

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

21st to 26th March, 2022

ENVIRONMENT

Q.1) Which of the following factors is/are responsible for the extinction of Asiatic Cheetahs in India?

1. Reduced levels of genetic heterogeneity
2. Inability to breed in captivity
3. Sport hunting and bounty killings

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: d

- The consistent and widespread capture of cheetahs from the wild (both male and female) over centuries, its reduced levels of genetic heterogeneity due to a historical genetic bottleneck resulting in reduced fecundity and high infant mortality in the wild, its inability to breed in captivity, 'sport' hunting and finally the bounty killings are the major reasons for the extinction of the Asiatic cheetah in India.

Source: [Article](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.2) With reference to Arctic and the Antarctic regions, consider the following statements:

1. Canada has the world's longest Arctic coastline.
2. The Arctic region has no treaty-based mechanism like the Antarctic.

Which 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:** Russia has the world's longest Arctic coastline.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Unlike the Antarctic Treaty, which was signed in 1959, there is no Arctic Treaty yet.

Source: [Article](#)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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

1. It is a decentralized movement using non-violent and civil disobedience to persuade governments to act on the Climate Emergency.
2. The rebellion was launched in the United Kingdom.
3. So far, the rebellion has no presence in India.

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) 1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: Extinction Rebellion is a decentralised, international and politically non-partisan movement using non-violent direct action and civil disobedience to persuade governments to act justly on the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

The group has “three core demands” of governments around the world. It wants governments to “Tell the Truth”, to “Act Now”, and to “Go Beyond Politics” in order to confront the climate and ecological emergency that the world is faced with.

Statement 2 is correct: Initially, launched in the United Kingdom on October 31, 2018, as a response to a report by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Now, it is a global movement which seeks to “rebel”, and asks groups to “self-organise”, without the need for anyone’s permission, to come up with collective action plans as long as they adhere to the group’s core principles and values.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The movement claims to have been inspired by 15 major civil disobedience movements around the world, including, apart from Women’s Suffrage and the Arab Spring, India’s struggle for Independence. It refers to Mahatma Gandhi’s Salt March in 1930.

XR’s website says there are 19 groups in India, including in the cities of Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Chennai.

Source: [The Guardian](#)

ECONOMY

Q.4) Recently, India’s first Regional Rapid Transit System has been unveiled in which of the following corridor?

- a) Mumbai-Ahmedabad Corridor
- b) Chennai- Bengaluru Corridor
- c) Delhi-Meerut corridor
- d) Hyderabad-Bangalore Corridor

Answer: C

India’s first rapid rail for the Delhi to Meerut corridor was unveiled by the National Capital Regional Transport Corporation (NCRTC) recently. The Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) train will run on the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor and cover a distance of 82 km in just 55 minutes.

It will also be the first in the country to have a business or ‘premium’ coach on a regional corridor.

Source: [India Today](#)

ENVIRONMENT

Q.5) Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve is located in which of the following states?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Kerala
- c) Gujarat
- d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: a

- The Mukundra *Tiger Reserve* (TR) is located near Kota, Rajasthan. It is located on the eastern bank of the Chambal River and is drained by its tributaries.

POLITY

Q.1) With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Any Indian national can translate the Constitution in his own language.
2. Permission from the Ministry of Home Affairs is required if one wants to generate income by selling their translation of the Constitution.

Which 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:** Any Indian national can translate the Constitution in their own language.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The individual has the right to generate income by selling their translation of the Constitution.

Source: [Article](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.2) With reference to Martian atmosphere, consider the following statements:

1. It is largely composed of Carbon Dioxide.
2. One of the aims of the India's Mars Orbiter Mission was to scan the Martian atmosphere for Methane.

Which 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.

- Martian Atmosphere is mainly composed of Carbon Dioxide.
- India's Mars Orbiter Mission was launched with aim of studying Martian surface and mineral composition as well as scan its atmosphere for methane (an indicator of life on Mars).

Source: [Article](#)

ENVIRONMENT

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

1. This vulture has a bald white head, very broad wings, and short tail feathers.
2. It is endemic to the Himalayas.
3. It is listed as Near Threatened in IUCN Red list.

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) 1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: This vulture is a typical vulture, with a bald white head, very broad wings, and short tail feathers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Himalayan vulture mostly lives in the Himalayas on the Tibetan plateau (India, Nepal and Bhutan, central China and Mongolia). It is also found in the Central Asian mountains (from Kazakhstan and Afghanistan in the west to western China and Mongolia in the east).

