subgiant stars** or **giant stars**.
- At the evolutionary stages, these Stars cannot produce elements heavier than iron. However, the surface chemical composition of these stars exhibit abundances of heavy elements which are about 100 to 1000 times higher than that of the Sun.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.12) With reference to **single board computers (SBC)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is built on a single circuit board, which houses a microprocessor, memory unit, input/output channels, and other features required for a functional computer.
2. So far, no such SBC has been built 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: Recently, a pair of computers about the size of a set top box has been sent to International Space Station (ISS).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.13) With reference to **Corbevax**, consider the following statements:

1. It is India's first indigenously developed Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) protein subunit vaccine.
2. The vaccine uses whole virus to trigger an immune response.

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 protein subunit vaccine, which means that instead of the whole virus, it uses fragments of it to trigger an immune response.

Source: [Explained: Two new vaccines, an oral pill against Covid-19, and how they work](#)

Q.14) What are the advantages of Genetically Modified crops?

1. Crop Protection.
2. Increase yield and income.
3. Increase species diversity.
4. Food Security.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer D

Explanation

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct.

Crop Protection: The initial objective for developing GM plants was to improve crop protection. GM crops have improved resistance to diseases, pest, insects and herbicides. They also have improved tolerance to cold/heat, drought and salinity.

Food security: Given the increased growth of global population and increased urbanisation, GM crops offer one of the promising solutions to meet the world's food security needs.

GM crops reduce species diversity. For example, Insect-resistant plants might harm insects that are not their intended target and thus result in destruction of that particular species.

Source: [Draft rules for GM Foods: FSSAI draft norms on GM food unacceptable: Activists](#)

Q.15) With reference to solar cells, consider the following statements:

1. Silicon-based inorganic solar cells require high-temperature processing.
2. Perovskite-based photovoltaic devices are unstable towards humidity and Oxygen which restricts their commercialization.

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.

- Currently, silicon-based inorganic solar cells are a major player in the market. However, this technology requires high-temperature processing that results in the high price of solar panels. Further, the recycling of solar panels is perilous and complicated.
- The perovskite-based devices also called photovoltaic devices are considered as an alternative. These devices are affordable, easy to manufacture, eco-friendly and can be recycled easily. However, perovskite materials are unstable towards humidity and oxygen, which restricts their commercialization.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.17) With reference to Protein subunit vaccines, consider the following statements:

1. These vaccines are made by isolating a piece of the actual virus.
2. They elicit a stronger T-cell response compared to mRNA vaccines.

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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:** Protein subunit vaccines are made by isolating a piece of the actual virus. As fragments are used, there is no danger that these will multiply within the body. These pieces are expected to trigger an immune response that will hopefully prevent future infection
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** These vaccines don't infect the cells (like inactivated DNA or mRNA vaccines) and therefore doesn't elicit the long-lasting immunity conferred by cells (or the T-cell response).

Source: [Article](#)

SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS

Q.1) With reference to National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), consider the following statements:

1. Its aim is to connect research and academic institutions to a Supercomputing grid all over the country.
2. Param Shakti was the first supercomputer assembled indigenously 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: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Param Shivay was the first supercomputer assembled indigenously, installed in IIT(BHU).

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) With reference to National Film Development Corporation of India(NFDC), consider the following statements:

1. It functions under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
2. The NFDC was set up based on the recommendations of Dr Shivaram Karanth Committee.

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: [Merging film and media units – Explained, pointwise](#)

Q.3) With reference to SAAR program, consider the following statements:

1. It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and NITI Aayog.
2. A compendium of certain landmark urban projects in India would be prepared under the program.

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:** It is a joint initiative of MoHUA, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and leading Indian academic institutions of the country
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The first activity envisaged under SAAR is to prepare a compendium of 75 landmark urban projects in India under the Smart City Mission.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) Shekatkar Committee sometimes in news is associated with?

- a) Rebalance defence expenditure of the armed forces
- b) Review corporate structure for Indian Private Sector Banks
- c) Preventing stubble burning in North India
- d) Formulation of food policy

Correct Answer: a

Explanation

The Shekatkar Committee was formed in 2015 by the then Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar. The Committee was chaired by Lt General D B Shekatkar (Retd.).

- The mandate of the Committee was to suggest measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the armed forces.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) Major General SR Sinho Committee was sometime seen in news. The committee is related to which of the following?

- a) To increase the Indigenization of Defence procurement.
- b) To ensure protection of Himalayan ranges.
- c) To provide reservations to Economically Weaker Sections.
- d) To implement police reforms.

Connect Answer: C

Explanation

EWS reservation was granted based on the recommendations of a commission headed by Major General (retd) SR Sinho. The Commission for Economically Backward Classes was constituted in 2005 and submitted its report in July 2010. Based on this, the Cabinet in January 2019 decided to amend the Constitution (103rd Amendment) to provide reservation to EWS.

Source: [Economically Weaker Sections \(EWS\) in India – Explained, pointwise](#)

Q.6) With reference to Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana(MKSP), consider the following statements:

1. The primary objective of the scheme is to empower women in agriculture by making systematic investments to enhance their participation and productivity.
2. The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing 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: [\[Kurukshetra December Summary\] Rural Women: Key to New India's Agrarian Revolution – Explained, pointwise](#)

Q.7) With reference to **National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is 100% government of India initiative.
2. The initiative provides for the use of best-developed technological solutions in the education sector to enhance the employability of the youth.

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: NEAT is a Public-Private Partnership model between the Government (through its implementing agency AICTE) and the Education Technology companies of India.

Statement 2 is correct.

Source: [Union Education Minister Launches NEAT 3.0 And AICTE Prescribed Technical Books](#)

Q.8) With reference to **Financial Stability Report (FSR)**, consider the following statements:

1. The report explains the condition of financial stability in the country, and it is prepared after taking into account the contributions from all financial sector regulators.
2. It is an annual report prepared by SEBI.

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 biannual report prepared by Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC – headed by the Governor of RBI).

Source: [Financial Stability Report \(FSR\) – Explained, pointwise](#)

Q.9) With reference to **Padhe Bharat campaign**, consider the following statements:

1. It will focus on children from Balvatika to grade 8.
2. The campaign will stress on the Indian languages including mother tongue, local and regional 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.

- Padhe Bharat **is** a 100-day reading campaign starting from January 1, 2022 to April 10, 2022.
- **Aim:** To improve the learning levels of students as it develops creativity, critical thinking, vocabulary and the ability to express both verbally and in writing. It also helps children to relate to their surroundings and real-life situations.
- The campaign will focus on **children studying in Balvatika to Grade 8**. It expects the participation of all stakeholders at the national and state level including children, teachers, parents, community, educational administrators among others.
- Under the campaign, one activity per week per group will be taken up with the focus on making reading enjoyable and building a lifelong association with the joy of reading.
- The campaign will also **focus on Indian languages, including mother tongue/local/regional languages**.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.10) With reference to **Multi Agency Centre**, consider the following statements:

1. It is platform for a coordinated approach of all financial regulators.
2. It is an initiative of Intelligence 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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is the nodal agency for the exchange of intelligence collected by various agencies and police forces across the country.

Statement 2 is correct.

Source: [Multi-Agency Centre\(MAC\): States told to share intel on common grid](#)

Q.11) Consider the following pairs.

Projects - Operational Area

1. Project Vijayak - Umlingla Pass
2. Project DANTAK - Bhutan
3. Project Beacon - Zoji La pass

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

Projects - Operational Area

1. Project Himank - Umlingla Pass
2. Project DANTAK - Bhutan
3. Project Beacon - Zoji La pass

Source: [Project Beacon and Project Vijayak: Border Roads Organisation breaks record at ZojiLa battling extreme weather conditions](#)

Q.12) Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan was sometimes seen in news. The Abhiyan is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a campaign to make vulnerable districts to achieve ODF status and help them to maintain that.
- b) It is a campaign to promote ecofriendly practices in urban areas.
- c) It is launched in most vulnerable districts in terms of usage of drugs and aims to make India Drugs-Free.
- d) It is a campaign to promote reading habits among school children.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

'Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan' or a 'Drugs-Free India Campaign' was launched in 2020 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The campaign was launched across 272 districts of the country found to be most vulnerable in terms of usage of drugs in the country.

