

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

October, 2022

THIS IS A MONTLY DOCUMENT CONTAINING ALL MCQS ASKED IN 10 PM CURRENTAFFAIRS QUIZ BY FORUMIAS.

PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nilgiri tiger is a butterfly endemic to Western ghats.
- 2. Southern birdwing is the smallest Indian butterfly.

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: Species endemic to the Western Ghats are - Red-disc bushbrown, Palni Sailer, Palni Fritillary, Palni Four-ring, Nilgiri tiger.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect Southern birdwing is the largest Indian butterfly. **Source:**<u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/several-species-recorded-in-munnar-faunal-survey/article65942345.ece</u>

Q.2) With reference to Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021 consider the following statements:

1. It provides for the abortion of unmarried women along with married women.

2. The act will help to contribute towards ending preventable maternal mortality and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

3. The gestational limit for termination of a pregnancy has been decreased in the act.

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 -

Statement 1: MTP Act, 2021 provides for the abortion of unmarried women along with married women.

Statement 2: It will help to contribute towards ending preventable maternal mortality and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. The gestational limit for termination of a pregnancy has been increased from 20 to 24 weeks.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/explained-how-has-the-supreme-court-expanded-abortion-rights/article65960016.ece</u>



Q.3) Consider the following:

- 1. Banks decrease the interest rates on loans.
- 2. There is an increase in Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs).

Which of the above will be the impact of rising repo rates?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

When repo rate increase it leads to increase in the interest rates by banks. It makes loans costlier and make EMIs higher.

Source: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/explained-how-rbi-</u>rate-hike-may-impact-your-emis/articleshow/94565522.cms

Q.4) Melatonin was seen in the news recently. It is -

- a) a wild bird species.
- b) viral disease.
- c) hormones related to sleep.
- d) a technology used in space.

Answer: C

Explanation -

Melatonin is a naturally occurring hormone secreted in our brains. It is related to the timing and quality of our sleep and wake rhythms and determined by our internal body clock.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/how-do-melatonin-gummy-bears-effect-children/article65965585.ece</u>

Q.5) With reference to Swachh Survekshan awards, 2022, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India.
- 2. Indore has been ranked the cleanest city in India for the sixth consecutive year.
- 3. Telangana emerged as a cleanest States with more than 100 urban local bodies (ULBs).

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: C

Statement 1 is correct: It is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India.

Statement 2 is correct: Indore has been ranked the cleanest city in India for the sixth consecutive year.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Madhya Pradesh emerged as a cleanest States with more than 100 urban local bodies (ULBs).

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Note: Telangana was ranked first for the cleanliness of its villages under Swachh Survekshan Gramin's Large States category.

Source: <u>PIB</u>

Q.6) With reference to Telecom Technology Development Fund, consider the following statements;

- 1. The objective of TDF is also to boost connectivity in underserved urban areas, R&D, skill development.
- 2. The scheme entails grants to Indian entities to encourage and induct indigenous technologies.

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 objective of TDF is also to boost connectivity in underserved urban areas, R&D, skill development.

Statement 2 is correct: The scheme entails grants to Indian entities to encourage and induct indigenous technologies.

Source: **<u>PIB</u>**

Q.7) With reference to Black cocaine, consider the following statements;

- 1. Black cocaine is a mixture of regular cocaine base with various substances to camouflage typical appearance.
- 2. It is consumed in the Black form itself.

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

Statement 2 is incorrect: The pure cocaine base is then recovered from the mixture by extraction using common organic solvents such as methylene chloride or acetone. A second process is required to convert the cocaine base into powdered cocaine hydrochloride. **Source:** Indian Express



Q.8) Which of the following is/are the advantage of tokenisation?

- 1. Tokenisation lends greater credibility to seamless and secure payments experience.
- 2. The credit card EMIs, instant pay-outs, and instant cashbacks will increase due to tokenisation.
- 3. The customer data will no longer be stored with either the merchant or the payment aggregator.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: Tokenisation lends greater credibility to seamless and secure payments experience.

Statement 2 is incorrect: When cards migrate to tokenization, the credit card EMIs, instant pay-outs, and instant cashbacks may take a major hit.

Statement 3 is correct: The customer data will no longer be stored with either the merchant or the payment aggregator.

Source: Indian Express

Q.9) Which of the following country is a land locked country?

- a) Portugal
- b) Burkina Faso
- c) Cambodia
- d) Angola

Answer: B

Recently, Burkina Faso witnesses second coup of the year. Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa, bordered by Mali to the northwest, Niger to the northeast, Benin to the southeast, Togo and Ghana to the south, and the Ivory Coast to the southwest.

It was previously called Republic of Upper Volta. The country owes its former name of Upper Volta to three rivers which cross it: the Black Volta (or Mouhoun), the White Volta (Nakambé) and the Red Volta (Nazinon).

Source: The Hindu



Q.10) With reference to Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors scheme, consider the following statements;

- 1. Under it, the government will help authors to create high quality R&D research papers and publish them in top Science journals.
- 2. It was launched by the Department of Higher 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: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is an Author Mentorship programme to train young and budding authors (below 30 years of age) in order to promote reading, writing and book culture in the country, and project India and Indian writings globally.

Statement 2 is correct: It was launched by the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education.

Source: <u>PIB</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Red Sanders consider the following statements:

1. They are endemic tree species of China.

2. They have been listed endangered in IUCN Red data List.

Select the correct answer 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: Red Sanders are endemic tree species of India. They are mostly found in the Eastern Ghats.

Statement 2: They have been listed endangered in IUCN Red data List and they lie in the Schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/no-end-to-woes-of-private-red-sanders-growers-in-telangana/article65963108.ece</u>

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

1. Denmark, Estonia and Finland are some of the countries that enclose the Baltic Sea.

- 2. It is connected to the North Sea by the Keil Canal.
- 3. It includes the Gulf of Mexico.

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: Baltic Sea is enclosed by Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Sweden and the North and central European Plain.

Statement 2: Baltic Sea is artificially connected to White Sea by the White Sea Canal and North Sea by the Kiel Canal.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. It includes Gulf of Bothnia, the Bay of Bothnia, the Gulf of Finland, the Gulf of Riga and the Bay of Gdansk.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/explained-the-nord-stream-pipeline-leaks-what-happened-and-what-is-at-stake/article65950516.ece</u>



Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to Ethanol Blending:

1. Ethanol is naturally produced by the fermentation of sugar by yeasts.

2. Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP) aims at reducing the dependence on sugars for sweetening.

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: Ethanol is naturally produced by the fermentation of sugar by yeasts. **Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP) aims at reducing the dependence on importing the crude oils and it will also give boost to farmer's income. **Source:** <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/india/sugarcane-arrears-to-farmers-at-5-year-low-govt-data-shows-8188380/</u>

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Kolu bommais refers to the decoration of dolls for Navratri.
- 2. Vilachery terracotta dolls are famous kolu idols from Tamil Nadu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation –

Statement 1: Kolu bommais in Tamil refers to the decoration of dolls for Navratri. **Statement 2:** Vilachery terracotta dolls are famous kolu idols from Tamil Nadu. **Source:** <u>https://www.thehindu.com/videos/watch-what-makes-vilachery-dolls-special/article65966534.ece</u>

Q.5) Description and Land Degradation Atlas of India is published by which of the following department/organisation?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Space Application Centre, ISRO
- c) Down To Earth
- d) National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

Answer: B

Published by: The Atlas has been published by Space Application Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad. **Prepared using:** The Atlas was prepared using **IRS Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS) data** of 2011-13 and 2003-05 time frames in the Geographical Information System (GIS) environment. The Atlas provides a <u>state-wise area of degraded lands</u> for the time frame 2018-19. It also provides **the change analysis** for the duration of 15 years from 2003-05 to 2018-19. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>



Q.6) With reference to Nobel Prize, consider the following statements;

- 1. The first woman to win the Nobel Prize was Marie Curie.
- 2. Rabindranath Tagore was the first non-European and Indian to get a Nobel Prize in literature.
- 3. All the Nobel Prizes are given in Stockholm, Sweden.

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: C

Statement 1 is correct: The first woman to win the Nobel Prize was Marie Curie, and she won the award twice.

Statement 2 is correct: Rabindranath Tagore was the first non-European and Indian to get a Nobel Prize in 1913 in literature.

Statement 3 is incorrect: All the Nobel Prizes are given in Stockholm, Sweden except for the Nobel Peace Prize which is awarded in Oslo, Norway.

Source: Indian Express

Q.7) With reference to the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below, who made outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics.
- 2. It was instituted by the 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 presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below, who made outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was instituted by the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) in 2005 with a cash prize of \$10,000.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.8) Which of the following factors might increase acidity in Ocean?

- 1. Seawater is getting mixed with melted ice water.
- 2. Melting of Sea ice.
- 3. Exposure of sea ice to atmospheric carbon dioxide.

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 team of researchers identified a strong correlation between the accelerated rate of melting ice and the rate of ocean acidification. Sea-ice melt is the key mechanism explaining rapid pH decrease because it changes surface water in three primary ways.

1) The water under the sea ice has a deficit of carbon dioxide. This water now is exposed to atmospheric carbon dioxide and can take it up freely, thus becoming acidic.

2) The seawater mixed with meltwater is light and can't mix easily into deeper waters, which means the carbon dioxide is concentrated at the surface.

3) The meltwater dilutes the carbonate ion concentration in the seawater. Thereby weakening its ability to neutralise the carbon dioxide into bicarbonate and rapidly decreasing ocean pH. **Source:** Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin, consider the following statements;

- 1. Majority of the beneficiaries of the scheme are women.
- 2. It was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.

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: As on September 29, 2022, a total of two crore houses had been constructed out of the 2.46 crore houses that were sanctioned. Of this, 69% are owned partly or completely by women.

Statement 2 is correct: It was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development. Source: The Hindu

Q.10) With reference to Light Combat Helicopter (LCH), Prachand, consider the following statements;

- 1. Chetak and Cheetah are indigenous light combat attack helicopters.
- 2. The LCH is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters.

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: India has been operating sub-3-ton category French-origin legacy helicopters, Chetak and Cheetah, made in India by the HAL. These single-engine machines are primarily used for utility helicopters.

Statement 2 is correct: The LCH is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters with a considerable load of weapons and fuel, meeting the specific requirements laid out by the Indian Armed Forces.

Source: Indian Express



Q.1) Global Innovation Index is published by -

- a) World Bank
- b) United Nations
- c) World Intellectual Property Organization
- d) International Monetary Fund

Answer: C

Explanation - Global Innovation Index is published by World Intellectual Property Organization. India has ranked 40th position in Global Innovation index 2022. **Source:** <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/indias-rank-in-global-innovation-index-has-improved-president-murmu/article65969745.ece</u>

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

- 1. It is an alliance between OPEC and non-OPEC countries.
- 2. The non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC Plus countries.
- 3. Saudi Arabia is one of the OPEC Plus countries.

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

OPEC Plus is an alliance between OPEC and non-OPEC countries. The non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC Plus countries. Statement 3 is incorrect. Saudi Arabia is one of the OPEC countries.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/opec-to-debate-large-cut-in-amount-of-crude-it-ships-to-global-economy/article65971746.ece</u>

Q.3) Which of the following is not correct regarding the collegium system?

- a) It is the way by which judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed and transferred.
- b) It is mentioned in Article 356 of the Constitution of India.
- c) SC collegium comprises of five-members headed by the Chief Justice of India.
- d) The government can return the recommendation for reconsideration by collegium.

Answer: B

Collegium system has not been mentioned in the Constitution of India. The collegium came into being through the interpretations of the relevant provisions of the Constitution that the Supreme Court made in three judges' cases.

Source: <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/everyday-explainers/what-is-the-sc-</u> collegium-how-it-works-8191113/



Q.4) Which of the following statement is correct regarding storm surge?

- a) It is the abnormal rise in seawater level during a storm.
- b) It is the total observed seawater level during a storm.
- c) It is caused by the gravitational pull of the sun and the moon.
- d) It is commonly associated with high pressure weather system.

Answer: A

Explanation -

Storm surge is the abnormal rise in seawater level during a storm, measured as the height of the water above the normal predicted astronomical tide. The surge is caused primarily by a storm's winds pushing water onshore. The amplitude of the storm surge at any given location depends on the orientation of the coast line with the storm track, the intensity, size, and speed of the storm.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/watch-what-is-a-storm-</u>surge/article65967561.ece

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

- 1. It is caused by the bite of the female mosquito whenever it bites the human.
- 2. 'Gene drive' technology can help in controlling Malaria.'
- 3. Mosquirix, the malaria vaccine, offers protection against all kinds of malarial parasites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is caused by the bite of the female Anopheles mosquito (vector) if the mosquito itself is infected with a malarial parasite.

Statement 2 is correct: 'Gene drive' technology can help in controlling Malaria. Gene drive would cause the anti-parasite genetic modification to be preferentially inherited, making it spread more widely among any natural population of mosquitoes.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Mosquirix, the malaria vaccine, offers no protection against P vivax malaria, which is prevalent in many countries outside Africa.

Source: Indian Express

Q.6) Sapta Kosi high dam project will be constructed between India and which of the following countries?

- a) Myanmar
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Nepal
- d) Bhutan

Answer: C

Sapta Kosi High Dam is a multipurpose project proposed to be constructed on the Saptakoshi River of Nepal.



The project is primarily aimed to control floods in southeast Nepal and northern Bihar and to generate hydropower. The project will provide irrigation, control floods and generate 3,000 MW of electricity.

