

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation**

February, 2023

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

#### PRELIMS

## Q.1) With reference to Independent Fiscal institutions (IFIs) consider the following statements:

- 1. These institutions functions as the source of additional revenues to the government.
- 2. These institutions are usually financed by public funds and are functionally independent.
- 3. These institutions increase accountability and improved fiscal transparency by providing positive analysis and recommendations in the area of fiscal policy.

#### 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The work of IFIs is to act as a fiscal watchdog of the government. They are aimed at promoting sustainable public finances through various functions, including monitoring compliance with fiscal rules, production or endorsement of macroeconomic forecasts for the budget, and advising the government on fiscal policy matters.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. IFIs are usually financed by public funds and are functionally independent. These institutions increase accountability and improved fiscal transparency by providing positive analysis and recommendations in the area of fiscal policy.

Source: ORF

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Methane is the primary contributor to the formation of ground-level ozone.
- 2. In recent years, the amount of methane in the atmosphere has dramatically increased.
- 3. The amount of energy absorbed by methane is lower than the carbon dioxide.

#### 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. Methane is the primary contributor to the formation of groundlevel ozone. In recent years, the amount of methane in the atmosphere has dramatically increased.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Methane has a much shorter atmospheric lifetime than carbon dioxide (CO2) but it absorbs much more energy while it exists in the atmosphere.

Source: The Indian Express



#### Q.3) With reference to "Earthquakes" consider the following statements:

- 1. An earthquake is caused by tremors due to the movement of the tectonic plates of the earth.
- 2. An earthquake originates from focus.
- 3. The point on the Earth's surface directly above the focus is the hypocentre.
- 4. When energy is released at the focus, seismic waves travel outward from that point in all directions.

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

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

## Answer: C

**Statement 1, 2 and 4** are correct. An earthquake is caused by tremors due to the movement of the tectonic plates of the earth. An earthquake originates from focus. When energy is released at the focus, seismic waves travel outward from that point in all directions.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The point on the Earth's surface directly above the focus is the epicentre.

Source: DNA

#### Q.4) With reference to "BharatOS" System consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been developed to reduce the dependence on foreign operating system.
- 2. The security and bug fixes in BharatOS will automatically be installed rather than checking for the updates.
- 3. It has preinstalled google services or app like the Android Operating system.

## 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. BharatOS has been developed to reduce the dependence on foreign operating system. The security and bug fixes in BharatOS will automatically be installed rather than checking for the updates.

Statement 3 is incorrect. BharatOS is free from Google Services and Apps. It does not come with any such preinstalled services or apps, and hence, is deemed to be more secure.

## Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) With reference to "Etikoppaka Toys" consider the following statements:

- 1. These toys are usually made-up from Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC).
- 2. These toys are produced in Andhra Pradesh.
- 3. These toys have no sharp edges.

## 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.** Etikoppaka toys are made of soft wood and lacquer color. The way of toy making is also known as turned wood lacquer craft.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Etikoppaka toys are made by artisans of Etikoppaka village located on the banks of Varaha River in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. These toys have no sharp edges. They are rounded on all sides and hence present little chance of injury to children.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The prevalence of some mental health disorders is higher among women as compared to men.
- 2. India is the largest user of groundwater in the world.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Across the world, the prevalence of some mental health disorders is consistently higher among women as compared to men. As per a World Bank report, India is the largest groundwater user.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. XR Startup Program has been launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- 2. Asiatic Cheetah is listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. XR Startup Program has been launched by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. It aims to discover, nurture, and accelerate Extended Reality (XR) technology startups and innovators across India.

**Statement 2** is correct. Asiatic Cheetah is listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List. **Source:** ForumIAS

## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nitrate radical is an oxide of nitrogen that consists of three oxygen atoms bound to a nitrogen atom.
- 2. The production of nitrate radicals could increase the amount ozone and PM2.5 fine particulate matter in the atmosphere.
- 3. While cities in Europe and the United States have experienced a decline in the nocturnal production of nitrate radicals, parts of China and India have experienced a rapid increase.

## 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, 2** and 3 are correct. Nitrate radical is an oxide of nitrogen that consists of three oxygen atoms bound to a nitrogen atom. The production of nitrate radicals could increase the amount ozone and PM2.5 fine particulate matter in the atmosphere. While cities in Europe and the United States have experienced a decline in the nocturnal production of nitrate radicals, parts of China and India have experienced a rapid increase.

Source: The Indian Express



## Q.9) With reference to Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It will support the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in selecting and evaluating green projects within the framework.
- 2. It will have representatives from all ministries.
- 3. It will be chaired by the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) to the government.

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

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

## Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. GFWC will support the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in selecting and evaluating green projects within the framework. It will be chaired by the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) to the government.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It will have representatives from the relevant ministries, means those ministries which are associated with the green technology, bonds, etc.

Source: Business Standard

#### Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. E-cigarettes do not burn tobacco.
- 2. India has completely banned the sale of e-cigarettes.
- 3. E-cigarettes are more harmful than regular cigarettes.

## 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. E-cigarettes do not burn tobacco. Instead, it heats the liquid chemicals into a vapor or steam that a person inhales. India has completely banned the sale of e-cigarettes.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. E-cigarettes are less harmful than regular cigarettes. However, this does not mean that they are safe.

Source: India Today



#### PRELIMS

## Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to gardens built in the Mughal period:

- 1. Charbagh style of architecture was used in the construction of Mughal gardens.
- 2. Statues were built to demarcate the various quadrants of the garden.
- 3. Fountains were often built in the gardens to symbolise the cycle of life.

#### 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. Mughal gardens were built in the Charbagh style of architecture. Fountains were often built in the gardens to symbolise the cycle of life.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Waterways were used to demarcate the various quadrants of the garden.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Comets" consider the following statements:

- 1. Comets are gas-filled objects that are remnants of the formation of the solar system.
- 2. Comets when burn give different colour of lights.
- 3. Green comets come under the category of short-period comets.

#### 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. Comets are gas-filled objects that are remnants of the formation of the solar system. Comets when burn give different colour of lights such as blue or whiteish light or green.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Green comets come under the category of long-period comets because they are not easily spotted. The last time the green comet passed Earth was during the Upper Paleolithic period.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.3) With reference to All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-21, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been released by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- 2. As per the report, female enrollment in higher education has increased.
- 3. According to the report, Maharashtra has the highest number of universities in India.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-2021 has been released by the Ministry of Education. According to the report, Rajasthan hosts the maximum number of universities in India followed by Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the report, female enrolment in higher education programmes had increased to 49% of total enrolments in 2020-21 compared to 45% the previous year.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to "Millets" consider the following statements:

- 1. Millets are part of a group of small-grained cereal crops used as both food and fodder.
- 2. Mauryan Empire was the first to use the millets.
- 3. India is the largest producer of millet in the world.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Millets are part of a group of small-grained cereal crops used as both food and fodder. As per FAO, India is the largest producer of millet in the world with a share of 41% in 2020.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The evidence of the consumption of millet can be found in the Indus Valley civilization.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) With reference to "Neuromorphic computing" consider the following statements:

- 1. Neuromorphic computers are known for their rapid response system because their processing is highly rapid.
- 2. Compared to traditional computers, neuromorphic computers are built to work like a human brain.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Neuromorphic computers are known for their rapid response system because their processing is highly rapid. Compared to traditional computers, neuromorphic computers are built to work like a human brain and so their rapid response system is a major highlight.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) Which of the following is/are the reason(s) behind increasing milk prices?

- 1. Rise in cattle feed cost
- 2. Disease in cattle
- 3. Decline in logistics cost

## Select the correct code given below:

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

Reasons behind rising milk prices are: Rise in cattle feed cost, Disease in cattle, Rise in logistics cost, Demand Supply mismatch, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) With reference to "Kelp Forest" consider the following statements:

- 1. Kelps are extremely large brown algae.
- 2. Kelp forests are always coastal.
- 3. They overlap with coral reefs and mangrove forests.

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

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

Answer: A Explanation –



**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Kelp forests thrives in cold, nutrient-rich waters. Kelp are not plants, but rather extremely large brown algae, and many different species of kelp make up kelp forests. Kelp forests are always coastal and require shallow, relatively clear water.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Kelps live further from the tropics than coral reefs, mangrove forests, and warm-water seagrass beds, so kelp forests do not overlap with these systems. However, like those systems, kelp forests provide important underwater habitat.

Source: DTE

## Q.8) With reference to the Periyar Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

- 1. It lies in the mountainous area of the Nilgiri Hills.
- 2. Pamba Rivers originate in the forests of the reserve.
- 3. Tropical evergreen forests are found in the reserve.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

## Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Periyar Tiger Reserve lies in the middle of a mountainous area of the Cardamom Hills.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Periyar and Pamba Rivers originate in the forests of the reserve. Tropical evergreen forests are found in the reserve.

Source: The Hindu

#### Q.9) The Parikh Committee was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Banking Supervision
- b) Increase in Motor Vehicle Tax
- c) To review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty
- d) To review the pricing formula for gas

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – The Kirit Parikh committee was set up by the government to review the pricing formula for gas produced in the country as global energy prices soared. **Source: Business Standard** 

## Q.10) Soliga tribes are found in -

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Karnataka
- c) Odisha
- d) Rajasthan

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – Soliga tribe is an ethnic group of India. Its members inhabit the mountain ranges mostly in the Chamarajanagar district of southern Karnataka and Erode district of Tamil Nadu. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Millets have special nutritive properties.
- 2. Only Major types of millets are grown in India.
- 3. There has been a decline in the area under millet cultivation.

## 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. Millets have special nutritive properties. They are high in protein, dietary fiber, micronutrients, and antioxidants. There has been a decline in the area under millet cultivation.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Two groups of millets are grown in India – Major and Minor. Major millets include sorghum, pearl millet and finger millet. Minor millets include foxtail, little millet, kodo, proso, and barnyard millet.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. It informs about the funds flowing across the three tiers of government.
- 2. It allows India's citizens to monitor flow of the fund.
- 3. It helps government to estimate borrowing needs of different levels of government accurately.

#### Which of the above are the advantages of a "Real-time fiscal data portal"?

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

#### Answer: D

#### **Explanation** -

The advantages of a real-time fiscal data portal are - inform about the funds flowing across the three tiers of government—Centre, state and local governments, allow India's citizens to monitor fund flows minutely, help government to estimate borrowing needs of different levels of government accurately, etc.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference to the 'Finance Commission' consider the following statements:

- 1. The Finance Commission is constituted by the Council of Ministers.
- 2. The Commission makes recommendations to the President of India on the distribution of tax proceeds between the Union and the States and the share of each state.
- 3. The Commission is appointed every five 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 is** incorrect. The Finance Commission is constituted by the President under Article 280 of the Constitution.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Commission makes recommendations to the President of India on the distribution of tax proceeds between the Union and the States and the share of each state. The Commission is appointed every five years.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to "Senna Spectabilis" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a keystone species found in India.
- 2. The thick foliage of the tree affects the growth of other indigenous tree and grass species.
- 3. It affects the germination and growth of native species.

## 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. Senna Spectabilis is an invasive species in India.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The thick foliage of the tree affects the growth of other indigenous tree and grass species. It affects the germination and growth of native species.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to the Universe:

- 1. A binary system is one in which one star in a binary evolves more faster than its partner.
- 2. A pulsar is a special kind of neutron star which is the ultra-dense leftover core of a massive star.
- 3. Neutron stars are the smallest densest stars known to exist.

#### 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. A binary system is one in which two stars orbit around a common centre of mass, that is they are gravitationally bound to each other.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. A pulsar is a special kind of neutron star which is the ultradense leftover core of a massive star. Neutron stars are the smallest densest stars known to exist. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Soliga tribes are found in -

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Karnataka
- c) Odisha
- d) Rajasthan

#### Answer: B

**Explanation** – Soliga tribe is an ethnic group of India. Its members inhabit the mountain ranges mostly in the Chamarajanagar district of southern Karnataka and Erode district of Tamil Nadu. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

## Q.7) With reference to "Kelp Forest" consider the following statements:

- 1. They help to reduce coastal erosion and act as a breakwater during large storms.
- 2. They are considered as keystone species.
- 3. They are an important source of potash and iodine.

## 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. Kelp Forest help to reduce coastal erosion and act as a breakwater during large storms. They are considered as keystone species. They are an important source of potash and iodine.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.8) With reference to "Sickle Cell Anemia" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a form of body disease that affects the white blood cells of the body.
- 2. There is no cure for most people with sickle cell anemia.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** Sickle Cell Anemia is a form of inherited blood disorder that affects the red blood cells of the body. It is a part of a group of blood disorders called sickle cell disease. **Statement 2** is correct. There is no cure for sickle cell anemia. However, stem cell or bone marrow transplants can cure the disease, but these come with several risks. **Source: India Today** 

#### Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Lab-made diamonds differs from the natural diamonds in structure.
- 2. Diamonds can be made from human or animal tissues.
- 3. Impurities in the diamond can cause it to appear blue or red.

## 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. Lab-made diamonds are similar to the natural diamonds in structure but differ in their origin.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Diamonds can also be made from human or animal tissues, as all living beings are made of carbon. Impurities in the diamond can cause it to appear blue or red.

Source: DNA

## Q.10) In which part of India, Biligiri Rangan Hills are located?

- a) Eastern India
- b) Western India
- c) Southern India
- d) Northern India

#### Answer: C

**Explanation** – Biligiri Rangan Hills (B.R.Hills) is a hill range situated in south-eastern Karnataka, at its border with Tamil Nadu (Erode District). It falls under the confluence of the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats. The unique geographical positioning and diversity of habitats make BR Hills one of the richest areas for biodiversity in India.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) With reference to the "Economic Survey" Consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the medium to raise issues for public discussion over strategic economic matters.
- 2. Government is constitutionally bound to present the Economic Surveys every year.
- 3. The survey's recommendations are not always reflected in the Union Budget.

#### 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. Economic Survey is the medium to raise issues for public discussion over strategic economic matters. The survey's recommendations are not always reflected in the Union Budget.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Government is not constitutionally bound to present the Economic Survey or to follow the recommendations that are made in it.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Out-of-pocket expenditure" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the money paid directly by households at the point of receiving health care.
- 2. It mostly occurs when an individual is covered under private health insurance schemes.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Out-of-pocket expenditure is the money paid directly by households at the point of receiving health care.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. This occurs when services are neither provided free of cost through a government health facility nor is the individual covered under any public or private insurance or social protection scheme.

#### Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The budgetary allocation for education as a percentage of total expenditure has increased in recent years.
- 2. There has been an improvement Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) in schools across all levels for the financial year 2021-22.
- 3. Distance education in India has witnessed an increase in enrollment in the financial year 2021-22.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The budgetary allocation for education as a percentage of total expenditure has dropped over the past seven years, from 10.4% to 9.5%.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. There has been an improvement Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) in schools across all levels for the financial year 2021-22. Distance education in India has witnessed a 7% increase in enrollment in the financial year 2021-22.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh has the maximum carbon stock in forests.
- 2. There has been an increase in mangrove cover in India.
- 3. Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) encourages businesses to produce their annual financial report to the government for claiming tax rebates.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Arunachal Pradesh has the maximum carbon stock in forests and Jammu & Kashmir contributes the maximum per-hectare carbon stock. There has been an increase in mangrove cover in India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) encourages businesses to go beyond regulatory financial compliance. It will make businesses to report on their social and environmental impacts.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) With reference to the "Shipbuilding Industry in India" consider the following statements:

- 1. The industry is one of the highest employment multipliers.
- 2. An indigenous shipbuilding industry can help in reducing the Current Account Deficit (CAD).
- 3. The industry has the potential to create a collaborative production ecosystem.