The focal points of the Campaign are preventive, mass education and sensitization, capacity building of service providers, positive partnership with educational institutions, and augmentation of treatment, rehabilitation and counselling facilities.

Source: [Drugs-Free India Campaign and SMILE scheme: New scheme to support the marginalised](#)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - REPORTS, RANKINGS & INDEX - INDEX

Q.1) Gender Development Index (GDI) is published by which of the following organizations?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- The GDI measures gender gaps in human development achievements by accounting for disparities between women and men in three basic dimensions of human development—health, knowledge and living standards using the same component indicators as in the HDI.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) With reference to **Sea Dragon 22 Exercise, consider the following:**

1. It is a multi-lateral anti-submarine warfare exercise in the Pacific Ocean, hosted by the USA.
2. The exercise includes the navies of India, Australia, Canada, Japan and South Korea.

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: [Indian Express](#)

Q.3) World Press Freedom Index is released by?

- a) Reporters without borders
- b) Pacific Research Institute
- c) International Federation of Journalists
- d) Reporters Committee for the Freedom of Press

Correct Answer: a

Explanation

- **World Press Freedom Index** is released by Reporters Without Borders.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) With reference to **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty(NPT), consider the following statements:**

1. It establishes a safeguards system under the responsibility of the International Atomic Energy Agency(IAEA).

2. India and Israel are the only non-signatories of the treaty.

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, Israel, Pakistan, South Sudan have not joined the treaty. North Korea signed but later withdraw from it.

Source: [Non-Proliferation: World powers vow to stop spread of nuclear weapons](#)

Q.5) With reference to categorisation of countries on the basis of per capita income by the World Bank, consider the following statements:

- 1. The income categorisation is based on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita.
- 2. The classification is updated every year.

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:** The classification is based on GNI (Gross National Income) per capita (in current \$) of the previous year.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Classification is updated each year on July 1.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) Which of the following countries is not a member of New Development Bank?

- a) Brazil
- b) Egypt
- c) India
- d) Iran

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

Recently, India has welcomed Egypt as the fourth new member of the New Development Bank (NDB).

Members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Uruguay and Egypt.

Source: [India welcomes Egypt as member of New Development Bank of BRICS](#)

Q.7) With reference to the Registration Convention, consider the following statements:

- 1. It requires states to furnish to the United Nations with details about the orbit of each space object.
- 2. The convention is administered by the United Nations Security Council.

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 Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (commonly known as the Registration Convention) was considered and negotiated by the Legal Subcommittee from 1962. The convention requires states to furnish to the United Nations with details about the orbit of each space object. A registry of launchings was already being maintained by the United Nations as a result of a General Assembly Resolution in 1962.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Registration Convention and four other space law treaties are administered by the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN-COPUOS).

Source: [Article](#)

Art and Culture

Q.1) With reference to **Konark Sun Temple**, consider the following statements:

1. It was built by King Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty.
2. It is not part of golden triangle of Odisha.
3. Sailors once called this Temple as the Black Pagoda because it was supposed to draw ships into the shore and cause shipwrecks..

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

Statement 1 and 3 is correct.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The temple forms part of the golden triangle of Odisha, along with Puri and Bhubaneswar. It was given the status of a World Heritage Site in 1984 by UNESCO.

Source: [Konark Sun Temple: Added by British for stability, sand inside Konark Sun Temple may be cleared](#)

Economy

Q.1) With reference to **Direct-to-Consumer Model**, consider the following statements:

1. It is an economic model in which manufacturers/producers sell their products online directly to the end-consumers.
2. This model facilitates easy liquidation of business in a situation of failure, offering a relatively convenient exit to entrepreneurs.

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: [\[Yojana December Summary\] Direct-to-Consumer Model – Explained, pointwise](#)

Q.2) With reference to recently launched **Automatic Generation Control (AGC)**, consider the following statements:

1. Its objective is to tackle the fluctuating nature of energy from renewables.
2. It is being operated through the National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC).

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.

- Renewable energy (RE) generation in India has been on a steady rise. However, the fluctuating nature of energy from renewables requires power balancing in real-time to keep supply and demand in sync. Hence, the AGC has been launched.
- **Operated by:** AGC is being operated by Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO) through the National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC).
- **Function:** Through AGC, NLDC can send signals to more than 50 power plants in the country every 4 seconds to maintain the frequency and reliability of the Indian Power System. This will ensure more efficient and automatic frequency control for handling variable and intermittent renewable generation.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.3) With reference to **IC15**, consider the following statements:

1. It is the first index in India that can act as a benchmark of the underlying cryptocurrency market
2. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) will be responsible for its monitoring.

3. Performance of the underlying Cryptocurrencies in the index is measured on the basis of market capitalization.

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:** IC15, launched by Superapp CryptoWire, is the first index in India that can act as a benchmark of the underlying cryptocurrency market and the performance benchmark for fund managers.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** An Index Governance Committee (IGC) of domain experts, industry practitioners, and academicians will select cryptocurrencies from the top 400 coins in terms of market capitalization. It will also be in charge of **monitoring and maintaining the index**, including reshuffling of the top 15 cryptos.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It will measure the performance of the 15 most widely traded cryptocurrencies listed on leading crypto exchanges by market capitalization.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) Dharashakti, THANOS, Tan90, Krishakti was seen in news. The terms related to which of the following?

- a) New cruise missiles developed by DRDO
- b) New drones developed by ISRO
- c) New innovative technologies to help farmers
- d) New technologies to mitigate air pollution

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

The AGNIi (Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations) Mission, in partnership with Common Service Center, successfully conducted a series of Digital Technology Showcases focused on innovations for rural India. It identified 7 key technologies,

'Dharashakti' is easy-to-use soil organic carbon detection and testing kit which can help the farmers in optimum use of fertilisers.

'Soil Saathi' is a lightweight chemistry analyzer with the ability to test 22 parameters in soil and water and advise fertilizer requirements based on crop and agro-climatic conditions.

'Tan90' is a portable cold storage unit to plug the gaps in cold chain which can help to reduce post-harvest losses in crops.

'Saptkrishi' is also a low-cost, technological solution that extends the shelf life of perishable horticultural produce.

'Krishakti' is smart and intelligent precision spraying drone for crops and can drastically reduce the indiscriminate sprays of pesticides.

'THANOS' is also a drone-based autonomous spraying platform that sprays an acre in a fraction of the time uniformly.

'Avatar Small Wind Turbine' are wind turbines and can be deployed as decentralised and distributed renewable energy solutions for urban and rural

Q.5) With reference to AT1 bonds, consider the following statements:

1. These are unsecured bonds with no maturity date.
2. They were introduced by the Basel accord after the global financial crisis.
3. Investors cannot return these bonds to the issuing bank and get the money.

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.

- **AT1 Bonds stand for additional tier-1 bonds.** These are unsecured bonds that have perpetual tenure. In other words, the bonds have no maturity date.
- **Purpose:** These bonds are typically used by banks to bolster their core or tier-1 capital. These bonds were introduced by the Basel accord after the global financial crisis.
- **Returns and Risk:** These bonds offer higher returns to investors but compared with other debt products, these instruments carry a higher risk as well.
- **AT1 bonds are subordinate to all other debt and only senior to common equity.** Mutual funds (MFs) are among the largest investors in AT1 Bonds. These **bonds have a call option**, which can be used by the banks to buy these bonds back from investors.
- Investors cannot return these bonds to the issuing bank and get the money. This means **there is no put option available to its holders.**
- Banks issuing AT-1 bonds can **skip interest payouts for a particular year** or even reduce the bond's face value, provided their capital ratios fall below certain threshold levels.
- If the RBI feels that a bank is on the brink of collapse and needs a rescue, it can **simply ask the bank to cancel its outstanding AT-1 bonds** without consulting its investors.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) With reference to Bioenergy crops, consider the following statements:

1. Bioenergy crops can be grown in marginal soils.
2. Converting annual crops to perennial bioenergy crops can induce a cooling effect on the areas where they are cultivated.