Source: <u>TOI</u>

Q.7) With reference to click chemistry, consider the following statements;

- 1. Under it, scientists must look for starting molecules that easily react with each other, while producing any particular compound or a complex molecule.
- 2. This click approach emphasized the need to replicate nature's efficiency, not its processes, or even products.

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: While trying to produce any particular compound or a complex molecule, one must look for starting molecules that easily react with each other.

Statement 2 is correct: This click approach emphasised the need to replicate nature's efficiency, not its processes, or even products.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. India is the world's largest producer and consumer of sugar.
- 2. India is the world's largest exporter of sugar.

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 the world's largest producer and consumer of sugar. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: India is the world's 2nd largest exporter of sugar. **Source:** <u>PIB</u>

Q.9) India Mobile Congress is organised by which of the following organization?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- c) Department of Telecommunications
- d) National Informatics Centre

Answer: C

IMC is considered the largest Digital Technology Forum in Asia for bringing together the industry, Government, academia, and other ecosystem players to discuss the latest industry technology trends around major themes such as SG, Artificial Intelligence (Al), Internet of things (loT) etc. **Concerned Ministry**: Minister of Information Technology.

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Organised by: Department of Telecommunications and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI)

Source: <u>PIB</u>

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

- a) The Chola kingdom stretched across present-day Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- b) The Chola rulers destroyed Anuradhapura, the ancient capital of the rulers of Sri Lanka.
- c) There were instances where cities were named after women.
- d) The Chola dynasty was founded by the king Gandaraditya.

Answer: D

The dynasty was founded by the king Vijaylaya, described as a "feudatory" of the Pallavas by historian Satish Chandra in the book 'The History of Medieval Era'. **Source:** Indian Express



PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The inter-state river disputes in India are governed by the Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, 1956.

2. Water is present in the Union List which gives exclusive power to the central government to make laws on it.

3. The decision of Water Dispute Tribunal has the same effect as an order of the Supreme Court. 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: The inter-state river disputes in India are governed by the Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, 1956.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. As per Entry 17 of the State List water is a state subject.

Statement 3: The decision of Water Dispute Tribunal has the same effect as an order of the Supreme Court.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-water-centre-state-powers-river-disputes-laws-drinking-water-supply/article65895481.ece</u>

Q.2) With reference to Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) consider the following statements:

1. It aims at ensuring potable drinking water security in every rural household and public institutions across India by 2024.

2. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.

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 – Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims at ensuring potable drinking water security in every rural household and public institutions across India by 2024. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. It was launched in 2019.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-water-centre-state-powers-</u>river-disputes-laws-drinking-water-supply/article65895481.ece



Q.3) With reference to 'Click Chemistry' consider the following statements:

1. It is a quick reaction occurred in the presence of oxygen and water without releasing unwanted by-products.

2. Potassium is used as a catalyst in the click reaction.

3. It can help to diagnose and treat cancer in a targeted way.

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: Click chemistry is a quick reaction occurred in the presence of oxygen and water without releasing unwanted by-products.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Cooper is used as a catalyst in the click reaction.

Statement 3: Click chemistry can help to diagnose and treat cancer in targeted way. It can also reduce the side effects of chemotherapy.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/explained-research-in-click-and-bioorthogonal-chemistry-that-led-to-the-2022-nobel-prize-in-the-field/article65972562.ece</u>

Q.4) Which of the following statements is not correct regarding Parliament Committees?

- a) Ad hoc Committees are appointed for a specific purpose and they cease to exist after they have completed the task assigned to them.
- b) A Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) is constituted after the recommendation from the President.
- c) A Minister is not eligible for election or nomination to Financial Committees.
- d) The Committees look into the demands for grants of Ministries and look into their long-term plans and report to Parliament.

Answer: B

Explanation -

Parliament has the power to set up a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for a special purpose. It includes with members from both Houses for detailed scrutiny of a subject or Bill. **Source:** <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-politics/parliament-</u> <u>committees-and-their-role-in-law-making-8191768/</u></u>



Q.5) With reference to International Solar Alliance (ISA) consider the following statements:

1. It is an alliance of countries lying in completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

2. It has been jointly founded by the USA and Germany.

3. One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) is one of the projects under ISA.

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: International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an alliance of countries lying in completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It has been jointly founded by India and France. **Statement 3:** One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) is one of the projects under ISA.

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

- 1. It is a "female" robot astronaut which will fly aboard unmanned test missions ahead of the Gaganyaan Mission.
- 2. It was designed and developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation.

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 "female" robot astronaut which will fly aboard unmanned test missions ahead of the Gaganyaan Mission.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was designed and developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Source: The Hindu

Q.7) Adulteration of diethylene glycol in medications will cause which of the following health impacts?

- 1. Neurological toxicity
- 2. Kidney failure
- 3. Multi-organ failure

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



Diethylene glycol was used as an illegal adulterant in medications and could result in renal and neurological toxicity. Because of its toxicity, it is not allowed in food or drugs.

Due to its solubility, drugmakers have inappropriately substituted it for non-toxic ingredients such as glycerine in pharmaceuticals such as cough syrups and acetaminophen.

Acute kidney failure is the number one cause of death in poisoning cases, and it starts between eight and 24 hours after exposure to lethal doses of the substance. If people don't get treatment, symptoms progress to multi-organ failure in two to seven days.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) With reference to Light Combat Helicopter (LCH), Prachand, consider the following statements;

- 1. It was inducted in Indian Air Force alone.
- 2. The LCH is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters with a considerable load.

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 Indian Army formally inducted its first Light Combat Helicopter on September 29.

Statement 2 is correct: The LCH is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters with a considerable load. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.9) Which of the following is/are part of impossible trinity or the trilemma?

- 1. Independent monetary policy
- 2. Fixed exchange rate
- 3. Free flow of capital across borders
- 4. Rise in Non-Performing Assets

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

The impossible trinity, or the trilemma, refers to the idea that an economy cannot pursue independent monetary policy, maintain a fixed exchange rate, and allow the free flow of capital across its borders at the same time.

According to economists, any economy can choose to pursue only two out of the three policy options noted above simultaneously in the long-run.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>



Q.10) With reference to Carbon Dots (CDs), consider the following statements;

- 1. CDs have the potential to be used instead of quantum dots, which are more toxic and less biocompatible.
- 2. CDs possess remarkable optical properties, which differ peculiarly based on the precursor used for synthesis.

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: CDs have the potential to be used instead of quantum dots, which are more toxic and less biocompatible.

Statement 2 is correct: CDs possess remarkable optical properties, which differ peculiarly based on the precursor used for synthesis.

Source: DTE



PRELIMS

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

1. Wetlands are lands transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

2. Wetlands only support aquatic species.

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: Wetlands are lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface, or the land is covered by shallow water.Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Wetlands may support both aquatic and terrestrial species.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/fresh-lease-of-life-forwetlands/article65956354.ece

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary is located in Kerala.
- 2. Pulicat Lake is the second largest brackish-water lake in India after Chilka lake in Odisha.

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. Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh.

Statement 2: Pulicat Lake is the second largest brackish-water eco-system in India after Chilka lake in Odisha.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/all-eyes-on-pulicat-restoration-project/article65955923.ece</u>

Q.3) Which of the following defines 'Sustainable Finance'?

- a) It is the working procedure adopted by banks to decrease Non-Performing Assets (NPAs).
- b) It is the loan raised by private companies to invest in green energies.
- c) It is an investment decision that considers the environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors of an economic activity.
- d) It is a type of investments made in the green technologies to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs).

Answer: C

Explanation – Sustainable Finance is an investment decision that considers the environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors of an economic activity.



Source: https://www.dnaindia.com/personal-finance/report-experts-on-sustainable-finance-suggest-innovative-instruments-what-is-sustainable-finance-2990923

Q.4) With reference to Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) consider the following statements:

1. The scheme will provide collateral-free debt funding to startups.

2. Scheduled commercial banks are one of the member institutions (MI) eligible for lending under this scheme.

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 –

Statement 1: Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) will provide collateral-free debt funding to startups defined in the Gazette Notification issued by The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Statement 2: CGSS has been approved for the purpose of providing credit guarantees to loans extended by member institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers being startups. MIs include financial intermediaries (banks, financial institutions, NBFCs, AIFs) engaged in lending/investing and conforming to the eligibility criteria approved under the Scheme.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/business/govt-notifies-credit-guarantee-scheme-for-start-ups/article65981719.ece#:~:text=%22The%20Central%20Government%20has%20approved,being%20startups%2C%22%20it%20said.</u>

Q.5) With reference to digital rupee (eRe), consider the following statements;

- 1. eRe will provide an additional option to the currently available forms of money.
- 2. Under the indirect model, the central bank will be responsible for managing all the aspects of the CBDC system
- 3. A token-based CBDC is viewed as a preferred mode for CBDC-retail as it will be closer to physical cash.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: eRe will provide an additional option to the currently available forms of money.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Two models are being examined for the issuance and management of CBDCs.

a) Direct model (single-tier model): Under this, the central bank will be responsible for managing all the aspects of the CBDC system, such as issuance, account-keeping, and transaction verification.

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b) Indirect model (two-tier model): Under this model, the central bank will issue the CBDC to consumers indirectly through intermediaries (banks and any other service providers) and any claim by consumers is managed by the intermediary because the central bank will only handle wholesale payments to intermediaries.

Statement 3 is correct: A token-based CBDC is viewed as a preferred mode for CBDC-retail as it will be closer to physical cash.

Source: Business Standard

Q.6) With reference to Scheduled Castes (SC), consider the following statements;

- 1. No person professing a religion different from Hinduism can be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Castes (SC).
- 2. Kaka Kalelkar committee documented the existence of caste and caste discrimination among Dalits converted into Christianism and Muslim.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order,1950 under Article 341 stipulates that no person professing a religion different from Hinduism, Sikhism or Buddhism can be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Caste(SC).

Statement 2 is correct: The First Backward Classes Commission headed by Kaka Kalelkar in 1955 documented the existence of caste and caste discrimination among Indian Christians and Indian Muslims, concluding that Dalit converts continued to face the same social disabilities even after leaving the Hindu fold.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the benefits of Cheetah reintroduction project?

- 1. Restores historic evolutionary balance in ecosystem.
- 2. Can save endangered species of the grasslands / open forest eco-systems.
- 3. Aid evolutionary natural selection force.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

Cheetah restoration is part of a prototype or model for the restoration of original cheetah habitats and their biodiversity. Bringing back a top predator restores historic evolutionary balance resulting in cascading effects on various levels of the ecosystem.

For instance, the cheetah has been the evolutionary natural selection force that has shaped the adaptation of high speeds in Indian antelopes and gazelles. By restoring cheetah, India would also be able to save not only its prey base comprising certain threatened species, but also other endangered species of the grasslands / open forest eco-systems, some of which are on the brink of extinction.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. It is steel which is manufactured without the use of fossil fuels.
- 2. Direct electrification through electrolysis of iron ore can produce green steel.

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 steel which is manufactured without the use of fossil fuels. This can be done by using low-carbon energy sources such as hydrogen, coal gasification, or electricity.

Statement 2 is correct: In order to decarbonise the iron and steel sector, the primary emphasis through technological interventions would be on substituting the primary production processes with cleaner alternatives. Such as, 1) Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), 2) Replacing conventional sources of energy with low-carbon hydrogen, and 3) Direct electrification through electrolysis of iron ore.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course report was released by which of the following organisation?

- a) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- b) World Bank
- c) Food and Agriculture Organization
- d) World Economic Forum

Answer: B

The World Bank has recently released a report, titled "Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course."

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.10) Justice K.G. Balakrishnan panel, was recently seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) Regarding production and induction of Light Combat Helicopters.
- b) Regarding Scheduled Caste (SC) status to Dalits post-religious conversion.
- c) About reforms in telecom sector.
- d) Regarding launching digital rupee in India.

Answer: B

The Union government has now formed a three-member Commission of Inquiry to examine the issue of whether Scheduled Caste (SC) status can be accorded to Dalits who have over the years converted to religions other than Sikhism or Buddhism.

It is headed by Former Chief Justice of India, Justice K.G. Balakrishnan.

The commission's inquiry will look into the changes an SC person goes through after converting to another religion and its implications on the question of including them as SCs.

These will include examining their traditions, customs, social and other forms of discrimination and how and whether they have changed as a result of the conversion.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to e-rupee recently proposed by the RBI consider the following statements:

1. There will be two types of e-rupee where wholesale will be for interbank settlement and retail for the public.

2. It will be issued and distributed by the RBI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation – The RBI has come up with the proposal of the e-rupee that will soon by launched. There will be two types of e-rupee where wholesale is for interbank settlement and retail is for the public.

Statement 2 is incorrect. E-rupee will be issued by the RBI but distributed by the commercial banks.

Source:<u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/all-you-need-to-know-about-indias-soon-to-be-launched-e-rupee/articleshow/94755651.cms</u>

Q.2) With reference to Foreign Direct Product Rule (FDPR) consider the following statements:

1. It controls trading of US technologies even manufactured in other countries.

2. It helps in importing foreign products at a low tariff rate.

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 -

The provision called the foreign direct product rule, or FDPR, was first introduced in 1959 to control trading of US technologies. It essentially says that if a product was made using American technology, the US government has the power to stop it from being sold – including products made in a foreign country. It has been recently applied to China.

Source:<u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/us-fdpr-china-curbs-tech-sector-supercomputer-8197353/</u>

Q.3) Which of the following statements is not correct about the Niger River?

- a) It is the third longest river of Africa.
- b) It passes through Guinea and Mali.
- c) Benue River is its main tributary.
- d) It drains its water in the Mediterranean Sea.