Occasionally it migrates to northern India but migration usually only occurs altitudinally.

Statement 3 is correct: It is listed as Near Threatened in IUCN Red list.

Source: [DTE](#)

ECONOMY

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

1. Jiyo Parsi Scheme aims to enhance the skills of Parsi Community in trading.
2. The population of the Parsi community increased from 2001 Census to 2011 Census .

Which 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.

Jiyo Parsi Scheme aims to contain the population decline of Parsis in India by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions, to stabilize their population and increase the population of Parsis in India.

As per the Census 2011, the population of the Parsi (Zoroastrian) community decreased from 69,601 in the Census 2001 to 57,264 in the Census 2011.

Source: [PIB](#)

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Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Central University Entrance Test (CUET):

1. It will be conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC).
2. It is compulsory for both undergraduate and postgraduate programs in Central Universities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d

Explanation: National Testing Agency (NTA), which conducts entrance tests such as JEE (Main) and UGC-NET, will also conduct CUET. It is a computer-based test that will be held in two shifts and can be taken in 13 languages — Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Telegu, Kannada, Malayalam, Urdu, Assamese, Bengali, Punjabi, Odia and English.

At this moment, **CUET is compulsory for central universities** but the government is open to other institutions, including private universities, adopting this examination instead of conducting their own.

Unlike undergraduate studies, conducting admissions to **postgraduate programmes through CUET is not compulsory** for central universities.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding 'Lamitiye':

1. It is a military exercise conducted between Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF).
2. It is a biannual training event.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: a

Explanation: The 9th Joint Military Exercise LAMITIYE-2022 between the Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF) is being conducted at Seychelles Defence Academy (SDA), Seychelles from 22 March to 31 March 22.

Exercise LAMITIYE-2022 is a **biennial training** event which is being conducted in Seychelles since 2001.

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Q.7) Consider the following statements about 'ExoMars Mission 2022'

1. It is being led collaboratively by NASA and the European Space Agency.
2. In the first phase of the mission Perseverance Rover was sent on Mars in 2020.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer c

Explanation: ExoMars mission 2022 is led collaboratively by **Roscosmos and the ESA**, the mission aims to study past life on Mars. The European Space Agency's ExoMars 2022 mission won't launch in September as planned after the agency suspended all cooperation with Russia's space program Roscosmos.

ExoMars has two parts. The first part launched an orbiter and a lander in 2016, but the lander crashed. The September 2022 launch would have been a second installment to deliver a Mars rover to the planet.

NASA's Perseverance rover landed on Mars in 2020 as a part of **Mars 2020 Mission**.

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding 'National Mission on Manuscripts':

1. It includes a National Electronic Database to document each and every manuscript.
2. Mission aims to train the next generation of scholars in various aspects of Manuscript Studies.
3. It is a scheme administered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Explanation: National Mission on Manuscripts:

- To locate manuscripts through national level Survey and Post-Survey.
- Document each and every manuscript and manuscript repository, for a **National Electronic Database** that currently contains information on four million manuscripts making this the largest database on Indian manuscripts in the world.
- Conserve manuscripts **incorporating both modern and indigenous methods** of conservation and training a new generation of manuscript conservators.

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- To **train the next generation of scholars** in various aspects of Manuscript Studies like languages, scripts and critical editing and cataloguing of texts and conservation of manuscripts.
- To promote access to manuscripts by **digitizing the rarest and most endangered manuscripts**.
- To **promote access** to manuscripts through publication of critical editions of unpublished manuscripts and catalogues.
- To **facilitate public's engagement** with manuscripts through lectures, seminars, publications and other outreach programmes.

It is administered by the **Ministry of Culture**.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “New India Literacy Programme (NILP)” :

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It has the aim to support the States and Union Territories in promoting literacy among non-literates in the age group of 15 and above.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: c

Explanation: The **Ministry of Education** has approved a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**, namely, “New India Literacy Programme (NILP)” with the aim to support the States and Union Territories in promoting literacy among **non-literates in the age group of 15 and above**, across the country covering 5 crore non-literates during the implementation period from 2022-23 to 2026-27.

