

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation**

April, 2023

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

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Assamese 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.

# Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

#### Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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).

Source: ForumIAS



#### 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 nonrepeating (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.

# Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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



# 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:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

# 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. **Source: ForumIAS** 



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



#### 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

# Source: ForumIAS



# 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: <u>The Print</u>

# 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



#### PRELIMS

# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

# Source: ForumIAS



# 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.

Source: ForumIAS



# 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: <u>The Times of India</u>

# 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



# PRELIMS

# Q.1) With reference to "Parambikulam Tiger Reserve" consider the following statements:

- 1. It has the world's largest and oldest teak tree.
- 2. It lies in the Sungam range of hills between the Anaimalai Hills and Nelliampathy Hills.
- 3. It is the home of indigenous Halam tribes.

# 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. Parambikulam Tiger Reserve has the world's largest and oldest teak tree named "Kannimara". It lies in the Sungam range of hills between the Anaimalai Hills and Nelliampathy Hills.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. It is the home of four different tribes of indigenous peoples including the Kadar, Malasar, Muduvar and Mala Malasar.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Carnivores are sometimes called predators.
- 2. India is home to 70% of the world's carnivore population.
- 3. Carnivore is an animal that has the ability to eat and survive on both plant and animal matter.

# 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: A

Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Carnivores are sometimes called predators.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. India is home to 23% of the world's carnivore population. A carnivore is an organism that mostly eats meat, or the flesh of animals.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Variable stars are stars that brightens without experiencing fluctuations.
- 2. Cepheids stars are a variable star which are larger than the Sun.

# 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. Variable stars are stars that experience fluctuations in their brightness.

**Statement 2** is correct. Cepheids stars are a special type of variable star in that they are hot and massive – five to twenty times as much mass as our Sun.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to "Track and Trace system" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a software-based solution to track vehicles, loading units, shipments throughout the entire supply chain from supplier to consumer.
- 2. Under this system, the exporter of drug formulations would have to print the barcode as per global standards at different packaging levels to facilitate tracking and tracing of their products.

# 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. Track and Trace system is a software-based solution to track vehicles, loading units, shipments throughout the entire supply chain from supplier to consumer. Under this system, the exporter of drug formulations would have to print the barcode as per global standards at different packaging levels to facilitate tracking and tracing of their products.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With of the following statements is correct regarding the term "Hikikomori"?

- a) It refers to the period of migration of people during the Chalcolithic Period.
- b) It refers to the phenomenon of associated with the formation of green comet.
- c) It is associated with reduced productivity and making more difficult for individuals to contribute to the larger economy.
- d) It is an endemic species of frog found in the Southern Western Ghats of India.

# Answer: C

**Explanation** – Hikikomori is a term used to describe people who have withdrawn from society, often for a period of six months or longer. Hikikomori can lead to reduced productivity and can make it harder for individuals to contribute to the wider economy.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Mantle constitutes the majority of the volume of the Earth.
- 2. Gravity operates deep beneath Earth to remove elements of the lithosphere.
- 3. The Southern part of India is more vulnerable to earthquakes.

# 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. Mantle constitutes the majority of the volume of our planet. Gravity operates deep beneath Earth to remove elements of the lithosphere.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The northern part of India and its surrounding countries are more vulnerable as they are located on a major plate boundary where quakes occur.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) is a necessary support to the development and functioning of digital systems and services that benefit society as a whole.
- 2. Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG) is a high-speed network that connects universities, research institutions, libraries, and other knowledge hubs across 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. DPI is a necessary support to the development and functioning of digital systems and services that benefit society as a whole.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. UMANG is a mobile app launched by the Indian government that provides access to various government services and schemes. The app aims to provide a single platform for accessing government services and is available in multiple languages.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is responsible for approving new drugs for marketing in India, and for monitoring their safety and efficacy.
- 2. The role of the Export Inspection Council (EIC) is to ensure that products notified under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act 1963 are meeting the requirements of the importing countries in respect of their quality and safety.

# 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. Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) is responsible for approving new drugs for marketing in India, and for monitoring their safety and efficacy.

**Statement 2** is correct. The role of the EIC is to ensure that products notified under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act 1963 are meeting the requirements of the importing countries in respect of their quality and safety.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to 'Torsa River' consider the following statements:

- 1. It rises from the Chumbi Valley in Tibet.
- 2. It is known as Machu in Bhutan.
- 3. It enters into India through 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Torsa River rises from the Chumbi Valley in Tibet. It enters into India through West Bengal.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is known as Amo Chu in Bhutan.

Source: The Indian Express



# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Land conversion is a threat to biodiversity.
- 2. Growing carbon dioxide levels are leading to increased ocean acidification and coral bleaching.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

# Answer: C

# Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. The two things that threaten biodiversity the most at the moment are overharvesting and land conversion. Growing carbon dioxide levels are leading to increased ocean acidification and coral bleaching.

Source: The Indian Express



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. The speed of gravitational waves is less than the speed of light.
- 2. These waves squeeze and stretch anything in their path as they pass by.
- 3. The most powerful gravitational waves are created when objects move at very high speeds.

# 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. Gravitational waves travel at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second).

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Gravitational waves squeeze and stretch anything in their path as they pass by. The most powerful gravitational waves are created when objects move at very high speeds.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to "LIGO-India Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. It will increase the sensitivity of the international gravitational wave network and improve localization of sources.
- 2. The project will help astronomers to identify the exact location of the cosmic explosion much quicker and study it right from the first moments in every frequency band of the electromagnetic spectrum.

#### 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. LIGO-India Project will increase the sensitivity of the international gravitational wave network and improve localization of sources. It will help astronomers to identify exact location of the cosmic explosion much quicker and study it right from the first moments in every frequency band of the electromagnetic spectrum.

# Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The tiger population in the country has increased by 6.7 percent in the past four years.
- 2. The tiger population has grown the most in the Western Ghats.
- 3. Unregulated and illicit cattle grazing are one of the threats faced by the major tiger zones in India.

### 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. The tiger population in the country has increased by 6.7 percent in the past four years. Unregulated and illicit cattle grazing are one of the threats faced by the major tiger zones in India.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The tiger population has grown the most in the Shivalik hills and Gangetic flood plains, followed by central India, the northeastern hills, the Brahmaputra flood plains and the Sundarbans. But there was a decline in tiger population in the Western Ghats. **Source:** ForumIAS

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

- 1. India is the country with highest population of Hippopotamus in the world.
- 2. India is the only country in the world to have Asiatic lions.
- 3. India is home to 75% of the world's tiger population.

### 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 largest tiger range country in the world, the largest Asiatic elephant range country in the world with nearly thirty thousand elephants, and also the largest single-horn rhino country with a population of nearly three thousand.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. India is the only country in the world to have Asiatic lions and its population has increased from around 525 in 2015 to around 675 in 2020. India is home to 75% of the world's tiger population.

### Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.5) With reference to "Livestock Insurance Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to provide a protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death.
- 2. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is the Nodal Ministry for implementing the scheme.
- 3. The cost of subsidy of the scheme is shared by central and state governments in the ratio 60:40.

### 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. Livestock Insurance Scheme aims to provide a protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is the Nodal Ministry for implementing the scheme.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The entire cost of the subsidy is being borne by the Central Government.

#### Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It will enhance global efforts and partnerships on big cat conservation while creating a platform for knowledge convergence, best practices, and support for existing species-specific intergovernmental platforms.
- 2. It will engage in advocacy, partnership, knowledge e-portal, capacity building, eco-tourism, partnerships between expert groups and finance tapping.

### 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** –

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. IBCA will enhance global efforts and partnerships on big cat conservation while creating a platform for knowledge convergence, best practices, and support for existing species-specific intergovernmental platforms. It will engage in advocacy, partnership, knowledge e-portal, capacity building, eco-tourism, partnerships between expert groups and finance tapping.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.7) With reference to "Language Friendship Bridge Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. The project aims at creating a pool of language experts in languages spoken in the G20 countries to facilitate better people-to-people exchanges.
- 2. The project will be implemented 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. Language Friendship Bridge Project aims to create a pool of experts in languages spoken in countries like Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan and Indonesia to facilitate better people-to-people exchanges.

**Statement 2** is correct. The project will be implemented by The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.8) With reference to "MeerKAT telescope" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a precursor to the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope.
- 2. It is located in South Africa's Northern Cape province.
- 3. The telescope uses microwaves to study the changing climatic pattern over Antarctica.

### 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. MeerKAT telescope is a precursor to the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope. It is located in South Africa's Northern Cape province.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The telescope uses radio signals from space to study the evolution of the universe and everything it contains.

Source: DTE



#### Q.9) With reference to "Bowenpally's Biogas Plant" consider the following statements:

- 1. It generates electricity from vegetables waste.
- 2. It is located in Karnataka.

### 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. Bowenpally's Biogas Plant generates electricity from vegetables waste.
Statement 2 is incorrect. Bowenpally's Biogas Plant is located in Telangana.
Source: ForumIAS

## Q.10) With referenced to Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to provide loans up to 10 lakhs to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises.
- 2. The PMMY has benefitted all segments of Indian society.
- 3. The maximum amount of loan is financed by the Kishore category under the PMMY.