Answer: D Explanation –



Niger River drains its water in the Atlantic Ocean.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/at-least-76-dead-after-boat-capsizes-in-nigerias-anambra/article65991141.ece</u>

Q.4) With reference to Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) consider the following statements;

1. It is a set of emergency measures to prevent further deterioration of air quality once it reaches a certain threshold.

2. Stage 1 of GRAP is activated when the AQI is in the very poor category.

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: Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) is a set of emergency measures to prevent further deterioration of air quality once it reaches a certain threshold. It is being implemented by The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM).

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Stage 1 of GRAP is activated when the AQI is in the poor category.

Source:<u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/grap-delhi-ncr-air-pollution-control-explained-8192952/</u>

Q.5) The terms Solidity, Rust, Haskell, was recently seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) Artificially formed Gem stones
- b) New names of Cheetah's introduced in India
- c) Programming languages of crypto platforms
- d) Independent movements in China and Russia in support of democracy

Answer: C

Programming languages help crypto platforms and protocols run effectively. Solidity is the programming language mainly used on the blockchain platform Ethereum. Parts of the Ethereum ecosystem also support several other programming languages such as Python, Ruby, Rust, Java, and more.

Blockchains such as Solana blockchain, The Polkadot blockchain uses Rust. Cardano's smart contract programming language is based on Haskell.

Source: The Hindu



Q.6) With reference to Sustainable finance, consider the following statements;

- 1. It refers to any form of financial services that is focused on fulfilling sustainable development goals.
- 2. CK Mishra committee is related to sustainable finance activities.

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 refers to any form of financial service integrating environmental, social and governance(ESG) criteria into the business or investment decisions for the lasting benefit of both clients and society at large.

Statement 2 is correct: A "committee of experts on sustainable finance" was constituted by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) at the GIFT City. The committee was headed by CK Mishra, former secretary, Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Source: Indian Express

Q.7) Which of the following Village has recently became India's first 24×7 solar-powered village?

- a) Konark, Odisha
- b) Modhera, Gujarat
- c) Martand, Kashmir
- d) Vandalur, Chennai

Answer: B

Recently, Prime Minister declared Modhera in Gujarat's Mehsana district as India's first 24×7 solar-powered village.

Source: <u>AIR</u>

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

- 1. It is a large stone slab with inscriptions in three scripts on it.
- 2. The stone belongs to Egypt and at present located in the UK.

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 Rosetta Stone is a large stone slab with inscriptions on it and is believed to be a piece of a bigger rock. It has inscriptions in three scripts, all of which convey a decree or public message. The stone belongs to Egypt and at present located in the UK. Many Egypt historians are demanding the U.K to return the 2,000-year-old Rosetta Stone.

Source: Indian Express



Q.9) Which of the following statement is/are correct about super apps?

- 1. These apps offer a suite of services for users within one app.
- 2. These apps are more popular in the UK and the USA.
- 3. Super apps increase the possibility of a monopoly.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: A super app has been described as the Swiss army knife of mobile apps, offering a suite of services for users such as messaging, social networking, peer-to-peer payments and e-commerce shopping.

Statement 2 is incorrect: These mega super apps are widely used in Asia because mobile is the main form of access to the internet for many people in the region.

Due to their concerns, super apps have not picked pace in countries such as the US, Europe and the UK.

Statement 3 is correct: Super apps have the following concerns. Such as a) They increase the possibility of a monopoly, b) They have concerns about privacy in cases where a super app has onboarded third-party service providers.

Source: Indian Express

Q.10) With reference to symbol disputes between political parties, consider the following statements;

- 1. The ECI usually conducts the test of majority to resolve a symbol dispute.
- 2. Splinter group of the party, other than the group that got the party symbol, can be declared as a state party based on their substantial presence in that particular state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: The ECI usually conduct the test of majority to resolve a symbol dispute. In almost all disputes decided by the EC so far, a clear majority of party delegates/office bearers, MPs and MLAs have supported one of the disputing factions.

Whenever the EC could not test the strength of rival groups based on support within the party organisation, it fell back on testing the majority only among elected MPs and MLAs.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Prior to 1997, the EC will assess the splinter group of the party — other than the group that got the party symbol. They will be considered as a recognised party, if they have a substantial presence in some states and satisfied the criteria fixed for recognition of parties under Paras 6 and 7 of the Symbols Order.

In 1997, the EC introduced a new rule under which the splinter group of the party — other than the group that got the party symbol — had to register itself as a separate party, and could lay claim to national or state party status only on the basis of its performance in the state or central elections after registration.

Source: Indian Express



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Red Sea consider the following statements:

1. It lies between Asia and Africa.

2. Reef systems are better developed along the sea because of its greater depths and an efficient water circulation pattern.

3. Egypt borders the sea from the east.

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: The Red Sea lies between Asia and Africa.

Statement 2: Reef systems are better developed along the sea because of its greater depths and an efficient water circulation pattern.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. The six countries bordering the Red Sea are – Eastern shore: Saudi Arabia and Yemen Yemen and Western shore: Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea and Djibouti. **Source:** <u>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/heat-resilient-red-sea-reefs-offer-last-stand-for-corals/article65991661.ece</u>

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

- 1. The biggest coral reefs are generally found in water of the tropics and subtropics.
- 2. The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is the largest coral reefs in the world.
- 3. Barrier reef grows seaward directly from the shore.

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: Big coral reefs are mostly found in the clear and shallow water of the tropic and sub tropics.

Statement 2: The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is the largest coral reefs in the world.

Statement 3; The statement is incorrect. Barrier reef does not grow directly out from the shore but they are separated from land by an expanse of water.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/heat-resilient-red-sea-reefs-offer-last-stand-for-corals/article65991661.ece</u>



Q.3) With reference to Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) consider the following statements:

1. It is launched to provide universal access to equitable, affordable and quality mental health care through tele-services under the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP).

2. It is launched to provide all access to affordable mental health care in every State/UT.

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: C

Explanation -

Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) is launched to provide universal access to equitable, affordable and quality mental health care through teleservices under the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP). It is launched to provide all access to affordable mental health care in every State/UT. It will serve as the digital arm of the District Mental Health Programme.

Source: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/tele-manas-a-247-mental-health-facility-launched/article65993264.ece</u>

Q.4) With reference to World Economic Forum (WEF) consider the following statements:

1. It does not have power on its own to make decisions but it influences business policy and political decisions.

2. It's headquartered at New York.

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: World Economic Forum (WEF) does not have power on its own to make decisions but it has power and influences business policy and political decisions.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It's headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland. Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/world-economic-forum-recognition-for-dr-reddys-plant/article65996193.ece

Q.5) Which of the following is not a climate tipping point?

- a) Frequent droughts in Amazon Rainforest
- b) Large scale death of Coral Reefs
- c) Increasing La-Nina Effect
- d) Thawing Permafrost

Answer: C



CLIMATE TIPPING POINTS

The world has already crossed nine 'tipping points' that will lead to catastrophic climate change, scientists have warned.



Source: Down To Earth

Q.6) With reference to Banks assets and liabilities, consider the following statements;

- 1. Generally, bank's assets have a short maturity.
- 2. Bank's liabilities have a long maturity.

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

Savers always want access to at least some part of their savings for unexpected use; this is also called the need for liquidity. They want the ability to pull out money when they need it.

Borrowers need the money for a much longer time. Borrowers cannot function if the money can be demanded back at short notice.

So, the bank's assets have a long maturity, because it promises borrowers that they will not need to pay back their loans early. On the other hand, the bank's liabilities have a short maturity; depositors can access their money whenever they want.

Source: Indian Express



Q.7) Which of the following is/are the benefits of e-rupee?

- 1. Reduce the cost of physical cash management.
- 2. Provide financial stability in the economy.
- 3. Make cross-border transactions faster and far less costly.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D Source: <u>Business Standard</u>

Q.8) Mahakal Lok Corridor is located in which of the following state?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Gujarat
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Answer: C

The project — Mahakal Maharaj Mandir Parisar Vistar Yojna — is a comprehensive development plan for the expansion, beautification and decongestion of the Mahakaleshwar temple premises. The first phase of the project entails the development of Mahakal Lok Corridor with a visitor plaza having two entrances — Nandi Dwaar and Pinaki Dwaar.

A 900-metre-long pedestrian corridor has been built connecting Mahakal temple to 108 murals and 93 statues of Lord Shiva along the way

Source: Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), consider the following statements;

- 1. ARAI assists the government in the formulation of automotive industry standards and harmonisation of regulations.
- 2. It is an autonomous body affiliated with the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

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 ARAI currently offers a range of certification and homologation services for automotive vehicles, systems, and components. It also assists the government in the formulation of automotive industry standards and harmonisation of regulations, alongside helping establish vehicle inspection and certification centres across the country.

Statement 2 is correct: It is an autonomous body affiliated with the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

Source: Indian Express



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

- 1. Vultures are slow breeders and so the survival of every individual is very crucial for conservation.
- 2. Vultures are famous for their voice box and their singing.
- 3. Vultures do not carry food; instead, they regurgitate food and feed their young ones.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 is correct: Vultures are slow breeders and so the survival of every individual is very crucial.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Vultures don't have a voice box, and so they cannot sing. They communicate via grunts and hisses.

Statement 3 is correct: They do not carry food; instead, they regurgitate food and feed their young ones.

Source: DTE



PRELIMS

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

1. It is the organisation that enables member countries to share and access data on crimes and criminals.

2. National Central Bureau of the Interpol sits in the Home Ministry in India.

3. A Red Notice of Interpol it is an international arrest warrant.

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: A

Explanation –

Statement 1: The Interpol, or International Criminal Police Organization is an organisation that enables member countries to share and access data on crimes and criminals.

Statement 2: Interpol has a National Central Bureau (NCB) in each member country, which is the central point of contact for both the general secretariat and the other NCBs around the world. Each NCB is run by police officials of that country, and usually sits in the government ministry responsible for policing. (Home Ministry in India.)

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. A red Notice issue by Interpol is only an international wanted persons' notice and it is not an international arrest warrant.

Source: <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/everyday-explainers/gurpatwant-singh-pannun-interpol-red-corner-notice-explained-8204197/</u>

Q.2) Which of the following Indian states does not share border with Myanmar?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Nagaland
- c) Manipur
- d) Tripura

Answer: D

Explanation – There are four states that share border with Myanmar. They are - Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

Source: <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/world/myanmar-aung-suu-kyi-convictions-prison-term-8203614/</u>

Q.3) With reference to 'Tactical Weapons' consider the following statements:

1. Tactical weapons are designed to accomplish more limited and immediate military goals that win a battle.

2. They are many times larger than conventional bombs.

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-

Tactical weapons are designed to accomplish more limited and immediate military goals that win a battle. They are many times larger than conventional bombs.



Source: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/europe/explainer-what-makes-a-nuclear-weapon-tactical/articleshow/94804553.cms</u>

Q.4) Which of the following will be the implication of the economic growth cut by the IMF on the Indian economy?

- a) It will lead to increase in exports.
- b) It will lead to disguised unemployment.
- c) It will lead to increase in the taxes by the government.
- d) It will lead to increase in the inflation along with the increase in price of basic commodities.

Answer: C Explanation –

IMF has cut the economic growth of India by a significant margin in its World Economic Outlook. The economic growth of India has been cut from 7.4 percent to 6.8 percent projection for the fiscal year of 2022. This will lead to increase in the inflation along with the increase in price of basic commodities.

Source: <u>DNA Explainer: Why has IMF announced global growth cuts? Know its impacts on</u> <u>Indian economy, inflation (dnaindia.com)</u>

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

- 1. It is the process of embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies, and practices to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
- 2. The role of forests in maintaining biodiversity is explicitly recognised by the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030.

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

Statement 1 is correct: It is the process of embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies, and practices to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. **Statement 2 is correct**: The role of forests in maintaining biodiversity is explicitly recognised by the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030. **Source:** DTE

Q.6) With reference to Geospatial Energy Map of India, consider the following statements;

- 1. It will be useful in planning and making investment decisions.
- 2. It has been developed by Geological Survey of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: It will be useful in planning and making investment decisions. It will also aid in disaster management using available energy assets.



Statement 2 is incorrect: It has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). **Source:** PIB

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the advantages of flex-fuel vehicles?

- 1. Inexpensive upgradation of existing vehicles is feasible.
- 2. It can reduce oil import bill.
- 3. They offer a better economy for consumers.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: B

Upgrading existing vehicles to run on high blend of ethanol fuel, however, is possible but expensive and not considered feasible. **Statement 1 is incorrect**:

Flex-fuel vehicles are seen as a one-shot solution for multiple problems—pollution, oil import bill and glut in sugar production.

Flex fuel vehicles bring down India's crude oil import bill.

With a much lower cost of running, they also offer a better economy for consumers.

Source: PIB

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

- 1. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has never revised the expected dates of onset and withdrawal of the monsoon.
- 2. Extreme rainfall events are increasing both in intensity and frequency 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: Three years ago, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had revised the expected dates of onset and withdrawal of the monsoon for several regions of the country. The withdrawal dates for North, Northwest and Central India were pushed back by one to two weeks to account for the trends witnessed over the last 50 years.

Statement 2 is correct: Extreme rainfall events are increasing both in intensity and frequency in India.

Source: Indian Express



Q.9) Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Forestry Report was released by which of the following organisation?

- a) Global Environment Facility
- b) Food and Agriculture Organization
- c) United Nations Environment Programme
- d) International Carbon Action Partnership

Answer: B

The Food and Agriculture Organization has recently released a report titled "Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Forestry Report."

