# **Forum** AS

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

12th to 17th September, 2022

#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Uzbekistan consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a double landlocked country.
- 2. Kyrgyzstan borders Uzbekistan from the south.

### 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 -

Uzbekistan is a hot, dry, landlocked country. It is one of two doubly landlocked countries in the world (that is, a landlocked country completely surrounded by other landlocked countries), the other being Liechtenstein.

Uzbekistan borders Kazakhstan and the Aralkum Desert to the north and northwest, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan to the southwest, Tajikistan to the southeast, and Kyrgyzstan to the northeast. It is one of the largest Central Asian states and the only Central Asian state to border all the other four.

Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-modi-to-visit-uzbekistan-on-september-15-16-to-attend-sco-summit/article65878871.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-modi-to-visit-uzbekistan-on-september-15-16-to-attend-sco-summit/article65878871.ece</a>

#### Q.2) With reference to Oriental darter birds consider the following statements:

- 1. They are water birds and are found mostly in fresh water bodies.
- 2. Their status is Least Concerned in IUCN Red Data List.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

# Answer: A

#### **Explanation** -

The Oriental darter birds are water birds and they inhabit freshwater habitats like ponds, lakes, swamps, reservoirs and slow moving streams.

They are listed as Nearly Threatened in IUCN Red Data List.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/asian-openbill-says-no-to-other-migrants-at-tirunavaya/article65879458.ece



# Q.3) With reference to Product Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been introduced to boost domestic manufacturing without reduction in the imports.
- 2. It will ensure that more employment opportunities are provided to Indian citizens in the manufacturing sector.

#### Select the correct statements using the code given below:

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

PLI scheme is an initiative that provides incentives to domestic industries to boost local production.

Through this scheme the Government aims to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.

PLI has been introduced to boost domestic manufacturing and cut down on imports.

Its objective are -

- To encourage foreign companies to set up their production activities in India. When this happens, we could see more foreign investments coming into our country.
- To provide support towards the existing domestic companies to expand their manufacturing units.
- To ensure that more employment opportunities are provided to Indian citizens in the manufacturing sector.

Source: <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/discussion-underway-to-extend-pli-scheme-to-more-sectors/articleshow/94145453.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/discussion-underway-to-extend-pli-scheme-to-more-sectors/articleshow/94145453.cms</a>

# Q.4) Consider the following pairs:

# National Parks/Sanctuary

- 1. Manas Sanctuary
- 2. Palamau National Park
- 3. Kanha National Park
- 4. Maighat Sanctuary

# Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

Manas Sanctuary is in Assam.

Palamau National Park is in Bihar.

Kanha National Park is in Madhya Pradesh

Maighat Sanctuary is in Maharshtra

#### **States**

Assam

Rajasthan

Madhya Pradesh

Karnataka



Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/archives/project-to-save-tiger-from-extinction/article65879419.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/archives/project-to-save-tiger-from-extinction/article65879419.ece</a>

# Q.5) With reference to Rabies, consider the following statements;

- 1. Many animals from cats to crocodiles can be transmitters of the virus.
- 2. The virus targets the majority of the body parts except the central nervous system.
- 3. Rabies is nearly 100% fatal to the host animal if it succeeds in infecting it.

# Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

**Statement 1 is correct**: Many animals from cats to crocodiles can be transmitters of the virus, it is most likely to spread to people from the bite of an infected dog or a cat as they are the most common pets.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The virus targets the central nervous system and is nearly 100% fatal to the host animal if it succeeds in infecting it.

**Statement 3 is correct**: Rabies is nearly 100% fatal to the host animal if it succeeds in infecting it.

Source: The Hindu

# **Q.6) With** reference to **adoption procedure in India**, consider the following statements;

- 1. Adoptions in India are governed only by Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- 2. Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children.

# 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**: Adoptions in India are governed by two laws — the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA) and the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. Both laws have separate eligibility criteria for adoptive parents.

**Statement 2 is correct**: Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children.

Source: The Hindu



#### Q.7) Taragiri, is seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) A butterfly species identified in Assam.
- b) It is the third stealth frigate of Project 17A.
- c) It is a new space module for India's upcoming Gaganyaan Mission.
- d) It is a first of its kind Centre-State science conference.

#### Answer: B

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) has launched Taragiri, the third stealth frigate of Project 17A.

The ship has state-of-the-art weapons, sensors, an advanced action information system, an integrated platform management system, world-class modular living spaces, a sophisticated power distribution system and a host of other advanced features.