### 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. PMMY aims for providing loans up to 10 lakhs to the noncorporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises. PMMY has benefitted all segments of Indian society such as General, SC/STs, OBCs and Women.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. There are three categories under PMMY – Shishu: Covering loans up to Rs. 50,000, Kishore: Covering loans above Rs. 50,000 and up to Rs. 5 lakhs, Tarun: Covering loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10 lakhs.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

### Q.1) The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) issued a draft on Sagarmala Innovation and Start-up Policy. With reference to this draft consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the draft is to nurture start-ups and other entities to co-create the future of India's growing maritime sector.
- 2. Anti-Pirates technology is one of key identified areas for the startups.
- 3. Startups will be selected through a digital portal to ensure transparency.

#### 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 aim of the draft is to nurture start-ups and other entities to co-create the future of India's growing maritime sector. Startups will be selected through a digital portal to ensure transparency.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The policy identified several key areas for the startups to flourish which include: decarbonisation, optimizing processes through data, maritime education, multimodal transportation, manufacturing, alternate/advanced materials, maritime cybersecurity, smart communication and marine electronics.

#### Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. According to the NFHS-5, the use of unhygienic menstrual methods of protection among women of age 15-24 years is almost three times that of their urban counterparts.
- 2. The unsanitary use of menstrual products increases the susceptibility of young girls and women to fungal, urinary, and reproductive-tract infections.

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

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

#### **Answer:** C

#### **Explanation** -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. According to the NFHS-5, the use of unhygienic menstrual methods of protection among women of age 15-24 years is almost three times that of their urban counterparts. The unsanitary use of menstrual products increases the susceptibility of young girls and women to fungal, urinary, and reproductive-tract infections.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. It is centrally sector scheme.
- 2. The project aims at safeguarding elephants against poaching and other threats.

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

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Project Elephant was launched in 1992 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

**Statement 2** is correct. The project aims at safeguarding elephants against poaching and other threats.

### Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The programme aims at building eco-friendly ships and ancillaries and make India leader in sustainable maritime products globally.
- 2. The programme has been launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- 3. Coastal Community Development is one of the components of Sagarmala Programme.

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

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Sagarmala Programme aims to enhance the performance of the country's logistics sector. The programme envisages unlocking the potential of waterways and the coastline to minimize infrastructural investments required to meet these targets.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The programme has been launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. Coastal Community Development is one of the components of Sagarmala Programme.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The programme aims at providing real time information of the cosmic events in the Andromeda Galaxy.
- 2. This initiative is headed by the European Commission (EC) in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA).

### 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. Copernicus programme is the most ambitious Earth observation programme. It provides accurate, timely and easily accessible information to improve the management of the environment, understand and mitigate the effects of climate change and ensure civil security.

**Statement 2** is correct. This initiative is headed by the European Commission (EC) in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA).

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. About 60% of the global population of Asian elephants is found in India.
- 2. Asian elephants are listed as Vulnerable 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: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. About 60% of the global population of Asian elephants is found in India. **Statement 2** is incorrect. Asian elephants are listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List. **Source: ForumIAS** 

### Q.7) With reference to "Wheat Cultivation in India" consider the following statements:

- 1. Wheat cultivation in India has traditionally been dominated by the southern region of India.
- 2. India is the largest producer of wheat in the world.
- 3. Wheat is sensitive to both heat stress and rainfall.
- 4. India accounts for less than one percent of world wheat export.

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

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

Answer: D Explanation –



**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. Wheat cultivation in India has traditionally been dominated by the northern region of India. India is the second largest producer of wheat in the world. **Statement 3 and 4** are correct. Wheat is sensitive to both heat stress and rainfall. India accounts for less than one per cent of world wheat export.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.8) With reference to "Short-beaked echidnas" consider the following statements:

- 1. It has a specialized tongue which it uses to catch its insect prey at a great speed.
- 2. It has extremely strong front limbs and claws which allow it to burrow quickly with great power.
- 3. It has a significant tolerance to high levels of carbon dioxide and low levels of oxygen.

### 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. Short-beaked echidnas has a specialized tongue which it uses to catch its insect prey at a great speed. It has extremely strong front limbs and claws which allow it to burrow quickly with great power. It has a significant tolerance to high levels of carbon dioxide and low levels of oxygen.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Raccoon Stealer is a reptile that is native to South America.
- 2. Malware-as-a-Service (MaaS) is the term used to describe the unlawful leasing of software and hardware for the purpose of conducting cyber-attacks.

### 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. Raccoon Stealer is a kind of malware that steals various data from an infected computer.

**Statement 2** is correct. MaaS is the term used to describe the unlawful leasing of software and hardware for the purpose of conducting cyber-attacks.

Source: ForumIAS



### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Space militarisation refers to using space-based assets for military purposes such as for spying or communication by the militaries.
- 2. IndSpaceEx was launched to develop innovative solutions for the three military Services in the space domain through the Indian industry and start-ups.
- 3. Indian DefSpace Symposium 2023 was organized by the Indian Space Association (ISpA).

### 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. Space militarisation refers to using space-based assets for military purposes such as for spying or communication by the militaries. Indian DefSpace Symposium 2023 was organized by the Indian Space Association (ISpA).

**Statement 2** is incorrect. IndSpaceEx exercise aims to assess the requisite space and counterspace capabilities that are needed by India. The exercise will also help India better grasp the strategic challenges in space that need to be handled.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs) is a company that owns, operates, or finances income-generating real estate.
- 2. Real estate investment trusts (REIT) are publicly traded like stocks, which makes them highly liquid.

### 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. InvITs are companies that use the pooled money to own and run functional infrastructure assets like highways, roads, pipelines, warehouses and power plants. **Statement 2** is correct. REITs are publicly traded like stocks, which makes them highly liquid. **Source:** ForumIAS



## Q.3) With reference to State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) consider the following statements:

- 1. The index assesses the preparedness of states against the natural calamities.
- 2. The index is prepared by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

3. There are four categories in the index.

### 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. SEEI aims to assess the annual progress of states and UTs in energy efficiency implementation. The Ministry of Power has recently released the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The index is prepared by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). There are four categories in the index i.e., Front Runner, Achiever, Contender and Aspirant. The maximum score for the index is 100.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) With reference to Tropospheric Emissions Monitoring of Pollution (TEMPO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a device that can track air pollution all over the globe.
- 2. It will be hosted on an Intelsat communications satellite in a geostationary orbit.

### 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. TEMPO is a NASA device that can track air pollution over North America from space.

**Statement 2** is correct. It will be hosted on an Intelsat communications satellite in a geostationary orbit.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.5) With reference to Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a vital analytical and sensing tool for detecting molecules.
- 2. It can aid rapid detection of toxic pollutants present in water and food.

### 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. SERS is a vital analytical and sensing tool for detecting molecules. It can aid rapid detection of toxic pollutants present in water, food, etc. **Source: ForumIAS** 

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

- 1. India is the world's fifth-largest economy in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP).
- 2. Digital technology is the foundation of the modern ecosystem.
- 3. The pandemic has widened the learning gaps and led to generational learning loss.

### 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 world's third-largest economy in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP).

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Digital technology is the foundation of the modern ecosystem. The pandemic has widened the learning gaps and led to generational learning loss. **Source: ForumIAS** 

## Q.7) Which of the following is NOT a condition required by a party to be recognized as a state party?

- a) A party needs to secure at least 6% of the valid vote and win at least 2 seats in an Assembly General Election.
- b) A party needs to secure at least 6% of the valid vote and win at least 1 seat in the Lok Sabha General Election.
- c) A party needs to win at least 1 out of every 25 seats from a state in a Lok Sabha General Election.
- d) A party needs to secure at least 4% of the total valid vote in an Assembly or Lok Sabha General Elections.

### Answer: D

**Explanation** – A party needs to secure at least 8% of the total valid vote in an Assembly or Lok Sabha General Elections.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.8) With reference to National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a technical intelligence agency under the National Security Adviser in the Prime Minister's Office.
- 2. It was set up after the Indo-Sino war of 1962.
- 3. The National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre has been created under NTRO to monitor, intercept and assess threats to critical infrastructure.

### 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. NTRO is a technical intelligence agency under the National Security Adviser in the Prime Minister's Office. The National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre has been created under NTRO to monitor, intercept and assess threats to critical infrastructure.

Statement 2 is incorrect. NTRO was set up after the 1999 Kargil war.

### Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Article 17 of the Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination based on gender.
- 2. The Constitution of India guarantees the right to freedom of speech and expression 19(1)(a), which includes the freedom of the press.

### 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. Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination based on gender.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Constitution of India guarantees the right to freedom of speech and expression 19(1)(a), which includes the freedom of the press.

Source: ForumIAS



### Q.10) Which of the following has launched the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (Juice) mission?

- a) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- b) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- c) European Space Agency (ESA)
- d) Australian Space Agency (ASA)

### Answer: C

**Explanation** – The European Space Agency (ESA) is set to conduct the launch the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (Juice) mission to explore Jupiter and its large water-bearing moons. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Good Friday Agreement was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Agreement between North and South Korea over boundary.
- b) Crucifixion of Jesus
- c) Agreement between the Axis powers and the Allies post World War II.
- d) Agreement to end violent conflict in Northern Ireland.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Good Friday Agreement also known as the Belfast Agreement was signed on 10th April 1988. It was a political deal designed to bring an end to 30 years of violent conflict in Northern Ireland, known as the Troubles.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to Large Hadron Collider (LHC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the world's largest and highest-energy particle collider.
- 2. It is built by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).
- 3. Its purpose is to study minuscule subatomic particles which are the smallest known units of matter and the building blocks of all things.

