Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

28th Feb to 5th March, 2022

International Relations

Q.1) With reference to Ukraine, consider the following statements

- 1. Ukraine is the largest country in Europe after Russia.
- 2. India is Ukraine's largest export destination in the Asia Pacific region.

Which 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

Ukraine is the largest country in Europe after Russia, it is about 6% of the continent. India is Ukraine's largest export destination in the Asia Pacific region. The country's major export to India is sunflower oil, followed by inorganic chemicals, iron and steel, plastics, and chemicals. Ukraine's major import from India is pharmaceutical products.

Source: **IE**

Q.2) Which of the following is/are the advantage of Biogas?

- 1. Provides a stable fuel supply.
- 2. Increase India's oil import bill.
- 3. Act as a source of income for farmers.

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: C

Statement 1 is correct: Biogas provides a stable fuel supply in the market for oil companies and accessible credit in the market through government schemes and banks for entrepreneurs.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Biogas increase self-reliance in energy utilized for cooking and lighting. So it will reduce India's oil import bill.

Statement 3 is correct: Biogas encourage farmers to consider dung and other waste not just as a waste but as a source of income.

Source: PIB

Q.3) Exercise Dharma Guardian is an annual bilateral exercise between India and which of the following country?

- a) Russia
- b) Iran
- c) The US
- d) Japan

Answer: D

Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise conducted between India and Japan since 2018.

Other exercises between India and Japan include

SHINYUU Maitri– It is a bilateral exercise between the Indian Air Force and the Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF).

JIMEX- It is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and Japan.

Sahayog-Kaijin – Joint bilateral exercise between the Indian Coast Guard and the Japan Coast Guard.

Source: Article

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

- 1. SWIFT facilitates funds transfer between banks and financial institutions globally.
- 2. SWIFT is overseen by G-10 central banks.

Which 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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: SWIFT does not facilitate funds transfer: rather, it sends payment orders, which must be settled by correspondent accounts that the institutions have with each other.

Statement 2 is correct: SWIFT is overseen by G-10 central banks.

Source: <u>Indian Express</u>

Q.5) With reference to Bamboo plantations, consider the following statements:

- 1. Bamboo plantations can reduce deforestation.
- 2. Bamboo plantations can reclaim severely degraded sites and wastelands.

Which 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: PIB

Q.6) With reference to Cheetah, Consider the following statements.

- 1. Cheetah reintroduction project aims to reintroduce cheetah in Madhav National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- 2. Cheetah is the only large carnivore to have become extinct in Independent India.
- 3. Asiatic cheetah is classified as a "critically endangered" species by the IUCN Red List, and is believed to survive only in Iran.

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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: Cheetah reintroduction project aims to reintroduce cheetah in Kuno-Palpur Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.

Statement 2 is correct: The cheetah was declared extinct from India in 1952. Currently there are no cheetahs in any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary in the country. Cheetah is, in fact, the only large carnivore to have become extinct in Independent India.

Statement 3 is correct: The Asiatic cheetah is classified as a "critically endangered" species by the IUCN Red List, and is believed to survive only in Iran. African Cheetah is listed as vulnerable in IUCN red listed species.

Source: **TOI**

Q.7) Which of the following is/are part of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MII)?

- 1. Stock exchanges
- 2. Depositories
- 3. Mutual Fund distributors

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: A

According to the Bimal Jalan Committee (2010), these institutions are systemically important for the country's financial development and serve as the infrastructure necessary for the securities market.

For example, Stock exchanges, depositories and clearing houses.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) R. Narayana Murthy Committee was recently seen in news. The committee is related to which of the following?

- a) Higher Education reforms
- b) Corporate Governance
- c) Defence sector
- d) CSR Activities

Answer: B

R. Narayana Murthy Committee was set up by SEBI to review the performance of corporate governance in India and make appropriate recommendations.

Source: TOI

Q.9) With reference to co-location, consider the following statements:

- 1. Co-location allows brokers to operate closer to their servers upon payment of additional fees.
- 2. Co-location increases latency while executing 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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: Co-location allows brokers to operate closer to their servers upon payment of additional fees.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It helps brokers secure an advantage over others due to proximity to exchange servers as data transmission takes less time. Hence, colocation reduce latency, or delay in computing terms, while executing trades.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.10) Operation Ganga was recently seen in the news. The operation is related to which of the following?

