Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

December, 2022

PRELIMS

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

- 1. Regenerative agriculture refers to a practice of farming and land use that aims to improve the overall health of the soil.
- 2. Sustainable agriculture is a better form agricultural practice than Regenerative agriculture.
- 3. Regenerative farming practices is more expensive than commercial farming.

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. Regenerative agriculture refers to a practice of farming and land use that aims to improve the overall health of the soil. Regenerative farming practices is more expensive than commercial farming as it focuses on organic based farming therefore the cost of organic farming is higher than commercial farming.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Sustainable and Regenerative agriculture both focus on healthier agricultural practices. However, the key difference between is that regenerative agriculture intends to regenerate, or renew, the productivity and growth potential whereas sustainable practices seek to maintain systems without degrading them. Therefore, regenerative agriculture is better than a sustainable way to farm.

Source: DTE

Q.2) Consider the following statements with reference to Coastal Red Sand Dunes:

- 1. These sand dunes do not occur in equatorial regions or temperate regions.
- 2. These sand dunes are found in Southern India.

Select the correct statements using the codes give 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. Coastal Red Sand Dunes do not occur in equatorial regions or temperate regions. These sand dunes are found in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh in India.



Q.3) With reference to Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to reduce emissions in the energy sector and accelerate the coal phase-out process.
- 2. India has ratified the JETP.

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. JETP aims to reduce emissions in the energy sector and accelerate the coal phase-out process.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India has opposed the JETP.

Source: Business Standard

Q.4) With reference to Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) consider the following statements:

- 1. One of its objectives is to promote sustainable growth and balanced development of the region and member states.
- 2. Its secretariat is located in Mauritius.
- 3. The Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) is a flagship initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

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. IORA aims at promoting sustainable growth and balanced development of the region and member states. Its secretariat is located in Mauritius. The Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) is a flagship initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

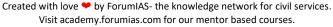
Source: The Hindu

Q.5) Which of the following statements is not true regarding e-rupee?

- a) It is recognised as legal tender by the RBI.
- b) It has same value as the fiat currency.
- c) The digital rupee stored in the wallet attracts lower interest rate than cash deposited with the banks.
- d) Cash deposits in banks can be converted into digital rupees.

Answer: C

Explanation – The digital rupee stored in wallet does not attract any interest from the central bank like the deposited cash in banks.





Q.6) With reference to Parliamentary Privileges consider the following statements:

- 1. The freedom of speech and expression enjoyed by MPs in the Parliament is subjected to legal action of the court.
- 2. MPs cannot be arrested in any civil cases when the Parliament is in session.

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 freedom of speech and expression enjoyed by MPs in the Parliament is not subjected to legal action of the court.

Statement 2 is correct. MPs cannot be arrested in any civil cases when the Parliament is in session.

Source: Live Mint

Q.7) With reference to Divya Kala Mela organized recently consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at providing platform to tribal artisans and crafts men of the country.
- 2. It was launched by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- 3. It aims at bringing self-reliance to the lives of Divyangjan.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

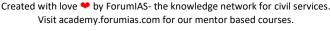
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 only

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Divya Kala Mela aims at providing a platform for the products and craftsmanship of Divyang(person with disability) artisans, craftsmen and artisans from across the country.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Divya Kala Mela was launched by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. It aims at bringing self-reliance to the lives of Divyangjan.





Q.8) With reference to the country Peru consider the following statements:

- 1. It lies wholly in the Southern Hemisphere.
- 2. Mississippi river is the longest river of Peru.
- 3. It is bordered in the north by Ecuador and Colombia.

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

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Peru lies wholly in the Southern Hemisphere. It is bordered in the north by Ecuador and Colombia.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ucayali River is the longest river of Peru.

Source: The Hindu

Q.9) With reference to Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) consider the following statements:

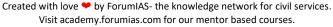
- 1. It aims making coal available to all the Thermal Power Plants of the country in a transparent manner.
- 2. It also aims to reduce the dependence on imported coal and promote domestic industries.

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. SHAKTI aims making coal available to all the Thermal Power Plants of the country in a transparent manner. It also aims to reduce the dependence on imported coal and promote domestic industries.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to International Labour Organization (ILO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an independent non-profit organization that aims at providing financial assistance and employment opportunities to the developing nations.
- 2. The standards set by ILO is non-binding in nature.
- 3. India is a founding and a permanent member of ILO.

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. ILO is a United Nations agency whose mandate is to advance social and economic justice by setting international labour standards.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. The standards set by ILO is non-binding in nature. India is a founding and a permanent member of ILO.

Source: <u>The Hindu</u>

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

- 1. It is bounded by Africa and the Arabian Peninsula to the west.
- 2. It is landlocked in the Northern Hemisphere.
- 3. It has narrower continental shelves than the Atlantic Ocean.

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

Statement 1,2 and 3 are correct. The Indian Ocean is bounded by Africa and the Arabian Peninsula to the west. It is landlocked in the Northern Hemisphere. It has narrower continental shelves than the Atlantic Ocean.

Source: The Times of India

Q.3) Which of the following is not correct regrading Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose?

- a) He discovered wireless communication.
- b) He was responsible for the expansion of experimental science in India.
- c) He was named the Father of Radio Science by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering.
- d) He chaired the Rules of Procedure Committee in the Constituent Assembly.

Answer: D

Explanation - Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose passed away in 1937 and the Rules of Procedure Committee was headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

Source: PIB

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Q.4) With reference to Digital Agriculture Mission consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at using ICT for making agriculture profitable and sustainable.
- 2. It aims at creating federated farmers' database which will be linked to the land records of farmers from across the country by creating a unique farmer ID.

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. Digital Agriculture is "ICT and data ecosystems to support the development and delivery of timely, targeted information and services to make farming profitable and sustainable while delivering safe nutritious and affordable food for all." It aims at creating federated farmers' database which will be linked to the land records of farmers from across the country by creating a unique farmer ID.

Source: PIB

Q.5) With reference to Project UNNATI consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched to showcase indigenous product of the Indian states at G-20 meetings.
- 2. The cost of the project is entirely carried out by the Central Government.

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. Project UNNATI was launched with the intention of upgrading the skill base of MGNREGS workers to help them transition from partial employment to full employment. Statement 2 is correct. The cost of the project is entirely carried out by the Central Government.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to Natural Farming consider the following statements:

- 1. It does not involve the use of any external chemical or organic fertilizers in the soil.
- 2. It reduces the burden of subsidy on the government.
- 3. The water requirement for natural farming is more than the conventional farming.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation -



Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Natural farming does not involve the use of any external chemical or organic fertilizers in the soil. The decomposition of organic matter by microbes and earthworms is encouraged right on the soil surface itself, which gradually adds nutrition in the soil, over the period. This will in turn reduce the subsidy cost of the government.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Natural farming requires less water than conventional warming. One of the reasons behind it as the conventional farming focuses on high yield thus more irrigation is required for the growth of the crop whereas yield is lower in the natural farming compared to conventional farming.

Source: PIB

Q.7) Consider the following:

- 1. Increasing tillage
- 2. Growing cover crops
- 3. Increasing organic matter inputs

Which of the above are the measures required to improve the health of the soil?

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

Answer: B

Explanation – There are various methods to improve soil health such as growing cover crops, increasing the usage of organic fertilizers, reducing pesticide use, reducing tillage, etc. Further, tillage fractures the soil, it disrupts soil structure, accelerating surface runoff and soil erosion. Tillage also reduces crop residue, which help cushion the force of pounding raindrops.

Source: PIB

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The concentration of nitrogen is very less in the atmosphere due to which plants are unable to take the nitrogen from the atmosphere.
- 2. Nitrogen is important for growth and development of plant tissues and cells like the cell membranes and chlorophyll.

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. Nitrogen is form in abundant and has the highest share (78%) in the atmosphere. Plants do not take nitrogen directly from the atmosphere.

Statement 2 is correct. Nitrogen acts the backbone for the development of the plant. It is important for growth and development of plant tissues and cells like the cell membranes and chlorophyll.

Source: India Today



Q.9) Which of the following statements defines "Moral Policing"?

- a) It is a separate body of the Election Commission of India to check the enforcement Model Code of Conduct.
- b) It is a type of organization that aims at spreading awareness related to women's rights.
- c) It is used to describe vigilante groups that act to enforce a code of morality in India without legal authority.
- d) It refers to the department of police responsible for handling child abuse.

Answer: C

Explanation – Moral Policing is used to describe vigilante groups that act to enforce a code of morality in India without legal authority.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) Consider the following:

- 1. He was arrested in connection with the Alipore Conspiracy Case.
- 2. He edited Bande Mataram newspaper.
- 3. He developed Integral Yoga.

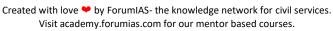
Which of the following personalities is associated with the above characteristics?

- a) Sri Aurobindo Ghose
- b) Lala Lajpat Rai
- c) M.N. Roy
- d) Ram Prasad Bismil

Answer: A

Explanation – Sri Aurobindo Ghose was arrested in connection with the Alipore Conspiracy Case. He edited Bande Mataram newspaper. He developed Integral Yoga.

Source: The Indian Express





PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Prisons Act, 1894 contains specific provision related to parole and furlough.
- 2. Prisons fall in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

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 is incorrect. The Prisons Act, 1894 and the Prisoners Act, 1900 did not contain any specific provision pertaining to parole and furlough. However, Section 59 of the Prisons Act empowers States to make rules for the shortening of sentences and for rewards for good conduct.

Statement 2 is correct. Prisons fall in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Kanger Valley National Park consider the following statements:

- 1. Wardha river flows though this park.
- 2. The most popular species found in this park is Bastar Maina.

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. Kanger river flows through this park. Kanger Valley National Park is located in Chhattisgarh. It is one of India's densest national parks.

