Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

19th to 24th December, 2022

PRELIMS

Q.1) The term "deepfake technology" was seen in the news recently. It is a -

- a) Type of technology that imitates other form of technology.
- b) Type of technology that is untraceable at the borders
- c) Type of technology that is being used in the drones to launch a counter attack.
- d) Type of technology used to replace the likeness of one person with another in video and other digital media.

Answer: D

Explanation – Deepfakes are a compilation of artificial images and audio put together with machine-learning algorithms to spread misinformation and replace a real person's appearance, voice, or both with similar artificial likenesses or voices. It can create people who do not exist and it can fake real people saying and doing things they did not say or do.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Tripura has got its first ever Geographical Indication (GI) Tag to its Raktsey Karpo Apricot.
- 2. Tamil Nadu has the highest number of products under GI tag.

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: D

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect. Ladakh got its first ever Geographical Indication (GI) Tag to its Raktsey Karpo Apricot. Karnataka has the highest number of products under its GI tag followed by the Tamil Nadu.

Source: AIR

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

- 1. These caves belonged to the Saivites community.
- 2. These caves are like large resorts with a multitude of caves in the form of small rock villas built for the use of monks and lay practitioners.

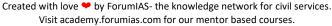
Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Kanheri was the home of a large Buddhist community for over a thousand years.





Statement 2 is correct. These caves are like large resorts, with a multitude of caves in the form of small rock villas built for the use of monks and lay practitioners. One can witness religious styles ranging from early Theravada through early and mature Mahayana, and also the beginnings of Vajrayana Buddhism.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to rock-cut caves consider the following statements:

- 1. The first rock-cut caves were excavated in Madhya Pradesh under the reign of the Guptas.
- 2. The cave architecture reached its peak in the Kailasa Temple at Ellora.

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: B Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The first rock-cut caves were excavated in Bihar (the Barabar caves and the Nagarjuni caves) during the reign of emperor Ashoka in the Mauryan era.

Statement 2 is correct. Maharashtra is the capital of ancient rock-cut architecture in the country. Of the 1,200-odd architectural cave sites excavated in India, a thousand or more are found in the state. The cave architecture reached its height in the monumental "Kailasa Temple", or Cave 16, at Ellora.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to provide accessible funds to the climate activists in generating climate awareness in India.
- 2. The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 gave statutory status to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

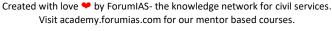
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The USOF's main aim is to provide universal telecom services and ensure that even the unconnected areas in the country reap the benefits of inclusive development. The Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill,2022 proposes to replace the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) with the Telecommunication Development Fund (TDF).

Statement 2 is correct. The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 gave statutory status to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).





Q.6) Attappady Thuvara has recently received the GI tag. It belongs to -

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: A

Explanation – Attappady Thuvara is a red gram having seeds with a white coat. Compared to other red grams, its seeds are bigger and have higher seed weights. It is used as a vegetable and dal. It is rich in protein, carbohydrates, fibre, calcium and magnesium. It belongs to Kerala.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) Telecom Security Operation Centre (TSOC) was seen in the news recently, it is associated -

- a) To provide network coverage in the remotest areas.
- b) To predict and identify attacks on national telecommunications infrastructure.
- c) To increase the bandwidth of the broadband services.
- d) To facilitate the easier auction of the spectrum.

Answer: B

Explanation – TSOC is used for identifying the cyber-attacks on telecommunications networks and the machines which are initiating such attacks or under attack. It is used for identifying the presence of blocked applications, malicious communications provided by some applications, etc.

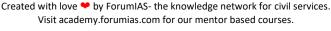
Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Which of the following was the objective of 'Operation Ganga'?

- a) To bring Kashmiri Pundits back in the valley.
- b) To increase the search process of the Morbi bridge incident.
- c) To bring back Indian nationals from Ukraine.
- d) To rescue Indian soldiers from the attack of Chinese in Tawang.