- a) Reintroduction of salt water crocodile in India
- b) Evacuation of Indian Nationals from Ukraine
- c) Revamping river banks around the Ganga floodplain
- d) Protecting women passengers in Indian Railways

Answer: B

Operation Ganga was launched to help stranded Indian nationals come back to India from Ukraine through special flights amidst the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Since Ukraine is currently a no-fly zone, citizens and students are being evacuated to nearby countries after which they are being flown to India.

Source: Mint

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following:

- 1. Ocean warming is slowing algae growth in shallow wetland areas.
- 2. Ocean warming is accelerating sea level rise which cause coastal flooding.

Which of the above is /are the impact that ocean warming is having on coastal wetlands?

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

Answer-b

Sea levels are rising because of the combination of melting ice and thermal expansion, resulting in flooding.

Ocean warming will accelerate the growth of many species of algae.

Source- Article

Q.2) Consider the following:

- 1. When an economy is experiencing a severe recession
- 2. When there is deflation

In Which of the above Situations is Crowding out effect most likely to occur?

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

Answer-d

When an economy is experiencing a severe recession, crowding out is the least likely to occur. During severe downturns, there is significantly less private investment spending. Less investment spending means there is less competition for funds if the government borrows to finance deficit spending.

Deflation usually occurs only during severe recessions. During severe downturns, there is significantly less private investment spending. Less investment spending means there is little competition for funds if the government borrows to finance deficit spending.

Source- Article

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Magnesium, zinc and lead are some of the micro- nutrients essential for human health and immunity
- 2. Micronutrient deficiencies can occur when demand for vitamins and minerals increases during specific stages in life

Which 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-b

Micronutrient deficiencies occur when either the food you eat does not provide the body with sufficient vitamins and minerals, or demand for the same increases during specific stages in life, such as during pregnancy and lactation.

Though lead is found frequently in our environment, it has no known purpose in our bodies. When lead gets inside the body, the body confuses it with calcium and other essential nutrients. This confusion can cause permanent damage to the health of both children and adults. **lead fulfils no essential function in the human body**, it can merely do harm after uptake from food, air or water.

Source- Article

Q.4) Among the following, which one is the largest exporter of Wheat in the world in the last five years?

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

Answer-c

Russia is the world's largest exporter of wheat, accounting for more than 18 percent of International exports.

Source- Article

Q.5) With reference to Interest coverage ratio, consider the following statements:

- 1. Creditors often use this formula to determine a company's riskiness relative to its current debt or for future borrowing.
- 2. Generally, a Lower coverage ratio is better, although the ideal ratio may vary by 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

Answer-a

The interest coverage ratio is used to measure how well a firm can pay the interest due on outstanding debt.

The interest coverage ratio is calculated by dividing a company's earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) by its interest expense during a given period.

Generally, a higher coverage ratio is better, although the ideal ratio may vary by industry.

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Cryptomining malware utilizes a computer's resources to mine for cryptocurrency.
- 2. The antivirus software can protect the computers entirely from all computer viruses.

Which 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

Cryptomining malware utilizes a computer's resources to mine for cryptocurrency. That allows the creators to earn cryptocurrency without needing to spend money on powering their own computers.

No antivirus software can protect a computer *entirely* from *all* computer viruses, since cyber criminals are constantly creating new viruses that escape detection.

Source- Article

Q.7) Consider the following:

- 1. Rajya Sabha
- 2. State legislative council
- 3. Vice president

Elections to Which of the above Posts is /are conducted by the Election Commission of India?

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

Answer-d

Election Commission of India administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, State Legislative Councils and the offices of the President and Vice President of the country.

Source- Article

Q.8) With reference to Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUP), consider the following statements:

- 1. These are needless programs that take toll on device's performance.
- 2. Device manufacturers make money while introducing these programs into their devices.

Which 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.

Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUP), more popularly known as bloatware apps, are needless programs that take a toll on your device's performance.

Device manufacturers introduced these bloatware apps to provide users with additional programs that they might want to use, while making money on the way.

Source: TOI

Q.9) With reference to IPCC report, consider the following statements:

- 1. IPCC was set up by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- 2. The IPCC itself will engage in intense scientific research before publishing their reports.

