

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

September, 2022

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'Dark Sky Reserve' seen in the news recently consider the following statement:

1. It is an area that allows for artificial light interference.
2. The purpose of the dark sky reserve is to promote astronomy.

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. Dark Sky Reserve is an area that restricts artificial light interference.

Statement 2: The purpose of the dark-sky reserve is to promote [astronomy](#).

Source:<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/india-to-have-first-astronomy-dark-reserve-in-ladakh/article65849890.ece>

Q.2) With reference to QUAD consider the following statements:

1. Indonesia is one of the members of QUAD.
2. Its purpose is to keep the strategic sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any military or political influence.

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 –

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. 'Quadrilateral Security Dialogue' (QSD), the Quad is an informal strategic forum comprising four nations, namely -- United States of America (USA), India, Australia and Japan.

Statement 2: The motive behind the Quad is to keep the strategic sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any military or political influence. It is basically seen as a strategic grouping to reduce Chinese domination. The core objective of the Quad is to secure a rules-based global order, freedom of navigation and a liberal trading system. The coalition also aims to offer alternative debt financing for nations in the Indo-Pacific region.

Source:<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-to-host-quad-senior-officials-meeting-on-september-5-and-6/article65841897.ece>

Q.3) With reference to The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) consider the following statements:

1. It is an international center for nuclear cooperation and peaceful nuclear technology.
2. It is an independent international organization that reports annually to the UN General Assembly.
3. It's headquarter is located in New York.

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 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. The IAEA was established as an autonomous organization on 29 July 1957. It is an independent international organization that reports annually to the UN General Assembly. When necessary, the IAEA will report to the UN Security Council in regards to instances of members' noncompliance of safeguard and security obligations. The IAEA Secretariat is headquartered in Vienna, Austria.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/explained-what-is-the-iaea-the-agency-seeking-permanent-presence-at-ukraines-zaporizhzhia-nuclear-plant/article65840907.ece>

Q.4) 'Cormorant' is a –

- a) Frog
- b) Fish
- c) Bird
- d) Snake

Answer: C

Explanation –

The great cormorant also known as the black shag in New Zealand, also known as the great black cormorant across the Northern Hemisphere, the black cormorant in Australia, and the large cormorant in India, is a widespread member of the cormorant family of seabirds. Its IUCN status is Least Concern (LC) and it lies in the Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Source; <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/environmentalists-seek-wider-action-for-killing-of-cormorant-nestlings-in-malappuram/article65845601.ece>

Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct about coarse cereals?

1. These crops are more sensitive to soil deficiencies and cannot grow in an inferior alluvial or loamy soil.
2. In India, coarse cereals are mainly grown in poor agro-climatic regions, particularly rainfed areas of the country.
3. Maize and millets are the most grown coarse cereals in India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: These crops are also less sensitive to soil deficiencies and can be grown in an inferior alluvial or loamy soil.

Statement 2 is correct: In India, coarse cereals are mainly grown in poor agro-climatic regions, particularly rainfed areas of the country.

Statement 3 is correct: Maize and millets are the most grown coarse cereals in India.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.6) Operation Polo which was seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) India's Kargil war operation
- b) India's operation to recapture Siachen glacier
- c) India's operation to liberate Bangladesh
- d) India's operation to annex Hyderabad

Answer: D

The state of Hyderabad was under the Nizam which included the whole of current-day Telangana, the Marathwada region in Maharashtra and several regions of Karnataka.

The Nizam of Hyderabad hoped to retain his sovereignty and opposed the idea of merging with India after Independence. Osman Ali Khan Asaf Jah VII, the last Nizam of the princely state of Hyderabad proclaimed Hyderabad as a sovereign state and this added to the tension and led to communal clashes.

The Indian government did not want Hyderabad to remain free fearing that it would lead to the country's balkanization.

The then Home Minister Sardar Patel referred to the concept of an independent Hyderabad as "an ulcer in the heart of India which needed to be removed surgically."

Hence, India decided to annex Hyderabad and named the operation "**Operation Polo**". On September 13, 1948, Indian forces attacked Hyderabad. In a five-day battle, the Indian Army took Hyderabad and fully integrated it into Indian territory by decisively defeating Nizam.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements;

1. He was the Eastern Chalukya king of the Vengi kingdom.
2. He established the city Rajamahendravaram on the banks of the Godavari during his reign.
3. Based on his request, his court poet Nannayya started transcribing Mahabharata into Telugu language.

Which of the below personalities is mentioned in the statements above?

- a) Pulakesin I
- b) Kirtivarman II
- c) Rajaraja Narendra
- d) Mangalesha

Answer: C

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Which of the following is/are the benefits of Liquid Nano Urea over conventional urea?

1. Liquid urea reduces the subsidy burden of government.
2. Nano Urea has a higher concentration of Nitrogen than the conventional urea.
3. Liquid nano urea has a higher shelf life than conventional urea.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

The advantages of Nano urea over conventional urea are,

Higher Efficiency: While conventional urea has an efficiency of about 25%, the efficiency of liquid nano urea can be as high as 85-90%.

Gets Directly absorbed by plant: Conventional urea fails to have the desired impact on crops as it is often applied incorrectly and the nitrogen in it is vaporized or lost as a gas. On the other hand, liquid nano urea is sprayed directly on the leaves and gets absorbed by the plant.

Higher Shelf Life: Liquid nano urea has a shelf life of a year and farmers need not be worried about “caking” when it comes in contact with moisture.

No Burden of Urea Subsidy: Liquid nano urea produced by IFFCO comes in a half-litre bottle priced at Rs 240, and carries no burden of subsidy currently. By contrast, a farmer pays around Rs 300 for a 50-kg bag of heavily subsidized urea.

However, Chemically packaged urea is 46% nitrogen which means a 45 kg sack contains about 20 kg of nitrogen. Contrastingly, Nano Urea sold in 500 ml bottles has only 4% nitrogen (or around 20 gm).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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Q.9) With reference to Shumang Leela, consider the following statements;

1. The roles of female artists are all played by male actors and male characters are played by female artists.
2. Shumang Leela is a traditional form of theatre in Assam.

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 roles of female artists are all played by male actors and male characters are played by female artists.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Shumang Leela is a traditional form of theatre in Manipur.

Source: [AIR](#)

Q.10) With reference to Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator(IAD), consider the following statements;

1. It is a technique used to decelerate an object plunging down through the atmosphere.
2. IAD will help during the launching phase of the rockets.

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: B

Statement 1 is correct: It is a technique used to decelerate an object plunging down through the atmosphere.

Statement 2 is incorrect: IAD will help during the landing phase of the rockets. The IAD will help ISRO in performing many space tasks effectively including recovery of spent stages of rockets, for landing payloads on missions to other planetary bodies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Arya Samaj consider the following statements:

1. It was founded by Dayanand Saraswati.
2. It supported Varna system based on birth.
3. It opposed polygamy and idol worship.

Select the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation –

Arya Samaj is a monotheistic Indian Hindu reform movement that promotes values and practices based on the belief in the infallible authority of the Vedas. The samaj was founded by Dayanand Saraswati on 7 April 1875.

Main principles and objectives of the Arya Samaj are as follows:

It opposed the idol worship and reincarnation theory of God but accepted doctrine of Karma and transmigration of soul.

It believed that post-vedic texts such as Puranas were responsible for pollution of Vedic religion.

It supported Varna system but the Varna system should be based on merit and not birth.

It advocated widow remarriage, female education and opposed polygamy, child marriage, Sati, etc.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/arya-samaj-certificates-cannot-be-proof-of-marriage-allahabad-hc/article65853474.ece>

Q.2) With reference to United Nation Human Rights Council (UNHRC) consider the following statement:

1. It is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world.
2. The members of Council serve for a period of three years and they are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

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 –

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world.

The Council has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis.

The headquarters of the Council are at the United Nations Office at Geneva in Switzerland.

The Council was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 March 2006 to replace the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR).

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The members of Council serve for a period of three years and they are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/unhcr-rushes-aid-to-pakistan-amid-raging-floods-in-south/article65853517.ece>

Q.3) With reference to monsoon system, a 'shear zone' is –

- A monsoon weather feature that an area is filled with opposing winds concentrating heavy rain in that zone.
- A point where monsoon tends to break with low rainfall.
- A monsoon weather feature in which there will be low rainfall with high winds.
- A feature of monsoon in which there are scattered clouds with little sunlight.

Answer: A

Explanation – A shear zone is a monsoon weather feature that is an area filled with opposing winds concentrating heavy rain in that zone.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/bengaluru-flooded-why-is-it-raining-so-heavily-in-karnataka-1996689-2022-09-05>

Q.4) With reference to preventive detention consider the following statements:

- The Constitution of India provides that the time period of preventive detention cannot exceed beyond one month unless an advisory board provides sufficient reason for the extension.
- The person should be informed of the reasons for his or her detention.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation – Article 22 of the Indian Constitution protects people who are arrested or detained. Article 22 (4) states that no law providing for preventive detention shall authorise the detention of a person for a longer period than three months unless:

- An Advisory Board reports sufficient cause for extended detention.
- Such a person is detained in accordance with the provisions of any law made by the Parliament.

The person should be given the opportunity to appeal against the detention order and he or she should be informed of the reason for detention.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/preventive-detentions-in-2021-up-by-237-compared-to-year-before/article65853863.ece#:~:text=Preventive%20detentions%20in%202021%20saw,Crime%20Records%20Bureau%20last%20month>

Q.5) Which of the following is/are the applications of seat belts?

1. Slowing the occupant at the same rate as the vehicle.
2. Distributing the physical force in a crash across the stronger parts of the body.
3. Preventing collisions with objects within the vehicle.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

The seat belt performs many functions, notably slowing the occupant at the same rate as the vehicle, distributing the physical force in a crash across the stronger parts of the body such as the pelvis and chest, and preventing collisions with objects within the vehicle and sudden ejection.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.6) BPaL was seen in news recently. It is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a newly developed communication satellite of China.
- b) It is an all-oral three-drug regimen that is used to treat drug-resistant TB.
- c) It is a new strategy to recapture Ukraine's lost places in Russia-Ukraine crisis.
- d) It is a newly found vaccine to treat Lumpy Skin Disease(LSD) virus.

Answer: B

BPaL is a 6-month, all-oral, three-drug regimen that is used to treat people with highly drug-resistant forms of TB. BPaL is a combination of three newer antibiotics, namely bedaquiline, pretomanid and linezolid.

BPaL will drastically cut short the treatment duration by half (and more) and reduce the amount of medication an MDR-TB patient must take during treatment. Hence, from a treatment duration of 18 to 24 months, the BPaL is likely to bring down treatment time to around six months.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.7) With reference to seat belts, consider the following statements;

1. Rear seat belts are not mandatory under the Central Motor Vehicle Rules.
2. Non-use of seat belts and Non deployment of airbags results in majority of car accident-related deaths 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: Both front and rear seat belts have been mandatory under the Central Motor Vehicle Rules. A study in 2019 across 11 cities revealed that only 7% of respondents said they used rear seat belts and only 27% were aware that their use was mandatory.

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Statement 2 is correct: The road and highways ministry's road accidents report for 2020 reveals that 15,100 drivers and passengers were killed due to the non-use of seat belts.

Almost 17,800 travellers in four-wheelers were killed that year. Hence, the majority of these deaths of drivers and passengers could have been prevented had seat belts and airbags been deployed.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Which of the following statement is not correct regarding Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)?

- a) LNG has a higher energy density in comparison to crude oil.
- b) LNG reduces nitrogen oxide emissions.
- c) The liquefaction process uses less energy and does not produce any greenhouse gases.
- d) LNG generates 30% less carbon dioxide than fuel oil and 45% less than coal.

Answer: C

The liquefaction process uses tremendous amounts of energy which directly or indirectly emits a lot of greenhouse gases.

Source: [Business Standard](#)

Q.9) With reference to Dark Sky Reserve, consider the following statements;

- 1. It can be a public or private land possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and nocturnal environment.
- 2. These sites are designated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

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 can be a public or private land possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and nocturnal environment.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The International Dark Sky Association is a U.S.-based non-profit that designates places as International Dark Sky Places, Parks, Sanctuaries and Reserves depending on the criteria they meet.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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Q.10) With reference to kurki, consider the following statements;

1. It means attachment of a farmer's land, already pledged to the money lending institution or individual, in case of loan default.
2. The kurki is not considered as a valid document under Civil Procedure Code.