Answer: C

Explanation – Operation Ganga was launched to help stranded Indian nationals come back to India from Ukraine through special flights amidst the Russian invasion of Ukraine.





Q.9) With reference to the Passport Index - 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. India has been ranked below South Africa in the index.
- 2. According to the index, Kerala had both the highest number and the highest proportion of passport holders in the country.

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 and 2 are correct. Countries such as South Africa, China, Brazil and Russia ranked higher than India in the passport index. According to the index, Kerala had both the highest number and the highest proportion of passport holders in the country.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) With reference to the 'India Water Impact Summit' consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to impart impetus towards developing water and environmental infrastructure to protect rivers and water bodies in India.
- 2. It has been organized by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

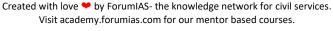
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. India Water Impact Summit aim is to impart impetus towards developing water and environmental infrastructure to protect rivers and water bodies in India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It has been organized by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) along with the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies(c-Ganga).





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the 'Carbon Market' consider the following statements:

- 1. Carbon markets are trading systems in which carbon credits are sold and bought.
- 2. Compliance market is a type of carbon market which refer to the issuance, buying and selling of carbon credits on a voluntary basis.
- 3. Carbon markets help mobilize resources and reduce costs to give countries and companies the option to smooth the low-carbon transition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Carbon markets are trading systems in which carbon credits are sold and bought. Carbon markets help mobilize resources and reduce costs to give countries and companies the option to smooth the low-carbon transition.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Compliance markets are created as a result of any national, regional and/or international policy or regulatory requirement whereas Voluntary carbon markets refer to the issuance, buying and selling of carbon credits, on a voluntary basis.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) With reference to Samagra Shiksha scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims at integrating vocational education with general academic education in all Government and Government aided Secondary/Senior Secondary schools.
- 2. It has been launched throughout the country as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Samagra Shiksha scheme aims at integrating vocational education with general academic education in all Government and Government aided Secondary/Senior Secondary schools. It has been launched throughout the country as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. It involves a 60:40 split in funding between the Centre and most States. It was launched by the Ministry of Education in 2018.

Source: PIB



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gujarat and Rajasthan have the highest solar energy potential in India.
- 2. India is largely dependent on imports for solar equipment.
- 3. India has been successful in effective management of the solar waste.

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 and 2 are correct. Gujarat and Rajasthan have the highest solar energy potential in India. India at present lacks the capability to produce solar wafers or polysilicon. During the fiscal year 2021-22, India imported solar cells and modules worth about US\$ 76.62 billion from China alone. This accounted for 78.6% of India's total imports (2021-22).

Statement 3 is incorrect. India's solar waste is estimated to grow to 1.8 million tonnes by 2050 but India's e-waste rules do not mandate solar cell manufacturers to recycle or dispose of waste from this sector.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Which of the following is the objective of "e-Chhawani portal"?

- a) To provide online access to the people living in the remote areas.
- b) To provide online services to the cargo ships docking at Indian ports.
- c) To provide the residents of cantonments to avail basic online services.
- d) To provide online educations to the urban poor to skill them for the employment.

Answer: C

Explanation – e-Chhawani portal aims to provide online municipal services to more than 20 lakh citizens across 62 Cantonment Boards. Through the portal, the residents of cantonment areas will be able to avail basic services such as; the renewal of leases, application for birth & death certificates, water & sewerage connections, trade licences, mobile toilet locators and payment of different types of taxes and fees.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) consider the following statements:

- 1. The members of RCEP together account for a third of the world gross domestic product (GDP).
- 2. It was launched to prevent trade with China and reduce import dependence on it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -



Statement 1 is correct. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a proposed agreement between the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and its free trade agreement (FTA) partners. The 16 countries negotiating the RCEP together account for a third of the world gross domestic product (GDP) and almost half the world's population.