Which 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: IPCC was set up in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The IPCC does not itself engage in scientific research. Instead, it asks scientists from around the world to go through all the relevant scientific literature related to climate change and draw up logical conclusions.

Source: PIB

Q.10) With reference to Indian Grey Hornbill, consider the following statements:

- 1. After almost ninety years, they have been reintroduced in Bandipur National Park.
- 2. They are known to be arboreal.

Which 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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: After almost ninety years, they have been reintroduced in Gir forest. **Statement 2 is correct**: These birds are known to be arboreal, i.e., spend most of their time on tall trees but may descend for food and to collect mud pellets for nesting.

Source: Hindustan Times

Q.11) Consider the following pairs, with respect to IPCC reports.

Working group - Concerned climate research

1. Working Group-I - Deals with the scientific basis for climate change

2. Working Group-II - Deals with actions that can be taken to combat climate

change.

3. Working Group-III - Deals with the impacts, vulnerabilities, and adaptation

issues.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

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

Answer: C

The IPCC reports are created by three working groups of scientists.

Working Group	Concerned climate research
Working Group-I	Deals with the scientific basis for climate
	change
Working Group-II	Deals with the likely impacts, vulnerabilities,
	and adaptation issues
Working Group-III	Deals with actions that can be taken to
	combat climate change.

Source: PIB



Economy

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Russia and USA have been the largest and second largest arms supplier to India in the last five years.
- 2. India spends around 1.1 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence.

Which 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

India spends around 2.3 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence and accounts for 15 per cent of the global arms import. Russia is the largest arms supplier to India in both periods (2011-2015 and 2016-2020). However, Russia's share of Indian arms imports fell from 70% to 49%. France and Israel were the second and third largest arms suppliers in 2016–20. Source- Article

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Particulate matter (PM) is made up of tiny pieces of solids or liquids that are in the air.
- 2. PM₁₀ particles are more dangerous than PM_{2.5}.

Which 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

Particle pollution — also called particulate matter (PM) — is made up of particles (tiny pieces) of solids or liquids that are in the air.

Breathing in particle pollution can be harmful to your health. Coarse (bigger) particles, called PM_{10} , can irritate your eyes, nose, and throat. Dust from roads, farms, dry riverbeds, construction sites, and mines are types of PM_{10} .

Fine (smaller) particles, called $PM_{2.5}$, are more dangerous because they can get into the deep parts of your lungs — or even into your blood.

Q.3) With reference to climate change, Consider the following statements:

- 1. A warmer climate could cause a decrease in cloudiness and alter the amount of sunlight that reaches the surface of the Earth.
- 2. Ocean surface and sea ice both act as carbon sinks

Which 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

Clouds have an enormous impact on Earth's climate, reflecting about one-third of the total amount of sunlight that hits the Earth's atmosphere back into space. Even small changes in cloud amount, location and type could have large consequences. A warmer climate could cause more water to be held in the atmosphere, leading to an increase in cloudiness and altering the amount of sunlight that reaches the surface of the Earth. Less heat would get absorbed, which could slow the increased warming.

Ice is white and very reflective, in contrast to the ocean surface, which is dark and absorbs heat faster.

Source- Article

Q.4) Recently some studies have found that wind speed in major Indian cities has been slowing down consistently and significantly, which of the following Phenomenon will get affected by this?

- 1. Rainfall patterns
- 2. Plant Biodiversity
- 3. Transpiration in Plants

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer-d

A decrease in wind speeds may have severe implications. Small changes in average wind speeds can have a large influence on atmospheric parameters. For instance, slow winds cannot carry moisture for long, resulting in altered rainfall patterns. Agriculture depends crucially on transpiration (a plant's exhalation of water vapour), which in turn needs evaporation that is a function of wind speed. Connectedly, wind-dispersed plant species also depend on wind speeds for survival. There are studies showing the impact of wind speed on natural disasters and ocean dynamics.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. World is not only getting hotter but also drier.
- 2. Humidity reduces the discomfort caused by rising temperature
- 3. A wet-bulb temperature or WBT of 35°C mark is considered the maximum limit that humans can handle.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer-c

We usually consider the dry-bulb temperature to describe how hot or cold a place is. Scientists, however, have been stressing upon taking into account humidity and other factors to assess how weather conditions will affect human health and activity.

