

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

11th April to 16th April, 2022

International Organizations

Q.1) With reference to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), consider the following statements:

1. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
2. It publishes the World Food Price Index.
3. It also conceptualized the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Partnership Initiative.

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: D

Explanation: About FAO:

It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations** that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Their goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.

Important initiatives of FAO:

World Food Price Index, State of the World's Forests Report, Codex Alimentarius, Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS).

Q.2) As recently seen in news, the “Pinaka system” is:

- a) Medium Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).
- b) Advanced Air Defence (AAD) interceptor missile.
- c) Multi-barrel rocket launcher system.
- d) Indigenously developed jet engine.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Rustom - Medium Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV). It is being developed to carry out surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) roles and can carry different combinations of advanced payloads and capable of auto-landing, among others.

Ashwin: Advanced Air Defence (AAD) interceptor missile Ashwin is the advanced version of low altitude supersonic ballistic interceptor missile. It is **indigenously developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and can destroy any incoming hostile ballistic missile.

Pinaka - The Pinaka, a Multi-Barrel Rocket-Launcher (MBRL) system named after Shiva's bow, can fire a salvo of 12 rockets over a period of 44 seconds. It is developed by **DRDO**.

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

1. Microbots are tiny machines with characteristic dimensions of less than 1 cm.
2. It can be useful for crawling into cell phone batteries to clean and rejuvenate them.

Which 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:** Microbots are tiny machines with characteristic dimensions of less than **1 mm**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It has applications in the field of **drug delivery, neuroscience, pollution, cleaning of batteries, industrial applications such as cleaning of machines**.

Q.4) Consider the following Geographical Indication (GI) tags and their places:

GI Tag	Place
1. Bhagalpur Silk	West Bengal
2. Arani Silk	Tamil Nadu
3. Champa Silk	Chhattisgarh
4. Kancheepuram Silk	Andhra Pradesh

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

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Bhagalpur Silk** – Bihar
- **Champa Silk** – Chhattisgarh
- **Kancheepuram & Arani silk** – Tamil Nadu
- **Salem Silk** – Tamil Nadu
- **Muga Silk** - Assam
- **Mysore Silk** - Karnataka

Q.5) With respect to Merchant Discount Rates (MDR), consider the following statements:

1. It is the cost paid by a merchant to a bank for accepting payment from their customers via digital means.
2. Cardless cash withdrawal can have negative implications for MDR fee-generating payment form factors.

Which 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

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** MDR is the cost paid by a merchant to a bank for accepting payment from their customers via digital means. The merchant discount rate is expressed in the percentage of the transaction amount. Presently, it is applicable for online transactions and QR-based transactions.
- The amount that the merchant pays for every transaction gets distributed among **three stakeholders--the bank that enables the transaction, vendor that installs the point of sale (PoS) machine and the card network provider such as Visa, MasterCard, RuPay.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Cardless cash withdrawal can reduce the need to carry a debit card. Prima facie, this step seems negative for MDR fee-generating payment form factors.

Q.6) Which of the following statements correctly defines the term 'Brachytherapy'?

- a) Internal radiation therapy to treat cancers and tumors
- b) Supplementary oxygen for people suffering from lung disease
- c) A branch of traditional Indian medicinal system
- d) Prophylaxis for vaccine side-effects

Answer: a

- Brachytherapy is a type of radiation therapy used to treat cancer. It places radioactive sources inside the patient to kill cancer cells and shrink tumors. A small radioactive material called a source is put into your body, inside or close to the cancer.

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

1. Antibiotics are useless against viral infections.
2. Viruses are single-cell, living organisms.

Which 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:** Antibiotics are useless against viral infections. This is because viruses are so simple that they use their host cells to perform their activities for them. So

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antiviral drugs work differently to antibiotics, by interfering with the viral enzymes instead.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The viruses are non-cellular organisms that are characterized by having an inert crystalline structure outside the living cell.

Source: [Article](#)

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

1. India is the only country in the world producing all the five known commercial varieties of silk.
2. Sericulture is included as agriculture allied activity under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

Which 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.

- India has the unique distinction of being the only country producing all the five known commercial silks, namely, mulberry, tropical tasar, oak tasar, eri and muga, of which muga with its golden yellow glitter is unique and prerogative of India.
- Sericulture is included as agriculture allied activity under RKVY. This enables the sericulturists to avail the benefits of the scheme for the entire sericulture activities up to reeling.

