

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

28th March to 2nd April, 2022

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM), consider the following statements:

1. It is being developed jointly by DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).
2. It is a part of Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP).

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

Explanation: MRSAM version is a **Surface-to-Air Missile developed jointly by DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)**, Israel for use by the **Indian Army**. The MRSAM Army weapon system comprises multi-function radar, mobile launcher system and other vehicles. The flight tests were carried out with the weapon system in deliverable configuration.

IGMDP was launched in 1982-83 by the Indian Government which saw the projects of:

1. **Prithvi** (Short range surface to surface missile)
2. **Trishul** (Short range surface to air missile)
3. **Aakash** (Medium range surface to air missile)
4. **Nag** (Third generation anti tank missile)
5. **Agni 1** (Agni missile was later separated from the IGMDP due to its strategic importance).

Q.2) The word “Bucharest Nine” (B9) sometimes mentioned in news is in reference to:

- a) An informal club that has been instrumental in holding back reforms to the United Nations Security Council.
- b) Group of Land-locked and Geographically Disadvantaged States under UN Convention on Law of the Seas.
- c) group of NATO countries in Eastern Europe that became part of the US-led military alliance after the end of the Cold War.
- d) Group of countries in the World Trade Organization (WTO) opposing demand for greater fisheries subsidies.

Answer: C

Explanation: The “Bucharest Nine” is a group of nine [NATO](#) countries in Eastern Europe that became part of the US-led military alliance after the end of the Cold War.

The B9 are, apart from Romania and Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and the three Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. All nine countries were once closely associated with the now dissolved Soviet Union, but later chose the path of democracy. Romania, Poland, Hungary, and Bulgaria are former signatories of the now dissolved Warsaw Pact military alliance led by the Soviet Union.

Q.3) With reference to the subjects “betting and gambling”, consider the following statements:

1. It is a part of the State list in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
2. ‘Lotteries’ are not considered under ‘betting and gambling’ and hence, cannot be taxed by the State.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The Supreme Court recently held that a State legislature has the right to impose tax on lotteries conducted by other States within its jurisdiction. It observed that ‘lotteries’ is a “species of gambling activity”. The court said ‘betting and gambling’ is part of the State List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Q.4) With reference to the Space Economy of India, consider the following statements:

1. Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) was formed to open up new avenues for private players in space exploration.
2. The space sector in India accounts for 13% share in the global space market.
3. In relation to GDP, India’s spending is more than that of China.

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 space sector in India accounts for **3% share** in the global space market. A recent study has found that the space budget as a percentage of the GDP slipped from 0.09% in 2000-01 to 0.05% in 2011-12, and has remained more or less at that level since then. In relation to GDP, India’s spending is more than that of China, Germany, Italy and Japan, but less than of the U.S. and Russia.

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Q.5) With reference to Public Distribution System (PDS), consider the following statements:

1. It is an Indian food Security System established under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
2. PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana was aimed at providing migrant laborers 5 Kg of grains for free through PDS.

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: It is an Indian food Security System established under the Ministry of **Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution**.

PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana was aimed at **providing each person who is covered under the National Food Security Act 2013** with an additional 5 kg of grains (wheat or rice) for free, in addition to the 5 Kg of subsidized food grain already provided through the PDS.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Q.6) Which of the following countries are part of both South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and Bay of Bengal Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?

1. Myanmar
2. Nepal
3. Bhutan

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: B

- **SAARC:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan, Afghanistan.
- **BIMSTEC:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar.

Source: [Article](#)

POLITY

Q7 With reference to lotteries in India, consider the following statements:

1. Lotteries come within the ambit of betting and gambling activity.
2. A State legislature has the right to impose tax on lotteries conducted by other States within its jurisdiction.

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.

- Lottery is a type of gambling activity. Hence, lotteries are within the ambit of 'betting and gambling' as appearing in Entry 34 List II.
- The Supreme Court recently held that a state legislature has the right to impose tax on lotteries conducted by other States within its jurisdiction.

Source: [Article](#)

HISTORY

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

1. Christopher Columbus introduced Tobacco to Europe.
2. The Portuguese introduced the Tobacco cultivation in UP, Bihar and Bengal.

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:** It was Columbus who introduced tobacco to Europe, and their colonies in India and South Asia.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Portuguese introduced tobacco cultivation in the north western districts of Gujarat, and the British colonials did the same in U. P., Bihar and Bengal.

Source: [Article](#)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Q.9) With reference to Bucharest Nine, consider the following statements:

1. All members of the B9 are part of the European Union (EU) and NATO.
2. Three Seas Initiative (3SI) is launched by Bucharest Nine.

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 B 9 is a group of nine NATO countries in Eastern Europe that became part of the US-led military alliance after the end of the Cold War.

The members of B9 are Romania and Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and the three Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. All nine countries were once closely associated with the now dissolved Soviet Union, but later chose the path of democracy. All members of the B9 are part of the European Union (EU) and NATO.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Three Seas Initiative (3SI) is a regional effort in Europe to expand cross-border energy, transportation, and digital infrastructure and boost economic development in the area between the Adriatic Sea, Baltic Sea, and Black Sea.

Twelve countries participate in the 3SI.

Source: [IE](#)

Q.10) With reference to variable refresh rates (VRR), consider the following statements:

1. Refresh rate is the number of times a display is capable of refreshing in a second.
2. It is measured in Ampere(A).
3. It is designed to eliminate syncing issues that arise when the refresh rate does not match with the frames-per-second (FPS) of the content.

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: Refresh rate is the number of times a display is capable of refreshing in a second.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is measured in hertz (Hz). So, a 30 Hz or a 60 Hz display can refresh 30 or 60 times per second, respectively. The higher the refresh rate, the better the quality of viewing experience.