Statement 2 is correct. The most popular species found in this park is Bastar Maina. It is also the state bird of Chhattisgarh.

Source: The Times of India



Q.3) With reference to Free Trade Agreement between India and U.K. consider the following statements:

- 1. It will increase the exports of goods and services from India to UK.
- 2. The imports from UK could lead to job losses in some sectors in 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: C Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. The FTA between India and U.K. will increase the exports of goods and services especially IT sector, to the UK. The imports from UK could lead to job losses in those sectors in India where the import is taking place.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Mount Semeru, an active volcano is located in -

- a) Indonesia
- b) South Africa
- c) Russia
- d) Australia

Answer: A

Explanation -

Mount Semeru, an active volcano is located in East Java, Indonesia. It is located in a subduction zone, where the Indo-Australian plate subducts under the Eurasia plate. It is the highest mountain on the island of Java.

Source: DTE

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Y chromosomes are only present in males whereas X chromosomes are present in both male and females.
- 2. X chromosomes have lesser number of genes and DNA whereas Y chromosomes have a larger number of genes and DNA.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

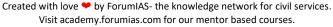
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Y chromosomes are only present in males whereas X chromosomes are present in both male and females.

Statement 2 is incorrect. X chromosomes have larger number of genes and DNA whereas Y chromosomes have a lesser number of genes and DNA.





Q.6) Consider the following:

- 1. Increase in inflation
- 2. Increase in the purchase of goods and services
- 3. Increase in the borrowing cost for banks

Which of the above will be the impact of a hike in repo rate?

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

Answer: C

Explanation – A hike in repo rate means the borrowing cost for banking institutions also rises, which is passed on to account holders in the form of higher loan and deposit interest rates, it will lead to lower purchase of goods and services, will lead to decrease in inflation, etc.

Source: The Times of India

Q.7) Satyashodhak Samaj was formed by -

- a) Dayananda Saraswati
- b) Jyotirao Phule
- c) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- d) Swami Vivekananda

Answer: B

Explanation – Jyotirao Phule formed Satyashodhak Samaj. He was an Indian social activist, thinker, anti-caste social reformer and writer from Maharashtra.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The committed expenditure of the State Government on revenue accounts consists of interest payments, expenditure on salaries and wages, and pensions.
- 2. If the Committed Expenditure is higher, it means that the government has lesser flexibility to determine the purpose for which revenue expenditure is to be incurred.

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. The committed expenditure of the State Government on revenue accounts consists of interest payments, expenditure on salaries and wages, and pensions. If the Committed Expenditure is higher, it means that the government has lesser flexibility to determine the purpose for which revenue expenditure is to be incurred.



Q.9) With reference to e-Visa consider the following statements:

- 1. It enables the visitor to apply for an Indian Visa from his/her home country online without visiting the Indian Embassy.
- 2. e-tourist visa and e-Business visa are only two categories of e-visa provided by the Indian government.
- 3. The Government of India had suspended e-Visa for all countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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. e-Visa enables the visitor to apply for an Indian Visa from his/her home country online without visiting the Indian Embassy and also pay the visa fee online. The Government of India had suspended e-Visa for all countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Statement 2 is incorrect. e-Visa has been divided into several categories such as e-tourist visa, e-Business visa, e-Medical visa, e-Conference, e-Medical Attendant and e-Emergency Visa.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) With reference to Krishi Nivesh Portal consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a one-stop solution for all investors who are looking to invest in India in agriculture and allied sectors.
- 2. It has launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

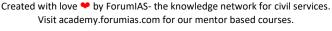
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Krishi Nivesh Portal is a one-stop solution for all investors who are looking to invest in India in agriculture and allied sectors.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The portal has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to SpaceTech Innovation Network (SpIN) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is India's first dedicated platform for innovation, curation, and venture development for the space entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- 2. It is a public-private collaboration for start-ups and SMEs in the space industry.
- 3. India has seen an increase of the start-ups in the space sector.

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. SpIN is India's first dedicated platform for innovation, curation, and venture development for the space entrepreneurial ecosystem. It is a public-private collaboration for start-ups and SMEs in the space industry. According to the Economic Survey 2021-22, there are now over 100 space start-ups in India. the number of startups in this sector has more than doubled in the last year alone.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) With reference to the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It covers reimbursement of duties and taxes which are levied at central, state and local level and are not refunded under any other mechanism.
- 2. The scheme is based on the principle that taxes and duties should not be exported and it should be either exempted or remitted to exporters.

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. RoDTEP scheme covers reimbursement of duties and taxes which are levied at central, state and local level and are not refunded under any other mechanism. The scheme is based on the principle that taxes and duties should not be exported and it should be either exempted or remitted to exporters.

Source: PIB



Q.3) Single-Block-And-Multiple-Debit Functionality was seen in the news recently is related with –

- a) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)
- b) Unified Payments Interface (UPI)
- c) Genetically Modified (GM) Crops
- d) Increasing Exports

Answer: B

Explanation – The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has augmented the potentialities of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) by introducing the functionality of a single-block-and-multiple-debit in UPI. This will enhance the ease of making payments for investments in securities including through the retail direct platform as well as e-commerce transactions

Source: PIB

Q.4) With reference to Adoption Regulations, 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. The rules empower the judiciary to issue adoption orders.
- 2. It enables adoptive parents to opt for children from their home state or region.
- 3. The regulations provide that if the child adjusts well with the foster family, then the foster family can adopt the child after two years of fostering.

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. The rules empower District Magistrates to issue adoption orders. Earlier, this power was exercised by the judiciary.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. It enables adoptive parents to opt for children from their home State or region. The regulations provide that if the child adjusts well with the foster family, then the foster family can adopt the child after two years of fostering.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary consider the following statements:

- 1. This Sanctuary comes under Project elephant.
- 2. It is located in the Northern Tamil Nadu.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

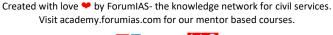
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary comes under Project elephant.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is only home for Asiatic elephants in the State of Andhra Pradesh.





Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is the second largest economy in the world.
- 2. India has decided to source almost half its energy needs from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.
- 3. Financing the transition from fossil fuel-based energy to non-fossil fuel is one of the major challenges faced by 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 -

Statement 1 is incorrect. India is the 5th largest economy of the world.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. India has decided to source almost half its energy needs from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030. Financing the transition from fossil fuel-based energy to non-fossil fuel is one of the major challenges faced by India.

Source: The Hindu

Q.7) Which of the following is not a member of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?

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

Answer: C

Explanation – BIMSTEC comprises of seven members – Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Tourism is one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for India.
- 2. There is no state in India that has the tourist police.
- 3. Women tourists are more prone to sexual attacks by criminals at the tourist destinations.

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. Tourism is one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for India. Women tourists are more prone to sexual attacks by criminals at the tourist destinations.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The States that have tourist police are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Rajasthan and Kerala.

Source: The Hindu

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Q.9) Which of the following is not correct regarding St Edward's Crown?

- a) It is the crown historically used at the moment of coronation in the UK.
- b) It was worn by Queen Elizabeth II at her coronation in 1953.
- c) The crown was made for Charles II in 1661 as a replacement for the medieval crown.
- d) The crown has been used by all monarchs of the UK for coronation.

Answer: D

Explanation – Although it is regarded as the official coronation crown, only six monarchs have been crowned with St Edward's Crown since the Restoration: Charles II (1661), James II (1685), William III (1689), George V (1911), George VI (1937) and Elizabeth II (1953).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The percentage of women owning mobile phones is more than the percentage of men in India.
- 2. The percentage of Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Castes (SC) having access to laptops and computers is less than the percentage of upper castes in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

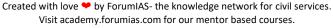
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. According to the Oxfam report on India digital divide, 61% of menowned mobile phones in 2021 compared to just 31% of women.

Statement 2 is correct. The report highlights while 8% of the general caste have access to a computer or a laptop, less than 1% of the Scheduled Tribes (ST) and 2% of the Scheduled Castes (SC) afford it.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to G-20 consider the following statements:

- 1. The G20 Summit is held annually under a rotating presidency.
- 2. The G20 presidency does not come with any formal powers.
- 3. Its secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

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. The G20 Summit is held annually under a rotating presidency. The G20 presidency does not come with any formal powers except from hosting the summit and setting the theme.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The G-20 group does not have a permanent secretariat.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is among top five countries in receiving remittances.
- 2. There has been a decline in the percentage of remittances received from five Gulf Cooperation Council countries in 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: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. According to the World Bank's report the top five countries receiving remittances are India (\$100 billion), followed by Mexico (\$60 billion), China (\$50 billion), the Philippines (\$38 billion) and Egypt (\$32 billion). The report also highlights that there has been a shift in remittances. The remittances from the U.S., U.K. and Singapore have increased from 26% to 36% while the share from five GCC countries dropped from 54% to 28%.



Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Industrial Disputes Act, 1947:

- 1. Any retrenchment and lay-off are deemed to be illegal which is not carried out as per the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.
- 2. As per the ID Act, establishments employing 100 persons or more are required to seek prior permission of the appropriate government before effecting closure, retrenchment or lay-off.

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. Any retrenchment and lay-off are deemed to be illegal which is not carried out as per the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. As per the ID Act, establishments employing 100 persons or more are required to seek prior permission of the appropriate government before effecting closure, retrenchment or lay-off.

Source: The Hindu

Q.4) Which of the following countries do not share border with Afghanistan?

- a) Tajikistan
- b) Turkmenistan
- c) Uzbekistan
- d) Kazakhstan

Answer: D

Explanation - Kazakhstan do not share border with Afghanistan.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Conjugal visits are not included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 2. Conjugal visits fall under the ambit of Article 21 of the India Constitution.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

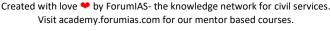
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. International treaties such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights include conjugal visits.