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.

- Bioenergy crops are defined as any plant material used to produce bioenergy. These crops have the capacity to produce large volumes of biomass, high energy potential and can be grown in marginal soils.

- According to a study, converting annual crops to perennial bioenergy crops can induce a cooling effect on the areas where they are cultivated.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) Which of the following benefits will occur in **Direct-to-Consumer Model**?

1. Enable young entrepreneurs to take up business.
2. Create additional business segments.
3. Reaching the economically wealthy consumers alone.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

Advantages of D2C model are,

- Entrepreneurship is leaving the elite circles of the country and reaching the grassroots minds of India.
- Reaching grass root consumers.
- Enable young entrepreneurs to take up business.
- Create additional business segments.

Source: [\[Yojana December Summary\] Direct-to-Consumer Model – Explained, pointwise](#)

ENVIRONMENT

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

1. It is a new species of burrowing frog.
2. It was discovered in the Chembra Peak grasslands of Wayanad.

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 prostrate perennial herb.
- **Statement 2 is correct**

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) Sultanpur National Park, is located in which of the following Indian state:

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

Correct Answer C

Explanation

Statement c is correct.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.3) With reference to **Water Bird Status Survey, consider the following statements:**

1. The survey is conducted by BirdLife International.
2. The Survey was conducted in Chilika Lake.

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 was undertaken jointly by the Odisha State Wildlife Organization, the Chilika Development Authority(CDA) and the Bombay Natural History Society.

Statement 2 is correct.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) Nalabana Bird Sanctuary sometimes seen in news is located in which of the following states?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Odisha
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Bihar

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- The bird sanctuary is located on Nalabana Island in the Chilika lagoon area in Odisha.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) With reference to Water Atlas, consider the following statements:

1. It maps all the water bodies in the tiger-bearing areas of India.
2. The atlas has been put together using remote-sensing data and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: c

Explanation

Both statements are correct.

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has released a Water Atlas. The atlas maps all the water bodies in the tiger-bearing areas of India.
- The atlas contains information about presence of such bodies in several areas including the Shivalik Hills and Gangetic plain landscape, Central Indian Landscape and Eastern Ghats, Western Ghats landscape etc.
- The atlas has been put together using remote-sensing data and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) With reference to Fimbristylis sunilii, consider the following statements:

1. It is a perennial plant discovered in Western ghats.
2. It has been listed as critically endangered 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 a **perennial plant** of the Cyperaceae family. It stands 20-59 cm tall and was collected from an elevation of 1,100 metres in **Western Ghats** region.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It has been provisionally assessed as data deficient (DD) under the IUCN Red List categories.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) With reference to Tardigrades, consider the following statements:

1. They are near-microscopic multicellular organisms.
2. Arctic is the only place where they are not found on earth.
3. They have the ability to survive Cryptobiosis.

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:** Tardigrades are also called water bears or moss piglets. They are near-microscopic multicellular organisms. They were discovered in 1773 by the German zoologist Johann August Ephraim Goeze who dubbed them - "little water bear.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Tardigrades are found everywhere in terrestrial, marine, and freshwater environments from the Arctic to the Antarctic, including great depths and altitudes.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** They are known to survive extreme conditions — such as exposure to extreme temperatures, extreme pressures (both high and low), air deprivation through a latent state of life known as cryptobiosis. Tardigrades have also survived exposure to outer space

Source: [Article](#)

Q.8) With reference to Tiger Reserves in India, consider the following statements:

1. They aim to conserve both the habitat and prey base of a tiger.
2. Sariska is the first tiger reserve in India.
3. Project Tiger aims for in-situ conservation of wild tigers.

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:** Tiger Reserves are areas of protection for tigers. They aim to conserve the habitat to ensure a viable population of the tigers along with their prey base in their habitat.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka is the first tiger reserve in India

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- **Statement 3 is correct:** Project Tiger is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Government of India launched in 1973. It aims for in-situ conservation of wild tigers in designated tiger reserves.

Source: [Article](#)

ForumIAS

Polity and Governance

Q.1) With reference to **Economically Weaker Sections(EWS) and Other Backward Classes (OBC)**, consider the following statements:

1. EWS's criteria relates to the financial year prior to the year of application, whereas the income criterion for the creamy layer in the OBC category is applicable to gross annual income for three consecutive years.
2. In the case of the OBC creamy layer, income from salaries, agriculture and traditional artisanal professions are excluded from the consideration whereas the ₹8 lakh criteria for EWS includes all sources, including 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

Answer: C

Both the Statements are correct.

Source: [Retain Rs 8 lakh EWS cap for admissions, recommends panel](#)

Q.2) What are the advantages of **Non-Governmental Organisation?**

1. Help state to implement welfare activities.
2. Build the capacities of citizens to hold governments accountable.
3. Help the state to focus on governance issues.

Select the correct answer using the code 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

Source: [CSR and NGOs: Aiding in governance](#)

GEOGRAPHY - MAP BASED QUESTIONS – WORLD LOCATIONS

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

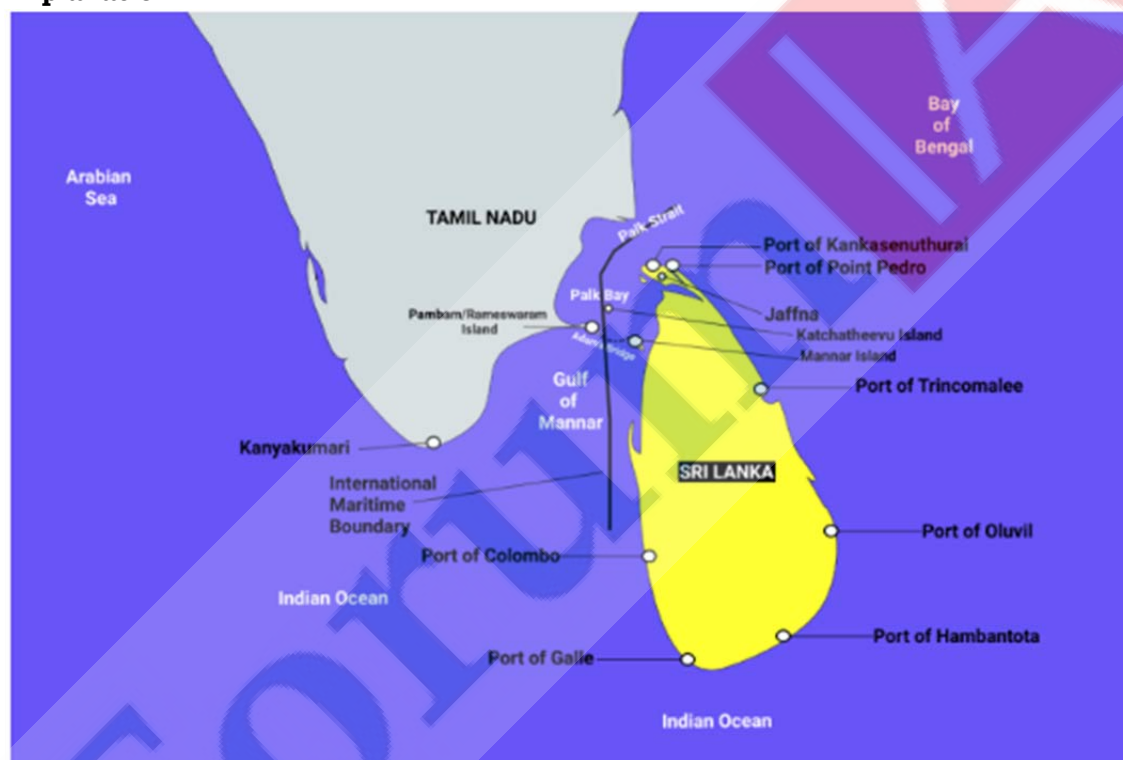
1. Colombo
2. Trincomalee
3. Hambantota

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: d

Explanation



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

Q.2) The Aravalli range is spread across which of the following states?