Statement 3 is correct: VRR is designed to eliminate syncing issues that arise when the refresh rate of a display does not match with the FPS of the content from a source device. Issues such as screen-tearing, judder (wobbling effect) and lag are common when refresh rate and FPS are not synchronised.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.1) Arrange the following locations from North to South

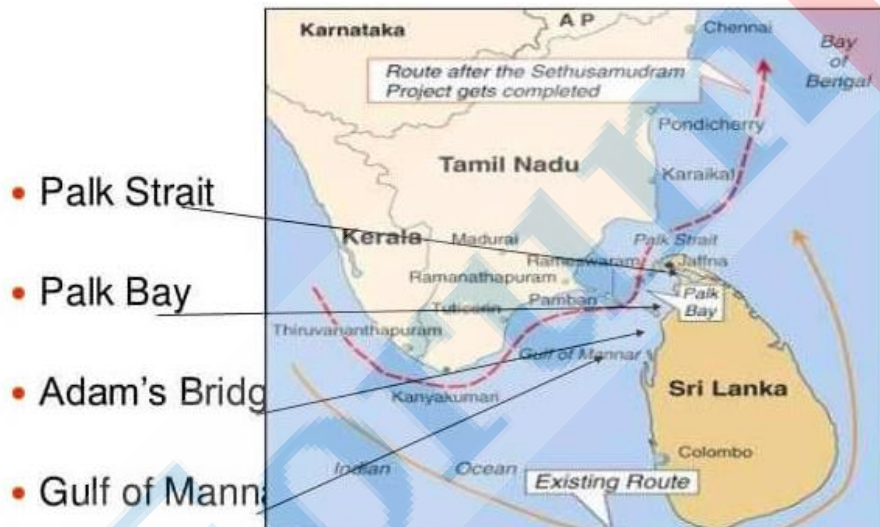
1. Colombo
2. Gulf of Mannar
3. Palk Bay
4. Palk Strait

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:



Q.2) Arrange the following mountain passes from South to North

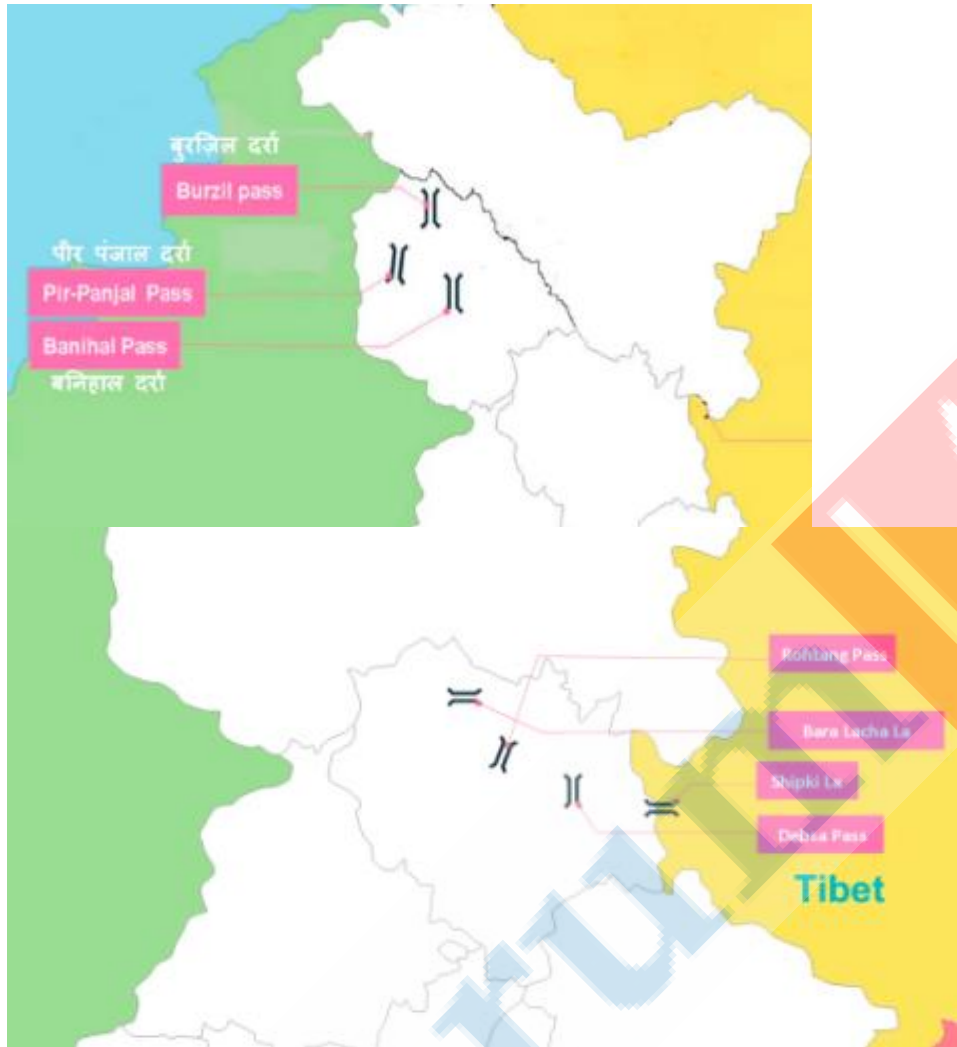
1. Pir Panjal
2. Zoji La
3. Bara Lacha La
4. Banihal Pass

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation:



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Q.3) With reference to Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), consider the following statements:

1. It is a sub-regional organization that came into being from Bangkok Declaration.
2. All Bay of Bengal littoral countries are part of the BIMSTEC.