## 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. Shipbuilding has one of the highest employment multipliers of 6.48 and is capable of generating mass employment in remote, coastal and rural areas. An indigenous shipping and shipbuilding industry can reduce freight bills and forex outgo, thus reducing the current account deficit. Shipbuilding has links to other ancillary industries including steel, engineering equipment, port infrastructure, etc. which have the potential to create a collaborative production ecosystem.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to "Economic Survey 2022-23" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the survey, there has been a decline in the social sector spending in the last fiscal year.
- 2. As per the survey, India has become the largest mobile phone manufacturer globally.
- 3. As per the survey, India is the largest recipient of remittances in the world.

## 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: D

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. Social Sector witnessed a significant increase in government spending. It has increased to Rs. 21.3 lakh crore in FY23 (BE) from Rs. 9.1 lakh crore in FY16. India has become the second-largest mobile phone manufacturer globally.

**Statement 3** is correct. India is the largest recipient of remittances in the world receiving US\$ 100 bn in 2022. Remittances are the second-largest major source of external financing after service export.

## Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.7) With reference to "Shumang Leela" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of folk paintings from Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. In this, the women are depicted as men.

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

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

## Answer: D

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. Shumang Leela is a traditional form of theatre in Manipur. It is performed in an open courtyard surrounded by spectators on all four sides. In this play, the roles of women are all played by men, called *Nupi Shabis*. In the case of women's theatre groups, the roles of men are played by women.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) accounts are used by non-residents to transfer earnings from foreign soil to India while Non-Resident External (NRE) accounts are used to manage income earned in India by non-residents.
- 2. Presently, there is no Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charge levied for RuPay-based debit card and UPI transactions.

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

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

## Answer: D

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Non-Resident External (NRE) accounts are used by non-residents to transfer earnings from foreign soil to India while Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) accounts are used to manage income earned in India by non-residents.

**Statement 2** is correct. Presently, there is no Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charge levied for RuPay-based debit card and UPI transactions.

Source: The Hindu



## Q.9) With reference to Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET), consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to expand partnership in critical and emerging technologies between India and the US.
- 2. It will help India to find an alternative to the dependence on Russian military technology.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. iCET's aim is to expand partnership in critical and emerging technologies between India and the US. It will help India to find an alternative to the dependence on Russian military technology because India is looking produce more weapons at home and in partnership with the western countries.

Source: The Indian Express

#### Q.10) With reference to "Dekho Apna Desh" scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to promote tourism and encourage people to explore the rich cultural heritage and diversity of India.
- 2. It primarily encourages the elite class citizens of the country to travel within India rather than abroad.
- 3. It is intended to offer financial help to tourists travelling to different parts 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. Dekho Apna Desh scheme aims to promote tourism and encourage people to explore the rich cultural heritage and diversity of India. It is intended to offer financial help to tourists travelling to different parts of India.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. This scheme primarily targets the middle-class citizens of the country, encouraging them to travel within India rather than abroad.

Source: DNA



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. MISHTI programme aims at facilitating mangrove plantations along India's coastline.
- 2. Amrit Dharohar scheme aims at reskilling the youth in the emerging technologies required for the employment.

#### Select the correct code 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. MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) is a new programme that will facilitate mangrove plantations along India's coastline and on salt pan lands. It will aim at the intensive afforestation of coastal mangrove forests.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Amrit Dharohar scheme will be implemented over the next three years to encourage optimal use of wetlands, and enhance biodiversity, carbon stock, eco-tourism opportunities and income generation for local communities.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements with reference to 'Manual Scavenging':

- 1. Manual scavenging refers to the removal of human excreta using hand tools.
- 2. It is completely prohibited in India.
- 3. National Action Plan for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) aims at providing subsidies on sanitation machinery to the workers so that workers will be able to own sanitation machines themselves.

#### Which of the statement 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. Manual scavenging refers to the removal of human excreta using hand tools. Manual scavenging is completely prohibited under the Prohibition of employment as manual scavengers and their rehabilitation Act 2013. NAMASTE aims at providing subsidies on sanitation machinery to the workers so that workers will be able to own sanitation machines themselves.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The government has decided that the Permanent Account Number (PAN) would be used as a common identifier for all digital systems of specified government agencies.
- 2. Vivad Se Vishwas scheme aims for rapid settlement of pending cases against the undertrial prisoners.
- 3. eCourts Project aims to improve access to justice using technology.

#### 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 government has decided that the Permanent Account Number (PAN) would be used as a common identifier for all digital systems of specified government agencies. eCourts Project aims to improve access to justice using technology.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Vivad Se Vishwas scheme provides for settlement of disputed tax, interests, penalty or fees in relation to an assessment or reassessment order on payment of 100% of the disputed tax and 25% of the disputed penalty or interest or fee.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Green Growth has been listed as one of the seven priorities of this year's Budget.
- 2. Green Credit Programme will be notified under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 to encourage afforestation and wildlife protection.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Green Growth has been listed as one of the seven priorities of this year's Budget.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Green Credit Programme will be notified under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. This programme will incentivise environmentally sustainable and responsive actions by companies, individuals, and local bodies and help mobilize additional resources for such activities.

#### Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) With reference to Mahila Samman Saving Certificate (MSSC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a small saving scheme.
- 2. The scheme carries a fixed interest rate.
- 3. The government has allowed full withdrawal facility in the scheme.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. MSSC is a one-time small saving scheme for women. The scheme will be made available for a two-year period up to March 2025. It will have a fixed interest rate of 7.5% for two years.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The government has allowed the partial withdrawal facility in the scheme.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. PM Awas Yojana (PMAY) was launched with the objective of providing affordable housing to all citizens.
- 2. Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) has been set up with the aim to upgrade existing infrastructure in the Tier-I cities along the lines of international standards.
- 3. The fund under UIDF will be managed by the National Housing Bank.

## 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. PMAY was launched with the objective of providing affordable housing to all citizens. The fund under UIDF will be managed by the National Housing Bank. **Statement 2** is incorrect. Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) has been set up with the aim to create infrastructure in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Amrit Bharat Station scheme envisages the development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.
- 2. Janjati Gaurav Corridor aims at connecting remote villages through rail.

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

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

## Answer: A

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Amrit Bharat Station scheme envisages the development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Janjati Gaurav Corridor aims at connecting tribal areas of the country by rail.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) With reference to Extra-Long Staple (ELS) cotton, consider the following statements:

- 1. Egypt is one of the largest producers of ELS cotton.
- 2. ELS cotton is not yet produced in India.
- 3. The price of ELS cotton in lower than the normal cotton.

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

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

## Answer: C

#### Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Egypt, the US, and Australia are the largest producers of ELS cotton.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. ELS cotton is produced in India but on a small scale. The price of ELS cotton is higher than the normal cotton because of its good quality.

Source: Business Standard

## Q.9) With reference to 'Red Sanders' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a very slow-growing tree species.
- 2. It is listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

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

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

Answer: A Explanation –



**Statement 1** is correct. Red sanders is a very slow-growing tree species that attains maturity in natural forests after 25-40 years.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

## Q.10) Which of the following organization publishes "World Social Report"?

- a) World Bank
- b) United Nations
- c) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- d) World Economic Forum (WEF)

## Answer: B Explanation – World Social Report is published by the United Nations. Source: India Today



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. As per Representation of the People Act, 1951, one candidate is not allowed to contest election from two constituencies.
- 2. When a person contests election from two constituencies and wins from both, then he/she vacates the seat in one of the two constituencies.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 is** incorrect. As per Representation of the People Act, 1951, one candidate can contest from a maximum of two constituencies.

**Statement 2** is correct. When a person contests election from two constituencies and wins from both, then he/she vacates the seat in one of the two constituencies.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Angel tax refers to the income tax payable on capital raised by unlisted companies.
- 2. As per Budget 2023-24, startups certified with the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) are exempted from the angel tax.

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

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

#### Answer: A

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Angel tax refers to the income tax payable on capital raised by unlisted companies.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. As per Budget 2023-24, startups registered with the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) are exempted from the angel tax. The certified ones will have to pay additional taxes.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. Cobra is a species of highly venomous snake.
- 2. Cobra is widely distributed over Asia and Africa.
- 3. Cobra venoms do not exhibit cytotoxic effects.

## 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. Cobra is a species of highly venomous snake. Cobra is widely distributed over Asia and Africa.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Cobra venoms are neurotoxic in nature and as per a recreant study, the venom also exhibit cytotoxic effects.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) With reference to "Macrosomia" seen in the news recently, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the disease caused by the unhygienic living practices amongst the women.
- 2. High blood sugar during pregnancy can increases the risk of Macrosomia.

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

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

## Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Macrosomia is a term used to describe giant babies. Any baby that weighs more than 4kg, regardless of its gestational age, is said to have macrosomia.

**Statement 2** is correct. High blood sugar during pregnancy can increases the risk of Macrosomia.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) With reference to "Governor" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor is appointed by the President and holds the office during the pleasure of the President.
- 2. The Constitution has provided the educational qualifications to be considered while appointing the governor.
- 3. Governor can only reserve a bill on the advice of the Council of Ministers for the consideration of the President of India.

#### 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: B

## Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. The Governor is appointed by the President and holds the Office during the pleasure of the President.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. The Constitution has not provided the educational qualifications to be considered before appointing the governor. Reserving a bill for the consideration of President is the discretionary power of Governor. Hence, it can be done without the aid and advice of CoM.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to "Ken-Betwa Link Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first project under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers.
- 2. Ken is the tributary of Ghaghra River whereas Betwa is the tributary of Banas River.
- 3. The project may affect the habitat of Panna Tiger Reserve.

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

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

## Answer: A

Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Ken-Betwa Link Project is the first project under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers. The project may affect the habitat of Panna Tiger Reserve.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Ken and Betwa both are tributaries of River Yamuna. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### Q.7) "Operation SADBHAVANA" has recently been carried out for -

- a) Safeguarding India's coastal area from the terrorists.
- b) Countering insurgencies in the North-Eastern states.
- c) Spreading awareness against the sickle cell anemia.
- d) the children living in remote areas of Ladakh.

## Answer: C

**Explanation** – Under Operation SADBHAVANA', Indian Army is undertaking multiple welfare activities such as running of Army Goodwill Schools, Infrastructure Development Projects and Education Tours etc. for the children living in remote areas of Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh. **Source: PIB** 

## Q.8) With reference to Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP), consider the following statements:

- 1. It ensures availability of dialysis services free of cost to Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries at the district hospitals in the country.
- 2. National PMNDP portal was launched with the objective to ensure accessibility and portability under One Nation-One Dialysis concept.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. PMNDP ensures availability of dialysis services free of cost to Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries at the district hospitals in the country. National PMNDP portal was launched with the objective to ensure accessibility and portability under One Nation-One Dialysis concept.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, puisne judge refers to the judge who is being considered for the removal.
- 2. In India, all judges have the same judicial powers.

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

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

#### **Answer: B**

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** In India, there is a reference to a puisne judge only while considering the order of seniority for appointments, elevations to High Courts, etc., but it does not have a bearing on the exercise of a judge's judicial power.

**Statement 2** is correct. In India, all judges have the same judicial powers.



#### Source: The Indian Express

#### Q.10) With reference to "Cooperative Societies" consider the following statements:

- 1. They help small-scale entrepreneurs procure raw materials at discounted rates and reduce production costs.
- 2. They provide producers with a platform to sell their products directly to consumers by removing intermediaries.
- 3. They act as drivers of the national economy by providing critical raw materials and intermediate goods to large industries.

#### Which of the statement 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. Cooperative societies help small-scale entrepreneurs procure raw materials at discounted rates and reduce production costs. They provide producers with a platform to sell their products directly to consumers by removing intermediaries. They act as drivers of the national economy by providing critical raw materials and intermediate goods to large industries.

Source: The Times of India



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Dialysis is a procedure through which brain tumor is cured.
- 2. It keeps the body in balance by correcting the levels of various toxic substances in the blood.
- 3. Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP) envisage the provision of dialysis services through Public Private Partnership mode.

#### Which of the statement 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. Dialysis is a procedure that removes waste and fluids from the body that the kidneys are not able to remove.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Dialysis aims to keep the body in balance by correcting the levels of various toxic substances in the blood. PMNDP envisage the provision of dialysis services through Public Private Partnership mode.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.2) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Uttham Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme encourages farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices by adopting natural fertilizers for the crop.
- 2. It aims at installing standalone solar-powered agricultural pumps.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. PM-KUSUM is aimed at ensuring energy security for farmers in India, along with honouring India's commitment to increase the share of installed capacity of electric power from non-fossil-fuel sources to 40% by 2030 as part of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

**Statement 2** is correct. It aims at 20 lakhs installing standalone solar-powered agricultural pumps.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference to "Living Will" consider the following statements:

- 1. A Living Will is a document in which an individual discloses his/her health insurance schemes to the government for availing cheaper healthcare services.
- 2. An adult with a sound and healthy mind can make a living will.
- 3. A Living Will is a part of National Health Record which can be accessed by Indian hospitals.

## Which of the statement 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. Living will is a written document that allows a patient to give explicit instructions in advance about the medical treatment to be administered when he or she is terminally-ill or no longer able to express informed consent. It is a healthcare directive, in which people can state their wishes for their end-of-life care, in case they are not in a position to make that decision.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. An adult with a sound and healthy mind can make a living will. A Living Will is a part of National Health Record which can be accessed by Indian hospitals. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.4) With reference to "Kargil Ignited Minds Initiative" consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative is aimed at training locals of Kargil and making them competent to fight terrorists.
- 2. It is an initiative launched by the Indian Army.

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

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

#### Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Kargil Ignited Minds Initiative is an initiative exclusively for girl students of Kargil. It aims to prepare these students for various competitive examinations for admission into various professional colleges and institutions in India.

Statement 2 is correct. It is an initiative launched by the Indian Army. Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) With reference to Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to support national commitments in achieving climate change goals.
- 2. It aims to promote the use of green hydrogen as a fuel in the public transport.
- 3. The initiative would provide benefits to vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.

## 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 2** is incorrect. SATAT initiative aims to promote Compressed Biogas as an alternative, green transport fuel.

**Statement 1** and 3 are correct. The initiative aims to support to national commitments in achieving climate change goals. It would benefit vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements with reference to "Yaya Tso":

- 1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. The lake in the Yaya Tso is one of the highest breeding sites of the black-necked crane in India.

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

- a) 1 nor 2
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 only
- d) Both 1 and 2

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Yaya Tso is located in Ladakh. It is known as a birds' paradise for its beautiful lake located at an altitude of 4,820 metres.

**Statement 2** is correct. The lake in Yaya Tso has the distinction of being one of the highest breeding sites of the black-necked crane in India.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Biodiversity heritage sites (BHS) are considered as unique and fragile ecosystems that can be marine or terrestrial.
- 2. The SECURE Himalaya project aims at safeguarding the natural ecosystem of Himalayas by forbidding the constructions related activities in the Himalayan region.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. BHS are considered as unique and fragile ecosystems that can be marine ecosystems, coastal and inland waters, or terrestrial areas.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The SECURE Himalaya project supports the government's efforts for the conservation of snow leopard and its habitat by developing and implementing a landscape-based approach for Himalayan ecosystems.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) With reference to 'Amorphous Ice' consider the following statements:

- 1. Amorphous ice's water molecules are in a disorganized form resembling a liquid.
- 2. Almost all ice in the universe is amorphous and in a form of low-density amorphous ice.

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

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

## Answer: C

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Amorphous ice's water molecules are in a disorganized form resembling a liquid. Almost all ice in the universe is amorphous and in a form of low-density amorphous ice.

Source: The Indian Express



#### Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Farmers' cooperative are cooperatives through which farmers pool their resources for their farming activities.
- 2. The agricultural service cooperatives play a useful role by maintaining a constant flow of essential agricultural services.
- 3. Commodity-Based Farmer Organisations are village-level organisations that deals with inputs needed by the members and the resource owners to enhance the productivity of their businesses based on land, water or animals.

#### 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. Farmers' cooperative are cooperatives through which farmers pool their resources for their farming activities. The agricultural service cooperatives play a useful role by maintaining a constant flow of essential agricultural services.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Commodity-Based Farmer Organisations are specialised in a single commodity and opted for value-added products, expanding markets. They are designated as output-dominated organisations. These are generally large and operate in a competitive environment.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Which of the following is the objective of 'Mission Sahbhagita'?