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: B

Statement 1 is correct: It means attachment of a farmer's land, already pledged to the money lending institution or individual, in case of loan default.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Kurki orders are executed under Section 60 of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908. The land which is pledged by the farmer to the bank or moneylender gets registered in their name. In some cases, the land is auctioned as well.

Source:

[The Hindu](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'Zero FIR' consider the following statements:

1. It is an FIR that is registered irrespective of the area where the offence is committed and the police can no longer claim that they have no jurisdiction over the case.
2. Recently the zero fir was registered for the first time.

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: Zero FIR is an FIR that is registered irrespective of the area where the offence is committed and the police can no longer claim that they have no jurisdiction over the case.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Zero Fir was introduced on the recommendation of Justice Verma Committee after the gang rape of Nirbhaya in 2012. The FIR puts a legal obligation on the police to begin investigation and take quick action without the excuse of absence of jurisdiction.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/yet-to-receive-zero-fir-against-ias-officer-filed-by-bjp-mp-deogarh-sp/article65858016.ece>

Q.2) With reference to ancient history consider the following statements:

1. Mohenjo daro is located on the bank of river Ravi.
2. There were no temples in Mohenjo Daro.
3. The Great Bath and Garanary were important constructions founded in Mohenjo Daro.

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: B

Explanation –

Mohenjo Daro:

It was one of the most important Harappan cities.

It is located in Sindh, Pakistan, next to the Indus River.

There are no big palaces, temples, or monuments in the city.

The most famous building found at Mohenjo-Daro is a great bath. The water for the bath was provided from a well in an adjacent room. The floor was made up of bricks. Floor and outer walls were bituminized so that there is no leakage of water.

A granary has been found which the largest building of the Mohenjo-Daro. This granary is divided into 27 rooms of different size and shape.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/explained-pakistan-floods-imperiled-mahenjo-daros-world-heritage-tag-8132814/>

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

1. It is a trans-boundary river of India.
2. It is one of the branches of Barak River.
3. It flows through Manipur and Mizoram.

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 –

Kushiya River is the trans-boundary river of India. It is a distributary river in Bangladesh and Assam, India. It forms on the India-Bangladesh border as a branch of the Barak River, when the Barak separates into the Kushiya and Surma. The waters of the Kushiya thus originate in the state of Nagaland in India and pick up tributaries from Manipur, Mizoram and Assam.

The waters of the Kushiya originate in the state of Nagaland in India and pick up tributaries from Manipur, Mizoram and Assam.

Kushiya flows westward forming the boundary between Assam, India, and the Sylhet District of Bangladesh

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/sheikh-hasina-india-visit-delhi-dhaka-sign-river-pact-first-in-25-years-8135250/>

Q.4) With reference to current account deficit consider the following statements:

1. A higher current account deficit means that India is importing more than exporting.
2. A higher current account deficit means that the demand of foreign currency is more than the demand of the Indian rupee.

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: C

Explanation –

A higher CAD or a deficit on the current account means that India imports more goods and services than it exports which means that the demand for the foreign currency is more than the demand for the Indian rupee.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/indias-overall-forex-reserves-to-shrink-further-this-year-report/articleshow/94047585.cms>

Q.5) Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) which was seen in news, is related to which of the following statement?

- a) It is a mechanism in which nuclear powered countries aim to reduce nuclear weapons.
- b) It is a global mechanism to tackle the menace of organized crime.
- c) It is a mechanism to compensate developing countries struck by climate disasters.
- d) It is a new mechanism to resolve maritime disputes.

Answer: C

Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM): The WIM for Loss and Damages, was set up in 2013. It was the first formal acknowledgement of the need to compensate developing countries struck by climate disasters.

– However, the progress on this front has been painfully slow. No funding mechanism, or even a promise to provide funds, has come about.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Which of the following statements is/are correct about climate reparations?

- 1. It is a framework where those most responsible nation for climate change provide support to those countries which face climate related threats.
- 2. The demand for climate reparations is an extension of the universally acknowledged “Polluter Pays” principle.
- 3. Under this, the polluter is liable for paying only the cost for remedial action.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Climate reparations are about rectifying climate injustice. It is a framework where those most responsible for climate change must provide support to those who have been wronged.

This demand for climate reparations is an extension of the universally acknowledged “Polluter Pays” principle.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under this, the polluter liable for paying not just for the cost of remedial action, but also for compensating the victims of environmental damage caused by their actions.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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Q.7) With reference to Martand Temple, consider the following statements;

1. It was built by the Karkota dynasty king Lalitaditya Muktapida.
2. The temple is built in a Maratha style and has a definite Mathura influence.
3. The temple is dedicated to Vishnu-Surya.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is correct: The Martand Temple was built by the Karkota dynasty king Lalitaditya Muktapida, who ruled Kashmir from 725 AD to 753 AD.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The temple is built in a unique Kashmiri style, though it has definite Gandhar influences.

Statement 3 is correct: The temple is dedicated to Vishnu-Surya. It has three distinct chambers—the mandapa, the garbhagriha, and the antralaya—probably the only three-chambered temple in Kashmir.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.8) Consider the following statements;

1. He established many institutions like Swadeshi Prachar Sabha, Dharmasanga Nesavu Salai, National Godown, etc.
2. Even prior to Gandhiji's Champaran Satyagraha (1917), He took up the cause of the working class in Tamil Nadu.
3. His literary works include Meyyaram, Thirukural with literary notes of Manakudavar.

Which of the following personality is described in the statements above?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Vallinayagam Olganathan Chidambaram Pillai
- c) Alluri Seetharamaraju
- d) Kumbakonam Balamani

Answer: B

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) With reference to Lokpal and Lokayuktas, consider the following statements;

1. These institutions have constitutional status.
2. They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries.

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: These institutions are statutory bodies without any constitutional status.

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Statement 2 is correct: They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.10) With reference to I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map) portal, consider the following statements;

1. It is a National Web portal for sharing R&D (Research and Development) facilities.
2. It is an initiative of Department of Science and Technology.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: It is a National Web portal for sharing R&D (Research and Development) facilities.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Portal is an initiative of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under the aegis of Prime Minister Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) mission.

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'Ni-kshay Mitras portal' consider the following statements:

1. It focuses on community support for better treatment and care for TB patients.
2. It provides a platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.
3. The portal has developed through a public-private partnership.

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: D

Explanation -

The Nikshay Mitra is portal that enables people to adopt tuberculosis patients and take care of their nutritional and medical requirements, aims to combat the stigma associated with the disease.

Anyone in India can register on a digital portal and it government has developed through a public-private partnership.

The goal is to reduce stigma around TB diseases, which can only be accomplished with community support, better care, and adoption of TB patients.

It provides a platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.

The three supports includes nutritional, additional diagnostic, and vocational support.

The donors, called Ni-kshay Mitras, could be a wide range of stakeholders from elected representatives, political parties, to corporates, NGOs, and individuals.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/president-droupadi-murmu-to-launch-tb-mukt-bharat-abhiyaan-on-september-9/article65862038.ece>

Q.2) With reference to PM Gati Shakti scheme consider the followings statements:

1. It is a multi-modal connectivity plan with the goal of coordinating infrastructure project planning and execution to reduce logistics costs.
2. The scheme does not cover infrastructure projects of the states.
3. National Infrastructure Pipeline will be incorporated in this scheme.

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 -

Statement 1: PM Gati Shakti scheme is a multi-modal connectivity plan with the goal of coordinating infrastructure project planning and execution to reduce logistics costs.

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Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The scheme will integrate infrastructure schemes from various Ministries and State Governments such as Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, etc.

Statement 3: The scheme will incorporate the Rs 110 lakh crore National Infrastructure Pipeline, which was announced in 2019.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cabinet-approves-policy-on-long-term-leasing-of-railway-land-for-pm-gati-shakti-programme/article65861378.ece>

Q.3) With reference to PM-KISAN consider the following statements:

1. Its aim is to provide income support to all land holding eligible farmer families.
2. The scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers.

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: The aim of the PM-KISAN scheme is to income support to all land holding eligible farmer families. The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Source: <https://www.dnaindia.com/business/report-pm-kisan-samman-nidhi-yojana-12th-installment-may-be-delayed-here-s-why-2983055>

Q.4) With reference to Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) consider the following statements:

1. It is long range surface to air missile developed by ISRO.
2. It can operate on the move with search and track capability and fire on short halt.

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. It is a short range surface to air missile system developed by DRDO.

Statement 2: QRSAM can operate on the move with search and track capability and fire on short halt.

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Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-successfully-test-fires-quick-reaction-surface-to-air-missile/article65865375.ece>

Q.5) QIMINGXING 50 was recently seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a new North Korean malicious software to target US government computers.
- b) It is a new battery operated car which can run more than 1500 km in a single charge.
- c) It is a China's fully solar-powered, semi-satellite drone.
- d) It is a new missile developed by Japan to cover entire China within its range.

Answer: C

QIMINGXING 50 or Morning Star-50 is China's fully solar-powered, semi-satellite drone.

Purpose: It is capable of conducting high-altitude reconnaissance, apart from monitoring forest fires, and providing communication and environment relay.

Features: This drone is powered entirely by solar panels. It can stay airborne for long durations.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Eastern Economic Forum(EEF) is an initiative of which of the following country?

- a) Japan
- b) Russia
- c) Germany
- d) China

Answer: B

Eastern Economic Forum(EEF) is an international platform for establishing and strengthening ties within the Russian and global investment communities.

The objective is to support the economic development of Russia's Far East and to expand international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

It was established by Decree of the Russian President in 2015. In accordance with the Decree, the meeting of the Forum takes place each year in Vladivostok, Russia.

Source: [AIR](#)

Q.7) With reference to weight and measures, consider the following statements;

- 1. The establishment of standards of weight and measure is included in the Concurrent list.
- 2. Enforcement of laws with respect to weights and measures (legal metrology) is mentioned in the Union List.

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

Statement 1 is incorrect: The establishment of standards of weight and measure is included in Union List (entry 50).

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Statement 2 is incorrect: Enforcement of laws with respect to weights and measures (legal metrology) is mentioned in the Concurrent list (entry 33A).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Which of the following is/are the advantages of Nasal Vaccine?

1. These are non-invasive and needle-free.
2. They do not require trained healthcare workers.
3. They generally ensure high compliance.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

The advantages of nasal vaccines are,

1) Non-invasive and needle-free, 2) Easy to administer as it does not require trained healthcare workers, 3) Eliminates needle-associated risks (injuries and infections), 4) High compliance — ideally suits children and adults.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.9) With reference to PM SHRI Scheme, consider the following statements;

1. The scheme aims to upgrade and develop all the government schools in the country.
2. Ministry of Education is the nodal ministry for the scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: The scheme aims to upgrade and develop more than 14500 schools across the country as PM SHRI Schools by strengthening select existing schools being managed by Central Government/ State/ UT Government/ local bodies. These schools will also showcase all components of the National Education Policy 2020.

Statement 2 is correct: Ministry of Education is the nodal ministry for the scheme.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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Q.10) With reference to sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions, consider the following statements;

1. India is the top SO₂ emitter in the world.
2. Flue-gas desulfurization(FGD) is mandatory for all coal-fired power plants in India from 2008.

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 continues to occupy the top spot among SO₂ emitters. In 2019, India emitted 21% of global anthropogenic (human-made) SO₂ emissions nearly double that of the second-ranked global emitter, Russia.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Ministry of Power (MoP) has extended the deadline for coal-fired power plants to install Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) to cut sulphur emissions by two years. India had initially set a 2017 deadline for thermal power plants to install FGD units to cut Sulphur emissions.

The deadline was later changed to varying deadlines for different regions, ending in 2022, and further extended last year to a period ending in 2025.

Now, the power plants will be forcibly retired if they do not comply with norms on sulphur emissions by end-2027.

Plants near populous regions and the capital New Delhi will have to pay penalties to operate from end-2024, while utilities in less polluting areas will be penalized after end-2026.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) consider the following statements:

1. It is a viral disease that affects cattle.
2. It is transmitted by cattle food.
3. It can lead to significant economic losses.

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 –

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

Statement 1 is correct. It is a viral disease that affects cattle.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is transmitted by blood-feeding insects, such as certain *species* of flies and mosquitoes, or ticks.

Statement 3 is correct. It causes fever, nodules on the skin and can also lead to death, especially in animals that have not previously been exposed to the virus. Control options include vaccinations and culling of infected animals.