Statement 2 is incorrect. RCEP was pushed by China in 2012 in order to counter another FTA that was in the works at the time: The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The US-led TPP excluded China. However, in 2016 US President Donald Trump withdrew his country from the TPP. Since then, the RCEP has become a major tool for China to counter the US efforts to prevent trade with Beijing.

Source: India Today

Q.6) With reference to Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 (IBC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a law which creates a consolidated framework that governs insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings only for companies and partnership firms.
- 2. It repealed all previous legislation and established a standardised framework for resolving insolvency and bankruptcy cases.
- 3. It establishes faster insolvency procedures to assist creditors in recovering debts and avoiding bad loans.

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 is incorrect. IBC created a consolidated framework that governs insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings for companies, partnership firms, and individuals.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. IBC repealed all previous legislation and established a standardised framework for resolving insolvency and bankruptcy cases. It establishes faster insolvency procedures to assist creditors in recovering debts and avoiding bad loans.

Source: The Times of India

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Fusion reaction occur naturally whereas fission reaction does not.
- 2. Fusion reaction produces more radioactive waste compared to fission reaction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Fusion reaction occur naturally whereas fission reaction does not.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A big advantage of fusion is it will most likely produce little radioactive waste compared to fission.

Source: India Today

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Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hindustan Republican Association was founded by a group of people amongst Congress after the success of Civil disobedience of Movement in order to act as an advisory to the Congress Working Committee.
- 2. The Karakori conspiracy was one of the major incidents taken by the leaders of Hindustan Republican Association.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The HRA was founded by a group of young men who were disillusioned by Gandhi's tactics and what they felt was zealous preaching of "non-violence." It was formed on the backdrop of Non – Cooperation Movement when Gandhiji called off the movement due to the Chauri Chaura incident.

Statement 2 is correct. The Karakori conspiracy was one of the major incidents taken by the leaders of Hindustan Republican Association.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.9) Which of the following country does not share border with Arunachal Pradesh?

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

Answer: D

Explanation - Arunachal Pradesh, shares international borders with Tibet in north and northwest, Bhutan in west and Myanmar in east.

Source: The Print

Q.10) With reference to the Zonal Council consider the following statements:

- 1. The council is presided over by the Defence Minister of India.
- 2. It is a statutory body established under the State Reorganization Act of 1956.
- 3. India is divided into twelve zonal councils.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 and 3 are incorrect. Zonal Councils are presided over by the Home Minister of India. India is mainly divided into five zonal councils.

Statement 2 is correct. Zonal council has been established under the State Reorganization Act of 1956.

Source: AIR

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PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'Tal Chhapar sanctuary' consider the following statements:

- 1. This sanctuary is famous for blackbucks.
- 2. Tropical evergreen forest is mainly found in this sanctuary.
- 3. The sanctuary is located in Rajasthan.

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 and 3 are correct. Tal Chhapar sanctuary is famous for blackbucks. It is located in Rajasthan.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Topical thorn forest is mainly found in this sanctuary.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The share of contract employment in total industrial employment has increased in recent years.
- 2. Contract employment is considered better by the companies because it attracts lower cost to the company (CTC).

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 and 2 are correct. In the Annual Survey of Industries, the share of contract employment in total industrial employment increased from 24% in 2004 to 38% in 2017. The cost to the company (CTC) is lower for contract employment when compared to permanent employment. This is considered beneficial for the economy as reduced CTC has also attracted foreign investment.



Q.3) With reference to Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission consider the following statements:

- 1. It will help in improving accuracy of flood forecasts and provide a better monitoring system for natural calamities.
- 2. It will make the first global survey of the Earth's surface water.
- 3. It will help in providing information related to the changing pattern of the ocean water to due to the neap tide.

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 and 2 are correct. SWOT will help in improving accuracy of flood forecasts and provide a better monitoring system for natural calamities. It will make the first global survey of the Earth's surface water.

Statement 3 is incorrect. There is no such feature of the mission.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to the 'Bullock Heart Tree' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a small deciduous tree in the plant family Annonaceae.
- 2. It is known for its fruit called custard apple.
- 3. The tree is devoid of any medicinal benefits.