- The ship's air defence capability is designed to counter the threat of enemy aircraft and antiship cruise missiles will revolve around the vertical launch and long-range surface-to-air missile system.
- Two 30 mm rapid-fire guns will provide the ship with close-in-defence capability while an SRGM (Super Rapid Gun Mount) gun will enable her to provide effective naval gunfire support. Source: The Hindu

# Q.8) Consider the following statements;

- 1. He translated Gita into Marathi language with the title Geetai.
- 2. He is considered a National Teacher of India and the spiritual successor of Mahatma Gandhi.
- 3. He was the first recipient of the international Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership.

#### Which of the following personalities is mentioned in the statements above?

- a) Swami Vivekananda
- b) Acharya Vinoba Bhave
- c) Vallabhbhai Patel
- d) Sarvepalli Radhakrishna

#### Answer: B

Source: The Hindu

#### Q.9) With reference to Einstein Ring, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is created when the light from a galaxy or star passes by a massive object en route to the Earth.
- 2. So far, the Einstein Ring is not yet discovered and is still a theoretical concept.

# 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 is created when the light from a galaxy or star passes by a massive object en route to the Earth.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Recently, The James Webb Space Telescope has captured an image of an almost perfect "Einstein ring." The James Webb Telescope discovered an Einstein Ring

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formed from the light of a distant galaxy SPT-S J041839-4751.8, which is around 12 billion light-years away from our planet, which also makes it one of the oldest galaxies in the universe.

Source: Indian Express

# Q.10) With reference to Indo-Pacific Economic Forum (IPEF), consider the following statements;

- 1. It was launched jointly by the US and other partner countries of the Indo-Pacific region.
- 2. India, Australia and Japan are members of IPEF.

# Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

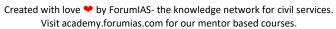
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: C

**Statement 1 is correct**: It was launched jointly by the US and other partner countries of the Indo-Pacific region.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The 14 members of the IPEF are — Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the US.

Source: PIB





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a series of targets that all UN members have pledged to work on in order to improve the country's future.
- 2. Clean water and sanitation is one of the SDGs.
- 3. SDGs are legally binding on the member nations.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

# Answer: A

#### Explanation -

The Sustainable Development Goals are a series of targets that all UN members have pledged to work on in order to improve the country's future.

There are 17 SDGs. They are – 1) end poverty, 2) end hunger, 3) good health and well-being 4) quality education 5) gender equality, 6) clean water and sanitation, 7) affordable and clean energy, 8) decent work and economic growth, 9) industry, innovation and infrastructure, 10) reducing inequalities, 11) sustainable cities and economies, 12) responsible consumption and production, 13) climate action, 14) life below water, 15) life on land, 16) peace, justice and strong institutions and 17) partnership for the goals.

These goals are not legally binding on the member nations.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/nearly-every-indicator-of-the-unsustainable-development-goals-is-off-track-bill-and-melinda-gates-foundations-report/article65885573.ece

# Q.2) With reference to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international watchdog for financial crimes such as money laundering and terror financing.
- 2. India is not a member of FATF.
- 3. It's headquarter is at Vienna, Austria.

# Select the correct statement using the code given below:

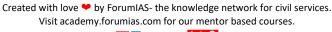
- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 only

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1:** Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an international watchdog for financial crimes such as money laundering and terror financing.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. FATF currently has 39 members. India is a member country.





**Statement 3:** The FATF Secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/fatf-asia-pacific-group-rates-pakistan-low-on-10-out-of-11-international-goals-on-anti-money-laundering-combating-terror-finance-report/article65885587.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/fatf-asia-pacific-group-rates-pakistan-low-on-10-out-of-11-international-goals-on-anti-money-laundering-combating-terror-finance-report/article65885587.ece</a>

# Q.3) With reference the Consumer Price Index (CPI), consider the following statements:

- 1. It tracks the change in retail prices of goods and services which households purchase for their daily consumption.
- 2. The change in the price index over a period of time is referred to as CPI-based inflation or retail inflation.
- 3. CPI is dominated by manufactured goods.

#### Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

Consumer Price Index (CPI) tracks the change in retail prices of goods and services which households purchase for their daily consumption. The change in the price index over a period of time is referred to as CPI-based inflation or retail inflation.

If there is inflation the CPI will rise over a period of time. If the CPI drops, that means there is deflation, or a steady reduction in the prices of goods and services.

CPI is dominated by the prices of food articles whereas WPI is dominated by the manufactured goods.

Source: <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/retail-inflation-rises-to-7-in-august-as-against-6-71-in-july/articleshow/94154661.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/retail-inflation-rises-to-7-in-august-as-against-6-71-in-july/articleshow/94154661.cms</a>

# Q.4) With reference to Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It reviews the status of the international oil market and the forecasts for the future.
- 2. It's headquarter is at Vienna, Austria.

#### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

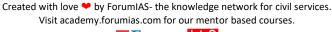
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

One of the functions of OPEC is to review the status of the international oil market and the forecasts for the future in order to agree upon appropriate actions which will promote price stability in the oil market.

It initially had its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland which was then moved to Vienna, Austria in 1965.





It accounts for an estimated 44 percent of global oil production and 81.5 percent of the world's oil reserves.

Source: <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/explained-the-importance-of-jaishankars-first-visit-to-saudi-arabia/articleshow/94142079.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/explained-the-importance-of-jaishankars-first-visit-to-saudi-arabia/articleshow/94142079.cms</a>

# Q.5) Operation Gear Box, was seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) To improve the fuel efficiency of diesel trucks.
- b) To detect the hidden drugs in the gearboxes.
- c) To provide Internal Combustion Engine driving experience to EV drivers.
- d) To provide proper driving license to reduce road accidents in India.

#### Answer: B

**Conducted by**: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence(DRI) **Purpose:** To detect the hidden drugs in the gearboxes.

The drug syndicate used to remove the gears from old and used gearboxes and plastic packets containing the narcotic substance were placed in them and gearboxes were refitted to avoid detection.

These packets were then shipped concealing inside this metal scrap with other metal scraps so that it would go unnoticed by the authorities.

Source: ForumIAS blog

#### Q.6) Which of the following is/are the advantages of Hydrogen Fuel Cell?

- 1. It is completely environment friendly with no tailpipe emissions other than water.
- 2. Operation times of fuel cells are longer than those of batteries.
- 3. Since Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the Universe, it is easy to extract and create fuel cells.

# Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

# Answer: B

**Statements 1 and 2 are correct**: Hydrogen Fuel Cell is completely environment friendly with no tailpipe emissions other than water and Operation times of fuel cells are longer than those of batteries.

**Statement 3 is incorrect**: Despite being the most abundant element in the Universe, hydrogen does not exist on its own. So, hydrogen needs to be extracted from water via electrolysis or separated from carbon fossil fuels. Both of these processes require a significant amount of energy to achieve. This energy can be more than that gained from the hydrogen itself as well as being expensive.

Source: ForumIAS blog



#### Q.7) With reference to Schedule Castes, consider the following statements;

- 1. Any change to the list of Scheduled Castes specified in the President's order can only be made by Parliament by law.
- 2. State governments cannot declare any Other Backward Classes (OBC) into Schedule Castes(SC).

#### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

Both the statements are correct.

Source: ForumIAS Blog

# Q.8) With reference to India's Dairy Sector, consider the following statements;

- 1. India is ranked 1st in milk production contributing 23 % of global milk production.
- 2. Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh are the top two milk producers 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**: India is ranked 1st in milk production contributing 23 % of global milk production.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The top 5 milk-producing states are Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.9) With reference to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991, consider the following statements;

- 1. The Act bars the conversion of the religious character of a place of worship from how it existed on August 15, 1947.
- 2. The Act applied to Ram Janma Bhumi Babri Masjid dispute also.

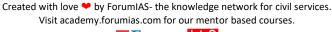
#### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: A

**Statement 1 is correct**: The Act bars the conversion of the religious character of a place of worship from how it existed on August 15, 1947.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: It says that the Act shall not be applied to Ram Janma Bhumi Babri Masjid dispute. Other than that, the Act also exempts:





- Any place of worship, that is an ancient and historical monument or an archaeological site. It must be covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958;
- a suit that has been finally settled or disposed of;
- any dispute that has been settled by the parties or conversion of any place that took place by acquiescence before the Act commenced.

Source: <u>Indian Express</u>

# Q.10) With reference to Financial Intermediary Fund(FIF), consider the following statements:

- 1. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is a trustee of this fund.
- 2. It has been established for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response(PPR).

# Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

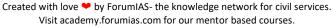
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

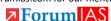
#### Answer: B

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: World Bank will serve as a trustee and host the secretariat of the fund with technical support from the World Health Organization(WHO).

**Statement 2 is correct**: It has been established for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response(PPR).

Source: ForumIAS Blog





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to the climatic condition for Natural Rubber consider the following statements:

- 1. It requires a hot and humid climate with temperatures of 25°-35°C and annual rainfall of over 200 cm.
- 2. Dry weather is necessary for the growth of the rubber plant.
- 3. India is the fourth largest natural rubber producing country in the world.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

A rubber tree is a quick-growing tall tree acquiring 20-30 meters in height. It begins to yield latex in 5-7 years after planting.

It requires a hot and humid climate with a temperature of 25°-35°C and annual rainfall of over 200 cm. The rainfall should be well distributed throughout the year.