1. Rajasthan
2. Gujarat
3. Delhi
4. Punjab

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

The Aravalli range is spread across the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi.

Source: [Protect the Aravalli Range](#)

Q.3) Recently India's First Open Rock Museum was inaugurated in which of the following place?

- a) Chennai
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Delhi
- d) Amritsar

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

Union Minister of State for Science & Technology has inaugurated India's first open rock museum on the campus of the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) in Hyderabad.

Source: [Open rock museum: Union Minister inaugurates India's first Open Rock Museum on NGRI campus](#)

Q.4) Which of the following group of countries borders Kazakhstan?

- a) China, Russia and Afghanistan
- b) Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan
- c) Russia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan
- d) Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan

Correct Answer D

Explanation

Statement d is correct: Kazakhstan borders with Uzbekistan, China, Russia, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.5) With reference to Mount Nyiragongo, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a stratovolcano.
- 2. Lake Kivu lies to the North of the volcano.

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 a large **stratovolcano** near **Lake Kivu** at the eastern border of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with **Rwanda** and lies (19 km) north of Goma.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Lake Kivu lies to the South of the Mt Nyiragongo

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Source: [Article](#)
Modern History

Q.1) With reference to **Rani Velu Nachiyar**, consider the following statements:

1. She is the 18th century queen from Sivagangai district in Tamil Nadu.
2. She created a women's only army called Udaiyaal.

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

Answer: c

Both statements are correct.

Source: [PM pays tributes to Rani Velu Nachiyar on birth anniversary](#)

Bills, Acts and Regulations – Acts - Religion

Q.1) With reference to **Muslim personal laws**, consider the following statements:

1. Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939 codified the divorce law and gave the right to Muslim women for divorce.
2. So far, no efforts have been made to codify Muslim Personal Law.

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 Hindu Marriage Act was codified in 1955. It includes the Sikhs and the Buddhists, who are religious minorities. The process of codification of laws began in 1937 for Muslims. If Partition had not happened, then Muslims would have had a codified law probably earlier than the Hindu community.

Source: [Muslim personal laws: Is it right to increase the age of marriage of women to 21?](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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](#)

Schemes and Programs

Q.1) With reference to Sahodaya School Complex Concept, consider the following statements:

1. Under this concept, groups of neighborhood schools voluntarily come together to share their innovative practices in all aspects of school education.
2. It was first mooted by the Education Commission, 1966.

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.

- Sahodaya School Complex is a concept literally meaning 'rising together'.
- This concept was first mooted by the Education Commission, 1966. The National Policy on Education, 1966 also reiterated in strong words the need for promoting school complexes for meeting the quality of education.
- Further, the Sahodaya concept was then concretised and developed by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in 1986 to facilitate the synergy of ideas among the schools of CBSE for excellence in education.
- Under this concept, groups of neighbourhood schools voluntarily come together to share their innovative practices in all aspects of school education including curriculum design, evaluation, and pedagogy and also providing support services for teachers and students.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) With reference to the SMILE-Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise, consider the following statements:

1. It is aimed primarily towards rehabilitation of BPL (below poverty line) families.
2. Scheme includes education of the beneficiaries as one of its provisions.

Which of the statements given above 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 is an umbrella scheme of **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** which covers several comprehensive measures including **welfare measures for both transgender persons and persons who are engaged in the act of begging.**
- **Statement 2 is correct-** It has provisions focussing extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development, economic linkages etc with the support of State Governments/UTs/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations.

Source- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1786263>

Q.3) With reference to the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The scheme offers financial incentives for both domestic as well as foreign companies
2. It is aimed at making India self-reliant in manufacturing of EV batteries.
3. Department of science and technology will serve as the nodal agency for implementation of the DLI scheme.

Select the correct answer using the given code below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) None of the above
- d) 1 only

Correct Answer- C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect-** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has invited applications from 100 **domestic companies, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** as well as startups for incentives under the design linked incentive (DLI) scheme. (**Not Foreign companies**). An applicant must **meet the Threshold and Ceiling Limits** to be eligible for disbursement of incentives under the Scheme.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect-** **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)** will act as the nodal agency for the implementation of the DLI scheme.

Source- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790346>

Q.4) With reference to ACROSS Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It pertains to the atmospheric science programs of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. It addresses different aspects of weather and climate services including warnings for cyclones, storm surges, heatwaves etc.

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 ACROSS scheme pertains to the atmospheric science programs of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme addresses different aspects of weather and climate services which includes warnings for cyclones, storm surges, heatwaves, thunderstorms among others.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) 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.6) 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.7) 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.8) 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.9) 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.10) 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.11) 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](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.1) With reference to baricitinib and sotrovimab, consider the following statements:

1. Baricitinib suppress the overstimulation of the immune system.
2. World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended their use for treatment of COVID 19.

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:** Only Baricitinib is part of a class of drugs called Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors. The drug suppress the overstimulation of the immune system and used to treat rheumatoid arthritis.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The World Health Organisation(WHO) has recommended these two drugs, for treatment of Covid-19.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.2) 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.3) 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) Which of the following is/are the possible effects of Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?

1. Reducing the cost of doing business.
2. Curb digital monopolies.
3. Elimination of middleman like small retailers.

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: A

Explanation

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** ONDC does not eliminate the middlemen like small retailers, instead it provides a way to them, to get discovered online. It is an open model where consumers can potentially discover any seller, product or service nearby, using any ONDC compatible application or platform, thus increasing freedom of choice for consumers. Consumer can thus choose a nearby retailer for the faster delivery.

Source: [Article](#)

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

1. It is the joint collaboration between India and USA.
2. It operates on the Fire and Forget principle.
3. The missile can fly at a speed which is almost three times the speed of sound.

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 C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is the joint collaboration between India and Russia.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It operates on the "Fire and Forgets" principle i.e it does not require further guidance after launch

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- **Statement 3 is correct:** Brahmos is one of the fastest cruise missile currently operationally deployed with speed of Mach 2.8, which is nearly 3 times more than the speed of sound.

Source: [Article](#)

ForumIAS

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following States:

1. Chhattisgarh
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Himachal Pradesh
4. Uttarakhand

With reference to the States mentioned above, in terms of percentage of forest cover to the total area of State, which one of the following is the correct ascending order?

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

Correct Answer- A

Explanation

Name of State	Percentage of forest cover to total area
Chhattisgarh	41.21
Madhya Pradesh	25.14
Himachal Pradesh	27.73
Uttarakhand	45.44

Source- <https://fsi.nic.in/isfr-2021/chapter-2.pdf>

Q.2) 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.3) 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.4) 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.5) 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.6) 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

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

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.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS – ORGANIZATIONS

Q.1) With reference to the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) consider the following statements:

1. SDR is neither a currency nor a claim on the IMF.
2. Private parties cannot hold Special Drawing Rights (SDR).
3. International Monetary Fund (IMF) gives equal weightage to the basket of currencies to determine SDR value.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None

Correct Answer- b

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct-** SDR is neither a currency nor a claim on the IMF. Rather, it is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. SDRs can be exchanged for these currencies.
- **Statement 2 is correct-** SDRs cannot be held by private entities or individuals.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect-** All the five currencies (Chinese yuan, US dollar, euro, Japanese yen, and British pound sterling) have different weightage with the US dollar having the highest weightage.

Source- <https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/08/01/14/51/Special-Drawing-Right-SDR>

GEOGRAPHY

Q.1) Consider the following pairs:

Regions sometimes mentioned in news

:

Country/Continent

Abyei	Africa
Bagram	Iran
Natanz	Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer- C

Explanation

Abyei is a border town that is disputed between South Sudan and Sudan. India next month will send an infantry battalion for UN peacekeeping to the region.