Source: [Article](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.9) With reference to forest fires, consider the following statements:

1. Almost 90% of wildfires occur due to natural causes like lightning.
2. Lack of soil moisture might cause forest fires.

Which 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: Almost 90% of wildfires occur due to Anthropogenic causes. Smoking is the leading cause of forest fires globally.

Other anthropogenic reasons include Campfires, Burning Debris, Slash and Burn Cultivation, and others.

Statement 2 is correct: Lack of soil moisture and dryness in the soil triggers fire in forests. For example, the recent Uttarakhand wildfires are due to this.

Source: [PIB](#)

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Q.10) Seema Darshan Project was recently seen in the news. The project is related to which of the following?

- a) To improve tourism in North-Eastern States
- b) To provide an opportunity to visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on Indian border
- c) To improve the performance of Sashastra Seema Bal
- d) To increase pilgrimage activities in Char Dham

Answer: B

Union Home and Cooperative Minister has inaugurated 'Seema Darshan Project' at Nadabet located on the Indo-Pak border in Banaskantha District of Gujarat.

The project was initiated with the aim to provide an opportunity to the people so that they can visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border.

Under the Project, all kinds of tourist facilities and other special attractions have been developed at a cost of 1 crore 25 lakhs.

Source: [Hindustan Times](#)

Defence Technology

Q.1) With reference to the missile 'HELINA', consider the following statements:

1. Helina is a helicopter-launched version of third-generation anti-tank guided missile.
2. The missile system has been designed and developed by DRDO in partnership with Israel.

Which 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

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Helina (Indian Army) is a helicopter-launched version of third-generation anti-tank guided missile (Nag missile system). The missile system has all-weather day-and-night capability and can defeat battle tanks with conventional armor and explosive reactive armor.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The missile systems have been **designed and developed indigenously** by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Q.2) With reference to Intelligent Transportation System Endeavor for Indian Cities Phase-II (InTranSE -II), consider the following statements:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
2. It includes an indigenous Onboard Driver Assistance and Warning System – ODAWS and Bus Signal Priority System only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is not correct: It is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Statement 2 is not correct: An indigenous Onboard Driver Assistance and Warning System – ODAWS, Bus Signal Priority System and Common SMart iot Connectiv (CoSMiC) software have been launched.

For more info: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1815565>

Q.3) The State Energy & Climate Index is released by:

- a) Ministry of Power
- b) Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

Answer: C

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Explanation: NITI Aayog has launched the State Energy & Climate Index-Round I. The State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I ranks the states' performance on 6 parameters, namely, **(1) DISCOM's Performance (2) Access, Affordability and Reliability of Energy (3) Clean Energy Initiatives (4) Energy Efficiency (5) Environmental Sustainability; and (6) New Initiatives.**

The states have been categorized based on size and geographical differences as larger states, smaller states, and UTs. **Gujarat, Kerala, and Punjab** have been ranked as the top three performers in the category of larger states. **Goa** emerged as the top-performing state in the smaller states category, followed by Tripura, and Manipur. **Among UTs, Chandigarh, Delhi, and Daman & Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli** are the top performers.

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Great Britain consists of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland.
2. The British Isles consists of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Ireland.
3. The English Channel lies between the U.K. and France.

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 only

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Great Britain consists of **England, Scotland, Wales.** Whereas, **the U.K.** consists of **England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The British Isles consists of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Ireland.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The English Channel lies between the U.K. and France.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Assam shares boundary with seven other States.
2. Tripura shares international boundary with Bangladesh only.
3. Mizoram shares international boundary with Myanmar only.
4. All the eight North-eastern states have international borders.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Assam shares a boundary with seven States: West Bengal, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Tripura shares international boundary with Bangladesh only.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** Mizoram shares international boundary with Myanmar and Bangladesh also.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** All the eight North-eastern states have international borders.

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Q.6) With reference to the recently released Public Sector Enterprise Policy, which of the following is/are classified as strategic sectors?

1. Transport and telecommunications
2. Banking and Insurance
3. Petroleum and Coal

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: d

The policy classifies public sector commercial enterprises into the strategic and non-strategic sectors - **Strategic Sectors:** There would be a maximum of four public sector companies in strategic sectors. State-owned firms in other segments would be privatized eventually. The following 4 sectors are covered under strategic sectors:

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

Q.7) Arrange the following straits from North to South:

1. Sunda
2. Lombok
3. Makassar

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: d

The correct order from North to South is -

- Makassar
- Sunda
- Lombok

Source: [Article](#)

Q.8) Which among the following is a primary pollutant?