Dry spell and low temperatures are harmful. Daily rainfall followed by strong sun is very useful. The yields decline at higher elevations and no rubber plantations are found above 700 m elevation.

India ranks Fourth In the world production of natural rubber.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-the-fall-in-natural-rubber-prices-in-india/article65885937.ece

# Q.2) With reference to Gaganyaan Mission consider the following statements:

- 1. The objective of the mission is to demonstrate indigenous capability to undertake human space flight mission to the High Earth Orbit (HEO).
- 2. As part of this programme, two unmanned missions and one manned mission are approved by 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

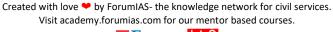
#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. The objective of the Gaganyaan mission is to demonstrate indigenous capability to undertake human space flight mission to the Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

Statement 2: As part of this programme, two unmanned missions and one manned mission are approved by Government of India (GoI).

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/first-test-flight-of-gaganyaan-this-year-minister/article65886203.ece





#### Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. South-South cooperation is a broad framework of collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains.
- 2. Triangular cooperation involves three countries, two from the North and one from the South.
- 3. North-South cooperation happens when a developed country supports economically or with another kind of resources a less developed country.

# Select the correct statement using the code given below:

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

#### Answer: D

# Explanation -

Statement 1: South-South cooperation is a broad framework of collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Triangular cooperation involves three countries, one from the North and two from the South.

Statement 3: North-South cooperation happens when a developed country supports economically or with another kind of resources a less developed country.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-will-do-its-best-to-promote-south-south-cooperation-united-nations-envoy-ruchira-kamboj/article65889473.ece

# Q.4) With reference to Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is responsible for granting licenses of certain specialized categories of critical Drugs.
- 2. It also has regulatory control over the import of drugs, approval of new drugs and clinical trials.

#### Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) is responsible for granting licenses of certain specialized categories of critical Drugs. It also has regulatory control over the import of drugs, approval of new drugs and clinical trials. It has been assigned responsibility under Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cdsco-falling-short-in-effectively-regulating-the-medical-devices-industry-parliamentary-panel/article65889086.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cdsco-falling-short-in-effectively-regulating-the-medical-devices-industry-parliamentary-panel/article65889086.ece</a>



# Q.5) Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise between India and which of the following country?

- a) The USA
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) Vietnam

#### Answer: B

**Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN-** It is an annual joint military exercise between India and Japan from 2018.

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

**Exercise JIMEX**: It is an annual maritime exercise between India and Japan.

Source: ForumIAS Blog

# Q.6) Which of the following statement is not correct about Trees Outside Forests in India Initiative?

- a) It aims increase tree coverage outside of forest lands in India in a bid to support global climate change mitigation and adaptation goals.
- b) It is a collaborative initiative of the US and India.
- c) The program will be implemented in all the states and UTs of India.
- d) The program will enhance carbon sequestration, support local communities and strengthen the climate resilience of agriculture.

#### Answer: C

The program will be implemented in seven states including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

Source: ForumIAS Blog

# Q.7) With reference to the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), consider the following statements;

- 1. The NLEM contributes towards a reduction in Out-of-Pocket Expenditure on healthcare for the citizens.
- 2. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes the prices of NLEM drugs based on the wholesale price index inflation.

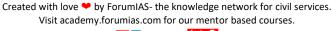
#### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

Both the statements are correct.

NLEM plays an important role in ensuring the accessibility of affordable quality medicines at all levels of healthcare. This will give a boost to cost-effective, quality medicines and contribute towards a reduction in Out of Pocket Expenditure on healthcare for the citizens.





Medicines that feature in the NLEM are called scheduled drugs. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority(NPPA) fixes the prices of these drugs based on the wholesale price index inflation.

Source: ForumIAS Blog

#### Q.8) With reference to Natural Rubber production, consider the following statements;

- 1. Kerala accounts for nearly 75% of the total Natural Rubber production in India.
- 2. At present, increasing Chinese demand results in exorbitant price rise of Natural Rubber 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**: India is currently the world's fifth largest producer of natural rubber. It is also the second biggest consumer of natural rubber globally. Kerala accounts for nearly 75% of the total Natural Rubber production in India.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: After a moderate post-pandemic revival, the price of Natural Rubber(NR) has crashed to a 16-month low of ₹150 per kg in the Indian market. The current fall in prices is attributed primarily to weak Chinese demand and the European energy crisis, along with high inflation and an import glut, among other things

Source: ForumIAS Blog

# Q.9) Which of the following is/are the application of CRISPR Technology?

- 1. Correcting genetic defects
- 2. Preventing the spread of diseases
- 3. Improving the growth and resilience of crops

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

# Answer: D

The CRISPR technology has many potential applications, including correcting genetic defects, treating and preventing the spread of diseases, and improving the growth and resilience of crops. Source: Indian Express



# Q.10) With reference to windfall tax, consider the following statements;

- 1. These are designed to tax the company's investment strategy or their expansion of business.
- 2. These taxes are imposed retrospectively and can create uncertainty in the market about future taxes.