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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Explanation: The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional multilateral organization. This sub-regional organization came into being in 1997 through the **Bangkok Declaration**.

It consists of **7 members** from South and South-east Asia. Its members are **India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand**.



Indonesia, Malaysia are also littoral countries of Bay of Bengal but are not part of the BIMSTEC.

Q.4) With reference to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), consider the following statements:

1. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.
2. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).
3. It started the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

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Explanation – World Food Program is the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.

FAO is a **specialized agency of the United Nations** that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. It started the **Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)** to safeguard and support the world's agricultural heritage systems. Other initiatives taken are:

1. Monitors the **Desert Locusts** situation throughout the world.
2. **Codex Alimentarius Commission or CAC** is the body responsible for all matters regarding the implementation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.
3. The **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** was adopted by the Thirty-First Session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization in 2001.

Q.5) With reference to the expression 'minorities', consider the following statements:

1. The definition of 'minorities' is provided by the Constitution.
2. The Directive Principles provides that citizens having a distinct language, script, or culture of their own shall have the right to conserve the same.

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: The expression "minorities" appears in some Articles of the Constitution but **is not defined anywhere**. Currently, only those communities notified under section **2(c) of the National Minorities Commission Act, 1992, by the central government** are regarded as minorities. Presently, 6 groups are notified as 'minority' - Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis, Jains.

Article 29 (Fundamental Right) - provides that citizens having a distinct language, script, or culture of their own shall have the right to conserve the same.

Q.6) With reference to Corals and Coral Bleaching, consider the following statements:

1. Under stressed conditions, the zooxanthellae start producing reactive oxygen species.
2. A coral bleaching event can occur both during a La Nina or an El Nino weather pattern.

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

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Both statements are correct.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under stressed conditions, the zooxanthellae start producing reactive oxygen species, which are not beneficial to the corals. So, the corals expel the colour-giving zooxanthellae from their polyps, which exposes their pale white exoskeleton, giving the corals a bleached appearance. This also ends the symbiotic relationship that helps the corals to survive and grow
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The first mass bleaching event had occurred in 1998 when the **El Niño** weather pattern caused sea surfaces in the Pacific Ocean to heat up. This event caused 8% of the world's coral to die.
 - Recently, it was the first time that the current bleaching event is happening during a **La Niña weather pattern**. It is occurring in the Great Barrier reef in Australia.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.7) With reference to UNESCO's City of Literature program, consider the following statements:

1. The program is a part of Creative Cities Network.
2. No India city has been designated as a City of Literature under the program till now.

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.

- UNESCO's City of Literature program is part of a wider Creative Cities Network which was launched in 2004 and is currently made up of 246 UNESCO Creative Cities globally.
- Till now there is no Indian city on the city of literature program. Kozhikode, in Kerala, has been proposed to be included in the list.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.8) Somb river is a tributary of?

- a) Brahmaputra
- b) Yamuna
- c) Narmada
- d) Sutlej

Answer: b

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- As per a recent news, water from Somb river, a tributary of the Yamuna that originates in the Shivalik hills, will be stored to flow into Saraswati.

Source: [Article](#)

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

1. The Constitution does not mention the word “minorities” anywhere.
2. Only those communities notified the National Minorities Commission Act are regarded as minorities.

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: The Constitution does not define the term “minorities” anywhere, but only mentions it in some Articles.

For instance, 1) Article 29 deals with the “Protection of interests of minorities”, 2) Article 30 deals with the “right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions”, 3) Article 350(A) says there shall be a Special Officer for linguistic minorities to be appointed by the President.

Statement 2 is correct: Currently, only those communities notified under Section 2(c) of the National Minorities Commission Act, 1992 by the central government are regarded as minorities.

Hence, in the exercise of its powers, the Centre has notified six groups — Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains— as ‘minority’ communities.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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

1. Seagrasses are flowering plants which are found in sea beds and ocean floors.
2. Seagrasses exist only in the west coast of India.
3. They support marine mammals such as sea cows or dugongs.

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: Seagrasses are flowering plants which are found in sea beds and ocean floors.

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Statement 2 is incorrect: The major seagrass beds exist along our coastline of Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay regions on the east coast, Gulf of Kachchh region on the west coast, the lagoons of islands in Lakshadweep in the Arabian Sea and Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal.

Statement 3 is correct: Seagrass ecosystems are recognized globally for their ability to sequester carbon, nurture fish communities and support marine mammals such as sea cows or dugongs.

The National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management has estimated the total extent of seagrass ecosystem in India to be 516.59 km². The CO₂ sequestration rate of seagrass ecosystem is estimated to be up to 434.9 tonnes/km²/year with an annual net CO₂ sink of 0.75 million tonnes for an area of 517 km².

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to One-Horned Rhino, consider the following statements:

1. It is characterized as 'Endangered' in the IUCN Red List.
2. It is the only species of Rhino found 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

Explanation: It is characterized as '**Vulnerable**' in the IUCN Red List. Only the Great One-Horned Rhino is found in India. Also known as Indian rhino, it is the largest of the rhino species.

Habitat: The species is restricted to small habitats in Indo-Nepal terai and northern West Bengal and Assam. In India, rhinos are mainly found in Assam, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

Q.2) Which of the following organization releases 'World Energy Transitions Outlook' Report?

- a) International Energy Agency
- b) Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) International Renewable Energy Agency

Answer: D

Explanation: The report was released by the **International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)**. It is an intergovernmental organisation mandated to facilitate cooperation, advance knowledge, and promote the adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy. It is **the first international organisation** to focus **exclusively on renewable energy**, addressing needs in both industrialized and developing countries.