1. Oxides of Sulphur
2. Carbon Monoxide
3. Peroxyacetyl nitrate

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: a

- **Primary pollutants** are persistent in the form in which they are added to the environment, e.g. DDT, plastic, CO, CO₂, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur, etc.
- **Secondary Pollutants** are formed by interaction among the primary pollutants. For example, peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN) is formed by the interaction of nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.9) Which of the following processes might cause coastal erosion?

1. Hydraulic Action
2. Abrasion
3. Compression

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

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

Answer: D

All the above processes cause coastal erosion.

Hydraulic Action: Hydraulic Action is the sheer force of water crashing against the coastline causing material to be dislodged and carried away by the sea.

Abrasion: Abrasion is when rocks and other materials carried by the sea are picked up by strong waves and thrown against the coastline causing more material to be broken off and carried away by the sea.

Attrition: Attrition is when material such as rocks and stones carried by waves hit and knock against each other wearing them down.

As these materials are worn down sand and rounded beach pebbles are formed.

Compression: Compression occurs in rocky areas when air enters into crack in rock.

This air is trapped in cracks by the rising tide, as waves crash against the rock the air inside the crack is rapidly compressed and decompressed causing cracks to spread and pieces of rock to break off. Compression is one of the main processes that result in the creation of caves.

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

1. Megaliths were constructed either as burial sites or commemorative (non-sepulchral) memorials.
2. The majority of megalithic sites in India are found in Northern India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: A megalith is a large stone that has been used to construct a prehistoric structure or monument, either alone or together with other stones. Megaliths were constructed either as burial sites or commemorative (non-sepulchral) memorials.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Megaliths are spread across the Indian subcontinent. The majority of megalithic sites are found in Peninsular India, concentrated in the states of Maharashtra (mainly in Vidarbha), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.1) Match the following straits and the seas associated with them:

Straits	Seas Connected
1. Kerch Strait	A. Sea of Marmara and Black Sea
2. Dardanelles Strait	B. Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean
3. Bosphorus Strait	C. Sea of Marmara and Aegean Sea
4. Strait of Gibraltar	D. Sea of Azov and Black Sea

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Q.2) Consider the following pairs:

Sea	Bordering Country
1. Adriatic Sea	Albania
2. Black Sea	Croatia
3. Caspian Sea	Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea	Morocco
5. Red Sea	Syria

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

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: B

Explanation: UPSC CSE PYQ 2019

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Q.3) With reference to Dornier aircraft (Do-228), consider the following statements:

1. It is a small civil transport aircraft.
2. It is built on the existing frame of the German Dornier 228 defence transport aircraft used by the defence forces.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Recently, the first flight of Made in India HAL Dornier Do-228 in a bid to connect airports and Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) of Northeast India, was flagged off.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The 19-seater Do-228 is the first major attempt in India to develop a small civil transport aircraft.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is built on the existing frame of the German Dornier 228 defence transport aircraft used by the defence forces.

Alliance Air, a public sector airline company, had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a Central Public Sector Unit under Ministry of Defence to operate Indian made Dornier aircraft, which is called Hindustan aircraft. This initiative is in line with the vision of Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi "AtmaNirbhar Bharat. With this, **Alliance Air becomes the first commercial airline to fly Indian made aircraft for civil operations.**

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

1. A patent is available for both inventions and discoveries.
2. It is necessary that the invention should have an industrial application.
3. The term of a patent is limited to 20 years.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Patent is not available for **discoveries**. It is only available for inventions.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the Patents Act, 1970, "invention" means a new product or process **involving an inventive step and capable of industrial application**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The term of a patent is limited to 20 years.

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Q.5) With reference to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It regulates telecom services including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services.

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

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was established on 20th February, 1997 by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
- **Statement 2 is correct:**

Objectives of TRAI:

TRAI's mission is to create and nurture conditions for growth of telecommunications in the country.

TRAI regulates telecom services including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services which were earlier vested in the Central Government.

It also aims to provide a fair and transparent policy environment which promotes a level playing field and facilitates fair competition.