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 and 2 are correct. Bullock Heart Tree is a small deciduous or semi-evergreen tree in the plant family Annonaceae and part of the Annonas group. It is known for its fruit called custard apple.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Bullock heart tree's extracts have traditionally been used to cure conditions including dysentery and pediculosis (louse infestation). Extracts from its leaves may also be useful against three destructive pests — Pod borer, green peach aphid and fall armyworm — with a mortality rate of 78-88%. All these pests are known for incurring crop losses to farmers.



Q.5) With reference to the 'AYURSWASTHYA Yojana' consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the scheme is to provide affordable healthcare services to pregnant mothers and young children.
- 2. The scheme is being run by the Ministry of Ayush.

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: B Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. AYURSWASTHYA Yojana has three objectives – a) to support establishment of advanced/ specialized AYUSH medical health unit in reputed AYUSH and Allopathic institutions both in Government and Non-Government sector, b) to support creative and innovative proposals for establishment and upgradation of both functions and facilities of reputed institutions to strengthen competencies of AYUSH professionals and c) to support creative and innovative proposals for prestigious organizations which have well-established buildings and infrastructure, and wish to work for AYUSH systems to the level of Centre of Excellence.

Statement 2 is correct. The scheme is being run by the Ministry of Ayush.

Source: PIB

Q.6) With reference to Social Progress Index (SPI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a comprehensive tool that serve as a holistic measure of a country's social progress at the national and sub-national levels.
- 2. Opportunity is one of its three dimensions of measuring SPI.
- 3. As per the index, Karnataka has very high social progress in the country.

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 and 2 are correct. SPI is a comprehensive tool that serve as a holistic measure of a country's social progress at the national and sub-national levels. It uses three critical dimensions of social progress - Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing, and Opportunity. **Statement 3** is incorrect. Puducherry along with Lakshadweep, Goa, Sikkim, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh Kerala have very high social progress in the country but Puducherry has the highest SPI score of 65.99 in the country.

Source: PIB



Q.7) With reference to the International Solar Alliance (ISA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first international intergovernmental organization to be headquartered in India.
- 2. It enables all member States of the UN to join the alliance.

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

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. ISA is the first international intergovernmental organization to be headquartered in India. On 15.07.2020, an amendment came into force, which enables all member States of the UN, including those beyond the tropics, to join the ISA.

Source: PIB

Q.8) With reference to the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia & sub-Saharan Africa.
- 2. It helps farmers by providing monetary benefits at the time of the failure of the crop.
- 3. It's headquarter is located at Hyderabad, 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 and 3 are correct. ICRISAT is an international organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia & sub-Saharan Africa. It's headquarter is located at Hyderabad, India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It helps farmers by providing improved crop varieties and hybrids and also helps smallholder farmers in the drylands fight climate change.

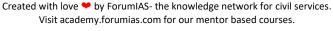
Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Tandur red gram has recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) status. It belongs to -

- a) Kashmir
- b) Telangana
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Odisha

Answer: B

Explanation – The Tandur red gram of Telangana has got geographical indication (GI) tag. Tandur red gram is a local variety of pigeon pea which is mainly grown in the rainfed tract of the Tandur and nearby region of Telangana.





Q.10) With reference to 'Global Corporate Minimum Tax' consider the following statements:

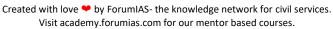
- 1. It aims to discourage nations from tax competition through lower tax rates that result in corporate profit shifting and tax base erosion.
- 2. The tax will help in counter rising global inequality.
- 3. It will prevent the unilateral imposition of domestic laws by the developed world over the developing 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: D Explanation –