Lumpy skin disease can lead to significant economic losses as it leads to loss of milk production.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/lumpy-virus-curb-immune-belt-uttar-pradesh-government-vaccination-drive-1997978-2022-09-08>

Q.2) With reference to Human Development Index consider the following statements:

1. It is released by United Nations Development Program.
2. National Income is not an indicator included in this index.

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 –

It is released by the United Nations Development Program.

HDI measures average achievement of a country in three basic dimensions of human development. They are – a long and healthy life, education and decent standard of life.

These dimensions are calculated using four indicators - life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, and the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-ranks-132-out-of-191-in-undps-human-development-index/article65866108.ece>

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Q.3) With reference to Konark Sun Temple consider the following statements:

1. It represents Dravidian style of temple architecture.
2. It has rekha deul which houses the deity.

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 –

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. The Konark Sun Temple is present in Odhisha and it represents Kalinga or Orissa style of Hindu temple architecture, which is a subset of the Nagara style.

Statement 2: The rekha deul or shikhara houses the deity. Rekha deul is almost vertical roofs which suddenly curved inward sharply.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/after-a-century-asi-starts-removing-sand-from-konark-sun-temple/article65866675.ece>

Q.4) With reference to coral reefs consider the following statements:

1. They are called rainforest of the ocean.
2. They are the primary source of food in the marine ecosystem.
3. They grow in deep oceanic waters.

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 –

Corals are important to marine life because of the following reasons:

- a) The health of the marine ecosystem is dependent on corals.
- b) They support a wide range of ecosystems and hence, are called the
- c) Corals provide a place to live for a huge variety of fish.
- d) Corals are a primary source of food in the marine ecosystem.

The ideal conditions for growing corals are – a) shallow water, b) Clear water, c) semi-hard or hard surface, d) Saline-filled waters, e) warm water

HYPERLINK

["https://www.drishtias.com/images/uploads/1639463612_Coral_Reefs_of_India_1_drishti_IA_S_english.webp"](https://www.drishtias.com/images/uploads/1639463612_Coral_Reefs_of_India_1_drishti_IA_S_english.webp)

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/scientists-warn-of-ice-sheet-collapse-coral-die-off-climate-tipping-points-teetering-on-edge-1998309-2022-09-09>

Q.5) Operation London Bridge, seen in the news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) It is the accession of King Charles III to the throne.
- b) It is the funeral plan for Queen Elizabeth II.
- c) It is a plan of the UK to demolish London bridge and rebuild it.
- d) It is the first operation carried out in Queen Elizabeth II's tenure.

Answer: B

Queen Elizabeth II's death kicked off Operation London Bridge. It is a detailed plan, put in place in the 1960s, which meticulously lists the procedures that roll out moments after her death and culminate with her funeral 10 days later.

The plan includes the announcement of her death, the period of official mourning, and the details of her state funeral. The plan was first created in the 1960s and revised many times in the years before her death in 2022.

Running concurrently with Operation London Bridge is Operation Spring Tide, which addresses the accession of King Charles III to the throne and his first trip to the countries of the UK.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) With reference to Quantum Computing, consider the following statements;

- 1. Quantum mechanics is a science that describes the unique behavior of matter and energy at the atomic and subatomic level.
- 2. Quantum computers are less prone to interference.

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: Quantum mechanics is a science that describes the unique behavior of matter and energy at the atomic and subatomic level.

Statement 2 is incorrect: quantum computers are highly prone to interference that leads to errors in quantum algorithms running on it. Thus it can give erroneous results. Scientists are working to improve accuracy e.g., Google has announced plans to have fault-tolerant quantum-computing hardware by 2030.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.7) Which of the following statements is not correct about Azad Hind Government?

- a) The Azad Hind Government started functioning from Rangoon, with 40 ministers.
- b) The Azad Hind Government had its own currency, court and civil code.
- c) The provisional capital of the Azad Hind Government was Port Blair, while its capital-in-exile was Rangoon and Singapore.
- d) The provisional government was formed in the Japanese-occupied Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Answer: A

The Azad Hind Government started functioning from Singapore, with 11 ministers and eight representatives from the INA.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.8) Which of the following Indian cities has been included in UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities(GNLC)?

1. Warangal
2. Thrissur
3. Kancheepuram
4. Nilambur

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Warangal from Telangana and Thrissur and Nilambur from Kerala have joined the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC). These Indian cities became the nation's first entrants in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.

Thrissur: Popularly known as the cultural capital of Kerala. Thrissur is home to academic and research institutions. It is also known for its jewellery industry, especially gold. The city has been included because of its initiatives focusing on vulnerable groups.

Warangal: It has a rich cultural heritage. The city is a major tourism venue. The city has been included for its good practices such as advocating healthy environments for children and caregivers, free training for the transgender community and self-help groups.

Nilambur: It is an ecotourism destination in Kerala. It is a city with various socio-economic patterns marked by an urban and rural mix. The majority of the population depends on agriculture and allied industries.

Source: [Financial Express](#)

Q.9) With reference to Legionellosis disease, consider the following statements;

1. It is a form of pneumonia spread across North Eastern States of India.
2. Patients with this disease always require antibiotic treatment following diagnosis.

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: Legionellosis is a pneumonia-like illness that varies in severity from mild febrile illness to a serious and sometimes fatal form of pneumonia.

Statement 2 is correct: Treatments exist, but there is no vaccine currently available for Legionnaires' disease. Patients with this disease always require antibiotic treatment following diagnosis.

Source: [DTE](#)

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Q.10) With reference to India Ideas Summit, consider the following statements;

1. The summit facilitates U.S.-India dialogue on commercial and strategic cooperation.
2. It is organized by India's Ministry of Education.

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 summit has been a trusted platform for the U.S.-India dialogue on commercial and strategic cooperation for over 47 years.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Summit is organized by US-India Business Council and the US Chamber of Commerce, International Affairs, South Asia.

Source: [PIB](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. Its duty is to **investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the STs.**
3. **The commission require to include at least one woman member.**

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: B

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)

It was set up by amending Article 338 and by inserting a new article 338A in the Constitution through the 89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003. Hence, it is a constitutional body.

It's one of the duties is to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the STs under the Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government.

It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the President and at least one member should be a woman.

Source:<https://www.drishtiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/national-commission-for-scheduled-tribes>

Q.2) Consider the following statement with respect to the Cauvery River:

1. Red soils occupy large areas in the river basin.
2. It rises from a place located in the Western Ghats in Nashik district in the state of Maharashtra.

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 –

Cauvery River (Kaveri River)

The Kaveri (Cauvery) is designated as the ‘Dakshina Ganga’ or ‘the Ganga of the South’.

The Cauvery River rises at an elevation of 1,341 m at Talakaveri on the Brahmagiri range near Cherangala village of Kodagu (Coorg) district of Karnataka.

The Cauvery basin extends over states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry draining an area of 81 thousand Sq.km.

It is bounded by the Western Ghats on the west, by the Eastern Ghats on the east and the south and by the ridges separating it from Krishna basin and Pennar basin on the north.

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The delta area is the most fertile tract in the basin. The principal soil types found in the basin are black soils, red soils, laterites, alluvial soils, forest soils and mixed soils. Red soils occupy large areas in the basin. Alluvial soils are found in the delta areas.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/as-unprecedented-flow-continues-in-cauvery-focus-turns-to-how-much-more-tamil-nadu-will-get/article65870537.ece>

Q.3) With reference to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) consider the following statements:

1. It is the resistance acquired by any microorganism against antimicrobial drugs that are used to treat infections.
2. It occurs when there is a high response to medicines from microorganisms.
3. It is recognized as one of the threats to global health.

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 –

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is the resistance acquired by any microorganism (bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasite, etc.) against antimicrobial drugs that are used to treat infections. It occurs when a microorganism changes over time and no longer responds to medicines making infections harder to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness and death. WHO has identified AMR as one of the top ten threats to global health.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/sustained-rise-in-antimicrobial-resistance-in-india-icmr-study/article65874196.ece>

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to Birsa Munda:

1. He was a tribal freedom fighter from the Munda tribe.
2. He is also known as Dharti Abba.
3. He started Ulgulan movement.

Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation –

Birsa Munda was a folk hero and a tribal freedom fighter hailing from the Munda tribe. He is also known as 'Dharti Abba' or the Earth Father. He was born on 15th November 1875.

He started a movement called 'Ulgulan', or 'The Great Tumult'. His struggle against the exploitation and discrimination against tribals led to a big hit against the British government in

the form of the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act being passed in 1908. The act restricted the passing on of land from the tribal people to non-tribals.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/contribution-of-tribal-people-to-freedom-movement-has-remained-ignored/article65871086.ece>

Q.5) With reference to Bird flu or avian influenza, consider the following statements;

1. Avian influenza so far did not infected humans.
2. It is a disease caused by avian influenza Type A viruses found naturally in wild birds worldwide.

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: There have been reports of avian and swine influenza infections in humans including A(H1N1), A(H1N2), A(H5N1), A(H7N9) among others. The first report of human H5N1 infection was in 1997. Moreover, the infection is deadly as it has a high mortality rate of about 60%.

Statement 2 is correct: Bird flu or avian influenza is a disease caused by avian influenza Type A viruses found naturally in wild birds worldwide.

The virus can infect domestic poultry including chickens, ducks, turkeys and there have been reports of H5N1 infection among pigs, cats, and even tigers in Thailand zoos.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Which of the following statement is not correct about Ajanta Caves?

- a) The artworks' outlines were painted in red colour.
- b) Both Fa Hien and Hieun Tsang mentioned about Ajanta caves.
- c) The caves were first discovered in 1819 by John Smith.
- d) The majority of the Ajanta paintings were done in blue colour.

Answer: D

The scarcity of blue in the paintings is one of the most remarkable elements of Ajantha Paintings.

Source: [Times of India](#)

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Q.7) With reference to Broken Rice, consider the following statements;

1. These are fragments of rice grains, broken in the field during drying, transport or during milling.
2. This rice is mostly used as a food for people in African countries.

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: Broken rice are fragments of rice grains, broken in the field during drying, transport or during milling.

Statement 2 is incorrect: This rice is mostly used as animal feed and as a component for ethanol production.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Ni-kshay Mitra, is seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) Providing care to elderly
- b) Local people who helps in Policing activities
- c) Donors provide various forms of support to persons undergoing TB treatment.
- d) Donors provide free blood to road accident patients.

Answer: C

Ni-kshay Mitra are donors who can provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment. The three-pronged support includes nutritional, additional diagnostic, and vocational support.

These donors could be a wide range of stakeholders from elected representatives, political parties, to corporates, NGOs, and individuals.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.9) With reference to Majma-ul-Bahrain, consider the following statements;

1. It is authored by Mughal Prince Dara Shikoh.
2. The book throws invaluable light on the similarities between religions and helps bring stronger unity among the people 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: C

Statement 1 is correct: Majma-ul-Bahrain ("The Confluence of the Two Seas" or "The Mingling of the Two Oceans") is a book on comparative religion authored by Mughal Prince Dara Shikoh.

Statement 2 is correct: The book throws invaluable light on the similarities between religions and helps bring stronger unity among the people of India.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.10) With reference to Red-Eared Slider Turtles, consider the following statements;

1. They are native to the Southern United States and northern Mexico.
2. They are able to regulate their body temperatures independently.
3. These Turtles mature faster, grow larger and produce more offspring.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: They are native to the Southern United States and northern Mexico.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Red-eared sliders are poikilotherms. This means that they are unable to regulate their body temperatures independently. Hence, they are completely dependent on the temperature of their environment.

For this reason, they need to sunbathe frequently to warm themselves and maintain their body temperatures.

Statement 3 is correct: Red Eared Slider Turtles mature fast, grow larger, and produce more offspring, and are very aggressive, they can out-compete native turtles for food, nesting, and basking sites.

They eat plants and animals and can finish off a wide range of aquatic species, including fish and rare frogs. They can also transfer diseases and parasites to native reptile species.

Source: [DTE](#)

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following pairs:

National Parks/Sanctuary	States
1. Manas Sanctuary	Assam
2. Palamau National Park	Rajasthan
3. Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh
4. Maighat Sanctuary	Karnataka

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 Maharashtra

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

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](#)

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

- A butterfly species identified in Assam.
- It is the third stealth frigate of Project 17A.
- It is a new space module for India's upcoming Gaganyaan Mission.
- 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 anti-ship 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;

- He translated Gita into Marathi language with the title Geetai.
- He is considered a National Teacher of India and the spiritual successor of Mahatma Gandhi.
- 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?