Humidity is measured as wet-bulb temperature. Factoring in the humidity along with the heat, called the heat index, helps us determine what the temperature actually 'feels like'. You may have noticed this in your mobile phones and apps as well. Humidity combined with heat is deadlier for human health and wellbeing. Currently, one phenomenon is severely testing the human tolerance of this heat-humidity balance. Climate Change!

Humans with their sweat-based cooling system, have been well-designed to beat the heat. But there is a limit to the level of heat and humidity we can cope with. A wet-bulb temperature or WBT of 35°C mark is considered the maximum limit of humidity that humans can handle. Beyond this, the body can no longer effectively cool itself via perspiration.

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is a statutory body.
- 2. It comes under the Ministry of electronics Information technology

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer-a

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is a statutory body under the (Ministry of Power, Government of India) established under provisions of the Energy Conservation Act 2001, to promote efficient use of energy and its conservation.

Q.7) In Which of the following judgements did the Supreme court of India declared privacy as an integral component of Part III of the Constitution of India?

- a) Navtej Singh johar vs Union of India judgement
- b) Justice KS Puttaswamy vs Union of India
- c) Kumar Vs Central Bureau of Investigation
- d) Kush Kalra Vs Union Of India

Answer-b

On 24 August 2017, a nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court in *Justice KS Puttaswamy vs Union of India* passed a historic judgment affirming the constitutional right to privacy. It declared privacy as an integral component of Part III of the Constitution of India. Source- Article

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

- 1. It is a folk dance performed at festivals, conferences, roadshows and primarily at rain goddess festivals.
- 2. The dance is famous in regions around Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- 3. The performers balance a pot on their head.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer:D

Statement 1 is correct: Karakattam is a form of folk dance performed at festivals, conferences, roadshows and primarily at Mariamman (rain goddess) festivals.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Karakattam is mostly famous in Tamil Nadu, it's performed in different parts of Kerala as well.

Statement 3 is correct: Both men and women perform the dance on the muddy ground. The performers balance a pot on their head.

Source: <u>Indian Express</u>

Q.9) Hermetic Wiper was recently seen in the news. The term is related to which of the following?

- a) New bird species found in Western Ghats
- b) Data-wiper malware detected on computers in Ukraine.
- c) New supercomputer of Meta
- d) New digital currency that has the potential to replace bitcoins

Answer: B

Ukraine has found that hundreds of its computers have been attacked by a data-wiper malware named Hermetic Wiper. It is a data-wiper malware that was detected on hundreds of computers in Ukraine.

This malware when downloaded can erase all the data on a device it targets in a manner that renders the data irretrievable.

The malware is also capable of attacking data recovery tools on a system and the rebooting system of a hard drive, making it difficult for the device to reboot into its operating system essentially making it inoperable.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) Which of the following advantages are associated with 5 g technology?

- 1. Enhance employment opportunities.
- 2. Low latency
- 3. Enhanced network coverage

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: D

Major advantages of 5G technology includes,

Low latency: It is one of the most important features of 5G technology which is significant for autonomous driving and mission critical applications. 5G networks are capable of latency less than a millisecond. This help in logistics improvement and would reduce overall cost of goods and services.

Employment generation: 5G wireless technology will open greater opportunity for new device manufactures and application developers. New VoIP devices and smart devices will be introduced in the market and thus more job opportunities as well. This will help in inclusive growth reaping demographic dividend.

Enhanced network coverage: Device-to-device communication techniques will further enhance network performance and support during limited access or absence of mobile networks. This will help in reducing digital gap in India.

Enhanced Security: 5G wireless technology is one the best solution for security surveillance due to higher bandwidth and unlicensed spectrum. It will enhance better coordination among various agencies.

Logistics and shipping: Logistic and shipping industry can make use of smart 5G technology for goods tracking, fleet management, centralized database management, staff scheduling and real-time delivery tracking and reporting.

Source: Livemint

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to FSSAI Star rating system for packaged food products, consider the following statements:

- 1. This rating system for packaged food Products will be the first such in India.
- 2. It will be initially voluntary from 2023 with a transition period of four years.