Statement 2 is correct. Conjugal visits fall undern the ambit of Article 21 of the India Constitution. However, it is subjected to certain restrictions.





Q.6) With reference to Gamma Ray Burst (GRBs) consider the following statements:

- 1. These are high-energy short gamma radiations which get released when massive stars collapse or die in the Universe.
- 2. The energy associated with GRBs is many folds larger than the energy emitted by our Sun in its entire lifetime.

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. GRBs are high-energy short gamma radiations which get released when massive stars collapse or die in the Universe. The energy associated with GRBs is many folds larger than the energy emitted by our Sun in its entire lifetime.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the DAC is to build a strong military organization by facilitating the bonding amongst the major powers of the world.
- 2. India is not the member of DAC.
- 3. United Nations Development Program (UNDP) hold observer status in DAC.

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

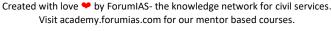
Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. It is a forum to discuss issues surrounding aid, development and poverty reduction in developing countries. It describes itself as being the "venue and voice" of the world's major donor countries.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. India is not the member of DAC. United Nations Development Program (UNDP) hold observer status in DAC.

Source: Live Mint





Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC):

- 1. It is an economic and political organization of eight countries in South Asia.
- 2. Its secretariat is based in New Delhi.
- 3. No SAARC summit has taken place since 2014.

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. SAARC is an economic and political organization of eight countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri-Lanka) in South Asia. No SAARC summit has taken place since 2014.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) With reference to black-footed ferret consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an animal endemic to Western Ghats of India.
- 2. It is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red Data List.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

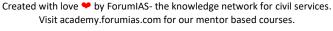
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. It is a species of native to North America.

Statement 2 is correct. It is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red Data List.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Meizotropis pellita (Patwa) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is endemic to Nilgiris.
- 2. It is listed as Critically Endangered in IUCN Red Data List.
- 3. The species is threatened by deforestation, habitat fragmentation and forest fires.

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. Patwa is a perennial shrub with restricted distribution that is endemic to Uttarakhand.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. It is listed as Critically Endangered in IUCN Red Data List. The species is threatened by deforestation, habitat fragmentation and forest fires.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Narikoravan tribe is associated with the state of -

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

Answer: A

Explanation – Narikoravan tribes are an indigenous group from Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Source: The Hindu

Q.3) With reference to the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 consider the following statements:

- 1. Public Distribution System (PDS) coverage is determined by Section 3(2) of the NFSA 2013.
- 2. NFSA is operational in all states and union territories.
- 3. The Act includes the Midday Meal program and Integrated Child Development Service Program under it but maternity benefits are not provided by the act.

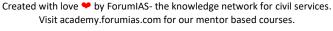
Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 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. Public Distribution System (PDS) coverage is determined by Section 3(2) of the NFSA 2013. NFSA is operational in all states and union territories.





Statement 3 is incorrect. Maternity benefits are provided by the act. Pregnant women and lactating mothers get maternity benefit of Rs. 6,000.

Source: The Hindu

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 25(1) of the Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion.
- 2. Freedom of conscience of a person includes a right to openly say that he does not believe in any religion.

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. Article 25(1) of the Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion. The Bombay High Court has recently held that the freedom of conscience of a person includes a right to openly say that he does not believe in any religion.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.5) With reference to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a United Nations treaty responsible for the conservation of Biological Diversity around the world.
- 2. The US is one of the signatories of UNCBD whereas India is not.
- 3. The convention is legally binding on its signatories.

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

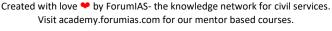
Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. UNCBD is a United Nations treaty responsible for the conservation of Biological Diversity around the world. The convention is legally binding on its signatories.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India is one of the signatories of UNCBD whereas the US is not.

Source: The Indian Express





Q.6) With reference to Aichi targets consider the following statements:

- 1. The Aichi Targets were adopted during the 2010 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity summit in Nagoya.
- 2. It included goals such as reducing deforestation by at least half during the 2011-20 period.

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 and 2 are correct. The Aichi Targets were adopted during the 2010 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity summit in Nagoya. It included goals such as reducing deforestation by at least half during the 2011-20 period. After this period the Aichi targets expired and a new meeting is taking place for new targets.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Delhi is the largest producer of plastic waste in India.
- 2. Plastic accounts for 85% of all marine litter.
- 3. The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) had been introduced in India for plastic packaging.

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

Answre: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Delhi is the largest producer of plastic waste in India. Plastic accounts for 85% of all marine litter. The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) had been introduced in India for plastic packaging.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A political party would be considered a national party if it is recognised as state party in four or more states.
- 2. A party once recognized as a national party can never lose its national party status.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -



Statement 1 is correct. A political party would be considered a national party if it is recognised as state party in four or more states.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A party may gain or lose national party status from time to time depending on the fulfilment of the laid-down conditions.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Most of the Arctic Sea remains frozen throughout the year.
- 2. Sea ice helps in insulating the ocean against heat loss.

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. Most of the Arctic Sea remains frozen throughout the year. However, some of the Arctic Sea ice is seasonal. It forms in the winter when seawater freezes and thaws during the summer. Sea ice helps in insulating the ocean against heat loss.

Source: ForumIAS

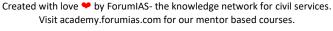
Q.10) Which of the following statements is not true regarding South Korea?

- a) It is a country in East Asia.
- b) Yellow Sea borders it at the west.
- c) Jeju-do is the largest island of South Korea.
- d) 80% of its land area lies in the highly fertile region.

Answer: D

Explanation – South Korea's terrain is mostly mountainous, most of which is not arable. Lowlands, located primarily in the west and southeast, make up only 30% of the total land area.

Source: The Indian Express





PRELIMS

Q.1) Multiple Ovulation Embryo Transfer (MOET) was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Cattle breeding
- b) Cultured meat
- c) Producing organic fertilisers
- d) Growing artificial eggs in labs

Answer: A

Explanation – MOET is the most common procedure used in advanced cattle breeding.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Namami Gange Programme aimed at controlling pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of River Ganga.
- 2. Arth Ganga aims at increasing the river basin of the river Ganga.

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. Namami Gange Programme aimed at controlling pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of River Ganga.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Arth Ganga focuses on sustainable development model with a focus on economic activities related to Ganga. It includes – chemical-free farming, promotion of cow dung as fertilizer through the Gobardhan scheme, Monetization and Reuse of Sludge & Wastewater, Livelihood Generation Opportunities, etc.

Source: The Hindu

Q.3) Meetei Mayek language is associated with -

- a) Nagaland
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Manipur
- d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Answer: C

Explanation – Meetei Mayek language is the official language of Manipur state of India. Meetei Mayek has seen a revival in the 21st century, with an initial shift to the Manipuri script in educational institutions and an amendment to the Manipur Official Language Act last year.



Q.4) With reference to Grey-bellied wren babbler bird consider the following statements:

- 1. It is mostly found in Myanmar.
- 2. Its natural habitat is subtropical moist montane forest.
- 3. It is classified as a Species of Least Concern by the IUCN.

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. Grey-bellied wren babbler is mostly found in Myanmar. It is also found in Arunachal Pradesh, China and Thailand. Its natural habitat is subtropical moist montane forest. It is classified as a Species of Least Concern by the IUCN.

Source: The Hindu

Q.5) With reference to the Climate Justice consider the following statements:

- 1. Natural Climate Solutions is one of the pillars of climate justice.
- 2. Distributive Climate Justice means ability of current generations to meet their needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

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. There are six pillars of climate justice – a) Just Transition, b) Social Racial and Environmental Justice, c) Indigenous Climate Action, d) Community Resilience and Adaptation, e) Natural Climate Solutions, f) Climate Education and Engagement.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Distributive Climate Justice is the aspect of justice which deals with how costs and benefits of climate change are shared. There are three main aspects of distribution: Identifying the goods that are being distributed, identifying the entities between which they are to be distributed and identifying the most appropriate mode of distribution.



Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Protection of wild animals and birds is a subject under Union List of the Constitution.
- 2. Wildlife Protection Bill, 2022 permits a person having a valid certificate of ownership to transfer or transport a captive elephant for a religious or any other purpose.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Protection of wild animals and birds is a subject under Concurrent List of the Constitution.

Statement 2 is correct. Wildlife Protection Bill, 2022 permits a person having a valid certificate of ownership to transfer or transport a captive elephant for a religious or any other purpose.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Tax avoidance is an act of using legal methods to minimize tax liability whereas Tax evasion is an illegal way to minimize tax liability.
- 2. Tax evasion is taking advantage of the shortcomings in the tax laws whereas Tax avoidance is deliberate manipulation in accounts.

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. Tax avoidance is an act of using legal methods to minimize tax liability whereas Tax evasion is an illegal way to minimize tax liability.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Tax avoidance is taking advantage of the shortcomings in the tax laws whereas Tax evasion is deliberate manipulation in accounts.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) With reference to the Kanha Tige Reserve, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is located on the banks of the Banjar River.
- 2. It is the largest national park in central 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: C

Explanation -

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Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Kanha Tige Reserve is located on the banks of the Banjar River. It is the largest national park in central India.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to Forest Rights Act, 2006 consider the following statements:

- 1. The act tries to recognize rights of marginal and tribal communities over forest lands over which they were traditionally dependent.
- 2. The authority to initiate the process of determining the nature and extent of the Forest Rights lies with 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

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Forest Rights Act, 2006 tries to recognize rights of marginal and tribal communities over forest lands over which they were traditionally dependent.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The authority to initiate the process of determining the nature and extent of the Forest Rights lies with the Gram Sabha.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The UN Biodiversity Conference is the regular meeting of the countries who have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- 2. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

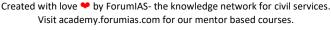
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. The UN Biodiversity Conference is the regular meeting of the countries who have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). CBD was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

Source: The Indian Express





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Private Member Bill consider the following statements:

- 1. A private member's bill is only introduced and discussed on Fridays.
- 2. A private member's bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha.
- 3. One month's prior notice is required before the introduction of the Bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. A private member's bill is only introduced and discussed on Fridays. One month's prior notice is required before the introduction of the Bill.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A private member bill can be introduced in either of the House of the Parliament.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.2) Which of the following countries has recently launched the lunar lander Hakuto-R?

