Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

 3^{rd} to 8^{th} April, 2023

PRELIMS

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

- 1. It is defined as any action that brings or attempts to bring contempt or hatred towards the Government of India.
- 2. Lala Lajpat Rai was the 1st person to be booked under sedition law during the colonial period.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Sedition is defined as any action that brings or attempts to bring contempt or hatred towards the Government of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Jogendra Chandra Bose, 1891 was the first person to be booked under the sedition law during the colonial period.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to "Assamese Gamosa":

- 1. It is a variety of Assamese tea.
- 2. It has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Assamese Gamosa is a white rectangular piece of cloth with embroidered red borders.

Statement 2 is correct. Assumese Gamosa received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2022.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.3) With reference to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It was established during the Cold War.
- 2. It is a type of trade and economic alliance between the member countries.
- 3. It is an alliance of countries from Europe and North America.

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. NATO was established during the Cold War in response to the threat posed by the Soviet Union. It is an alliance of countries from Europe and North America. **Statement 2** is incorrect. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the Washington Treaty) of April, 1949.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) NITI Aayog has launched three new resources under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM). With reference to these resources consider the following statements:

- 1. ATL Tinkering Curriculum provides comprehensive guidance on the equipment provided in the Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country.
- 2. Equipment Manual is a valuable resource for anyone looking to explore the possibilities of innovation and problem-solving.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. ATL Tinkering Curriculum is a structured learning pathway designed to help students develop and hone their innovation skills. With this curriculum, students will be encouraged to identify and design creative solutions to everyday problems through hands-on, experiential learning.

Statement 2 is correct. Equipment Manual provides comprehensive guidance on the equipment provided in the Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country. It is a valuable resource for anyone looking to explore the possibilities of innovation and problem-solving.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of free trade agreement (FTA).
- 2. It evolved from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) which was never ratified due to the withdrawal of the United States.

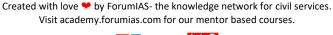
Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- 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. CPTPP is a free trade agreement (FTA) between 11 countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore and Vietnam. It was signed in 2018 in Santiago, Chile. The UK has recently agreed to join CPTPP. It evolved from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) which was never ratified due to the withdrawal of the United States.





Q.6) With reference to Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980, consider the following statements:

- 1. It imposes restrictions on the use of forest land for non-forest purposes.
- 2. Under this Act, the whole power is in the hand of the state government to carry out the laws of this Act.
- 3. Under this Act, an advisory committee may be formed for advising the Central government in matters related to forest conservation.

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. Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980 imposes restrictions on the use of forest land for non-forest purposes. Under this Act, an advisory committee may be formed for advising the Central government in matters related to forest conservation.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under this Act, the whole power is in the hand of the central government to carry out the laws of this Act.

Source: The Print

Q.7) With reference to Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is part of the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP).
- 2. It is based on the idea of one nation, one registration system.
- 3. It will help farmers leverage their land and use it as a collateral to borrow money from banks.
- 4. Land parcels of only rural areas are covered under the ULPIN.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

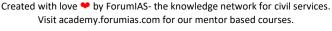
Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. ULPIN or Bhu Aadhaar is part of DILRMP. It is based on the idea of one nation, one registration system. It will help farmers leverage their land and use it as a collateral to borrow money from banks.

Statement 4 is incorrect. It will cover all land parcels — rural as well as urban.

Source: The Print





Q.8) With reference to Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) consider the following statements:

- 1. RLV's configuration is the same as that of an aircraft and combines the complexity of both launch vehicles and aircraft.
- 2. It is a space plane with a low lift to drag ratio.

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. RLV's configuration is the same as that of an aircraft and combines the complexity of both launch vehicles and aircraft. It is a space plane with a low lift to drag ratio requiring an approach at high glide angles that necessitates a landing at high velocities of 350 kmph.