Q.6) With reference to various terms related to environment pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, consider the following statements:

1. Carbon neutrality is also referred to as net-zero carbon dioxide emission wherein you can't add any carbon dioxide to the air.
2. Tipping point is a level of change in system properties beyond which a system reorganizes, often abruptly, and does not return to the initial state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Carbon neutrality does not mean adding no CO₂ to the air. It means that if you do add carbon dioxide into the air you take out the same amount.
- **Statement 2 is correct**

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Q.7) With reference to patents and Intellectual Property regime in India, consider the following statements:

1. A patent is a statutory right.
2. An invention which has been either published or publicly displayed cannot be patented.

Which 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:** A Patent is a statutory right for an invention granted for a limited period of time to the patentee by the Government, in exchange of full disclosure of his invention for excluding others, from making, using, selling, importing the patented product or process for producing that product for those purposes without his consent.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Generally, an invention which has been either published or publicly displayed cannot be patented as such publication or public display leads to lack of novelty. However, under certain circumstances, the Patents Act provides a grace period of 12 months for filing of patent application from the date of its publication in a journal or its public display in an exhibition organised by the Government or disclosure before any learned society or published by applicant.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.8) With reference to Mid-day meal Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The first initiative to provide meals to children was taken by the erstwhile Madras Municipal Corporation before independence.
2. The cost of foodgrains and their transportation is split between the Centre and the states.

Which 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 first initiative to provide meals to children had been taken by the erstwhile Madras Municipal Corporation around 1920. In post-Independence India, Tamil Nadu was again the pioneer, with Chief Minister K Kamaraj rolling out a school feeding scheme in 1956.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Centre bears the entire cost of foodgrains and their transportation, and also handles the expenditure on management, monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.

Source: [Article](#)

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Q.9) With reference to PM SVANidhi Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Those who repay their loans on time will get some percent of annual interest as subsidy in their bank accounts.
2. The Ministry of Finance is the nodal ministry for the scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Statement 1 is correct: Under this scheme, each of the street vendors will be given a credit loan of Rs 10,000 which they can return as monthly installments within a year.

Those who repay their loans on time will get 7% annual interest as subsidy which will be transferred in their bank accounts.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs is the nodal Ministry for the scheme.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.10) With reference to Canister Launched Anti-Armour Loiter Ammunition(CALM) System, consider the following statements:

1. Once fired CALM System can remain aloft for a period of time and when a target is sighted it can be guided down to destroy the target.
2. CALM system can be used by the operator to see the area of operation and choose targets.

Which 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.

CALM System is a preloaded canister with loitering ammunition or a drone. Once fired it can remain aloft for a period of time over the area of operation and when a target is sighted it can be guided down to destroy the target with the explosive payload that it carries.

Usually, loiter ammunition carries a camera that is nose-mounted and which can be used by the operator to see the area of operation and choose targets.

These munitions also have variants that can be recovered and reused in case they are not used for any strike.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Khelo India scheme, players identified are provided annual financial assistance of Rs. 8 lakh per annum for 5 years.
2. Fit India Movement was launched by FSSAI to people to make fitness their lifestyle.

Which 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

Explanation:

- a. **Statement 1 is not correct:** Under the Khelo India scheme, players identified are provided annual financial assistance of **Rs. 5 lakh per annum for 8 years**. It comes under the ambit of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- b. **Statement 2 is not correct:** The Prime Minister on the occasion of National Sports Day in 2019 launched the 'Fit India Movement' as the People's Movement & urged people to make fitness their lifestyle. It was not launched by FSSAI.

Q.2) With reference to Panchayati Raj system in India, consider the following statements:

1. It was given a constitutional status by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. It provides for compulsory reservation of seats for SCs, STs and OBCs in the panchayats at all levels.
3. It provides for 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It was given a constitutional status by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Provisions were made under Part IX-A of the Constitution.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** It provides for compulsory reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the panchayats at all levels. The provision for reservation of seats for OBCs can be made by the state government but it is not compulsory.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections.

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Q.3) Consider the following questions:

1. Right to Reservation is a fundamental right provided under Article 15 and Article 16 of the Constitution.
2. Minority institutions are exempt from providing caste-based reservations.

Which 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

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The Supreme Court in the case of **State of Tamil Nadu v. Union of India (2020)** held that there is no fundamental right to Reservation.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Article 15, minority institutions are specifically exempted from providing caste-based reservations.