- a) Russia
- b) Japan
- c) Indonesia
- d) North Korea

Answer: B

Explanation – Hakuto-R is first-ever lunar mission and the first of its kind by a private company in Japan. Ispace has developed the lunar lander Hakuto-R.

Source: Economic Times

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Coastal Erosion refers to the long-term removal of sediment and rocks along the coastline due the action of sea-waves, currents, tides and other impacts of storms.
- 2. Kerala is the worst affected State by coastal erosion in India.
- 3. The reason behind coastal erosion is only natural and not anthropogenic.

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. Coastal Erosion refers to the long-term removal of sediment and rocks along the coastline due the action of sea-waves, currents, tides and other impacts of storms. Kerala is the worst affected State by coastal erosion in India.

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Statement 3 is incorrect. Both natural and anthropogenic causes are responsible for coastal erosion.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to 'end-to-end encryption' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a process which enables location on electronic devices to secure it from unidentified users.
- 2. The process of end-to-end encryption uses an algorithm that transforms standard text into an unreadable format.

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. End-to-end encryption is a communication process that encrypts data being shared between two devices. It prevents third parties like cloud service providers, internet service providers (ISPs) and cybercriminals from accessing data while it is being transferred. Statement 2 is correct. The process of end-to-end encryption uses an algorithm that transforms standard text into an unreadable format.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Monosodium Glutamate (Ajinomoto) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is used as a taste enhancer in food.
- 2. It is found naturally in some foods including tomatoes and cheese.

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. Monosodium Glutamate is used as a taste enhancer in food. It is found naturally in some foods including tomatoes and cheese.



Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the biggest manufacturers of pharmaceuticals worldwide.
- 2. Pharmaceutical pollution is lowest in India compared to other parts of the world.

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 is one of the biggest manufacturers of pharmaceuticals worldwide. It has been estimated that India is the world's third-largest producer of pharmaceuticals.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India is the third largest producer of pharmaceuticals. Therefore, it is obvious being the third largest producer, pollution would also be more in India. Pharmaceutical production has been considered one of the most polluting industries in various parts of India.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to flash floods consider the following statements:

- 1. It occurs when heavy rainfall exceeds the ability of the ground to absorb it.
- 2. Dam or Levee breaks can cause the flash floods.
- 3. Densely populated areas have the lowest risk of flash floods.

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. flash floods occurs when heavy rainfall exceeds the ability of the ground to absorb it. Dam or Levee breaks can cause the flash floods.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Densely populated areas are at a high risk for flash floods. The construction of buildings, highways, driveways, and parking lots increases runoff by reducing the amount of rain absorbed by the ground. This runoff increases the flash flood potential.



Q.8) Consider the following:

- 1. Land
- 2. Labour
- 3. Capital
- 4. Entrepreneurship

Which of the above are the factors of production?

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

Answer: D

Explanation – The factors of production are land, labour, capital, time, and entrepreneurship. Some heterodox economists, however, consider land, labour, and time to be the three primary factors of production. They believe capital and entrepreneurship to be secondary factors of production.

Source: The Hindu

Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to Goods and Services Tax (GST):

- 1. GST has been successful in facilitating the free movement of goods in the country.
- 2. GST harms producer states and rewards consumer states in terms of revenues.
- 3. GST has given more autonomy to the states in term of taxation and has reduced their dependence on the central government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. GST has been successful in facilitating the free movement of goods in the country. Earlier, taxes varied from state to state, city to city and even local bodies. GST harms producer states and rewards consumer states in terms of revenues. States like Tamil Nadu, which have invested highly in their manufacturing ecosystem, are facing new problems. **Statement 3** is incorrect: State governments have lost most of their independent taxation powers

and has become more dependent on the Centre for revenues due to GST.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.10) Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is located in -

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

Answer: B

Explanation – Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is a national park in the Nilgiri Mountains in Tamil Nadu, South India.

Source: The Hindu

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PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is among the heaviest of the flying birds.
- 2. Their habitat has been encroached by solar power projects.
- 3. It has been identified as one of the species for the recovery programme under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.

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. GIB is among the heaviest of the flying birds. Their habitat has been encroached upon by solar power projects. It has been identified as one of the species for the recovery programme under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) With reference to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act) consider the following statements:

- 1. The Act defines child as any person below the age of twenty.
- 2. The law provides for relief and rehabilitation as soon as the complaint is made.
- 3. The Act provides for the establishment of Special Courts for the trial of offences under the Act.

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. The Act defines child as any person below the age of eighteen.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. The law provides for relief and rehabilitation as soon as the complaint is made. The Act provides for the establishment of Special Courts for the trial of offences under the Act.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Female perform significantly better than men in implementing policies that promote the interests of women.
- 2. The representation of females in state and central governments is higher than males.

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. Female perform significantly better than men in implementing policies that promote the interests of women.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The representation of females in state and central governments is lower than males.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following:

- 1. Improve banking access
- 2. Encouraging new climate technologies
- 3. Improvement in Ayushman Bharat scheme

Which of the above measures are required to improve climate finance in India?

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

Answer: A

Explanation – Measures needed to improve climate finance in India are – Focus on sustainability, improving banking access, Encouraging new climate technologies, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India will see a rise in the number of workers in the coming years.
- 2. The labour force participation ratios (LFPR) in the Asian economies are expected to decline in the future.

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. According to a study, the impact of Asia's ageing on the global supply of workers and savings, India will see a rise in the number of workers in the coming years.

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The number of workers can grow by 0.9 to 1.6% annually in India. The labour force participation ratios (LFPR) in the Asian economies are expected to decline in the future.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to mitigate gaps and provide basic infrastructure in villages with the significant tribal populations.
- 2. It has launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- 3. The objective of this scheme is to achieve integrated socio-economic development of selected villages through a convergence approach.

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. PMAAGY's aim is to mitigate gaps and provide basic infrastructure in villages with the significant tribal populations. The objective of this scheme is to achieve integrated socio-economic development of selected villages through a convergence approach.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It has been launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is being run by Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- 2. This scheme provides basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care, free of cost to the needy senior citizens.

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. AVYAY is being run by Department of Social Justice and Empowerment. This scheme provides basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care, free of cost to the needy senior citizens.

Source: PIB



Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Meteors are fragments of stars.
- 2. The Geminids meteor showers are unique because they do not originate from a comet but from an asteroid.

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. Meteors are usually fragments of comets. As they enter the Earth's atmosphere at high speed, they burn up, creating a spectacular "shower".

Statement 2 is correct. The Geminids are unique because unlike most meteor showers, they originate not from a comet, but from an asteroid.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.9) With reference to Cooperative Societies consider the following statements:

- 1. Multi-State Cooperative Societies come under the Union Government whereas the State Cooperative Societies are under the State Governments.
- 2. All members in a Cooperative Society have equal rights in handling the internal affairs.
- 3. The surplus generated by these societies is dispensed equally among the members.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Multi-State Cooperative Societies come under the Union Government whereas the State Cooperative Societies are under the State Governments. All members in a Cooperative Society have equal rights in handling the internal affairs. The surplus generated by these societies is dispensed equally among the members.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) "Base Editing" was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Sustainable agriculture practices
- b) Climate finance
- c) Socio-economic justice
- d) Genome editing

Answer: D

Explanation – Base Editing allows scientists to zoom to a precise part of the genetic code and then alter the molecular structure of just one base, converting it into another and changing the genetic instructions.

Source: The Indian Express

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PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Foraminifera (forams) consider the following statements:

- 1. They are multi-cellular organisms.
- 2. Their shells can be used to study the characteristics of oceans.
- 3. They are found in all marine environments.

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. They are single-celled organisms.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Their shells can be used to study the characteristics of oceans. They are found in all marine environments from the intertidal to the deepest ocean trenches, and from the tropics to the poles.

Source: DTE

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. 100% ration cards data have been digitized under NFSA in all States/UTs.
- 2. electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices are being used by most of the Fair Price Shops in India.
- 3. Government has fixed target of 20% blending of fuel grade ethanol with petrol by 2025.

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. 100% ration cards data have been digitized under NFSA in all States/UTs. electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices are being used by most of the Fair Price Shops in India. Government has fixed target of 20% blending of fuel grade ethanol with petrol by 2025.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. NavIC is a GPS system developed by NASA which is being used all over the globe.
- 2. L1 frequency is one of the most commonly used frequencies in the Global Positioning System (GPS).

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. NavIC, or Navigation with Indian Constellation is an independent stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). Currently, NavIC's use is limited.

Statement 2 is correct. L1 frequency is one of the most commonly used frequencies in the Global Positioning System (GPS).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to the Uru Boats consider the following statements:

- 1. They are purely made of premium wood without using any modern techniques.
- 2. They are a symbol of Kerala's trade relations and friendship with the Gulf countries.
- 3. It has received a Geographical Indication (GI) status.

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

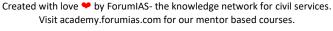
Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Uru Boat is purely made of premium wood without using any modern techniques. They are a symbol of Kerala's trade relations and friendship with the Gulf countries.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The District Tourism Promotion Council, Kozhikode has applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Beypore Uru (boat). It has not yet received.