# 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

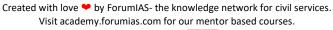
#### Answer: B

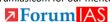
**Statement 1 is incorrect**: Windfall taxes are designed to tax the profits a company derives from an external, sometimes unprecedented event— for instance, the energy price rise as a result of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

These are profits that cannot be attributed to something the firm actively did like an investment strategy or an expansion of business.

**Statement 2 is correct**: Since windfall taxes are imposed retrospectively and are often influenced by unexpected events, they can brew uncertainty in the market about future taxes.

Source: The Hindu





#### **PRELIMS**

- **Q.1) With** reference to digital engineering seen in the news recently, which of the following statements is *incorrect*?
- a) Digital Engineering refers to the design and development of applications utilizing digital technology.
- b) Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning are included digital engineering.
- c) It is used to develop drawings, simulations, and 3D models for the purposes of collecting data and testing designs in digital and virtual environments.
- d) This involves integrating methods and techniques used in different types of engineering into one type of engineering.

# Answer: D

# Explanation -

Digital Engineering refers to the design and development of applications utilizing digital technology. It is the practice in which new applications are conceived and delivered.

Digital engineering services and solutions include digital automation, content creators, data analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), digital twin technology, and machine learning.

Digital engineering is used to develop drawings, simulations, and 3D models for the purposes of collecting data and testing designs in digital and virtual environments, enabling designers to investigate various possibilities and create more evolved innovative solutions.

Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-well-positioned-to-take-pole-position-in-digital-engineering-domain-study/article65890649.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-well-positioned-to-take-pole-position-in-digital-engineering-domain-study/article65890649.ece</a>

#### Q.2) With reference to the atomic clock, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a clock that measures time by monitoring the resonant frequency of atoms.
- 2. It uses radioactive decay to capture the time interval and hence they are more accurate than quartz clock.

#### 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

Atomic clock measures time by monitoring the resonant frequency of atoms. The atom clocks use radioactive decay to capture the time interval and hence they are very accurate.

**Source:** <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/what-are-atomic-clocks-how-precise-do-they-get/article65889441.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/what-are-atomic-clocks-how-precise-do-they-get/article65889441.ece</a>



#### Q.3) With reference to embedded SIM (eSIM) consider the following statements:

- 1. eSIM is different from traditional SIM in functioning as unique identifier for telecom operators.
- 2. eSIMs are attached to the motherboard of the phone and the users can switch to different operators without physically changing the SIM.

#### 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:** The statement is not correct. An eSIM consists of some components like a traditional SIM card. They also function the same way, acting as a unique identifier for telecom operators and other consumers to reach your exact smartphone when they make a call or send a text.

**Statement 2:** eSIMs are attached to the motherboard of the phone and the users can switch to different operators without physically changing the SIM.

**Source:** <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/tech-indepth-understanding-esims-their-advantages-and-disadvantages-8151100/">https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/tech-indepth-understanding-esims-their-advantages-and-disadvantages-8151100/</a>

# Q.4) With reference to Project 17 Alpha frigates (P-17A) consider the following statements:

- 1. The project is launched to construct a series of stealth guided-missile warships with a specific technology that has radar-absorbent coatings and low-observable mechanism.
- 2. The technology used increases the infrared signals of the ship.

#### Select the correct statement using the code given below:

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1:** Project 17 Alpha frigates (P-17A) is launched by Indian Navy in 2019 to construct a series of stealth guided-missile warships with a specific technology that has radar-absorbent coatings and low-observable mechanism.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. The technology used reduces the infrared signals of the ship which makes it low-observable by enemies.

Source: <a href="https://www.dnaindia.com/explainer/report-dna-explainer-what-is-project-17a-of-indian-navy-all-you-need-to-know-about-stealth-ship-taragiri-2984546">https://www.dnaindia.com/explainer/report-dna-explainer-what-is-project-17a-of-indian-navy-all-you-need-to-know-about-stealth-ship-taragiri-2984546</a>



#### Q.5) With reference to Apricot, consider the following statements;

- 1. Ladakh is the biggest apricot producer in the country.
- 2. Apricot is cultivated throughout the Tropic regions of the world and it is not suited in the Mediterranean and temperate regions.

# 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**: Ladakh is the biggest apricot producer in the country with a production that constitutes nearly 62 percent share in total.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: It is cultivated throughout the temperate regions of the world, especially in the Mediterranean.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) Exercise Kakadu is a multinational maritime exercise hosted by which of the following country?