- Swami Vivekananda
- Acharya Vinoba Bhave
- Vallabhbhai Patel
- Sarvepalli Radhakrishna

Answer: B

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- 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-un-sustainable-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.

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

Source: <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>

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

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.

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

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

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:

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- 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: [Indian Express](#)

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

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.

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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](#)

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

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

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: <https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/tech-indepth-understanding-esims-their-advantages-and-disadvantages-8151100/>

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: <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>

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](#)

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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](#)

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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: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/railway-healthcare-network-comes-under-ayushman-bharat/article65894196.ece>

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

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: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/azerbaijan-armenia-clashes-why-now-8150431/>

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) hydrobromofluorocarbons (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: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/scientists-discover-cfc-is-not-alone-in-destroying-ozone-there-is-another-culprit-2000731-2022-09-15>

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: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/xi-jinping-calls-for-solid-protection-8155392/>

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: <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>

10 PM Compilation for the Month of September, 2022

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

- To reform the BCCI and suggest measures.
- To promote Hindi for official work in banks, public sector undertakings located in foreign countries.
- To suggest reforms to further accelerate investment in start-ups and sunrise sectors.
- 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;

- The region is one of the most densely populated regions in the world.
- 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?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- 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;

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- 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](#)

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: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/ngt-directs-rajasthan-govt-pay-3k-crore-waste-management-8155659/>

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

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

10 PM Compilation for the Month of September, 2022

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](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to PM PRANAM consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.
2. The scheme focuses on reducing the burden of distress farmers by giving higher subsidies on fertilisers.

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

ANS: A

Statement 1: PM PRANAM (PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana) is being launched by Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The aim of this scheme is to reduce the use of chemical fertilisers in agriculture further reducing subsidies on it. Source:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/to-curb-use-of-chemical-fertilisers-govt-to-give-nod-to-pm-pranam-8159046/>

Q.2) With reference to “microalgae” consider the following statements:

1. Microalgae are renewable economical sources of biofuels, bioactive medicinal products, and food ingredients.
2. Microalgae grow in water and absorb nutrients directly instead of roots.
3. Microalgae require high fertile lands to grow and they are extremely dependent on local weather patterns.

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

ANS: A

Explanation –

Statement 1: Microalgae are renewable, sustainable, and economical sources of biofuels, bioactive medicinal products, and food ingredients.

Statement 2: Microalgae are a diverse group of microscopic aquatic organisms. Like plants, they generate energy from sunlight through photosynthesis. But they differ from plants in basic ways as they grow in water instead of on land and absorb nutrients directly instead of via roots.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. Microalgae don't require fertile land. It is largely independent of local weather patterns and could potentially recycle water. It has elevated productivity and scope for continuous harvests.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/climate-change-threatens-food-but-microscopic-algae-offer-answers/article65909004.ece>

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

1. It is the process of extracting minerals from ores by using microorganisms.
2. It cannot be used in the solid waste management as it has harmful effects for the environment and surroundings.
3. Bioleaching is one of the ways of biomining.

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

ANS: C

Explanation –

Statement 1: Biomining is the process of extracting minerals from ores by using microorganisms.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Biomining process is used in solid waste management such as clearing oil spills from the sea; clearing pollutions from the soil, clearing landfill, etc. It is an eco-friendly and environment sustainable method.

Statement 3: Bioleaching, bio-oxidations are the methods of biomining.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/tender-for-biomining-of-waste-at-mandur-landfill-cleared/article65907313.ece>

Q.4) With reference to Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters (CBFTE) scheme consider the following statements:

1. It aims to encourage MSMEs to offer products and services of international standards for the global market.
2. The scheme will enhance the participation of Indian MSMEs in the global value chain and help them realise their export potential.

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

ANS: C

Explanation –

Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters' (CBFTE) scheme aims to encourage MSMEs to offer products and services of international standards for the global market. This will enhance the participation of Indian MSMEs in the global value chain and help them realise their export potential.

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/economy/small-exporters-demand-empowered-grievance-redressal-mechanism-11663518979812.html>

Q.5) With reference to objectionable content in social media sites, consider the following statements;

1. Removing/deleting and identifying the culprit on WhatsApp is more complicated than on Facebook or Twitter.
2. A victim cannot directly approach the grievances redressal officer of any social media site independently.

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: Removing/deleting and identifying the culprit on WhatsApp is more complicated than on Facebook or Twitter.

In the case of Facebook or Twitter, the investigation agency can identify the suspect through their account, be it fake or based on a fictitious identity.

But in the case of WhatsApp, the video, pictures or voice messages spread instantly and are forwarded to many at a time. However, once the objectionable content is removed from the original number, the content shall be removed in the coming days automatically.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, a victim can directly approach the grievances redressal officer of any social media site independently or through an investigation agency.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Ranganath Mishra Commission, was seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) To improve the performance of Logistics sector to improve India's GDP
- b) To enhance the ground water table using rain water storage
- c) To study status of Scheduled Castes converts to Christianity and Islam
- d) To curb the illicit messages circulating in social media sites

Answer: C

The matter of providing the SC quota benefits to Dalits who converted to Christianity or Islam has come up before earlier governments as well.

The Ranganath Mishra Commission's report submitted in 2007 recommended that SC status be completely delinked from religion and be made religion-neutral like STs.

However, the then government rejected the proposal on grounds that it was not substantiated by field studies.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) 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: [Indian Express](#)

Q.8) 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.

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Q.9) With reference to broken rice, consider the following statements;

1. India accounted for more than 40% of the total rice exports in the world.
2. The United States is the biggest importer of India's broken rice.

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 accounted for 41% of the total rice exports in the world in 2021 larger than the next four exporters (Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan and United States) combined.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In descending order, China, Senegal, Vietnam, Djibouti and Indonesia are the biggest importers of India's broken rice. Hence, these countries would be impacted by the ban.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.10) Consider the following pairs,

Famous arts/crafts	-	Associated States
1. Gulabi Meenakari	-	Uttar Pradesh
2. Dokra art	-	Bihar
3. Kullu Shawl	-	Arunachal Pradesh
4. Aranmula Kannadi	-	Kerala

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) Only three pairs
- d) All four pairs

Answer: B

Famous arts/crafts	-	Associated States
1) Gulabi Meenakari	-	Uttar Pradesh
2) Dokra art	-	Chhattisgarh
3) Kullu Shawl	-	Himachal Pradesh
4) Aranmula Kannadi	-	Kerala

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to National Logistic Policy consider the following statements:

1. The policy proposes a Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) which moves all logistics and transport sector digital services into a single portal.
2. The policy aims at improving the country's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) ranking and to be among the top 25 countries by 2030.

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 –

National Logistic Policy proposes a Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) which moves all logistics and transport sector digital services into a single portal.

It also aims at improving the country's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) ranking and to be among top 25 countries by 2030.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/sme-sector/national-logistics-policy-indias-new-policy-framework-to-be-globally-competitive/articleshow/94292753.cms>

Q.2) With reference to the International Finance Corporation (IFC), consider the following statements:

1. It is part of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
2. One of its goals is to end extreme poverty by 2030.

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 –

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. International Finance Corporation (IFC) is part of World Bank group.

Statement 2: It has two goals to achieve by 2030 – a) end extreme poverty and b) promote shared prosperity in every country.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/finance-minister-urges-world-bank-arm-ifc-to-scale-up-lending-to-india/article65910677.ece>

Q.3) With reference to International Criminal Court (ICC), consider the following statements:

1. It is the official court of the United Nations.
2. India is one of the signatories of the ICC.
3. It is the first and only permanent international court with jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for international crimes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1: International Criminal Court (ICC) is an independent organization and not part of United Nations. The official court of United Nations is International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Statement 2: India is not the signatory of ICC.

Statement 3: ICC is the first and only permanent international court with jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes.

Source: https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/european-parliament-members-urge-icc-to-open-probe-into-china-s-uyghurs-genocide-101663604242133.html?utm_source=ht_site_copyURL&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ht_site

Q.4) With reference to International Seed Treaty consider the following statements:

1. The treaty aims at establishing a global system to provide farmers, plant breeders and scientists with access to plant genetic materials.
2. India is not the signatory of this treaty.

Select the correct statement 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: The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) also known as ITPGRFA, International Seed Treaty or Plant Treaty.

The treaty aims at establishing a global system to provide farmers, plant breeders and scientists with access to plant genetic materials.

Statement 2: India is one of the signatories of this treaty.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-calls-for-eliminating-north-south-divide-to-reach-consensus-on-issues-grappling-international-seed-treaty/articleshow/94300961.cms>

Q.5) With reference to Sova virus, consider the following statements;

1. The virus hides itself within fake Android applications that show up with the logo of famous legitimate apps.
2. It can perform gestures like screen click, swipe using the android accessibility service.

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

SOVA malware hides itself within fake Android applications that show up with the logo of a few famous legitimate apps like Chrome, Amazon, NFT (non-fungible token linked to cryptocurrency) platform to deceive users into installing them.

SOVA can collect keystrokes, steal cookies, intercept multi-factor authentication (MFA) tokens, take screenshots and record video from a webcam and can perform gestures like screen click, swipe using the android accessibility service. It also has the capability to encrypt all data on an Android phone and hold it to ransom.

Source: [Mint](#)

Q.6) With reference to Nordic Model of social democracy, consider the following statements;

1. It is the combination of social welfare and economic systems adopted by countries such as Sweden, Norway and Finland.
2. The model does not have any features of capitalism.
3. The model has high taxes, high degree of government intervention and relatively low gross domestic product (GDP).

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: The Nordic model, also known as the Scandinavian model, is the combination of social welfare and economic systems adopted by Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland).

Statement 2 is incorrect: It combines features of capitalism, such as a market economy with social benefits, such as state pensions and income distribution.

Statement 3 is correct: The model has high taxes, high degree of government intervention and relatively low gross domestic product (GDP).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.7) The Bogibeel Bridge is built across which of the following rivers?

- a) Kosi river
- b) Barak river
- c) Brahmaputra river
- d) Gomati river

Answer: C

The Bogibeel Bridge is a combined road and rail bridge over the Brahmaputra River in the northeastern Indian state of Assam.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.8) With reference to National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), consider the following statements;

- 1. It is an autonomous body under the University Grants Commission (UGC).
- 2. All higher educational institutes can apply for NAAC accreditation.

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 an autonomous body under the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Under the rules, only higher education institutions that are at least six years old, or from where at least two batches of students have graduated, can apply. The accreditation is valid for five years.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.9) Consider the following pairs,

- | Famous Revolutions | - | Associated countries |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Orange Revolution | - | Ukraine |
| 2. Tulip Revolution | - | Russia |
| 3. Jasmine Revolution | - | Hong Kong |

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) None of the pairs
- d) All three pairs

Answer: A

- | Famous Revolutions | - | Associated countries |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Orange Revolution | - | Ukraine |
| 2. Tulip Revolution | - | Kyrgyzstan |
| 3. Jasmine Revolution | - | Tunisia |

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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Q.10) Which of the following statements is not correct about Commonwealth of Nations?

- a) It was established by the London Declaration in 1949.
- b) None of the European nations are part of the Commonwealth Nations.
- c) The Commonwealth consists of both republics and realms.
- d) The Commonwealth has no charter, treaty or constitution.

Answer: B

The member countries are mostly from Africa, Asia, the Americas, and the Pacific. Three European nations are part of the Commonwealth: Cyprus, Malta and UK.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following will be the impact of declining forex reserves on India?

- a) It will affect import of the country
- b) It will affect export of the country
- c) It will help in appreciation of rupee
- d) It will decrease inflation

Answer: A

Explanation –

Declining forex reserve will affect the import of the country as the foreign reserves (mostly US dollars) are used to pay for the imports and declining forex will make it difficult to pay for the imports. It will also lead to devaluation of the currency.

Source:<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/forex-reserves-decline-by-2-2-bln-to-550-87-bln-in-week-ending-9-sept-rbi-11663348237336.html>

Q.2) 'ACE2' was seen in the news recently. It is related to –

- a) Bilateral agreement between India and China
- b) Sustainable farming techniques
- c) Decreasing bad loans in the banks
- d) Entering of coronavirus in the body

Answer: D

Explanation –

The infectious nature of the coronavirus and its effect on various body organs depends on the angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2).

The ACE2 is a functional receptor on cell surfaces through which coronavirus enters the host cells. These receptor cells are highly expressed in major body organs like heart, stomach, lungs, kidneys and liver. In short, the ACE2 serves as an entry opener for the virus to the body organs.