Which 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.

- This Star Rating System for packaged food Products will be the **first such in India.** It is aimed at guiding consumers to opt for healthy food.
- This rating system will be similar to the one that is being used by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency for assessing the energy efficiency in electrical devices.
- Under this system, packaged foods will display the number of stars on the front of the pack, indicating how healthy or unhealthy it is depending upon the amount of salt, sugar and fat it has.
- However, milk and dairy products will be excluded from this proposed front-of-the-pack labelling.
- Moreover, this rating system will be **initially voluntary** from 2023 with a transition period of four years. After this, it would be made mandatory.

Source: Article

Q.2) With reference to Thermobaric weapons, consider the following statements:

- 1. They use oxygen from the air for a large, high-temperature blast.
- 2. Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) prohibits use, transfer, production and stockpiling of Thermobaric bombs.

Which 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:** Thermobaric weapons also known as aerosol bombs, fuel air explosives, or vacuum bombs use oxygen from the air for a large, high-temperature blast.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Thermobaric Weapons are not prohibited by any international law or agreement, but their use against civilian populations in built-up areas, schools or hospitals, could attract action under The Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907.

Q.3) With reference to the Governor in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. A Governor can summon legislative assembly without consulting the Chief minister or the Speaker.
- 2. Punchhi Commission suggested ending the practice of burdening Governors with the office of Chancellor in universities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

- Statement 1 is incorrect: In Nabam Rebia vs Deputy Speaker And Ors (2016), the SC concluded that the Governor's discretion did not extend to the powers conferred under Article 174 and hence he could not summon the House, determine its legislative agenda or address the legislative assembly without consulting the Chief minister or the Speaker.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: M.M. Punchhi Commission suggested ending the practice of burdening Governors with the office of Chancellor in universities.

Source: Article

Q.4) With reference to Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR), consider the following statements:

- 1. Antimicrobials include Antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitics.
- 2. AMR occurs naturally over time, usually through genetic changes.
- 3. Mass bathing in rivers as part of religious mass gathering occasions can also result in spread of AMR.

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: d

Both statements are correct.

- Antimicrobials including antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitics are medicines used to prevent and treat infections in humans, animals and plants.
- AMR occurs naturally over time, usually through genetic changes. Antimicrobial resistant organisms are found in people, animals, food, plants and the environment (in water, soil and air). They can spread from person to person or between people and animals, including from food of animal origin.
- Cultural activities like mass bathing in rivers as part of religious mass gathering occasions can also cause a spread of the AMR.

Q.5) With reference to Stree Manoraksha Project, consider the following statements:

- 1. The project aims to provide training and supervision in psychosocial and mental health care for staff and counsellors of all One Stop Centres (OSCs).
- 2. The project is launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Which 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 project aims to provide training and supervision in psychosocial and mental health care for staff and counsellors of all One Stop Centres (OSCs).

Statement 2 is incorrect: National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore, with support and funding from the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Source: PIB

Q.6) With reference to National Pension System, consider the following statements:

- 1. NPS accounts can be opened by the government employees alone.
- 2. All NPS accounts are non-withdrawable permanent retirement accounts.
- 3. NPS is implemented and regulated by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: NPS was made available to all Citizens of India from May 2009. Any individual citizen of India (both resident and Non-resident) in the age group of 18-65 years can join NPS. Overseas Citizen of India (OCIs) can also enrol to invest in NPS tier-1 accounts.

Statement 2 is incorrect: There are two tiers of NPS Accounts.

Tier-I account: This is the non-withdrawable permanent retirement account into which the accumulations are deposited and invested as per the option of the subscriber.

Tier-II account: This is a voluntary withdrawable account which is allowed only when there is an active Tier I account in the name of the subscriber.

Statement 3 is correct: NPS is implemented and regulated by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Source: **Business Standard**

Q.7) With reference to Radio Frequency Identification tags, consider the following statements:

- 1. RFID is a type of passive wireless technology that allows for tracking or matching of an item or individual.
- 2. RFID tags can be read from up to several feet away.
- 3. RFID tags need to be within the direct line-of-sight of the reader to be tracked.

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: A

Statement 1 is correct: RFID is a type of passive wireless technology that allows for tracking or matching of an item or individual.