- a) India
- b) France
- c) The USA
- d) Australia

# Answer: D

Exercise Kakadu is a multinational maritime exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Navy. The exercise derives its name from Kakadu National Park, which is a protected area in the Northern Territory of Australia.

**Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Which of the following statement is not correct about the list of Scheduled Tribes?

- a) The Scheduled Tribes lists are notified for each State or Union Territory.
- b) The criteria to mention ST's list are mentioned in the Constitution.
- c) These lists are valid only within the jurisdiction of particular State or UT and not outside.
- d) Indications of primitive traits and distinctive culture are one of the criteria for including a tribe in Scheduled Tribes list.

# **Answer: B**

The criteria presently followed for the specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe are: a) Indications of primitive traits; b) distinctive culture; c) geographical isolation; d) Shyness of contact with the community at large; and e) backwardness.

However, these criteria are not mentioned in the Constitution.

Source: The Hindu



#### Q.8) With reference to One Water Approach, consider the following statements;

- 1. In this approach, drinking water, wastewater and stormwater are managed combinedly regardless of their source.
- 2. Water is recycled and reused several times in one water approach.

# 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.

In the conventional water management approach, drinking water, wastewater and stormwater are managed separately, whereas in 'One Water', all the water systems, regardless of their source, are connected intentionally and managed meticulously for water, energy and resources.

Water is recycled and reused several times in one water approach

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) Consider the following statements;

- 1. He formed Dalit Yuvak Sangh, a cultural group and started writing poems on workers' protests, and agitations.
- 2. The prominent Dalit novel in Marathi Fakira (1959) is among his best-known works and bagged the state government's top literary award in 1961.
- 3. He was a member of the Communist Party of India (CPI) and featured among the selected authors from India whose work was translated into Russian.

# Which of the following personality is mentioned in the statements above?

- a) Arattupuzha Velayudha Panicker
- b) Annabhau Sathe
- c) Puchalapalli Sundarayya
- d) Prakash Karat

Answer: B

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.10) With reference to hate speech and rumour during polls, consider the following statements;

- 1. The Election Commission resort to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Representation of the People (RP) Act to ensure political parties not make statements that create social disharmony.
- 2. The Model Code of Conduct has not mentioned anything about hate speech and rumour during polls.

# Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

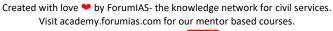
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

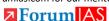
#### Answer: A

**Statement 1 is correct**: The Election Commission resort to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Representation of the People (RP) Act to ensure political parties not make statements that create social disharmony.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The Model Code of Conduct had no "legal sanctity." But the ECI had introduced guidelines in the Code asking political parties to desist from making communal statements. In case any complaints were made, the ECI said it took "strict note" of it.

Source: The Hindu





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched to achieve Universal Health Coverage.
- 2. It is the world's largest health assurance scheme fully financed by the government and the cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments.
- 3. It is only applicable to the people aged 60 and above.

#### Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: A

**Statement 1:** Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY) was launched in 2018 to achieve Universal Health Coverage.

**Statement 2:** It is the world's largest health assurance scheme fully financed by the government and the cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments.

**Statement 3:** The statement is incorrect. This yojna does not provide any restriction in family size, age or gender.

**Source:** <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/railway-healthcare-network-comes-under-ayushman-bharat/article65894196.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/railway-healthcare-network-comes-under-ayushman-bharat/article65894196.ece</a>

# Q.2) With reference to National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993.
- 2. The members hold office for the term of five years or till the age of 65 years whichever is earlier.

# 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

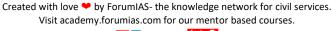
# Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1:** NHRC is statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. The members of NHRC are appointed by the President of India and they hold office for three years or till 70 years whichever is earlier.

**Source:** <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/nhrc-directs-assam-govt-to-pay-compensation-to-boy-assaulted-inside-police-station/article65893684.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/nhrc-directs-assam-govt-to-pay-compensation-to-boy-assaulted-inside-police-station/article65893684.ece</a>





# Q.3) Azerbaijan borders Armenia in the -

- a) West
- b) North
- c) South
- d) East

# Answer: D

# Explanation -

Armenia is a landlocked country. Armenia is bordered on the north by Georgia, on the east by Azerbaijan, on the south by Iran, and on the west by Turkey.