#### 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. LHC is the world's largest and highest-energy particle collider. Its purpose is to study minuscule subatomic particles which are the smallest known units of matter and the building blocks of all things.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It has been built by European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.3) Which of the following was the purpose of Ranganath Misra Commission?

- a) To examine the working of the Community Development Programme and the National Extension Service.
- b) To look into various issues related to Linguistic and Religious minorities.
- c) For Development and Regulation of Derivative Markets in India.
- d) To examine student election in universities.

#### **Answer: B**

**Explanation** – National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities, also called Ranganath Misra Commission, was constituted by the Government of India in 2004 to look into various issues related to Linguistic and Religious minorities in India. **Source:** ForumIAS



### Q.4) With reference to Cumbum grapes consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a variety of strawberries grown in the Eastern Ghats.
- 2. They are rich in vitamins.
- 3. These are suitable for making wine.

### 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. Cumbum Panneer Thratchai also known as Cumbum grapes, is a variety of grapes grown in the Cumbum Valley located at the Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu, India.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The grapes are rich in vitamins, tartaric acid, and antioxidants, and reduce the risk of some chronic diseases. The grapes grown are suitable for making wine, spirit, jams, canned grape juice and raisins.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (FINE) is an initiative to recognise, respect, showcase, reward innovations and to foster a supportive ecosystem for innovators.
- 2. Grassroots Innovations Accelerator program aims to help grassroots innovators with support for entrepreneurial, product and market 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. FINE is an initiative to recognise, respect, showcase, reward innovations and to foster a supportive ecosystem for innovators. Grassroots Innovations Accelerator program aims to help grassroots innovators with support for entrepreneurial, product and market development.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. A majority of civil cases in India is related to marriage.
- 2. Tenancy disputes are the most common type of litigation in Indian courts.
- 3. Digital India Land Record Modernization Program integrates the computerization of land records, strengthening of revenue administration, and updating of land records.

### 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 majority (66%) of all civil cases in India are related to land or property disputes.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Tenancy disputes are the most common type of litigation in Indian courts. Digital India Land Record Modernization Program integrates the computerization of land records, strengthening of revenue administration, and updating of land records.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Preventive detention cases in India have declined in the recent years.
- 2. Preventive detention laws are used in anticipation of a crime.
- 3. States can have their own preventive detention laws.

### 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. GoI data shows that in 2021, preventive detention cases increased by almost 24% to 1.1 lakh.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Preventive detention laws are used in anticipation of a crime. States can have their own preventive detention laws.

Source: The Times of India



### Q.8) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued new guidelines for lenders on penal interest charges. With reference to these guidelines consider the following statements:

- 1. Penal interest charges are additional fees levied on borrowers who fail to comply with the terms and conditions of their loan agreement.
- 2. Under the new guidelines, banks and non-banking and housing finance companies will be allowed to introduce additional components to the interest rate.
- 3. Penal charges are not meant to be used as a revenue-enhancement tool over and above the contracted interest rate.

### 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. Penal interest charges are additional fees levied on borrowers who fail to comply with the terms and conditions of their loan agreement. Penal charges are not meant to be used as a revenue-enhancement tool over and above the contracted interest rate. Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the new guidelines, banks and NBFCs & HFCs will not be allowed to introduce any additional components to the interest rate, and penal charges for default or non-compliance will be treated separately from the rate of interest charged on the loan.

Source: The Times of India

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

- 1. Chinese smartphone companies dominate the Indian smartphone market.
- 2. India's smartphone exports have fallen below the estimated level in the FY23.

### 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. Chinese smartphone companies dominate the Indian smartphone market.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Data released by India Cellular & Electronics Association (ICEA) showed that smartphone exports had even surpassed the initial estimates of Rs 75,000 crore targeted for FY23.

Source: The Times of India



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

- 1. Sodium batteries keep almost all of their charge when temperatures fall far below freezing temperature.
- 2. Sodium batteries are costlier than lithium batteries.

### 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. Sodium batteries keep almost all of their charge when temperatures fall far below freezing temperature while lithium batteries cannot.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Sodium batteries are cheaper than lithium batteries.

Source: The Times of India



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Recusal refers to the removal of oneself as a judge in a particular matter.
- 2. The judge has to follow the procedure laid down by the Parliament in recusal.
- 3. Judges often don't give reasons for recusal.

### 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 –

**Statements 1 and 3** are correct. Recusal refers to the removal of oneself as a judge in a particular matter. Judges often don't give reasons for recusal.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India has not laid down procedure for judges to stand down from cases.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a type of formal trading option provided by the National Stock Exchange (NSE).
- 2. This type of trading is often associated with gambling.

### 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. Dabba (box) trading refers to informal trading that takes place outside the purview of the stock exchanges.

**Statement 2** is correct. Dabba trading is a type of gambling. It is recognized as an offence under Section 23(1) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act (SCRA), 1956.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are excluded from providing loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).
- 2. MUDRA Card can be used for drawing cash from an ATM.

### 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 loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) are extended by Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) viz Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks (SFBs), Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) etc.

**Statement 2** is correct. MUDRA Card is a RuPay debit card, it can be used for drawing cash from an ATM.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It refers to violence faced by women at homes.
- 2. Physiological custodial violence includes mental torture.
- 3. Most of the custodial violence victims are from marginalized communities.

### 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. Custodial violence primarily refers to violence in police custody and judicial custody.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Physiological custodial violence includes mental torture. Most of the custodial violence victims are from marginalized communities such as SCs, STs and denotified tribes.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The rice is grown in Northern Tamil Nadu region.
- 2. The size and shape of the grain appear like that of black pepper.
- 3. The rice is famous for its taste.

### Select the correct answer form the code given below:

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. Mircha rice is grown in West Champaran District, Bihar. This rice is famous for its aroma.

**Statement 2** is correct. The size and shape of the grain appear like that of black pepper. Hence, it is known as Mircha or Marcha Rice.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Online Dispute Redressal (ODR) uses technology to help people resolve their disputes in an easier and more efficient way than traditional methods.
- 2. The Online Consumer Mediation Centre (OCMC) aims to provide for an infrastructure for resolving consumer disputes both through physical as well as online mediation.

### 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. ODR uses technology to help people resolve their disputes in an easier and more efficient way than traditional methods. OCMC aims to provide for an infrastructure for resolving consumer disputes both through physical as well as online mediation.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. India's net exports in services have been positive while its net exports in goods are negative.
- 2. India has been successful in creating low skilled jobs in manufacturing.
- 3. India currently hosts 40% of the world's Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and this number is expected to rise.

### 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's net exports in services have been positive while its net exports in goods are negative. India currently hosts 40% of the world's Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and this number is expected to rise. GCC refers to offices set up by large multinational firms that provide IT, research, and analytical support to the parent companies.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India has not been successful in creating low skilled jobs in manufacturing. More number of jobs in the manufacturing sector require specialized skills while jobs requiring low skills have not been much created in India.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. India is home to 75% of the global tiger population.
- 2. The only landscape in India where the tiger population has gone down is the Western Ghats.
- 3. India is the third largest tiger range country 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: A

### Explanation -

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. India is home to 75% of the global tiger population. The only landscape in India where the tiger population has gone down is the Western Ghats.
Statement 3 is incorrect. India is the largest tiger range country in the world.
Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. An unrecognized party can use a single poll symbol across the country.
- 2. Candidates of unrecognized party are allotted election symbols by the Returning Officers of the concerned constituencies after the last date for withdrawal of candidature.

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

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. An unrecognized party cannot use a single poll symbol across the country.

**Statement 2** is correct. Candidates of unrecognized party are allotted election symbols by the Returning Officers of the concerned constituencies after the last date for withdrawal of candidature.

### Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. India has a positive trade balance in goods with France.
- 2. India-Italy Strategic Partnership on Energy Transition provides opportunities for further exploration of joint investments.
- 3. Defence ties are a core component of the Indo-French strategic partnership.

### 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: DC

**Explanation – Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. India has a positive trade balance in goods with France. India-Italy Strategic Partnership on Energy Transition provides opportunities for further exploration of joint investments. Defence ties are a core component of the Indo-French strategic partnership.

Source: ForumIAS



### PRELIMS

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

- 1. It is a traditional folk-dance popular across Assam.
- 2. It is an all women dance.
- 3. The dance is known for its lively attributes of joy with quick movements.

### 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. Bihu Dance is a traditional folk-dance popular across Assam. The dance is known for its lively attributes of joy with quick movements.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The dance is usually performed by both men and women dancers. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

## Q.2) With reference to Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) consider the following statements:

1. It aims to enhance India's preparedness and response to animal pandemics.

2. The initiative will help in improving veterinary services and infrastructure.

### 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. APPI aims to enhance India's preparedness and response to animal pandemics. The initiative will help in improving veterinary services and infrastructure. **Source:** ForumIAS

### Q.3) With reference to "E-Prosecution portal" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is managed by the Government of India under the Digital India Mission.
- 2. It links and enables the seamless transfer of data and information across the different Ministries about the government procurement system.