- a) It aims to identify and prevent the emerging threat along the maritime border.
- b) It facilitates the Direct Benefit Transfer to the farmers.
- c) It aims bringing financial inclusion for the development of rural economy.
- d) It aims to effectively manage the network of 75 wetlands of national and international significance.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Mission Sahbhagita was launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in 2022. It aims to healthy and effectively manage the network of 75 wetlands of national and international significance.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Zero-draft pandemic treaty" consider the following statements:

- 1. The draft calls for setting up WHO Global Pandemic Supply Chain and Logistics Network.
- 2. The draft seeks action against China for its irresponsible behaviour in controlling the outbreak of the pandemic.
- 3. The draft calls for intellectual property rights to be waived off during pandemics.

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

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

## Answer: D

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The draft calls for setting up WHO Global Pandemic Supply Chain and Logistics Network. The draft calls for intellectual property rights to be waived off during pandemics.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The zero-draft of the pandemic treaty was prepared based on recognising the catastrophic failure of the international community in showing solidarity and equity in response to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.3) With reference to Initiative for Critical and Emerging Technologies(iCET) consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative is being run by the International Security Councils of India and Russia.
- 2. Artificial Intelligence is one of the areas of cooperation included in the iCET.

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

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

Answer: B Explanation –



**Statement 1** is incorrect. The iCET initiative was launched by India and the US in May 2022. The initiative is being run by the National Security Councils of both countries.

Statement 2 is correct. The six areas for cooperation are – scientific research and development; quantum and artificial intelligence, defense innovation, space, advanced telecom which would include things like 6G and semiconductors.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to "North Star" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is also known as Pole Star.
- 2. It is part of the constellation Ursa Major.
- 3. North Star position and brightness have made humans to use it for navigation.

## 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. North Star is also known as Pole Star. North Star position and brightness have made humans to use it for navigation.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. North Star is part of the constellation Ursa Minor.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.5) With reference to Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) consider the following statements:

- 1. The membership of FPOs is restricted to only primary producers.
- 2. Maharashtra is one of the states that has the highest number of farmers mobilised per FPO.
- 3. In an FPO, producers are shareholders in the organization.

## 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. The membership of FPOs is restricted to only primary producers. Maharashtra is one of the states that has the highest number of farmers mobilised per FPO. In an FPO, producers are shareholders in the organization.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.6) Mihir Shah Committee is related to -

- a) Water reforms
- b) Banking reforms
- c) Reforms in the condition of STs in India
- d) Insurance reforms

#### Answer: A

Explanation – Mihir Shah Committee was related to bringing reforms in the management of water resources.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Suez Canal connects Black Sea with the Caspian Sea.
- 2. India is the importer of Egyptian crude oil and natural gas.
- 3. The headquarter of Arab League is located in the Egypt.

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

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

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 is** incorrect. Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean and the Red seas.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. India is the importer of Egyptian crude oil and natural gas. The headquarter of Arab League is located in the Egypt.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

#### Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hydropower is the second highest power producing source globally.
- 2. Hydropower production is expected to increase across the country in the coming future.
- 3. Compared with North India, South India is projected to experience higher warming in the future.

#### 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. Hydropower is the second highest power producing source at 13% and it is a significant contributor to clean global electricity generation. Hydropower production is expected to increase across the country due to substantial increase in precipitation leading to increased inflow to the reservoirs.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Compared with central and south India, north India is projected to experience higher warming in the future.

Source: The Hindu



#### Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to aftershocks of earthquake:

- 1. Aftershocks are a sequence of earthquakes that happen after a larger mainshock.
- 2. Aftershocks can continue for a longer period of time.
- 3. Aftershocks are stronger than the main seismic event.

#### 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. Aftershocks are a sequence of earthquakes that happen after a larger mainshock. Aftershocks can continue for days, weeks, months, or even years.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Aftershocks are weaker than the main seismic event but they are strong enough to cause the damage.

Source: The Indian Express

#### Q.10) With reference to 'Yuva Sangam Portal' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative for cementing the bond between the northeast and the rest of India.
- 2. It has been launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 is** correct. Yuva Sangam Portal is an initiative for cementing the bond between the northeast and the rest of India.

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

Source: DNA



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding CAR T-cell therapy

- 1. CAR T-cell therapies use a patient's own cells
- 2. This therapy has been approved for leukaemias and lymphomas.

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

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

#### Answer: C

**Statement 1** is correct. Unlike chemotherapy or immunotherapy, which require mass-produced injectable or oral medication, CAR T-cell therapies use a patient's own cells.

Statement 2 is correct. As of today, CAR T-cell therapy has been approved for leukaemias (cancers arising from the cells that produce white blood cells) and lymphomas (arising from the lymphatic system).

#### Q.2) Which one of the following is not an effect of high public debt ratio?

- a) Government is left with less money to spend on essential items such as infrastructure
- b) It restricts the government's ability to respond to the next economic shock
- c) Reserve Bank of India's ability to conduct an independent monetary policy to control inflation is compromised
- d) Reserve Bank of India's ability to conduct an independent monetary policy to control inflation is strengthened.

#### Answer: D

A high public debt ratio has three main implications for macro-economic policy over the medium term. First, the interest costs of servicing this public debt leave the government with less money to spend on essential items such as infrastructure, the green transition, welfare programmes, defence and social security. Second, the government's ability to respond to the next shock is restricted when the public debt ratio is already high. Third, the Reserve Bank of India's ability to conduct an independent monetary policy to control inflation is compromised when it also has to worry about managing a mountain of public debt on behalf of the government. T

#### Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding spy balloons

- 1. They operate at a low altitude compared to the altitude of commercial aircraft
- 2. Due to proximity to earth's surface, they capture clearer, high-resolution images of the target.

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

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

#### Ans) b

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Spy balloons are high-altitude surveillance tools that usually operate at 80,000-1,20,000 feet — well above the cruising altitude of commercial aircraft — to gather intelligence and carry out other military missions.



Statement 2 is correct. Due to their proximity to the Earth's surface, spy ballons can widely scan an area from close quarters and capture clearer, high-resolution images of the target.

#### Q.4) Which one of the following statements is incorrect?

- a) Urban Heat Islands (UHIs) is one of the causes behind premature deaths in urban areas.
- b) people who live in cities have smaller carbon footprints than those in the suburbs and countryside
- c) Urban green spaces are also associated with a lower prevalence of diabetes.
- d) Europe has recently achieved the 30% of tree coverage in its urban areas.

#### Ans) d

4.3% of premature deaths in cities during the summer months are attributable to UHI Studies have shown that people who live in cities have smaller carbon footprints than those in the suburbs and countryside.

Satellite data has shown that 30% of tree coverage is a feasible target in the 93 cities covered in the study, but the average in Europe is still only 14.9%.

#### **Source**

# Q.5) Low-Earth Orbit Flight Test of an Inflatable Decelerator (LOFTID) technology is associated with -

- a) Exploring rare earth metals.
- b) Detecting unidentified flying object
- c) Helping humans to land on Mars
- d) Observing climate change

### Answer: C

**Explanation** – Low-Earth Orbit Flight Test of an Inflatable Decelerator (LOFTID) technology will help human to land on Mars.

# Q.6) Which of the following is not correct about the appointment of State Police Chiefs (Director General of Police)?

- a) Appointments of DGPs are on the basis of the Supreme Court judgment on police reforms in Prakash Singh vs Union of India.
- b) The consent of an officer is required for his/her posting as DGPs.
- c) Centre has the power to not relieve an officer for posting as DGP in the state.
- d) States are supposed to draw up and send to the UPSC a list of eligible officers under certain conditions.

#### **Answer: B**

Based on the judgment, the UPSC issued its own guidelines in 2009 on the appointment of police chiefs of states. Under the rules, the consent of an officer is not required for his/her posting. **Source:** Row over Nagaland DGP: How are state police chiefs appointed?



#### Q.7) Which of the following is/are the correct about Dhamaal?

- 1. It is a mix of Sufi and African musical and dance traditions.
- 2. Baithaaki Dhamaal is performed in both sitting and dance positions.
- 3. Dhamaal songs and dances are performed to celebrate the anniversary of the birth and death of spiritual leaders.

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

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

#### Answer: C

**Statements 1 and 3 are correct**: Dhamaal is a mix of Sufi and African (mostly East African) musical and dance traditions.

Dhamaal songs and dances are performed by Siddis to celebrate the anniversary of the birth and death of spiritual leaders.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: They are performed in two ways — Dance Dhamaal and Baithaaki Dhamaal. The Baithaaki Dhamaal is performed in the sitting position and the Dance Dhamaal is performed in both sitting and dance positions.

Source: DTE

# Q.8) Hydrogen for Heritage Project, is sometimes seen in the news, is related to which of the following?

- a) To make hydrogen as a power source for heritage complexes.
- b) To run hydrogen powered trains in historic, narrow-gauge routes.
- c) To make hydrogen buses for Site visits from the officials of Archeological Survey of India.
- d) To create hydrogen cells at low cost for road transportation.

#### Answer: B

Under this project, hydrogen-powered trains will be created and known as Vande Metro. It will initially run on historic, narrow-gauge routes including the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, the Kalka Shimla Railway, the Matheran Hill Railway, the Kangra Valley, the Bilmora Waghai, and the Marwar-Devgarh Madriya, which will make travel more environmentally friendly.

The first hydrogen train designed and manufactured locally will be ready by December 2023 on the Kalka-Shimla historic circuit.

Source: Why railways around the world are ditching diesel for hydrogen

#### Q.9) With reference to res-judicata, consider the following statements;

1. It is applied when a litigant attempts to file a subsequent lawsuit on the same matter after having received a judgment in a previous case involving the same parties.

# 2. The concept is applicable only on Criminal cases.

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

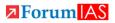
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

**Statement 1 is correct**: Res judicata literally means 'the thing has been judged". The principle of res judicata is applied when a litigant attempts to file a subsequent lawsuit on the same matter after having received a judgment in a previous case involving the same parties.

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**Statement 2 is incorrect**: Res Judicata as a concept is applicable both in case of Civil as well as Criminal cases.

Source: <u>Res judicata</u>

#### Q.10) Which of the following can be the potential applications of Generative AI?

- 1. Craft sales, marketing and brand messaging.
- 2. Reduce the burden of human research.
- 3. Simulate complex engineering, design, and architecture.

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

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

#### Answer: D

**Generative AI can craft sales, marketing and brand messaging**: Agencies can generate personalized social media posts, blogs and marketing text and video copies by providing a text prompt to a Generative AI service like ChatGPT.

**Reduce the burden of human research:** It can help sift through numerous legal research materials and produce a pertinent, specific and actionable summary. As a result, it can reduce the countless hours of human research and enable them to focus on more complex and exciting problems.

**Help in designing**: It can also help create and simulate complex engineering, design, and architecture. It can help speed up the iterative development and testing of novel designs.

**Personalized Health treatments:** It can also help health professionals with their medical diagnosis. AI can generate potential and alternative treatments personalized to patients' symptoms and medical history. For instance, DeepMind AlphaFold can predict the shape of the protein.

**Source:** <u>Make In IndAIa – As Google comes up with a ChatGPT rival & AI becomes ubiquitous,</u> <u>here's what GoI must do</u>



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) Which one of the following countries is a part of Nordic countries, but not of Scandinavian countries?

- a) Denmark
- b) Finland
- c) Norway
- d) Sweden

#### Ans) b

The Nordic Region consists of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland, as well as the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

While, the term 'Scandinavia' is commonly used for Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Source – <u>The Hindu</u>

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, the candidate's name is effectively made public after their selection by the collegium.
- 2. Once a collegium recommendation has been made, there is no mechanism available to challenge it.

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

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

#### Ans) a

**Statement** 1 is correct. in India, the candidate's name is effectively made public after their selection by the collegium. The selection process is behind closed doors, where the parties involved are the collegium and the government (through the Intelligence Bureau).

Statement 2 is incorrect. Once a collegium recommendation has been made, the only way of contesting it is through a legal challenge. However, that challenge must be before the Supreme Court itself, leading to a set of awkward situations: the decision of the collegium — the three (or five) senior-most judges of the Supreme Court — must be challenged before their own junior colleagues.

#### Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding labour force participation rate (LFPR)

- 1. LFPR is the percentage of the population in working age-groups that is employed.
- 2. Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) provides data of both LFPR and Worker Population Ratio (WPR).

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

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

#### Ans) b

**Statement 1 is** incorrect. It also includes those who are unemployed, in the working age group but willing to work. LFPR is the percentage of the population (in working age-groups) that is employed, or is looking for work, but is unemployed.



**Statement 2** is correct. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) gives estimates of Key employment and unemployment Indicators like, the Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), etc. These indicators, and the 'Usual Status' and 'Current Weekly Status' are defined as follows:

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): LFPR is defined as the percentage of persons in labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work)in the population.

Worker Population Ratio (WPR): WPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.

Unemployment Rate (UR): UR is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.

#### <u>Link</u>

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Less than 50% of India is prone to earthquake of different magnitudes.
- 2. More than 10% of India falls under very high-risk seismically volatile Zone V.

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

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

#### Ans) b

**Statement 1** is incorrect, statement 2 is correct. Around 59% of India is prone to earthquakes of different magnitudes – 11% in the very high-risk Zone V (Kashmir Valley, western Himachal, eastern Uttarakhand, the Northeast, Rann of Kutch), 18% in high-risk Zone IV (Delhi, parts of Maharashtra, Haryana, UP, Bengal and Bihar), and 30% in Zone III (Kerala, Goa, Lakshadweep, parts of MP, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh).

#### Q.6) Which of the following is/are the benefits of disinvestment?

- 1. Bridge the revenue shortfall for that year.
- 2. Help government to invest in social sector programmes.
- 3. Encourage private ownership of assets.

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

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

#### **Answer: D**

The government may disinvest in order to a) reduce the fiscal burden or bridge the revenue shortfall for that year, b) finance the fiscal deficit, c) invest in the economy and development or social sector programmes, d) reduce government debt, e) encourage private ownership of assets and trading in the open market.

If disinvestment is successful, it also means that the government does not have to fund the losses of a loss-making unit anymore.

Source: Explained | The status and proceeds of disinvestment



#### Q.7) Which of the following statement is not correct Vermin species?

- a) Vermins are not clearly defined in the Wildlife Protection Act, 1992.
- b) Both Centre and State governments can declare a species as Vermin.
- c) Wild animal species which are placed in Schedule I and Schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 cannot be declared as Vermin.
- d) Vermins can be hunted.

#### Answer: B

The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 states that the central government can declare any wild animal as vermin except those are in Schedule I and Schedule II of the Act.

Source: Vermins

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

- 1. Quasicrystals are not formed in Nature and they are always formed under labarotory conditions.
- 2. Quasicrystals can be used in surgical instruments, LED lights and non-stick frying pans.

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

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

#### Answer: B

**Statement 1 is incorrect**: Quasicrystal, also called quasi-periodic crystal, is a matter formed atomically in a manner somewhere between the amorphous solids of glasses and the precise pattern of crystals. Recently, Scientists have discovered a third natural source of quasicrystals. **Statement 2 is correct**: Quasicrystals can be used in surgical instruments, LED lights and non-

stick frying pans. They have poor heat conductivity, which makes them good insulators.

Other potential applications include selective solar absorbers for power conversion, broadwavelength reflectors, and bone repair and prostheses applications where biocompatibility, low friction and corrosion resistance are required.

Source: Quasicrystal

# Q.9) With reference to the NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) Mission, consider the following statements;

- 1. It consists of both L-band and S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) instruments, which makes it a dual-frequency imaging radar satellite.
- 2. It is a Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) observatory which will have the capacity to map the entire globe in 24 hours.

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

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

#### Answer: A

**Statement 1 is correct**: NISAR has been built by space agencies of the US and India under a partnership agreement signed in 2014.



It consist of both L-band and S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) instruments, which makes it a dual-frequency imaging radar satellite.