Source: The Hindu





Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. China is India's second biggest trading partner after the United States.
- 2. India had a trade surplus with the US whereas it had a trade deficit with China in the last fiscal year.
- 3. India's trade deficit with China has declined in the past years.

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. China is India's second biggest trading partner after the United States. India had a trade surplus with the US whereas it had a trade deficit with China in the last fiscal year.

Statement 3 is incorrect. India's trade deficit with China has increased from \$1 billion to \$73 billion in the past 21 years.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.6) KAZIND-22, is a joint military exercise is being conducted between -

- a) India and Bangladesh
- b) India and Kazakhstan
- c) India and Germany
- d) India and Brazil

Answer: B

Explanation – The 6th Edition of Indo - Kazakhstan joint training exercise "KAZIND-22" is scheduled to be conducted at Umroi (Meghalaya) from 15 to 28 December 2022.

Source: PIB

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. RBI will issue the digital rupee but banks will distribute it to the private sector like fiat currency.
- 2. The use of cash as a mode of payment has grown in India the past years but the use of cheques and demand drafts has dropped.

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. RBI will issue the digital rupee but banks will distribute it to the private sector like fiat currency. A recent research paper by economists at the International Monetary Fund shows that a) The use of cash as a mode of payment has actually grown in India

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between 2005 and 2020, b) The use of instant payment options such as NEFT and IMPS has increased, c) The use of cheques and demand drafts has dropped sharply.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nuclear fusion involves fusion of nuclei of two lighter elements to form the nucleus of a heavier atom.
- 2. Fusion reactions happen only at very high temperatures.
- 3. Nuclear fusion generates very less energy compared to nuclear fission.

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. Nuclear fusion involves fusion of nuclei of two lighter elements together to form the nucleus of a heavier atom. Fusion reactions happen only at very high temperatures, 10 times the temperature that exists at the core of the Sun.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Nuclear fusion is considered as holy grail of energy production. It is called such because the fusion of pairs of light atoms produces immense energy with very small amounts of radioactive waste, unlike nuclear fission.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) With reference to the "Scheme for Development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects" scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. The feature of the scheme is to support states/UTs in setting up solar parks at various location in the country.
- 2. The scheme has been launched by Ministry for New and Renewable Energy.

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. The feature of the scheme is to support states/UTs in setting up solar parks at various location in the country. The scheme has been launched by Ministry for New and Renewable Energy.



Q.10) With reference to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) seen in the news recently consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at creating energy by replicating the fusion processes of the Sun.
- 2. It uses high-energy laser beams for the fusion process.
- 3. India is a member to ITER.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

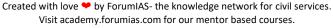
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. ITER aims at creating energy by replicating the fusion processes of the Sun. It is an international collaborative project located in southern France. India joined the ITER project in 2005.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It uses very strong magnetic fields instead of high-energy laser beams.





PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following defines the term "Aeronomy"?

- a) It is the scientific study of the upper atmospheric regions of the Earth and other solar system bodies.
- b) It refers to the study of the deep oceans and its creatures.
- c) It studies the materials, processes, products, physical nature, and history of the Earth.
- d) It is the study of everything in the universe beyond Earth's atmosphere.

Answer: A

Explanation – Aeronomy refers to the scientific study of the upper atmospheric regions of the Earth and other solar system bodies. It covers the chemistry, dynamics and energy balance of both neutral and charged particles.

Source: PIB

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Aorta is the main artery that carries oxygenated blood from the heart to the rest of the body and it is also the body's largest blood vessel.
- 2. A thoracic aortic aneurysm refers to a weakened area in the aorta in the chest.

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. The aorta is the main artery that carries oxygenated blood from the heart to the rest of the body and it is also the body's largest blood vessel. A thoracic aortic aneurysm refers to a weakened area in the aorta in the chest.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.3) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at overall development of rural farmer families with focus on early child education.
- 2. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

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. PM VIKAS aims to improve livelihoods of the minorities, particularly the artisan communities, using the components of skill development, education, women leadership & entrepreneurship.

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Statement 2 is correct. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Source: PIB

Q.4) Consider the following statements with reference to the "Recusal of Judges":

- 1. It is the removal of oneself as a judge in a particular matter.
- 2. The frequency of recusal pleas is growing in India.
- 3. It is mandatory for the judge to provide reason for the recusal to the petitioner.

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. Recusal is the removal of oneself as a judge or policymaker in a particular matter. The frequency of recusal pleas is also growing recently. For instance, rarely a month passes without a judge recusing in Bombay HC.

Statement 3 is incorrect. A judge has the right to recuse him/herself. As is the custom, the judge did not need to explain her recusal to the petitioner.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Unakoti consider the following statements:

- 1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. It is a Saivite pilgrimage site with gigantic rock cut sculptures.
- 3. It is called Subrai Khung.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

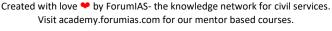
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Unakoti is located in Tripura.

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. Unakoti is a Saivite pilgrimage site with gigantic rock cut sculptures. It is called Subrai Khung.





Q.6) With reference to Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya consider the following statements:

- 1. It keeps the history of the war fought between the freedom fighters and the British along with the details of martyrs of the war.
- 2. People can witness the memorable speeches given by the past Prime Ministers at the Red Fort.

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 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. People can witness the memorable speeches given by the Prime Ministers at the Red Fort.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Sub-ordinate courts have the highest number of pending cases.
- 2. Undertrials have the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of their choice.
- 3. Article 21 proves that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

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. Sub-ordinate courts have the highest number of pending cases. Undertrials have the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of their choice. Article 21 proves that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.



Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Yields fall when the price of bond increases.
- 2. Yields fall when inflation rises.
- 3. Rising bond yields in India may increase the rate of borrowing for the government and the citizens.

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

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. As bond prices rise, yield on it declines, and vice versa. Rising bond yields in India may increase the rate of borrowing for the government and the citizens.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A rising inflation pushes bond prices lower, thereby pushing yields higher.

Source: Tol

Q.9) With reference to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860.
- 2. It has five tier structure at national, state and district level to take measures for prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution in river Ganga.

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. NMCG registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. It has five tier structure at national, state and district level to take measures for prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution in river Ganga.

Source: PIB

Q.10) Which of the following is not correct regarding the National Gallery of Modern Art?

- a) It is an art gallery under the Ministry of Culture.
- b) It was established by the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi
- c) Its headquarter is located in New Delhi.
- d) It showcases the art forms starting from 1857 in the field of visual and plastic arts.

Answer: B

Explanation – It was established in 1954 by then vice-president Dr S Radhakrishanan in the presence of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.



Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Network neutrality refers to the unethical practices followed by the social media in acquiring and prioritizing the advertisement.
- 2. India is one of the largest consumers of wireless internet in the world.
- 3. The Digital Markets Act adopted by the European Union aims to keep digital markets innovative and open to competition through ex-ante regulation.

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. Network neutrality ensures that all data on the internet is treated equally by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and governments, regardless of content, user, platform, application, or device.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. India is one of the largest consumers of wireless internet with over 800 million users. The Digital Markets Act adopted by the European Union aims to keep digital markets innovative and open to competition through ex-ante regulation.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.2) With reference to the Current Account Deficit (CAD) consider the following statements:

- 1. Current Account Deficit implies the country is exporting more goods and services in value than the imports.
- 2. A country having large current account deficit is always at risk of seeing the value of the currency fall.
- 3. A trade deficit is normally the largest component of a current account deficit.

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. Current Account Deficit implies the country is importing more goods and services in value than the exports.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. A country having large current account deficit is always at risk of seeing the value of the currency fall. A trade deficit is normally the largest component of a current account deficit.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. High Courts have the power to structure their calendars according to the service rules.
- 2. There is no such mechanism or bench to hear cases when the court goes in recess.

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 is correct. High Courts have the power to structure their calendars according to the service rules.

Statement 2 is incorrect. There are vacation benches available to hear important cases like bail, eviction, etc. when the court goes in recess.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.4) With reference to the Model Poisons Possession and Sale Rules, 2013 consider the following statements:

- 1. This rule prohibits the over-the-counter sale of acid unless the seller maintains a register recording the sale of acid.
- 2. This rules states that sale of acid is to be made only when the buyer produces a photo ID containing his address issued by the government.
- 3. This rule provides for the sellers to declare only half of the stocks of acid with the concerned Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) within 15 days and in case of undeclared stock of acid.

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. This rule prohibits the over-the-counter sale of acid unless the seller maintains a register recording the sale of acid. This rules states that sale of acid is to be made only when the buyer produces a photo ID containing his address issued by the government. **Statement 3** is incorrect. Sellers are also required to declare all stocks of acid with the concerned

Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) within 15 days and in case of undeclared stock of acid.

Source: The Indian Express



Q.5) With reference to the Kolleru lake consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the largest freshwater lake of India and the largest shallow freshwater lake in Asia.
- 2. It is located between the deltas of Krishna and Godavari rivers.
- 3. It is located in Kerala.

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. Kolleru lake is the largest freshwater lake of India and the largest shallow freshwater lake in Asia. It is located between the deltas of Krishna and Godavari rivers. The lake was notified as a wildlife sanctuary in November 1999 under India's Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and designated a wetland of international importance in November 2002 under the international Ramsar Convention.

Statement 3 is incorrect. It is located in Andhra Pradesh.

Source: The Hindu

Q.6) Which of the following is not correct regarding cotton?

- a) It is a kharif crop.
- b) It requires temperature between 21 30 degrees Celsius to grow.
- c) It requires high rainfall around 150 200 cm for its growth.
- d) China is the largest cotton producing country in the world.

Answer: C

Explanation - It requires moderate rainfall between 50 - 100cm for its growth.