### 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. E-Prosecution portal is managed by the Government of India under the Digital India Mission.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The portal facilitates communication between the police department and the prosecution directorate as part of the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS). It links and enables the seamless transfer of data and information among different pillars of the criminal justice system — such as courts, police, jails and forensic science laboratories — from one platform.

### Source: ForumIAS

### Q.4) With reference to "Foreign Exchange Reserves" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Reserve bank of India (RBI) is the custodian of the foreign exchange reserves in India.
- 2. A country can build up its reserves if there are more imports than exports.
- 3. Foreign exchange reserves are usually used for backing the exchange rate and influencing monetary policy.

### 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 Reserve bank of India (RBI) is the custodian of the foreign exchange reserves in India. Foreign exchange reserves are usually used for backing the exchange rate and influencing monetary policy.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A country can build up its reserves if there are more exports than imports.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to Animal Health System Support for One Health (AHHSOH) project, consider the following statements:

- 1. The projected will be implemented across India.
- 2. It will be implemented over a five-year period.
- 3. It is a collaborative project between the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and the World 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: B

### Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The project will be implemented in five states.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. It will be implemented over a five-year period. It is a collaborative project between the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and the World Bank. **Source: ForumIAS** 



### Q.6) With reference to "Flash Droughts" consider the following statements:

- 1. It occurs when high precipitation is accompanied by abnormally low temperatures.
- 2. It occurs due to the rapid depletion of soil moisture.
- 3. The flash drought can occur within few weeks.

### 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. Flash Droughts occurs when low precipitation is accompanied by abnormally high temperatures.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. Flash Droughts occurs due to the rapid depletion of soil moisture. The flash drought can occur within few weeks unlike the normal droughts.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) With reference to Safety Across Asia for the Global Environment (SAFE) Project, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to focus on preventing environment catastrophe in the future.
- 2. The project is funded by the European Union.
- 3. It has been launched by the United Nations.

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

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. SAFE Project aims to focus on the connection between wildlife trafficking and zoonotic disease transmission with the aim to prevent future pandemics.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The project is funded by the European Union. It has been launched by the United Nations in 2021.

Source: ForumIAS



### Q.8) With reference to rising heat consider the following statements:

- 1. The Indo-Gangetic Plain is the most intense locations on Earth which is mostly hot and humid.
- 2. India has almost half of the labour lost due to heat exposure around the world.
- 3. India is the least impacted in terms of lost labour productivity by rising heat.

### 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 Indo-Gangetic Plain is the most intense locations on Earth which is mostly hot and humid. India has almost half of the labour lost to human heat exposure around the world.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. India is the most impacted in terms of lost labour productiv1ity by rising heat.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.9) With reference to Giant Magnetoresistance (GMR) consider the following statements:

- 1. Magnetoresistance is the tendency of a material to change the value of its magnetic resistance.
- 2. GMR is used in hard disk drives.

### 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. Magnetoresistance is the tendency of a material to change the value of its electrical resistance in an externally-applied magnetic field.

**Statement 2** is correct. GMR is used in hard disk drives, magneto resistive RAM in computers, biosensors, automotive sensors, microelectromechanical systems, and medical imagers. **Source: ForumIAS** 



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

- 1. It is the thinnest, most electrically and thermally conductive material in the world.
- 2. Graphene oxide membranes are capable of forming a perfect barrier when dealing with liquids and gasses.

### 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: C

### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Graphene is the thinnest, most electrically and thermally conductive material in the world. Graphene oxide membranes are capable of forming a perfect barrier when dealing with liquids and gasses.

Source: ForumIAS



### PRELIMS

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

- 1. They are endemic to Western Ghats of India.
- 2. Its most characteristic feature is the toque-like swirl of hair on its head top.
- 3. They are listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

### 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. Toque Macaque is a reddish-brown-coloured Old World monkey. It is native and endemic exclusively to Sri Lanka where it is locally known as the rilewa or rilawa. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Its most characteristic feature is the toque-like swirl of hair on its head top. They are listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List. **Source: ForumIAS** 

### Q.2) Which of the following NOT a member of G7?

- a) France
- b) Germany
- c) Italy
- d) Brazil

### Answer: D

**Explanation** – G7 countries include Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.3) Which of the following factors are causing rise in the milk prices in India?

- 1. Rise in Imports of Milk Products
- 2. Rise in Animal Feed Prices
- 3. Increase in labour cost

### Select the correct answer form the code given below:

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

### **Answer: B**

**Explanation –** Factors that are responsible for increase in the prices of milk are – rise in exports of milk products, Rise in Animal Feed Prices, Increase in labour cost, Adverse weather, Disease. **Source:** ForumIAS



## Q.4) With reference to "The Status Of Women In Agrifood Systems report" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, the gap between women's and men's food security has grown since pandemic.
- 2. As per the report, men have a larger share in agricultural households compared with women.

### 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 report, the gap between women's and men's food security has grown since pandemic. As per the report, men have a larger share in agricultural households compared with women.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The unique feature of this painting is the use dark colours along its borders.
- 2. It is a traditional art of Madhya Pradesh.
- 3. The paintings showcase the beauty of nature, including trees and plants.

### 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. This art form uses bright colours, such as yellow, red, white and blue. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Gond Painting is a traditional art of Madhya Pradesh. The paintings showcase the beauty of nature, including trees and plants.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.6) With reference to "Pralay Missiles" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a surface-to-air missile.
- 2. It has the ability to change its path midair.
- 3. The missile is designed to destroy enemy radar, communication installations, etc.

### 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. Pralay is a quasi-ballistic surface-to-surface missile.
Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Pralay Missile has the ability to change its path midair. The missile is designed to destroy enemy radar, communication installations, etc.
Source: ForumIAS

### Q.7) With reference to the country "Sudan" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the third-largest country of the African continent.
- 2. It is a landlocked country.
- 3. Ethiopia is one the countries bordering Sudan.

### 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. Sudan is the third-largest of the African continent. Ethiopia is one the countries bordering Sudan.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Sudan has a coastline bordering the Red Sea.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.8) With reference to khayal style of music, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of Carnatic music.
- 2. It is usually accompanied by a Veena.

### 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. khayal style of music is a type of Hindustani music. It is usually accompanied by a tabla (pair of drums) and a tambura (lute) in a variety of talas. **Source:** ForumIAS



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

- 1. The India and Nepal border is primarily based upon the Treaty of Gandamak.
- 2. The border disputes between Nepal and India are primarily concentrated in the western and eastern regions of Nepal.
- 3. Water-sharing is a source of dispute between Nepal and 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. The India and Nepal border is primarily based upon the Treaty of Sugauli, 1816, signed between the British East India Company and the Kingdom of Nepal, which ended the Anglo-Nepal War.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The border disputes between Nepal and India are primarily concentrated in the western and eastern regions of Nepal. Water-sharing is also a source of disputes between Nepal and India.

Source: ORF

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

- 1. 62 percent of the darknet is being used for illicit drug trafficking.
- 2. Cryptocurrency payments and doorstep courier services have made darknet transactions attractive.
- 3. The success rate in catching traffickers using the darknet has been very low in all over 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: D

### Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. 62 percent of the darknet is being used for illicit drug trafficking. Cryptocurrency payments and doorstep courier services have made darknet transactions attractive. The success rate in catching traffickers using the darknet has been very low in all over the world.

Source: The Indian Express



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Geothermal energy uses the heat generated by the Earthquakes.
- 2. It is the only renewable energy source that is unaffected by day-night.
- 3. The main advantage of geothermal energy is its low cost.

### 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. Geothermal energy uses the heat generated by the Earth's core to produce clean energy.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Geothermal Energy is the only renewable energy source that is unaffected by day-night. The main advantage of geothermal energy is its low cost.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.2) With reference to "Global Buddhist Summit" consider the following statements:

- 1. It was organized by the International Buddhist Society.
- 2. The summit aims at finding solutions to problems such as climate change by exploring the Buddhist teachings and practices.

### 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. Global Buddhist Summit was organized by the Ministry of Culture and the International Buddhist Confederation.

**Statement 2** is correct. The summit aims at finding solutions to problems such as climate change by exploring the Buddhist teachings and practices.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. It is a frog species found in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 2. The species is edible and local people consume it.

### 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. Garra Laishrami is a rare freshwater fish species found in the Kolab river.

**Statement 2** is correct. The species is edible and local people consume it. This fish is usually found under rocks, stones and boulders of torrential streams and rivers. **Source: ForumIAS** 

- **Q.4) Kolab River is a tributary of** a) Ganga River
- b) Mahanadi River
- c) Godavari River
- d) Son River

### Answer: C

**Explanation** – Kolab River is one of the major rivers of Odisha. It is one of the major tributaries of Godavari River.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a species of bird native to the eastern Indian Subcontinent.
- 2. It is found in mangrove forests.
- 3. Its IUCN status is Endangered.