Bagram Airfield is a Taliban military base, and formerly the largest US military base in Afghanistan.



Natanz is situated in Iran and also houses a nuclear enrichment facility.



Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-to-send-a-battalion-for-peacekeeping-ops-in-africa/articleshow/88939315.cms>

Q.2) 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.3) 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.4) 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.5) 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.6) 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.7) 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](#)

Polity and Governance

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](#)

Bills, Acts and Regulations

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](#)

Medieval History

Q.1) Consider the following statements.

1. He is the most respected Acharya in the philosophy of Sri Vaishnavism.
2. He is famous as the chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita.
3. He wrote influential texts, such as bhāṣya on the Brahma Sutras and the Bhagavad Gita, all in Sanskrit.

Which of the following personality is described in the statements above?

- a) Basavanna
- b) Ramananda
- c) Sri Ramanuja
- d) Chaitanya Mahaprabhu

Answer: C

News: PM Narendra Modi is all set to unveil the world's second-largest statue (Statue of Equality) in Hyderabad on February 5. The 216-foot-tall statue of 11th-century social reformer and saint, Ramanujacharya will be in a sitting position.

About Ramanuja:

Ramanuja, from Tamil Nadu in the 11th century, propounded the doctrine of Vishishtadvaita or qualified oneness in that the soul, even when united with the Supreme God, remained distinct. He was also referred to as Ilaya Perumal which means the radiant one.

Source: [216-feet 'Statue of Equality' in Hyderabad to be unveiled by PM on February 5.](#)

Q.2) Recently Sub-Surface dams are seen as an alternative to surface dams. With reference to Sub surface dams, consider the following statements:

1. They lead to more evaporation of reserved water.
2. They Minimise the forced displacement of people
3. They may proliferate parasites, anopheles that transmit malaria.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-d

While surface dam stores river water, a subsurface dam stores groundwater.

- **Statement 1 is incorrect-** A subsurface dam does not lose reserved water by evaporation because water is stored underground and there is very little evaporation, in contrast with a surface dam that often loses a significant amount of reserved water due to evaporation in the dry season in arid or semi-arid areas.
- **Statement 2 is correct-** A subsurface dam does not submerge land area in contrast with a surface dam because it stores water underground. Therefore, it does not seriously damage the environment, nor does it cause social problems such as the forced migration of the local people.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect-** Reserved water using a subsurface dam is of fairly good quality because it is stored underground, and it can be used like ordinary well water, in contrast with reserved water using a surface dam that tends to proliferate parasites, anopheles that transmit malaria, and germs, and requires purification for domestic use.

Source-[Article](#)

Q. 3) Which of the following will help in reducing the Current Account Deficit?

1. Tight monetary policy
2. Improving logistics Infrastructure
3. Devaluation of exchange rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-d

- **Statement 1 is correct-** Tight monetary policy involves increasing interest rates. Higher interest rates will increase the cost of debt and mortgage repayments and leave people with less money to spend. Therefore, this will reduce their consumption of imports, improving the current account.
- **Statement 3 is correct-** This involves reducing the value of the currency against others. (e.g. selling pounds would cause the value of the Pound to fall). If there is a devaluation of the currency, the price of imported goods increases and therefore the quantity demanded of imports falls. Exports will become cheaper, and there will be an increase in the quantity of exports.
- **Statement 2 is correct-** Supply side policies can improve the competitiveness of the economy and help make exports more attractive. This can improve the current account position, but it may take considerable time to have an effect. For example, if the government improved the supply chain and built good logistical infrastructure it may help to increase the efficiency. This increased efficiency would translate into lower costs of production and more exports.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.4) What are the advantages of Vertical Farming?

1. Increases Photosynthesis
2. Reduces transportation cost
3. Low Initial capital costs for establishment

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-b

- **Statement 1 is correct-** By Vertical Farming, food crops can be cultivated easily in urban areas by planting in vertically stacked layers in order to save space and use minimal energy and water for irrigation. Vertical farming can permit crops to be grown through out the year. It uses L.E.D lights so photosynthesis can occur all day.
- **Statement 2 is correct-** Since vertical farming system can be easily done in cities so this will reduce transportation costs.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect-** High initial capital costs for establishing the vertical farming system is the major problem. In addition there are costs of erecting the structures along with its automation like automated racking and stacking systems, programmable LED lighting systems, climate control system, etc.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.5) In the context of Indian Economy, which one of the following is associated with the term 'Usual Status' mentioned?

- a) Inflation targeting by the central bank
- b) Status of the Stock market
- c) Employment -Unemployment statistics
- d) Differences in Minimum wages across states

Answer- c

- Unemployment is measured on approaches like Usual, weekly, daily status approach.
- Usual Status Approach: This approach estimates only those persons as unemployed who had no gainful work for a major time during the 365 days preceding the date of survey.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.6) With reference to Data protection initiatives in the country, Which of the following will lead to improved data security and privacy scenario in the country.

- 1. Data anonymization
- 2. Promoting the Tokenisation policy initiative of RBI
- 3. Facilitate the growth of Virtual Private Network (VPN)

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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

Answer-d

- **Statement 1 is correct-** Data anonymization is a type of information sanitization whose intent is privacy protection. It is the process of removing personally identifiable information from data sets, so that the people whom the data describe remain anonymous.
- **Statement 2 is correct-** Tokenisation refers to replacement of actual credit and debit card details with an alternate code called the "token", which will be unique for a combination of card, token requestor and device. A tokenised card transaction is considered safer as the actual card details are not shared with the merchant during transaction processing.
- **Statement 3 is correct-** Surfing the web or transacting through an unsecured Wi-Fi may make private information and browsing habits of an Individual vulnerable to eavesdropping by strangers using the same network. VPN gives online privacy and anonymity by creating a private network from a public internet connection. VPNs mask an Individual's internet protocol (IP) address so that their online actions are virtually untraceable. Most important, VPN services establish secure and encrypted connections.
- Recently, a Parliamentary Standing Committee has recommended permanent blocking of VPNs. The report identified VPN services as a "technological challenge" that allow criminals to remain anonymous online and access the dark web to commit crimes bypassing security walls.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.7) Which of the following will help India advance towards Fiscal consolidation

- 1.Enhancing Tax -GDP ratio
- 2.Direct benefit transfer schemes
- 3.Government evoking use of escape clause under Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) act,2003

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-a

- **Statement 1 is correct-** Enhancing Tax-GDP ratio by widening tax base and minimising tax concessions and exemptions will improve tax revenues, which will lower the budget deficit and borrowing by the government.
- **Statement 2 is correct-**Using Direct benefit transfer for schemes and giving subsidies will lead to better targeting and reduced leakage.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect-** Escape clause provides flexibility to the government to overshoot the fiscal deficits targets in times of need. Its frequent revocation means that government is not been able to lower its fiscal deficit or that there have been lot of economic shocks that have warranted the use of this clause, both of which are not suitable for long term fiscal consolidation.

Source-[Article](#)

Q.8) With reference to the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY), consider the following statements:

- 1.It will help in formalization of informal employment and create new employment opportunities during and post COVID-19 Pandemic.
 - 2.Scheme is being implemented through the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer-c

- **Statement 1 is correct-** It was launched to boost employment generation and to minimize socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic. It aims to reduces the financial burden of the employers of various sectors/industries and encourages them to hire more workers.
- **Statement 2 is correct-**This scheme is being implemented through the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO).

Source- [Article](#)

Environment

Q. 9) With reference to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), consider the following statements:

1. Category B1 projects are excluded from complete EIA process.
 2. Public consultation occurs only once during the entire EIA process in India.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer-B

Statement 1 is incorrect: Category A projects and category B1 projects undergo the complete EIA process. Category B2 projects are excluded from complete EIA process.