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Global Corporate Minimum Tax aims to discourage nations from tax competition through lower tax rates that result in corporate profit shifting and tax base erosion. The tax will help in counter rising global inequality by making it tougher for large businesses to pay low taxes by availing the services of tax havens. It will prevent the unilateral imposition of domestic laws by the developed world over the developing countries.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Urban-20 (U20) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a productive dialogue between the national and local governments and helps promote the importance of urban development issues in the G20 agenda.
- 2. U20 for the year 2023 will be hosted by Jakarta, Indonesia.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. U20 is a productive dialogue between the national and local governments and helps promote the importance of urban development issues in the G20 agenda. It is one of the engagement groups of G20, provides a platform for cities from G20 countries to facilitate discussions on various important issues of urban development

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the G20 presidency of India, Ahmedabad, a UNESCO World Heritage city, will host the U20 cycle.

Source: PIB

Q.2) With reference to India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been setup as an Independent Business Division within Digital India Corporation.
- 2. It has all the administrative and financial powers and is tasked with the responsibility of catalysing the India Semiconductor ecosystem in manufacturing, packaging and design.
- 3. It has been working as nodal agency for the Schemes approved under Semicon India Programme.

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: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. ISM has been setup as an Independent Business Division within Digital India Corporation. It has all the administrative and financial powers and is tasked with the responsibility of catalysing the India Semiconductor ecosystem in manufacturing, packaging and design. It has been working as nodal agency for the Schemes approved under Semicon India Programme.

Source: PIB



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

- 1. There is evidence for consumption of millets in the Indus-Sarasvati civilization.
- 2. Millets can be grown in rainfed areas without additional irrigation.
- 3. Millets are mainly cultivated in India as a rabi crop.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. There is evidence for consumption of millets in the Indus-Sarasvati civilization. Millets can be grown in rainfed areas without additional irrigation.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Millets are mainly cultivated in India as a kharif crop.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Arctic region has rich deposits of coal and diamond.
- 2. India is one of the members of the Arctic Council.
- 3. India is a signatory to the Svalbard Treaty.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

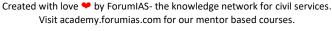
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Arctic region has rich deposits of coal, gypsum and diamonds and also substantial reserves of zinc, lead, placer gold and quartz. India is signatory to the Svalbard Treaty that recognises the sovereignty of Norway over the Arctic Archipelago of Svalbard.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India is one of the 13 Observers in the Arctic Council and not a member.





Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Net neutrality protects small entrepreneurs from unfair competition with big internet tech giants.
- 2. India does not have any regulatory framework for net neutrality.
- 3. Net neutrality is crucial in promoting digital economy.

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 and 3 are correct. Net neutrality protects small entrepreneurs from unfair competition with big internet tech giants. Net neutrality is crucial in promoting digital economy. **Statement 2** is incorrect. In July 2018, the DoT released the Regulatory framework on Net Neutrality. The Union Cabinet approved the final National Digital Communications Policy, 2018 with an aim to introduce appropriate disclosure and transparency requirements to ensure compliance with Net Neutrality Principles.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to the 'Corporal Punishment' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of punishment where the victim is murdered by hanging.
- 2. Juvenile Justice Act 2015 prohibits the corporal punishments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. It is any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort. It is prevalent in schools in India to ensure student discipline.

Statement 2 is correct. There are clear legal injunctions against the use of force, including through RTE 2009 and the Juvenile Justice Act 2015.



Q.7) With reference to Sun Temple of Modhera consider the following statements:

- 1. It is situated on the bank of the river Pushpavati.
- 2. The temple complex is built in Maru-Gurjara style.
- 3. The temple was built by the Pala ruler Maravarman Rajasimha II.

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 and 2 are correct. Sun Temple of Modhera is located in Gujarat. It is a Hindu temple dedicated to the solar deity Surya. It is situated on the bank of the river Pushpavati. The temple complex is built in Māru-Gurjara style (Solanki style).