Source:<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/coronavirus-how-covid-compromises-the-functioning-of-liver-and-the-digestive-system/photostory/94321714.cms?picid=94321882>

Q.3) Consider the following gases:

- 3. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
- 4. Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
- 5. Nitrogen oxides (NO_x)

Which of the above gases are responsible for acid rain?

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

Answer: B

Explanation-

Acid rain is caused when sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) are emitted into the atmosphere and transported by wind and air currents. The SO₂ and NO_x react with water,

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oxygen and other chemicals to form sulfuric and nitric acids. These then mix with water and other materials before falling to the ground.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/significant-drop-in-so2-levels-in-india-in-last-decade-iit-kgp-study/article65913462.ece>

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

1. It offers a one stop service for the skilling and employment needs of the leather industry.
2. The app has been developed by the Leather Sector Skill Council.
3. It allows only people aged above eighteen years to access online live streamed classes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation –

The SCALE (Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees) app provides a one-stop solution for skilling, learning, assessment, and employment needs of the leather industry, The Leather Skill Sector Council (LSSC) has developed an Android App SCALE.

The SCALE studio App developed by Leather SSC allows people from all age groups interested in leather craft to access online live streamed classes from the state-of-the-art studio at its office.

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pradhan-launches-scale-app-for-skill-development-in-leather-industry-11663677031861.html>

Q.5) With reference to India's Leather Industry, consider the following statements;

1. Leather Industry is an employment-intensive industry.
2. India is the world's largest producer and consumer of footwear in the world.

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 leather industry is an employment-intensive industry providing jobs to more than 4 million people.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Leather industry in India accounts for around 13% of the world's leather production of hides/skins. India is the second-largest producer and consumer of footwear in the world. It accounts for 9% of the world's footwear production.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.6) The terms 'proof of work', 'proof-of-stake', was seen in news sometimes, is related to which of the following?

- a. Service Sector
- b. Gig workers
- c. Block chains
- d. Agriculture

Answer: C

Ethereum blockchain platform fully transitioned from 'proof of work' to a 'proof-of-stake' consensus mechanism and this revamp is known as the Merge.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.7) With reference to 'triple dip' La Niña, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a period where the La Niña period extends for up to three consecutive seasons in a year.
- 2. La Niña is associated with very dry winters in the USA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is a period where the La Niña period extends for up to three consecutive winters.

Statement 2 is correct: La Niña is associated with very dry winters in the USA. In Australia and Indonesia, and generally in the tropical region, La Niña is expected to bring more rainfall.

Source: [IE](#)

Q.8) With reference to Global Registry of Fossil Fuels, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is the first-of-its-kind database for tracking the world's fossil fuel production, reserves and emissions.
- 2. It was launched by Carbon Tracker and the Global Energy Monitor.

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 is the first-of-its-kind database for tracking the world's fossil fuel production, reserves and emissions.

Statement 2 is correct: It was launched by Carbon Tracker and the Global Energy Monitor.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

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Q.9) Which of the following is/are the impacts of Stubble burning?

1. It releases harmful gases including nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide into the atmosphere.
2. Stubble burning results in increased soil fertility.
3. It can cause eye and breathing troubles for people.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Stubble burning degrades soil fertility, destroys organic fertilizers and reduces ground water levels.

Source: [Business Standard](#)

Q.10) Consider the following pairs,

Famous schemes and programs

1. Project Excel
2. Kudi Maramathu Scheme
3. Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System (FRUITS)-Kerala

-Associated states

- Maharashtra
- Tamil Nadu

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) None of the pairs
- d) All three pairs

Answer: A

Famous schemes and programs

1. Project Excel
2. Kudi Maramathu Scheme
3. Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System (FRUITS)-Karnataka

-Associated states

- Gujarat
- Tamil Nadu

Source: [Times of India](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) consider the following statements:

1. This initiative has recently won WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award.
2. This initiative was launched in the 2015.
3. Under this initiative India has targeted to completely end the blood pressure problems by 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation –

Statement 1: IHCI has recently won 2022 ‘UN Interagency Task Force, and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award’ at the UN General Assembly.

Statement 2: this was launched in the year 2017.

Statement 3: One of the objectives under this initiative is to reduce the prevalence of blood pressure by 25% by 2025.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/united-nations-awards-india-initiative-against-hyper-tension-2003078-2022-09-21>

Q.2) Which of the following will be likely the impact of US recession on the Indian economy?

- a) Merchandise imports may increase
- b) Merchandise exports may decrease
- c) A rise in the GDP
- d) Decline in the policy rates

Answer: B

Explanation –

US are one the important trading partners of India. Its market share in India's merchandise exports stood at 18.1% in FY 2022. The recession in the US may decrease merchandise exports of India. Software exports will be the worst hit by the recession.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/explained-how-a-recession-in-us-may-impact-india/articleshow/94350648.cms>

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

1. It is a financial instrument issued for making donations to NGOs.
2. The bond does not have any maximum limit.
3. Only State Bank of India is authorized to issue these bonds.

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: B

Explanation –

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. Electoral Bonds are the financial instruments issued for making donations to political parties.

Statement 2: The bonds are issued in multiples of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 10,000, Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 1 crore. It does not have any maximum limit.

Statement 3: State Bank of India is only authorized to issue these bonds and encash these bonds. These bonds are valid for fifteen days from the date of issuance.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/electoral-bonds-scheme-and-supreme-court-pleas/article65905743.ece>

Q.4) With reference to Broad-billed Sandpiper consider the following statements:

1. These are migratory birds.
2. They are Nearly Threatened (NT) in the 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 –

Statement 1: Broad-billed Sandpipers are migratory birds. They are found in Northern Europe, particularly in the Nordic Countries such as Norway, Sweden, Finland, and in Siberia.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. They are Least Concern (LC) in the IUCN Red Data Book.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/broad-billed-sandpiper-spotted-for-the-first-time-at-nanjarayan-tank-bird-sanctuary-in-tiruppur/article65921537.ece>

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Q.5) With reference to Live streaming of Supreme Court proceedings, consider the following statements;

1. Currently, none of the Higher courts live stream their proceedings in India.
2. The Supreme Court has not decided to live stream all of their cases.

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: Gujarat High Court began live-streaming its proceedings in July 2021. Currently, the Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Patna High Courts live stream their proceedings.

Statement 2 is correct: The Supreme Court has decided to live stream its proceedings only in crucial Constitution Bench cases that will be heard from September 27, 2022.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) With reference to Zero-for-zero agreements, consider the following statements;

1. These agreements usually exclude zero items and often apply zero tariffs in FTAs for the signing countries.
2. India usually signs Zero-for-zero agreements with other countries.

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: These agreements usually exclude zero items and often apply zero tariffs in FTAs for the signing countries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Indian FTAs are inherently limited, leaving out many of the highest consumption items or imposing extended tariffs with long adjustment periods. On the other hand, ASEAN, China, South Korea and Japan have much wider and deeper FTAs focus on Zero-for-zero agreements.

Source: [Business Standards](#)

Q.7) The terms Chutia, Koch-Rajbongshi, Kurmi, were sometime seen in news, related to which of the following?

- a) Regional languages of India facing severe threats.
- b) Religious communities demanding inclusion in the ST list.
- c) Tributary Rivers of Brahmaputra.
- d) Local fish species contain high amino acids.

Answer: B

People belonging to the Kurmi community blocked railway tracks in various parts of Eastern India demanding their inclusion on the list of Scheduled Tribes (ST) and the inclusion of the Kurmal language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

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The renewed stir by the Kurmis comes at a time when six communities in Assam — Adivasi, Chutia, Koch-Rajbongshi, Matak, Moran and Tai-Ahom — too have threatened to launch an agitation over the “inordinate delay” in their inclusion in the ST list.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Which of the following countries share their land border with Egypt?

1. Israel
2. Sudan
3. Jordan
4. Libya

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: B



Image source: Mappr

Source: [Times of India](#)

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Q.9) With reference to eSIM Technology, consider the following statements;

1. eSIMs are more helpful during emergency situations than the normal SIMs.
2. An eSIM provides security to sim theft, as there is no physical element to pull out.
3. eSIM phones provide more control to telecom operators.

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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: eSIMs are less helpful during emergency situations than the normal SIMs. For instance, If a phone stops working, runs out of battery or simply falls and gets a cracked screen, then the communication is brought to a complete standstill with eSIMs.

Traditional SIMs, meanwhile, can be quickly pulled out of the affected phone and inserted into another backup device or secondary phone.

Statement 2 is correct: An eSIM provides security to sim theft, as there is no physical element to pull out and use in another device.

Statement 3 is correct: An eSIM may save one's initial trip to the telecom operator's store to get a SIM card, but one has to rely on the operator while switching one's phone. Operators may charge extra for eSIM plans or for switching phones, in the future.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.10) With reference to Long Range Radio (LoRa), consider the following statements;

1. It is a wireless modulation technique in the physical layer, allowing long-range communication using a chirp spread spectrum.
2. LoRa technology uses dedicated radios, which are not usually present in end-user devices, limiting interferences from other devices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: It is a wireless modulation technique in the physical layer, allowing long-range communication using a chirp spread spectrum.

Statement 2 is correct: LoRa technology uses dedicated radios, which are not usually present in end-user devices, limiting interferences from other devices.

Source: [BusinessLine](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Advanced Dvorak Technique (ADT) is associated with –

- a) Tracking climate change
- b) Organic fertilizers
- c) Space missions
- d) Tracking cyclones

Answer: D

Dvorak technique helps forecasters to do pattern recognition from the observed structure of the storm, locate its eye and estimate the intensity of the storm.

Through this statistical technique scientists are able to measure the cyclone's convective cloud pattern — curved bands, eye and central dense or cold region and shear. It is the Dvorak technique which gives the best estimates of the cyclone intensity — a vital component while issuing weather warnings.

Source:<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/dvorak-cyclone-intensity-estimation-technique-explained-8165811/>

Q.2) With reference to IBSA forum consider the following statements:

- a) This forum brings the member countries to bring North-South Cooperation.
- b) It does not have any fixed headquarter.

Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

- 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. IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) forum brings the member countries to foster South-South Cooperation.

Statement 2: it does not have any fixed secretariat or headquarter. The countries organize summits from time to time.

Source:<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/india-other-ibsa-countries-call-for-immediate-cessation-of-hostilities-in-ukraine/article65922204.ece>

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. There has been stagnation in the prices.
2. There has been decline in efficiency of plantations.
3. There has been a high export demand.

Which of the above is correct regarding the tea industry in India?

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

Answer: A

Explanation-

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The paper, 'Value chain configuration in the Indian tea economy: A historical perspective' has suggested that the crisis in Indian tea is largely on account of a) stagnating prices, b) declining efficiency of plantations - medium-sized ones in particular - and c) stagnant export demand.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/restructuring-of-plantations-mooted-to-increase-tea-production/article65910139.ece>

Q.4) With reference to tokenization of Debit and Credit cards consider the following statements:

1. Tokenization refers to replacement of actual card details with an alternate code called the token.
2. Only domestic online transactions can use tokenization.

Select the correct statement is using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation –

As per the RBI, Tokenization refers to replacement of actual card details with an alternate code called the token. It will be unique for a combination of card, token requestor (i.e., the entity that accepts requests from customers for tokenization of a card and forwards them to the card network to issue a corresponding token), and device (referred to herein as identified device)."

The tokenization system is completely optional and without any strings attached. It makes payments easier while protecting our data. Only domestic online transactions can use tokenization.

Source: <https://www.dnaindia.com/business/report-rbi-s-new-rules-to-take-effect-from-october-1-steps-to-tokenise-credit-cards-debit-cards-2987245>

Q.5) Dharmshala Declaration, was recently seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) To achieve net zero emissions target by 2070.
- b) To phase out all the plastics and find alternatives within 2050
- c) To make India global leader in tourism sector by 2047
- d) To improve India's urbanization in a planned manner.

Answer: C

At the National Conference of State Tourism Minister, the "Dharamshala Declaration" was adopted for developing "sustainable and responsible tourism" and positions India as a "global leader in the tourism sector by 2047".

Source: [Hindustan Times](https://www.hindustantimes.com)

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Q.6) With reference to bio-decomposer capsules, consider the following statements;

1. It will accelerate the decomposition from stubble to manure in 15-20 days.
2. It comprises a special virus to accelerate decomposing in anerobic condition.