**Source:** <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/world/azerbaijan-armenia-clashes-why-now-8150431/">https://indianexpress.com/article/world/azerbaijan-armenia-clashes-why-now-8150431/</a>

# Q.4) Consider the following:

- 1. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
- 2. Methyl bromide
- 3. Carbon tetrachloride
- 4. Halons
- 5. Iodine

# Which of the above are responsible for the depletion of Ozone?

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

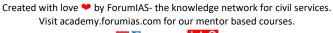
#### Answer: D

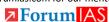
#### Explanation -

Ozone depleting substances include: a) chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), b) hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), c) hydrobromoflurocarbons (HBFCs), d) halons, e) methyl bromide, f) carbon tetrachloride g) methyl chloroform.

Recently scientist has found that iodine is also enabling ozone depletion on arctic.

**Source:** <a href="https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/scientists-discover-cfc-is-not-alone-indestroying-ozone-there-is-another-culprit-2000731-2022-09-15">https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/scientists-discover-cfc-is-not-alone-indestroying-ozone-there-is-another-culprit-2000731-2022-09-15</a>





# Q.5) With reference to China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a part of Belt Road Initiative (BRI) of China.
- 2. This corridor will link China with Keti Bander Port of Pakistan.
- 3. This corridor poses threat to the sovereignty of India as it passes through Gilgit-Baltistan region of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: B

**Statement 1:** China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a part of Belt Road Initiative (BRI) of China.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. CPEC connects Xinjiang region of China with Gwadar Port of Pakistan.

**Statement 3:** This corridor poses threat to the sovereignty of India as it passes through Gilgit-Baltistan region of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

**Source:** <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/world/xi-jinping-calls-for-solid-protection-8155392/">https://indianexpress.com/article/world/xi-jinping-calls-for-solid-protection-8155392/</a>

# Q.6) With reference to Naga tribes consider the following statements:

- 1. They belong to Indo-Mongoloid Family.
- 2. They are one of the single tribes present in the north eastern state of India.

# Select the correct statements using the code given below:

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1:** Naga tribe belongs to Indo-Mongoloid Family.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. Nagas are not single tribe but an ethnic community that comprises several tribes who live in the state of Nagaland and its neighbourhood.

**Source:** <a href="https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/nagaland-dy-cm-and-higher-education-minister-trying-to-resolve-issues-with-peace-accord-bjp-president-jp-nadda/articleshow/94236953.cms?from=mdr</a>



# Q.8) Damodaran committee, is sometime seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) To reform the BCCI and suggest measures.
- b) To promote Hindi for official work in banks, public sector undertakings located in foreign countries.
- c) To suggest reforms to further accelerate investment in start-ups and sunrise sectors.
- d) To enhance regulatory powers of SEBI and regulate foreign portfolio investments

#### Answer: C

The government has constituted an expert committee to examine and suggest appropriate measures to address regulatory and other issues to enable scaling up investments by venture capital and private equity investment.

The six-member panel will be headed by former SEBI chairman M Damodaran. The committee will suggest measures to further accelerates investment into start-ups and sunrise sectors.

**Source:** Livemint

# Q.9) With reference to Russia's Far East (RFE) region, consider the following statements;

- 1. The region is one of the most densely populated regions in the world.
- 2. The region is rich with natural resources such as fish, oil, natural gas, wood, diamonds and other minerals.

#### 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 region has a sparse population the EEF aims to encourage people to move and work in the Far East. Despite the abundance and availability of materials, procuring and supplying them is an issue due to the unavailability of personnel.

**Statement 2 is correct**: The region is rich with natural resources such as fish, oil, natural gas, wood, diamonds and other minerals.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.10) With reference to Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSCs), consider the following statements;

- 1. Ministers are not members of DRSCs.
- 2. Anti-defection law applies to DRSC members for their decision in DRSCs.

# 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: Ministers are not members of DRSCs.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Anti-defection law does not apply to committees — therefore, decisions can be made out of the party lines.

**Source:** The Hindu

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#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements:

- 1. It has jurisdiction over all civil cases that are related to the environment.
- 2. The members hold office for a term of three years or till the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier and they are not eligible for re-appointment.
- 3. The chairperson is appointed by the President in consultation with the Prime Minister.

#### Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

National Green Tribunal (NGT) has jurisdiction over all civil cases that are related to the environment. The members hold office for a term of three years or till the age of sixty-five years whichever is earlier, and they are not eligible for re-appointment. Statement 3 is incorrect. The chairperson is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

**Source:** <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/india/ngt-directs-rajasthan-govt-pay-3k-crore-waste-management-8155659/">https://indianexpress.com/article/india/ngt-directs-rajasthan-govt-pay-3k-crore-waste-management-8155659/</a>

#### Q.2) With reference to Kharif season consider the following statements:

- 1. The time period of harvesting kharif crop is between April and June.
- 2. The kharif season contributes about 80% of India's total rice production.