Source: India Today

Q.9) With reference to 'Statutory bail' consider the following statements:

- 1. Statutory bail is a part of fundamental right.
- 2. Once a statutory bail is guaranteed to the accused, he/she becomes ineligible for re-arrest.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

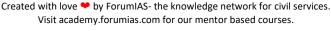
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. According to the Supreme Court, 'Statutory bail' is a Fundamental right and is a part of the Right to personal liberty under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Statutory bail does not prohibit or otherwise prevent the arrest or rearrest of the petitioner on cogent grounds.





PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. 1930 helpline number is one of the key components of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C).
- 2. The subject of Public Order lies in the Union List of the Seventh 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. 1930 helpline number was launched in 2021 by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). It is one of the key components of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C).

Statement 2 is incorrect. Public Orders is a state subject.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Eravikulam National Park (ENP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first National Park of Kerala.
- 2. It is situated in the Vythiri Hill of the southern Western Ghats.
- 3. The highest peak in South India is located in the park.
- 4. The park is a natural habitat of Nilgiri tahr.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1, 3 and 4 are correct. Eravikulam National Park is the first National Park of Kerala. The highest peak (the Anamudi) in South India is located in the park. The park is a natural habitat of Nilgiri tahr.

Statement 2 is incorrect. ENP is situated in the Kannan Devan Hills of the southern Western Ghats.



Q.3) With reference to Gamma-ray bursts (GRB) consider the following statements:

- 1. These are the strongest and brightest explosions in the universe.
- 2. The energy produce by GRB is weaker than the energy produced by Sun.
- 3. Short-duration gamma-ray bursts (SGRBs) last for less than two seconds and are thought to be caused by the collision of two compact objects such as a neutron star and a black hole.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. GRBs are the strongest and brightest explosions in the universe. SGRBs last for less than two seconds and are thought to be caused by the collision of two compact objects, such as a neutron star and a black hole.

Statement 2 is incorrect. gamma-ray bursts produce as much energy as the sun will emit during its entire 10-billion-year existence.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gravitational lensing is a technique used to study the changing electromagnetism of the Earth.
- 2. Supercomputer simulations are used to confirm the size of the black hole.

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. Gravitational lensing is a technique used to closely examine how light is bent by a black hole inside a galaxy hundreds of millions of light-years from Earth.

Statement 2 is correct. Supercomputer simulations are used to confirm the size of the black hole.



Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to "Black Holes":

- 1. A black hole is a region of spacetime where gravity is so strong that nothing has enough energy to escape its event horizon.
- 2. When stars, which are around twenty times bigger than the sun exhaust all the energy, they can collapse in on themselves forming a black hole.

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. A black hole is a region of spacetime where gravity is so strong that nothing has enough energy to escape its event horizon. When stars, which are around twenty times bigger than the sun exhaust all the energy, they can collapse in on themselves forming a black hole.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The number of foreign students enrolled in Indian higher education institutions has increased in 2020-21.
- 2. The US is one of the countries from where students visit India to study.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

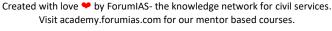
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. According to the latest All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) brought out by the Ministry of Education, the number of foreign students enrolled in Indian higher education institutions were 48,035 in 2020-21, a marginal dip from 49,348 in 2019-20.

Statement 2 is correct. People from more than 160 countries visit India to study. Nepal, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, the U.S., the UAE, Bhutan, Sudan, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Yemen were the countries from which the majority of the students came.





Q.7) With reference to Exit Engagement Evenings (E3) Programme with foreign students, consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme aims at skilling foreign students in the field of space science at prominent institutions in India.
- 2. The programme will begin three or four months before the foreign students finish their courses in various Central and State universities of the country.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. E3 Programme aims to expand India's artistic and creative footprint globally by tapping into the experiences of foreign students studying here. This "soft diplomacy" is meant to spread the India story when students go back to their home countries.

Statement 2 is correct. The programme will begin three or four months before the foreign students finish their courses in various Central and State universities of the country.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. El Salvador has the most lithium reserves in the world.
- 2. India currently imports all its lithium needs and is almost entirely dependent on inflows of these imported cells for domestic consumption.
- 3. Lithium is used to make alloys with aluminium and magnesium.