Source: DTE

Q.10) With reference to Supreme Court's collegium, consider the following statements;

- 1. Generally, one or more of the four senior judges in the collegium would be a potential CJI candidate.
- 2. If the successor Chief Justice is not one of the four senior-most puisne Judges, he must invariably be made part of the collegium.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: D

Statement 1 is correct: Generally, one or more of the four senior judges in the collegium would be a potential CJI candidate.

Statement 2 is correct: If the successor Chief Justice is not one of the four senior-most puisne Judges, he must invariably be made part of the collegium.

Source: Indian Express



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It encourages the industry to innovate and develop defence technologies in order to make India Atmanirbhar in defence.
- 2. The scheme is being executed by ISRO.

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: Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme encourages the industry to innovate and develop defence technologies in order to make India Atmanirbhar in defence.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The TDF scheme is being executed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Source: The Hindu

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

- 1. They are arboreal and spend most of their life on trees.
- 2. They have been listed in Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 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: A Explanation –

Explanation -

Statement 1: Slender loris are nocturnal animals and native to India and Sri Lanka. They are arboreal and spend most of their life on trees.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. They have been listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972 and listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Source: Hindustan Times



Q.3) With reference to World Wildlife Fund (WWF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international non-governmental organization.
- 2. It is the world's largest conservation organization.
- 3. Global Environment Outlook report is published by WWF.

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**-

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is an international non-governmental organization. It is the world's largest conservation organization. It was founded in 1961 and has it's headquarter at Gland (Switzerland). Statement 3 is incorrect. Global Environment Outlook is published by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Source: The Hindu

Q.4) With reference to International Monetary Fund (IMF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a specialized agency of UN.
- 2. It provides financial support and resources to the member countries to meet short term and medium-term Balance of Payments (BOP) problems.

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: C

Explanation –

Statement 1: International Monetary Fund (IMF) is a specialized agency of UN. Statement 2: It provides financial support and resources to the member countries to meet short term and medium-term Balance of Payments (BOP) problems.

Source: Times of India

Q.5) Which of the following temples is not built during the reign of the Cholas?

- a) Brihadeeshwara Temple in Thanjavur
- b) Gangai konda Chozhapuram temple in Gangai konda Chozhapuram.
- c) Airavateswara Temple in Dharasuram
- d) Meenakshi Temple in Madurai

Answer: D

Brihadeeshwara Temple in Thanjavur was done by Raja Raja I. Similarly, Gangai konda Chozhapuram was built by Rajendra I, and the Airavateswara Temple at Dharasuram was done by Rajaraja III.

Pandayan Emperor Sadayavarman Kulasekaran I built the Meenakshi Temple in Madurai. Source: The Hindu



Q.6) Which of the following is/are the correct about Grey Slender loris?

- 1. It is commonly found in Savannah landscapes.
- 2. It is a nocturnal and slow-moving animal.
- 3. The species acts as a biological predator of pests in agricultural crops and benefits farmers.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: B

It is commonly found in the tropical scrub and deciduous forests as well as the dense hedgerow plantations bordering farmlands of Southern India and Sri Lanka. **Statement 1 is incorrect**: The Grey slender loris is a nocturnal animal. It is also a slow-moving animal. It comes down into the bushes to feed and crosses open stretches of ground to enter isolated groves or to cross from one tree to another.

The species acts as a biological predator of pests in agricultural crops and benefits farmers. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.7) With reference to Committee of Parliament on Official Language, consider the following statements;

- 1. Unlike the other Parliamentary panels (constituted by the Parliament), this Committee is constituted by the Home Ministry.
- 2. The Committee submits its report to the Parliament.

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: Unlike the other Parliamentary panels (constituted by the Parliament), this Committee is constituted by the Home Ministry.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The panel submits its report to the President, not to Parliament like other panels.

Source: Indian Express

Q.8) Living Planet Report was released by which of the following organization?

- a) United Nations Environment Programme
- b) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- c) Natural Resources Defense Council
- d) Global Environment Facility

Answer: B

Recently, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) released the Living Planet Report. The report measures how species are responding to pressure in the environment due to biodiversity loss and climate change.

Source: Indian Express

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

- 1. Sloth bears are very fond of honey, hence their alternative name of "honey bear"
- 2. Sloth bears hibernate during winter.

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: Sloth bears are very fond of honey, hence their alternative name of "honey bear".

Statement 2 is incorrect: Sloth bears do not hibernate. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.10) India's first slender loris sanctuary is located in which of the following state?

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

Answer: D

In a first in the country, the Tamil Nadu government has notified the **Kaduvur slender loris sanctuary**. The sanctuary will cover 11,806 hectares in Karur and Dindigul districts. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to snow leopard consider the following statements:

- 1. They are the top predator in the food web of mountain ecosystem.
- 2. They are found in Hemis National Park.
- 3. They are listed as endangered in the IUCN Red Data Book.

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 –

Snow leopard are the top predator in the food web of mountain ecosystem and act as an indicator of the health of the mountain ecosystem. They are found in Hemis National Park in Ladakh. **Statement 3** is incorrect. Snow leopard are listed as vulnerable in the IUCN Red Data Book. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.2) Namdapha National Park is located in -

- a) Assam
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Mizoram

Answer: C Explanation –

Namdapha National Park is located in Arunachal Pradesh. It is a biodiversity hotspot in India. It

is the fourth largest national park of India. Source: The Hindu

Q.3) World Economic Outlook (WEO) report is published by -

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) World Trade Organization
- d) International Monetary Fund

Answer: D explanation –

World Economic Outlook (WF

World Economic Outlook (WEO) is published by International Monetary Fund. it publishes two WEOs each year (in April and October) as well as two updates (January and July) to policymakers around the globe.

Source: <u>The Indian Express</u>



Q.4) A situation in which the inflation rate is increasing, the economic growth rate slows and unemployment remains steadily high is called -

- a) Deflation
- b) Hyperinflation
- c) Stagflation
- d) Reflation

Answer: C

Explanation -

Stagflation is a situation in which the inflation rate is increasing, the economic growth rate slows, and unemployment remains steadily high. It is also known as recession inflation. It creates a problem for the policy maker as to lower the inflation rate may worsen the unemployment situation.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.5) Consider the following statements

- 1. He was responsible for starting India's first rural university, Chitarkoot Gramodya Vishwavidyalaya.
- 2. He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna.
- 3. He was the founder of Deendayal Research Institute (DRI) situated at Chitrakoot.

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

- a) C. N. R. Rao
- b) Gulzarilal Nanda
- c) Nanaji Deshmukh
- d) Pandurang Vaman Kane

Answer: C

Source: TOI

Q.6) With reference to Online gaming, consider the following statements;

- 1. Online gaming is a state subject.
- 2. State governments can completely block offshore betting sites.

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: Online gaming so far has been a state subject. However, state governments have said they find it extremely difficult to enforce certain rules like geo-blocking certain apps or websites within the territory of their state.

Statement 2 is incorrect: State governments do not have enough blocking powers like the Centre to issue blocking orders for offshore betting sites.

Source: Indian Express



Q.7) Which of the following is/are the benefits of paddy straw pelletisation?

- 1. Create employment opportunities for youth
- 2. Paddy Pellets can be mixed with coal in thermal power plants.
- 3. It can reduce carbon emissions.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

Paddy straw pelletisation and torrefaction will help convert waste to wealth and provide job opportunities to rural youth in Punjab and Haryana.

Paddy straw made into pellets or torrefied can be mixed with coal in thermal power plants. This saves coal as well as reduces carbon emissions that would otherwise have been emitted were the straw burnt in the fields.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

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

- 1. A split verdict is passed when the Bench cannot decide one way or the other in a case, either by a unanimous decision or by a majority verdict.
- 2. Supreme Court cannot issue a split verdict.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: A split verdict is passed when the Bench cannot decide one way or the other in a case, either by a unanimous decision or by a majority verdict.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Supreme Court recently delivered a split verdict in the Karnataka hijab ban case with one of the two judges on the Bench upholding the order of the Karnataka High Court validating the government's ban, and the other set aside the High Court ruling.

Now the matter was directed to be placed before the Chief Justice of India (CJI) for appropriate directions.

Source: Indian Express



Q.9) With reference to Athlete Biological Passport (ABP), consider the following statements;

- 1. It aims to detect the doping substance.
- 2. It monitors selected biological variables over time.

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 did not attempt to detect the doping substance or method. Instead, it works against doping through enhanced target testing and analysis, investigations, deterrence, and as indirect evidence for use of prohibited methods or substances.

Statement 2 is correct: It monitors selected biological variables over time to reveal the effects of doping.

Source: <u>PIB</u>

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

- 1. A doom loop is the circle of vulnerability where a country's banking system can be severely hurt by volatility in the economy.
- 2. A country is at risk of a doom loop when a shock to one part of its economic system is amplified by its effect on another.

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

A doom loop is the circle of vulnerability where a country's banking system can be severely hurt by volatility in the economy. A country is at risk of a doom loop when a shock to one part of its economic system is amplified by its effect on another.

Source: The Economist



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Competition Commission of India consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002.
- 2. It comprises four members and one chairperson.
- 3. The objectives of the commission are to promote and sustain competition and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of 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: Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The commission comprises six members and one chairperson and they are appointed by the central government.

Statement 3: The objectives of the commission are to promote and sustain competition, and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.

Source: India Today

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

- 1. Black Magic practices violates article 14 of the Indian Constitution.
- 2. Maharashtra was the first state to enact law against witchcraft.

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: Black Magic practices violates article 14, 15 and 21 of the Indian Constitution. **Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. Bihar was the first state to enact law against witchcraft. **Source:** DNA



Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to the island country Haiti:

- 1. It is a mountainous country that lies in Caribbean Sea.
- 2. Dominican Republic borders Haiti from the east.

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: C

Explanation -

Haiti is a mountainous country that lies in Caribbean Sea. Dominican Republic borders Haiti from the east.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.4) With reference to Global Hunger Index (GHI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is released by the World Bank.
- 2. India's position has slipped in the recent GHI.
- 3. Child Stunting is one of the indicators used in the GHI.

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 -

Global Hunger Index (GHI) is jointly published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. India has slipped to the 107th position in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) in 2022, down from the 101st position in 2021. The GHI score is calculated on four indicators — undernourishment; child wasting child stunting and child mortality.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.5) Galapagos Archipelago is located in which of the following ocean?

- a) Indian Ocean
- b) Atlantic Ocean
- c) Pacific Ocean
- d) Arctic Ocean

Answer: C

The Galapagos Islands, spread over almost 60,000 sq km, are a part of Ecuador. These are located in the Pacific Ocean around 1,000 km away from the South American continent. According to a recent study, Cold ocean currents have sheltered the Galápagos Islands from global warming.

Source: DTE



Q.6) With reference to Global Hunger Index, consider the following statements;

- 1. The GHI is an annual report and each set of GHI scores uses data from a 5-year period.
- 2. GHI scores are based on the values child stunting, child wasting and child mortality alone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: The GHI is an annual report and each set of GHI scores uses data from a 5-year period. The 2022 GHI scores are calculated using data from 2017 through 2021.

Statement 2 is incorrect: GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators - undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality.

Source: The Hindu

Q.7) Which of the following is/are correct about Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)?

- 1. It is a multinational forum for strengthening cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia.
- 2. It is founded by China in 2002.
- 3. Only Asian Countries can become a member of CICA.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: It is a multinational forum for strengthening cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia. To be a member of CICA, a state must have at least a part of its territory in Asia. So far the CICA has 27 member countries, 9 observer states, and 5 international organizations.

Statement 2 is incorrect: CICA is founded by Kazakhstan's First President in 1992. **Source:** The Hindu

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

- 1. It is a part of a criminal conspiracy to spread terrorism by creating false narratives.
- 2. It can be booked under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code alone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: It is a part of a criminal conspiracy to spread terrorism by creating false narratives.



Statement 2 is incorrect: They can be booked under provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.9) With reference to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, consider the following statements;

- 1. The Court shall take cognizance of any offence comitted under the Act without any government sanctions.
- 2. The Act empowers the Central Government to designate individuals as terrorists on certain grounds.

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: Section 45(1) of the UAPA says no court shall take cognizance of any offence under the Act without the previous sanction of the central or state government or any officer authorised by them.

Statement 2 is correct: The Act empowers the Central Government to designate individuals as terrorists on certain grounds.

Source: Indian Express

Q.10) With reference to Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs), consider the following statements;

- 1. The RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for farmers that have been set up across Andhra Pradesh.
- 2. RBKs facilitate interaction between farmers, agriculture scientists, and agriculture extension officers right at the village level.

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

The RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for farmers that have been set up across Andhra Pradesh.

RBKs facilitate interaction between farmers, agriculture scientists, and agriculture extension officers right at the village level.

Source: Indian Express



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Digital Banking Units (DBUs) consider the following statements:

- 1. It will help in providing digital financial literacy to people.
- 2. These units will not be able to provide loan facilities.

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: Digital Banking Units digital financial literacy and special emphasis will be given to customer education on cyber security awareness and safeguards.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. DBUs will provide a variety of digital banking facilities to people such as the opening of savings accounts, balance-check, printing passbooks, transfer of funds, investment in fixed deposits, loan applications, etc.

Source: <u>Times of India</u>

Q.2) With reference to Enforcement Directorate (ED) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with the task of enforcing the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act and Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
- 2. It functions under the Home Ministry.

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: Enforcement Directorate (ED) is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with the task of enforcing the provisions of two special fiscal laws namely – Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) and Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA).

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It functions under the Department of Revenue of Ministry of Finance.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.3) With reference to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It can be transmitted from human to human and from animal to human.
- 2. Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) is used to detect the virus.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1: Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is also known as Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever. It can be transmitted from human to human and from animal to human.