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 accelerate the decomposition from stubble to manure in 15-20 days.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It comprises a Dormant form of decomposing Bacteria and cell mass of Fungal spore, accelerating the process of decomposition under aerobic and anaerobic conditions.

Source: [Economic Times](#)

Q.7) With reference to new work terminologies, consider the following statements;

1. Hustle culture refers to employees doing the bare minimum required of them.
2. Moonlighting is the act of working at an extra job beyond regular working hours.

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: Hustle culture is defined as one that encourages employees to work more than normal working hours.

Note: Quiet quitting refers to employees doing the bare minimum required of them.

Statement 2 is correct: Moonlighting is the act of working at an extra job beyond regular working hours, usually without the knowledge of the employer.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.8) With reference to internal democracy of political parties, consider the following statements;

1. The ECI has periodically used guidelines issued for the registration of parties to remind parties to conduct elections every five years.
2. The Election Commission of India have statutory power to enforce internal democracy in parties and can mandate internal elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

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Statement 1 is correct: The ECI has periodically used guidelines issued for the registration of parties under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to remind parties to conduct elections and to ensure that their leadership is renewed, changed or re-elected every five years.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was launched by US, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the United Kingdom

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) Which of the following statements are not correct about plant-based meat products?

- These are made of plant-derived ingredients but are designed to look and taste like real meat.
- Plants muscle tissues, which are elastic and flexible, are used for production of meat.
- For flavour, plant-based meat uses plant-based saturated fats to mimic the intra-muscular fat in animal tissue.
- Beetroot extract, pomegranate powder and soy leghemoglobin are used to mimic the colour(Look) of red meat.

Answer: B

The main challenge in plant-based meat method is plants don't have muscle tissue (elastic and flexible). Instead, they have rigid structures.

Q.10) With reference to the Dvorak technique, consider the following statements;

- It is a Cloud Pattern Recognition Technique (CPRT) based on a concept model of the development and decay of the tropical cyclone.
- In this methodology, available satellite images obtained from polar orbiting satellites are used to examine the features of the developing tropical storms.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

The Dvorak technique is a Cloud Pattern Recognition Technique (CPRT) based on a concept model of the development and decay of the tropical cyclone.

In this methodology, available satellite images obtained from polar orbiting satellites are used to examine the features of the developing tropical storms (hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons).

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Carbon Dating Technique consider the following statements:

1. It is a technique used to detect the age using the Carbon-12 isotope.
2. This technique is mostly used to find the age of living things.

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: B

Explanation –

Statement 1: Carbon dating technique used to detect the age using the isotope Carbon-14.

Statement 2: This technique is mostly used to find the age of living things.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-sci-tech/explained-carbon-dating-gyanvapi-mosque-shivling-8168720/>

Q.2) With reference to Avalanche monitoring radar installed in the Sikkim recently consider the following statements:

1. It uses a series of short micro wave pulses to detect an avalanche.
2. It is first radar installed in India.
3. The radar is unable to detect avalanche during the snowfall.

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 –

An avalanche monitoring radar, the first of its kind in India, has been installed in North Sikkim by the Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment (DGRE).

The radar uses a series of short micro wave pulses to detect an avalanche in less than three seconds. The radar can permanently scan the targeted slope for avalanche release and track the path of the avalanche and its size.

The radar can see through snow, fog as well as in the night, making it an all-weather solution.

The radar is also linked to an alarm system, enabling automatic control and warning measures in case an avalanche is triggered.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/in-a-first-in-india-avalanche-monitoring-radar-installed-in-north-sikkim/article65926554.ece>

Q.3) Poyang Lake is present in –

- a) Thailand
- b) Bhutan
- c) China
- d) Indonesia

Answer: C

Poyang Lake is the China's biggest freshwater lake. Red alert has been issued recently for this lake as it is drying.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/china-sounds-red-alert-as-biggest-freshwater-lake-goes-dry-2003852-2022-09-23>

Q.4) With reference to World Health Organization (WHO) consider the following statements:

1. It is an organization independent of UN that is responsible for international public health.
2. It's headquarter is situated in Geneva, Switzerland.

Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation –

Statement 1: WHO is a specialized organization of the UN which is responsible for international public health.

Statement 2: It's headquarter is situated in Geneva, Switzerland.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/unsafe-care-contributes-to-around-26-million-deaths-in-low-and-middle-income-countries-says-who/article65930359.ece>

Q.5) With reference to BrahMos Missile, consider the following statements;

1. It is a two-stage missile that has solid propellant in the first stage and liquid ramjet in the second stage.
2. It can only be launched by land and air.

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 two-stage missile that has solid propellant in the first stage and liquid ramjet in the second stage.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is a multiplatform missile i.e., it can be launched from land, air, and sea and multi capability missile with pinpoint accuracy that works in both day and night irrespective of the weather conditions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.6) Chrysalis, was recently seen in the news, is related to which of the following?

- a) A Martian River that has many riverine channels.
- b) A pre-existing moon that likely left Saturn
- c) A newly discovered planet that has a high amount of oxygen in the atmosphere.
- d) A tortoise species that is found in Western Ghats.

Answer: B

According to a recent study, a pre-existing moon named Chrysalis likely left Saturn with its bright rings and extreme tilt. Chrysalis likely orbited Saturn for several billion years, roughly 160 million years ago, Chrysalis became unstable and came too close to its planet. This encounter likely pushed the moon away or destroyed it.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.7) Which of the following statements is not correct about Millets?

- a) The earliest evidence for these grains has been found in Indus civilization and were one of the first plants domesticated for food.
- b) India is the largest producer of millet in the world.
- c) Ragi is known to have the highest calcium content among all the food grains.
- d) Millets are Photo-sensitive.

Answer: D

Millets are Photo-insensitive (do not require a specific photoperiod for flowering) & resilient to climate change. Millets can grow on poor soils with little or no external inputs.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.8) With reference to Aliva programme, consider the following statements;

1. Under the programme, Anganwadi workers had been asked to identify every adolescent girl in their jurisdiction and keep tabs on them.
2. It was launched in a small district in Odisha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Nayagarh, a small district in Odisha has adopted a unique initiative to eradicate child marriage by recording information on all adolescent girls in the district.

Under the programme, Anganwadi workers had been asked to identify every adolescent girl in their jurisdiction and keep tabs on them. There are 1,584 registers available in 1,584 Anganwadi centres of the district.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) With reference to tomistoma, consider the following statements;

1. It is a deer species that lives in the areas around North America.
2. It is listed as Vulnerable in IUCN.

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 tomistoma (*Tomistoma schlegelii*) is a large, slender-snouted crocodilian species native to Southeast Asia.

Statement 2 is correct: It is listed as Vulnerable in IUCN.

Source: [CrocodileIndia](#)

Q.10) With reference to banking system liquidity, consider the following statements;

1. It refers to readily available cash that banks need to meet short-term business and financial needs.
2. On a given day, if the banking system is a net lender to the RBI, the system liquidity can be said to be in deficit.

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 refers to readily available cash that banks need to meet short-term business and financial needs.

Statement 2 is incorrect: On a given day, if the banking system is a net borrower from the RBI under Liquidity Adjustment Facility(LAF), the system liquidity can be said to be in deficit and if the banking system is a net lender to the RBI, the system liquidity can be said to be in surplus.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to Pakke Tiger Reserve:

1. It is present in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It lies in the Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspot.
3. River Kameng flows to the east of this reserve.

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 –

Pakke Tiger Reserve also known as Pakhui Tiger Reserve is present in Arunachal Pradesh. It lies in the Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspot.

It has won Indian Biodiversity Award 2016 in the category of Conservation of threatened species for its Hornbill Nest Adoption Programme.

It is bounded by Kameng River in the west and north and by Pakke River in the east.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/four-rescued-bear-cubs-set-to-be-released-in-arunachal-national-park/article65933894.ece>

Q.2) With reference to coffee production in India consider the following statements:

1. Coffee requires an average temperature of 15°C to 28°C with 100-200 cm rainfall annually.
2. Coffee plants can survive in extreme sunlight.
3. Karnataka is the leading coffee producer state in India.

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 –

Statement 1: Coffee requires an average temperature of 15°C to 28°C with 100-200 cm rainfall annually.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Coffee plants cannot survive in extreme sunlight that is why they are planted below the shade of other plants.

Statement 3: Karnataka is the leading coffee producer state in India.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/price-of-robusta-coffee-touches-all-time-high-as-brazilian-production-declines/article65927493.ece>

Q.3) With reference to Attorney General of India consider the following statements:

1. Attorney General is the highest law officer in the country.
2. The term of Attorney General is fixed for a period of five years by the Constitution.
3. Attorney General has the right to speak and take part in proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament.

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: A

Explanation –

Statement 1: Attorney General is the highest law officer in the country.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The term of Attorney General not fixed by the Constitution. He/She holds office during the pleasure of President.

Statement 3: Attorney General has the right to speak and take part in proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament but he cannot vote in the house.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/mukul-rohatgi-declines-attorney-generals-post-8172639/>

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Covid is a respiratory disease while flu is a stomach disease.
2. Covid is caused by SARs-CoV-2 virus while flu is caused by influenza virus.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 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. Both Covid-19 and flu are respiratory diseases.

Statement 2: Covid is caused by SARs-CoV-2 virus while flu is caused by influenza virus.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/coronavirus-vs-flu-which-is-riskier-and-more-dangerous-now/photostory/94431749.cms?picid=94431761>

Q.5) With reference to grey-zone activities, consider the following statements;

1. These activities will occur during the war time of any nation.
2. These include economic activities, influence operations, cyberattacks, mercenary operations and others.

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 grey zone describes a set of activities that occur between peace and war situations.

Statement 2 is correct: They are often tailored toward the vulnerabilities of the target state. For instance, nefarious economic activities, influence operations, cyberattacks, mercenary operations, assassinations, and disinformation campaigns, etc.

Source: [ForumIAS](#)

Q.6) Which of the following countries are not part of Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)?

1. India
2. Pakistan
3. China
4. Bangladesh
5. Bhutan

Select the correct answer from the codes given below

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

Answer: C

Edible oil trade associations from five palm oil importing countries in South Asia – India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal announced the setting up of Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA).

Source: [Financial Expresss](#)

Q.7) Operation Megh-Chakra, was seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) An action against drug trafficking in India.
- b) A drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).
- c) An operation of Railway to protect women travelers in train.
- d) An operation of the army in the North East under AFSPA.

Answer: B

Operation Megh Chakra is a pan-India drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material(CSAM).

The operation is being carried out following the inputs received from [Interpol's](#) Singapore special unit.

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Note: CBI had launched a similar exercise code-named “**Operation Carbon** in 2021 in which the suspects in 13 States and one Union Territory were raided.

Source: [ForumIAS](#)

Q.8) With reference to Neurodiversity, consider the following statements;

1. It refers including people with neurodivergent conditions.
2. Autism spectrum disorders, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia are considered as neurodivergent conditions.

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

Neurodiversity in the workplace refers to including people with neurodivergent conditions such as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorders, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and Asperger's Syndrome.

Source: [ForumIAS](#)

Q.9) Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission was launched by which of the following organisation?

- a) Russian Federation Space Agency (RFSA)
- b) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- c) European Space Agency (ESA)
- d) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Answer: B

Source: [ForumIAS](#)

Q.10) With reference to Monsoon in India, consider the following statements;

1. The monsoon system ceases to pour rain over India from October 1.
2. The IMD only counts the rainfall between June 1 and September 30 as monsoon rainfall.

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: A

Statement 1 is incorrect: The monsoon system doesnot ceases to pour rain over India from October 1. monsoon-related rain can continue well into the first fortnight of October and only really retreats from India by late October. It is then replaced by the retreating, or northeast monsoon in November which is the key source of rainfall for several parts of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and north interior Karnataka.

Statement 2 is correct: The IMD only counts the rainfall between June 1 and September 30 as monsoon rainfall.

Source: [ForumIAS](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) consider the following statements:

1. It is an independent stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation.
2. It consists of six satellites which covers the globe.

Select the correct answer 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: Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) is an independent stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by ISRO.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. NavIC consists of eight satellites and covers the whole of India's landmass and up to 1,500 km (930 miles) from its boundaries. It currently does not cover places around the globe like GPS. But the government will try to push its global coverage.