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. Chile is the country with the most lithium reserves (48% of the world's total lithium deposits).

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. India currently imports all its lithium needs and is almost entirely dependent on inflows of these imported cells for domestic consumption. Lithium is used to make alloys with aluminium and magnesium.



Q.9) With reference to "Chondrostereum Purpureum" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a viral disease occurring due the decaying of reptiles.
- 2. It is commonly found in temperate regions of the northern and southern hemispheres.

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. Chondrostereum Purpureum is a plant fungus that causes silver leaf disease in plants, particularly those in the rose family. It can also infect humans.

Statement 2 is correct. It is commonly found in temperate regions of the northern and southern hemispheres.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) With reference to Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) consider the following statements:

- 1. It acts as a nodal point at the National level in the fight against cybercrime.
- 2. It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

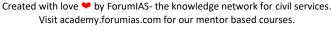
Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- 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. I4C acts as a nodal point at the National level in the fight against cybercrime. It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).





PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to "Einstein Tile":

- 1. It explains the theory of relativity founded by Albert Einstein.
- 2. It will help physicists and chemists to understand the structure in which the atoms are ordered but do not have a repeating pattern.

Select the correct answer from 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. Einstein Tile is a shape that could be singularly used to create a non-repeating (aperiodic) pattern on an infinitely large plane. The name bears no connection to Albert Einstein but means 'one stone' in German.

Statement 2 is correct. A group of four scientists have discovered an entirely new shape which has 13 sides and has named it "the hat". It is the first 'Einstein' tile to have been found. Aperiodic tiling will help physicists and chemists understand the structures in which the atoms are ordered but do not have a repeating pattern.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to "Sky Canvas Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. The project aims at launching a radar spy satellite into a retrograde orbit.
- 2. The project has been launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect. Sky Canvas Project aims to give people of all over the world the opportunity to view the world's first live human-made meteor shower. The project has been launched by ALE, a Japanese company.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Mesosphere is too low to be observed by satellites and too high for weather balloons or aircraft.
- 2. A natural meteor shower happens when our planet comes closer to Jupiter.

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 Mesosphere is too low to be observed by satellites and too high for weather balloons or aircraft.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A natural meteor shower happens when our planet passes through the trail of debris left by a comet or an asteroid.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Studies indicate that the Arctic is warming at a faster rate than the global average.
- 2. The Antarctic amplification phenomenon is responsible for warming the Arctic region much faster than the rest of the world.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

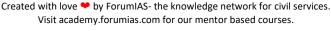
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Studies indicate that the Arctic is warming between two and four times faster than the global average.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Arctic amplification phenomenon is responsible for warming the Arctic region much faster than the rest of the planet.





Q.5) With reference to National Electricity Plan 2022-27, consider the following statements:

- 1. The plan aims at substituting 17GW coal-based power capacity by establishing renewable energy capacity.
- 2. The project provides battery storage requirement between 51 GW to 84 GW for renewable energies by 2031-32.

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. National Electricity Plan 2022-27 cites the need for fresh coal-based capacity ranging from 17 GW to nearly 28 GW till 2031-32.

Statement 2 is correct. The project provides battery storage requirement between 51 GW to 84 GW with a daily usage rate of 5 hours for renewable energies in 2031-32.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The use of an emissions trading system is a way of carbon pricing.
- 2. Carbon pricing makes investment in renewable energy less attractive.
- 3. Carbon tax in India will lead generation of more revenue which can be invested in cleaner sources of energy.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

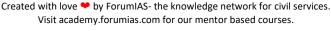
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. The use of an emissions trading system is a way of carbon pricing. Carbon tax in India will lead generation of more revenue which can be invested in cleaner sources of energy.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Carbon pricing makes investment in renewable energy such as solar and wind more attractive.





Q.7) Which of the following defines the term "friend shoring"?

- a) It is the act of manufacturing and sourcing from countries with shared values.
- b) It is the relocation of a business process from one country to another.
- c) It is the process of returning the production and manufacturing of goods back to the company's original country.
- d) It refers to the relocation of business processes to a lower-cost location inside the national borders.