### 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. Mangrove Pittas is a species of bird native to the eastern Indian Subcontinent and western Southeast Asia. It is found in mangrove and nipa palm forests where it feeds on crustaceans, mollusks and insects.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Its IUCN status Is Near Threatened.

Source: ForumIAS



## Q.6) With reference to Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Reform-based and Result-linked Scheme introduced by the Ministry of Power.
- 2. It aims at improving the quality & reliability of the power supply to build a robust power sector.

### 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: C

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. It is a Reform-based and Result-linked Scheme introduced by the Ministry of Power. It aims at improving the quality & reliability of the power supply to build a robust power sector.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Anthropocene epoch is characterized by the influence of Homo sapiens on the planet's geology and ecosystems.
- 2. The North Pacific Subtropical Gyre is located just north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean.

### 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. Anthropocene epoch is characterized by the influence of Homo sapiens on the planet's geology and ecosystems. The North Pacific Subtropical Gyre is located just north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The combination of high temperature and high humidity is referred to as the wet bulb temperature.
- 2. Low moisture content in the atmosphere makes it difficult for sweat to evaporate and bodies to cool down.

### 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 combination of high temperature and high humidity is referred to as the wet bulb temperature.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. High moisture content in the atmosphere makes it difficult for sweat to evaporate and bodies to cool down.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.9) Which of the following canal divides North America from South America?

- a) Panama Canal
- b) Suez Canal
- c) Corinth Canal
- d) Kiel Canal

### Answer: A

**Explanation** – The Panama Canal is an artificial waterway in Panama that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean and divides North and South America. **Source:** India Today

### Q.10) With reference to Caste census, consider the following statements:

- 1. It means inclusion of caste-wise tabulation of India's population in the Census exercise.
- 2. Till now, India has counted and published caste data of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes only.

### 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. Caste census means inclusion of caste-wise tabulation of India's population in the Census exercise. Till now, from 1951 to 2011, India has counted and published caste data of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes only.

Source: The Times of India



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. There has been an overall decrease in the ransomware incidents in India.
- 2. As per the report, ransomware players targeted critical infrastructure organizations and disrupted critical services in order to pressurize and extract ransom payments.
- 3. Lockbit was a majorly seen variant of the ransomware 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. Overall, there is a 53% increase in Ransomware incidents reported in the 2022.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Ransomware players targeted critical infrastructure organizations and disrupted critical services in order to pressurize and extract ransom payments. Lockbit was a majorly seen variant of the ransomware in India.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to Marketing and Logistics Development for Promotion of Tribal Products from North-Eastern Region (PTP-NER) scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to strengthen livelihood opportunities for tribal artisans through increased efficiency in procurement, logistics and marketing of tribal products from North Eastern States.
- 2. National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme.

#### 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. PTP-NER scheme aims to strengthen livelihood opportunities for tribal artisans through increased efficiency in procurement, logistics and marketing of tribal products from North Eastern States.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) is the nodal agency implementing the scheme.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.3) With reference to Electromagnetic Ion Cyclotron (EMIC) waves, consider the following statements:

- 1. These waves play an important role in the precipitation of killer electrons which are hazardous to our space-borne technology.
- 2. The study of these waves can help understand the impact of energetic particles in the radiation belts on low-orbiting satellites.

#### 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. EMIC waves play an important role in the precipitation of killer electrons which are hazardous to our space-borne technology. The study of these waves can help understand the impact of energetic particles in the radiation belts on low-orbiting satellites. **Source:** ForumIAS

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

- 1. A magnetosphere is a region around a planet dominated by the planet's gravitational field.
- 2. Plasma is the fourth state of matter.
- 3. Sun consists of plasma.

#### 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 magnetosphere is a region around a planet dominated by the planet's magnetic field.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Plasma is the fourth state of matter. More than 99% of the matter in the visible universe consists of plasma. Sun, solar wind, the interplanetary medium, near-Earth region, magnetosphere and upper part of our atmosphere all consist of plasma. **Source: ForumIAS** 



# Q.5) With reference to India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the apex G2G forum for bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries.
- 2. It is chaired by the Finance Minister from the Indian side.

#### 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: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. IRIGC-TEC is the apex G2G forum for bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is chaired by the External Affairs Minister from the Indian side and Deputy Prime Minister from the Russian side.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. A civil union refers to the legislations that prohibit same-sex couples specific rights and responsibilities normally conferred upon married couples.
- 2. The United States has legalized same-sex marriages across the nation.

#### 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. A civil union refers to the legal status that allows same-sex couples specific rights and responsibilities normally conferred upon married couples.

**Statement 2** is correct. The United States has legalized same-sex marriages across the nation. **Source: ForumIAS** 

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

- 1. India had trade surplus with Russia in 2022.
- 2. Russia is India's top supplier of military hardware.

#### 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. India's trade deficit with Russia hit the second-highest place in 2022 after China.

**Statement 2** is correct. Russia is India's top supplier of military hardware. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

# Q.8) With reference to "Sangathan Se Samriddhi" campaign, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to empower marginalized rural households by bringing all eligible rural women into the fold of Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- 2. The campaign will be organized in all states.
- 3. The campaign has been launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

#### 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. Sangathan Se Samriddhi campaign aims to empower marginalized rural households by bringing all eligible rural women into the fold of SHGs. The campaign will be organized in all states. The campaign has been launched under DAY-NRLM. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.9) With reference to Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the rules, the cruelty involved in carrying out the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme needs to be addressed.
- 2. The Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Dairying of the respective states will implement the ABC and Anti Rabies Program jointly.

#### 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 rules, the cruelty involved in carrying out the ABC programme needs to be addressed.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Municipal Corporations of the respective states will implement the ABC and Anti Rabies Program jointly.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) With reference to State of World Population Report, 2023 consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, the world's most populous region is Northern Asia.
- 2. As per the report, the rate of global population growth has fallen.
- 3. As per the report, India has a larger young and working population than the population who needs care.

#### 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 world's two most populous regions are Eastern and South-Eastern Asia and Central and Southern Asia.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. As per the report, the rate of global population growth has fallen. As per the report, India has a larger young and working population than the population who needs care.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "City Nature Challenge" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international effort to rank cities on the base of its cleanliness and encourage city cleanliness drive.
- 2. It is an app-based competition.

#### 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. City Nature Challenge is an international effort for people to find and document plants and wildlife in cities across the globe.

**Statement 2** is correct. It is an app-based competition that records observations of nature. **Source:** ForumIAS



#### Q.3) "YZ Ceti b" was seen in the news recently, refers to -

- a) A comet
- b) An exoplanet
- c) A star
- d) A fish species

#### Answer: B

**Explanation –** YZ Ceti b is a rocky, Earth-sized exoplanet rotating around a small red dwarf star only 12 light-years away from the Earth.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Red dwarf stars can be easily seen with the naked eye from Earth.
- 2. The magnetic field of a planet protects its atmosphere from being eroded by the charged particles blowing in from its star.

#### 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. Red dwarf stars don't radiate much light. Hence, it's very tough to detect them with the naked eye from Earth.

**Statement 2** is correct. The magnetic field of a planet protects its atmosphere from being eroded by the charged particles blowing in from its star.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Greenwashing means making an unsubstantiated claim to deceive consumers into believing that a company's products are environmentally friendly.
- 2. Currently, there is no 100% biodegradable plastic in India.

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

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

# Answer: C

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Greenwashing means making an unsubstantiated claim to deceive consumers into believing that a company's products are environmentally friendly. Currently, there is no 100% biodegradable plastic in India.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.6) With reference to "Green Standards" consider the following statements:

- 1. It indicates the environmental attributes or performance of a product or service.
- 2. National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) has framed green standards for different sectors.

#### 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. Green Standards indicates the environmental attributes or performance of a product or service.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has framed green standards for different sectors.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) With reference to National Quantum Mission (NQM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to nurture and scale up scientific and industrial R&D in the green finance.
- 2. The Governing Body of the mission will be chaired by a renowned scientist or an entrepreneur from the technology, industry or research sector.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. NQM aims to seed, nurture and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Governing Body of the mission will be chaired by a renowned scientist or an entrepreneur from the technology, industry or research sector.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to "TeLEOS 2 Satellite":

- 1. TeLEOS 2 satellite is designed to capture round-the-clock, all-weather satellite imagery of the Earth.
- 2. The satellite features synthetic aperture radar which can provide data in 1-metre resolution.
- 3. The satellite will be launched by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

#### 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. TeLEOS 2 satellite is designed to capture round-the-clock, allweather satellite imagery of the Earth. The satellite features synthetic aperture radar which can provide data in 1-metre resolution.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The satellite will be launched by ISRO.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 does not allow heterosexual married couples, and single and divorced persons to adopt.
- 2. The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA) permits any male or female Hindu of sound mind to adopt, and for couples to adopt with the consent of their spouse.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), allows heterosexual married couples, and single and divorced persons to adopt.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA) permits any male or female Hindu of sound mind to adopt, and for couples to adopt with the consent of their spouse.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. India's POSHAN Abhiyaan is the world's largest nutrition programme for children and women.
- 2. Government e Marketplace was launched to align public procurement of goods and services with the government's mission of 'Minimum Government and Maximum Governance'.