Q.4) Arrange the following passes, between India and China, from East to West:

1. Nathu la pass
2. Bum la pass
3. Shipki la pass
4. Lipulekh pass

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation: From east to west:

- **Bum la** is a border pass between Tibet's Cona County and India's Tawang district in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Nathu La** is a mountain pass between China's Yadong County in Tibet and the Indian states of **Sikkim and West Bengal**.
- **Lipulekh pass** is a Himalayan pass on the border between India's **Uttarakhand state** and the Tibet region of China near their **trijunction with Nepal**.
- **Shipki la** is in the state of **Himachal Pradesh**.

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Q.5) With reference to coal sector in India, consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's second largest producer of coal.
2. India is the world's second largest importer of coal.

Which 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

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India is the world's second-largest coal producer and the 5th largest country in terms of coal deposits.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** As per the coal directory 2020-21, India is the second largest importer, and it imports coal from Indonesia, Australia, South Africa, and the USA.

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

1. A warm, moderately dry and moist climate is the most suitable for the crop.
2. India neither exports nor imports the fruit.

Which 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.

- A warm, moderately dry and moist climate is the most suitable for the fruit, with heavy rainfall inducing bacterial diseases in orchards.
- Annually, India produces over 37.17 lakh tonnes of the fruit, which is consumed domestically. The fruit is neither exported or imported.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) With reference to the revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
2. This scheme will not cover the institutions of rural local government in non-Part IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist.

Which 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

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- **Statement 1 is correct:** RGSA is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Scheme extends to all States and UTs of the country and will also include institutions of rural local government in non-Part IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Kyasanur Forest disease

1. The disease primarily affects humans and monkeys.
2. There is no specific treatment for this disease.
3. A vaccine is there for this disease and it is used in India.

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

- The Kyasanur Forest disease is caused by a Kyasanur Forest disease virus. The disease primarily affects humans and monkeys.
- India: The disease was first identified in the Kyasanur forest of Shimoga district in Karnataka during an investigation of monkey mortalities in 1957.
- Symptoms: The disease is characterized by chills, frontal headache, body ache, and high fever for five to 12 days with a case fatality rate of 3 to 5%.
- Transmission:
 - Rodents, shrews, and monkeys are common hosts for KFDV after being bitten by an infected tick.
 - Transmission to humans may occur after a tick bite or contact with an infected animal, most importantly a sick or recently dead monkey.
- Diagnosis: Diagnosis can be made in the early stage of illness by molecular detection by PCR or virus isolation from blood.
- Treatment: There is no specific treatment for KFD. A vaccine (Formalin inactivated KFDV vaccine) does exist for KFD and is used in endemic areas of India.
- Recently, a new point-of-care test has been developed for the rapid diagnosis of Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD).

Q.9) With reference to India Pride Project, consider the following statements:

1. The project uses social media to identify stolen religious artefacts from Indian temples and secure their return.
2. It is a collaborative initiative of UNESCO and Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

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Statement 1 is correct: The project uses social media to identify stolen religious artefacts from Indian temples and secure their return.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is an initiative by the group of art enthusiasts.

Source: [ForumIAS Blog](#)

Q.10) The term silver generation was recently seen in the news, is related to

- a) The generation of smart phones that has the capability to perform like computers
- b) The young generation of people who lacks physical activities and vulnerable to lifestyle diseases
- c) A generation of individuals aged 60 and older
- d) A generation of kids having mental health issues due to working parents

Answer: C

Global estimates suggest that there are one billion people in the silver generation (a global cohort of individuals aged 60 and older) with a combined spending power of \$15 trillion and the size is ever-expanding.

Development in medicinal science and technology will support extending the lifespan and longevity of the silver generation.

It is estimated that by 2040, there will be more members of the silver generation than people under 20. This demographic change will throw open new challenges and opportunities, especially in the areas of wealth management, health, insurance, and other investment products.

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q1 With reference to Public Accounts Committee, consider the following statements:

1. It consists of members of Lok Sabha only.
2. The term of office of the members is one year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** PAC has 22 members. All the members are taken from the Indian Parliament. Out of 22 members, 15 are elected from Lok Sabha (Lower House) and 7 members are elected from Rajya Sabha (Upper House).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Term of office is 1 year.

Q.2) Semnopithecus entellus sometimes seen in news is a species of?

- a) Primate
- b) Fish
- c) Spider
- d) Lizard

Answer: a

- It is a species of primate known as Gray Langur.