Statement 2: antibody-capture Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) and Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) assay are used to detect Ebola virus. **Source:** India Today

Q.4) With reference to stem cell consider the following statements:

- 1. Stem cell technology can be used to treat genetic disorders.
- 2. These cells are found in humans but not in animals.

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: Stem cell technology can be used to treat genetic disorders.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. These cells are found both in humans and animals. This cell has unique ability to develop into specialized cell types in the body. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.5) Ukrainian Borsch, which is seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) A nuclear plant on the verge of collapse
- b) New Capital of Ukraine
- c) A sour soup of Ukraine
- d) A River in Ukraine

Answer: C

UNESCO inscribed the Culture of Ukrainian borscht cooking on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in July 2022.

Borscht is a sour soup common in Eastern Europe and the word is associated with the soup's variant of Ukrainian origin.

Ukrainian borscht is cooked with broth combined with beetroot, sugar beet or fermented beet juice.

Ukrainian borscht unites people of all ages, genders and backgrounds at the table. It is also used in ritual practices such as in the region of Podillia, where the third day of the wedding has

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maintained its ritual name do nevistky - na borshch meaning 'visit daughter-in-law to eat borscht'.

Source: Ukrainian Borsch: In war-torn Ukraine, Unesco fights to protect a beetroot soup

Q.6) With reference to legal rights to non-humans, consider the following statements;

- 1. Ecuador became the first country to grant legal rights to individual wild animals.
- 2. India granted river Ganga and its longest tributary Yamuna, the legal right to be protected and not be harmed.

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: In 2022, Ecuador became the first country to grant legal rights to individual wild animals.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Uttarakhand High Court Judgment (2017) granted the river Ganga and its longest tributary Yamuna the legal right to be protected and not be harmed. However, SC stayed it due to various legal and administrative issues and said it was unsustainable. **Source:** Indian Express

Q.7) Which of the following is/are correct about plant-based meats?

- 1. Plants don't have muscle tissue (elastic and flexible). Instead, they have rigid structures.
- 2. For flavours, plant-based meat uses Beetroot extract and soy leghemoglobin.
- 3. Mock meat made from soy has been catering to Buddhist monks in East Asia for ages.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: Plants don't have muscle tissue (elastic and flexible). Instead, they have rigid structures. Mock meat made from soy has been catering to Buddhist monks in East Asia for ages. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: 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. **Source: What is 'meat' from plants, and is 'just like' meat vegetarian?**



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

- 1. Cold ocean currents are helping Galapagos Islands from global warming.
- 2. The islands became UNESCO's first World Heritage Site.

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 Galapagos islands are protected from an otherwise warming Pacific Ocean by a cold, eastward equatorial ocean current.

The equatorial undercurrent in the Pacific Ocean is bound to the equator by the force of the planet's rotation.Under the ocean's surface, a swift circulation of cold, nutrient-rich water flows from west to east.

Some of this water is forced to the surface when it reaches the Galápagos Islands.The nutrientrich water triggers photosynthesis and leads to an explosion of food for a wide variety of animals. **Statement 2 is correct**: In 1978, the islands became UNESCO's first World Heritage Site.It is described by the UNESCO World Heritage Convention as a "living museum and showcase of evolution."

Source: <u>Ocean currents protect Galápagos Islands from global warming; but are they safe</u> forever?

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

- 1. Barium is lighter than iron and it is usually found in the upper atmosphere.
- 2. It is used for spark-plug electrodes and in vacuum tubes as drying and oxygen-removing agents.

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: Barium two and half times heavier than iron. Heavy elements like barium quickly fall into the lower layers of the atmosphere given these exoplanets have high gravity.

Recently, scientists have detected barium in the upper atmosphere of two giant exoplanets for the first time.

Statement 2 is correct: Barium is often used in barium-nickel alloys for spark-plug electrodes and in vacuum tubes as drying and oxygen-removing agents.

Source: <u>Heavy metal out there: Researchers detect barium in atmospheres of 2 exoplanets</u>



Q.10) With reference to International Monetary and Financial Committee(IMFC), consider the following statements;

- 1. The Committee discusses matters of common concern affecting the global economy and also advises the IMF on the direction of its work.
- 2. There is no formal voting at the IMFC which operates by consensus.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: D

Both the statements are correct.

IMFC has 24 members drawn from the pool of 190 governors. Its structure mirrors that of the Executive Board and its 24 constituencies. As such, the IMFC represents all the member countries of the Fund.

- The IMFC meets twice a year, during the Spring and Annual Meetings.

- The Committee discusses matters of common concern affecting the global economy and also advises the IMF on the direction of its work.

- At the end of the Meetings, the Committee issues a joint communiqué summarizing its views. These communiqués provide guidance for the IMF's work program during the six months leading up to the next Spring or Annual Meetings.

- There is no formal voting at the IMFC which operates by consensus.

Source: <u>Union Finance Minister attends the International Monetary and Financial</u> <u>Committee in Washington DC</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is made of water, sugar, and electrolytes.
- 2. It helps in replenishing the body's fluid levels.
- 3. It's used to treat extreme dehydration caused due to diarrhea or vomiting.

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 –

Statement 1: Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) is made of water, sugar, and electrolytes, specifically potassium and sodium. ORS helps in replenishing the body's fluid levels. Statement 3 is incorrect. It's generally used to treat moderate dehydration due to diarrhea, vomiting, or other conditions.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.2) The term 'Pasmanda' was seen in the news recently. It refers to -

- a) A type of plant found in the mangrove forest.
- b) Backward Muslims
- c) The socio-religious movement of South India
- d) Biography of Lala Lajpat Rai

Answer: B

Explanation -

Pasmanda is a Persian word that means the 'ones left behind'. The word is used to describe the depressed classes among Muslims who have been deliberately or consciously excluded from the fruits of power and privilege.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.3) 'Wolf Warrior Diplomacy' is practiced by -

- a) Pakistan
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Ukraine
- d) China

Answer: D

Explanation – "Wolf warrior diplomacy" is a tactic for the Chinese government to extend its ideology beyond China and counter the West and defend itself. It is an unofficial term for the more aggressive and confrontational style of communication that Chinese diplomats have taken to in the last decade.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.4) With reference to avian influenza consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a disease caused by infection with influenza type A viruses.
- 2. It is a non-zoonotic disease.

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: avian influenza also known as bird flu is a disease caused by infection with influenza type A viruses.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It is a zoonotic disease that means it can be spread from animals to humans.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.5) Indian Edge, which is seen in news, is related to which of the following?

- a) A new IT platform of Indian IT companies
- b) An e-magazine on fertilizers
- c) A new portal of Indian Startups
- d) A unique conservation platform to conserve the Himalayas.

Answer: B

Indian Edge is an e-magazine on fertilizers. The magazine will provide information on domestic and international fertilizer scenarios, including recent developments, price trends analysis, availability and consumption, and success stories of farmers, among others.

Source: Prime Minister Inaugurates 600 Pradan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras

Q.6) With reference to PM-Kisan Samridhi Kendras(PM-KSK), consider the following statements;

- 1. These Kendras will provide an interactive platform for knowledge sharing to create awareness among farmers on the latest technology and practices.
- 2. It was launched by the ministry of agriculture & farmers welfare.

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: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendra (PMKSK) will have one-of-akind 'model fertilizer retail shops' that shall offer various facilities under a single roof. The farmers get fertilizers and other inputs at cheaper rates under a single roof, adopt new technologies to enhance their farm production and are able to earn higher incomes.

These Kendras will also provide an interactive platform for knowledge sharing to create awareness among farmers on the latest and best agriculture technology and practices, as well as on the balanced use of fertilizers.

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Statement 2 is incorrect: It was launched by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers. **Source**: <u>PM Modi inaugurates 'One Nation, One Fertilizer' scheme</u>

Q.7) Which of the following is/are correct about Indian Bison?

- 1. It is the largest species among the wild cattle and the Bovidae.
- 2. It is the state animal of Goa and Bihar.
- 3. These are found only in India.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 and 2 are correct: Indian Gaur or Bison is the largest species among the wild cattle and the Bovidae. Gaur is the state animal of Goa and Bihar.

Statement 3 is incorrect: There are about 13,000 to 30,000 gaurs in the world with approximately 85% of the population present in India. It is also found in Burma and Thailand. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.8) With reference to SECURE Himalaya project, consider the following statements;

- 1. The project supports the government's efforts for the conservation of snow leopard and its habitat in Himalayan ecosystems.
- 2. The project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

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 project supports the government's efforts for the conservation of snow leopard and its habitat by developing and implementing a landscape-based approach for Himalayan ecosystems.

It also addresses key issues of habitat degradation, threatened livelihoods and illegal trade in wildlife.

Statement 2 is correct: The project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). **Source:** <u>The Times of India</u>



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

- 1. It is India's second interplanetary mission.
- 2. At present, the Mangalyaan mission has attained its end-of-life.

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: Mangalyaan was India's first interplanetary mission.
Statement 2 is correct: At present, the Mangalyaan mission has attained end-of-life.
Source: Mars Orbiter craft non-recoverable, Mangalyaan mission over, confirms ISRO

Q.10) With reference to Human Development Index(HDI), consider the following statements;

- 1. HDI was created solely to emphasize the importance of economic growth.
- 2. India's rank has not improved over the last two decades and declined by one place in 2022.

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: HDI was created to emphasize that people and their capabilities should be the ultimate criteria for assessing the development of a country, not economic growth alone.

Statement 2 is correct: India's rank has not improved over the last two decades and declined by one place in 2022.

Source: Fact-Checking The HDI Tally



PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following defines the partial solar eclipse?

- a) It is the eclipse occurred when the Moon completely covers the Sun.
- b) It is the eclipse occurred when the Sun and Moon are exactly in line with the Earth but the apparent size of the Moon is smaller than that of the Sun.
- c) It occurs when the Sun and Moon are not exactly in line with the Earth and the Moon covers only a portion of the Sun.
- d) It happens when Earth positions itself between the sun and the moon casting a shadow across the lunar surface.

Answer: C

Explanation -

Partial solar eclipse occurs when the Sun and Moon are not exactly in line with the Earth and the Moon covers only a portion of the Sun.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.2) With reference to Amazon River dolphin consider the following statements:

- 1. They are also known as blue dolphin.
- 2. They are the largest species of river dolphin.
- 3. They are listed endangered in the IUCN Red Data Book.

Select the correct statements 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: C

Explanation -

Amazon River Dolphin is also known as Pink Dolphin. They are the largest species of river dolphin. They are listed endangered in the IUCN Red Data Book. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.3) With reference to Apollo 9 mission consider the following statements:

- 1. It was a non-human spaceflight mission.
- 2. It was the mission of NASA.

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 -

Apollo 9 was a human spaceflight mission of NASA. It was the third human spaceflight in NASA's Apollo program.

Source: The Hindu



Q.4) With reference to Kamikaze drones consider the following statements:

- 1. They are also referred to as suicide drones as they are designed to blast in the attack causing maximum damage.
- 2. They are cheaper alternative to cruise missiles and can strike their targets from hundreds of kilometers away.

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-

Kamikaze drones are also referred to as suicide drones as they are designed to blast in the attack causing maximum damage. They are cheaper alternative to cruise missiles can strike their targets from hundreds of kilometers away.

Source: \underline{DNA}

Q.5) Kuril Islands, which is seen in news recently, is a disputed territory between which of the following countries?

- a) Japan and China
- b) Japan and North Korea
- c) Russia and Japan
- d) China and Vietnam

Answer: C

Kuril Islands are stretched from the Japanese island of Hokkaido to the southern tip of Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula separating Okhotsk Sea from the North Pacific Ocean.

The Kuril Islands dispute between Japan and Russia is over the sovereignty of South Kuril Islands. These islands are claimed by Japan but occupied by Russia as the successor state of the Soviet Union. Japan calls the Islands as Northern Territories and Russia as the South Kuril. **Source:** <u>The Diplomat</u>

Q.6) With reference to Green crackers, consider the following statements;

- 1. These crackers are composed salts of strontium, sodium, barium, calcium, and copper as well as white metals
- 2. The crackers developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

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: Conventional crackers are composed of charcoal or thermite in combination with oxidizing agents such as nitrates or chlorates, sulfur agents, and colouring



agents. These include salts of strontium, sodium, barium, calcium, and copper as well as white metals, which produce more particulate matter (PM).

But Green crackers are low-emission crackers, free of harmful chemicals such as sulphur, nitrates, arsenic, magnesium, sodium, lead, and barium, which reduce the emission of up to 30%.

Statement 2 is correct: The crackers developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) falls under three categories (SWAS, STAR and SAFAL). **Source:** Indian Express

Q.7) Which of the following is/are correct about Carbon Dating?

- 1. The dating method is based on the fact that Carbon-14 (C-14) is radioactive, and decays at a well-known rate.
- 2. C-14 is the most abundant isotope of carbon in the atmosphere.
- 3. The Carbon Dating method cannot be used to determine the age of non-living things and the age of things that are more than 40,000-50,000 years old.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: The dating method is based on the fact that Carbon-14 (C-14) is radioactive, and decays at a well-known rate.

The Carbon Dating method cannot be used to determine the age of non-living things and the age of things that are more than 40,000-50,000 years old. This is because, after 8-10 cycles of half-lives, the amount of C-14 becomes almost very small and is almost undetectable.

Statement 2 is incorrect: C-14 is an isotope of carbon with an atomic mass of 14. The most abundant isotope of carbon in the atmosphere is C-12. A very small amount of C-14 is also present.

Source: Indian Express

Q.8) With reference to Governor's power, consider the following statements;

- 1. Governor does not have to seek anyone's advice while appointing the Chief Minister.
- 2. Only when the Chief Minister permits, the Governor can remove the minister.