**Statement 2 is incorrect**: It is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory which will have the capacity to map the entire globe in 12 days.

Source: The Hindu

# Q.10) Amrit Sarovar Mission, is sometimes seen in the news, is related to which of the following?

- a) To increase ground water resources in urban areas.
- b) To overcome the water crisis in rural areas.
- c) To enhance rain water harvesting in drought prone regions.
- d) To create artificial wetlands in metropolitan cities.

#### Answer: B

Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched as part of India's "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebrations for the 75th year of independence.

The mission aims to construct/rejuvenate at least 75 Amrit Sarovars in each district across India to overcome the water crisis in rural areas.

Source: PIB



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) With reference to National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme aims at establishing a public dairy enterprise in order to provide better return to cattle keeping farmers.
- 2. It focuses towards strengthening of infrastructure for quality milk testing equipment as well as primary chilling facilities.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. NPDD is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2014. It aims to enhance quality of milk and milk products and increase share of organized milk procurement by creating required infrastructure. It does not aim at creating public dairy company.

**Statement 2** is correct. NPDD focuses towards strengthening of infrastructure for quality milk testing equipment as well as primary chilling facilities.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) The term 'res-judicata' was seen in the news recently, it means -

- a) A case in which there has been a final judgment and that is no longer subject to appeal.
- b) A process of dismissing an advocate from appearing the court for any criminal case.
- c) A special Rajya Sabha session conducted by the Vice-President of India on the matter of national importance.
- d) The procedure through which Prime Minister of India selects the Cabinet Secretary.

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

Res-judicata is a judicial concept which means that the issue before the court has already been decided by another court, between the same parties. Therefore, the case can no longer be appealed.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) Consider the following statements with reference to 'Microfinance':

- 1. Microfinance loans do not require any collateral.
- 2. They provide loans for a longer period of time.
- 3. Micro savings accounts allow entrepreneurs operate savings accounts with no minimum balance.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Microfinance loans do not require any collateral. Micro savings accounts allow entrepreneurs operate savings accounts with no minimum balance.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Microfinance Institutions provide loans for a short duration. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.4) With reference to 'Hydropower' consider the following statements:

- 1. Hydropower is a renewable source of energy.
- 2. Hydroelectric generation is 100% free from greenhouse gas emission.
- 3. Hydroelectric generation reduces dependence on fossil fuel.

#### 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. Hydropower is a renewable source of energy. Hydroelectric generation reduce dependence on fossil fuel.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Hydroelectric generation is not 100% free from greenhouse gas emission.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) With reference to "Energy Transition" consider the following statements:

- 1. Energy Transitions refers to the transformation of the energy sector from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to renewable energy sources.
- 2. This is the first time that the world is heading towards energy transitions.
- 3. International Solar Alliance is one of the ways towards energy transition.

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

- 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. Energy Transitions refers to the transformation of the energy sector from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to renewable energy sources. International Solar Alliance is one of the ways towards energy transition.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The human civilisation has witnessed energy transition in the past as well, e.g., the transition from wood to coal happened in the 17th and 18th centuries. The shift from coal to oil occurred predominantly in the 20th century.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) consider the following statements:

- 1. MSMEs are India's largest employer outside of agriculture.
- 2. A majority of the manufacturing MSMEs are unregistered.
- 3. An organization registered as MSME faces less competition in the market.

#### 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. MSMEs are India's largest employer outside of agriculture. Almost 86% of the country's manufacturing MSMEs are unregistered.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Competition is high in the market even for MSMEs. Although by registering as an MSME, the organization gets benefit from the government but this does not reduce the competition in the market.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.7) Which of the following are the benefits of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)?

- 1. Rural development
- 2. Women empowerment
- 3. Battling uncertainties
- 4. Population control

#### Select the correct code given below:

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

### Answer: C

#### Explanation –

Following are the benefits of MGNREGS – Rural Development, Women, Empowerment, Battling uncertainties like pandemic, community assets, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) With reference to the Hittite Empire, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Empire existed during the Iron Age.
- 2. It was resilient against regular sociopolitical, economic and environmental challenges of its time.
- 3. They were famous for their skill in building and using chariots.

#### 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 Hittite Empire existed during the Bronze Age.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Hittite Empire was resilient against regular sociopolitical, economic and environmental challenges of its time. They were famous for their skill in building and using chariots.

Source: The Print



#### Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Currently, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) represent only about 6 per cent of the ocean.
- 2. Fully marine protected areas prevent extractive activities, while highly protected MPAs allow light extractive activities.

#### 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. Currently, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) represent only about 6 per cent of the ocean. Fully marine protected areas prevent extractive activities, while highly protected MPAs allow light extractive activities.

Source: DTE

#### Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Section 69 of the IT Act allows the government to issue content-blocking orders to online Internet Service Providers (ISPs) on the grounds of dissatisfaction of the government.
- 2. Cesses and surcharges in 2023-24 budget have seen one of the lowest increases in recent years.

#### 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. Section 69 of the IT Act allows the government to issue contentblocking orders to online Internet Service Providers (ISPs) if the information or content being blocked to be deemed a threat to India's national security, sovereignty, or public order.

**Statement 2** is correct. Cesses and surcharges in 2023-24 budget are expected to see one of the lowest increases in recent years.

Source: The Indian Express



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to boost citizen's access to the public health infrastructure by building facilities for primary and critical care in urban and rural areas of the country.
- 2. The scheme aims at providing employment in the rural 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. PM-ABHIM aims to boost citizen's access to the public health infrastructure by building facilities for primary and critical care in urban and rural areas of the country.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Employment generation is not the aim of PM-ABHIM.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) consider the following statements:

- 1. It provides low-cost access to space.
- 2. It is configured with three solid propulsion stages and a velocity terminal module.
- 3. It has been developed to cater to a market for the launch of small satellites into high earth orbits.

#### 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. SSLV provides low-cost access to space. It is configured with three solid propulsion stages and a velocity terminal module.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. It has been developed to cater to a market for the launch of small satellites into low earth orbits.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference Economic Survey 2022-23, consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the survey, the JAM Trinity (Jan-Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile) combined with Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) has brought the marginalised sections of society into the formal financial system.
- 2. As per the survey, credit disbursed by non-banking financial companies has seen a decline.
- 3. According to the survey, private investment in agriculture rose in 2020-21.

#### 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 JAM Trinity (Jan-Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile) combined with Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) has brought the marginalised sections of society into the formal financial system. According to the Survey, private investment in agriculture rose in 2020-21.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. As per the survey, credit disbursed by non-banking financial companies has been on the rise.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha gives the Speaker the discretion to expunge any words or expressions used in the debate that is considered defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified.
- 2. It is the duty of the Leader of Opposition to raise the issue and keep unparliamentary words out of Parliament's records.

#### 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. Rule 380 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha gives the Speaker the discretion to expunge any words or expressions used in the debate that is considered defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is the duty of the Presiding officers of the House to keep unparliamentary words out of Parliament's records.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) Which of the following does not come under Champion Services Sectors?

- a) Tourism & Hospitality Services
- b) Accounting and Finance Services
- c) Legal Services
- d) Manufacturing services

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Champion Services Sectors refers to the 12 identified sectors where the Government wants to give focused attention for promoting their development and realizing their potential. Manufacturing is not one of them.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) consider the following statements:

- 1. Volcanic eruptions under the ice can cause GLOF.
- 2. There is a gradual release of water in GLOF.
- 3. GLOF result in large downstream river discharges.

#### 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. Volcanic eruptions under the ice can cause GLOF. GLOF result in large downstream river discharges.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. GLOF involve sudden release of water. They are rapid events lasting for hours.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Sundarban Bird Festival is the first-ever festival organized by the Sundarban Tiger Reserve (STR).
- 2. The Sunderban forest is the only mangrove forest in the world where tigers are found.

#### 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. Sundarban Bird Festival is the first-ever festival organized by the Sundarban Tiger Reserve (STR) division of the West Bengal Forest Department. The Sunderban forest is the only mangrove forest in the world where tigers are found.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.8) With reference to 'Fire-capped tit bird' consider the following statements:

- 1. They are native to Central America.
- 2. They are categorized as Least Concern in the IUCN Red 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. Fire-capped tit birds are native Himalayan Mountain Ranges. **Statement 2** is correct. They are categorized as Least Concern in the IUCN Red List. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.9) Which of the following is incorrect regarding the Quaoar planet?

- a) Its surface is moderately red and composed of low-density ice mixed with rock.
- b) It is a dwarf planet in the Kuiper belt.
- c) It does not have its moon.
- d) It is greater in volume than all asteroids combined.

#### Answer: C

**Explanation –** Quaoar has its own moon. Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

#### Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Kilonova is a cosmic event that occurs when a neutron star smashes into another neutron star.
- 2. Kilonova releases heavy metals like gold, silver, and selenium into outer space.
- 3. Neutron stars are formed when a massive star runs out of fuel and collapses.

#### 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. Kilonova is a cosmic event that occurs when a neutron star smashes into another neutron star. Kilonova releases heavy metals like gold, silver, and selenium into outer space. Neutron stars are formed when a massive star runs out of fuel and collapses. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 1986 provides special protections for children below the age of 18 who have been involved in criminal activity.
- 2. A Constitution is considered as a living document in which the idea of freedom remains static.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 1986 provides special protections for children below the age of 18 who have been involved in criminal activity.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A Constitution is considered as a living document in which the idea of freedom is not static and it keep changing with the time by the interpretation of the court. **Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Textile manufacturing is one of the most polluting sectors.
- 2. Atmosphere and Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems and Services (ACROSS) scheme has been launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

#### 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. Textile manufacturing is one of the most polluting sectors.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. ACROSS scheme has been launched by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference to 'E-waste' consider the following statements:

- 1. E-waste contaminates ground water and soil.
- 2. A majority of the e-waste market in India is unregulated.
- 3. Children are more vulnerable than adults to harmful effects of e-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: D

#### **Explanation** -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. E-waste contaminates ground water and soil. A majority of the e-waste market in India is unregulated. Children are more vulnerable than adults to e-waste. Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to 'Global Biofuels Alliance' consider the following statements:

- 1. The alliance will be established by US, Australia and South Africa.
- 2. The aim of the alliance is to facilitate cooperation and intensify the use of sustainable biofuels.
- 3. The alliance will work in collaboration with and complement the relevant existing regional and international agencies as well as initiatives in the bioenergy.

#### 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 alliance will be established by India, Brazil and US.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The aim of the alliance is to facilitate cooperation and intensify the use of sustainable biofuels. The alliance will work in collaboration with and complement the relevant existing regional and international agencies as well as initiatives in the bioenergy.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.5) With reference to Prepaid Payment instrument (PPI) consider the following statements:

- 1. These are financial instruments that facilitate the purchase of goods and services against the value stored on such instruments.
- 2. These payment instruments are licensed and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
- 3. Closed system PPI can be used only at specific locations and cannot be used to transfer funds from one account to another.

#### 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. PPI are financial instruments that facilitate the purchase of goods and services against the value stored on such instruments. These payment instruments are licensed and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India. Closed system PPI can be used only at specific locations and cannot be used to transfer funds from one account to another. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Broadband is a data connection that has the capability of the minimum download speed of 10 Mbps.
- 2. Places without any cellular connectivity are called white spots.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The definition of broadband has recently been changed. As per the new definition, broadband is a data connection that is able to support including internet access and has the capability of the minimum download speed of 2 Mbps. Earlier the minimum download speed was 512 kbps to be considered as broadband.

**Statement 2** is correct. Places without any cellular connectivity are called white spots. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>



#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. BHASHINI is a local language translation mission that aims to break the barrier between various Indian languages by using available technology.
- 2. Bhasha Daan is an ambitious project which aims to set up a voice-based AI in various government websites for easier access by the people.

#### 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. BHASHINI is a local language translation mission that aims to break the barrier between various Indian tongues by using available technology.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Bhasha Daan is an ambitious project which aims to crowdsource voice datasets in multiple Indian languages as part of Project BHASHINI.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) Consider the following pairs:

#### Operations

#### Reasons

- 1. Operation Raahat Evacuation Indian citizens during Yemen Crisis
- 2. Operation Maitri
- 3. Operation Devi Shakti
- 4. Operation Safe Homecoming –
- Evacuation of Indian citizens from Libyan Civil War
- Evacuation of Indian citizens during the Lebanon war
  - Launched for the earthquake in Nepal

### How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

### Answer: A

#### **Explanation – 1 is** correctly matched.

**Operation Maitri:** It was a rescue and relief operation in Nepal carried out by the government of India and Indian armed forces in the aftermath of the 2015 Nepal earthquake.

**Operation Safe Homecoming:** It was an operation launched by the Indian government in 2011 to evacuate its citizens, fleeing from the Libyan Civil War.

**Operation Devi Shakti:** Indians and foreign nationals were being evacuated from Afghanistan following the Taliban's takeover of the nation.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.9) With reference to Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the members of GBEP.
- 2. GBEP brings together public, private and civil society stakeholders in a joint commitment to promote bioenergy for sustainable development.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### **Explanation**-

Statement 1 is incorrect. India is one of the observer countries of GBEP.

**Statement 2** is correct. GBEP brings together public, private and civil society stakeholders in a joint commitment to promote bioenergy for sustainable development.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.10) With reference to the India economy, consider the following statements:

- 1. Initial Public Offering (IPO) is offer of shares by a listed Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) or the Government out of its shareholding or a combination of both to the public for subscription.
- 2. Further Public Offering (FPO) is offer of shares by an unlisted Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) or the Government out of its shareholding or a combination of both to the public for subscription for the first time.
- 3. Strategic Sale refers to sale of substantial portion of the Government shareholding of a Public Sector Enterprise (PSE).

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. IPO is offer of shares by an unlisted PSE or the Government out of its shareholding or a combination of both to the public for subscription for the first time. FPO is offer of shares by a listed PSE or the Government out of its shareholding or a combination of both to the public for subscription.

**Statement 3** is correct. Strategic Sale refers to sale of substantial portion of the Government shareholding of a PSE, up to 50%, or such higher percentage as the competent authority may determine, along with transfer of management control.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. The green revolution resulted in the decline in the growth of millets.
- 2. Millets can help in reducing obesity.
- 3. The year 2023 has been declared as the National Year of Millets.

#### 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: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. The green revolution resulted in the decline in the growth of millets. Millets can help in reducing obesity.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The year 2023 has been declared as the International Year of Millets whereas the year 2018 was the National Year of Millets.

Source: The Times of India

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Motion of thanks by the President has been provided by the Constitution.
- 2. Under the Rules of the House, the Prime Minister replies to the debate in both Houses.
- 3. Under Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code, any statement with respect to the conduct of a public servant in the discharge of his public function or his character is not considered as defamation.

#### 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. Motion of thanks by the President has not been provided by the Constitution. It is a customary practice.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. Under the Rules of the House, the Prime Minister replies to the debate in both Houses. Under Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code, any statement with respect to the conduct of a public servant in the discharge of his public function or his character is not considered as defamation.

#### Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) Which of the following is incorrect regarding the 'Governor'?

- a) The Governor acts as a dynamic link between the Centre and the State.
- b) The governor is the representative of the Union in the state.
- c) Governor does not enjoy broad discretionary powers and is always subject to Constitutional standards.
- d) The Governor's office acts a parallel power with the state government.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – The Governor's office does not act a parallel power with the state government. The state government is an elected government; hence it will have more power than those appointed. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to Filariasis disease, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is commonly known as Cellulitis.
- 2. It is one of the diseases occurring in tropical areas.
- 3. It is caused by infection with parasites classified as nematodes.

#### 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. Filariasis is commonly known as elephantiasis.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. It is one of the diseases occurring in tropical areas. It is caused by infection with parasites classified as nematodes.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.5) With reference to Geological Survey of India (GSI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It uses computer-based technologies for dissemination of geoscientific information and spatial data.
- 2. It functions under the Ministry of Mines.
- 3. It's headquartered at New Delhi.