The Outlook sees investment needs of \$5.7 trillion per year until 2030 including the imperative to redirect \$0.7 trillion annually away from fossil fuels to avoid stranded assets. Renewables will have to scale-up massively across all sectors from 14 per cent of total energy today to around 40 per cent in 2030. The Outlook sees electrification and efficiency as key drivers of the energy transition, enabled by renewables, hydrogen, and sustainable biomass.

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Q.3) With reference for National Commission of Women, consider the following statements:

1. It was established to review the constitutional and legal safeguards for women, via an executive order.
2. It is devoid of Suo moto powers to inquire into any incident.

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

Explanation: Under the **National Commission for Women Act, 1990**, the NCW was set up as a **statutory body** in January 1992.

It can take Suo moto cognizance of cases/instances of violation/deprivation of the rights of women and constituting Inquiry Committees/Fact Finding Teams, facilitating their visits, processing Report of such Committees/teams and all follow up action.

Q.4) With reference to exports of value-added meat products, consider the following statements:

1. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) promotes exports of agriculture and animal fresh and processed products.
2. It functions under the Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

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: The **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** was established by the Government of India under the **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985**. It functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**. The Authority has its headquarters in New Delhi.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding disease affecting livestock:

1. Foot and mouth Disease is a viral disease, affecting cloven-hoofed animals.
2. Brucellosis is a bacterial disease, endemic in India.
3. Transmission of Foot and mouth Disease & Brucellosis to humans is not known.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: About Foot-and-mouth disease:

It is an infectious and sometimes **fatal viral disease**. **Affects cloven-hoofed animals**, including domestic and wild bovinds.

Symptoms: The virus causes a high fever for two or three days, followed by blisters inside the mouth and on the feet that may rupture and cause lameness.

About Brucellosis:

It is a **bacterial disease** caused by various Brucella species, which infect cattle, swine, goats, sheep and dogs. It is also known as **Malta fever or Mediterranean fever**. Brucellosis is endemic in India causing huge economic losses to dairy industry due to infertility, abortion, birth of weak off springs, and reduced productivity.

Both can be transmitted to humans through contact with infected animals, but this is extremely rare.

ECONOMY

Q.6) With reference to National Land Monetization Corporation, consider the following statements:

1. It will be set up under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Public Enterprise, Ministry of Finance.
2. It undertakes monetization of Land assets 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: A

Statement 1 is correct: It will be set up under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Public Enterprise, Ministry of Finance.

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Statement 2 is incorrect: It will undertake professional and orderly monetization of land and other non-core assets referred to it.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.7) Matua community was recently seen in the news. The community is predominant in which of the following state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Assam
- c) West Bengal
- d) Gujarat

Answer: C

Shree Shree Harichand Thakur devoted his life for the cause of betterment of the oppressed, downtrodden and deprived persons in undivided Bengal during the pre-independence era. The social and religious movement started by him originated from Orakandi which is now in Bangladesh in 1860 and led to the formation of the Matua Dharma.

The Matua community has members on either side of the Bengal border. Today, Matuas constitute the second largest SC population of West Bengal. Government sources put their number at around 17% of the state's electorate.

Source : [All India Radio](#)

Q.8) Ex Dustlik is a joint military exercise between India and which other country?

- a) Mongolia
- b) Uzbekistan
- c) Oman
- d) Kyrgyzstan

Answer: b

- It is a joint military training exercise between India and Uzbekistan. The 3rd edition of the exercise was concluded at Yangiariq, Uzbekistan on 29th Mar 22/

Source: [Article](#)

Q.9) With reference to free legal aid in India, consider the following statements:

1. Constitution of India explicitly provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of society.
2. A woman is entitled for free legal aid by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) irrespective of her income or financial status.

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.

- Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all.
- A woman is entitled for free legal aid irrespective of her income or financial status. A woman is eligible to apply for free legal aid by virtue of Section 12(c) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.10) Which of the following are the reasons behind increasing frequency of heat waves in India?

1. Urbanization
2. Erratic monsoon
3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Select the correct code from the answers given below:

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

Answer: d

Reasons for increasing heat waves:

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** The primary driver is rising greenhouse gas emissions and the consequent change in the entire climate system. Due to enhanced global warming, scientists expect greater occurrence of heat waves which would have a more significant impact on Arctic and Antarctic ecosystems.
- **Erratic Nature of Monsoon:** Many experts have deduced that rising instances of unusually long dry phases during Monsoons mean that soil moisture drops to a remarkably low level. This reinforces the heat waves.

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- **Urbanization:** The urban centres are full of concrete structures that **enhance the occurrence of heat waves and create an urban heat island effect.** The materials used to build cities like asphalt, concrete, bricks and other supplies are very dense in their composition. Further the darker colors used to paint the buildings also absorb and retain short-wave radiation from the sun.
- Similarly, the configuration of buildings in cities also results in heat waves. When big buildings are amassed along a waterway, like in Mumbai and other coastal cities, the wind coming off the waterway can get blocked. Also, when buildings are placed close together, they reduce the convective movement of air which makes it to stagnate and heat.
- **Demand for Air Conditioning:** With a rise in temperature and an enhancement of per capita income of masses, a rise in installation and usage of air conditioners is witnessed in residential and commercial spaces. This provides temporary cooling inside but enhances the outside temperature thereby increasing occurrence of heat waves.

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), consider the following statements:

1. It is an intergovernmental body created to protect the interests of the Western Indian Ocean islands.
2. It serves to develop an effective response mechanism and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) against natural disasters.
3. India has been accepted as an observer of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)** is an intergovernmental body created in 1984 to protect the interests of the Western Indian Ocean islands. India is an observer.

The **IONS is a voluntary and inclusive initiative** that brings together navies of Indian Ocean Region (IOR) littoral states to increase maritime co-operation and enhance regional security.