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: Article 164(1) deals with the appointment of the Chief Minister and other ministers. Accordingly, Governor does not have to seek anyone's advice while appointing the Chief Minister, but he can appoint a minister only on the recommendation of the Chief Minister.



Statement 2 is correct: If a Governor removes a minister in their own capacity, that will result in 'parallel governance'. Only when the Chief Minister allows it, then the Governor is empowered to remove the minister.

Source: Can Governor Khan dismiss a state minister?

Q.9) With reference to the Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a first-of-its-kind programme to promote women in the field of research and development through lateral entry.
- 2. It was launched by the 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 first-of-its-kind programme to promote women in the field of research and development through lateral entry.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It was launched by the Indo-German Science & Technology Centre(IGSTC).

Source: Mars Orbiter craft non-recoverable, Mangalyaan mission over, confirms ISRO

Q.10) National Maritime Heritage Complex is located in which of the following place?

- a) Tuticorin
- b) Lothal
- c) Calicut
- d) Puducherry (Arikamedu)

Answer: B

National Maritime Heritage Complex(NHMC) will be developed in Lothal region of Gujarat. Lothal was one of the prominent cities of the Harappan civilization.

The site is known for the discovery of the oldest man-made dockyard which was connected to an old course of the Sabarmati River. Other features include the acropolis, the lower town, the bead factory, the warehouses, and the drainage system.

The site has been nominated to be enlisted as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Source: <u>PM reviews work in progress of National Maritime Heritage Complex site at Lothal,</u> <u>Gujarat</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference the Indus Water Treaty Consider the following statements:

- 1. The treaty allocated the three western rivers of the Indus River System to Pakistan for unrestricted usage.
- 2. The treaty allows India to build run of the river hydropower projects on the western rivers allocated to Pakistan.

3. Both countries can approach the United Nations in case of issue arising out of the treaty.

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: the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 allocated the three western rivers (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab) of the Indus River System to Pakistan for unrestricted usage.

Statement 2: The treaty allows India to build run of the river (non-storage of water) hydropower projects on the western rivers allocated to Pakistan.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. The treaty provides for three step dispute resolution mechanism – a) Permanent Commission, b) World Bank, c) Court of Arbitration. **Source:** The Times of India

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

- 1. The position of Governor is similar to that of the President at the Union.
- 2. The Governor does not have power to choose anyone for minister.
- 3. The pleasure of the Governor means he has the right to dismiss the Chief Minister or ministers at his own will.

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 -

Statement 1: The position, role, powers, and conditions of office of the Governor are described in Articles 153-161 of the Constitution. The position of Governor is similar to that of the President at the Union. He is at the head of the state's executive power.

Statement 2: The Governor does not have power to choose anyone for minister. He can appoint a minister only on the advice of the Chief Minister.

Statement 3: The statement is incorrect. The pleasure of the Governor does not mean he has the right to dismiss the Chief Minister or ministers at his own will. The Governor can have his pleasure as long as the government enjoys majority in the House and he can withdraw his pleasure only when the government loses majority but refuses to quit.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.3) With reference to "Web3 technology" consider the following statements:

- 1. It uses blockchains to give power back to the users in the form of ownership.
- 2. It is a highly centralized technology as ownership is controlled by centralized entities.
- 3. It uses cryptocurrency for spending and sending money online instead of bank payment infrastructure.

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

Explanation -

Statement 1: Web3 technology uses blockchains, cryptocurrencies, and NFTs to give power back to the users in the form of ownership. It is based on Read-Write-Own.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. It is decentralized as ownership gets distributed amongst its builders and users.

Statement 3: It uses cryptocurrency for spending and sending money online instead of bank payment infrastructure.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.4) With reference to National Curriculum Framework 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. It includes old age care and education.
- 2. Panchakosha concept has been included in the framework.

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: National Curriculum Framework 2022 has four sections - the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE), the National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care & Education (NCFECCE), the National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (NCFTE), and the National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education (NCFAE). **Statement 2:** The framework has listed the 'panchakosha' concept for education. Panchakosha is an ancient explication of the importance of the importance of the body-mind complex in human experience and understanding.

Source: The Times of India



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

- a) India-Africa Defence Dialogue(IADD)
- b) India-China relations
- c) India-The UK Free Trade negotiation
- d) India-US defence cooperation

Answer: A

The Second India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD) was held on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The Gandhinagar Declaration was adopted as the outcome document of the second edition of the IADD. It charted out new areas for enhancing the India-Africa defence and security partnership.

Source: <u>'India-Africa Security Fellowship Programme' at MP-IDSA launched during India-Africa</u> Defence Dialogue on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022

Q.6) With reference to Uranium-Thorium-Lead Dating, consider the following statements;

- 1. In this the radioactive isotope decays into argon and their ratios can give a clue about the age of rocks.
- 2. The ratios of these elements present in the material can be measured and used to make estimates about age.

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: Uranium and Thorium have several radioactive isotopes, and all of them decay into the stable lead atom.

Statement 2 is correct: The ratios of these elements present in the material can be measured and used to make estimates about age.

Source: <u>Carbon Dating</u>

Q.7) Which of the following can be included in Foreign Direct Investment?

- 1. Foreign currency convertible bonds
- 2. Global depository receipts
- 3. Non-resident external deposits

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: A Source: <u>The Hindu</u>



Q.8) With reference to light-emitting diodes (LEDs), consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a semiconductor device that emits infrared or visible light when charged with an electric current.
- 2. Cost-efficient and bright light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are commonly desired for general light sources.

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 semiconductor device that emits infrared or visible light when charged with an electric current.

Statement 2 is correct: Cost-efficient and bright light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are commonly desired for general light sources.

Source: New materials developed can help move towards stable LEDs emitting bright light

Q.9) With reference to the Uniform Civil Code, consider the following statements;

- 1. Indian laws follow a uniform code in most civil matters.
- 2. As of now, none of the Indian states/UTs implemented UCC.

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: Indian laws do follow a uniform code in most civil matters such as Indian Contract Act 1872, Civil Procedure Code, Transfer of Property Act 1882, Evidence Act, 1872 etc.

However, States have made hundreds of amendments and, therefore, in certain matters, there is diversity even under these secular civil laws.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As of now, Goa is the only state in India with a UCC.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.10) Which of the following statement is not correct about Lothal?

- a) It was a thriving trade center in ancient times with its trade of beads, gems and ornaments reaching West Asia and Africa.
- b) The meaning of Lothal (a combination of Loth and (s) thal) in Gujarati is "the mound of the dead".
- c) Lothal had the world's earliest known dock.
- d) The port city is believed to have been built in 1100BC

Answer: D

The port city is believed to have been built in 2,200 BC.

Source: Lothal, 'oldest dock in the world', to get heritage complex: Features, significance of the project

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PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)- Urban consider the following statements:

- 1. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- 2. It promotes women empowerment by providing the ownership of houses in the name of female or in joint name.

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. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)- Urban is being implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

Statement 2: One if its features is to promotes women empowerment by providing the ownership of houses in the name of female or in joint name.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.2) Which of the following will not be the benefit of the country being removed from the 'grey list' of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

- a) It will boost the country's overall economy
- b) It will increase the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow to the country.
- c) It will improve the sovereign credit rating of the country.
- d) It will reduce scrutiny of global transactions involving the country.

Answer: A

Explanation -

If a country is removed from the grey list of the FATF then removing from the list will not improve the economy as a whole. However, it may increase the FDIs inflow, reduce the scrutiny of global transactions and may improve the sovereign credit rating.

Source: The Times of India

Q.3) With reference to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. It is a quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial body.
- 3. Its head office is located in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above area correct?

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

Answer: B Explanation –



Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992. It comes under the control of the Ministry of Finance. It has quasi-executive, quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial powers. its main function is to keep a check and control the securities in the Indian market. Its head office is located in Mumbai.

Source: The Times of India

Q,4) Consider the following statements with respect to climate finance:

- 1. It refers to finances drawn from different sources that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions to address climate change.
- 2. The largest source of climate finance in India is public spending.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1: Climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change.

Statement 2: The largest source of climate finance in India is public spending done through budgetary allocation and various schemes such as National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF).

Source: <u>Hindustan Times</u>

Q.5) Mission DefSpace, which is seen in the news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) To improve the reading capability of disabled people.
- b) To improve the environmental space in government offices.
- c) To develop innovative solutions for the three Services in the space domain.
- d) Promote Indian manufacturers to create products with Zero defects.

Answer: C

Prime Minister has launched 'Mission DefSpace' at the ongoing DefExpo. He also unveiled the HTT-40 (Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40) indigenous trainer aircraft.

The Mision aims to develop innovative solutions for the three Services (Indian airforce, Navy and Army) in the space domain through the Indian industry and start-ups.

And also, the mission will develop a range of military applications for space warfare and to enable the private industries to offer solutions to the armed forces for future offensive and defensive requirements.

Under the mission, 75 challenges are being opened to get innovative solutions, based on the defence requirements in the space domain.

- Startups, innovators and the private sector will be invited to find solutions for the problems that will include both offensive and defensive capabilities.

Source: <u>Mission DefSpace: We have to work fast to solve various challenges in space</u> technology:PM



Q.6) With reference to Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), consider the following statements;

- 1. It is designed with the objective to mobilize at least one billion Indians and other global citizens to take individual and collective action for protecting and conserving the environment.
- 2. The mission will be implemented by the 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 designed with the objective to mobilize at least one billion Indians and other global citizens to take individual and collective action for protecting and conserving the environment in the period 2022–28.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The mission will be incubated, curated and piloted by NITI Aayog and subsequently implemented by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. **Source:** <u>PM launches Mission LiFE in the presence of U.N. Secretary General</u>

Q.7) Which of the following is correct about scorched earth tactics?

- 1. It is a part of a military strategy which seeks to destroy anything that could be of use to the enemy.
- 2. None of the Indian rulers in the past has used this tactic.
- 3. Harming civilians as part of this strategy has been banned under the 1977 Geneva Convention.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: C

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: Scorched earth tactics form part of a military strategy which seeks to destroy anything that could be of use to the enemy, including energy supplies, bridges, provision stores, agricultural fields, road and railway links etc.

The destruction could be carried out by the enemy or by the retreating army of a country which does not want invaders to use its resources.

Harming civilians as part of this strategy has been banned under the 1977 Geneva Convention. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: In India, the armies of Maratha leader Chhatrapati Shivaji were known for their scorched earth tactics. Some historians have said that while the Maratha leaders looted and burnt enemy towns, they were under orders to not harm civilians or desecrate religious sites.

Source: German Chancellor says Russia using 'scorched-earth tactics': What is this strategy



Q.8) With reference to Rustom-2, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a medium altitude long endurance(MALE) Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).
- 2. It is being developed to carry out surveillance and reconnaissance(ISR) roles.

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 medium altitude long endurance(MALE) Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).

Statement 2 is correct: It is being developed to carry out surveillance and reconnaissance(ISR) roles and is also capable of carrying different combinations of advanced payloads and capable of auto-landing among others.

Source: Indigenous UAV Rustom-2 to complete user trials by August 2023

Q.9) With reference to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), consider the following statements;

- 1. It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.
- 2. The members are not eligible for reappointment.

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 consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. At least one member should be a woman.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the other Members hold office for a term of 3 years. The members are not eligible for appointment for more than two terms.

Source: Forest Conservation Rules infringe upon land rights of tribes people: ST panel chief



Q.10) Which of the following statement is not correct about National Curriculum Framework?

- a) It serves as a guideline for syllabus, textbooks and teaching practices for the Education system in India.
- b) It is usually published by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- c) NCF has been revised for the first time in 1955.
- d) NCF 2022 would be the fifth revision of the framework.

Answer: C

NCF has been revised for the first time in 1975. After that it has been revised in 1988, 2000 and 2005.

Source: <u>Union Minister launches National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational</u> Stage and the pilot project of Balvatika 49 KendriyaVidyalayas across the country



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to consent for the CBI consider the following statements:

1. The general consent is given to CBI by states for investing general as well as specific cases.

2. The CBI's position to investigate cases is same as that of the National Investigation Agency.

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: States give general consent to CBI for investing general as well as specific cases. **Statement 2:** The statement is incorrect. The CBI's position to investigate cases is different from that of the National Investigation Agency as it is governed by the NIA Act, 2008, and has jurisdiction all over the country.

Source: <u>The Indian Express</u>

Q.2) With reference to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) consider the following statements:

- 1. Brunei is one of the member nations of ASEAN.
- 2. Its secretariat is located in Manila, Philippines.
- 3. One of its objectives is to promote Southeast Asian studies.

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: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, and Cambodia are the members of ASEAN.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Its secretariat is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Statement 3: One of its objectives is to promote Southeast Asian studies.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.3) "Viral spillover" was seen in the news recently. It is associated with -

- a) Transmission of virus
- b) Oil spilling in the sea
- c) Disease in the crops
- d) Sustainable farming technique

Answer: A

Explanation -

Viral spillover is a process where, when confronted with a new host, a virus may even infect it and transmit sustainably in this new host.

Source: India Today



Q.4) With reference to Jim Corbett national Park consider the following statements:

- 1. It lies in the middle Himalayas.
- 2. River Ramganga flows through this park.
- 3. It was the first national park of 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: B

Explanation –

Jim Corbett national Park lies in the Shivaliks or outer Himalayas. It was the first national park of India and Asia. River Ramganga flows through the national park. This was the first park to come under Project Tiger initiative.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.5) Groningen Gas Field, which is seen in the news recently, is located in which of the following country?