Statement 2 is correct: RFID tags can be read from up to several feet away.

Statement 3 is incorrect: RFID tag is not required to be within the direct line-of-sight of the reader to be tracked.

Source: PIB

Q.8) Montreux Convention was recently seen in news. The convention is related to which of the following?

- a) With respect to alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- b) Waivers against United Nations Sanctions.
- c) International convention on naval passage.
- d) Convention on protection of endangered species due to climate change.

Answer: C

Turkey is set to implement an international convention on naval passage through two of its strategic straits, which would allow them to limit the movement of Russian warships between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea.

About Montreux Convention:

According to the 1936 Montreux Convention Regarding the Regime of the Straits, often referred to simply as the Montreux Convention, Turkey has control over both the Bosporus and Dardanelles straits.

In the event of a war, the pact gives Turkey the right to regulate the transit of naval warships and to block the straits to warships belonging to the countries involved in the conflict. Russia's location on the Black Sea complicates the situation. Article 19 of the treaty contains an exception for the countries on the Black Sea that can effectively undermine Turkey's power in blocking the Russian warships entering or exiting the Black Sea.

Source: Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to Greenhouse Gas Emissions, consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, majority of the annual greenhouse gas emissons from farming is due to the Livestock sector.
- 2. Carbon credits can be claimed for regenerative agricultural practices such as not burning paddy straw, and conservation agriculture such as not ploughing land and laser levelling of 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

Answer: c

- **Statemen 1 is correct**: Farming contributes around 14% of the annual greenhouse gas emissions from India. Of this, 55% comes from the livestock sector alone
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Farmers can claim carbon credits for a host of regenerative agricultural practices such as not burning paddy straw, conservation agriculture such as not ploughing land and laser levelling of land.

Source: Article

Q.10) With reference to Palladium, Consider the following statements:

- 1. It is often used as an alternative to gold in making various devices.
- 2. Palladium is used in almost all electronic devices, as it is key to make chipsets and circuit boards.

Which 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.

Palladium is often used as an alternative to gold in making various devices as the metal is highly malleable and resistant to corrosion.

The rare metal is considered to be softer than gold, but is still much harder and durable than the yellow metal.

Palladium is used in nearly all electronic devices, and the metal is a key to make chipsets and circuit boards. It is used to make Multi-Layer Ceramic Capacitors (MLCCs), which are important to make smartphone screens, stereo systems, and power circuit breakers.

Source: The Hindu

POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Government controls the prices of petrol and diesel.
- 2. India has strategic reserve that can last up to 25 days

Which 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

In July 2010, government implemented the deregulation on petrol. In 2014, the government decontrol diesel.

India's SPR(Strategic petroleum reserve) is managed by the State-controlled Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), which was set up in 2004 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Oil and then handed over to Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) in 2006. Under Phase I, ISPRL established petroleum storage facilities with total capacity of 5.33 million tonnes (MT) at 3 locations: (i) Vishakhapatnam (1.33 MT), (ii) Mangaluru (1.5 MT) and (iii) Padur (2.5 MT), all of which have been filled with crude oil. This will be sufficient to meet nine and a half days of India's crude requirement.

Source- Article

Q.2) With reference to Daylight Harvesting, consider the following statements:

- 1. It automatically dims or adjusts the brightness of light in response to the amount of natural light available in a space.
- 2. Higher energy consumption has been limiting its widescale use

Which 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

Daylight Harvesting is one of the most advanced techniques used in sustainable lighting designs for contemporary buildings. It automatically dims or adjusts the brightness of light in response to the amount of natural light available in a space. Utilizing natural daylight coming through the windows or skylights minimizes the amount of energy used in artificial lighting. It increases energy savings by dimming or turning Off lights based on the natural daylight entering the space.

International Relations

Q.3) With reference to International Telecommunication Union (ITU), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an intergovernmental organisation which facilitates international connectivity in communications networks.
- 2. It allocates Satellite 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-b

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. Founded in 1865 to facilitate international connectivity in communications networks, It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.

Source- Article

Q.4) With reference to Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an effort by the Ministry of Defence to improve the capital procurement procedure.
- 2. It strives to provide incentives to MSMEs.