#### 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. GSI uses computer-based technologies for dissemination of geoscientific information and spatial data. It functions under the Ministry of Mines.Statement 3 is incorrect. Its headquarters is in Kolkata.

#### Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Aubrite meteorites contain a variety of exotic minerals that are not found on Earth.
- 2. Pyroxenes such as diopside and jadeite are used as gems.

#### 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. Aubrite meteorites contain a variety of exotic minerals that are not found on Earth. Pyroxenes such as diopside and jadeite are used as gems. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.7) With reference to Geo-Heritage sites, consider the following statements:

- 1. These are geographical areas of national importance and heritage.
- 2. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) declares geo-heritage sites for protection and maintenance.
- 3. Sendra Granite is geo-heritage site located in Maharashtra.

#### 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: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. Geo-Heritage sites are geographical areas of national importance and heritage. The sites contain geological features which are inherently or culturally significant offering insight to earth's evolution or history to earth science or that can be utilized for education.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. Geological Survey of India (GSI) declares geo-heritage sites for protection and maintenance. Sendra Granite is geo-heritage site located in Rajasthan. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Aero India is the largest air show in the world.
- 2. Lockheed Martin F-35 is a combat aircraft that is intended to perform both air superiority and strike missions.

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

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

Answer: B Explanation –



**Statement 1** is incorrect. Aero India is the largest air show in the Asia.

**Statement 2** is correct. Lockheed Martin F-35 is a combat aircraft that is intended to perform both air superiority and strike missions.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.9) With reference to the Delimitation Commission, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Delimitation Commission is appointed by the Prime Minister of India.
- 2. The Commission is mandated to identify seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- 3. Under Article 82, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census.

#### 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 Delimitation Commission is appointed by the President of India. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Commission is mandated to identify seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Under Article 82, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.10) With reference to Mutual Funds, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of financial vehicle made up of a pool of money collected from many investors to invest in securities like stocks, bonds and other assets.
- 2. They are operated by a group of people selected by the investors.

### 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. Mutual Funds is a type of financial vehicle made up of a pool of money collected from many investors to invest in securities like stocks, bonds and other assets.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Mutual Funds are operated by professional money managers, who allocate the fund's assets and attempt to produce income for the fund's investors.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Urea is the most-consumed fertiliser in India.
- 2. Nano-fertilisers increases the damage to the environment.
- 3. Nano-fertilisers provides higher yields compared to normal fertilisers.

#### 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. Urea is the most-consumed fertiliser in India. Nano-fertilisers provides higher yields compared to normal fertilisers.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Nano-fertilisers minimize the damage to the environment as they do not pollute air, soil and water like normal fertilisers do.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to Marburg Disease, consider the following statements:

- 1. Marburg virus originates in spiders.
- 2. Illness caused by Marburg virus begins abruptly with high fever.
- 3. There are no authorized vaccines or drugs to treat Marburg.

#### 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. Marburg virus originates in bats and spreads between people via close contact with the bodily fluids of infected people, or surfaces, like contaminated bedsheets. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Illness caused by Marburg virus begins abruptly with high fever. There are no authorized vaccines or drugs to treat Marburg, but rehydration treatment to

There are no authorized vaccines or drugs to treat Marburg, but rehydration treatment to alleviate symptoms can improve the chances of survival.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.3) With reference to "Black Soldier Fly" seen in the news recently, consider the following statements:

- 1. They have high waste-to-biomass conversion efficiency.
- 2. They are rich in calcium and phosphorus.
- 3. They have high carbon footprint.

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

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

# Answer: A

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Black Soldier Fly are insects that have high waste-to-biomass conversion efficiency. They are rich in calcium and phosphorus.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Black Soldier Fly larvae are a low-cost, low-footprint, eco-friendly as well as natural feed companion to poultry farmers.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the top poultry egg producers in the world.
- 2. Poultry feeds account for up to 70% of the entire cost of poultry production.

#### 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. India is among the top five poultry chicken and egg producers in the world. Poultry feeds account for up to 70% of the entire cost of poultry production. **Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to promote and give directions to historical research and to encourage objective and scientific writing of history.
- 2. It is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 as a literary and charitable society.

3. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture.

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

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

Answer: A Explanation –



**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. ICHR aims to promote and give directions to historical research and to encourage objective and scientific writing of history. It is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 as a literary and charitable society.

Statement 3 is incorrect. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Education. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

# Q.6) With reference to PFAS (Per and polyfluorinated alkyl substances), consider the following statements:

- 1. PFAs are used to make nonstick cookware.
- 2. They are called forever chemicals.
- 3. PFAs are used as an alternative to other disease-causing chemicals.

#### 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. PFAs are used to make nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics, cosmetics, etc. They are called "forever chemicals" because they do not naturally break down.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. PFAs itself are disease causing chemicals. Varieties of health risks that are attributed to PFA exposure include decreased fertility, developmental effects in children, interference with body hormones, increased cholesterol levels and increased risk of some cancers.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Non-personal data refers to any dataset that does not contain information that can be used to identify an individual.
- 2. A data embassy refers to server resources owned and maintained by a nation-state outside its territorial boundaries and according to its own laws.
- 3. Estonia was the first country to set up a data embassy outside its territory.

#### 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. Non-personal data refers to any dataset that does not contain information that can be used to identify an individual. A data embassy refers to server resources owned and maintained by a nation-state outside its territorial boundaries and according to its own laws. Estonia was the first country to set up a data embassy outside its territory.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gender Budgeting is the use of fiscal policies and public financial management tools to promote gender equality.
- 2. Gender equality is one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.
- 3. Gender Budgeting Cells (GBC) are being established by the government to resolve the grievances of inequality faced by women in the different areas.

#### 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. Gender Budgeting is the use of fiscal policies and public financial management tools to promote gender equality. Gender equality is one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Government has mandated the establishment of Gender Budgeting Cells in all Ministries and Departments as an institutional mechanism to implement Gender Budgeting.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India-Bangladesh cooperation in the energy sector has increased in the past few years.
- 2. Nepal is India's largest trading partner in South Asia.
- 3. Oman is one of the member countries of the G20.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. India-Bangladesh cooperation in the energy sector has increased in the past few years with various projects such as the Friendship Pipeline and Maitree Super Thermal Power Project, amongst others.

**Statement 2 and 3 are** incorrect. In 2021-22, Bangladesh emerged as India's largest trading partner in South Asia. Oman is not one of the members of G20.

Source: ORF



#### Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Amongst the G20 members, the USA spends the highest in the defence.
- 2. The Think 20 (T20) serves as an idea bank for G20 and provides analytical depth to policy issues and concerns addressed in G20 by holding discussions and deliberation.

#### 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. Amongst the G20 members, the USA spends the highest in the defence. However, in terms of percentage it is Russia at the top followed by the US. The Think 20 (T20) serves as an idea bank for G20 and provides analytical depth to policy issues and concerns addressed in G20 by holding discussions and deliberation.

Source: ORF



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is the largest domestic civil aviation market in the world.
- 2. There has been a significant increase in international air passengers in India.
- 3. The Government of India started UDAN scheme to make flight operations to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities commercially viable.

#### 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 third largest domestic civil aviation market in the world after China and the US.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. There has been a significant increase in international air passengers in India. The Government of India started UDAN scheme to make flight operations to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities commercially viable.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) adds to the burden of communicable diseases and strains the health systems of a nation.
- 2. AMR imposes a huge health cost on the patient.
- 3. One Health approach aims at providing healthcare services at a nominal cost to all the Indian 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:** A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. AMR adds to the burden of communicable diseases and strains the health systems of a nation. AMR imposes a huge health cost on the patient.

Statement 3 is incorrect. One Health approach requires all stakeholders to work together towards an integrated programme linking challenges of humans, terrestrial and aquatic animals, plant health, food and feed production and the environment.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. India is the third largest economy in the world.
- 2. Petrochemicals is India's one of the most profitable firms.
- 3. India's investment in Research and development (R&D) is less than that of Israel.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. India is fifth largest economy in the world.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. India's most profitable firms are in financial services, petrochemicals, metal processing and software. India has ranked 16th, below Israel in R&D. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to the Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the Constitution of India, the election for the post of Deputy Speaker must be held within the six months of the election of the Speaker.
- 2. The Deputy Speaker is directly responsible to the House and is not subordinate to the Speaker.
- 3. The Deputy Speaker performs the duties of the Speaker's office when it is vacant.

#### 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. Article 93 says that the House of the People (Lok Sabha) shall as soon as may be, choose two members to be Speaker and Deputy Speaker so often as the offices become vacant. However, it does not provide a specific time frame.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Deputy Speaker is directly responsible to the House and is not subordinate to the Speaker. The Deputy Speaker performs the duties of the Speaker's office when it is vacant.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.5) With reference to Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme is based on the idea of competitive federalism.
- 2. Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- 3. It will develop selected villages based on the Hub and Spoke Model.

#### 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. VVP aims to comprehensively develop villages of blocks on the northern border especially the villages of Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Ladakh.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats. VVP will develop selected villages based on the Hub and Spoke Model.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. China is lending to most of the countries under the Belt and Road Initiative.
- 2. In an economy, a haircut happens when central bank hikes the repo rate.

3. The debt-trap diplomacy is mostly followed by the US.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 is** correct. China is lending to most of the countries under the Belt and Road Initiative.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. In an economy, haircut means when bank accepts less than what was due in a particular loan account. The debt-trap diplomacy is mostly followed by China. **Source:** ForumIAS



## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) is a signalling protein that promotes the growth of new blood vessels.
- 2. The Endothelium is a major player in the control of blood fluidity, platelet aggregation and vascular tone.

## 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. VEGF is a signalling protein that promotes the growth of new blood vessels. The Endothelium is a major player in the control of blood fluidity, platelet aggregation and vascular tone.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Mammatus clouds are usually formed in association with stratocumulus clouds.
- 2. Mammatus clouds are a type of unusual and distinctive cloud formations due to a series of bulges emerging from the base of a cloud.
- 3. The shape of mammatus clouds formations varies.

## 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. Mammatus clouds are usually formed in association with large cumulonimbus clouds.

**Statement 2 and 3** correct. Mammatus clouds are a type of unusual and distinctive cloud formations due to a series of bulges emerging from the base of a cloud. The shape of mammatus clouds formations varies.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.9) With reference to Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Fund (FIDF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to create employment in the fisheries sector.
- 2. It aims at creating fisheries infrastructure only for Inland fisheries sectors.
- 3. All scheduled banks are Nodal Loaning entities (NLEs) to provide concessional finance under the FIDF.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. FIDF aims to create employment opportunities to over 9.40 lakh fishers/fishermen/fisherfolk and other entrepreneurs in fishing and allied activities. NABARD, NCDC and all scheduled banks are Nodal Loaning entities (NLEs) to provide concessional finance under the FIDF.

**Statement 2 is** incorrect. FIDF aims at creation of fisheries infrastructure facilities both in marine and Inland fisheries sectors.

## Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) With reference to Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBPF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It functions under the Ministry of Defence.
- 2. At present, the ITBP guards India-China borders.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### **Explanation**-

**Statement 1 is** incorrect. ITBPF is a Central Armed Police Force functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

**Statement 2** is correct. At present, the ITBP guards 3,488 km long India-China borders ranging from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) With reference to Omorgus Khandesh, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a beetle species.
- 2. They are not photogenic.
- 3. They are important for forensic science as it helps detect the time of death of an animal or human.

#### 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. Omorgus Khandesh is a beetle species. They are not photogenic; they are usually black or grey and encrusted in the dirt. They are important for forensic science as it helps detect the time of death of an animal or human.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Bio-gas" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is produced by aerobic fermentation of organic matter in the presence of oxygen.
- 2. Biogas generation is influenced by the weather.
- 3. Less energy is required to produce Biogas compared to extracting natural gas.

#### 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Biogas is produced by anaerobic fermentation of organic matter in an oxygen-free environment.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. Biogas generation, like other renewable energy sources (such as solar and wind), is influenced by the weather. Less energy is required to produce Biogas compared to extracting natural gas.

#### Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference to River Cities Alliance (RCA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a dedicated platform for river cities to ideate, discuss and exchange information for sustainable management of urban rivers.
- 2. It includes cities only from the Ganga basin.
- 3. It is being implemented by a partnership of the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

## Which of the statement 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. RCA is a dedicated platform for river cities to ideate, discuss and exchange information for sustainable management of urban rivers. It is being implemented by a partnership of the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. **Statement 2** is incorrect. RCA includes cities from both the Ganga basin and non-Ganga basin states.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to the "Integrated rice-fish cultivation" consider the following statements:

- 1. In this type of cultivation, fish mostly depend on the natural food sources of the rice fields.
- 2. Modern farming techniques are deployed for cultivation.
- 3. Fish improves rice productivity by controlling the growth of algae, weeds and insects.

## 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. In Integrated rice-fish cultivation, fish mostly depend on the natural food sources of the rice fields. Fish improves rice productivity by controlling the growth of algae, weeds and insects.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Ancient and old-fashioned agricultural technologies are utilized for cultivation.

## Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) With reference to "Apatani Tribe" consider the following statements:

- 1. Jilan is a shawl woven by the tribe.
- 2. They are mostly the followers of Hinduism.
- 3. Hereileu is a major festival celebrated by the tribe.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 is** correct. The tribe predominantly weaves shawls known as jig-jiro and jilan or jackets called supuntarii.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. The most followed religion by the tribe is Donyi polo, the faith of praying to the sun (Ayo Danyii) and the moon. The major festivals of Apatanis are the Myoko, Dree, Yapung and Murung.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to "Thwaites Glacier" consider the following statements:

- 1. These are immovable glaciers of the Arctic region.
- 2. These glaciers are responsible for greenhouse gas emission in the Arctic region.

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

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. Thwaites Glacier is a 120 km wide, fast-moving glacier located in Antarctica. The melting of the glacier is a concern for raising the sea level. Its melting already contributes 4% to global sea-level rise each year. It is estimated that it would collapse into the sea in 200-900 years. Thwaites is often called the Doomsday Glacier. **Source: ForumIAS** 

# Q.7) With reference to the Special Marriage Act (SMA), 1954, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Act requires either spouse to convert to the religion of the other before marriage.
- 2. People of all faiths across India are eligible to get married under the SMA.
- 3. Section 4 of the SMA requires that both the parties should be capable of giving consent and must be of sound mind.

## 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. SMA, 1954 does not require conversion. It allows to different religion couples to get married.

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**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. People of all faiths across India are eligible to get married under the SMA. Section 4 of the SMA requires that both the parties should be capable of giving consent and must be of sound mind.

Source: The Indian Express

#### Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Pangolins are among the most trafficked wild mammals globally.
- 2. The Indian Pangolin has been classified as Critically Endangered by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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

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

## Answer: A

#### Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Pangolins are among the most trafficked wild mammals globally.Statement 2 is incorrect. The Indian Pangolin has been classified as 'Endangered' by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Source: The Hindu

## Q.9) The term 'Brown Economy' was seen in the news recently, it means

- a) An economy in which economic growth is largely dependent on environmentally destructive forms of activity.
- b) A segment of a country's economic activity that is derived from sources that fall outside of the country's rules and regulations regarding commerce.
- c) A production model where goods and services have intellectual value because they are the product of the ideas and expertise of their creators.
- d) The sustainable use of marine resources for exploration, economic growth, improved livelihoods, and transport while preserving the health of marine and coastal ecosystems.

#### Answer: A

**Explanation – A** brown economy is one in which economic growth is largely dependent on environmentally destructive forms of activity, especially fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas. **Source: The Hindu** 



## Q.10) With reference to 'Domestic Workers' consider the following statements:

- 1. There is lack of reliable data regarding number of domestic workers.
- 2. Domestic workers have not been safeguarded by the Constitution.