The scheme has **five components** namely, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, Critical Life Skills, Vocational Skills Development, Basic Education and Continuing Education.

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Hypersonic technology:

1. Hypersonic speed ranges from Mach 1.2 to Mach 5, which is faster than the speed of sound.
2. India has become the fifth country to demonstrate this technology after the USA, Russia, France, and China.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: D

Explanation: Hypersonic speeds are **5 or more** times the Mach or speed of sound. Whereas supersonic speeds range from Mach 1.2 to Mach 5.

There are two types of Hypersonic weapons:

1. Hypersonic cruise missiles: These are the ones that use rocket or jet propellant through their flight and are regarded as being just faster versions of existing cruise missiles.

2. Hypersonic Glide Vehicle (HGV): These missiles first go up into the atmosphere on a conventional rocket before being launched towards their target.

Technology Used: Most hypersonic vehicles primarily use the **scramjet technology**, which is a type of Air Breathing propulsion System.

Recently, the **DRDO** successfully tested the **Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV)**. India became the **fourth country** to have demonstrated this technology after the USA, Russia, and China.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding BRICS:

1. The Fortaleza Declaration proposed the establishment of the New Development Bank.
2. The Johannesburg Declaration proposed the establishment of BRICS Vaccine R&D Centre.
3. The New Delhi Declaration led to the signing of the BRICS Contingent Reserve Agreement.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: During the Sixth BRICS Summit in *Fortaleza* (Brazil) in 2014, the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the *New Development Bank* (NDB - Shanghai, China). They also signed the *BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement* to provide short-term liquidity support to the members.

BRICS Vaccine R&D Centre was proposed to be established in the 2018 *Johannesburg Declaration*. Over the years and especially throughout the pandemic, this process was expedited and finally in the *New Delhi Declaration* of XIII BRICS Summit, leaders reiterated their commitment towards the early launch of BRICS Vaccine R&D Centre in virtual format.

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding International Seabed Authority:

1. It was established under the UN convention on Law of the Seas.
2. It regulates the exploration and exploitation of marine living resources of oceans in international waters.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: A

Explanation: The ISA was established in 1982 by UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the 'Law of the Sea') and is an **autonomous intergovernmental body** with 167 members. It is a **UN body** set up to regulate the exploration and exploitation of marine **non-living** resources of oceans in international waters.

Activities of ISA: The main activity of ISA is to regulate the **exploration of poly-metallic nodules**. The ISA considers applications for exploration and exploitation of deep-sea resources from contractors, assesses **environmental impact assessments** and supervises mining activities in the 'Area'.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding UN Convention on Law of the Seas:

1. UNCLOS is the only international convention which stipulates a framework for state jurisdiction in maritime spaces.
2. The Exclusive Economic Zone is considered "the common heritage of all mankind" and is beyond any national jurisdiction.
3. UNLCOS contains no provisions for protection and preservation of marine environment.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: UNCLOS is an international agreement that establishes the legal framework for marine and maritime activities. It is also known as Law of the Sea. It divides marine areas into five main zones namely- **Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, Contiguous Zone, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the High Seas**. UNCLOS is the **only international convention** which stipulates a framework for state jurisdiction in maritime spaces.

The **Exclusive Economic Zone** beyond and adjacent to its territorial sea and extends seaward up to **200 nm from its baselines**. Within its EEZ, a coastal state has '**Sovereign rights**' for the purpose of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing natural resources, whether living or nonliving, of the seabed and subsoil. Rights to carry out activities like the production of energy from the water, currents and wind.

The **High Seas** are considered "the common heritage of all mankind" and is beyond any national jurisdiction. States can conduct activities in these areas as long as they are for peaceful purposes, such as transit, marine science, and undersea exploration.

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Part XII of the UNCLOS contains specific provisions for the protection and preservation of the marine environment. Still, the United Nations members are negotiating instrument under the UN Convention on Law of the Sea to conserve, sustainably use marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the International Court of Justice:

1. It is the principal judicial organs of the United Nations.
2. It has jurisdiction to try individuals accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

Answer: A

Explanation: The Court is the **principal judicial organ of the United Nations**. It was established by the United Nations Charter.

Only States are eligible to appear before the Court in contentious cases. The Court has no jurisdiction to deal with applications from individuals, non-governmental organizations, corporations or any other private entity. It cannot provide them with legal advice or help them in their dealings with national authorities.