#### 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. India's POSHAN Abhiyaan is the world's largest nutrition programme for children and women. Government e Marketplace was launched to align public procurement of goods and services with the government's mission of 'Minimum Government and Maximum Governance'.

Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

#### Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to "Helopeltis theivora":

- 1. Helopeltis theivora is a Tea Mosquito Bug.
- 2. It is a major sucking pest of tea in most tea-producing countries.
- 3. It cannot be controlled by using synthetic pesticides.

#### 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. Helopeltis theivora is a Tea Mosquito Bug. It is a major sucking pest of tea in most tea-producing countries.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Tea Mosquito Bug can be controlled by using synthetic pesticides. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Eat Right Food Streets Project" consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the project is to discard the sale of certain street foods as notified by the Central Government.
- 2. The project will be implemented through the National Health Mission (NHM) in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and with technical support from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The aim of this project is to encourage safe and healthy practices to reduce food-borne illnesses and improve overall health outcomes.

**Statement 2** is correct. The project will be implemented through the National Health Mission (NHM) in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and with technical support from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.3) With reference to Special Marriage Act, 1954, consider the following statements:

- 1. The marriage under this act is sanctioned by the priests of the respective religion of the couples.
- 2. The SMA allows marriage between inter-faith or inter-caste couples without giving up religious identity or opting for conversion.
- 3. People of all faiths across India are eligible to get married under the SMA.

#### 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 Special Marriage Act of 1954 (SMA) governs a civil marriage where the state sanctions the marriage rather than the religion.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The SMA allows marriage between inter-faith or inter-caste couples without giving up religious identity or opting for conversion. People of all faiths across India are eligible to get married under the SMA.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to the "Mission 50K-EV4ECO" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Mission has been launched by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA).
- 2. The aim of the mission is to study the evolution of exoplanets.

#### 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 50K-EV4ECO has been launched by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The aim of the mission is to increase the uptake of electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers through direct and indirect lending support to vehicle aggregators, fleet operators and leasing companies.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.5) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has proposed a new set of rules that would allow private entities to carry out Aadhaar authentication. With reference to these rules consider the following statements:

- 1. Private businesses will be now allowed to carry out Aadhaar authentication for purposes such as prevention of dissipation of social welfare benefits.
- 2. Private entities that want to use Aadhaar authentication will have to submit a proposal to the Central government with justification for their purpose.

#### 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. As per the rules, Private businesses will be now allowed to carry out Aadhaar authentication for purposes such as prevention of dissipation of social welfare benefits. Private entities that want to use Aadhaar authentication will have to submit a proposal to the Central government with justification for their purpose.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) Consider the following statements with respect to "Tea Production in India":

- 1. India is the world's largest producer of tea.
- 2. India is also the largest black tea producer in the world.
- 3. Currently, small tea growers contribute 52 percent of India's tea production.

#### 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 world's second-largest producer of tea after China.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. India is the largest black tea producer. Currently, small tea growers contribute 52 percent of India's tea production. India is the 4th largest tea exporter in the world.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. Sodium-ion battery has no over-discharge characteristics.
- 2. Sodium-ion batteries are costlier than Lithium-ion batteries.
- 3. Sodium-ion batteries have faster charging times and could have a longer lifespan compared to lithium-ion batteries.

#### 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. Sodium-ion battery has no over-discharge characteristics, which means it can be allowed to discharge to zero volts. Sodium-ion batteries have faster charging times and could have a longer lifespan compared to lithium-ion batteries.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A sodium-ion battery is 20-30 percent cheaper than lithium-ion battery.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. India's share of sub-national (state plus local) spending is at 60 percent of total spending amount.
- 2. Only Canada and China spend more than 70 percent at the subnational level.
- 3. India's local government spend is less than 4 percent of total government spending.

#### 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. India's share of sub-national (state plus local) spending is at 60 percent of total spending amount. Only Canada and China spend more than 70 percent at the subnational level. India's local government spend is less than 4 percent of total government spending.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. While classical computing uses bits as its fundamental units of data, quantum computing uses qubits.
- 2. Qubits can exist only exist in a single state at any given time while Classical bits can exist in multiple states at once.
- 3. Quantum computing has the potential to solve complex problems in areas such as cryptography, optimization, materials science, and drug discovery that are currently intractable for classical computers.

#### 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. While classical computing uses bits as its fundamental units of data, quantum computing uses qubits. Quantum computing has the potential to solve complex problems in areas such as cryptography, optimization, materials science, and drug discovery that are currently intractable for classical computers.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Classical bits can only exist in a single state at any given time, either 0 or 1. Qubits, however, can exist in a superposition of states, meaning they can be in multiple states at once.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) With reference to United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its aim is to count the world's growing populations and suggest measures to allocate resources efficiently.
- 2. UNFPA partners with governments, other agencies and civil society to advance its mission.
- 3. It also focuses on improving the lives of youths and women by advocating for human rights and gender equality and by promoting the understanding of population dynamics.

#### 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. UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Its mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. UNFPA partners with governments, other agencies and civil society to advance its mission. It also focuses on improving the lives of youths and women by advocating for human rights and gender equality and by promoting the understanding of population dynamics.

#### Source: ForumIAS



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. It is a real-time monitoring centre for planning and monitoring projects and river water quality through various online dashboards.
- 2. It has been launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

#### 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. PRAYAG Platform is a real-time monitoring centre for planning and monitoring projects and river water quality through various online dashboards.
Statement 2 is incorrect. It has been launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to "Hakki-Pikki Tribe" consider the following statements:

- 1. They are known for their indigenous medicines.
- 2. They are non-vegetarians.
- 3. They speak Dravidian language.

#### 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: A

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Hakki-Pikki' is one of the major tribal communities in Karnataka. They are known for their indigenous medicines. They are non-vegetarians.

Statement 3 is incorrect. They speak Indo-Aryan language.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) With reference to "Misinformation Combat Alliance" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an alliance of media companies set up to combat misinformation and build tools to aid fact-checking.
- 2. The membership to the alliance is restricted to the media approved by the Press Council of India (PCI).

#### 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. Misinformation Combat Alliance is an alliance of media companies set up to combat misinformation and build tools to aid fact-checking.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Membership in the MCA is open to any organization that applies. **Source: ForumIAS** 

#### Q.4) The Ministry of Jal Shakti has released the report of the first census of water bodies. With reference to this census consider the following statements:

- 1. Maharashtra accounts for most of the water bodies in India.
- 2. Tamil Nadu has the highest number of lakes in India.
- 3. West Bengal has the highest number of ponds and reservoirs 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. West Bengal accounts for most of the water bodies and Sikkim the least.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Tamil Nadu has the highest number of lakes and Maharashtra is the leading state with water conservation schemes. West Bengal has the highest number of ponds and reservoirs whereas Andhra Pradesh has the highest number of tanks.

#### Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched the fifth phase of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik). With reference to UDAN 5.0, consider the following statements:

- 1. Airlines can now propose routes they want to fly under the UDAN 5.0.
- 2. Viability gap funding (VGF) will be provided at a 600 km stage length for both Priority and Non-Priority areas which were earlier capped at 500 km.

#### 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. Airlines can now propose routes they want to fly under the UDAN 5.0. VGF will be provided at a 600 km stage length for both Priority and Non-Priority areas which were earlier capped at 500 km.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. India's per capita commercial energy consumption has remained around a third of the global average.
- 2. India's share of global gas consumption is at 6%.
- 3. India cannot achieve geopolitical standing in a multi-polar world without addressing energy 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. India's per capita commercial energy consumption has remained around a third of the global average. India cannot achieve geopolitical standing in a multi-polar world without addressing energy poverty.

Statement 2 is incorrect. India's share of global gas consumption is just 1.5%.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI) involves spraying carbon dioxide into the atmosphere to mimic the cooling effect of a volcanic eruption.
- 2. Temperature and humidity are rising with the climate change leading to high wet-bulb temperatures.

#### 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. Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI) involves spraying sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere to mimic the cooling effect of a volcanic eruption.

**Statement 2** is correct. Temperature and humidity are rising with the climate change leading to high wet-bulb temperatures.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. Acharya Jagadish Chandra (AJC) Bose Indian Botanic Garden is the oldest of the Indian Botanic gardens.
- 2. New Delhi is the headquarter of the Botanical Survey of India.
- 3. Globally, botanical gardens are important centres for plant exploration, discovery and research, and biodiversity outreach.

#### 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. AJC Bose Indian Botanic Garden is the oldest of the Indian Botanic gardens. Globally, botanical gardens are important centres for plant exploration, discovery and research, and biodiversity outreach.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Kolkata is the headquarter of the Botanical Survey of India.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The share of women employed in unpaid labour has decreased even for highly educated women.
- 2. Muslim women have had the lowest Labour Force Participation rate amongst all religious groups in the country over the past three years.

#### 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 share of women employed in unpaid labour has increased even for highly educated women. In 2017-18, 6.2% of women with graduate or higher levels of education worked as unpaid helpers. By 2021-22, this share had increased to 11.2 per cent. **Statement 2** is correct. Over the past three years, Muslim women have had the lowest LFP rate amongst all religious groups in the country.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.10) With reference to Geographical Indicator (GI) tag, consider the following statements:

- 1. A GI tag identifies a product as originating from a particular region.
- 2. GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, of 1999.
- 3. A GI tag given to a product may increase the income of the farmers, manufacturers, and artisans who work on them.