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

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

## Answer: A

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. There is lack of reliable data regarding number of domestic workers. **Statement 2** is incorrect. There are some Constitutional safeguards e.g., Article 23 prohibits traffic in human beings, begar and other forms of forced labour. Article 39(e) under Directive Principles exhorts the State to ensure that the health and strength of individuals are not abused and that no one is forced by economic necessity to do work unsuited to their age or strength. **Source: ForumIAS** 



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. It is a folk song-and-dance performance from Kerala.
- 2. In this, women dancers wearing make-up and ghunghroos perform on dholak beats on a stage before a live audience.

#### 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. Lavani is a folk song-and-dance performance from Maharashtra. **Statement 2** is correct. In this, women dancers wearing make-up and ghunghroos perform on dholak beats on a stage before a live audience.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Kole Wetland" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is located in Kerala.
- 2. The wetland is popular for its pulse cultivation.
- 3. It is one of the Ramsar Sites.
- 4. It is situated in the Central Asian Flyway of migratory birds.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1,** 3 and 4 are correct. Kole Wetland is located in Kerala. It is one of the Ramsar Sites. It is situated in the Central Asian Flyway of migratory birds.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The wetland is popular for its rice cultivation.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.3) Considering the following statements:

- 1. Thyreus narendrani is a species of cuckoo bee.
- 2. Cuckoo bees parasitise the nest of other bees by breaking and entering and laying their eggs.
- 3. The pollen-collecting structures in cuckoo bees are more efficient than other female bees.

## 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. Thyreus narendrani is a species of cuckoo bee. Cuckoo bees parasitise the nest of other bees by breaking and entering and laying their eggs.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Unlike other female bees, cuckoo bees lack pollen-collecting structures.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the act, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.
- 2. Individuals have been excluded from the act to be designated as terrorists.
- 3. The act has the death penalty and life imprisonment as the highest punishments.

## 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 the UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged. The act has the death penalty and life imprisonment as the highest punishments.Statement 2 is incorrect. The act included individuals as well as organizations to be designated

as terrorists.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Indian and Chinese pangolins are included under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act.
- 2. Odisha has reported the maximum number of seizures of pangolins.

## 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. Indian and Chinese pangolins are included under India's Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act. Among the 24 States and one Union Territory that reported seizure of pangolins, Odisha reported the maximum number of seizures. **Source:** ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a way to create and establish a more rational use of marine space and the interactions among its uses.
- 2. MSP framework is a part of Indo-Germany Integrated Ocean Initiative.
- 3. MSP will be implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

## 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. MSP is a way to create and establish a more rational use of marine space and the interactions among its uses.

**Statement 2** and 3 are incorrect. MSP framework is a part of Indo-Norway Integrated Ocean Initiative. MSP will be implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) through National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) for India.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust.
- 2. India lacks systems to screen populations for exposure to lead.
- 3. Lead exposure can have serious consequences for the health of children.

#### 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. Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust. India lacks systems to screen populations for exposure to lead. Lead exposure can have serious consequences for the health of children.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. There is a severe shortage of mental healthcare workforce in India.
- 2. The budget allocation to mental healthcare in India is amongst the highest in the G20 countries.
- 3. Mental issues are closely linked with poverty.

## 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. There is a severe shortage of mental healthcare workforce in India. Mental issues are closely linked with poverty. Mental issues are closely linked with poverty. **Statement 2** is incorrect. India allocates roughly 0.05% of its healthcare budget to the mental healthcare. This is the lowest among all G20 countries.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Rukmavati River is a south flowing river originating in the central Kutch District and emptying into the Arabian Sea.
- 2. Sagar Parikrama Progarmme aims at harnessing the sea based renewable energies.

## 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 Rukmavati River is a south flowing river originating in the central Kutch District and emptying into the Arabian Sea.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The main objectives of Sagar Parikrama are to disseminate information of various fisheries related schemes and programs being implemented by the government, promoting responsible fisheries, protecting marine ecosystems, and demonstrating solidarity with all fisher folk and concerned stakeholders.

Source: PIB



## Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Education levels and unemployment are both rising among young Indians.
- 2. Marriage leads to increase in the labour force participation rate amongst women.

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

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

## Answer: A

## Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. Education levels and unemployment are both rising among young Indians.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Marriage leads to decrease in the labour force participation rate amongst women.

Source: Live Mint



#### PRELIMS

## Q.1) Which of the following is the objective of 'Semicon Indian Program'?

- a) It aims at developing nano-technologies in India.
- b) It aims at reskilling youth living in rural areas of India.
- c) It aims at integrating the private data of Indian citizens into local servers in India.
- d) It aims at developing semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystems in India.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Semicon India program is aimed at the development of semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystems in India. The programme provides financial support to companies investing in semiconductors, display manufacturing and design ecosystem. **Source: FORUMIAS** 

## Q.2) With reference to the 'Fisheries sector in India' consider the following statements:

- 1. India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.
- 2. Andhra Pradesh is the leading state in marine fish production.
- 3. India is the largest fish exporter in the world.

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

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

## Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** correct. India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.

**Statement 2** and 3 are incorrect. Gujarat is the leading state in marine fish production, sharing 16.67 per cent of the country's total marine fish production. India is the 4th largest exporter of fish in the world. The exports from India contribute 7.7% to global fish production. **Source: ForumIAS** 

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

- 1. INS Vikramaditya is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India.
- 2. INS Vikrant uses STOBAR (Short Take-Off but Arrested Landing) aircraft-operation mode.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. INS Vikrant is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India. INS Vikramaditya has been bought from Russia.



**Statement 2** is correct. INS Vikrant uses STOBAR (Short Take-Off but Arrested Landing) aircraft-operation mode.

## Source: FORUMIAS

# Q.4) Which of the following is/are the challenge(s) with India in achieving solar power target?

- 1. Land acquisition
- 2. Cost of solar panels
- 3. Low number of sunny days

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

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

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – Land acquisitions, cost of solar panels, lack of R&D, etc. are some of the challenges with India in achieving solar power target.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) consider the following statements:

- 1. In this type of reactor, water is heated which is turned into steam in the reactor vessel.
- 2. It uses uranium as its fuel.
- 3. It uses heavy water as its coolant and moderator.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. In a PHWR, the reactor core heats heavy water and keeps it under pressure to prevent the water from turning into steam.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. PHWR uses uranium as its fuel and heavy water as its coolant and moderator.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.6) With reference to the Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) consider the following statements:

- 1. It can help businesses save time and money as well as increase efficiency.
- 2. Data privacy issues can arise from using generative AI in different industries.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Generative AI can help businesses save time and money as well as increase efficiency. Data privacy issues can arise from using generative AI in different industries.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. All classical languages in India are listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
- 2. English is one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

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

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

## Answer: A

## Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. All classical languages in India are listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. English is not present in the Eighth Schedule.

Source: The Times of India

## Q.8) With reference to 'Lagrange point (L-point)' consider the following statements:

- 1. These are a special kind of orbit used by satellites to get from one orbit to another.
- 2. These points in space can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position.

3. The most used L-points are L1 and L2.

## 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. Lagrange point are positions in space where objects sent there tend to stay.

**Statements 2** and 3 are correct. Lagrange point can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position. The most used L-points are L1 and L2. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

## Q.9) With reference to 'Startup 20' consider the following statements:

- 1. It aspires to create a global narrative for supporting startups and enabling synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders.
- 2. It emphasises the importance of startups in driving economic growth and innovation and the country's commitment to promoting the ecosystem globally.
- 3. Agri-tech startups is one of the focus areas of Startup 20.

## 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. Startup 20 aspires to create a global narrative for supporting startups and enabling synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders. It emphasises the importance of startups in driving economic growth and innovation and the country's commitment to promoting the ecosystem globally. Agri-tech startups is one of the focus areas of Startup 20. **Source: ORF** 

## Q.10) Debrigarh Tiger Reserve is located in

- a) Assam
- b) Odisha
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

#### **Answer: B**

**Explanation** – Debrigarh is located near the Hirakud dam at Sambalpur, Odisha. Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Which of the following country is associated with Blue Flag Ecology Programme?

- a) Costa Rica
- b) Mexico
- c) Ecuador
- d) Peru

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – Blue Flag Ecology Programme has been launched by Costa Rica. A strict set of environmental criteria is laid down under the programme. Under it, all local stakeholders in the tourism industry work together to attain the coveted Blue Flag tag.

## Source: ForumIAS

## Q.2) Moonlight cooling refers to

- a) Greenhouse Gas Emission on the moon
- b) Increasing temperature around the poles
- c) Cooling of moon's surface after reflecting sun's rays.
- d) A sharp decrease in the moon's temperature caused due to change in its pattern of rotation.

## Answer: C

**Explanation** – When the Moon's surface reflects the sun's rays, it cools down rapidly after sunset, this is referred to as moonlight cooling.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.3) With reference to "Rhododendrons" consider the following statements:

- 1. They are ornamental plants and are often grown in gardens and parks.
- 2. They are only found in North America and Australia.
- 3. They have been used in traditional medicine for their medicinal properties.

#### 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. Rhododendrons are ornamental plants and are often grown in gardens and parks. They have been used in traditional medicine for their medicinal properties. **Statement 2** is incorrect. Rhododendrons are native to many regions of the world, including Asia, Europe, North America, and Australia.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.4) With reference to Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) consider the following statements:

- 1. The act empowers the Chief Minister of a state to declare any part or full of any state as a disturbed area.
- 2. The act empowers security forces to arrest anybody even without a warrant and carry out searches without consent.
- 3. The act does not explicitly explain the circumstances under which the part of the state can be declared as a disturbed area.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation

**Statement 1** is incorrect. AFSPA empowers the Central Government, or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory to declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. The act empowers security forces to arrest anybody even without a warrant and carry out searches without consent. The act does not explicitly explain the circumstances under which the part of the state can be declared as a disturbed area.

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

## Q.5) Antakya is located on the banks of

- a) Orontes River
- b) Ankara River
- c) Dim River
- d) Seyhan River

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – Antakya is located on the banks of Orontes River. This city got affected due to the recent Earthquake in Turkey.

Source: The Times of India

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Deodar Forest':

- 1. They are mostly found in the temperate forests but they can also be found in a range of biomes.
- 2. They belong to the category of moist Deciduous forests.
- 3. Deodar Forests are found in India.

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

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

Answer: C Explanation –



**Statement 1** and 3 are correct. Deodar Forest are mostly found in the temperate forests but they can also be found in a range of biomes. Deodar Forests are found in India in Himachal Pradesh. Statement 2 is incorrect. They belong to the category of evergreen coniferous forests. **Source:** <u>The Times of India</u>

# Q.7) With reference to National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a government organisation in India that assesses and accredits Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).
- 2. It is an autonomous body funded by the All India Council for Technical Education.

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

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

## Answer: A

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct NAAC is a government organisation in India that assesses and accredits Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is an autonomous body funded by the University Grants Commission.

Source: The Times of India

#### Q.8) With reference to Guindy National Park, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is located in Telangana.
- 2. Tropical dry evergreen forest is found in the national park.

## 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. Guindy National Park is located in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
Statement 2 is correct. Tropical dry evergreen forest is found in the national park.
Source: <u>The Indian Express</u>



Q.9) With reference to "Jal Jeevan Mission" consider the following statements:

- 1. It seeks to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to all rural households by 2024.
- 2. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

## 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. **Jal Jeevan Mission** seeks to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to all rural households by 2024. It is being implemented by Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Jal Shakti Ministry. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

# Q.10) With reference to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) consider the following statements:

1. It is the term used for a group of neurodevelopmental disorders.

2. At present, there are no known cures available to treat ASD.

## 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. ASD is the term for a group of neurodevelopmental disorders. At present, there are no known cures available to treat ASD. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

## Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are described in the Constitution as officers of Parliament.
- 2. The Deputy Speaker was designated Deputy President under the Government of India Act of 1858.

#### 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 Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are described in the Constitution as officers of Parliament.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Deputy Speaker was designated Deputy President under the Government of India Act of 1919.

Source: FORUMIAS

#### Q.2) Which of the following is/are the reason(s) behind increasing urban rural disparity?

- 1. Biased Policies
- 2. Spillover effect
- 3. Lack of Awareness of Schemes

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

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

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – Biased Policies, spillover effect (refers to the development of rural areas which is dependent on larger urban areas) are some of the reasons behind increasing urban rural disparities.

Source: FORUMIAS

# Q.3) With reference to Initiative for Critical and Emerging Technologies(iCET) consider the following statements:

- 1. It will bring closer linkages between the government, academia and industry of the India and the US.
- 2. Agri-tech startup is one of the focus areas of iCET.

#### 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. iCET will bring closer linkages between the government, academia and industry of the India and the US.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The six areas for cooperation are scientific research and development; quantum and artificial intelligence, defense innovation, space, advanced telecom which would include things like 6G and semiconductors.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina are collectively referred to as the Lithium Triangle.
- 2. The US currently controls 77% of the global lithium-ion battery manufacturing capacity.
- 3. Lithium is also referred to White Gold.

## 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. Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina are collectively referred to as the Lithium Triangle. Lithium is also referred to White Gold.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. China currently controls 77% of the global lithium-ion battery manufacturing capacity and is home to 6 of the world's 10 manufacturing companies.

Source: FORUMIAS

# Q.5) "PayNow system" was seen in the news recently, is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Singapore
- c) Argentina
- d) Egypt

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – PayNow is a fast payment system in Singapore. It enables peer-to-peer funds transfer service, available to retail customers through participating banks and Non-Bank Financial Institutions (NFIs) in Singapore.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.6) With reference to Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the largest wildlife park in Kerala.
- 2. It is part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- 3. The wildlife sanctuary comes under Protect Elephant.

## 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. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is the second largest wildlife park in Kerala. Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest wildlife sanctuary in Kerala.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. It is part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. The wildlife sanctuary comes under Protect Elephant.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) Which of the following countries signed the "New START Treaty"?

- a) India and Russia
- b) India and Germany
- c) US and Russia
- d) Japan and US

## Answer: C

**Explanation** – The New START Treaty is officially known as – the "Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms".

Source: FORUMIAS

## Q.8) With reference to "Alexandrine Parakeets" consider the following statements:

- 1. They are widespread in South and South-East Asia.
- 2. They are listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

## 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. Alexandrine Parakeets is a medium-sized parrot in the genus Psittacula of the family Psittaculidae. They are widespread in South and South-East Asia. They are listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and categorized as NT in the IUCN List.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.9) 'Test of Majority' was seen in the news recently, is related with -

- a) Determining the shareholders of a company.
- b) Deciding the election symbol for a political party.
- c) Determining the countries' responsible for global warming.
- d) Elections to the Rajya Sabha.

## Answer: B

**Explanation – test** of majority, test of party constitution and test of aims and objects are the types of different tests conducted by the Election Commission to determine the party's name and symbol belongs to which faction of the party.

Source: The Times of India

## Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).
- 2. Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) is a service provided by banks to ensure real-time interbank funds transfer.

## 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. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention). Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) is a service provided by banks to ensure real-time interbank funds transfer.

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



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to "Dickinsonia":

- 1. It is considered to be the Earth's oldest animal.
- 2. It lived during the Cambrian Period.

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

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

#### Answer: A

## Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. Dickinsonia is considered to be the Earth's oldest animal, dating back 570 million years.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It lived during the late Ediacaran period. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to 'Bhimbetka rock shelters' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a recognized world heritage site by UNESCO.
- 2. It is located in the foothills of the Aravallis Range.
- 3. Most of the paintings of Bhimbetka are in red and white.

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

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

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Bhimbetka rock shelter is a recognized world heritage site by UNESCO. Most of the paintings here are in red and white with occasional dashes of yellow and green. Their themes include events of everyday life, thousands of years ago.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Bhimbetka rock shelters are located in the foothills of the Vindhya Mountains in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) Which of the following is the objective Virtual Trade Corridor planned between India and UAE?

- a) Cutting the cost and time for customs clearance and speeding up bilateral trade.
- b) Releasing and transferring the Indian prisoners to India.
- c) Allowing Indian e-commerce company to operate in the UAE.
- d) Decreasing tax on both the nation's goods and services.