Source:<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-sci-tech/explainer-navic-indias-home-grown-alternative-to-the-gps-navigation-system-8173951/>

Q.2) With reference to cultural history of India consider the following statements:

1. Iron tools were produced for hunting at Natham Medu.
2. Keeladi was an urban settlement of Sangam Age on the banks of River Vaigai.

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. Natham Medu was likely a place where stone tools were produced for hunting.

Statement 2: Keeladi was an urban settlement of Sangam Age on the banks of River Vaigai.

Source:<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chennai/axes-scrappers-handmade-tiles-latest-finds-in-excavation-near-chennai-8172750/>

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. A thermokarst lake is a freshwater lake that is formed in a depression formed by thawing ice-rich permafrost.
2. Methane has a longer atmospheric lifetime than carbon dioxide.

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: A thermokarst lake is a freshwater lake that is formed in a depression formed by thawing ice-rich permafrost.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Methane has a shorter atmospheric lifetime than carbon dioxide. It is the primary contributor to the formation of ground-level ozone which is a hazardous air pollutant.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/newly-formed-lakes-in-alaska-is-releasing-bubbles-full-of-methane/article65937494.ece>

Q.4) With reference to Asian Development Bank (ADB) consider the following statements:

1. It uses a weighted voting method in which votes are awarded in proportion to members' capital contributions.
2. India is one of the largest five shareholders of ADB.
3. It is headquartered at Manila, Philippines

Select the correct statement using 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

Explanation –

Statement 1: ADB uses a weighted voting method in which votes are awarded in proportion to members' capital contributions. It is similar to World Bank in method of voting.

Statement 2: ADB's five largest shareholders are Japan, the United States, the People's Republic of China, India, and Australia.

Statement 3: It is headquartered at Manila, Philippines Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/asian-development-bank-announces-14-billion-support-for-food-security-in-asia-pacific/article65941108.ece>

Q.5) With reference to Broad-billed sandpiper, consider the following statements;

1. It is a bird species that lives in the areas around North America.
2. It is listed as Least Concern in IUCN.

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: Broad-billed sandpiper is a migratory bird species found in Northern Europe, particularly in the Nordic Countries such as Norway, Sweden, Finland, and in Siberia.

Statement 2 is correct: It is listed as Least Concern in IUCN.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.6) AVGAS 100 LL, was seen in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) New strain of Covid Virus
- b) Newly developed Pakistan's missile system
- c) India's own aviation fuel for piston engine
- d) A fighter jet of Israel

Answer: C

AVGAS 100 LL is a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. Currently, India is importing this product from European countries.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.7) With reference to semiconductors, which of the following statement is/are correct?

1. They have conductivity between conductors and insulators.
2. 7 nanometer (nm) ones are the most-advanced semiconductor technology nodes available today.
3. Semiconductors having higher nanometer value are applied in automobiles, consumer electronics

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is correct: They have conductivity between conductors and insulators.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The most-advanced semiconductor technology nodes available today are the 3 nm and the 5 nanometers (nm) ones.

Statement 3 is correct: Semiconductors having higher nanometer value are applied in automobiles, consumer electronics. On the other hand, those with lower values are used in devices such as smartphones and laptops.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) Nanjarayan tank bird sanctuary is located in which of the following states?

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

Answer: B

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) With reference to sounding rockets, consider the following statements;

- 1. These are primarily intended for probing the upper atmospheric regions using rocket-borne instrumentation.
- 2. India currently imports the sounding rockets for its purpose.

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: These are primarily intended for probing the upper atmospheric regions using rocket-borne instrumentation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In 1967, ISRO started launching a series of its own sounding rockets named Rohini from the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS).

RH-75 was the first truly Indian-sounding rocket which was followed by RH-100 and RH-125 rockets. Currently, the RH200, RH300 MkII and RH560 Mk-III rockets are operational.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a major centre of Jain influence for 1,000 years just before the Christian era.
- 2. This is the only place in Tamil Nadu where one can see Pandya paintings.
- 3. The site is an early example of post-Ajanta cave paintings of the fourth to sixth centuries.
- 4. The site has inscriptions of Ilan-Gautaman.

Which of the following sites has been described in the statements above?

- a) Chitharal
- b) Sittanavasal
- c) Mandagapattu
- d) Kurattiyarai

Answer: B

Source: [The Hindu](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to National Clean Air Programme consider the following statements:

1. The program will help to deal with air pollution across India.
2. It has set target to reduce only PM2.5 by 20 to 30 per cent.

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: National Clean Air Programme will take efforts to deal with air pollution across India.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It has set target to reduce PM2.5 and PM10 by 20 to 30 percent by 2024.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/national-clean-air-programme-centre-aims-at-40-reduction-in-particulate-matter-by-2026/article65941247.ece>

Q.2) Karatoya river is located in –

- a) India
- b) Pakistan
- c) Myanmar
- d) Bangladesh

Answer: D

Explanation –

Karatoya River is a small stream in Rajshahi Division of Bangladesh.

Source: <https://www.dnaindia.com/world/report-bangladesh-24-dead-several-missing-after-boat-sinks-in-karatoya-river-2988026>

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

1. Climate change is making cyclones weaker.
2. Climate change is causing cyclones to travel more slowly.
3. Climate change can also boost the amount of rainfall delivered by a cyclone.

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: B

Explanation –

Statement 1: The statement is incorrect. Climate change is making hurricanes wetter, windier and altogether more intense.

Statement 2: There is also evidence that climate change is causing cyclones to travel more slowly, meaning they can dump more water in one place.

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Statement 3: Climate change can also boost the amount of rainfall delivered by a cyclone. Because a warmer atmosphere can also hold more moisture, water vapor builds up until clouds break, sending down heavy rain.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/environment/story/explained-how-climate-change-is-fueling-hurricanes-2005310-2022-09-27>

Q.4) With reference to Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve consider the following statements:

1. The Eastern and Western Ghats merge at this tiger reserve.
2. The reserve is an extension of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
3. Tropical evergreen forest is mostly found in this reserve.

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 –

Statement 1: Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is situated in the Erode district of Coimbatore in Tami Nadu. The Eastern and Western Ghats merge at this tiger reserve.

Statement 2: The reserve is an extension of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. Tropical dry forest is mostly found in this reserve.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/youth-goes-missing-inside-erode-sathyamangalam-tiger-reserve/article65945088.ece>

Q.5) With reference to White fly, consider the following statements;

1. Most of the whitefly species are native to the Caribbean islands or Central America.
2. The pest affects photosynthesis, the food-making process of the plant, and lowers the strength of the plant.

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

Whitefly is a serious pest of cotton that lowers yield by feeding on the underside of the leaf and spreading diseases like Cotton Leaf Curl Virus. Most of the whitefly species are native to the Caribbean islands or Central America. In India, the first invasive whitefly was reported in Kerala in 1995.

Whiteflies feed on the sap of the leaves and release fluid onto the leaves on which a black fungus grows. This affects photosynthesis, the food-making process of the plant, and so lowers the strength of the plant.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.6) All-India Quarterly Establishment Based Employment Survey (AQEES) was released by which of the following organisation/department?

- a) National Sample Survey Organisation(NSSO)
- b) Central Statistics Office
- c) Labour Bureau
- d) NITI Aayog

Answer: C

Quarterly Employment Survey(QES) is part of the All-India Quarterly Establishment Based Employment Survey (AQEES). It was released by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.7) With reference to DART Mission, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is the first technology demonstration of the kinetic impactor technique on Asteroid.
- 2. The target of the spacecraft is a moonlet called Didymos.

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: DART is the first technology demonstration of the kinetic impactor technique. If successful, this technique could be used to mitigate the threat in case an asteroid heads towards Earth in the future.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The target of the spacecraft is a small moonlet called Dimorphos (Greek for "two forms"). Dimorphos orbits a larger asteroid named Didymos (Greek for "twin").

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.8) With reference to Dadasaheb Phalke Award, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is India's highest award in the field of cinema.
- 2. So far, the award is not awarded posthumously.
- 3. Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) medallion is associated with this award.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is correct: The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in the field of cinema.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As of 2022, there have been 52 awardees. Among those, actor Prithviraj Kapoor (1971) and actor Vinod Khanna (2017) are the only posthumous recipients.

Statement 3 is correct: The recipient is honoured for their "outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema". The award comprises a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) medallion, a shawl, and a cash prize of ₹1,000,000.

Source: [All India Radio](#)

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Q.9) With reference to Thamirabarani River, consider the following statements;

1. It is the only perennial river in Tamil Nadu.
2. It originates in the Kolli Hills of the Eastern Ghats

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: Thamirabarani is the only perennial river in Tamil Nadu.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It originates in the Pothigai Hills of the Western Ghats in the Tirunelveli district.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.10) With reference to Ram Setu, consider the following statements;

1. The structure has significance in Hindu mythology only.
2. It is a chain of limestone shoals between Rameswaram and Mannar Island.

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 structure has significance in both Hindu and Muslim mythology – while Hindus believe this is the bridge (setu) built by Lord Ram and his army to cross to Lanka and fight Ravan, as per Islamic legend, Adam used this bridge to reach Adam's Peak in Sri Lanka, where he stood on one foot for 1,000 years in repentance.

Statement 2 is correct: The Ram Setu, also known as Adam's Bridge, is a 48-km chain of limestone shoals between Rameswaram on India's southeast coast and Mannar Island near Sri Lanka's northwest coast.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Varaha cave temples consider the following statements:

1. The architecture of these temples is a blend of Nagara and Dravidian styles.
2. It is a monolithic rock-cut temple with a mandapa carved into the rock face of pink granite.

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 statements is incorrect. The architecture of Varaha temples is based only on Dravidian style of architecture.

Statement 2: Varaha cave temples are monolithic rock-cut temple with a mandapa carved into the rock face of pink granite.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/asi-finds-temples-buddhist-caves-in-bandhavgarh-tiger-reserve/article65947562.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to Ethiopia:

1. It is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa.
2. It shares borders with Eritrea to the west.

Select the correct answer 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: Ethiopia is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It shares borders with Eritrea to the north, Djibouti to the northeast, Somalia to the east and northeast, Kenya to the south, South Sudan to the west, and Sudan to the northwest.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/satellite-images-show-eritrea-military-buildup-near-tigray/article65946243.ece>

Q.3) With reference to paddy straw bedding consider the following statements:

1. It provides comfort and mastitis control in animals.
2. It is better bedding material than any other material because of its low water retention capacity.

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: Paddy straw bedding provides comfort and mastitis control in animals.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Paddy straw bedding is natural and cheaper than other materials. Paddy straw, if dried and properly cut, is proven to be a better bedding material because of its high-water retention capacity, due to the high cellulose and silica content in the material.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/can-bedding-for-cattle-solve-the-paddy-stubble-problem-in-punjab-8178486/>

Q.4) Consider the following:

1. Mercury
2. Zinc
3. Chlorohydrocarbons
4. Deforestation

Which of the above are responsible for soil degradation?

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

Answer: D

Explanation –

Industrial sources such as fly ash, mercury, lead, copper, zinc, cadmium, cyanides, acids, organic substances, nuclear wastes are responsible for soil degradation. Chlorohydrocarbons (CHCs) like DDT also cause soil degradation.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/save-the-soil-for-future-generations/article65946447.ece>

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

1. The resin of the Silphion was extensively used as a spice, perfume, aphrodisiac, contraceptive and medicine.
2. It is a yellow-flowered plant that was thought to have gone extinct some 2,000 years ago.

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: The resin of the Silphion was extensively used as a spice, perfume, aphrodisiac, contraceptive and medicine.

Statement 2 is correct: is a yellow-flowered plant that was thought to have gone extinct some 2,000 years ago.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.6) Bandhavgarh Forest Reserve is located in which of the following state?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Rajasthan

Answer: B

Source: [PIB](#)

Q.7) With reference to Neelakurinji Flower, consider the following statements;

1. It blooms only once in every 12 years.
2. It has been categorized as endangered species.
3. The flower has an excellent smell and enormous medicinal value.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: Nilgiri Hills, which literally means the blue mountains, got their name from the purplish blue flowers of Neelakurinji that bloom only once in 12 years. It is rarest of rare plant species that grows in Western Ghats and does not grow in any other part of the world. Besides the Western Ghats, Neelakurinji is also seen in the Shevroy in the Eastern Ghats, Sanduru hills of Bellary district in Karnataka.

Statement 2 is correct: It has been categorized as endangered species.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The flower has no smell or any medicinal value. Paliyan tribal people living in Tamil Nadu use this flower bloom as reference to calculate their age.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.8) Which of the following is/are tributary/tributaries of Brahmaputra?