Judgments delivered by the Court (or by one of its Chambers) in disputes between States are binding upon the parties concerned. Judgments are final and without appeal.

The International Court of Justice has no jurisdiction to try individuals accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity. As it is not a criminal court, it does not have a prosecutor able to initiate proceedings.

The **International Criminal Court (ICC) set up by Rome Statute** has jurisdiction to try war crimes.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q6 With reference to Fuel Cells, consider the following statements:

1. Fuel cells do not need to be periodically recharged like batteries.
2. Including electricity, a Hydrogen fuel cell also produces water and heat.

Which 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.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Fuel cells do not need to be periodically recharged like batteries, but instead continue to produce electricity as long as a fuel source is provided.

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- **Statement 2 is correct:** A fuel cell uses the chemical energy of hydrogen or other fuels to cleanly and efficiently produce electricity. If hydrogen is the fuel, the only products are electricity, water, and heat.

Source: [Article](#)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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

1. As per the convention, genocide is a crime that can take place both in time of war as well as in time of peace.
2. Obligation to prevent genocide is binding on all states, whether or not they have ratified the Genocide Convention.

Which 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.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Genocide Convention was the first human rights treaty adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1948. According to the Genocide Convention, genocide is a crime that can take place both in time of war as well as in time of peace.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** the Convention establishes on State Parties the obligation to take measures to prevent and to punish the crime of genocide. That obligation is considered as a norm of international customary law and therefore, binding on all States, whether or not they have ratified the Genocide Convention.

Source: [Article](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.8) Gennova was recently seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) International Research station being developed by the United Nations.
- b) World's first-of-a-kind mRNA vaccine that has been developed indigenously.
- c) Newly found bacteria that shown enormous potential to reduce marine litter.
- d) New hypersonic missile technology used in Russia – Ukraine crisis.

Answer: B

India has also so far approved nine vaccines for COVID-19 emergency use, of which five are indigenous. This also involves the world's first-of-a-kind mRNA vaccine Gennova which has been developed indigenously.

Source: [PIB](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.9) With reference to National Drug De-Addiction Programme, consider the following statements:

1. The programme is operated by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
2. The programme provide affordable, easily accessible and evidence-based treatment for all substance use disorders.

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: D

Both the statements are correct.

Operated by: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Aim: **a)** To provide affordable, easily accessible and evidence-based treatment for all substance use disorders through the government health care facilities, **b)** To build the capacities of health care staff in recognition and management of substance use disorders.

The programme is implemented through the health facilities namely: AIIMS, New Delhi; PGIMER, Chandigarh; NIMHANS, Bengaluru among others.

National / Nodal centre: National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), AIIMS.

Source: [PIB](#)

ECONOMY

Q.1) With reference to Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme was announced as a replacement of the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS).
2. It was announced by the Ministry of Finance.
3. The scheme would refund to exporters the embedded central, state and local duties or taxes that were so far not being rebated or refunded.

Which of the above statements is/are correct:

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

Answer: B

Explanation: The scheme was announced in 2020 as a replacement for the **Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS)**, which was not compliant with the rules of the World Trade Organization.

The scheme would **refund to exporters the embedded central, state and local duties or taxes** that were so far not being rebated or refunded and were, therefore, placing India's exports at a disadvantage.

It was announced by the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**.

Q.2) With reference to international trade of India, which of the following statements are correct:

1. The Top 3 export destinations of India are – USA, UAE, China.
2. The Top 3 exports from India include – Petroleum Products, Drug Formulations, Agricultural Products.
3. Agricultural exports have consistently risen from 2016-17 to 2021-22.
4. India's merchandise exports are less than its merchandise imports.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The Top 3 export destinations of India are – **USA, UAE, China**.

Top 3 importers – **China, UAE, USA**

The Top 3 exports from India include – **Petroleum Products, Drug Formulations, and Pearl, precious, semi-precious stone**.

Top 3 import – **Crude oil, petroleum product and gold**.

Agricultural exports have consistently risen from 2016-17 to 2018-19 and fell in 2019-20 before growing again.

Merchandise exports from India have crossed \$400 billion in the current financial year, which is a key milestone. But the merchandise imports are still higher than exports.