Statement 2 is correct: It also serves to develop an effective response mechanism and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) against natural disasters. IONS includes **25 member nations that touch or lie within the IOR**, and 8 observer nations.

Statement 3 is incorrect: India is a member of IONS.

Q.2) The Maritime Exercise “IMEX 2022” is conducted by which organization:

- a) Indian Ocean Rim Association
- b) Indian Ocean Commission
- c) Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
- d) Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

Answer: D

Explanation: The maiden edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22) was conducted in Goa in March 2022. The aim of the exercise was to enhance interoperability in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations among member navies.

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Q.3) Which one of the following statements correctly describe the term “Shrinkflation”?

- a) A type of inflation which takes place due to downsizing a product while keeping its price the same.
- b) A type of inflation in which the inflation rate is high, the economic growth rate slows, and unemployment remains steadily high.
- c) A type of inflation that takes place when supply falls drastically due to supply-side accidents or mismanagement, but demand remains at the same level.
- d) A type of inflation in which the prices of a single commodity or a set of commodities rise while the overall price level remains stable.

Answer: A

Explanation: Shrinkflation: Downsizing a product while keeping its price the same is sometimes called “shrinkflation”—a combination of the words shrink and inflation. Companies face higher prices for their supplies and may try to pass that onto the consumer. Downsizing a product reduces costs for manufacturers.

Stagflation: A type of inflation in which the inflation rate is high, the economic growth rate slows, and unemployment remains steadily high.

Bottleneck inflation: A type of inflation that takes place when supply falls drastically due to supply-side accidents or mismanagement, but demand remains at the same level.

Skewed inflation: A type of inflation in which the prices of a single commodity or a set of commodities rise while the overall price level remains stable.

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

- 1. Space debris encompasses both natural meteoroid and artificial (human-made) orbital debris.
- 2. Elsa-d mission was launched by the Russian Space Agency (Roscosmos) for the demonstration of the space debris removal system.
- 3. Project NETRA is an initiative by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to detect debris and hazards to Indian satellites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Space debris encompasses **both natural meteoroid and artificial (human-made) orbital debris**. Meteoroids are in orbit about the sun, while most artificial debris is in orbit about the Earth (hence the term “orbital” debris). **Orbital debris is any human-made object** in orbit about the Earth that no longer serves a useful function. Such debris includes nonfunctional spacecraft, abandoned launch vehicle stages, mission-related debris, and fragmentation debris.

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Statement 2 is incorrect: Space startup **Astroscale** has launched ELSA-d, the demonstration mission for its **End-of-Life Services by Astroscale (ELSA) technology**, which aims to dock with, and then safely remove, orbital debris. ELSA-d the world's first commercial mission to demonstrate a space debris removal system.

Statement 3 is correct: Project NETRA is an initiative by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** which is an **early warning system in space** to detect debris and hazards to the Indian satellites.

Under this project, the ISRO plans to put up many **observational facilities like telescopes, connected radars, data processing units, and a control center**. With this project, India aims at gaining its own capability of **Space Situational Awareness (SSA)**. Current India gets its information about the space debris from **North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD), which is an initiative by the U.S. and Canada**.

Q.5) What is the position of the Right against self-incrimination in India?

- a) Legal right available to citizens only
- b) Fundamental Right available to citizens only
- c) Fundamental Right available to any person
- d) Neither fundamental Right nor legal right

Answer: C

Explanation: Article 20(3) states that “No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself.” This is stated under **Part 3 – Fundamental Rights**.

ENVIRONMENT

Q.6) With reference to Plastic waste, consider the following statements:

- 1. Cosmetics and personal care products are the major sources of macroplastics.
- 2. PET Bottles as plastic waste can be imported 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: Cosmetics and personal care products are the major sources of microplastics.

Statement 2 is correct: PET Bottles as plastic waste can be imported in India.

- The government banned the import of plastic waste in 2019 to promote the management of locally generated plastic waste.

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- However, several plastic waste industries have requested the Government to revoke the plan as there was too little waste available for them in India and this was causing them financial losses.
- After this, an expert committee was set up by the Ministry of Environment. This committee recommended that firms who had applied for permission could import PET Flakes/Bottles up to 50% of their production capacity.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Q.7) Wright Mons was recently seen in the news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a newly found volcano underneath the Indian Plate.
- b) It is a mountainous feature found on Pluto.
- c) It is a migration pattern of Albatross.
- d) Newly found snake species in Western Ghats.

Answer: B

A mountainous feature named Wright Mons was found on Pluto, which rises 4-5km above its surroundings. It is about 150km across its base and has a central depression (a hole) 40-50km wide, with a floor at least as low as the surrounding terrain.

Wright Mons, was informally named by the New Horizons team in honour of the Wright brothers.

Scientists claim that Wright Mons is a volcano, and cite the lack of impact craters as evidence that it is not likely to be older than 1-2 billion years.

An impact crater is formed when an object like an asteroid or meteorite crashes into the surface of a larger solid object like a planet or a moon.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.8) With reference to orbital space debris, consider the following statements:

1. The higher the altitude, the longer the orbital debris will typically remain in Earth orbit.
2. Outer Space Treaty forms the basis of cooperation on all issues related to management of space debris.

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 higher the altitude, the longer the orbital debris will typically remain in Earth orbit. Debris left in orbits below 600 km normally fall back to Earth within several years. At altitudes of 800 km, the time for orbital decay is often

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measured in centuries. Above 1,000 km, orbital debris will normally continue circling the Earth for a thousand years or more.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** There is no international treaty on orbital space debris till now.

Source: [Article](#)

ECONOMY

Q.9) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding effects of Inflation?