Source: The Hindu

Q.7) With reference to the farm subsidies consider the following statements:

- 1. A direct subsidy is provided to the farmer by discounts on agricultural purchases like seeds and fertilizers whereas Indirect subsidy is provided in the form of cash.
- 2. Farm subsidies help in the improvement of nation's Human Development Index (HDI).
- 3. High amount of farm subsidies put excessive burden on Government finances by reducing space for capital expenditure.

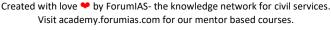
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. A direct subsidy is provided to the farmer in the form of cash. Indirect subsidy is provided by discounts on agricultural purchases like seeds and fertilizers.





Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Improved farm incomes and food security aids in addressing issues like malnutrition, improving overall living standard leading to the improvement of a nation's HDI. High amount of farm subsidies put excessive burden on Government finances by reducing space for capital expenditure.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) With reference to the Future Skills Programme consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to reskill professionals, employees and students in emerging technologies like artificial intelligence over a period of five years.
- 2. Future PRIME is the next phase of the Future Skills platform which is open to professionals from outside the IT industry who want to skill themselves in emerging technologies.

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. Future Skills Programme aims to reskill 2 million professionals and potential employees & students in the industry in eight emerging technologies over a period of 5 years. The emerging technologies include artificial intelligence, virtual reality, etc. Future PRIME is the next phase of the Future Skills platform which is open to professionals from outside the IT industry who want to skill themselves in emerging technologies.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) "Hattee community" was seen in the news recently. This community is found in -

- a) Karnataka
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Odisha

Answer: B

Explanation - Hattee community is found in the Trans-Giri region of Sirmaur district in Himachal Pradesh. This community is recently included in the Scheduled Tribes list.

Source: The Hindu



Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has witnessed an increase in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the telecommunication sector.
- 2. India's rank has declined in Network Readiness Index 2022.
- 3. Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications.

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

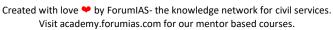
Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. India has witnessed an increase in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the telecommunication sector. Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India's rank has improved in Network Readiness Index 2022. India jumped 6 ranks, from 67 in 2021 to 61 in 2022 in the NRI-2022. NRI score for India also improved from 49.74 in 2021 to 51.19 in 2022.

Source: PIB





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.

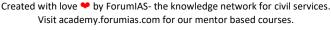
Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- 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:

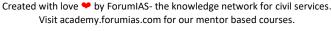
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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:

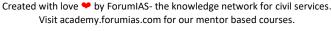
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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.

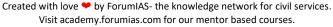
Source: ForumIAS

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:

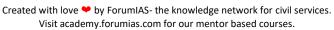
- 1. It aims to discourage nations from tax competition through lower tax rates that result in corporate profit shifting and tax base erosion.
- 2. The tax will help in counter rising global inequality.
- 3. It will prevent the unilateral imposition of domestic laws by the developed world over the developing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

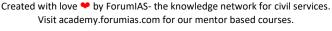
Answer: C

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?

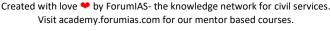
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

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:

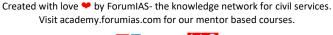
- 1. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority caps medicine prices listed under National List of Essential Medicines and changes are made only based on wholesale price index-based inflation
- 2. The prices of essential drugs in India are regulated by the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

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

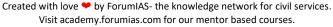
Answer: B

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





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim at equal distribution of excess renewable energies generated from the developed economies to the developing economies.
- 2. It is a type of climate finance mechanism that involves phasing out coal from the energy sector.

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. JETP is an initiative of the rich nations to accelerate phasing out of coal and reducing emissions.

Statement 2 is correct. It is a type of climate finance mechanism that involves phasing out coal from the energy sector. It provides for various funding options for developing countries.

Source: **Business Standard**

Q.2) With reference to Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) consider the following statements:

- 1. An increase BOD implies a more rapid depletion of oxygen from the water bodies.
- 2. BOD refers to the depletion of oxygen in the water bodies due to the increase in the warming of the oceans and absorption of CO2.

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. An increase BOD implies a more rapid depletion of oxygen from the stream

Statement 2 is incorrect. Wastewater from sewage treatment plants often contains organic materials that are decomposed by microorganisms, which use oxygen in the process. The amount of oxygen consumed by these organisms in breaking down the waste is known as the biochemical oxygen demand or BOD.

Source: The Hindu



Q.3) With reference to PM DAKSH scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at skilling the eligible marginalized sections of the society.
- 2. National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) is one of the organizations to implement skill development training programmes under PM DAKSH scheme.

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. PM DAKSH scheme aims at skilling marginalized persons covering SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs, Sanitation workers including waste pickers. The scheme is being implemented by three corporations – National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC), National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC), National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC).

Source: PIB

Q.4) With reference to Law Commission of India consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body established by the Law Commission Act, 1953.
- 2. It suggests reform and legislation that is necessary to implement the Directive Principles and achieve the objectives of the Preamble of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Law Commission of India is neither a statutory body nor a constitutional body rather it is an executive body established by the GoI for the fixed period of time.

Statement 2 is correct. The role of Law Commission of India is advisory in nature. It suggests reform and such legislation that might be necessary to implement the Directive Principles and achieve the objectives of the Preamble of India.

Source: PIB



Q.5) Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) was seen in the news recently, is an agreement between -

- a) India and US
- b) India and EU
- c) US and Russia
- d) Ukraine and Russia

Answer: A

Explanation -

India-European Union (EU) are negotiating an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) in their third round of Free Trade Agreement. The agreement will contain investment protection standards and an independent mechanism to settle disputes between investors and states under international law.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.6) India's import form China has increased in recent years. In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1. Higher tariff on Indian products from China.
- 2. Lack of attractive markets in China for Indian goods.
- 3. Cost competitiveness of Chinese goods over Indian goods.

Which of the above is/are the reasons(s) behind the increasing trade deficit with China?

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

Answer: C

Explanation – India's import from China has increased but export with China is very low due to – the higher import duty imposed on Indian products which makes it difficult for Indian goods to get into Chinese market, Chinese goods have cost competitiveness over India goods and it also produces a very wide range of goods. Statement 2 is incorrect as China has attractive market for India goods but high duty and cost do not allow Indian products to land in the Chinese markets.

Source: ForumIAS

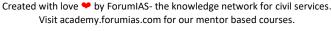
Q.7) Which of the following Ministry has launched National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry (NIDHI+)?

- a) Ministry of Culture
- b) Ministry of Tourism
- c) Ministry of Textiles
- d) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Answer: B

Explanation -

National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry (NIDHI+) has been launched by the Mistry of Tourism to facilitate digitalization and promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector.





Q.8) With reference to Minimum Support Price (MSP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the price announced by the government post-harvesting of the crops.
- 2. MSP is decided on the recommendation of Capacity Building Commission on Agriculture (CBCA).
- 3. Minor Forests Produce (MFP) are included under MSP.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect. The minimum support prices are announced by the Government of India at the beginning of the sowing season for certain crops on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

Statement 3 is correct. MSPs are also announced for Minor Forest Produce to support tribal population.

Source: The Hindu

Q.9) With reference to 'Emperor Penguin' seen in the news recently consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the tallest of all penguin species in the world.
- 2. It is endemic to Arctic region.
- 3. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened (NT).

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. Emperor Penguin is the tallest of all penguin species in the world. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened (NT).

Statement 2 is incorrect. Emperor Penguin is endemic to Antarctica.



Q.10) With reference to Peer-To-Peer Lending (P2P) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the only form of crowdfunding which is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- 2. It is a form of direct lending of money to individuals or businesses without the involvement of any financial intermediary like banks.
- 3. It involves a higher rate of interest than those offered by the unorganized sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. P2P is a type of crowdfunding which is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, other crowdfunding such as equity, debt based and fund based-would fall under the purview of capital markets regulator (SEBI). It is a form of direct lending of money to individuals or businesses without the involvement of any financial intermediary like banks.

Statement 3 is incorrect. It involves a lower rate of interest than those offered by the unorganized sector or banks. However, there is a higher credit risk involved in P2P than banks.

Source: **DNA**





PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Constitution of India:

- 1. Constitution has not prescribed any time limit for Governor to give assent to bills passed by the Legislative Assembly.
- 2. It has given six months' time period to the State Assembly to reconsider an ordinary bill if the President decides to refer it back to the House.
- 3. If a money bill is reserved for the consideration of the President by the Governor, then the President has the power to return a money bill for reconsideration to the state legislature.

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. Constitution has not prescribed any time limit for Governor to give assent to bills passed by the Legislative Assembly. It has given six months' time period to the State Assembly to reconsider an ordinary bill if the President decides to refer it back to the **House.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. If a money bill is reserved for the consideration of the President by the Governor, then the President does not have the power to return a money bill for reconsideration to the state legislature like that of the money of bill of the Parliament.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Gallium nitride (GaN):

- 1. It is one of the most advanced semiconductor.
- 2. It is used in blue light emission and in ultraviolet light applications.

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. Gallium nitride (GaN) is one of the most advanced semiconductors. It is used in blue light emission and in ultraviolet light applications.



Q.3) With reference to "China Plus One Strategy" consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to a strategy in which companies avoid investing only in China and diversify their businesses to alternative destinations.
- 2. This strategy has extremely benefitted India as place of investment by the foreign companies.

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. China Plus One Strategy refers to a strategy in which companies avoid investing only in China and diversify their businesses to alternative destinations.