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Q.3) With reference to Tuberculosis (TB), consider the following statements:

1. It is caused by a virus and most often affects the lungs.
2. TrueNat is an indigenous molecular diagnostic tool for TB, based on polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.
3. India has the highest burden of TB patients in the world.

Select the correct code from the statements given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation: It is caused by **Mycobacterium tuberculosis (bacteria)** and it most often affects the lungs. India has **30 percent of the world's TB cases**, which is the **highest in the world**, followed by **Indonesia and China**.

TrueNat is an **indigenous molecular diagnostic tool** for TB. It is a **polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based test** that, by assaying the genes present in the TB bacteria, can not only detect the presence of the bacteria but can **also detect drug resistance** with the use of chips.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.4) Match the following lists and choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

List 1

- A. Artemis Mission
- B. Luna 1 Mission
- C. Apollo 11 Mission
- D. Chang'e 5 Mission

List 2

1. First rover to visit the moon
2. Collected first sample of rock from the moon
3. first-ever on-site evidence of water on surface of the moon
4. plans to send the next man and first woman to the moon

Select the correct code from the options given below

- a) A-4, B-2, C-3, D-1
- b) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3
- c) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
- d) A-1, B-3, C-4, D-2

Answer: C

Explanation: Artemis program of NASA **plans to send the next man and first woman** to the lunar surface by the year 2024.

In 1959, the Soviet Union's uncrewed **Luna 1 and 2 became the first rover to visit the Moon**. The **first samples of rocks from the Moon were collected during the Apollo 11 mission** of the US.

China's **Chang'e 5 lunar lander** found the **first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface** of the moon. The presence of water had been confirmed by remote observation, but the lander has now detected signs of water in rocks and soil.

GS 3 – Environment and Climate Change

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Q.5) Which of the following organizations brings out the publication known as ‘State of Global Climate’?

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- German Watch
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Answer: D

Explanation: State of Global Climate – World Meteorological Organization

IPCC releases Assessment Reports on climate change periodically. Recently, **6th Assessment Report** was released.

German Watch is an international environmental think-tank which releases **Global Climate Risk Index**.

United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network releases **World Happiness Report**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.6) With reference to Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), consider the following statements:

- People born with specific genes are more likely to develop this disease.
- There is no cure for Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

- Statement 1 is correct:** People born with specific genes are more likely to develop RA.
- Statement 2 is correct:** Although **there's no cure for rheumatoid arthritis**, early treatment and support (including medicine, lifestyle changes, supportive treatments and surgery) can reduce the risk of joint damage and limit the impact of the condition.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) Based on the usage, which of the following are segments of Technical Textiles?

- Oekotex
- Geotech
- Mobitech

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 3 only
- 1,2 and 3 only

Answer: d

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- Based on usage, there are 12 technical textile segments; Agrotech, Meditech, Buildtech, Mobiltech, Clothtech, Oekotech, Geotech, Packtech, Hometech, Protech, Indutech and Sportech.

Source: [Article](#)

ECONOMY

Q.8) Mission 25 Tonne was recently seen in the news. The mission is related to which of the following?

- a) Building indigenous ferry service capable of carrying goods through inland waterways.
- b) Developing a space capsule capable of carrying Indian Scientists for Gaganyaan mission.
- c) Newly designed wagons which increases the carrying capacity of Railways.
- d) Reducing the release of CO₂ in urban areas to minimize urban heat island effect.

Answer: C

Three new wagons have been designed with 25T axle load, which are having approximately 12% to 17% increase in carrying capacity over equivalent lesser axle load (22/22.9T) wagons.

Source: [PIB](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.9) With reference to ground water, consider the following statements:

1. Asia-Pacific region is the largest groundwater abstractor in the world.
2. Most of the freshwater in the world is in the form of ground water.

Which of the above statements 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: As per the UN World Water Development Report 2022, the Asia-Pacific region is the largest groundwater abstractor in the world, containing seven out of the ten countries that extract most groundwater (Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey). These countries alone account for roughly 60% of the world's total groundwater withdrawal.

Statement 2 is incorrect: On the planet earth, most of the freshwater exists as ice caps and glaciers. Out of the remaining freshwater, the largest proportion exists as groundwater. But, the Groundwater accounts for 99% of all liquid freshwater.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS

Q.10) With reference to Mekedatu project, consider the following statements:

1. Mekedatu is a deep gorge situated at the confluence of the rivers Cauvery and its tributary Arkavathi.
2. The project is contented between Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Which of the above statements 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: Mekedatu is a deep gorge situated at the confluence of the rivers Cauvery and its tributary Arkavathi.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The project is contented between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Bhoomi Rashi portal, consider the following statements:

1. The portal is mandatory for all Project implementing agencies.
2. It has been developed by the Department of Land Resources.