1. Redistribution of wealth from creditors to debtors.
2. Negative impact on people with fixed salaries.
3. Will benefit a bondholder.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: d

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Inflation hurts lenders and benefits borrowers. Lenders suffer due to inflation. It is because the money they get paid back has less purchasing power than the money they loaned out.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Inflation erodes the value of money. Thus, it will hurt people with a fixed income. People on fixed salaries, fixed pensions etc will be negatively impacted by inflation as they will be able to buy less.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Inflation will hurt a bondholder as he is also a lender. A bondholder has lent money to a debtor. So, he will be at a loss.

Source: [Article](#)

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

1. It is organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
2. The event is held in late March every year due to the availability of near coincidental sunset times in both Northern and Southern hemispheres.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

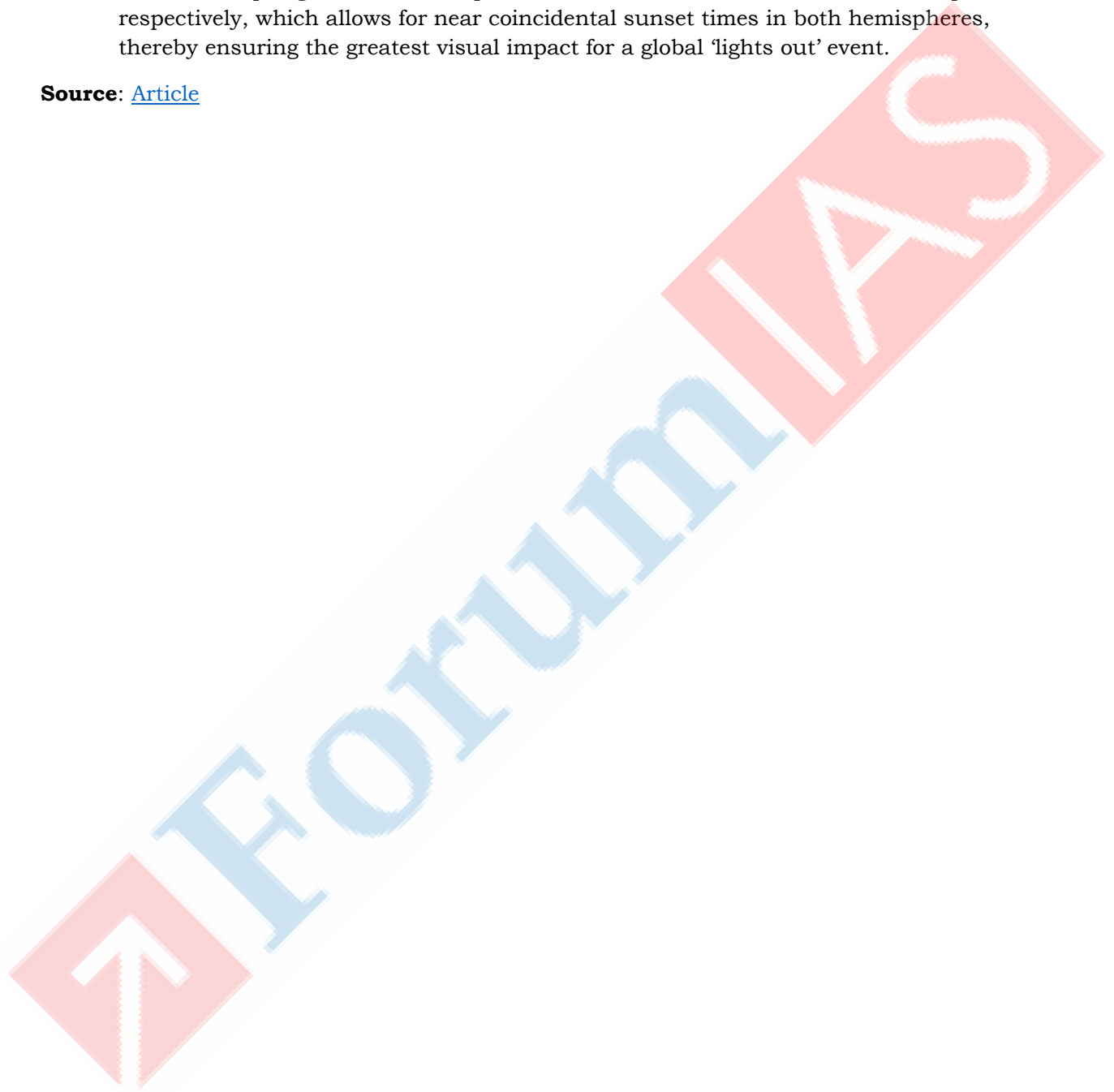
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

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- **Statement 1 is correct:** The event is organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). Earth Hour was famously started as a lights out event in Sydney, Australia in 2007.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The second-to-last and last weekend of March is around the time of the Spring and Autumn equinoxes in the northern and southern hemispheres respectively, which allows for near coincidental sunset times in both hemispheres, thereby ensuring the greatest visual impact for a global 'lights out' event.

Source: [Article](#)



ANCIENT HISTORY

Q.1) With reference to the Kushana empire, consider the following statements:

1. Gandhara school of art flourished in the Kushana period.
2. The coins issued exhibit the figures of many Dharmas including God Shiva.
3. Kanishka, a Kushana ruler, administered the third Buddhist Council in Kashmir

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Two schools, viz. **Mathura School of Art and Gandhara School of Art** flourished in the Kushana Era. Kushana had a cultural influence of the **Hellenistic Greeks** and this impact is seen these schools of arts as well.

Statement 2 is correct: Kujula Kadphises expanded and made the Kushan empire affluent into northwest India by trading with Romans. He issued coins that exhibit the figures of many Dharmas including God Shiva.