Statement 3 is incorrect. It was built after 1026-27 CE during the reign of Bhima I of the Chaulukya dynasty (Solanki dynasty).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) With reference to Bhitarkanika National Park consider the following statements:

- 1. It is India's second largest mangrove ecosystem after the Sunderbans.
- 2. The national park is located in Uttarakhand and is home to snow leopard.
- 3. It is one of the Ramsar Sites 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

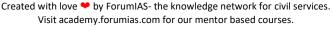
Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Bhitarkanika National Park is India's second largest mangrove ecosystem after the Sunderbans. It is one of the Ramsar Sites of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Bhitarkanika National Park is located in Odisha and it is home to saltwater crocodile.

Source: The Hindu





Q.9) Which of the following will be the impact on India due to the resurgence of coronavirus in China?

- 1. It will cause ripple effect
- 2. Disruptions in supply chain
- 3. Improvement in Indian economic growth

Select the correct answer using the codes given below;

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

The resurgence of coronavirus in China will have the following impact – Knock out/Ripple effect (virus will spread in India even though both countries do not have direct links), disruption in supply chain (Indian business rely on raw products from China and spread the virus will impact the supply chain), decline in the Indian economy (as India is majorly dependent on imports from China).

Source: The Times of India

Q.10) With reference to "Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework" consider the following statements:

- 1. Under this framework, countries agreed to protect 30% of land and water considered important for biodiversity by 2030.
- 2. The framework has been made legally binding on the member countries due to failure of Aichi targets.
- 3. A Special Trust Fund is expected to be established to support the implementation of the GBF.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

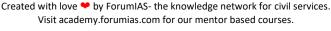
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation-

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Under GBF, countries agreed to protect 30% of land and water considered important for biodiversity by 2030. A Special Trust Fund is expected to be established by 2023 to support the implementation of the GBF.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The agreement is not legally binding, but countries will be required to show their progress on meeting targets through national biodiversity plans.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to 'National Bio Energy Programme' consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to use huge surplus biomass, cattle dung, and industrial and urban biowaste available in the country for energy generation.
- 2. The programme is being implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- 3. Bioremediation programme is one of its sub-schemes.

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 and 2 are correct. National Bio Energy Programme aim is to use huge surplus biomass, cattle dung, and industrial and urban biowaste available in the country for energy generation. The programme will be implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. **Statement 3** is incorrect. National Bio Energy Programme has three Sub-schemes namely, waste to energy programme, biomass programme and biogas programme.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to 'Offshore Wind Energy' consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the deployment of wind farms over the water bodies.
- 2. The potential for offshore wind energy generation in India is limited.
- 3. Onshore wind turbines are more efficient to offshore wind turbines in energy generation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Offshore Wind Energy refers to the deployment of wind farms over the water bodies

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. There is abundance of offshore wind potential in India. Thus, they can play a huge role in achieving the desired climate commitment and energy security goals. It is proven that offshore wind turbines are more efficient compared to onshore ones. So, fewer offshore turbines are required to produce the same capacity of energy as compared to onshore ones.



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

- 1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Women Child Development.
- 2. The scheme is aimed at strengthening interventions for women's safety, security and empowerment.

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: C Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Mission Shakti has been launched by the Ministry of Women Child Development. The scheme is aimed at strengthening interventions for women's safety, security and empowerment.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to 'Virtual Digital Assets' consider the following statements:

- 1. They are a medium of exchange or property that can be digitally traded, transferred or used for payment or investment purposes.
- 2. Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is one of the types of virtual digital asset.

Select the correct statements suing 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 is correct. Virtual Digital Assets mean any information or code or number or token generated through cryptographic means or otherwise. They are a medium of exchange or property that can be digitally traded, transferred or used for payment or investment purposes.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Virtual Digital Assets usually refers to non-fungible token cryptocurrencies, etc. Virtual digital assets do not include digital gold, central bank digital currency (CBDC), or any other traditional digital assets.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.5) With reference to The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a program for providing internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all Urban Local Bodies and Smart Cities across the country.
- 2. The program is being implemented through a partnership between Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and AICTE.
- 3. It will help in acquiring the benefits of India's demographic dividend.