Which 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 portal is mandatory for all project implementing agencies since 2018.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The portal has been developed by the Min of Road Transport & Highways. Department of Land resources is under Min of Rural Development.

Source: [Article](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.2) With reference to Mange skin disease in animals, consider the following statements:

1. The disease is caused by parasitic mites.
2. It can be transmitted from animals to humans.

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: d

Both statements are correct.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The disease is caused by parasitic mites.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mange is zoonotic ie. it can be transmitted from animals to humans.

Source: [Article](#)

SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS

Q.3) With reference to NIPUN- BHARAT Mission, consider the following statements:

1. One of its aims is to enable every child to achieve the desired learning competencies in reading, writing and numeracy by the end of Grade 3 by 2026-27.
2. Funding requirements of the mission will be fulfilled from the Samagra Shiksha Scheme.
3. The mission stresses the importance of using a child's mother tongue in teaching.

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

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Its aim is to create an enabling environment to ensure the universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy. It will enable every child to achieve the desired learning competencies in reading, writing and numeracy by the end of Grade 3 by 2026-27.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** No additional funding is being allocated for the mission. Instead, money is being allocated from the Samagra Shiksha scheme, which saw a 20% drop in its budget in 2021.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The mission also emphasizes the importance of using a child's mother tongue in teaching, a principle of the National Education Policy 2020.

Source: [Article](#)

ENVIRONMENT

Q.4) With reference to PM 2.5 (Fine particulate matter), consider the following statements:

1. These are most harmful to human health due to its prevalence in the environment and a broad range of health effects.
2. PM2.5 particles are generated through chemical process only.
3. PM2.5 particles vary in chemical composition and physical characteristics.

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: PM2.5 particles are most harmful to human health due to its prevalence in the environment and a broad range of health effects.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The most common human-made sources include internal combustion engines, power generation, industrial processes, agricultural processes, construction, and residential wood and coal burning. The most common natural sources for PM2.5 are dust storms, sandstorms, and wildfires.

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Statement 3 is correct: PM2.5 is generated from many sources and can vary in chemical composition and physical characteristics. Common chemical constituents of PM2.5 include sulfates, nitrates, black carbon, and ammonium.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.5) RePORT India initiative was recently seen in the news. The initiative is related to which of the following?

- a) Reporting corruption in public offices through an unified portal.
- b) Lodging complaints against banks through RBI's Ombudsman.
- c) Bilateral initiative to advance tuberculosis(TB) research in India.
- d) Revamping the inland ports in strategic locations.

Answer: C

Regional Prospective Observational Research in Tuberculosis (RePORT) India initiative is a bilateral, multi-organizational, collaborative research effort established in 2013 under the Indo-US Vaccine Action Program(VAP). It aims to advance tuberculosis(TB) research in India.

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) The polarimetry technique is recently in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Optical activity
- b) Measurement of Electricity
- c) Pollen carbon dating method
- d) Measuring Ozone

Answer: a

Explanation

Polarimetry is a sensitive, nondestructive technique for measuring the optical activity exhibited by inorganic and organic compounds.

- A compound is considered to be optically active if linearly polarized light is rotated when passing through it.
- A team of astronomers has discovered that the closest known brown dwarf, Luhman 16A, shows signs of cloud bands similar to those seen on Jupiter and Saturn.
- The researchers used an instrument on the Very Large Telescope in Chile to study polarised light from the Luhman 16 system.
- Polarisation is a property of light that represents the direction that the light wave oscillates.
- The polarimetry technique is not limited to brown dwarfs. It can also be applied to exoplanets orbiting distant stars. The atmospheres of hot, gas giant exoplanets are similar to those of brown dwarfs.

Q.2) With reference to Pay As You Go (PAYG) and National Pension Scheme (NPS) in India, consider the following statements:

1. Under PAYG, the entire pension amount is borne by the government.
2. NPS is mandatory for central government and state government employees.