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

1. Thickness of steel slag roads is more as compared to conventional roads made of asphalt.
2. It can also be used in agriculture sector as a fertilizer and a soil nutrient.

Which 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:** Steel slag roads have 30% lesser thickness as compared to conventional roads made of asphalt.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Steel slag contains calcium, silicon, manganese, phosphate and iron. The use of steel slag as fertilisers and soil nutrients is gaining importance across the globe as it represents an eco-friendly application wherein advantages of chemical properties of steel-making slag can be utilised to promote the growth of plants and increase the yield of agricultural products, particularly in the areas where the soil is acidic.

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Source: [Article](#)

Q.4) Arrange the following from North to South:

1. Spratly islands
2. Taiwan Strait
3. Natuna islands

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: d

The correct order from North to South -

- Taiwan Strait
- Spratly islands
- Natuna islands

Source: [Article](#)

Q.5) With reference to Sovereign debt, consider the following statements:

1. A Government can borrow debt in either local or foreign currency.
2. Debt monetization often leads to a price rise in an economy.

Which 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.

- Governments can borrow **either in their local currency or in foreign currency** like the U.S. dollar.
- Governments usually find it easier to borrow and repay in their local currency. This is because governments with the help of their central banks can easily create fresh local currency to repay debt denominated in the local currency. This is known as **debt monetisation** and it can lead to increased money supply, which in turn causes prices to rise.

Source: [Article](#)

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Q.9) With reference to color blindness, consider the following statements:

1. Rod cells in the eye help in detecting color.
2. Colour blindness cannot be reversed.

Which 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: Two types of cells in the retina detect light:

- Rod cells: These help in distinguishing between light and dark.
- Cone cells: These help in detecting colour.

Statement 2 is correct: Colour blindness cannot be reversed. However, it can be corrected to some extent by wearing special contact lenses or colour filter glasses.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.10) Which of the following is/are the advantages of ropeways?

1. It is an Economical mode of transportation in hilly area.
2. Provide Last-mile connectivity.
3. Faster mode of transportation.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: C

The advantages of ropeways are,

Economical mode of transportation: Ropeway projects are built in a straight line over hilly terrain. Hence, despite having a higher cost of construction per km than roadways, ropeway projects' construction cost may happen to be economical than roadways.

Faster mode of transportation: Owing to the aerial mode of transportation, ropeways have an advantage over roadway projects.

Last-mile connectivity: Ropeway projects adopting 3S (a kind of cable car system) or equivalent technologies can transport 6000-8000 passengers per hour.

Economic benefits: (a) Ropeways having multiple cars propelled by a single power plant and drive mechanism. This reduces both construction and maintenance costs; (b) Further, the ropeways employ a single operator for an entire ropeway. This results in huge savings in labour costs. (c) On level ground, the cost of ropeways is competitive with narrow-gauge railroads. On the other hand, in the mountains the ropeway is far superior to railroads.

Source: [Livemint](#)

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Q.1) With reference to flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs), consider the following statements

1. The cost of Flex Fuel Engines is more than conventional engines.
2. FFVs cannot run on unblended fuel.

Which 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: Flex Fuel Engines cost more as ethanol has very different chemical properties than petrol. Ethanol has very low (40 per cent) Calorific value as compared to Gasoline, very High Latent heat of vaporization causing cooling of charge/combustion etc. Hence, the cost of Flex Fuel Engines is more than conventional engines.

Statement 2 is incorrect: FFVs allow vehicles to use all the blends and unblended fuels.

Source: [The Business Line](#)

Environment

Q.2) Amathusia phidippus was recently seen in news, it is related to which of the following?

- a) A new banana species found in Andaman and Nicobar islands.
- b) A new bacteria species that can disintegrate plastic waste.
- c) A rare Palmking butterfly identified for the first time in Tamil Nadu.
- d) New Multi Drug Resistant Bacteria found in the Antarctic region for the first time.

Answer: C

Recently, the rare butterfly Palmking (Amathusia phidippus) was sighted for the first time in Tamil Nadu. The butterfly is characterised by its brown colour and dark bands and is described as reclusive, mostly resting in the shade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.3) With reference to Ballistic and Cruise missiles, consider the following statements:

1. Ballistic missiles can hit with more precision than the cruise missiles.
2. The flying altitude of Cruise missiles is much lower than Ballistic missiles.