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: D Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. TULIP is a program for providing internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all Urban Local Bodies and Smart Cities across the country. The program is being implemented through a partnership between Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and AICTE. It will provide internship's to graduates, thereby, it would acquire the benefits of India's demographic dividend by training them.

Source: PIB

Q.6) With reference to Betta-Kuruba Community consider the following statements:

- 1. The tribe lives in the regions of Karnataka and is one of the few indigenous communities of the Nilgiris.
- 2. They are the followers of Buddhism.
- 3. They are generally believed to be the descendants of the Pallavas.

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 and 3 are correct. The tribe lives in the regions of Karnataka and is one of the few indigenous communities of the Nilgiris. They are generally believed to be the descendants of the Pallavas.

Statement 2 is incorrect. They follow Hinduism.

Source: AIR



Q.7) With reference to the term "Adjournment Sine Die" consider the following statements:

- 1. It means terminating a sitting of the Parliament for an indefinite period.
- 2. The President alone enjoys this power.
- 3. Adjournment Sine Die cannot be passed for the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Adjournment Sine Die means terminating a sitting of the Parliament for an indefinite period.

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. Adjournment Sine Die is done by the presiding officer of the House. Rajya Sabha is not subjected to dissolution but Adjournment Sine Die can be passed for Rajya Sabha also as it only terminates the sitting of the House.

Source: AIR

Q.8) With reference to the Digital Health Incentive Scheme (DHIS) consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims to give a further boost to digital health transactions in the country under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).
- 2. Under this scheme, an individual will get extended health insurance benefits for taking the hospitalization through ABDM.

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 is correct. DHIS aims to give a further boost to digital health transactions in the country under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The incentives under this scheme would be provided to hospitals and diagnostic labs and also to the providers of digital health solutions such as Hospital/ Health Management Information Systems and Laboratory Management Information Systems. This scheme will encourage more and more healthcare facilities and digital software companies to come forward and join Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission for providing patient-centric healthcare.

Source: AIR



Q.9) With reference Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at strengthening India's credentials as a partner with other countries to make the world more piracy free.
- 2. It will combat maritime piracy not only in India's territorial waters in the Exclusive Economic Zone but also on the high seas.

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 and 2 are correct. Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill 2022 aims at strengthening India's credentials as a partner with other countries to make the world more piracy free. It will provide an effective legal instrument to combat maritime piracy not only in India's territorial waters in the Exclusive Economic Zone but also on the high seas.

Source: AIR

Q.10) With reference to 'Purse seines fishing' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is used in the open ocean to target dense schools of single-species pelagic fish like tuna and mackerel.
- 2. It is a non-selective fishing method that captures everything that it surrounds.
- 3. This type of fishing usually involves contact with the seabed and harmful for deep ocean organisms.

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 and 2 are correct. Purse seines fishing is used in the open ocean to target dense schools of single-species pelagic fish like tuna and mackerel. It is a non-selective fishing method that captures everything that it surrounds, including sea turtles and marine mammals. States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry, Odisha, etc. have prohibited Purse-seine fishing.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Purse-seine fishing in open water is generally considered to be an efficient form of fishing. It has no contact with the seabed.



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a convention that seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- 2. Conference of the Parties (COP) is its governing body.
- 3. Its CoP meeting takes place every year in the month of September.
- 4. The Secretariat of the CBD is based in Montreal, Canada.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 4 are correct. CBD is a convention that seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services. Conference of the Parties (COP) is its governing body. The Secretariat of the CBD is based in Montreal, Canada.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The meeting of CoP takes place every two years.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to "Gene Editing" consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the addition of the haemoglobin A to the stem cell.
- 2. It is a process to remove, disrupt or correct faulty elements of DNA within the gene rather than replacing the gene.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The addition of the haemoglobin A to the stem cell is known as gene addition.