Kanishka: The coins issued in his period exhibit the **figures of Greek** had by some other countries deities, but later on, he was depicted as **a man in the long coat on those coins**. His **gold coins represented Buddha**.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Kanishka also administered the **fourth Buddhist Council at Kuldavana in Kashmir**, presided by **Vasumitra and Ashwaghosa** who were among the top scholars during Kanishka's rule. These things give an indication that he was a devotee of Lord Buddha.

Q.2) With reference to Chilika lake, consider the following statement:

1. It is a brackish water lagoon, spread over two districts in Odisha.
2. It was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
3. It is currently placed in the Montreux Record.

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: B

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Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Chilika Lake is a **brackish water lagoon**, spread over the **Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha** state on the east coast of India, at the **mouth of the Daya River**, flowing into the Bay of Bengal.

Statement 2 is correct: In 1981, Chilika Lake was designated the **first Indian wetland** of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. **Chilika is Asia's largest and world's second-largest lagoon.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Montreux Record under the **Ramsar Convention** is a register of wetland sites on the **List of Wetlands of International Importance where changes in ecological character** have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference. Currently, **two wetlands of India are in Montreux record: Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) and Loktak Lake (Manipur).** Chilika lake (Odisha) was placed in the record but was later removed from it.

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

1. They are 'Critically Endangered' as per the IUCN Red List.
2. Dolphin distribution in Chilika is considered to be the highest single lagoon population.

Which of the statement given above is/are incorrect:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: They are '**Endangered**' as per the IUCN Red List. Irrawaddy dolphins fall under **Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

Statement 2 is correct: Dolphin distribution in Chilika is considered to be the highest single lagoon population. However, recently there has been a dip in Chilika lake dolphin population. Whereas, overall numbers in Odisha have increased.

Also found in coastal areas in South and Southeast Asia, and in three rivers: **the Irrawaddy (Myanmar), the Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo) and the Mekong (China).**

Q.4) Which of the following factors is/are responsible for coastal erosion:

1. Increase in frequency of Cyclones
2. Wake from fast ferries
3. Construction of seawalls
4. Beach mining
5. Building of dams

Select the correct code from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation: The reasons for coastal erosion include **an increase in the frequency of Cyclones and Sea level rise** and anthropogenic activities such as the construction of **harbours and seawalls, beach mining and building of dams**. Wakes from fast ferries cause shore degradation in sheltered coastal environments. They often break as plunging breakers.

Q.5) The term ‘cryovolcanism’ often seen in news, refers to the:

- a) Eruption of volcanoes in permafrost areas such as Antarctica
- b) Massive volcanic activities that took place during the Little Ice Age.
- c) Massive volcanoes which can lead to significant cooling of a planet.
- d) Erupting icy water rather than molten rock.

Answer: D

Explanation: “Cryovolcanism” — erupting icy water rather than molten rock.

Recently the Solar System of Pluto became even more interesting with a report that icy lava flows have covered substantial tracts of its surface.

ECONOMY

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

1. Ukraine is the largest producer of sunflower in the world.
2. Yellow Revolution was launched to increase the production of sunflower oil alone.

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:** Ukraine is the largest producer of sunflower. (Ukraine and Russia together account for about 60% of the global sunflower oil production and exports).
India imports about 2.5 million tonnes of which 70% from Ukraine, 20% from Russia and remaining from other countries including Argentina.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The revolution launched in 1986- 1987 to increase the production of edible oil, especially mustard and sesame seeds to achieve self-reliance is known as the Yellow Revolution. At present, Yellow Revolution targets nine oilseeds that are groundnut, mustard, soybean, safflower, sesame, sunflower, niger, linseed, and castor.

Source: [PIB](#)

GEOGRAPHY

Q.7) Which of the following factors is/are essential to determine the flow of the river?

1. Rainfall distribution pattern
2. Rainfall duration and intensity in the catchment
3. Health of catchment area

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Flow in the rivers is a dynamic parameter and depends on many sub-parameters such as rainfall, its distribution pattern, duration and intensity in the catchment, health of catchment area, vegetation and withdrawals/utilization of water.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.8) Which of the following are the possible drawbacks of promotion of oil palm cultivation in the Northeast India?

1. Water stress
2. Invasive species
3. Decline in biodiversity

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

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- **Water stress**– oil palm is a water-guzzling crop, which requires 300 liters of water per tree per day. Thus, it can lead to water stress in the region.
- **Invasive species**– The palm is an invasive species. It's not a natural forest product of northeastern India. Thus, its impact on biodiversity as well as on soil conditions has to be analyzed.
- **Destruction of rainforests and native biodiversity**- The focus areas of the mission are biodiversity hotspots and ecologically fragile. Oil palm plantations would denude forest cover and destroy the habitat of endangered wildlife, as witnessed in Southeast Asia.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.9) Which of the following is/are incorrectly matched?

Sites	Planet
1. Jezero crater	Moon
2. Wright Mons	Mars
3. Copernicus crater	Pluto

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 incorrectly matched.

- Jezero crater – Mars
- Wright Mons – Pluto
- Copernicus crater – Moon

Source: [Article](#)

Q10 Varuna is a joint naval exercise between India and which other country?

- a) United Kingdom
- b) France
- c) Australia
- d) Japan

Answer: b

- It is a naval exercise between India and France.

Source: [Article](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to **S400 Triumph Air Defence System**, consider the following statements:

1. It is an anti-aircraft missile defense system developed by Israel.
2. It has the capability to destroy Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, aerial threats, ballistic and cruise 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: S-400 Triumph Missile System is a mobile, surface-to-air missile system (SAM), designed by Russia

Statement 2 is correct: It can detect, track and destroy hostile strategic bombers, jets spy planes, missiles and drones at a range of 380-km.