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – The Virtual Trade Corridor is aimed at cutting the cost and time for customs clearance and speeding up bilateral trade.

Source: FORUMIAS



## Q.4) Keeladi settlement site is being excavated, it belongs to -

- a) Mauryan Period
- b) Sangam Age
- c) Gupta Period
- d) Harshavardhana's Period

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – Keeladi excavation site is a Sangam age settlement that is being excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India and the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology. **Source:** <u>FORUMIAS</u>

## Q.5) "HD-3385" is a variety of

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

HD-3385 is a variety of wheat. It has been developed by Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI).

Source: FORUMIAS

## Q.6) With reference to Air Services Agreement (ASA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a bilateral agreement to allow international commercial air transport services between signatories.
- 2. The agreement is based on the principles of sovereignty of nations, nationality of carriers and reciprocity in terms of commercial opportunities for the designated airlines of each side.

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

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

## Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. ASA is a bilateral agreement to allow international commercial air transport services between signatories. The agreement is based on the principles of sovereignty of nations, nationality of carriers and reciprocity in terms of commercial opportunities for the designated airlines of each side.

#### Source: FORUMIAS



## Q.7) Which of the following will be the consequences of rise in the sea levels?

- 1. Increase in coastal erosion
- 2. Increase in agricultural production
- 3. It will bring cascading effects.

## Select the correct option below:

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

## Answer: C

**Explanation** – Rise in the sea levels will lead to an increase in the coastal erosion, decrease in agricultural production, have cascading effect such as loss to coastal ecosystems and ecosystem services.

## Source: FORUMIAS

# Q.8) With reference to the Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) consider the following statements:

- 1. It can help businesses save time and money as well as increase efficiency.
- 2. Data privacy issues can arise from using generative AI in different industries.

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

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

## Answer: C

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Generative AI can help businesses save time and money as well as increase efficiency. Data privacy issues can arise from using generative AI in different industries.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.9) Corps of Signals (CoS) refers to

- a) Indigenous rockets system
- b) Enhancing the coverage of telecommunication network
- c) Dedicated telecommunication services for Indian space missions
- d) Technology that handles Indian army's military communications.

## Answer: D

**Explanation** – Corps of Signals is a corps and a combat support arm of the Indian Army, which handles its military communications.

Source: ORF



## Q.1) With reference to "Phosphor Gypsum" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a by-product of fertilizer production.
- 2. Its use in road construction aligns with the principles of a linear economy.

## 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. Phosphor Gypsum is a by-product of fertilizer production.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Its use in road construction aligns with the principles of a circular economy.

## Source: ForumIAS

## Q.2) With reference to 'Fly Ash' consider the following statements:

- 1. Fly ash is a particulate material produced from the combustion of coal in thermal power plants.
- 2. They are being used for the construction of highways.
- 3. Aluminum oxide is present in the fly ash.

## 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. Fly ash is a particulate material produced from the combustion of coal in thermal power plants. They are being used for the construction of highways. The main chemical components present in fly ash are: Silicon dioxide, Aluminum oxide, Ferric oxide.

Source: FORUMIAS

## Q.3) With reference to Licorice (Mulethi) consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the major exporting countries of Mulethi.
- 2. Dry and sunny climate are ideal climatic condition required for growing Mulethi.
- 3. Mulethi is grown mainly in Afghanistan.

## 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 imports 8,047 tonnes of liquorice annually from Afghanistan, China and Nepal. Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to start the organized commercial cultivation of Licorice (Mulethi).

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Mulethi plant thrives in a dry and sunny climate and is cultivated in subtropical and warm temperate regions. Mulethi is grown mainly in Afghanistan. **Source: ForumIAS** 

## Q.4) Which of the following is the objective of Common Service Centres (CSC) Academy?

- a) To provide digital literacy and skill development training to the rural youth of India.
- b) To provide training in the cyber security to private organisations in India.
- c) To detect vulnerability of digital infrastructure to the cyber-attacks.
- d) To provide free tuition facilities to the children of poor households.

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – CSC Academy aims to provide digital literacy and skill development training to the rural youth of India. It aims to bridge the digital divide in the country and create employment opportunities for the rural population.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.5) With reference to "Digi Yatra" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Digi Yatra is a mandatory facility that has to be taken at the airport by the flyers.
- 2. In the Digi Yatra process, there is no central storage of passengers' personally identifiable information data.

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

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Digi Yatra is a voluntary facility.

**Statement 2** is correct. In the Digi Yatra process, there is no central storage of passengers' personally Identifiable Information data.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to "Anti- defection law" consider the following statements:

- 1. It was introduced into the Constitution via the Ninth Schedule.
- 2. Its purpose is to check increasingly frequent floor crossing.

## 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. Anti- defection law was introduced into the Constitution via the Tenth Schedule.

**Statement 2** is correct. The purpose of the law is to check increasingly frequent floor crossing. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Circular Economy and Bioeconomy are resource-focused whereas Green Economy acknowledges the role of all ecological processes.
- 2. India is the world's largest importer of crude oil.
- 3. The burning of hydrocarbons releases CO2 as a major by-product in the environment.

## 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. Circular Economy and Bioeconomy are resource-focused whereas Green Economy acknowledges the role of all ecological processes. The burning of hydrocarbons releases CO2 as a major by-product in the environment.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India is the world's 3rd largest importer of crude oil and the 4th largest importer of liquefied natural gas.

Source: **PIB** 

## Q.8) With reference to "Venice" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is situated at the northwestern end of the Adriatic Sea.
- 2. It lies on an archipelago.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Venice is situated at the northwestern end of the Adriatic Sea. It lies on an archipelago.

Source: The Indian Express



# Q.9) With reference to Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. As per GBBC, Punjab has reported the highest number of bird species.
- 2. As per GBBC, India has the third-highest bird species in the world.

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

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. As per GBBC, West Bengal has reported the highest number of bird species.

**Statement 2** is correct. As per GBBC, India has the third-highest bird species in the world. **Source:** <u>The Hindu</u>

# Q.10) With reference to Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) consider the following statements:

- 1. In this type of reactor, water is heated which is turned into steam in the reactor vessel.
- 2. It uses uranium as its fuel.
- 3. It uses heavy water as its coolant and moderator.

## 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. In a PHWR, the reactor core heats heavy water and keeps it under pressure to prevent the water from turning into steam.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. PHWR uses uranium as its fuel and heavy water as its coolant and moderator.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) With reference to "Bor Thekera Tree" consider the following statements:

- 1. They are endemic to the Western Ghats.
- 2. They are used for medicinal purposes.

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

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation –

Statement 1 is incorrect. They are endemic to north-eastern parts of India.

**Statement 2** is correct. They are used for various medicinal purposes and also have potential to prevent heart disease.

Source: FORUMIAS

# Q.2) With reference to National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) app consider the following statements;

- 1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- 2. It is applicable for the MGNREGA workers for all the States/Union Territories.

## Select the correct statement suing 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. NMMS app has been launched by the Ministry of Rural Development. **Statement 2** is correct. It is applicable for the MGNREGA workers for all the States/ Union Territories.

Source: FORUMIAS

#### Q.3) With reference to India's Bioeconomy sector, consider the following statements:

- 1. India's bioeconomy is likely to decline by the end of this decade.
- 2. Biotech-KISAN is an initiative of the government to boost Bio-Economy.

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

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

Answer: B Explanation –



**Statement 1** is incorrect. India's bioeconomy is likely to touch USD 150 billion by 2025 and over USD 300 billion by 2030.

**Statement 2** is correct. Biotech-KISAN is an initiative of the government to boost Bio-Economy. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

# Q.4) With reference to World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is organized every year by the Ministry of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- 2. It aims to bring together global leaders and thinkers in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment sectors on a common platform.

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

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. WSDS is the annual flagship initiative of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). It was earlier known as Delhi Sustainable Development Summit.

**Statement 2** is correct. WSDS aims to bring together global leaders and thinkers in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment sectors on a common platform.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the biologically active component of a drug product that produces the intended health effects.
- 2. Raw materials for most of the API intermediates are currently not produced in India.
- 3. Indian APIs are on an average 20% less expensive than those manufactured in China.

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

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

## Answer: A

#### **Explanation** -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. API is the biologically active component of a drug product that produces the intended health effects. Raw materials for most of the API intermediates are currently not produced in India.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Indian APIs are on an average 20% more expensive than those manufactured in China.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Israel is one of the top suppliers of defence equipment to India.
- 2. The US is India's largest trading partner.
- 3. The United Kingdom is one of the member nations of I2U2.

## 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. Israel is one of the top suppliers of defence equipment to India. The US is India's largest trading partner and second-largest foreign investor.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. I2U2 includes India, Israel, the United States (US), and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Source: ORF

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Amongst the cities of the world, Mumbai has the highest GDP.
- 2. Global Liveability Index 2022 is produced annually by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU).

## 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. Tokyo has the highest city GDP in the world.

**Statement 2** is correct. Global Liveability Index 2022 is produced annually by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU).

Source: The Print

## Q.8) With reference to "eSanjeevani app" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a browser-based platform-independent application that allows for both doctor-to-doctor and patient-to-doctor teleconsultations.
- 2. The consultation on the app generates e-prescription that is used to obtain medications.

## 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. It is a browser-based platform-independent application that allows for both doctor-to-doctor and patient-to-doctor teleconsultations. The consultation on the app generates e-prescription that is used to obtain medications. **Source: The Hindu** 

## Q.9) With reference to 'Lagrange point (L-point)' consider the following statements:

- 4. These are a special kind of orbit used by satellites to get from one orbit to another.
- 5. These points in space can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position.
- 6. The most used L-points are L1 and L2.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

- e) 1 and 2 only
- f) 2 and 3 only
- g) 1 and 3 only
- h) 1, 2 and 3

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Lagrange point are positions in space where objects sent there tend to stay.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. Lagrange point can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position. The most used L-points are L1 and L2. **Source: The Hindu** 

## Q.10) Which of the statements regarding "Blue Food" is correct?

- a) Blue foods generate lower emissions compared to terrestrial meat.
- b) Blue foods are the foods obtained after using inorganic fertilisers.
- c) Consumption of blue food can increase the risk of cardiovascular diseases.
- d) Blue food refers to the crops obtained while practicing sustainable farming technique.

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – Blue foods generate lower emissions compared to terrestrial meat. It is the food derived from aquatic animals, plants or algae that are caught or cultivated in freshwater and marine environments.

Source: DTE



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) With reference to "Mad Cow Disease" consider the following statements:

- 1. It affects the central nervous system of adult cattle.
- 2. It is also known as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).
- 3. India will be the first country to develop vaccine for Mad Cow Disease.

## 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. Mad Cow Disease affects the central nervous system of adult cattle. It is also known as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).

**Statement 3** is incorrect. There is no treatment and no vaccine to prevent BSE. And there India will not be the first country,

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.2) Consider the following statements with reference to 'Banjaras':

- 1. They speak Gor Boli.
- 2. Chari is the traditional dance forms of the banjara people.
- 3. Madai is an important festival celebrated by Banjaras.

## 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. Banjaras speak Gor Boli. Fire dance and Chari are the traditional dance forms of the banjara people.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Banjara people celebrate the festival of Teej during Shravanam (in the month of august). In this festival young unmarried Banjara girls pray for a good groom. **Source:** ForumIAS



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

- 1. ALH Helicopter is exported by India.
- 2. Indonesia has been the biggest importer of Indian arms in the past few years.
- 3. India is among the top 25 exporters of major arms.

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

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

# Answer: D

## Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The major defence items being exported are Personal Protective items, Offshore Patrol Vessels, ALH Helicopter, SU Avionics, Bharati Radio, Coastal Surveillance Systems, Kavach Launcher, Spares for Radar, Electronic System and Light Engineering Mechanical Parts among others. According to a Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report 2022, India is among the top 25 exporters of major arms.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Myanmar has been the biggest importer of Indian arms at 50 per cent during the 2017-2021 period, followed by Sri Lanka at 25 per cent and Armenia at 11 per cent. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to 'Mission Shakti' consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Culture.
- 2. The aim of the mission is to spread awareness about the cultural heritage of India amongst the India's diaspora.

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

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

# Answer: D

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. Mission Shakti has been launched by the Ministry of Women Child Development (MWCD). It is a mission mode scheme aimed at strengthening interventions for women's safety, security and empowerment.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In spring, air mostly flows from east to northeast in India.
- 2. The upper atmospheric westerly winds come to India from the Atlantic Ocean during spring.
- 3. A region experiences a heat wave if its ambient temperature deviates by at least 4.5-6.4°C from the long-term average.

## 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. In spring, India has air flowing in from the west to northwest.Statement 2 and 3 are correct. The upper atmospheric westerly winds come to India from the Atlantic Ocean during spring. A region experiences a heat wave if its ambient temperature

deviates by at least 4.5-6.4°C from the long-term average.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to Surya Nutan Cooker, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been developed by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL).
- 2. It can work on both solar and auxiliary energy sources simultaneously.
- 3. It minimizes radiative and conductive heat losses.

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

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

## Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Surya Nutan Cooker has been developed by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Surya Nutan Cooker can work on both solar and auxiliary energy sources simultaneously. It minimizes radiative and conductive heat losses.

Source: forumIAS



# Q.7) With reference to "Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a unified access portal which brings together women from different parts of India to build a nurturing ecosystem that enables them to realize their entrepreneurial aspirations.
- 2. It has been launched by NITI Aayog.

# 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. WEP is a unified access portal which brings together women from different parts of India to build a nurturing ecosystem that enables them to realize their entrepreneurial aspirations. It has been launched by NITI Aayog.

Source: Mint

## Q.8) With reference to the history of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. Mumbai was the first city where electric tram was first introduced.
- 2. Today, Kolkata is the only city which operates tram.
- 3. The first horse-drawn trams entered service in the then British capital of Calcutta.

## 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 first electric tram was introduced in Chennai/Madras. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Today, Kolkata is the only city which operates tram. The first tram was horse driven tram and it was introduced in Calcutta.

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

## Q.9) With reference to the 'Fisheries sector in India' consider the following statements:

- 4. India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.
- 5. Andhra Pradesh is the leading state in marine fish production.
- 6. India is the largest fish exporter in the world.

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

- e) 1 only
- f) 1 and 3 only
- g) 2 only
- h) 2 and 3 only

Answer: A Explanation –



**Statement 1** correct. India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. Gujarat is the leading state in marine fish production, sharing 16.67 per cent of the country's total marine fish production. India is the 4th largest exporter of fish in the world. The exports from India contribute 7.7% to global fish production. **Source: ForumIAS** 

# Q.10) With reference to Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness (MIRA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is aimed at connecting millet research organisations across the world while also supporting research on these crops.
- 2. Its secretariat will be placed in Delhi.
- 3. It will be funded by the World Bank.

## 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. MIRA is aimed at connecting millet research organisations across the world while also supporting research on these crops. Its secretariat will be placed in Delhi. **Statement 3** is incorrect. India will contribute the seed money, while each G20 member will later have to contribute to its budget in the form of a membership fee.

Source: The Indian Express



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India tops the list of nations in internet shutdowns.
- 2. Rajasthan has witnessed the highest internet shutdowns amongst all the State/UTs in 2022.
- 3. 2022 was the first time when the Internet Shutdowns were fewer than 100 in India since 2017.

#### 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 tops the list of nations in internet shutdowns. 2022 was the first time when the Internet Shutdowns were fewer than 100 in India since 2017.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed the highest internet shutdowns amongst all the State/UTs in 2022.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme covers all landholding farmers.
- 2. The central government identifies the farmer families which are eligible for support as per scheme.
- 3. It has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

## 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. PM-KISAN covers all landholding farmers. It has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. State Government and UT administration are responsible for identifying the farmer families which are eligible for support as per scheme.

## Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) Which of the following is correct regarding "Deep-Dive Training Programme"?