#### 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. A GI tag identifies a product as originating from a particular region. GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, of 1999. A GI tag given to a product may increase the income of the farmers, manufacturers, and artisans who work on them.

Source: DNA



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) With referenced to Logistics Performance Index 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The index has been released by the World Bank.
- 2. It is an interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics.
- 3. The rank of India in the index has declined.

#### 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. Logistics Performance Index 2023 has been released by the World Bank. It is an interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. India is ranked 38 out of 139 countries, climbing six places from the previous index.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is designed to infiltrate victims' systems and encrypt important files.
- 2. The virus is categorized as a crypto virus due to its requests for payment in cryptocurrency.
- 3. It works as a self-spreading malware, and it does not require additional instructions once it has successfully infiltrated a single device with access to an organizational intranet.

#### 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. LockBit Ransomware is designed to infiltrate victims' systems and encrypt important files. The virus is categorized as a crypto virus due to its requests for payment in cryptocurrency to decrypt files on the victim's device. It works as a self-spreading malware, not requiring additional instructions once it has successfully infiltrated a single device with access to an organizational intranet.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.3) The European Parliament has approved the Markets in Crypto Assets (MiCA) regulations. With reference to "MiCA" consider the following statements:

- 1. The rules require every crypto asset service provider (CASPs) to get incorporated as a legal entity in the EU.
- 2. The rules require the CASPs to register with every member of the EU to get authorization and conduct business.
- 3. The rules address environmental concerns surrounding crypto.

#### 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 rules require every crypto asset service provider (CASPs) to get incorporated as a legal entity in the EU. The rules also address environmental concerns surrounding crypto, with firms forced to disclose their energy consumption as well as the impact of digital assets on the environment.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. CASPs can get authorized in any one-member country and will be allowed to conduct their services across the 27 countries.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to "Ponzi scheme":

- 1. Under the scheme, organizers often promise to invest money and generate high returns with little or no risk.
- 2. Under the scheme, older investors get profits from the money earned from their investments.
- 3. In India, Ponzi schemes are banned under the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019.

#### 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 Ponzi scheme, organizers often promise to invest your money and generate high returns with little or no risk. In India, Ponzi schemes are banned under the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Under the scheme, older investors get payouts from the investments of new investors, rather than profits earned.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.5) With reference to National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme aims to identify and map aquifers at the micro level to quantify the available groundwater resources.
- 2. There are four stages of activities in NAQUIM.
- 3. It aims to adopt a cluster-based approach for locating the aquifers.

#### 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. NAQUIM aims to identify and map aquifers at the micro level to quantify the available groundwater resources. There are four stages of activities in NAQUIM.
Statement 3 is incorrect. It aims to promote participatory groundwater management.
Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Indian Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Program, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative to develop and deploy a multi-layered ballistic missile defence system to protect India from ballistic missile attacks.
- 2. India launched the BMD program after Sino-India war of 1962.

#### 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. BMD program is an initiative to develop and deploy a multi-layered ballistic missile defence system to protect India from ballistic missile attacks.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India launched the BMD program after the Kargil war in 1999 to counter the enemy nation's widening spectrum of ballistic missiles that usually delivered both conventional and nuclear warheads.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. India is the largest importer of gold.
- 2. India's official gold imports has risen in the Fiscal Year 2022-23.
- 3. There has been a sharp increase in the smuggling of gold in the recent 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 and 3** are correct. India is the largest importer of gold. There has been a sharp increase in the smuggling of gold in the recent years.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India's official gold imports fell around 24% to \$35 billion in 2022-23 due to the government raising import duties on gold and the rupee turned weaker.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) With reference to "Census of water bodies" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the census, most of the water bodies are used in drinking purposes.
- 2. As per the census, 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities.
- 3. As per the census, 78% of enumerated water bodies are man-made.

#### 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 census, most of the water bodies are used in pisciculture, followed by irrigation, groundwater recharge and domestic/drinking purposes.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8% of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership. 78% of enumerated water bodies are man-made whereas the remaining 22% are natural water bodies.

Source: ForumIAS



# Q.9) With reference to "Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)" consider the following statements:

- 1. It authorizes the Executive Magistrate of any state or territory to issue an order to prohibit the assembly of four or more people in an area.
- 2. The order issued under the Section 144 can remain operative for the duration of four months.
- 3. Section 144 empowers the authorities to block the internet access.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Section 144 authorizes the Executive Magistrate of any state or territory to issue an order to prohibit the assembly of four or more people in an area. It empowers the authorities to block the internet access.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. No order under Section 144 shall remain in force for more than two months but the state government can extend the validity for two months and a maximum of up to six months.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.10) Matarbari Deep Sea Port is located in -

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Malaysia

Answer: B Explanation – Matarbari Deep Sea Port is located in Bangladesh. Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>



#### PRELIMS

# Q.1) With reference to Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Centrally Sector Scheme.
- 2. The scheme covers selected states only.
- 3. Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.

#### 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 is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The scheme will be implemented in Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Ladakh. Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a mission by India to evacuate its nationals from violence-hit Nigeria.
- 2. The operation has been named after River Kaveri.

#### 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. Operation Kaveri is a mission by India to evacuate its nationals from violence-hit Sudan.

**Statement 2** is correct. The operation has been named after River Kaveri. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

#### Q.3) The term "ARTSENS" was seen in the news recently, is associated with -

- a) Cardiovascular diseases
- b) Colorectal Cancer
- c) Renal Tubular Acidosis
- d) Asthma

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – ARTSENS is a novel, non-invasive device to assess the health and age of blood vessels and thereby provide early screening for cardiovascular diseases. **Source: ForumIAS** 



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

- 1. It is a digital platform that aims to institutionalize holistic planning for major infrastructure projects.
- 2. Through Gati Shakti, different departments will be able to prioritise their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. PM GatiShakti is a digital platform that aims to institutionalize holistic planning for major infrastructure projects. Through Gati Shakti, different departments will be able to prioritise their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. A notifiable disease is any disease that is required by law to be reported to government authorities.
- 2. Any failure to report a notifiable disease is a criminal offence.
- 3. The onus of notifying any disease and the implementation lies with the central government.

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

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

#### Answer: A

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. A notifiable disease is any disease that is required by law to be reported to government authorities. Any failure to report a notifiable disease is a criminal offence and the state government can take necessary actions against defaulters.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The onus of notifying any disease and the implementation lies with the state government.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.6) With reference to the Indian Space Policy, 2023 consider the following statements:

- 1. As per policy, ISRO will focus primarily on research and development of new space technologies and applications.
- 2. The strategic activities related to the space sector will be carried out by the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe).
- 3. The policy allows collaboration between international entities and the private sector on the commercialisation of products and services.

#### 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. As per policy, ISRO will focus primarily on research and development of new space technologies and applications. The policy allows collaboration between international entities and the private sector on the commercialisation of products and services, also on the development of next-generation technologies.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The strategic activities related to the space sector will be carried out by New Space India Limited (NSIL).

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Humidity':

- 1. Humidity is a measurement of the amount of water vapour in the air.
- 2. The higher the relative humidity of air, the less it is filled with moisture.
- 3. Absolute humidity is equal to the mass of the moisture divided by the mass of air.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Humidity is a measurement of the amount of water vapour in the air. **Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. The higher the relative humidity of air, the more it is filled with moisture. Absolute humidity is the mass of water vapour in a given volume of air and water vapour mixture expressed as kg/m3.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. Article 355 of the Constitution says that it shall be the duty of the Union to ensure that the government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- 2. The Constitution gives an option to the Governor to sit on the bill passed by the Assembly.
- 3. Under Article 154 of the Constitution, the Governor can exercise his executive powers only on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Article 355 of the Constitution says that it shall be the duty of the Union to ensure that the government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Under Article 154 of the Constitution, the Governor can exercise his executive powers only on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Sitting on a Bill passed by the Assembly is not an option given by the Constitution. The Governor, by doing so, is only acting against constitutional direction. **Source: ForumIAS** 

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

- 1. Nutrient-based Subsidy (NBS) provided a fixed amount of subsidy, based on the nutrient content present in them on each grade of subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizer except Urea.
- 2. Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) in India has fallen below the global average in 2018.
- 3. As per the report, the urea sales have fallen down in the fiscal year 2022-23.

#### 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. NBS) provided a fixed amount of subsidy, based on the nutrient content present in them on each grade of subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizer except Urea. NUE in India has fallen from 48.2% in 1962-63 to 34.7% in 2018. It is below the global average of 45.3% and 53.3% for North America in 2018.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. As per the report, sales of urea crossed a record 35.7 million tons (mt) in the fiscal year 2022-23.

Source: ForumIAS



#### Q.10) With reference to "Manamadurai Pottery" consider the following statements:

- 1. The pot is mostly painted in bright red colour.
- 2. While making the pots, the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, sun and air are used.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The pot is painted in different colours. The Manamadurai Pottery has recently received GI tag.

**Statement 2** is correct. While making these pots, the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, sun and air are used.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It originates from the Agastyarkoodam peak of Pothigai hills of the Western Ghats.
- 2. It travels through the Pandiya Nadu region of Tamil Nadu.
- 3. The Vattaparai Falls are also located on this river.