Statement 2 is correct.

Source: [A stellar fallacy: On hasty assessment of environmental costs](#)

Polity and Governance

Q.1) With reference to the recent plea on **conjugal rights**, which of the following statements describes conjugal rights?

- a) These are rights vested to the properties of Hindu Undivided Family.
- b) These are rights related to armed forces to form union.
- c) These are rights created by marriage, i.e. right of the husband or the wife to the society of the other spouse.
- d) These are economic rights of shareholders while the firm faces insolvency.

Answer: C

These are rights created by marriage, i.e. right of the husband or the wife to the society of the other spouse.

Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which deals with restitution of conjugal rights, reads: "When either the husband or the wife has, without reasonable excuse, withdrawn from the society of the other, the aggrieved party may apply, by petition to the district court."

Similar provisions exist in Muslim personal law as well as the Divorce Act, 1869, which governs Christian family law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.2) Which of the following are biodegradable material?

- 1. Glass
- 2. E-waste
- 3. DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane)
- 4. Leather

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer- d

- Leather is made from skins of animals. So, in its true natural form, **leather** is indeed **biodegradable**.
- DDT is non-biodegradable. It's a **persistent organic pollutant that can't decompose into simple, harmless substances in nature**.
- Glass and e-waste are also non biodegradable.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.3) Person A has recently lost his/her job due to recession. Which of the following will describe A's situation the best?

- a) Frictionally unemployed
- b) Seasonally unemployed
- c) Not in the labour force
- d) Cyclically unemployed

Answer-d

- Frictional unemployment is a type of unemployment that arises when workers are searching for new jobs or are transitioning from one job to another. During a recession, it tends to decline because workers become more concerned about job security since fewer job opportunities are available in the market.
- Seasonal unemployment is when people who work in seasonal jobs become unemployed when demand for labor decreases. For example it may often takes place in locations that see high volumes of tourists, as different tourist attractions can close or slow their operations depending on the time of year and season.
- Person A will be counted as a part of the labour force unless he/she decided to give up working altogether, since they lost their job and may be still looking for a job, he/she will be considered part of the labour force and will be called unemployed.
- Cyclical unemployment is the unemployment associated with the business cycle. As, Person A lost his/her job because there was a recession, then A would be regarded as cyclically unemployed.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.4) Which of the following statements best describes the term “Social Contract”?

- a) It refers to lawful restriction on the government so that Liberty of citizens is not compromised.
- b) It is an agreement between the government and citizens, defining the rights and duties of each
- c) It refers to an arrangement where the power to govern comes from the people, but elected officials represent their interests
- d) It is an Opportunity available to all the citizens of the state to develop themselves fully.

Answer-b

- Statement a refers to Limited government, it is a theory of governance in which the government only has those powers delegated to it by law, often through a written constitution.
- Statement c refers to the Republican democracy.
- Statement d defines the term liberty. Positive liberty is the possibility of acting — or the fact of acting — in such a way as to take control of one's life and realize one's fundamental purposes. One may surmise that the purpose of ensuring that one has no obstacles is to realize one's full potential.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.5) Consider the following:

1. Person confined in jail.
 2. Person subjected to preventive detention under any law
 3. Person with an unsound mind as declared by a court
- In India, which of the above is/are allowed to vote in an election?

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

Answer-c

- According to Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, A Person can not vote at any election if he is confined in a prison, whether under a sentence of imprisonment or transportation or otherwise, or is in the lawful custody of the police.
- According to the Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person subjected to preventive detention under any law is entitled to vote by Postal Ballot paper.
- Every Indian citizen with disability or reduced mobility / functions who has attained the age of 18 years on the qualifying date i.e. first day of January of the year of revision of electoral roll, unless otherwise disqualified of crime or unsound mind as declared by a competent court ,is eligible to be registered as a voter.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.6) According to India's policy of strategic disinvestment of public sector enterprises, which of the following are included in Strategic Sector?

1. Defence sector
 2. Transport and Telecommunications sector
 3. Power sector
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-d

Following 4 sectors to come under Strategic sector-
Atomic energy, Space and Defense
Transport and Telecommunications
Power, Petroleum, Coal and other minerals
Banking, Insurance and financial services

Source- [Article](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements

1.While lake ecosystem follows a food chain based on grazing pathway, wetlands have a detritus based one.

2.Both Wetlands and lakes have high Productivity

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Answer-d

- **Productivity** refers to the rate of generation of biomass in the ecosystem. While lakes have low productivity, wetlands have high productivity.
- In Lakes Food chain is based on grazing pathway and in wetlands they are mostly detritus Pathway based.

Source- [Article](#)

Science and Technology

Q.8) Which of the following factors contributes to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?

1. Wrong diagnosis of disease
2. Inappropriate use of antimicrobial drugs
3. Increasing biosecurity on farms
4. Providing high doses of antimicrobials

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

Answer: C

The AMR will increase if there is,

- Wrong diagnosis of disease
- Inappropriate use of antimicrobial drugs
- Reducing biosecurity on farms
- Providing high doses of antimicrobials
- Not following recommendations

Source: [Clear and present danger: Lancet study highlights AMR time bomb in India, world](#)

Q.9) Consider the following activities:

1. Mining and quarrying
2. Education
3. Consumer electronics

Which of the above can be regarded as secondary sector activities?

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

Answer- d

Secondary sector includes manufacturing units, small scale units, large firms, Consumer electronics will come under this. While Mining and quarrying will come under primary sector and Education under services sector.

Q.1) If an economy initially has a balanced budget, but its transfer payments increase, what happens to the budget balance and national debt?

- a) There will be a budget surplus; national debt will decrease
- b) There will be a budget deficit; the national debt will increase
- c) There will be a budget deficit; no impact on national debt
- d) There will be a budget surplus, no impact on national debt

Answer-b

- If an economy with a balanced budget experiences an increase in transfer payments, it will not experience a budget surplus.
- A budget deficit occurs when tax revenues are less than government spending and transfer payments. If transfer payments increase, but tax revenue does not, then the budget will move to a deficit. As a result of a budget deficit, the government will add to its national debt.
- Transfer payment are for redistribution of income and wealth by means of the government making a payment, without goods or services being received in return. Examples of transfer payments include welfare, financial aid, social security, and government subsidies for certain businesses.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. PSLV (Polar satellite launch vehicle) is designed mainly to deliver the “earth observation” or “remote sensing” satellites.
2. GSLV (Geo synchronous launch vehicle) is mainly designed to deliver the communication satellites to the Sun synchronous Polar 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

Answer-a

- Both PSLV and GSLV are satellite launch vehicles developed by ISRO. PSLV mainly delivers the “earth observation” or “remote sensing” satellites to the Sun synchronous Polar orbits of 600-900 km altitude.
- GSLV is mainly designed to deliver the communication satellites to the geosynchronous transfer orbit.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.3) Which term takes into account both the number of species in a community, as well as the relative number of individuals in each species?

- (a) Species diversity
- (b) Abundance
- (c) Species Richness
- (d) Resilience

Answer-a

- Species richness is the number of different species in a particular community (and not the total number of Individuals in each species).
- Species diversity is a measure of community complexity. It is a function of both the number of different species in the community (species richness) and their relative abundances (species evenness). Larger numbers of species and more even abundances of

species lead to higher species diversity. A forest community with 20 different kinds of trees in even abundances would have greater species diversity than a forest community with the same number of species in very uneven abundances (for instance, with 90% of the trees belonging to a single species).

- Abundance refers to a quantity but does not specifically describe the number of species or individuals in a community.
- Resilience describes an ability of an ecosystem to withstand and recover from a disturbance. It does not describe the number of Individuals or species in an ecosystem.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest producer of milk and pulses.
2. FDI up to 100%, under the automatic route is allowed in food processing industries.