Which 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

The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP 2020), which supersedes the Defence Procurement Procedure 2016 (DPP 2016), is a sincere effort by the Ministry of Defence to improve the capital procurement procedure.

Through its many improved features, it hopes to provide a boost to the Make in India efforts in the field- especially to MSMEs. Projects under the Make II & II sub-categories, with procurement cost not exceeding ₹ 100 crore per year, will be earmarked for the MSMEs.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is mainly composed of lighter methane and ethane.
- 2. LPG price in India can be calculated based on the import parity price (IPP).
- 3. IPP is a function of the LPG prices in the domestic market and is decided by the forces of demand and supply.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer-b

LPG is composed mainly of **propane and butane**, while natural gas is composed of the lighter methane and ethane.

LPG price in India can be calculated **based on the import parity price** (IPP). The IPP is based on the LPG price in the international market given that country imports the fuel. Source- Article

Q.6) Following a recession in a country different parts of the economy are recovering at different rates, times, or magnitudes. Which of the following terms best describes the above scenario?

- a) V shaped recovery
- b) K- shaped recovery
- c) Z- shaped recovery
- d) W- shaped recovery

Answer-b

A K-shaped recovery occurs when, following a <u>recession</u>, different parts of the economy recover at different rates, times, or magnitudes. This is in contrast to an even, uniform recovery across sectors, industries, or groups of people.

Source- Article

Q.7) With reference to Periodic labour force survey (PLFS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO)
- 2. It provides labour market indicators for the entire nation annually and for rural India quarterly.

Which 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

The key source of evidence on labour market developments comes from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO). Based on it, NSO provides labour market indicators for the entire nation annually and for urban India quarterly. Source- Article

Q.8) Which of the following is/are a threat to Asiatic Lion population in India?

- 1. Habitat fragmentation
- 2. Linear infrastructure intrusions
- 3. Vulnerability to diseases

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

Answer: d

All are threats to the Lion population.

• Threats: a) Poaching and Habitat Fragmentation b) vulnerability to diseases c) death from linear infrastructure such as road, rail and electric fences and d) man-animal conflict.

Source: Article

Q.9) With reference to Perini dance form, consider the following statements:

- 1. This dance form prospered during the Kakatiya dynasty.
- 2. It is performed by males in honor of Lord Shiva.
- 3. It is believed that in ancient times this dance form was performed before the soldiers were sent to war.

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: d

All statements are correct.

- Perini is an ancient dance form from Telangana. This dance form prospered during the Kakatiya dynasty.
- This dance form is also called 'Dance of Warriors'. It is usually performed by males in honour of Lord Shiva.
- It is believed that in ancient times this dance form was performed before the soldiers were sent to war.

Q.10) With reference to Radio Telescopes, consider the following statements:

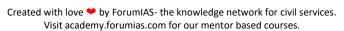
- 1. Radio telescope is smaller as compared to an Optical Telescope.
- 2. The first radio telescope in India was set up before Independence.

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

Answer: c

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: Radio telescopes are bigger than Optical telescopes because the wavelengths of radio waves are so much larger than the wavelengths of visible light.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: First radio telescope in India was set up near Mumbai in 1965.



Environment

Q.1 Consider the following:

- 1. Interspecies interactions
- 2. Altitude
- 3. Precipitation.

Which of the above factor(s) contribute to the distribution of biodiversity on Earth?

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

Answer-d

The presence or absence of one species may directly impact other species. This can have an effect on the biodiversity in that area.

In general, the more precipitation an area receives, the more biodiverse it will be.

Changes in altitude (very high or very low elevation points) may affect biodiversity because this limits what type of species are able to live under those conditions.

Source- Article

Q.2) Which of the following is the most likely long-term impact of government deficits?

- a) Higher potential output
- b) More private investment
- c) Less government borrowing
- d) A smaller stock of capital

Answer-d

Deficit spending leads to lower potential output, not higher potential output. Deficit spending drives up interest rates, which lowers the rate of capital accumulation. Less capital means lower potential output.

Deficit spending leads to less private investment, not more.

Deficit spending leads to more government borrowing, not less government borrowing.

Deficit spending leads to higher interest rates and less spending on investment. Less investment spending means the rate of capital accumulation in an economy will slow down, which will lead to a slower rate of economic growth or even a decline in potential output.