Answer: A

Explanation - Friend shoring is the act of manufacturing and sourcing from countries with shared values.

Source: The Times of India

Q.8) With reference to "India Alumni Portal" consider the following statements:

- 1. The portal aims at connecting the Indian diaspora who have studies in India.
- 2. The portal has been launched by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Select the correct answer from 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 Alumni Portal is a platform to connect with foreign students around the world who have studied in India.

Statement 2 is correct. The portal has been launched by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Saudi Arabia and other OPEC+ oil producers have announced cut in the oil production. Which of the following will likely be the impact of cut in oil production?

- 1. It will lead to decrease in the oil prices.
- 2. It may impact West support to Ukraine against Russia.
- 3. It may not have a greater impact on India.

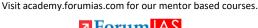
Select the correct option using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation - A cut in the oil production - will increase prices of the oil globally, may impact West support to Ukraine against Russia because West would need to spend more money in the oil. The cut will not have much impact on India because it has substantially shifted its import source from traditional source to Russia. This provides India with some insulation against the decision taken by OPEC+.

Source: The Times of India





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Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The doctrine of seal cover is used by the Supreme Court as well as lower courts of India to receive or approve information from government agencies in sealed covers.
- 2. Only judges can access the envelope containing information.
- 3. There is no law specifying the sealed cover jurisprudence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

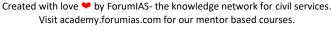
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The doctrine of seal cover is used by the Supreme Court as well as lower courts of India to receive or approve information from government agencies in sealed covers. Only judges can access the envelope containing information. There is no law specifying the sealed cover jurisprudence but the SC derives its power from Rule 7 of Order XIII of the Supreme Court Rules and Section 123 of the Indian Evidence Act of 1872.

Source: The Times of India





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to "India Justice Report 2022" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, the case pendency in High Courts is worse than in subordinate courts.
- 2. As per the report, there has been a significant decrease in the caseload per judges.

Select the correct answer from 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. As per the report, the case pendency in High Courts is worse than in subordinate courts.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The number of cases a judge has to deal with, has steadily increased.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to UN Water Conference 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. It was hosted by Argentina.
- 2. The conference aims to support the achievement of internationally agreed water-related goals and targets.

Select the correct answer from 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 2023 UN Water Conference was co-hosted by Tajikistan and the Netherlands.

Statement 2 is correct. The 2023 conference aims to support the achievement of internationally agreed water-related goals and targets.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to "Salt Marshes":

- 1. These are coastal wetlands that are flooded and drained by salt water brought in by the tides.
- 2. Salt marshes occur worldwide.
- 3. They are dominated by a number of tree 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: A

Explanation -



Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Salt Marshes are coastal wetlands that are flooded and drained by salt water brought in by the tides. Salt marshes occur worldwide, particularly in middle to high latitudes.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Salt marshes are dominated by herbs and grasses while mangroves are dominated by a number of tree species.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nagri Dubraj is the folk-dance of Manipur.
- 2. India has agreed to provide financial support for Bhutan's 13th five-year plan and its reform projects.

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. Nagri Dubraj is a variety of aromatic rice from Chhattisgarh. It has recently received a geographical indication (GI) tag.

Statement 2 is correct. Indian PM and Bhutanese King held a bilateral meeting recently in which India has agreed to provide financial support for Bhutan's 13th five-year plan and its reform projects.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) With reference to "Basohli painting" consider the following statements:

- 1. The painting originated from the region of Assam Himalayas.
- 2. It is considered the first school of Pahari paintings.
- 3. These are painted on paper, cloth, or wood using natural pigments and dyes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

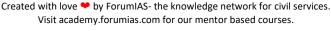
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Basohli painting originated from Basholi region of Jammu and **Kashmir**.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Basohli painting is considered the first school of Pahari paintings. These are painted on paper, cloth, or wood using natural pigments and dyes.