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

Answer-c

Both statements are true

India is World's largest producer of Spices, Milk and Pulses, World's second largest producer of food grains, fruits, and vegetables.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Rising ocean alkalinity
2. Rising ocean sea level
3. Melting ice sheets
4. Increasing permafrost

Which of the above are environmental problems, most directly associated with atmospheric warming?

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

Answer- c

Ocean becomes more acidic due to atmospheric warming

It leads to Rising ocean sea level and melting ice sheets.

Atmospheric warming causes permafrost to melt, not form.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.6) Consider the following Phenomenon:

1. Presence of low-lying clouds
2. Availability of moisture along the Indo-Gangetic plains
3. Western disturbances passing over India

Which of the above condition(s) contributes to colder winters in North India?

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

Answer- c

- Western disturbance is an extratropical storm originating in the Mediterranean region that brings sudden winter rain to the northern parts of the Indian subcontinent. After a western disturbance crosses India, cold winds from the far north of the country penetrate to lower latitudes, and can reach up to even Telangana and Maharashtra, leading to colder weather, and sometimes to cold wave conditions.
- The presence of low-lying clouds and the availability of moisture along the Indo-Gangetic plains made it favourable for cold day conditions and the additional chill factor experienced during the day time.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.7) Which of the following statement best describes the effect of a tariff?

- a) It decreases the quantity of a good bought in a country and decreases tax revenue.
- b) It decreases the domestic price of a good and has no effect on total product surplus.
- c) It increases the quantity of a good bought in a country and increases tax revenue
- d) It increases the domestic price of a good and decreases availability of a product.

Answer -d

- Customs duties on merchandise imports are called tariffs. Tariffs give a price advantage to locally-produced goods over similar goods which are imported, and they raise revenues for governments.
- When a tariff is imposed the volume of imports shrinks. The cost to the economy is a loss of consumer surplus, as consumers have to pay higher prices to get products that they previously imported at lower prices.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.8) With reference to Padma Awards in India, consider the following statements:

1. A person can nominate himself for the award.
2. Padma Awards committee is headed by Prime Minister.
3. These awards can also be conferred posthumously.

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

Answer: c

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Any citizen of India can nominate a potential recipient. One can even nominate one's own self. All nominations are to be done online where a form is to be filled along with details of the person or the organisation being nominated.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** All nominations received for Padma awards are placed before the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year. The Padma Awards Committee is **headed by the Cabinet Secretary** and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The award is normally not conferred posthumously. However, in highly deserving cases, the Government could consider giving an award posthumously.

Source: [Article](#)

Science and Technology

Q9) With reference to Negative ion technology, consider the following statements:

1. This technology embeds negative ions in personal products and is currently being advertised as a means to maintain health, balance energy, and improve well-being.
2. The minerals that produce negative ions often include naturally occurring radioactive substances such as uranium and thorium.

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

Answer: C

Both the statements are correct.

Recently, the Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ANVS), Netherlands issued a statement identifying various negative ion wearable products containing more Radioactivity than legally permitted.

It is believed that negative ions create positive vibes and uplift the mood. They show the various mental and physical health benefits, such as stress reduction, better sleeping, respiration etc. whereas these ions may also act on pollutants, make them negatively charged and get them collected on surfaces.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

ENVIRONMENT

Q10) With reference to Spot-billed pelican, consider the following statements

1. Within Indian territory, the bird is found to breed only in peninsular India.
2. It is listed as endangered 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

Answer: a

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The bird is found to breed only in peninsular India, Sri Lanka and in Cambodia.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is listed as Near Threatened (NT)

Source: [Article](#)

Science and Technology

Q.11) Which of the following advantage(s) are associated with Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)?

1. Increase in Turn-around Time
2. Flexibility in accommodating Multiple Satellites
3. Minimum launch infrastructure requirements

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

Answer: B

The SSLV would help in a) Reduced Turn-around Time b) Launch on Demand c) Cost Optimization for Realization and Operation d) Flexibility in accommodating Multiple Satellites and e) Minimum launch infrastructure requirements.

Source: [Explained: Everything we know about ISRO's new SSLV programme](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider a hypothetical scenario:

In some Schools student activity levels are monitored so that facial expressions changing could be a cue that the student has either lost interest or is confused. This is allowing teachers to pinpoint the exact location of the lesson that should be revisited in order to help students learn better.

In the context of emerging technologies, which one of the following terms is described in the above scenario?

- a) Cloud computing
- b) Internet of Things
- c) Big Data Analytics
- d) Augmented Reality

Answer- c

- **Big data analytics** which is the term used to describe the examination of large amounts of data to see what patterns or other useful information can be found.
- **Internet of Things** is the idea of everyday objects like light bulbs and thermostats being connected to the Internet, enabling an Individual to sort of communicate with devices and allowing devices to interact to each other and work simultaneously.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.2) Which of the following practices will help in Preventing Ground water exploitation?

1. Zero Tillage
2. Replacing sugarcane plantation with cotton
3. Adoption of modern precision irrigation technologies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-a

- Cotton is also a water intensive crop. Following are the Typical Crop water requirement (in litres) per kilogram of crop. For Cotton 7,000 - 29,000 and for Sugar Cane it is 1,500 - 3,000.
- The No Till system is very effective to increase soil water infiltration, to reduce evaporation from soil and also to reduce water run-off. The water availability for crops is increased. The savings in soil moisture can be just as important, especially in a year when soil moisture and precipitation are short or when irrigation is costly or water supplies are limited.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.3) Which of the following factor(s) might lead to an increase in government spending?

- 1.High Unemployment rate
- 2.Too High Rate of Inflation
3. High Level of output in the economy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer- c

- When government spending increases, the level of output in the economy increases, causing the unemployment rate to decrease. Increasing government spending is an example of an expansionary fiscal policy action that increases output, decreases the unemployment rate, and increases the price level.
- In economics, output is the quantity of goods and services produced in a given time period. The level of output is determined by both the aggregate supply and aggregate demand within an economy. The level of output increases when government spending increases. A government should decrease government spending if it is concerned that the level of output is too high.
- The rate of inflation increases when government spending increases. A government should decrease government spending if it is concerned about the rate of inflation.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.4) With reference to Ocean Warming, consider the following statements

- 1.It limits the metabolism of large fish.
- 2.It reduces the ocean's ability to absorb CO₂.
- 3.It increases the thickness of shells on shelled organisms.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Answer- c

- Warming oceans hold less dissolved oxygen than cooler waters, so fish struggle to extract enough oxygen through their gills. As a result of which Larger fish will especially need more oxygen to change food into the energy needed to support a larger body of cells.
- As water temperature **increases**, Water's ability to dissolve CO₂ **decreases**. Global warming is expected to reduce the ocean's ability to absorb CO₂, leaving more in the atmosphere which will lead to even higher temperatures.
- Ocean warming is causing a decrease, not an increase, in shell thickness. The calcium carbonate that organisms use to build shells is less soluble and therefore less available in warmer water.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements

- 1.Exotic species can face competition from the native natural species in the area they are introduced to.
- 2.Unlike exotic species, Invasive species are always cause of concern for the environment they are introduced in.

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

Answer- c

Exotic species could be defined as any organism that happens to live outside its natural distribution range as a consequence of anthropogenic activity, or activities through deliberate or accidental introduction to a new habitat. The primary understanding about an exotic species is that, it is a non-native or non-indigenous in its new location

Exotic species may or may not have natural competitors whereas invasive species do not have any danger of such barriers.

Invasive species have been one of the major problems for the environment, ecology, and economy of many places. According to the definition, an exotic species becomes invasive when the population starts to increase through reproduction that happens because there are no natural enemies in the new habitat.

Exotic species may or may not be harmful. But Invasive species are always a cause of concern.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.6) Consider the following pairs:

Cities

1. Ashgabat
2. Dushanbe
3. Alma-Ata

Country

- Turkmenistan
Tajikistan
Uzbekistan

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer-b

Alma Ata is in Kazakhstan.

Please refer to the map below.