Source- Article

Q.3) Which of the following best describes the opportunity cost of holding money?

- a) Interest rate on other assets
- b) Inflation
- c) Risk of other assets
- d) Liquidity of other assets

Answer-a

The opportunity cost of holding money is the value of the next best alternative to holding money. When you hold wealth in the form of money instead of some other interest-bearing

asset, such as bonds, you are giving up interest that you could be earning on other forms of financial assets.

inflation is asset value lost due to changes in purchasing power. The opportunity cost of something is the value of the next best alternative, but risk is uncertainty about the value of an asset in the future.

Liquidity is the ability to convert the value of an asset into cash, not the value that is given up by holding wealth in the form of money rather than a different kind of financial asset.

Source- Article

Q.4) Which of the following conditions is/are essential for tea cultivation?

- 1. Rainfall between 150-250 cm
- 2. High Humidity
- 3. elevations ranging from 1000 2500 m

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer-d

Tea needs heavy rainfall(150-250) in the form of frequent showers, without extended freezing periods in the winter. Moreover, the rain should be well-distributed throughout the year because tea does not tolerate drought (or extended dry periods) well.

Ideal relative humidity during the growing season is 70% to 90%. High humidity, morning fog, and heavy dew favor the growth of buds and young leaves.

Tea requires well drained soil with high amount of organic matter and pH 4.5 to 5.5. The performance of tea is excellent at elevations ranging from 1000 - 2500 m.Optimum temperature: 20 - 270 C.

Source- Article

Q.5) With reference to the Konark sum temple of Odisha, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was built by King Narasimhadeva I in the 13th century.
- 2. It is not a UNESCO world heritage site.

Which 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

Konark Sun Temple, located in the East Odisha near the sacred city of Puri. It was built in 13th century by **King Narasimhadeva I** (AD 1238-1264). Its scale, refinement and conception represent the strength and stability of the **Ganga Empire** as well as the value systems of the historic milieu.

It was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1984.

Source- Article

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Q.6) "Emissions Gap report" is released by which of the following?

- a) IPCC(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)
- b) UNEP(United Nations Environment Programme)
- c) Green watch
- d) UNFCCC(United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

Answer-b

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s Publishes Emissions Gap Report Source- Article

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. IPCC was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Development Programme(UNDP).
- 2. It conducts its original research to monitor climate change.

Which 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

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is an intergovernmental body of the United Nations responsible for advancing knowledge on human-induced climate change. It was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) It does not conduct original research nor monitor climate change, but rather undertakes a periodic, systematic review of all relevant published literature. Source- Article

Q.8) Geneva convention was recently seen in the news. The convention is related to which of the following statements?

- a) Providing consular access during war.
- b) Limiting the barbarity of war.
- c) Rights regarding Asylum seekers and illegal immigrants.
- d) International convention on naval passage.

Answer: B

The Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols are international treaties that contain the most important rules limiting the barbarity of war.

- 1. The first Geneva Convention protects wounded and sick soldiers on land during war.
- 2. The second Geneva Convention protects wounded, sick and shipwrecked military personnel at sea during war.
- 3. The third Geneva Convention applies to prisoners of war.
- 4. The fourth Geneva Convention affords protection to civilians, including in occupied territory.

Source: Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to **Kavach System of Indian Railways**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection (ATP) System.
- 2. It is designed to bring a train to a halt automatically when it notices another train on the same line within a prescribed distance.

Which 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.

KAVACH is an indigenously developed **Automatic Train Protection (ATP)** System for Indian Railways.

Main Function of Kavach: It is designed to bring a train to a halt automatically when it notices another train on the same line within a prescribed distance.

Developed by: Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) of the Ministry of Railways in collaboration with Indian industry.

Source: PIB

Q.10) With reference to Konark Sun Temple, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a classic example of the Vesara style of architecture.
- 2. It was also called Black Pagoda because it was used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha.

Which 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: b

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: Konark Sun temple is a perfect blend of Kalinga architecture, heritage, exotic beach and salient natural beauty.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: Konark Sun temple was also known as **'BLACK PAGODA'** due to its dark color and used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha. Similarly, the Jagannath Temple in Puri was called the **"White Pagoda"**.