Q.6) With reference to "Prosopis Chilensis" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a drought-resistant plant.
- 2. It is native to arid regions of Argentina.
- 3. It is also known as Chilean mesquite.

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. Prosopis Chilensis is a drought-resistant plant. It is native to the arid regions of four South American countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Peru. It is also known as Chilean mesquite.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to "Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the first maritime biosphere reserve in South and South East Asia.
- 2. Dugongs are found in the reserve.
- 3. It includes only two distinct coastal ecosystems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

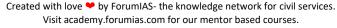
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve is India's first marine biosphere reserve. It is also the first maritime biosphere reserve in South and South East Asia. Dugongs (sea cow) are found in the reserve.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve includes three distinct coastal ecosystems – coral reef, seagrass bed, and mangroves.





Q.8) With reference to "Competition Amendment Bill, 2023" consider the following statements:

- 1. The bill seeks to increase the maximum number of days required for Competition Commission of India's (CCI) clearance for mergers and acquisition.
- 2. The bill proposes greater deterrence by way of higher penalty provisions based on the global sales of corporations.

Select the correct answer form 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 bill has brought down maximum number of days (from 210 to 150) required for Competition Commission of India (CCI) clearance for mergers and acquisition.

Statement 2 is correct. The bill proposes greater deterrence by way of higher penalty provisions based on the global sales of corporations.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India leads the world in rabies deaths.
- 2. There are not enough animal birth control programs to control the population of stray dogs in India.
- 3. There is now law in India to regulate the management of stray dogs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. According to the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, almost 96% of rabies cases in India are caused by stray dogs – and so India leads the world in rabies deaths. There are not enough animal birth control programs in place to control the population of stray dogs in India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. In India, stray-dog management comes under the purview of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and State Municipal Acts.



Q.10) Consider the following statements:

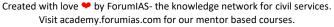
- 1. Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust.
- 2. India lacks systems to screen populations for exposure to lead.
- 3. Lead exposure can have serious consequences for the health of children.

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.





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to "Open-Source Seeds" concept consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to maintain open access to global plant genetic resources to all farmers, plant breeders and communities.
- 2. It affirms that plant genetics and their physical traits should be owned by individuals or by privatized corporations to prevent misuse of the plant genetics.

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. Open-Source Seeds concept aims to maintain open access to global plant genetic resources ensuring its accessibility to all farmers, plant breeders and communities for this generation and all to come.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It affirms that plant genetics and their physical traits cannot, and should not, be owned by individuals or corporations. In other words, plants should never be privatized or restricted because they are a collective resource.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), consider the following statements:

- 1. PPIs can be used in different currencies in India.
- 2. Mobile wallet is the most prevalent form of PPI used in 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: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. PPIs can only be used in Indian rupees in India.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Mobile wallet is the most prevalent form of PPI used in India. Closed system PPI can be used only at specific locations, and cannot be used to transfer funds from one account to another.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India is the largest milk producer in the world.
- 2. The demand for milk has increased in the recent years.
- 3. Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is a bacterial disease which turns the milk of the cattle sour.

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: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. India is the highest milk producer in the world. The demand for milk has increased in the recent years.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Lumpy Skin Disease is an infectious disease in cattle caused by a virus of the family Poxviridae, also known as the Neethling virus.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With referenced to draft National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for School Education 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The draft recommends conducting single board exams at the secondary level.
- 2. It recommends shifting the aim of assessment in the schooling system from rote memorisation skills to more competency-based that promotes learning and development for the students.

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. NCF for School Education 2023 recommends multiple board exams. Board exams should be conducted multiple times a year to ensure that students have enough time and opportunity to perform well.

Statement 2 is correct. It also recommends shifting the aim of assessment in the schooling system from rote memorisation skills to more competency-based that promotes learning and development for the students.



Q.5) With reference to International Finance Corporation (IFC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an autonomous and independent international institution that aims to manage international finance.
- 2. It is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in developing countries.
- 3. It finances through both loans and direct investments.