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Dardanelles Strait links Sea of Marmara with Aegean Sea.
2. Kerch strait connects sea of Marmara and Black Sea

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Answer- a

Dardanelles connects the Aegean Sea with the Sea of Marmara.

Kerch strait connects the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov

Bosphorus Strait connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara.

Source- [Article](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q8) With reference to Artificial snow used in winter competitions, consider the following statements:

1. It is produced by mixing ice particles with water vapor.
2. Athletes are at a greater risk when they are competing on artificial snow compared to natural snow.

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

Answer: c

Both statements are correct.

- Machines produce this snow by pumping out ice particles at the same time as a thin mist of water vapor. Both these particles are launched up to 60 m in the air where they combine to become snow and then fall to the ground.
- Athletes are at a greater risk when competing on artificial snow, as it tends to create a faster and harder surface, which can cause more severe injuries when falls occur.

Source: [Article](#)

Environment

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

1. Fly Ash exhibit cementitious properties.
2. It is a byproduct from burning of coal in electric power generating plants.
3. Fly ash particles are not toxic air pollutants.

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 only

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: Fly Ash exhibit cementitious properties. A cementitious material is one that hardens when mixed with water. Hence, It is used in concrete and cement products, road base, metal recovery, and mineral filler among others.

Statement 2 is correct.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Fly ash particles are toxic air pollutants. They can trigger heart disease, cancer, respiratory diseases and stroke.

Source: [Fly Ash Management and Utilisation Mission: Will it boost handling, disposal of bye-product](#)

Modern History

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Women Freedom fighters- Associated events

1. Usha Mehta - Quit India Movement
2. Durgawati Devi - Provided safe passage to Bhagat Singh
3. Parbati Giri - Jhansi Rani of Tranvancore

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

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

Answer: B

Women Freedom fighters - Associated events

1. Usha Mehta - Quit India Movement
2. Durgawati Devi - Provided safe passage to Bhagat Singh
3. Parbati Giri - Mother Teresa of Western Odisha
4. Accamma Cherian - Jhansi Rani of Tranvancore

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following pairs:

Diseases

1. Tuberculosis

2. Malaria

3. Leishmaniasis

Pathogen

Virus

Bacteria

Parasite

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer- c

Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by bacteria (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) and it most often affects the lungs. TB is spread through the air when people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit. A person needs to inhale only a few germs to become infected.

Malaria is a disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes.

Leishmaniasis is a parasitic disease that is found in parts of the tropics, subtropics, and southern Europe. It is classified as a neglected tropical disease (NTD). Leishmaniasis is caused by infection with *Leishmania* parasites, which are spread by the bite of phlebotomine sand flies.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.2) Which of the following is most likely to be negatively affected by the deflation?

- a) An Individual who owes a big loan to the State bank of India
- b) A boy who has stored cash in almirah for last 6 months
- c) An Individual who has 1000 rupees in his bank account earning 1 percent interest every year.
- d) An elderly couple who receives 10000 rupees as pension every month

Answer- a

Deflation hurts borrowers and benefits lenders. The amount that is repaid can buy more goods and services than when the loan was made. This increases the value of what a borrower must repay in real terms, even if the actual amount doesn't change.

Savers benefit from deflation, even if they aren't earning any interest.

The pensioners will gain from the deflation. The falling price level means that every month they will be able to buy more as prices continue to fall.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.3) If President of India veto a bill passed by the Parliament, then which of the following democratic ideals define the situation the best-

- a) Natural Rights
- b) Checks and balances
- c) Social contract
- d) Popular sovereignty.

Answer- b

This is not an example of natural rights as it does not limit or advocate for the rights of "life, liberty, and property."

This is an example of checks and balances as it refers to how the three branches of the government limit each other's powers.

This is not an example of popular sovereignty because under this the power of elected officials come from the "consent of the governed."

Source- [Article](#)

Q.4) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) Scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. It is mandatory under the mission that the female head of the family becomes the owner or co-owner of the house.
- 2. It intends to provide housing for all in urban areas by the year 2022.

Select the correct answer using the given code below

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

Answer-c

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) Mission launched on 25th June 2015 which intends to provide housing for all in urban areas by year 2022.

In continuation to this Government's efforts towards empowerment of women from Economically Weaker Section(EWS) and Low Income group(LIG) unlike earlier schemes, PMAY (U) has made a mandatory provision for the female head of the family to be the owner or co-owner of the house under this Mission.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.5) Suppose in an economy all the other factors of production are held constant and only labour and output increases, then which of the following is most likely to happen?

- a) Employment decreases
- b) Unemployment decreases
- c) Capital increases
- d) None of the above

Answer-b

The factors of production are **land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship**.

If all other factors of production are held constant, economy will need more workers to make more output, not fewer workers.

When all factors of production other than labour are held constant, unemployment decreases when output increases because output and unemployment are inversely related.

As is mentioned in the question itself that all factors of production are constant except labour so capital cannot increase.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.6) With reference to Electoral bonds, consider the following statements:

- 1.It is a bearer instrument in the nature of a Promissory Note
- 2.Purchaser would be allowed to buy electoral bond(s) for any political party.
- 3.Only citizen of India or a body incorporated in India will be eligible to purchase the bond.

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) All of the above

Answer- a

Electoral Bond would be a **bearer instrument in the nature of a Promissory Note** and an interest free banking instrument. A citizen of India or a body incorporated in India will be eligible to purchase the bond.

Electoral Bonds would have a life of only 15 days during which it can be used for making donation **only** to the political parties **registered under section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951** (43 of 1951) and which **secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election** to the House of the People or a Legislative Assembly.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.7) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Green GDP'?

- a) It is the measure of forests and green spaces in the territory of the country in monetary terms and adding it to the traditional GDP figures
- b) It is calculation of the loss of biodiversity in monetary form and subtracting resource depletion from the traditional GDP figures
- c) It is the measure of growth in green investments both domestic and foreign.
- d) All of the above

Answer-b

- Green GDP means that it accounts the monetized loss of biodiversity, costs caused by climate change.
- Green GDP is conventional gross domestic product figures adjusted for the environmental costs of economic activities. It's a measure of how a country is prepared for sustainable economic development.

Source- [Article](#)

Q.8) Light House Project sometimes seen in news, it is associated with which of the following?

- a) It is a model housing project with houses built with shortlisted alternate technology suitable to the geo-climatic and hazard conditions of the region.
- b) Under this project, students from underprivileged backgrounds are mentored by industry professionals.
- c) It involves construction of Light Houses to aid marine navigation and promote ease of doing business.
- d) It includes skill training and access to affordable credit for self-employment.

Answer: a

- Light House Projects (LHPs) are model housing projects with houses built with shortlisted alternate technology suitable to the geo-climatic and hazard conditions of the region. These houses will be disaster-resilient, environment-friendly, cost-effective, and have speedy construction technologies.

Source: [Article](#)

Science and Technology

Q.9) Consider the following pairs

Space Agency/Country - Space mission/Programme

1. NASA - Artemis
2. European Space Agency - Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter
3. Russia-China JV - Permanent lunar habitat

Which of the above pairs are matched correctly?

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

Answer: B

Space Agency/Country - Space mission/Programme

1. NASA - Artemis
2. South Korea - Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter
3. Russia-China JV - Permanent lunar habitat

Source: [All eyes on the moon](#)

Q.10) With reference to Public Accounts Committee (PAC), consider the following statements:

1. It examines the audit report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) before it is laid in the Parliament.
2. It has the powers to examine both the retired officials and the incumbent ones.

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

Answer: d

Both statements are incorrect.

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It examines the report after its laid before the Parliament.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It doesn't have the power to examine the retired officials.

Source: [Article](#)

Science and Technology

Q11. With reference to **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD)**, Consider the following statements:

1. Snakebite envenomation, scabies, yaws, trachoma are NTD.
2. London Declaration recognise the global burden of NTDs.

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

Answer: C

Both the statements are correct.

Source: [Neglected Tropical Diseases Day: India can beat them but that needs bold action](#)