#### 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:** The statement is incorrect. The time period of sowing of kharif crop is between June and July and harvesting is between September and October.

**Statement 2:** The kharif season contributes about 80% of India's total rice production.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lower-kharif-sowing-calls-for-deft-management-of-foodgrain-stock-prices-finmin-report/article65902407.ece



# Q.3) With reference to Eklavya Model Residential Schools consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been set up under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 2. It has been setup to provide quality education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) students in their local remote areas.

#### Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1:** to Eklavya Model Residential Schools has been set up under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

**Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. EMRS only focuses on the education of Scheduled Tribes (ST).

Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/education/eklavya-model-residential-schools-face-teacher-shortage/article65895973.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/education/eklavya-model-residential-schools-face-teacher-shortage/article65895973.ece</a>

# Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to Self-Respect Movement:

- 1. This movement was started by Periyar.
- 2. This movement focused on destroying the Hindu social order and creating a new rational society without caste, religion and God.

#### 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 -

Self Respet Movement was started by E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker he was also known as Periyar. This movement focused on destroying the Hindu social order and creating a new, rational society without caste, religion and God.

**Source:** <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/remember-periyar-with-a-pledge-to-embrace-dissent/article65900217.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/remember-periyar-with-a-pledge-to-embrace-dissent/article65900217.ece</a>





#### Q.5) With reference to Asiatic Caracal, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a medium-sized and locally threatened cat species known by its persian name Siyahgosh or 'black ears'.
- 2. They are found mostly in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

# 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 is a medium-sized and locally threatened cat species known by its persian name Siyahgosh or 'black ears'.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: They are found mostly in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and are located in Kutch, the Malwa Plateau, the Aravalli hill range.

Source: DTE

# Q.6) Green Fins Hub, is seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a hub to protect river dolphins worldwide.
- b) Global digital platform for diving and snorkelling operators worldwide.
- c) A global platform consists of Environmental activists.
- d) It is a hub of cyber hackers worldwide.

#### Answer: B

Recently, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), along with the UK-based charity Reef-World Foundation, launched the Green Fins Hub. Green Fins Hub is a global digital platform for diving and snorkelling operators worldwide.

Source: DTE

#### Q.7) With reference to Assisted Suicide, consider the following statements;

- 1. Passive euthanasia means simply stopping lifesaving treatment or medical intervention with the consent of the patient or a family member representing the patient.
- 2. Passive euthanasia is legal in India as it was a matter of 'living will'.

#### 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.

In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India legalised passive euthanasia in 2018, stating that it was a matter of 'living will'. According to the judgment, an adult in his conscious mind is permitted to refuse medical treatment or voluntarily decide not to take medical treatment to embrace death in a natural way, under certain conditions.

Source: Indian Express



#### Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Shallow water mining?

- 1. It is considered a high-risk and high-cost option to mine metals and minerals.
- 2. Mining metals from the shallow-water ocean floor requires removing large amounts of sediment.
- 3. Shallow water mining trigger local extinctions and changes in species composition.

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

#### Answer: B

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: It is considered a relatively low-risk and low-cost option to satisfy the demand for metals and minerals.

Shallow-water mining projects are already underway in Namibia and Indonesia, and projects have been proposed in Mexico, New Zealand, and Sweden.

**Statements 2 and 3 are correct**: Shallow Water Mining is not a sustainable substitute for Deep-Sea Mining.

This is because mining metals from the shallow-water ocean floor requires removing large amounts of sediment.

Removing these sediments, which takes thousands of years to accumulate, means jeopardizing organisms that call it home.

This could trigger local extinctions and changes in species composition. Other issues could be the impact on water quality and release of harmful substances from the sediment and disturbance from noise and light.

Source: DTE

#### Q.9) With reference to Modern Slavery, consider the following statements;

- 1. The number of people in modern slavery has reduced in the past 10 years.
- 2. Forced labour and forced marriage are considered as modern slavery.

# 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 number of people in modern slavery has risen significantly in the last five years. 10 million more people were in modern slavery in 2021 compared to 2016 global estimates. Women and children remain disproportionately vulnerable.

**Statement 2 is correct**: Modern Slavery includes two, forced labour and forced marriage, both referring to the situation of exploitation when a person cannot refuse to comply or cannot escape owing to threats, violence, deception and abuse of power.

Source: NDTV



# Q.10) With reference to International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), consider the following statements;

- 1. It is also known as the Seed treaty and was adopted by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- 2. India has not ratified the treaty as the treaty permits GM crops.

# 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 International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) also known as the Seed treaty was adopted by the 31st session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in November 2001.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: The treaty came into force in 2004 and has been ratified by 149 countries including India.

Source: The Hindu Businessline