Statement 2 is correct. Gene Editing is a process to remove, disrupt or correct faulty elements of DNA within the gene rather than replace the gene. There are two types of Gene Editing: Gene Silencing and Gene Correction.



Q.3) Which of the following is not true regarding the cervical cancer?

- a) It is a sexually transmitted infection.
- b) The cancer is preventable and treatable.
- c) It is the second most common cause of cancer death in women of reproductive age.
- d) India has the lowest number of cervical cancer patients globally.

Answer: D

Explanation - India accounts for about a fifth of the global burden of Cervical Cancer. It kills one woman every eight minutes in the country.

Source: The Hindu

Q.4) With reference to "Nai Roshni Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to empower and enhance confidence in minority women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for the Leadership Development of Women.
- 2. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the scheme.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Nai Roshni Scheme aim to empower and enhance confidence in minority women by providing knowledge, tools, and techniques for the Leadership Development of Women. Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ministry of Minority Affairs is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the scheme.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

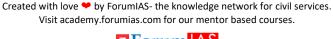
- 1. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority caps medicine prices listed under National List of Essential Medicines and changes are made only based on wholesale price index-based
- 2. The prices of essential drugs in India are regulated by the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority caps medicine prices listed under National List of Essential Medicines and changes are made only based on wholesale price index-based inflation. The prices of essential drugs in India are regulated by the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.





Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. There is no law in India to punish those dealing with cruelty to animals.
- 2. Cruelty to animals has not been safeguarded by the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 punishes those dealing with cruelty to animals. Part IVA of the Indian Constitution makes it a fundamental duty of the citizens to have compassion for living creatures.

Source: ORF

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. China and India have large shares of the global unbanked population.
- 2. There has been a decrease in the gender gaps in bank account ownership in India.
- 3. The gender gap in access to mobile phones has an impact on financial inclusion.

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 and 3 are correct. China and India have large shares of the global unbanked population. The gender gap in access to mobile phones has an impact on financial inclusion. Globally, financial inclusion has been accelerated by the increase in use of mobile phones and the internet.

Statement 2 is incorrect. In South Asia, except Sri Lanka and India, all countries are experiencing significant gender gaps in bank account ownership. The percentage of women who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use has increased from 53 percent in NFHS-4 to 79 percent in NFHS-5.

Source: ORF



Q.8) With reference to the 'bomb cyclone' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is formed when the air of different air masses comes together.
- 2. It is a storm circulating counterclockwise around the low-pressure area.
- 3. It is a mid-latitude storm in which the central pressure drops rapidly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D Explanation –

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Bomb cyclone also known as Explosive cyclogenesis is formed when the air of different air masses (cold, dry) comes together. It is a storm circulating counterclockwise around the low-pressure area. It is a mid-latitude storm in which the central pressure drops rapidly. The lower this pressure, the stronger is the storm.

Source: India Today

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Ramsar Sites form an international network of wetlands which are important for conserving global biological diversity and sustaining human lives through the maintenance of their ecosystem.
- 2. India has the highest number of wetlands globally.
- 3. Chilika Lake was one of the first sites to be placed on the Ramsar List by the Government 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 and 3 are correct. Ramsar Sites form an international network of wetlands which are important for conserving global biological diversity and sustaining human lives through the maintenance of their ecosystem. Keoladeo National Park (in Rajasthan) and Chilika (in Odisha) were the first two sites to be placed on the Ramsar List by the Government of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The United Kingdom has highest number of Ramsar sites globally. However, India has the highest number of Ramsar sites in Asia.

Source: PIB



Q.10) With reference to "Gram Urja Swaraj" consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at providing renewable energy solutions to energy intensive industries.
- 2. This initiative has been started by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The aim of Gram Urja Swaraj is to promote adoption of renewable energy at Gram Panchayat level.

Statement 2 is correct. This initiative has been started by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. It has also launched the Gram Urja Swaraj Portal in May 2022, to capture the inclination of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) towards adoption of renewable energy.

Source: PIB