1. Pranhita
2. Dibang
3. Kameng

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

The principal tributaries of the Brahmaputra River joining from the right are Kameng, Subansiri, Manas, Sankosh and Teesta whereas Lohit, Dibang, Burhidihing, Desang, Dikhow, Dhansiri join it from the left.

Note: The Pranhita (combined flow of Wainganga, Penganga, Wardha) is a tributary of Godavari River.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.9) With reference to Just War Theory, consider the following statements;

1. It aims to provide a guide to the right way for states to act in potential conflict situations.
2. It only applies to states, and not to individuals.

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.

The aim is to provide a guide to the right way for states to act in potential conflict situations. It only applies to states, and not to individuals (although an individual can use the theory to help them decide whether it is morally right to take part in a particular war).

The theory is not intended to justify wars but to prevent them, by showing that going to war except in certain limited circumstances is wrong and thus motivates states to find other ways of resolving conflicts.

Source: [BBC](#)

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Q.10) With reference to Mughal Architecture, consider the following statements;

1. Sarais was a complex mix of official and residential-cum-pleasure palaces.
2. Jaali's cooling feature relies on the Venturi effect in a similar way to an air conditioning unit.

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: Sarais were largely built on a simple square or a rectangular plan and were meant to provide temporary accommodation for Indian and foreign travelers, pilgrims, merchants, traders, etc.

Mandus was a complex mix of official and residential-cum-pleasure palace. These buildings did not retain heat. Local stone and marble were used to great advantage.

Statement 2 is correct: Jaali's cooling feature relies on the Venturi effect in a similar way to an air conditioning unit. When air passes through holes, it picks up velocity and penetrates afar. Due to the small apertures, the air gets compressed and when released it gets cooler.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. It is a kharif crop.
2. It requires temperature between 21 degrees and 30 degrees Celsius.
3. It is sensitive to excessive moisture and water logging.

Which of the following crop requires the above conditions?

- a) Rice
- b) Cotton
- c) Mustard
- d) Wheat

Answer: B

Explanation –

Cotton is a kharif crop that requires temperature between 21 degrees and 30 degrees Celsius. It requires moderate rainfall between 50-75 cm. It is sensitive to excessive moisture and water logging.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/cotton-growers-in-yadgir-a-worried-lot-as-excess-moisture-in-soil-damages-crops/article65950279.ece>

Q.2) With reference to Ayushman Digital Mission consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide digital health IDs for all Indian citizens.
2. Health IDs have been made mandatory for all citizens.
3. It creates Healthcare Professionals' Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registry (HFR) which allows electronic access to medical professionals and health infrastructure.

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 –

Ayushman Digital Mission aims to provide digital health IDs for all Indian citizens. It is voluntary and free of cost.

It also creates Healthcare Professionals' Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registry (HFR) which allows electronic access to medical professionals and health infrastructure.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/ayushman-digital-mission-karnataka-tops-in-registration-of-health-facilities/article65947648.ece>

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

1. They are bigger than African Lions.
2. They have been listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation –

Asiatic Lions are little smaller than African Lions. They have been listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and listed Endangered in the IUCN red data list.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/asiatic-lions-sidelined-for-african-cheetahs/article65917788.ece>

Q.4) Dark data was seen in the news recently. It is –

- a) the unused and untapped data across an organization generated due to daily online interactions of users with devices and systems.
- b) the dark energy that is stored in the universe.
- c) the data that is stored on computer with limited user access.
- d) the data that is required to achieve net zero target by eliminating dark pollutants.

Answer: A

Explanation –

Dark data is the unused and untapped data across an organization generated due to daily online interactions of users with devices and systems.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/dark-data-is-killing-the-planet-we-need-digital-decarbonisation/article65953995.ece>

Q.5) Which of the following is/are the potential impact of asteroid on Earth?

1. Damage the ozone layer.
2. Cause damage similar to a nuclear explosion.
3. It might cause the extinction of some species.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

A large meteorite burning up in the lower atmosphere could damage the ozone layer, or release enough energy to cause damage similar to a nuclear explosion.

Approximately 66 million years ago, a very large meteorite crashed into the Yucatan region of Mexico and caused the extinction of a large number of animal and plant species. It caused tsunamis and led to a nuclear winter that lasted a long time. It is estimated that the object was around 10 km in diameter and it caused a crater that's 180 km wide and 2 km deep.

Source: [Business Standard](#)

Q.6) With reference to NavIC and GPS, consider the following statements;

1. GPS only has geosynchronous satellites, but the NavIC has both geostationary and geosynchronous satellites.
2. GPS is accurate up to 5-10 meters on land against 20-30 meters for NavIC.

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 GPS needs nearly 24 operational satellites and has 31 satellites in orbit. All 55 satellites are geosynchronous satellites which means that they do not remain stationary in space regarding the revolving earth.

NavIC has 3 geostationary satellites and 4 geosynchronous satellites which are placed in much higher orbits due to which the signal is less prone to obstructions.

The GPS uses a single frequency band while the NavIC satellites use dual frequency bands (L5-band and S-band).

Statement 2 is incorrect: NavIC is said to be accurate up to 5-10 meters on land against 20-30 meters for GPS.

Source: [Mint](#)

Q.7) Kushiyara River flows in which of the following state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Assam
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Tripura

Answer: B

The Kushiyara River is a distributary river in Bangladesh and Assam, India.

It forms on the India-Bangladesh border as a branch of the Barak River, when the Barak separates into the Kushiyara and Surma.

The waters that eventually form the Kushiyara originate in the uplands of the state of Assam and pick up tributaries from Nagaland and Manipur.

Source: [Mint](#)

Q.8) With reference to Chief of Defence Staff, consider the following statements;

1. The CDS is a four-star General/Officer who acts as the Principal Military Advisor to the Defence Minister on all tri-services matters.
2. The CDS works under the Department of Military Affairs, which is headed by Defence Minister.
3. He acts as the military advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: The CDS is a four-star General/Officer who acts as the Principal Military Advisor to the Defence Minister on all tri-services matters.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The CDS heads the Department of Military Affairs within the Ministry of Defence and acts as its secretary.

Statement 3 is correct: He acts as the military advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) With reference to Potash fertilizer, consider the following statements;

1. India meets 100% of its Potash requirement through imports.
2. Potash is used both for direct application as MOP as well as in combination with 'N' & 'P' nutrients in NPK fertilizers.

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.

Potash, which is source of Potassium, is used both for direct application as MOP as well as in combination with 'N' & 'P' nutrients in NPK fertilizers.

India meets 100% of its Potash requirement through imports. The country imports approximately 40 LMT MOP annually.

In a significant step towards ensuring long-term fertiliser availability for the farming community, India's fertiliser companies- Coromandel International, Chambal Fertilizers and Indian Potash Limited signed an MoU with Canpotex, Canada.

Canpotex is amongst the largest suppliers of Potash globally, exporting around 130 LMT of product annually to more than 40 countries and has been one of the suppliers to India.

Source: [PIB](#)

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Q.10) With reference to Mahakaleshwar Temple, consider the following statements;

1. It is presently located alongside the holy river Panna.
2. Unlike any other jyotirlingas in the country, the idol of Mahakaleshwar faces 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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: Mahakaleshwar, which means the 'Lord of time', refers to Lord Shiva. As per Hindu mythology, the temple was constructed by Lord Brahma and is presently located alongside the holy river Kshipra.

Statement 2 is correct: Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga in Ujjain is one of the 12 jyotirlingas considered the most sacred abodes of Shiva.

The temple's Mahakal Lingam is believed to be Swayambhu (self-manifested) and unlike any other jyotirlingas in the country, the idol of Mahakaleshwar faces south.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to National Commission for Women (NCW) consider the following statements:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. It advises the government on all policy matters that affects women.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation – National Commission for Women is the statutory body of the Government of India. It is generally concerned with advising the government on all policy matters that affects women. Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/ncw-explanation-ias-officer-bihar-sanitary-pads-row-8179944/>

Q.2) With reference to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) consider the following statements:

1. It is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies.
2. India is not one of its members.
3. The membership of ITU is only open for UN members.

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 –

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies. India is the member of ITU. The membership of ITU is only open for UN members.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/gadgets-news/explained-the-role-and-importance-of-itu-the-worlds-oldest-telecom-agency/articleshow/94561287.cms>

Q.3) With reference to Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) consider the following statements:

1. It grants the armed forces extraordinary powers and legal immunity to bring back order in disturbed areas.
2. It gives power to armed forces to arrest anyone even without a warrant.
3. This act can be applied in the state only after the consent of that state government.

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 –

Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) grants the armed forces extraordinary powers and legal immunity to bring back order in disturbed areas.

It gives power to armed forces to fire upon anyone who is acting against law and order, arrest anyone without a warrant, stop and search any vehicle or vessel, and prohibit a gathering of five or more people.

Statement 3 is incorrect. This act gives powers to the central government to unilaterally take the decision to impose AFSPA which means the consent of the state government is not important.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/afspa-extended-arunachal-pradesh-nagaland-six-months-from-today-2007010-2022-10-01>

Q.4) With reference to PUSA decomposer seen in the news recently consider the following statements:

1. It is a capsule that decomposes paddy stubble at a faster rate than any other decomposers.
2. It improves the fertility and productivity of the soil.

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: C

Explanation –

PUSA decomposer has been developed by Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. It is a capsule that decomposes paddy stubble at a faster rate than any other decomposers. It also improves the fertility and productivity of the soil.

Source: <https://www.dnaindia.com/explainer/report-winter-action-plan-delhi-government-s-15-points-plan-to-fight-air-pollution-explained-aap-stubble-burning-2989244>

Q.5) World's first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal is going to be present in which of the following state?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Odisha
- c) Kerala
- d) Gujarat

Answer: D

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the “world's first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal” at Bhavnagar in Gujarat. The Bhavnagar port is selected because of its close vicinity to the Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR) and is expected to serve the industries that set up base in the region.

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Q.6) Which of the following statements is not correct about Lichens?

- a) Lichens are a complex life form that is a symbiotic partnership of two separate organisms, a fungus and an alga.
- b) Lichens have roots or structures like other plants.
- c) Lichens are the first to appear on barren rocks, in deserts and icy terrain and after disturbances like landslides.
- d) Lichens are consumed by musk deer in winter.

Answer: B

Lichens do not have roots or structures like other plants, they depend on the atmosphere for air and water. So, the quality of ambience reflects in the diversity of lichens.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.7) With reference to Ranipur Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements;

1. The Tiger Reserve has tropical evergreen climate.
2. It is located in Uttar Pradesh.

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 Tiger Reserve has tropical dry deciduous forests and is home to fauna such as tigers, leopards, sloth bears, spotted deer, sambhar, chinkara and a number of birds and reptiles.

Statement 2 is correct: It is located in Uttar Pradesh. It will be the fourth in UP after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve).

Source: [DTE](#)

Q.8) The terms Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia, were recently seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) Rivers in Europe
- b) Fish species found in Arctic
- c) Areas in Ukraine
- d) Volcanoes in South America

Answer: C

Russia released vote tallies showing overwhelming support in four provinces of Ukraine to join with Russia. The four regions are Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Q.9) Which of the following is/are the benefits of Lichens?

- 1. Lichens are used as spices and in perfumes.
- 2. Lichens have biochemicals which can treat cancers.
- 3. Lichens are used by birds and woolly flying squirrels to pad their nests.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

Animals and birds depend on Lichens: Some Lichens are consumed by musk deer in winter, when little else grows (this is similar to the Arctic reindeer which eat moss, after whom 'reindeer moss' is named), while others are used by birds and woolly flying squirrels to pad their nests. Formed via a symbiotic relationship between fungus and algae, they resemble a micro-ecosystem and with lower plants like mosses. They attract insects, birds, snails, frogs and little animals needing food, habitat and shelter.

Spices and perfumes: Parmotrema tinctorum and Ramalina sinensis respectively are used as spices and in perfumes, particularly utilised in the famous perfumeries of Kannauj.

Medicinal value: Some lichens are used in medicines for asthma and fractures. Some lichens have biochemicals which can treat cancers.

Source of income: Villages usually collect lichen and sell it to traders for its many uses.

Source: [TOI](#)

Q.10) With reference to Operation Garuda, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is an operation against illicit drug trafficking networks.
- 2. It was launched by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

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 an operation against illicit drug trafficking network.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was launched by Central Bureau of Investigation.

Source: [Livemint](#)