- It can engage all types of aerial targets such as aircraft, ballistic and cruise missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV).
- It can track 100 airborne targets including super fighters such as the American built F-35 and engage six of them simultaneously.

Q.2) Which of the following is/are not as per the basic tenets of the Federalism?

1. All-India Services
2. Zonal councils
3. Emergency provisions

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: c

- The members of the All-India Services are recruited and trained by the Centre which also possess ultimate control over them. Thus, these services violate the principle of federalism under the Constitution.
- Zonal councils aim at promoting cooperation and coordination between states, union territories and the Centre. Hence, they promote the spirit of Federalism.
- Under Emergency provisions, the Indian state acquires a unitary character.

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Q.3) With reference to Extra neutral alcohol (ENA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a byproduct of the sugar industry.
2. It is not a food-grade alcohol that contains many impurities.
3. It is an essential ingredient in the manufacture of cosmetics and personal care products such as perfumes, toiletries, hair spray, etc.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Statement 1 is correct: It is a byproduct of the sugar industry.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is colourless food-grade alcohol that does not have any impurities.

Statement 3 is correct: Applications of ENA are

- It is an essential ingredient in the manufacture of cosmetics and personal care products such as perfumes, toiletries, hair spray, etc.
- Utilized in the production of some lacquers, paints and ink for the printing industry, as well as in pharmaceutical products such as antiseptics, drugs, syrups, medicated sprays.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.4) “Spreading like wildfire: The rising threat of extraordinary landscape fires” report is released by which of the following organisation?

- a) United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- b) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- c) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- d) SAARC Disaster Management Centre (SDMC)

Answer: C

United Nations Environment Programme has released a report titled Spreading like wildfire: The rising threat of extraordinary landscape fires. The report noted that “indigenous and traditional knowledge of land management in many regions — particularly the use of fire to manage fuel, including for wildfire mitigation — can be an effective way of reducing hazard.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.5) With reference to look out circular (LOC), consider the following statements:

1. It is mostly used at immigration checkpoints at international airports and seaports by the immigration branch.
2. Only the Enforcement Directorate can issue look out circular (LOC) 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: A

Statement 1 is correct: An LOC is issued to make sure that an individual who is absconding or wanted by law enforcement agencies is not able to leave the country. It is mostly used at immigration checkpoints at international airports and seaports by the immigration branch.

Statement 2 is incorrect: An LOC can be initiated by a large number of authorised officers, including an officer not below the rank of deputy secretary, an officer not below the rank of joint secretary in the state government, a district magistrate or superintendent of police, designated officers of various law enforcing and security agencies, a designated officer of Interpol, an officer not below the rank of additional director in the Serious Fraud Investigation Office, and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

In 2018, the government also empowered the heads of public sector banks to directly request the authorities to issue an LOC against wilful defaulters to prevent them from leaving the country.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) With reference to indigenous languages, consider the following statements:

1. A language is defined as vulnerable when the children are no longer learning the language as their mother tongue in their home.
2. India has the world's largest number of languages in danger of disappearing.

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: According to UNESCO, a language is vulnerable when most children speak it but it may be restricted to certain domains (like the home), definitely endangered when children no longer learn the language as their mother tongue in the home, and critically endangered when the youngest speakers are grandparents and older, and they speak the language partially and infrequently.

Statement 2 is correct: According to UNESCO's "Atlas Of The World's Languages In Danger Of Disappearing", India has the world's largest number of languages in various states of

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danger. Nearly 200 languages in India are in various states of peril, the highest number in the world.

Source: [Livemint](#)

Q.7) Which of the following benefits will occur while implementing Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records (FASTER) platform?

1. Ensure timely Release of Undertrials
2. Ensure Fundamental Rights of Prisoners
3. Prevent Unnecessary Arrests

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: C

FASTER is a digital platform to communicate interim orders, stay orders, bail orders etc., of the Supreme Court to authorities concerned through a secured electronic communication channel. The benefits of FASTER Platform include,

- **Ensure timely Release of Undertrials:** Ensure that undertrials are not made to wait for days on end behind bars to be released because the certified hard copies of their bail orders took time to reach the prison.
- **Prevent Unnecessary Arrests:** It will help in preventing unnecessary arrests and custody of people even after the court had already granted them its protection.
- **Ensure Fundamental Rights of Prisoners:** Ensure fundamental rights of personal liberty, life and dignity of the prisoners which is given under Article 21 of Constitution of India.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.8) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

Tribes	Region
1. Xavante	Nigeria
2. Maasai	Tanzania
3. Pemón	Venezuela

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: b

- Xavante – Brazil
- Maasai northern, central and southern Kenya and northern Tanzania.

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- The Pemon or Pemón are indigenous people living in areas of Venezuela, Brazil, and Guyana.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.9) With reference to Human genome, consider the following statements:

1. Human genome is exactly the same in all people.
2. Naturally occurring human genes 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: b

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Human genome is mostly the same in all people, but a very small part of the DNA does vary between one individual and another.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** "Naturally occurring" human genes cannot be patented because they are a "product of nature," meaning that they cannot be claimed as a human invention. This is the position under the Indian Patents Act.

Source: [Article](#)

Q.10) With reference to Antarctica and the Antarctica Treaty, consider the following statements:

1. The region has no native population.
2. The treaty makes it mandatory for the 54 signatory countries to specify laws governing territories on which their stations are located.

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.

- Antarctica is unique as it has no native population.
- The Antarctica Treaty, of which India is also a member, mandates that 54 signatory countries specify laws governing territories on which their stations are located.

Source: [Article](#)