Statement 2 is incorrect. China Plus One Strategy has been useful for the EU, Mexico, Taiwan, and Vietnam. However, according to experts, apart from marginal gains in the machinery sector, India did not significantly benefit from this trade diversion.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.4) With reference to Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a law adopted by the countries of Global North.
- 2. CBAM is expected to have the economic impact on the countries of Global South.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

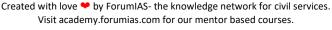
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. It is not a law but a tariff/tax imposed by the European Union on the import of carbon intensive products such as cement and electricity. The tax will be imposed on imported goods on the basis of the emissions during their production process.

Statement 2 is incorrect. This tax mechanism will impact the countries of the global south as they are developing countries and hence will produce more emissions compared to the countries of global north.





Q.5) With reference to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a statutory body established by the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.
- 2. GHAR portal is one of the initiatives launched by the NCPCR.
- 3. As per the commission, a child is defined as a person who is below the age 15 years.

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: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. NCPCR is a statutory body established by the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005. GHAR portal is one of the initiatives launched by the NCPCR.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the commission, a child is defined as a person who is in the 0 to 18 years age group.

Source: The Hindu

Q.6) With reference to the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- 2. It allows taking real time attendance of MGNREGA workers with geo-tagged photograph.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

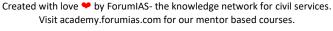
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. NMMS App has been launched by the Ministry of Rural development. **Statement 2** is correct. NMMS allows taking real time attendance of MGNREGA workers with geo-tagged photograph.

Source: The Hindu





Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Trademarks protect original works of authorship such as writings whereas copyright protects scientific creations.
- 2. A registered trademark refers to a federal and legal registration of the trademark.

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. A patent protects new inventions, processes, or scientific creations, a trademark protects brands, logos, and slogans, and a copyright protects original works of authorship.

Statement 2 is correct. With a registration, a trademark is protected against another company's use of the name or image A registered trademark refers to a federal and legal registration of the mark.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The European countries have the highest levels of stunting and wasting in the world.
- 2. Wasting among children under five years of age is highest in India amongst the South Asian countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. According to GHI 2022, South Asian countries reported the highest levels of stunting and wasting.

Statement 2 is correct. Stunting is the highest in Afghanistan followed by Pakistan and India while wasting among children under five years of age is the highest in India and Sri Lanka and the lowest in Afghanistan amongst South Asian nations.

Source: ORF



Q.9) With reference to Naegleria fowleri (brain eating amoeba) consider the following statements:

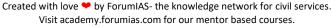
- 1. It is a single-celled organism that can infect humans.
- 2. It lives in soil and warm fresh water such as lakes and hot springs.

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. Naegleria fowleri is a single-celled organism and can infect humans. It lives in soil and warm fresh water such as lakes and hot springs.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the 'coral bleaching' consider the following statements:

- 1. Extremely low tide is one of the reasons behind coral bleaching.
- 2. Bleaching of coral happens when coral expels zooxanthellae algae living in it.
- 3. Bleaching of coral has impact on human's foods security and safety.

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. Extremely low tide is one of the reasons behind coral bleaching. Bleaching coral happens when coral expels zooxanthellae algae living in it due to which it turns white. Bleaching of coral has impact on human's foods security and safety.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) With reference to Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a fund created at every Panchayat level to support the tenant farmers in producing cash crops.
- 2. All loans provided under AIF have interest subvention.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

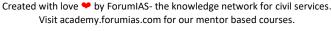
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. AIF provide a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support.

Statement 2 is correct. All loans under AIF will have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of Rs. 2 crores. This subvention will be available for a maximum period of seven years.





Q.3) With reference to South Asia Flash Flood Guidance System (SAFFGS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).
- 2. This system aims at providing flash floods warning to all South Asian nations.

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. SAFFGS has been launched by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).

Statement 2 is incorrect. SAFFGS provides flash flood guidance to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to "One Nation, One Gas Grid" consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at providing natural gas to the whole country through a single source.
- 2. It aims at reducing the regional disparity in gas availability.

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 and 2 are correct. One Nation, One Gas Grid aims at distributing natural gas-based energy throughout the entire country on a single gas system. It also aims at reducing the regional disparity in gas availability as well as reducing India's dependence on imports.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Scheme for Economic Empowerment of Denotified/Nomadic/SemiNomadic (SEED) communities consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme at providing employment opportunities to the community at various private enterprises.
- 2. The scheme will be implemented through a portal developed by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment.

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. It aims at providing financial assistance through National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to these communities.

Statement 2 is correct. The scheme will be implemented through a portal developed by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) 'Triple Test Formula' was seen in the news recently is associated with -

- a) Providing OBC reservation in Urban Local Body elections.
- b) Creating a formula for appointment of the Judges
- c) Freezing coral reefs
- d) Establishing a commission for countering increasing Naxalism.

Answer: A

Explanation – Triple Test Formula was suggested by the SC to provide OBC reservation in ULBs elections. The formula requires the states to appoint a commission, collect quantifiable data of the community and allocate reservations to them without exceeding 50% total reservations.

Source: **DNA**

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Genome sequencing is a technique that reads and interprets genetic information found within DNA or RNA.
- 2. Genome is a part of the DNA while a gene is the total DNA in a cell.
- 3. Gene is the hereditary element of genetic information while the genome is the complete set of nuclear DNAs.

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. Genome sequencing is a technique that reads and interprets genetic information found within DNA or RNA. Gene is the hereditary element of genetic information while the genome is the complete set of nuclear DNAs.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A gene is a part of the DNA while a genome is the total DNA in a cell. Source: The Hindu

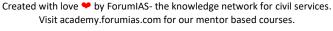
Q.8) Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine will be used to cure -

- a) Coronavirus
- b) Cervical cancer
- c) AIDS
- d) Measles

Answer: A

Explanation – Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine will be used to cure cervical cancer.

Source: The Hindu





Q.9) With reference to Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) consider the following statements:

- 1. CAG is appointed by the President and can be removed on the same grounds and in the same manner as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- 2. CAG is eligible for further office after the end of his tenure.
- 3. He audits the accounts related to all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and Consolidated fund of each state.

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. CAG is appointed by the President and can be removed on the same grounds and in the same manner as a Judge of the Supreme Court. He audits the accounts related to all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and Consolidated fund of each state.

Statement 2 is incorrect. CAG is not eligible for further office after the end of his tenure.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) With reference to Bilateral Investment Treaty Agreement (BIT) consider the following statements:

- 1. It establishes minimum guarantees between the two countries regarding the treatment of foreign investments and protect them from arbitrary decisions of national governments.
- 2. BITs have a potential to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).
- 3. BITs mostly do not include mechanisms for settling disputes between the nations.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation-

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. BITs establish minimum guarantees between the two countries regarding the treatment of foreign investments and protect them from arbitrary decisions of national governments. BITs have a potential to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

Statement 3 is incorrect. BITs generally provide a mechanism for settling disputes between investors and the country of investments. The most preferred mode of settling such disputes is arbitration.



PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is the largest migrant-sending and remittance-receiving country in the world.
- 2. India lacks a comprehensive migration policy to ensure decent living and safe movement of migrants.
- 3. Migration to abroad is governed by the Immigration Act, 2000.

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. India is the largest migrant-sending and remittance-receiving country in the world. India lacks a comprehensive migration policy to ensure decent living and safe movement of migrants.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Migration to abroad means Emigration. Therefore, Migration to abroad is governed by the Emigration Act, 2021.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to the Inter-State Council, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a permanent constitutional body.
- 2. It is chaired by the Union Home Minister.
- 3. The advice given by the Council is only recommendatory in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect. Inter-State Council is not a permanent constitutional body. President can establish it at any time if it appears to him that the public interests would be served by the establishment of such a council. It is presided over by the PM of India.

Statement 3 is correct. The advice given by the Council is only recommendatory in nature. It is not binding on the government. Therefore, government may or may not accept its advice.



Q.3) With reference to City Finance Rankings, 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at providing additional grants to the state based on the ranks achieved.
- 2. The rankings aim to motivate city/state officials and decision makers to implement municipal finance reforms.

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. City Finance Rankings, 2022 is an effort to analyse and help the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in identifying areas in their financial performance.

Statement 2 is correct. The rankings aim to motivate city/state officials and decision makers to implement municipal finance reforms.

Source: PIB

Q.4) With reference to Delimitation Commission consider the following statements:

- 1. It is appointed by the President of India and works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.
- 2. The Constitutions has provided to establish a tribunal for resolving the dispute arising out of the orders of the Commission.
- 3. The Delimitation Commission is mandated to identify the seats to be reserved for Other backward Classes (OBCs) in every state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Delimitation Commission is appointed by the President of India and works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Commission is a powerful and independent body whose orders cannot be challenged in any court of law. The Delimitation Commission is mandated to identify the seats to be reserved for SC and ST. The Constitution does not make similar reservation for other disadvantaged groups.



Q.5) With reference to National Archives of India (NAI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It functions under the Ministry of Culture.
- 2. It is the repository of all non-current government records.
- 3. It only keeps and conserves records of the government and its organisations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. NAI functions under the Ministry of Culture. It is the repository of all non-current government records. It only keeps and conserves records of the government and its organisations.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Indian National Congress (INC):

- 1. Lord Ripon was the Viceroy of India at the time of the formation of the INC.
- 2. Kadambini Ganguly was the first woman speaker of the INC.
- 3. The split between the two groups in the Congress took place in Surat and later both the groups came together in the Bombay session of 1915.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Lord Dufferin was the Viceroy of India at the time of the formation of the INC.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Kadambini Ganguly was the first woman speaker of the INC. The split between the two groups in the Congress took place in Surat session in 1906 and later both the groups came together in the Bombay session of 1915.



Q.7) With reference to Kosovo, country in the Europe, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a landlocked country.
- 2. Albania borders Kosovo in the west.
- 3. The borders of Kosovo are mostly mountainous.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Kosovo is a landlocked country. It is bordered by Albania to the west. The borders of Kosovo are mostly mountainous.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.8) With reference to "30×30 target" seen in the news recently, consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to protecting 30 percent of the world's terrestrial and marine habitats by 2030.
- 2. Countries are individually required to achieve this target.
- 3. It is more ambitious target than the Aichi Target.