- a) Russia
- b) Netherlands
- c) Ukraine
- d) Germany

Answer: B

The gas field in Groningen, the Netherlands, has again come under the spotlight amid concerns over energy supplies.

The Dutch government announced that the field would be shut down by the end of 2024 due to the stress and suffering caused by earthquakes and tremors connected to gas extraction in the area.

The Groningen gas field is a natural gas field in Groningen province in the northeastern part of the Netherlands. It is the largest natural gas field in Europe

The region saw multiple earthquakes throughout the 1980s. The Dutch government said it would close the field in response to protests by locals. The closing date was moved up from 2030 to 2022.

Source: Explained | How is the energy crisis in Europe shaping up?



Q.6) With reference to FATF Grey list, consider the following statements;

- 1. These are countries that have, in the assessment of the FATF, failed to prevent international money laundering and terrorist financing.
- 2. At present, Pakistan has been remained in the FATF grey list for the fifth consecutive year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct: FATF maintains a "grey list" of countries that it watches closely. In essence, these are countries that have, in the assessment of the FATF, failed to prevent international money laundering and terrorist financing, and are, therefore, on a global watchlist for bad behaviour.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Recently, Pakistan has been taken off the 'grey list' of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) after four years.

Countries on the list are The Philippines, Syria, Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Uganda, Morocco, Jamaica, Cambodia, Burkina Faso, and South Sudan, and the tax havens of Barbados, Cayman Islands, and Panama.

Source: <u>Pakistan is out of FATF 'grey list' on terror funding</u>

Q.7) Which of the following statements is/are correct about genetically engineered plants?

- 1. Enable plants to grow and do photosynthesis in space stations.
- 2. Enable plants to withstand drought.
- 3. Increase the nutritive value of the produce.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: B

Statement 2 and 3 are correct: GM crops will

- Provide resistance to pests.
- Enable plants to withstand drought.
- Increase the nutritive value of the produce.

Statement 1 is incorrect: GM crops are not developed and will not enable plants to grow and do photosynthesis in spaceships and space stations.

Source: DTE



Q.8) With reference to Pillars of Creation, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a vista of three looming towers made of interstellar dust and gas.
- 2. It is located in the centre of the Eagle Nebula.

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 vista of three looming towers made of interstellar dust and gas. **Statement 2 is correct**: These iconic Pillars of Creation is located in the centre of the Eagle Nebula (it is a constellation of stars), which is also known as Messier 16.

At the ends of several pillars are bright red, lava-like spots. These are ejections from stars that are still forming, only a few hundred thousand years old.

Source: Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to the Great Indian Bustards(GIBs), consider the following statements;

- 1. Rajasthan accounts for almost 95% of its total world population.
- 2. It is endemic to the India and not found in any other country 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 Great Indian Bustard(GIB) is the State bird of Rajasthan. Its population is about 150 in Rajasthan which accounts for 95% of its total world population. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: It is endemic to the Indian subcontinent. It is found in Rajasthan (Desert National park), Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh in India and

parts of Pakistan.

Source: Are critically endangered Great Indian Bustards now migrating to Pakistan?



Q.10) Which of the following factors can cause human induced seismicity?

- 1. Damming of rivers to build reservoirs.
- 2. The extraction of oil and gas.
- 3. Mining for minerals.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

The damming of rivers to build reservoirs, the extraction of oil and gas, and mining are some examples of human activities that could lead to 'induced seismicity'.

For instance, to enhance energy extraction, wastewater, sand and chemicals are injected into the earth at high pressure to create fractures in the rocks. This process is called "hydraulic Fracturing".

This process helps improve the interconnectivity of the pores in order to enhance oil and gas extraction. In some cases, fluid is injected into pores connected to the fault which may substantially increase the pore pressure within the fault to counteract the effective frictional forces. This may trigger earthquakes.

Source: Explained | How is the energy crisis in Europe shaping up?



PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following statement is not correct regarding Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)?

- a) The Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) of a bank is the ratio of its capital to its risk-weighted assets and current liabilities.
- b) It is used to protect depositors and promote the stability and efficiency of global financial systems.
- c) It is used by regulators to determine a bank's capital adequacy and to run stress tests.
- d) A bank with a high CAR is considered unsafe and it is unlikely to meet its financial obligations.

Answer: D

Explanation -

A bank with a high Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is considered safe and it is likely to meet its financial obligations.

Source: The Hindu

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

- 1. It is one of the distributaries of the river Mahanadi.
- 2. The river originates in Maharashtra.

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 –

Sukapaika river is one of the distributaries of the river Mahanadi. It originates from Ayatur Village in Cuttack district and flows for 40 km before joining the Mahanadi River. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.3) With reference to the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of MPC is to improve the economic growth and the GDP of the country.
- 2. It is a five-member body and it is chaired by Finance Minister of India.

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 -

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) aims to improve the economic growth and the GDP of the country. It is a six-member body and it is chaired by the RBI Governor.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>



Q.4) With reference to Kaziranga National Park consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a UNESCO World's Heritage Site.
- 2. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 3. It is one of the largest homes of migratory birds.

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 -

Kaziranga National Park is a UNESCO World's Heritage Site located in Assam. It is one of the largest homes of migratory birds.

Source: The Hindu

Q.5) Bacterial leaf blight (BLB) and Blast (leaf and collar) diseases, which are seen in the news recently, affect which of the following?

- a) Rubber plantations in Kerala
- b) Sugarcane plantations in North India
- c) Tea plantations in North East India
- d) Basmati rice varieties in India

Answer: D

Basmati Rice is a long-grained, aromatic rice that has been cultivated in Indo-Gangetic plains at the foothills of the Himalayas.

In modern India, this region is spread over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir.

Around 75% of the export of Basmati Rice is to West Asian countries.

As the area of cultivation increased, these basmati rice varieties have become susceptible to two major diseases — bacterial leaf blight (BLB) and blast (leaf and collar) diseases caused by the fungus Magnaporthe oryzae.

Source: Five new varieties to expand India's Basmati platter

Q.6) With reference to Allmania multiflora, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is listed as Critically Endangered under IUCN.
- 2. It is the only species of Allmania genus discovered to date.

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 listed as Critically Endangered under IUCN. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: It belongs to the genus Allmania. It is only the second species of this genus discovered to date.



The first species, *Allmania nodiflora* was originally published under the genus Celosia as Celosia *nodiflora* in 1753. Specimens found in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) were first described as *Allmania nodiflora* in 1834.

Source: Second Species of the Genus Allmania

Q.7) Which of the following is not part of Tyranny of the rocket equation?

- a) The destination in space a rocket is headed towards.
- b) The kind of fuel mix that is being used.
- c) The size of the payload.
- d) Geographic location of launching rocket.

Answer: D

The size of a launch vehicle is dictated by **1**) The destination in space it is headed towards, **2**) The kind of fuel mix that is being used (solid, liquid, cryogenic) and **3**) The size of the payload. – The choice of any two of these variables places severe restrictions on the flexibility of the third, which is popularly referred to as the "tyranny of the rocket equation".

Source: The heaviness of rockets, why it matters in space flight

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

- 1. is an annual folk ritual of Tulu-speaking people in Karnataka.
- 2. It is performed by a priest who is considered as a god for his/her lifetime.

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 vista of three looming towers made of interstellar dust and gas. **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Bhootada Kola is performed by a trained person who is believed to have temporarily become a god himself.

The performer displays an aggressive outlook, dances fiercely and performs multiple rituals. This performer is feared and respected in the community and is believed to give answers to people's problems on behalf of god. Drums and music give company to the dancing and pooja rituals.

Source: What is the controversy over the practice of 'bhoota kola'

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

- 1. The disease can transmit through seeds of infected trees through the presence of diseasecausing bacteria.
- 2. There is no cure as of now for the disease.

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 disease can transmit through seeds of infected trees through the presence of disease-causing bacteria called Phytoplasma.



Statement 2 is correct: There is no cure as of now for the disease. Hence, presently, there is no option but to cut down and remove the infected tree to prevent the spread of the disease. **Source:** <u>Sandalwood Spike Disease (SSD)</u>

Q.10) Which of the following is/are the benefits of Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative?

- 1. Increase farmers' income.
- 2. Reduce the price of Compressed Bio Gas (CBG).
- 3. Reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

The GoI has come up with Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme and allowed a private company to set up bio-CNG project in Punjab.

The Government of India has set a 5% CBG production target under the SATAT scheme. This target can be achieved with 30% of rice straw produced as suggested by FAO.

The scheme will **a**) Increase local entrepreneurship, increase farmers' income and reduce the open burning of rice straw, **b**) Help in producing CBG at ₹46 per kg and paddy straw from one acre of the crop can yield energy output (CBG) worth more than ₹17,000 which in turn will benefit stakeholders involved in it, **c**) The fermented organic manure from the plant (CBG) will be useful as compost to replenish soils heavily depleted of organic matter and **d**) Reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers.

Source: A renewable energy revolution, rooted in agriculture



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to DMH-11 (GM Mustard) consider the following statements:

- 1. It was developed with the aim of reducing India's demand for edible oil imports.
- 2. It has been created through transgenic technology that involves barnase and barstar gene system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1: GM Mustard was developed with the aim of reducing India's demand for edible oil imports.

Statement 2: It has been created through transgenic technology that involves barnase and barstar gene system.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 gives RBI the sole right to issue banknotes in India.
- 2. It is the exclusive right of the central government to make changes in the design and form of bank notes and coins.

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: Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 gives RBI the sole right to issue banknotes in India.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. Changes in the design and form of bank notes and coins are decided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the central government.

Source: <u>The Indian Express</u>



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

- 1. Satellite phones rely on satellites rather than cell phone towers.
- 2. Satellite phones can work in remote areas where there are no cell phone towers.
- 3. It is legal to carry satellite phones in India.

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 –

Satellite phones rely on satellites rather than cell phone towers. Satellite phones can work in remote areas where there are no cell phone towers. It's not legal to carry satellite phones in India without permission.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.4) Consider the following statement with respect to 'Coastal Erosion':

- 1. Coastal erosion is the eroding of beach sand due to wind and wave action.
- 2. India has not witnessed coastal erosion till now.

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: Coastal erosion is the eroding of beach sand due to wind and wave action.
Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. India has witnessed the coastal erosion along Puducherry's coastline and around 57% of Puducherry's coast was eroding.
Source: The Hindu

Q.5) Which of the following byproducts can be produced from biogas?

- 1. Methane
- 2. Hydrogen
- 3. Liquefied biogas (LBG)

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: D

Biogas can be converted to produce numerous sustainable transportation fuels.

Methane

The removal of unwanted components like carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulphide and moisture from raw biogas yields pure methane (over 97% content). Some of the common methods to purify



biogas include water scrubbing, membrane separation, pressure swing adsorption and adsorption.

Liquefied biogas (LBG)

It is obtained by liquefying the biogas-derived methane by cooling it at -162 degrees Celsius. It has a higher energy density that lowers the storage space requirements of CBG.

At atmospheric pressure, the energy density of liquid methane is roughly 600 times more than that of gaseous methane and 2.5 times greater than that of methane at 250 bar.

Hydrogen

Gasification of biogas is performed by limiting the amount of oxygen and steam present in the reaction and heating the bio-methane to high temperatures (usually over 600°C). As a result of this process, Syngas a mixture of hydrogen and carbon monoxide is created. The hydrogen produced after the removal of carbon monoxide could be used in fuel cells to generate power. **Source:** Why producing CBG, LBG, hydrogen, methanol from biogas can be beneficial

Q.6) Barnase-barstar system, which is seen in the news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) Creating environmental buffer reduce climate impacts.
- b) Launching rockets more than 8 tonnes.
- c) Hybrid seed production technology.
- d) Artificial communication technologies.

Answer: C

Barnase-barstar system is an indelible technique to produce hybrid seeds in self-pollinated crops. The scientists have deployed this technology to produce Genetically Modified(GM) mustard variety DMH (Dhara Mustard Hybrid)-11.

The barnase gene codes for a protein that impairs pollen production and renders the plant into which it is incorporated male-sterile.

This plant is then crossed with a fertile parental line containing the barstar gene that blocks the action of the barnase gene.

The resultant F1 progeny is both high-yielding and also capable of producing seed/ grain. **Source:** <u>GEAC gives its nod for commercial cultivation of GM mustard yet again</u>

Q.7) With reference to NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), consider the following statements;

- 1. Currently (NavIC) only provides short code signals but not the long code signals.
- 2. Currently, NavIC satellites orbit the earth in a geostationary or geosynchronous (GEO) orbit and Medium Earth Orbit(MEO).

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: There are a Long Code and Short Code signals. Currently (NavIC) only provides short code. Long Code signals provide for the use of the strategic sector. Further, it will also prevents the signal from being breached.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Currently, NavIC satellites orbit the earth in a geostationary or geosynchronous (GEO) orbit or about 36,000 km from the earth. Its reach is only 1,500 km beyond Indian territory.

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To make NavIC global, India needs satellites in Medium Earth Orbit(MEO). Hence, ISRO is planning to launch satellites in MEO.

Note: MEO orbits occupy a space between GEO and Low Earth Orbit (LEO) or about 250-2,000 km from earth.

Source: ISRO to boost NavIC, widen user base of location system

Q.8) With reference to unreinforced masonry(URM), consider the following statements;

- 1. URM buildings have been widely adopted due to inexpensiveness and usage of locally available construction materials.
- 2. URM buildings do not damage or collapse during an earthquake.

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: Historically, most buildings technically called unreinforced masonry(URM) were not built using modern building codes.

URM buildings have traditionally been widely adopted worldwide due to inexpensive and locally available construction materials.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Developing countries located in earthquake-prone regions, unreinforced brick masonry(URBM) has been a common practice in urban, semi-urban and rural areas of India.