Which 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: Under PAYG, the entire pension amount was borne by the government while fixed returns were guaranteed for employee contribution to the General Provident Fund (GPF). Governments paid 50% of the last drawn salary plus DA as pension to employees after retiring, and half of that to their eligible dependent family members in case of death. Minimum pension was Rs 9,000.

Statement 2 is incorrect: NPS was **introduced in 2004** and **made mandatory** for central government employees as well as staff of those state governments which adopted this scheme.

Source: [Article](#)

ECONOMY

Q.3) With reference to Kala Namak rice, consider the following statements:

1. This rice variety grow predominantly in the regions of Punjab and Rajasthan.
2. It is a scented rice variety which is generally offered better price as compared to other rice varieties to the farmers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: Kala Namak rice is grown in the tarai area of Siddharth Nagar and ten neighboring districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

Statement 2 is correct: It is a scented rice variety which is generally offered better price as compared to other rice varieties to the farmers.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh is promoting Kala Namak rice under One District One Product (ODOP) and has sanctioned a project of Rs. 12.00 crore for promotion of Kala Namak rice.

The Government of India, through APEDA, has taken various initiatives to promote Kala Namak rice viz; capacity building programme for farmers and stakeholders, agri-export farming, organizing 'Kala Namak Mahotsav', coordination with Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), exporters and farmers. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and its research Institutes.

Source: [PIB](#)

ENVIRONMENT

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

1. Children are more vulnerable to lead poisoning.
2. Even the smallest level of exposure to lead has harmful effects.
3. Human exposure to lead is usually assessed through the measurement of lead in bone.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Recently, high levels of lead were found in the blood of thousands of children living around the Kabwe mine in Zambia.

Statement 1 is correct: Children younger than 6 years are especially vulnerable to lead poisoning. It can severely affect mental and physical development. At very high levels, lead poisoning can be fatal.

Statement 2 is correct: Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust. Lead in the body is distributed to the brain, liver, kidney and bones. It is stored in the teeth and bones, where it accumulates over time.

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Lead in bone is released into blood during pregnancy and becomes a source of exposure to the developing foetus.

There is no level of exposure to lead that is known to be without harmful effects.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Human exposure is usually assessed through the measurement of lead in blood.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.5) With reference to project goods, consider the following statements:

1. The import of project goods may act as an indicator of the pace of public and private infrastructure creation in the country.
2. India is a net importer of such goods.

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: d

Both statements are correct.

- Project goods are the input materials required in the construction of civil and private infrastructure projects. The import of project goods may act as a barometer for the pace of infrastructure creation, both public and private, in the country.
- India is a net importer of such goods and, historically, has had a higher inflow during periods of growing infrastructure activities.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.6) With reference to Dolphins in India, consider the following statements:

1. Gangetic and Indus water dolphins are both freshwater dolphins.
2. Project Dolphin will work towards conservation of only riverine dolphins.

Which 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:** Both dolphin species are freshwater dolphins
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The project is aimed at the conservation of the Gangetic Dolphins — both riverine as well as the oceanic dolphins in India.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) Which of the following is/are advantages of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)?

1. Reduction of Ocean acidification
2. Increase in soil fertility
3. Decrease the leaching of nitrogen & phosphorous from the soil into groundwater

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 advantages of ZBNF.

- **Reduce Ocean acidification**– Zero budget natural farming eliminates chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and would help reduce ocean acidification and marine pollution from land-based activities. High concentration of ammonium nitrate in fertilisers, and hazardous chemical pollutants from pesticides which run-off into rivers and oceans can severely impact aquatic life. The use of natural concoctions in ZBNF will help to reduce the contamination and degradation of rivers and oceans.
- **Soil fertility:** It utilises only natural resources as inputs. Thus increases the fertility of the soil. Fertilisers and pesticides have been shown to have adverse impacts on farmers as well as consumers. Farmers are exposed to contaminants when applying chemical inputs to their crops. By replacing such external inputs with locally made natural concoctions, the project could help in reducing the incidence of non-communicable diseases.
- ZBNF can help prevent over-extraction of groundwater, enable aquifer recharge, and eventually contribute to increasing water table levels. Zero budget natural farming **requires only 10% water and 10% electricity** than what is required under chemical and organic farming. It might help to reduce the leaching of nitrogen and phosphorous from the soil into groundwater or surface water, and eventually into rivers and oceans.

Source: [Article](#)