#### 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. Vaigai River originates in the Varusanadu Hills, the Periyar Plateau of the Western Ghats range.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Vaigai River travels through the Pandiya Nadu region of Tamil Nadu. The Vattaparai Falls are also located on this river. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to water bodies census:

- 1. Andhra Pradesh accounted for almost 40% of water bodies under encroachment.
- 2. No water body encroachment was reported from West Bengal.

#### 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. Uttar Pradesh accounted for almost 40% (15,301) of water bodies under encroachment, followed by Tamil Nadu (8,366) and Andhra Pradesh (3,920).

**Statement 2** is correct. No encroachment was reported from West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Chandigarh.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.3) With reference to "Wet Bulb Temperature" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a limit that considers heat and humidity beyond which humans cannot tolerate high temperatures.
- 2. It is measured by wrapping a dry cloth on a thermometer and observing the temperature at which evaporation occurs.
- 3. The highest acceptable wet-bulb temperature for humans is 35 °C for six hours.

#### 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. Wet Bulb Temperature is a limit that considers heat and humidity beyond which humans cannot tolerate high temperatures. The highest acceptable wetbulb temperature for humans is 35 °C for six hours.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Wet Bulb Temperature is measured by wrapping a wet cloth on a thermometer and observing the temperature at which evaporation occurs. **Source: ForumIAS** 

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

- 1. It is an ecofriendly trap that is meant to trap fishes from the dirty ponds and lakes in India.
- 2. Eco Biotraps consists of a small bag containing a mixture of attractant and insecticide.

#### 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. Eco Biotraps is an eco-friendly trap with attractants that attract female mosquitoes and lay eggs in the biotrap water.

**Statement 2** is correct. Eco Biotraps consists of a small bag containing a mixture of attractant and insecticide. The Eco Biotraps is the world's first 'passive' and eco-friendly device and has been patented in 50 countries including India.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. It is one of the most important antioxidants that maintain blood pressure stability and reduce oxidative stress in living beings.
- 2. It is formed when the body breaks down substances called indole.

#### 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. Uric Acid is one of the most important antioxidants that maintain blood pressure stability and reduce oxidative stress in living beings.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Uric Acid is formed when the body breaks down substances called purines. Purines are normally produced in the body and are also found in some foods and drinks. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to "Zafar Mahal" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is considered as the last monumental structure built as a summer palace during the Mughal era.
- 2. It was originally built by Alamgir II.
- 3. The complex contains the beautiful white marble Moti Masjid and several royal graves.

#### 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. Zafar Mahal is considered as the last monumental structure built as a summer palace during the Mughal era. The complex contains the beautiful white marble Moti Masjid and several royal graves.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Zafar Mahal then called Lal Mahal and Rang Mahal was originally built by Akbar Shah II in 1820. Later, the last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah II (Bahadur Shah Zafar) built the Hathi Gate and eventually gave it its present name, the Zafar Mahal.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) Which of the following Ministry is associated with the "Safe City Project"?

- a) Ministry of Defence
- b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – The Safe City Project is an initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development under the Nirbhaya Fund. It aims to create a safe, secure, and empowering environment for women and girls in public spaces. **Source:** ForumIAS



# Q.8) With reference to the State of World Population (SWP) Report 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, South America is the only region expected to experience an overall population decline by 2050.
- 2. As per the report, African countries have the highest fertility rates.
- 3. As per the report, two-thirds of India's total population are between the ages of 15 and 64.

#### 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, Europe is the only region expected to experience an overall population decline by 2050.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. As per the report, African countries have the highest fertility rates. As per the report, two-thirds of India's total population are between the ages of 15 and 64. **Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.9) With reference to 'Basic Structure Doctrine' consider the following statements:

- 1. The Doctrine maintains the secular nature of the Indian state.
- 2. The Doctrine does not find any basis in the Constitution.
- 3. The Doctrine lacks a clear definition of the basic structure.

#### 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 Doctrine maintains the secular nature of the Indian state, protecting the freedom of individuals to practice and profess any religion of their choice. The Doctrine does not find any basis in the Constitution as it has been evolved by the SC judgment. The Doctrine lacks a clear definition of the basic structure.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. In India, assent by the President or the Governor is an essential pre-requisite for any Bill to become law.
- 2. The President or Governor has discretion to refuse or delay assent to the Bill.

3. In UK, the Crown is part of the Parliament.

#### 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 India, assent by the President or the Governor is an essential pre-requisite for any Bill to become law. In UK, the Crown is part of Parliament.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The President or Governor does not have discretion to refuse or delay assent.

Source: LiveLaw



#### PRELIMS

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

- 1. Millets are the most secure crops for small farmers.
- 2. The area under cultivation of various millets in India has been increasing.
- 3. Brown top Millet is produced in India.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Millets are the most secure crops for small farmers as they are resilient and climate adaptable in both hot and drought environments. India produces all the nine commonly known traditional millets viz. Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millet, Foxtail Millet, Proso Millet, Little Millet, Barnyard Millet, Browntop Millet and Kodo Millet.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The area under cultivation of various millets in India has been declining.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It aims to bring down India's fertilizer import bill.
- 2. DAP is the second most consumed fertilizer in the country after urea.
- 3. It has been manufactured by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

#### 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. Nano DAP will help to bring down India's fertilizer import bill. DAP is the second most consumed fertilizer in the country after urea.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Nano-DAP is jointly manufactured by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) in association with a private player Coromandel.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The Constitution gives power to states to impose any tax or duty on the generation of electricity.
- 2. Article 286 of the Constitution prohibits states from imposing any taxes or duties on the supply of goods or services or on both where the supply takes place outside the state.

#### 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. Entry-53 of List-II (State List) authorizes states to put taxes on the consumption or sale of electricity in its jurisdiction. This does not include the power to impose any tax or duty on the generation of electricity.

**Statement 2** is correct. Article 286 of the Constitution prohibits states from imposing any taxes or duties on the supply of goods or services or on both where the supply takes place outside the state.

#### Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.4) With reference to "Census of Water Bodies" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the census, the east and the northeast states use most of the water bodies for fish farming.
- 2. As per the census, around 97.1% of water bodies can be found in urban regions.

#### 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. As per the census, the east and the northeast states use most of the water bodies for fish farming.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. As per the census, around 97.1% of water bodies can be found in rural regions; only 2.9% are situated in urban areas.

Source: ForumIAS



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

- 1. The medical devices sector in India are a sunset sector.
- 2. National Medical Devices Policy, 2023 aims to accelerate the growth path of the medical devices sector with a patient-centric approach.

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

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

## Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The medical devices sector in India is a sunrise sector which is growing at a fast pace.

**Statement 2** is correct. National Medical Devices Policy, 2023 aims to accelerate the growth path of the medical devices sector with a patient-centric approach.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to "Big Catch-up Initiative" consider the following statements:

1. The initiative aims at monitoring global population of the Endangered species.

2. India is one of the countries associated with the initiative.

#### 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. Big Catch-up Initiative is a targeted global effort to boost vaccination among children following declines driven by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Statement 2** is correct. The initiative will pay special attention to the 20 countries which are home to a majority of the children who have missed their vaccine doses. India is one of those 20 countries.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) In the economic context, Dutch Disease refers to -

- a) the total amount of money in an economy is the primary determinant of economic growth.
- b) the pessimistic outlook on a stock market's performance, often when prices face a prolonged decline.
- c) a series of stages in an economy as it expands and contracts.
- d) a phenomenon wherein a country witnesses uneven growth across sectors due to the discovery of natural resources.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Dutch Disease in economics refers to a phenomenon wherein a country witnesses uneven growth across sectors due to the discovery of natural resources. **Source: ForumIAS** 



# Q.8) With reference to National Health Accounts Report 2019-20, consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the report, the government health expenditure has declined for the given period.
- 2. The average out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) on health has fallen down for the period 2019-20.
- 3. Private health insurance has grown in this period.

#### 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 National Health Accounts report 2019-20, government health expenditure rose from 29 to 41% of total healthcare expenditure.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The average out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) on health has fallen down from a high of 62.6% in 2014-15, OOPE fell to 47% in 2019-20. Private health insurance appears to have grown in this period, from 3.7 to 7%.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The Poonch river originates in the Zaskar range.
- 2. Poonch has a humid subtropical climate much cooler than what is found in much of the rest of India.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The Poonch river originates in the Pir Panjal range and flows west until the town of Poonch, after which it turns southwest.

**Statement 2** is correct. Poonch has a humid subtropical climate much cooler than what is found in much of the rest of India, due to its moderately high elevation and northerly position. **Source: ForumIAS** 



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

- 1. The idea of Constitution for India was initially proposed by M.N. Roy.
- 2. The principle of fraternity gives unity and solidarity to social life.
- 3. The idea of the Indian Constitution was officially adopted in the Lucknow session of the Indian National Congress in 1936.

#### 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 idea of Constitution for India was initially proposed by M.N. Roy. The principle of fraternity gives unity and solidarity to social life. The idea of the Indian Constitution was officially adopted in the Lucknow session of the Indian National Congress in 1936.

Source: ForumIAS