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. IFC was established in 1956 as a member of the World Bank Group. It is headquartered in Washington, D.C. in the United States.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. IFC is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in developing countries. It provides financing of private-enterprise investment in developing countries around the world, through both loans and direct investments.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to the Pattanam Site, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the only multi-cultural archaeological site on the southwestern coast of the Indian subcontinent.
- 2. The site is devoid of any idols of gods and goddesses.
- 3. The social structure of Pattanam was hierarchical along with rigid caste system.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

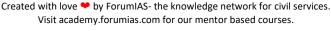
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Pattanam, an ancient Site, is located in Kerala. It is the only multi-cultural archaeological site on the southwestern coast of the Indian subcontinent. The site is devoid of any idols of gods and goddesses or grandiose places of worship.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Evidence for institutionalized religion or caste system in ancient Pattanam is absent. This suggests that there was a secular ethos prevalent in society.





Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Institution of Eminence (IoE) scheme is a scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- 2. Private Institutions are ineligible to get IoE status.
- 3. At present, no institutions have been awarded with IoE status.

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: A

Statement 1 is correct. The Institution of Eminence scheme is a scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development pertaining to higher education institutions (HES) in India.

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. Both public and private institutions are eligible for IoE scheme. At present, 12 institutions have been granted IoE status (8 public and 4 private).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has a high prevalence of rare recessive genetic diseases.
- 2. Genome editing can be used to develop disease-resistant animals, preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases.

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 has a high prevalence of rare recessive genetic diseases due to its population's heterogeneity and inbreeding rates. Genome editing can be used to develop disease-resistant animals, preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has been one of the world's top arms importers for the period 2018-22.
- 2. India's defence import has declined for the period 2018-22.
- 3. Most of the India's arms exports are carried out by private sector.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -



Statement 1 and 2 are correct. As per SIPRI, India still remains the world's top arms importer for the period 2018-22 even though its imports declined by 11 percent for the same period.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The private sector accounts for only 21 per cent of the exports. 79 percent of the exports are from Defence Public Sector Undertakings.

Source: The Print

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Tigers form the top predators in the ecosystem and they play a critical role in the balancing act of nature.
- 2. India is divided into six zones for carrying out tiger survey.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

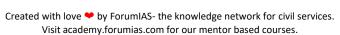
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A Explanation –

Statement 1 is correct. Tigers form the top predators in the ecosystem and they play a critical role in the balancing act of nature.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India is divided into five zones for the tiger survey - Gangetic Plains, Central India and Eastern Ghats, Western Ghats, North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains, and Sundarbans.

Source: India Today





Q.1) With reference to Indian Space Policy, 2023 consider the following statements:

- 1. The operational part of ISRO's missions will be moved to the New Space India Limited (NSIL).
- 2. Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe) will be the interface between Indian Space Research Organisation and non-governmental entities.
- 3. The involvement of private sector in the space sector has been made limited to building satellites.

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 operational part of ISRO's missions will be moved to the NSIL. IN-SPACe will be the interface between Indian Space Research Organisation and non-governmental entities.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The policy allows the private sector to take part in end-to-end space activities that include building satellites, rockets and launch vehicles, data collection and dissemination.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has notified rules regarding online gaming under the Information Technology Rules, 2021. With reference to these rules consider the following statements:

- 1. The new rules define an online game as a game that is offered on the internet and is accessible by a user through a computer resource or an intermediary.
- 2. The new rules for online gaming prohibit any game that involves betting and wagering.
- 3. The new rules provide for the establishment of Inter-Gaming Organization (IGO) for regulating the unethical practices involved in the gaming.

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 new rules define an online game as a game that is offered on the internet and is accessible by a user through a computer resource or an intermediary. The new rules for online gaming prohibit any game that involves betting and wagering.

Statement 3 is incorrect. As per the rules, the government will appoint multiple self-regulatory organizations (SROs) comprising industry representatives, educationists and other experts. SROs will be responsible for declaring online games permissible on the basis of whether games allow wagers.