- a) It aims at providing training to the government employees for better resolution of the citizens' grievances.
- b) The programme aims at providing training to physically handicapped youth for gaining employment.
- c) It focuses on training ASHA workers in line with the modern health care facilities.
- d) It is aimed at creating awareness about cyber security and developing a strong cyber ecosystem in government organizations.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation –** The Deep-Dive Training Programme is aimed at creating awareness around cyber security and developing an empowered and strong cyber ecosystem in government organizations. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Onion is a temperate crop.
- 2. Onion grows well in excessive rainfall.
- 3. Onions can be grown both in rabi and kharif seasons.

## 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. Onion is a temperate crop but can be grown under a wide range of climatic conditions such as temperate, tropical and subtropical climate. Onions can be grown in both rabi and kharif seasons.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Onion grows well does under mild climate without extreme of heat and cold. It does not perform well in excessive rainfall.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.5) Which of the following countries are associated with the New START Treaty?

- a) India and Russia
- b) US and India
- c) Russia and US
- d) India and Japan

#### **Answer:** C

**Explanation** – The New START Treaty was signed by the then-US President and then-Russian president in 2010.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.6) With reference to "Greenfield Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of project that is constructed by renovating and remodeling the existing structures.
- 2. Shivamogga airport is a greenfield domestic airport.

## 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. A greenfield project is one which is not constrained by prior work. It is constructed on unused land where there is no need to remodel or demolish an existing structure.

Statement 2 is correct. Shivamogga airport is a greenfield domestic airport.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) With reference to "Organ on a Chip" consider the following statements:

- 1. These are small devices containing human cells that are used to mimic the environment in human organs.
- 2. Organ-on-a-chip technology can help in drug development.

## 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. Organ on a chip are small devices containing human cells that are used to mimic the environment in human organs. Organ-on-a-chip technology can help in drug development.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) With reference to "Lalitagiri" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a major Buddhist complex in the state of Odisha.
- 2. Theravada Buddhism was practiced at this site.
- 3. It is part of the Diamond Triangle.

## 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. Lalitagiri is a major Buddhist complex in the state of Odisha. Together with the Ratnagiri and Udayagiri sites, Lalitagiri is part of the "Diamond Triangle".
Statement 2 is incorrect. Vajrayana Buddhism (Tantric Buddhism) was practiced at this site.
Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) Which of the following commission recommended that the Chief Ministers should also be consulted on the appointment of Governors?

- a) Punchhi Commission
- b) Sarkaria Commission
- c) Thakkar Commission
- d) Malimath Commission

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – Sarkaria Commission recommended that the Chief Ministers should also be consulted on the appointment of Governors.

Source: The Indian Express

#### Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 3. INS Vikramaditya is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India.
- 4. INS Vikrant uses STOBAR (Short Take-Off but Arrested Landing) aircraft-operation mode.

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

- e) 1 only
- f) 2 only
- g) Both 1 and 2
- h) Neither 1 nor 2

## Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. INS Vikrant is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India. INS Vikramaditya has been bought from Russia.

**Statement 2** is correct. INS Vikrant uses STOBAR (Short Take-Off but Arrested Landing) aircraft-operation mode.

Source: FORUMIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to 'Proton Beam Therapy (PBT)':

- 1. It is a form of radiotherapy used to treat certain cancers.
- 2. It uses X-rays to deliver a dose of radiotherapy.

3. Apollo Hospital is the only center in the whole of South and West Asia offering the PBT.

## 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. PBT is a form of radiotherapy used to treat certain cancers. Apollo Hospital is the only center in the whole of South and West Asia offering the PBT.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. PBT uses high-energy beams of protons, rather than X-rays, to deliver a dose of radiotherapy.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to QR-Code based Coin Vending Machine (QCVM) consider the following statements:

- 1. These vending machines will dispense coins in exchange physical notes.
- 2. It has been launched with the aim to promote the distribution of coins and enhance the accessibility to coins.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. QCVM will dispense coins using UPI instead of physical banknotes. **Statement 2** is correct. It will be launched with the aim to promote the distribution of coins and enhance the accessibility to coins.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution was introduced by the  $51^{st}$  Constitutional Amendment.
- 2. When the Assembly is not in session, the Governor under his residuary powers can call for a floor test.
- 3. The Constitution gives the Governor's discretion in the selection of pro tem speaker.

#### 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 Tenth Schedule of the Constitution was introduced in 1985 by the 52nd Constitutional Amendment.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. When the Assembly is not in session, the Governor under his residuary powers can call for a floor test. The Constitution gives the Governor's discretion in the selection of pro tem speaker.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hummingbirds are native to Southern India.
- 2. Hummingbirds are important pollinators for many plant species.

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

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

## Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Hummingbirds are native to America.

**Statement 2** is correct. Hummingbirds are important pollinators for many plant species. **Source: FORUMIAS** 

## Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Maharashtra has the highest power demand in India.
- 2. Chandrayaan-3 will be launched by Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LMV3).

## 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. As per the report published by Institute for Energy Economics



and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), Maharashtra has the highest power demand in India. Chandrayaan-3 will be launched by Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LMV3). **Source: ForumIAS** 

# Q.6) With reference to Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a committee established under the Ministry of Women and Child Development to resolve the grievances of online sexual abuse to women and children.
- 2. The entire appeal process under GAC is online.

## 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. GAC is established under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 made under the Information Technology Act, 2000. It aims to ensure a Safe & Trusted and Accountable Internet for Indian users.

**Statement 2** is correct. The entire appeal process from filing to decision under GAC is online. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

## Q.7) With reference to 'VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme' consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme aims at providing scholarship to Indian students to study abroad in the field of Science and Technology.
- 2. The maximum duration is five years for which the scholarship is provided.

#### 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: D

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme has been launched for the Indian Diaspora abroad. The fellowship offers NRI researchers an opportunity to work for a minimum of one month to a maximum of two months a year with a research institution or an academic institution in India. The total duration of the scheme is three years with the government offering the researchers an amount of up to Rs 37 lakh for the entire period.

#### Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.8) With reference to 'ALMA Telescope' consider the following statements:

- 1. The telescope has extraordinary sensitivity which allows it to detect even extremely faint radio signals.
- 2. ALMA uses a correlator to combine the data collected by each antenna into a single image.
- 3. The telescope is being developed by India along with the partnership of Japan.

## 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. ALMA Telescope has extraordinary sensitivity which allows it to detect even extremely faint radio signals. It uses a correlator to combine the data collected by each antenna into a single image.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The telescope is being developed by an international partnership between various organisations in Europe, the U.S., Japan, Canada, Taiwan and the Republic of Korea in cooperation with the Republic of Chile.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) bonds:

- 1. ZCZP provides a fixed interest on the funds raised through it.
- 2. It has a specific tenure and can only be issued for a specific project.

## 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. ZCZP does not provide a fixed interest on the funds raised through it. It has a specific tenure and can only be issued for a specific project. **Source: The Hindu** 



## Q.10) With reference to "coral reefs" consider the following statements:

- 1. Coral reefs increases coastal flooding and erosion.
- 2. Coral reefs cover less than 0.5% of the earth's surface.
- 3. Coral reefs are known as the rainforests of the sea.

## 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. Coral reefs reduces coastal flooding and erosion.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Coral reefs cover less than 0.5% of the earth's surface. Coral reefs are known as the rainforests of the sea.

Source: The Indian Express



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) With reference to Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first project under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers.
- 2. KBLP will be implemented through six phases.

#### 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. KBLP is the first project under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. KBLP will be implemented through two phases. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.2) With reference to Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) consider the following statements:

- 1. The terrain in PTR consists of extensive plateaus and gorges.
- 2. Shipra River flows through this reserve from the south to the north.
- 3. It is the northern most boundary of natural distribution of teak forests.

## 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 terrain in PTR consists of extensive plateaus and gorges. It is the northern most boundary of natural distribution of teak forests.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. River Ken flows through this reserve from the south to the north. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

#### Q.3) With reference to "Star Labeling Program" consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been formulated by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- 2. The aim of the programme is to create alternative energy solution in the electric consumer appliances.

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

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

Answer: A Explanation –



**Statement 1** is correct. Star Labeling Program has been formulated by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The aim of the programme is to provide consumers an informed choice regarding the energy savings and thereby the cost-saving potential of various energy-consuming appliances. This scheme prescribes minimum energy performance levels for appliances/equipment, rated on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most energy efficient. **Source: ForumIAS** 

## Q.4) Which of the following is the objective of "iDEEKSHA Portal"?

- a) It aims to provide access to free online educational resources to the school students.
- b) It is a dedicated platform that will provide computer literacy to the student of the government school across India.
- c) It is designed to serve as a one-stop shop for all energy efficiency and decarbonization needs of Indian energy-intensive industries.
- d) It is platform designed to encourage financial inclusion amongst the disadvantaged groups of the society by providing lucrative schemes.

#### Answer: C

**Explanation** – The aim of iDEEKSHA Portal is to serve as a one-stop shop for all energy efficiency and decarbonization needs of Indian energy-intensive industries. **Source:** ForumIAS

## Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to "Cryogenic Engine":

- 1. It uses propellants at extremely low temperatures.
- 2. CE-20 is the first Indian cryogenic engine to feature a gas-generator cycle.
- 3. A cryogenic engine uses liquid nitrogen and carbon as a fuel.

## 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. Cryogenic Engine is a very complex system due to its use of propellants at extremely low temperatures. CE-20 is the first Indian cryogenic engine to feature a gas-generator cycle.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. A cryogenic engine uses liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen as fuel. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. S-400 Triumf missile system is considered one of the world's most advanced air defence systems that can engage all types of aerial targets.
- 2. Only six countries have developed their own cryogenic engines.

#### Select the correct statement suing 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. S-400 Triumf missile system is considered one of the world's most advanced air defence systems that can engage all types of aerial targets. Only six countries have developed their own cryogenic engines the US, France/European Space Agency, Russia, China, Japan, and India.

Source: FORUMIAS

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Philanthropic contributions made by India's Ultra High Networth Individuals (UHNIs) have increased in the previous financial year.
- 2. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) spending has risen in the past few years.
- 3. CSR activity has not been evenly distributed in India.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

## Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Philanthropic contributions made by India's Ultra High Networth Individuals (UHNIs) has fallen sharply in the previous financial year.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) spending has risen in the past few years. CSR activity has not been evenly distributed in India.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The definition of forests provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) does not include areas predominantly under agriculture or urban land use.
- 2. India counts all 1-hectare plots with 10% canopy cover irrespective of land use as forest.
- 3. State of Forest Reports (SFRs) is published by Environment Survey 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: A

## Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. The definition of forests provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) does not include areas predominantly under agriculture or urban land use. India counts all 1-hectare plots with 10% canopy cover irrespective of land use as forest.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. State of Forest Reports (SFRs) is published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI)

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to Fugitive Economic Offenders (FEO) consider the following statements:

- 1. FEO is defined as an individual against whom terrorist's charges are filed under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.
- 2. Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 defines the term Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO).

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

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

# Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. FEO is defined as an individual against whom a warrant of arrest in relation to scheduled offence has been issued by any court in India and who has left the country to avoid criminal prosecution, or the FEO abroad refuses to return to face criminal prosecution. **Statement 2** is correct. Fugitive Economic Offenders Act,2018 defines the term Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO).

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.10) Debrigarh Tiger Reserve is located in

- e) Assam
- f) Odisha
- g) Madhya Pradesh
- h) Arunachal Pradesh

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – Debrigarh is located near the Hirakud dam at Sambalpur, Odisha. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Which of the following is the objective of "SWAYATT Initiative"?

- a) It aims to promote Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage through e-Transactions on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).
- b) It aims to establish a greenfield city on the Great Nicobar Island.
- c) It aims to provide legally guaranteed minimum support price (MSP) for 22 crops that should be set at a profit margin of 50 percent over the comprehensive cost of production.
- d) It aims at 100% rural electrification with reliable, adequate & quality electricity supply and also to provide access to electricity to villages/habitations & households.

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – SWAYATT Initiative aims to promote start-ups, women and youth advantage through e-Transactions on Government e-Marketplace (GeM). **Source:** FORUMIAS

# Q.2) The Government of India has recently constituted Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC). Which of the following is the aim of the Greater Panna Landscape Council?

- a) It aims to enable the betterment of habitat, protection, and management for flagship species in Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR).
- b) It aims to provide development strategy on the hilly terrain of the PTR.
- c) It aims to create species specific ecosystem within the PTR.
- d) It aims to reintroduce the keystone species in the PTR along with acquiring benefits from forest produce.

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – The Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) has been constituted to ensure systematic and time-bound implementation of Integrated Landscape Management Plan (ILMP). One of the objectives of GPLC is to enable the betterment of habitat, protection, and management for flagship species viz. tiger, vulture, and gharial in the landscape.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.3) With reference to "Raisina Dialogue" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the India Brand Equity Foundation.
- 2. It is held annually at New Delhi.
- 3. It is India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-economics.

#### 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. Raisina Dialogue is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).



**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Raisina Dialogue is held annually at New Delhi. It is India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-economics. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.4) With reference to Government e Marketplace (GeM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an online marketplace setup by the government to provide commonly used goods and services at subsidized rates to the citizens.
- 2. It functions under Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Government e Marketplace is an online marketplace setup in 2016 for procurement of commonly used goods and services by government ministries, departments and CPSEs.

**Statement 2** is correct. GeM functions under Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Source: FORUMIAS

## Q.5) With reference to "Ornamental fish culture" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the culture of attractive, colourful fishes of various characteristics, which are reared in a confined aquatic system.
- 2. Most of the ornamental fishes survive in freshwater.
- 3. Ornamental fish farming in India is practiced in West Bengal.

#### 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. Ornamental fish culture is the culture of attractive, colourful fishes of various characteristics, which are reared in a confined aquatic system. Most of the ornamental fishes survive in freshwater. Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal mainly practice ornamental fish farming in India.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.6) With reference to "Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications" consider the following statements:

- 1. The framework has been signed between India and Sweden.
- 2. The framework aims to facilitate trade between the two countries.

## Select the correct option using the code 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. The framework has been signed between India and Australia. It aims to help ease the mobility of students and professionals between the two countries. **Source: FORUMIAS** 

## Q.7) With reference to "Windsor Framework" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a post-Brexit agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom.
- 2. The agreement is launched to address the issue of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

## 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. Windsor Framework is a post-Brexit agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom. The agreement is launched to address the main issue of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) Which of the following is/are likely the cause(s) of 'Winter Heat Waves' in India?

- 1. Strong Western Disturbances
- 2. Anti-cyclone formation over the Arabian Sea
- 3. Increasing Lapse rate

# Select the correct option using the code given below:

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

## Answer: B

**Explanation** – The causes of winter heat waves in India are – weak western disturbances, Anticyclone formation over the Arabian Sea, declining lapse rate (the rate at which temperatures cool from the surface to the upper atmosphere), climate change, etc.

#### Source: FORUMIAS



#### Q.9) With reference to "Kole Wetland" consider the following statements:

- 5. It is located in Kerala.
- 6. The wetland is popular for its pulse cultivation.
- 7. It is one of the Ramsar Sites.
- 8. It is situated in the Central Asian Flyway of migratory birds.

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

- e) 1, 2 and 4 only
- f) 1, 3 and 4 only
- g) 2 and 3 only
- h) 2, 3 and 4 only

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1, 3 and 4** are correct. Kole Wetland is located in Kerala. It is one of the Ramsar Sites. It is situated in the Central Asian Flyway of migratory birds.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The wetland is popular for its rice cultivation.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.10) Considering the following statements:

- 4. Thyreus narendrani is a species of cuckoo bee.
- 5. Cuckoo bees parasitise the nest of other bees by breaking and entering and laying their eggs.
- 6. The pollen-collecting structures in cuckoo bees are more efficient than other female bees.

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

- e) 1 and 2 only
- f) 2 and 3 only
- g) 1 and 3 only
- h) 1, 2 and 3

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Thyreus narendrani is a species of cuckoo bee. Cuckoo bees parasitise the nest of other bees by breaking and entering and laying their eggs.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Unlike other female bees, cuckoo bees lack pollen-collecting structures.

Source: ForumIAS