These buildings are much more likely to experience damage or collapse during an earthquake.

Recently, researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur have developed a technology called semi-confined unreinforced brick masonry(SC-URBM).

The technology can resolve the problem of the spread of settlements in earthquake-prone areas with constructions that have been built without following earthquake-preventive building codes. **Source:** <u>New technology for retrofitting non-earthquake-resistant buildings can prevent major damage in old settlements</u>

Q.9) With reference to the data-network-activities loop or the DNA loop, consider the following statements;

- 1. Under this, the stock of user data are utilized as input to offer a range of services to increase user activity.
- 2. The loop makes big tech firms with an established platform to have an advantage when they venture into financial services.

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 business model of big techs rests on enabling direct interactions among a large number of users.

An essential by-product of their business is the stock of user data. The data are then utilized as input to offer a range of services that exploit natural network effects, generating further user



activity. Increased user activity then completes the circle, as it generates yet more data. This has been called as "data-network-activities" loop – or the "DNA" loop.

Statement 2 is correct: The DNA loop is self-reinforcing. More data generates stronger network effects, which elicit more activity, leading to yet more data. This means that big tech firms with an established platform have an advantage when they venture into financial services. **Source:** <u>Ambani will use finance to tighten DNA loop. Here's how</u>

Q.10) Khangkhui cave was located in which of the following state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Maharastra
- c) Manipur
- d) Assam

Answer: C

Khangkhui is a natural limestone cave about 15 km from Ukhrul, the headquarters of Ukhrul district in Manipur.

Excavations carried out by Manipur's archaeologists had revealed the cave was home to Stone Age communities.

The cave was also used as a shelter by the local people during World War 2 after the Japanese forces advanced to Manipur and the adjoining Nagaland.

Source: Bats evicted from Manipur cave for tourism, says study



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to International Energy Agency (IEA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an autonomous intergovernmental organization to ensure reliable, affordable and clean energy for its member countries.
- 2. World Energy Outlook Report is published by IEA.
- 3. It's headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.

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 -

International Energy Agency (IEA) is an autonomous intergovernmental organization to ensure reliable, affordable and clean energy for its member countries. World Energy Outlook Report is published by IEA. Statement 3 is incorrect. It's headquartered at Paris, France. Source: The Times of India

Q.2) With reference to Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to provide a Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.
- 2. The scheme is being only funded by the central government.
- 3. This mission is being implemented by Jal Shakti Ministry.

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: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims to provide a Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The scheme is funded by both Central and state governments.

Statement 3: JJM is being implemented by Jal Shakti Ministry. Source: DNA



Q.3) With reference to 'dirty bombs' seen in the news recently consider the following statements:

- 1. It includes explosives and radioactive material.
- 2. It is cheaper and easier to transport compared to nuclear weapons.
- 3. It is more destructive than nuclear bombs.

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 -

A dirty bomb contains conventional explosives like dynamite and radioactive materials such as uranium, which makes them cheaper and easier to transport when compared with nuclear weapons. When exploded, the material inside the bomb is scattered through the air. Although dangerous, it is not as destructive as a nuclear bomb.

Source: Business Standard

Q.4) With reference to 'Surrogacy Act, 2021' consider the following statements:

- 1. The act provides that surrogate mother should only be the relative of the couple looking for surrogate child.
- 2. It provides that the couple who has adopted child can opt for surrogacy.

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: Surrogacy Act, 2021 provides that surrogate mother should only be the relative of the couple looking for surrogate child. She should have been married with a child of her own and must be between 25 and 35 years, of age. She can be a surrogate mother only once.

Statement 2: The statement is incorrect. The Act says that there should not be any surviving child (biological, adopted or surrogate) of the couple looking for surrogacy child.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.5) Homing All the Way Killer, which is seen in the news recently, is related to which of the following?

- a) A Climate change document highlighting the impacts of climate change on human being.
- b) It is a medium-range, surface-to-air guided missile that provides air defence coverage against low-to-medium-altitude aircraft.
- c) It is a new dirty bomb alleged to be present in Ukraine.
- d) It is an Artificial communication technology that can be performed by robots easily.

Answer: B

HAWK stands for 'Homing All the Way Killer'.



It is a medium-range, surface-to-air guided missile that provides air defence coverage against low-to-medium-altitude aircraft.

It has been developed by Raytheon, a US-based aerospace and defense company.

It initially entered service with the US army in 1959. It has been superseded by the Patriot missile defense system.

Source: This Word Means | HAWK air defence equipment

Q.6) With reference to Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a narrative record of how each Prime Minister of India has contributed to the development of our nation over the last 75 years.
- 2. It is located at Delhi's Teen Murti Complex.

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 Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya is a tribute to every Prime Minister of India since Independence and a narrative record of how each one has contributed to the development of our nation over the last 75 years.

Statement 2 is correct: It is located at Delhi's Teen Murti Complex.

The logo of the museum shows hands holding the dharma chakra, symbolizing the nation and democracy.

Source: Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya receives above 1 lakh visitors upto 30th September

Q.7) Mekong-Ganga Cooperation is an initiative of six countries, which of the following country/countries is/are not a participant/participants of it?

- 1. Bangladesh
- 2. Cambodia
- 3. China
- 4. Myanmar
- 5. Thailand

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) is an initiative by six countries – India and five ASEAN countries, namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam for cooperation in tourism, culture, education, as well as transport and communications. It was launched in 2000 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

Both the Ganga and the Mekong are civilizational rivers and the MGC initiative aims to facilitate closer contacts among the people inhabiting these two major river basins.

Source: <u>PIB</u>



Q.8) With reference to Site-Directed Nuclease (SDN), consider the following statements;

- 1. SDN 1 introduces changes in the host genome's DNA through small insertions/deletions without the introduction of foreign genetic material.
- 2. SDN 2 involves larger DNA elements or full-length genes of foreign origin which makes it similar to Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) development.

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

Depending on the nature of the genome editing that is carried out, the process is divided into three categories — Site-Directed Nuclease(SDN 1), SDN 2 and SDN 3:

Statement 1 is correct: **SDN 1** introduces changes in the host genome's DNA through small insertions/deletions without the introduction of foreign genetic material.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In **SDN 2**, the edit involves using a small DNA template to generate specific changes. Both these processes do not involve alien genetic material and the end result is indistinguishable from conventionally bred crop varieties.

The **SDN3** process involves larger DNA elements or full-length genes of foreign origin which makes it similar to Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) development.

Source: Notification of Standard Operating Procedures(SOPs) for regulatory review of Genome Edited Plants under SDN-1 and SDN-2 categories, 2022

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

- 1. It is an innovative experiment to tackle stubble burning.
- 2. It is undertaken by the Punjab government.

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 innovative experiment to tackle stubble burning. A gauthan is a dedicated five-acre plot, held in common by each village, where all the unused stubble is collected through parali daan (people's donations) and is converted into organic fertilizer by mixing with cow dung and a few natural enzymes.

This model has also generated employment among rural youth. The government supports the transportation of stubble from the farm to the nearest gauthan. The state has successfully developed 2,000 gauthans.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is undertaken by the Chhattisgarh government. **Source:** <u>CAQM holds review meetings to address stubble burning</u>



Q.10) Which of the following statement is not correct about Alps Mountains?

- a) The Alps are young fold mountains with rugged relief and high conical peaks.
- b) Monte Rosa is the highest peak in the Alps.
- c) Mount Dom is known as one of the "easier" tall peaks in the Alps to summit because of it's straightforward routes.
- d) Only Switzerland and Austria can be considered true Alpine countries.

Answer: B

Mont Blanc is the highest peak in the Alps and in Europe, reaching a lofty 4,804 meters above sea level. It is located in the Graian Alps and lies within France, Switzerland, and Italy. The Alps form part of France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, and Albania.

Source: <u>Glaciers in the Alps are melting faster than ever — and 2022 was their worst</u> summer yet



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'Tambo Art' consider the following statements:

- 1. The art uses rice fields as a canvas to create design works by planting rice with different colored leaves and grain heads.
- 2. This art from has been originated in China.

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 –

Tambo Art uses rice fields as a canvas to create design works by planting rice with different colored leaves and grain heads and it has been originated in Japan.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

Q.2) With reference to 'African Swine Fever (ASF)' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a viral disease spread amongst pigs with 100 percent mortality rate.
- 2. It is a zoonotic disease.
- 3. There is currently no effective vaccine against ASF.

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 -

African Swine Fever (ASF) is a viral disease spread amongst pigs with 100 percent mortality rate. Statement 2 is incorrect. It is a non-zoonotic disease. There is currently no effective vaccine against ASF.

Source: India Today

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

- 1. All countries of Europe are its members.
- 2. It was created to bind the nations of Europe closer together for the economic, social, and security welfare of all.

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 –



The European Union (EU) is a political and economic grouping of 27 countries committed to shared democratic values. The European Union was created to bind the nations of Europe closer together for the economic, social, and security welfare of all. **Source:** The Hindu

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The circular economy is a solution framework that tackles global challenges like climate change and pollution.
- 2. Circular economy focuses on reusing and recycling of natural resources whereas natural resources in a linear economy is turned into wastes.

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: C

Explanation -

Statement 1: The circular economy is a solution framework that tackles global challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, waste, and pollution.

Statement 2: Circular economy focuses on reusing and recycling of natural resources whereas natural resources in a linear economy is turned into wastes.

Source: <u>Live Mint</u>

Q.5) Exercise Garuda is a bilateral Air force exercise between India and which of the following country?

- a) Italy
- b) Singapore
- c) France
- d) Australia

Answer: C

Indian Air Force(IAF) and French Air and Space Force(FASF) are participating in a bilateral exercise named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

The first edition of the exercise was held in 2003. This is the seventh edition of the bilateral exercise.

Source: EXERCISE GARUDA - VII AT AIR FORCE STATION JODHPUR

Q.6) With reference to viral spillover risk, consider the following statements;

- 1. It is a process of viruses infecting a new host from a reservoir host by being able to transmit sustainably in a novel host.
- 2. Climate change will increase viral spillover risk more.

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: Viruses may infect a new host from a reservoir host (in which it usually resides) by being able to transmit sustainably in a novel host – a process defined as 'viral spillover'.



Statement 2 is correct: Researchers collected samples from Lake Hazen in Canada, the world's largest High Arctic lake by volume and has the largest freshwater ecosystem.

Based on the study, they concluded that climate change is melting glaciers and this could create a possibility of the emergence of new viruses trapped in the ice for years.

The hosts (humans or animals) can move to previously inhabitable regions and can come in contact with such pathogens which could cause viral spillover.

Source: What 'viral spillover risk' means, and how it could lead to new pandemics

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the benefits of Internationalisation of the rupee?

- 1. Mitigates currency risk for Indian businesses.
- 2. Reduces the need for holding foreign exchange reserves.
- 3. Make non-residents having Rupee holdings to come and stay in India permanently.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below;

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 and 2 are correct:

The advantages of the Internationalization of the Rupee are

Firstly, the use of the Rupee in cross-border transactions mitigates currency risk for Indian businesses. Protection from currency volatility not only reduces the cost of doing business, but it also enables better growth of the business, improving the chances for Indian business to grow globally.

Secondly, it reduces the need for holding foreign exchange reserves. While reserves help manage exchange rate volatility and project external stability, they impose a cost on the economy.

Thirdly, reducing dependence on foreign currency makes India less vulnerable to external shocks. For example, during phases of monetary tightening in the US and the strengthening of dollar, excessive foreign currency liabilities of domestic business results in a de facto domestic tightening. Reduced exposure to currency risk would substantially mitigate the pain of the reversal of capital flows.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Non-resident holdings of Rupees could exacerbate the pass-through of external stimulus to domestic financial markets, increasing volatility. For instance, a global risk-off phase could lead non-residents to convert their Rupee holdings and move out of India. **Source:** Internationalisation of Rupee

Q.8) With reference to Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX), consider the following statements;

- 1. The exercise began in 1980 and was initially known as Exercise Panther.
- 2. SIMBEX is the Indian Navy's longest uninterrupted bilateral maritime exercise with any foreign navy.

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: SIMBEX is a joint maritime bilateral exercise between Indian and Singapore navies.



The exercise began in 1994 and was initially known as Exercise Lion King.

Statement 2 is correct: SIMBEX is the Indian Navy's longest uninterrupted bilateral maritime exercise with any foreign navy.

Source: <u>Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'Simbex' - 2022</u>

Q.9) Emissions Gap Report was released by which of the following organisation?

- a) Earth System Governance Project (ESGP)
- b) Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- c) Global Alliance on Health and Pollution (GAHP)
- d) United Nations Environment Programme(UNEP)

Answer: D

The 'Emissions Gap Report 2022' has been released by United Nations Environment Programme(UNEP). This is the 13th edition of the report. Source: Emissions in India, 6 other nations top pre-Covid levels

Q.10) Which of the following statement is not correct about the evolution of the Coinage System?

- a) The earliest of dynastic coins relate to those of the Indo-Greeks, the Saka-Pahlavas and the Kushans.
- b) The Saka coinage of the Western Kshatrapas are perhaps the earliest dated coins, the dates being given in the Saka era.
- c) Satavahana's depicted Oesho (Shiva), moon deity Miro and Buddha in their coinage.
- d) Gupta coinage depicted the king on the obverse and a deity on the reverse.

Answer: C

Kushans, who hailed from the Central Asian region were the first to use the image of Goddess Lakshmi on their coins, along with Ardochsho, the Iranic Goddess of wealth. They also depicted Oesho (Shiva), moon deity Miro and Buddha in their coinage.

Source: Coinage System in India