Which 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: Cruise missiles can hit with more precision than the Ballistic missiles. This is why, the cruise missiles are fit for small and mobile targets.

Statement 2 is correct: The flying altitude of Cruise missiles is much lower than Ballistic missiles.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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Q.4) With reference to India Meteorological Department (IMD), consider the following statements:

1. It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology.
2. The IMD predicts a “normal”, “below normal”, or “above normal” monsoon in relation to a benchmark “Long Period Average”(LPA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Both the statements are correct.

Recently, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) released its first Long Range Forecast (LRF) for 2022 which says that the country is likely to receive a normal monsoon for the fourth consecutive year.

IMD is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology.

The IMD predicts a “normal”, “below normal”, or “above normal” monsoon in relation to a benchmark “Long Period Average” (LPA). According to the IMD, the “LPA of rainfall is the rainfall recorded over a particular region for a given interval (like month or season) averaged over a long period like 30 years, 50 years, etc”.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.5) Which of the following countries share their land border with the Black Sea?

1. Bulgaria
2. Moldova
3. Russia
4. Greece
5. Turkey

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) 3 and 5 only
- b) 1, 3 and 5 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 4 only

Answer: B



Black Sea is bound by Ukraine to the north and northwest, Russia and Georgia to the east, Turkey to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west.

It links to the Sea of Marmara through the Bosphorus and then to the Aegean through the Dardanelles.

Black sea has traditionally been Russia's warm water gateway to Europe.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Barbara Forest is located in which of the following states?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Odisha
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: B

The Odisha Government is planning to put the Barbara forest on the ecotourism map.

Barbara forest is located near **Chilika lake in coastal Odisha.**

It is known as Asia's largest Teak and Sal forest.

Districts: The forest touches three districts Khordha, Nayagarh and Ganjam of Odisha.

Named After: The forest is named after a British forest officer's wife, who was killed in a tiger attack in the area 100-odd years ago.

Significance: It is said to be the only forest in India that is guarded by the CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) for protecting natural resources.

Source: [TOI](#)

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Q.7) With reference to Purple frog, consider the following statements;

1. The frog is endemic to the Eastern Ghats.
2. The frog is listed as Endangered in IUCN redlist.
3. It is one of the oldest lineages among all living frogs on Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: The frog is endemic to the Western Ghats. Its distribution limited mainly to Kerala and some parts of Tamil Nadu.

Statement 2 is correct: The frog is listed as Endangered in IUCN redlist.

Statement 3 is correct: The purple frog is a unique animal. This frog has an evolutionary history that goes back 120 million years -- this is one of the oldest lineages among all living frogs on Earth. Species with such old lineages are termed a 'living fossil'.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.8) e-DAR' (e-Detailed Accident Report) portal recently seen in news, is aimed at which of the following areas?

- a) To help accelerate accident compensation claims by making available the police reports on accidents to insurance companies.
- b) To help fight the traffic jam situation by providing citizens with accident info in their area.
- c) To help save the lives of accident victims by providing advance info to nearby hospitals about accidents.
- d) To help improve the infrastructure or roads by finding the blind spots leading to accidents

Ans) a

The portal can be used by the police to upload the accident reports on it. The portal will alert the concerned insurance company and the details of the vehicles and owners can be fetched as it is linked to the Vaahan portal. Hence, the portal can reduce the paperwork related to the accident claim process.

The portal will be linked to the Integrated Road Accident Database(iRAD). It will also be linked to other government portals like Vaahan as it would help get access to information on driving license details and registration of vehicles.

Q.9) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Barbara Forest?

1. It is located in Telangana
2. It is known as Asia's largest Teak and Sal Forest.
3. It is the only forest in India that is guarded by the CRPF for protecting natural resources

Answer using the codes given below

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

Ans. b

Statement 1 is incorrect. Barbara forest is located near Chilika lake in coastal Odisha.

Statement 2 is correct. It is known as Asia's largest Teak and Sal Forest.

Statement 3 is correct. It is said to be the only forest in India that is guarded by the CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) for protecting natural resources.

Q.10) With reference to Kaavi art, consider the following statements:

1. It is a kind of sculpture modelling.
2. This art was introduced by the Portuguese in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a wall art found in Konkan region, especially in temples of Goa, parts of coastal Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The art was introduced by the Portuguese who ruled Goa until 1961.