Q.3) The Government of India has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2023. With reference to these rules consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the rules, the Government will appoint a fact-checking body for online content.
- 2. Content marked as fake by the body will have to be taken down by online intermediaries such as Facebook and Twitter.

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. As per the rules, the Government will appoint a fact-checking body for online content. Content marked as fake, false or misleading by the body will have to be taken down by online intermediaries such as Facebook and Twitter.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Spyware is a form of malware designed to block access from system until a ransom fee is paid.
- 2. India has become one of the signatories to anti-spyware declaration.
- 3. Spyware invades the device, steals sensitive information and internet usage data, and relays it to advertisers, data firms or external users.

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. Spyware is a form of malware designed to collect user's personal information. It is installed on a computing device without the user's knowledge. India has not joined anti-spyware declaration. Countries such as Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States have signed this declaration.

Statement 3 is correct. Spyware invades the device, steals sensitive information and internet usage data, and relays it to advertisers, data firms or external users.



Q.5) With reference to "Foreign Trade Policy 2023" consider the following statements:

- 1. The policy has restricted the import of used second-hand goods into the country for the purpose of repair, refurbishing, re-conditioning or re-engineering.
- 2. It aims at building partnerships with State governments and taking forward the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative.

Select the correct answer form 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. FTP 2023 has allowed the import of used second-hand goods into the country for the purpose of repair, refurbishing, re-conditioning or re-engineering with an intent to re-export them.

Statement 2 is correct. It aims at building partnerships with State governments and taking forward the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to "India Justice Report 2022" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, Telangana is the only state to consistently meet its quota for SC, ST and OBC positions both among Police officers and the constabulary.
- 2. The report flags the issue of inadequate women representation in the police.
- 3. Among small States, Goa and Sikkim were the best performers for the percentage of SC officers and constables.

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. As per the report, Karnataka remains the only state to consistently meet its quota for SC, ST and OBC positions both among Police officers and the constabulary.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. The report flags the issue of inadequate women representation in the police. Among small States, Goa and Sikkim were the best performers for the percentage of SC officers and constables.



Q.7) With reference to "United Nations Statistical Commission" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the highest body of the global statistical system bringing together the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world.
- 2. It's headquarter is located in New York, USA.
- 3. The term of office of members is 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: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. United Nations Statistical Commission is the highest body of the global statistical system bringing together the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world. It's headquarter is located in New York, USA.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The term of office of members is four years.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed the operation of pre-sanctioned credit lines at banks through UPI. Which of the following will be the advantages of allowing UPI to mimic credit cards?

- 1. Banks do not have to sign up new users as they can provide credit to existing customers.
- 2. Banks do not have to incur expenses issuing cards, signing up merchants, or deploying swipe machines.
- 3. It would encourage private lenders to push for UPI mode of payments.

Select the correct answer form the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct. UPI's advantage over credit cards is that banks do not have to sign up new users as they can provide credit to existing customers. Banks also do not have to incur expenditures in issuing cards, signing up merchants or deploying swipe machines. Private lenders like HDFC Bank, which saw little value in pushing UPI transactions, could get more active as they now have an opportunity to grow their loan books.

Source: The Times of India



Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 19 of the Constitution protects freedom of the media.
- 2. Freedom of media is subjected to reasonable restrictions.
- 3. Under Article 19, the Constitution has provided a benchmark to test the reasonableness of a restriction imposed on media.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Article 19 of the Constitution protects freedom of the media. Freedom of media is subjected to reasonable restrictions.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Constitution doesn't detail a benchmark to test the reasonableness of a restriction imposed on media.

Source: The Times of India

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India's dependency on imports to meet its energy needs have declined.
- 2. India is a net exporter of petroleum products.
- 3. India doesn't export crude oil and natural gas.

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's dependency on imports to meet its energy needs went up between 2012-13 and 2021-22 for all major sources — crude oil, natural gas and coal — shows data in a report recently released by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. India is a net exporter of petroleum products but it has to import crude oil to manufacture them. Unlike coal, which India exports as well as imports, India doesn't export crude oil and natural gas.

Source: The Times of India