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

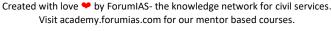
Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. 30×30 target refers to protecting 30 percent of the world's terrestrial and marine habitats by 2030. It is more ambitious than its predecessor Aichi Target which aimed for the protection of 17% of land and 10% of coastal and marine areas.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Countries are not required to achieve 30×30 target individually.

Source: ORF





Q.9) With reference to Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its purpose is to facilitate generation of employment opportunities for unemployed youth across the country by assisting setting up of micro-enterprises in non-farm sector.
- 2. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is functioning as the nodal agency for the implementation of programme at the national 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 Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. PMEGP aims at generation of employment opportunities for unemployed youth across the country by assisting setting up of micro-enterprises in non-farm sector. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) functioning as the nodal agency for the implementation of programme at the national level.

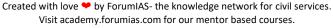
Source: PIB

Q.10) Which of the following Ministry has launched Amrit Bharat Station scheme?

- a) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- b) Ministry of Mines
- c) Ministry of Finance
- d) Ministry of Railways

Answer: D

Explanation – Amrit Bharat Station scheme has been launched by the Ministry of Railways. The scheme envisages the development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.





PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Battle of Chamkaur Sahib was fought between Guru Gobind Singh and the coalition forces of the Mughals and Rajput.
- 2. Khalsa community was founded by Guru Gobind Singh.
- 3. Akal Takht was constructed by Guru Gobind Singh.

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 2 are correct. Battle of Chamkaur Sahib was fought between Guru Gobind Singh and the coalition forces of the Mughals and Rajput. Khalsa community was founded by Guru Gobind Singh.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Akal Takht was constructed by Guru Hargobind as a symbol of his temporal authority to conduct daily business and acts as a defence.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is a means to implement Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).
- 2. Under MGNREGS, workers will get the work whenever they demand and not when the government has work available.
- 3. MGNREGA provides that at least one-third of the workers should be women.

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. MGNREGS is a means to implement MGNREGA so that the guarantee comes into effect. Under MGNREGS, workers will get the work whenever he demands and not when the government has work available (demand driven scheme). MGNREGA provides that at least one-third of the workers should be women.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. National Health Policy, 2017 aims to reduce tobacco use by 30% in 2025.
- 2. Oral cancer accounts for the highest proportion of cancer cases in India.
- 3. India is one of the countries that has the higher prices for tobacco products.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. National Health Policy, 2017 aims to reduce current tobacco use by 30% in 2025. Oral cancer accounts for the highest proportion of cancer cases in India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. India has the lowest prices for tobacco products and thus, it must look to increase taxes on them. The revenue acquired from additional taxation could be used for cancer prevention and awareness.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to Jan Vishwas Bill, 2022 consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at improving the ease of doing business and reducing the burden on judiciary.
- 2. The bill aims at criminalizing various offences under the different Acts.

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. Jan Vishwas Bill, 2022 aims at improving the ease of doing business and reducing the burden on judiciary.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the Bill, several offences with an imprisonment term in certain Acts have been decriminalised by imposing only a monetary penalty.

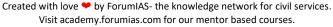
Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) "Stay Safe Online Campaign" was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Spreading online awareness against the coronavirus.
- b) Creating online platform for preventing human trafficking.
- c) Informing citizens through web-based portal about the measures required to prevent climate change.
- d) Raising awareness about cyber risks.

Answer: D

Explanation – The Stay Safe Online campaign intends to raise awareness about cyber risks and the need for cyber hygiene in an increasingly digitizing world. The campaign is expected to make citizens of all age groups aware of cyber risk and ways to deal with it.





Q.6) With reference to "Executive Action Plan for the Early Warnings for All" initiative consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been prepared by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).
- 2. It has been set up with the aim to provide early warning system across the world to reduce the climate related disasters.

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. This initiative has been prepared by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

Statement 2 is correct. It is a five-year programme to set up early warning systems across the world to save lives and minimize destruction from the growing number of climate disasters.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Programme consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been formulated based on the recommendations made by U K Sinha Committee.
- 2. It aims to provide support to the MSMEs by improving access to market and credit.
- 3. It is being funded by the international Monetary Fund (IMF).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. RAMP has been formulated based on the recommendations made by U K Sinha Committee, KV Kamath Committee and Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PM-EAC). It aims to provide support to the MSMEs by improving access to market and credit.

Statement 3 is incorrect. RAMP is a World Bank assisted programme.



Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. E-sports have been officially recognized by the government as a multi-sport event.
- 2. E-sports in India comes under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

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. The Government of India has officially recognised e-sports as part of the multi-sport event. This means that recognised esports tournaments might attain the same status as other offline sporting events in the country, like national-level tournaments.

Statement 2 is incorrect. E-sports in India comes under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Prices of food and fuel is not included in the core inflation.
- 2. Core inflation is more stable than the headline inflation.
- 3. Core inflation denotes the total inflation within an economy of a 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. Core inflation refers to the difference between inflation of all items in CPI and the inflation of food and petroleum. Core inflation is more stable than headline inflation due to the absence of volatile commodities like food and petroleum.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Core inflations denotes the ongoing trends in the inflation of a country used by the state to design economic strategies for the future whereas headline inflation denotes the total inflation within an economy of a country.

Source: The Times of India



Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Digital games can help in reducing the digital gender divide in India.
- 2. The tax revenue generated from digital gaming is very low in 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

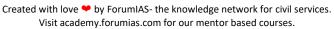
Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. In India, there are almost 450 million digital game users and a substantial number of them are women. Therefore, digital gaming also becomes a means for getting more women familiarised with the world of digital, thus reducing the gender divide in digital.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Digital gaming contributes to Rs 2,200 crore annually in indirect taxes and perhaps a similar amount in direct taxes.

Source: India Today





PRELIMS

Q.1) "Digital India Innovation Fund" will be launched by the government soon. It will -

- a) Support climate related activities
- b) Support agricultural sector
- c) Support Deeptech Startups
- d) Support the education of female child

Answer: C

Explanation – The Government of India is going to launch a Digital India Innovation Fund that will support Deeptech Startups.

Source: PIB

Q.2) With reference to the National Food Security Act, 2013 consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to provide food and nutritional security.
- 2. States and Union Territories are responsible for identifying eligible households, issuing ration cards, and distributing foodgrain.

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. NFSA aims to provide for food and nutritional security. States and Union Territories are responsible for identifying eligible households, issuing ration cards, and distributing foodgrain.

Source: The Hindu

Q.3) With reference to the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at providing affordable online digital health services only to the marginalized section of the society.
- 2. It is one of the e-governance initiatives of the government in the healthcare.

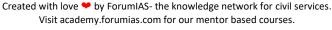
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. NDHM aims to create a management mechanism to: (a) Process digital health data and facilitate its seamless exchange; (b) Develop registries of public and private





facilities, health service providers, laboratories and pharmacies; (c) Support clinical decision-making as well as offer services like telemedicine.

Statement 2 is correct: It is one of the e-governance initiatives of the government in the healthcare.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following:

- 1. Increase in trade between the nations
- 2. Cheaper import and export of goods and services
- 3. Decrease in foreign investments

Which of the above are the impact of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)?

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

Answer: A

Explanation – FTAs help in enhancement of the trade, reduce tariff allows cheaper goods and service, and it attracts more foreign investments.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Maldives consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an archipelagic state in South Asia in the Indian Ocean.
- 2. Myanmar borders Maldives in the south-west.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

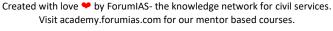
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Maldives is an archipelagic state in South Asia in the Indian Ocean. It lies southwest of Sri Lanka and India and has a tropical monsoon climate. It also has the lowest elevation of any country in the world.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Myanmar does not border Maldives.





Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Collegium system in India has formed by an Act of the Parliament.
- 2. National Judicial Appointments Commission Act (NJAC) was struck down by the Supreme Court because it compromised the independence of the judiciary from the executive.

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. Collegium system in India has been formed by the judgements of Supreme Court not by an Act of the Parliament.

Statement 2 is correct. NJAC was struck down by the Supreme Court because it compromised the independence of the judiciary from the executive.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to "Mission Karamyogi" consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to develop an effective citizen-centric civil service.
- 2. It applicable only to civil servant recruited by the central government.
- 3. It is about creating a civil service with domain and technological competencies.

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. Mission Karamyogi aim is to develop an effective citizen-centric civil service. It is about creating a civil service with domain and technological competencies.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is targeted at employees of both centre as well as states.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) With reference to Fiscal Deficit consider the following statements:

- 1. When the government income is higher than its total expenditure, it is known as a fiscal deficit.
- 2. An increase in the capital expenditure can cause fiscal deficit.
- 3. Printing new money is one of the ways to finance the fiscal deficit.

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: B

Explanation -



Statement 1 is incorrect. When the government spends more than its total income, such a situation is called a fiscal deficit.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. An increase in the capital expenditure can cause fiscal deficit. Printing new money is one of the ways to finance the fiscal deficit.

Source: Live Mint

Q.9) Which of the following country bounds South China sea from the western side?

- a) Philippines
- b) Taiwan
- c) Vietnam
- d) Indonesia

Answer: C

Explanation - Vietnam bounds South China from the western side.

Source: The Indian Express

Q.10) Which of the following Ministry has launched "Operation Greens Scheme"?

- a) Ministry of Railways
- b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries

Answer: B

Explanation – Ministry of Food Processing Industries has lunched Operation Greens Scheme. It is a Central Sector Scheme and was launched in 2018.

