# **Forum** AS

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hydrogen is difficult to store in large quantities due to its lightness.
- 2. Liquefaction of hydrogen requires extremely high 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: A

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Hydrogen is difficult to store in large quantities due to its lightness.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Liquefaction of hydrogen requires extremely low temperatures.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to the "Direct-Seeding Method" consider the following statements:

- 1. In this method, seeds are directly drilled into the fields, eliminating the need for nursery preparation and transplantation.
- 2. It is also known as the broadcasting seed technique.
- 3. The method requires a large amount of water for seeds to grow.

#### Which of the statements given 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. In Direct-Seeding Method, seeds are directly drilled into the fields, eliminating the need for nursery preparation and transplantation. It is also known as the broadcasting seed technique.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. This method can help reduce water consumption by as much as 35% over the traditional process of transplanting rice seedlings from a nursery to waterlogged fields.



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

- 1. Software for quantum computing differs significantly from conventional programming.
- 2. Nuclear fusion requires heating the fuel, usually plasma, to extremely high temperatures.
- 3. Generating and controlling a fusion reaction requires less energy than the fusion reaction generates.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Software for quantum computing differs significantly from conventional programming. Nuclear fusion requires heating the fuel, usually plasma, to extremely high temperatures.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Generating and controlling a fusion reaction requires more energy than the fusion reaction generates.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Under the CBAM, imports of certain carbon-intensive products like cement, iron and steel, electricity will have to bear the same economic costs borne by EU producers under the Emissions Trading System (ETS).
- 2. A reduction in the carbon pricing cannot be claimed even when a carbon price has been paid for the imported products in their country of origin.

#### 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. Under the CBAM, imports of certain carbon-intensive products like cement, iron and steel, electricity will have to bear the same economic costs borne by EU producers under the Emissions Trading System (ETS).

**Statement 2** is incorrect. When a carbon price has been paid for the imported products in their country of origin, a reduction can be claimed.



# Q.5) With reference to the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. A cluster of institutions managed by more than one sponsoring body can also apply for deemed to be university status.
- 2. Deemed to be Universities with NAAC less than an 'A' grade or ranked more than 100 in the current NIRF ranking will be monitored on the academic parameters by UGC Expert Committee.
- 3. Institutions focusing on teaching and research in unique disciplines and/or addressing the strategic needs of the country or engaged in the preservation of Indian cultural heritage will be considered under 'Distinct Institution' category.

### Which of the statements given 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. As per the the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations 2023 – A cluster of institutions managed by more than one sponsoring body can also apply for deemed to be university status, Deemed to be Universities with NAAC less than an 'A' grade or ranked more than 100 in the current NIRF ranking will be monitored on the academic parameters by UGC Expert Committee and Institutions focusing on teaching and research in unique disciplines and/or addressing the strategic needs of the country or engaged in the preservation of Indian cultural heritage will be considered under 'Distinct Institution' category.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to "Bima Vaahaks" consider the following statements:

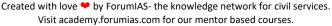
- 1. It is one of the key concepts of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) 'Insurance for all by 2047' goal.
- 2. Bima Vaahaks are the special recruits and trained males that will spread the awareness about the insurance product like Bima Vistar.
- 3. With the Bima Vahaks engaging with the diverse needs in every Gram Panchayat, insurers can adapt their offerings to provide comprehensive coverage and address financial protection needs.

#### How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

# Answer: B Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Bima Vaahaks is one of the key concepts of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) 'Insurance for all by 2047' goal. With the Bima Vahaks engaging with the diverse needs in every Gram Panchayat, insurers can adapt their offerings to provide comprehensive coverage and address financial protection needs.





**Statement 2** is incorrect. Bima Vaahaks (carriers) is a woman-centric workforce in each Gram Sabha that will meet the women heads of each household to convince them about a composite insurance product like Bima Vistar.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The Government of India Act of 1935 demarcated subjects into federal, provincial, and concurrent lists.
- 2. The Government of India Act 1935 put health in the Federal List.
- 3. The 15th Finance Commission has recommended health be transferred to the concurrent list allowing for uniform policy formulation and implementation.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The Government of India Act of 1935 demarcated subjects into federal, provincial, and concurrent lists. The 15th Finance Commission has recommended health be transferred to the concurrent list allowing for uniform policy formulation and implementation. **Statement 2** is incorrect. The Government of India Act of 1935 established health as a state subject.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Compared to salt cavern-based reserves, rock cavern-based reserves have low oil absorbency.
- 2. Rock cavern-based reserves are developed by excavation while salt caverns are developed by the process of solution mining.

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

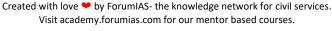
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Compared to salt cavern-based reserves, rock cavern-based reserves have high oil absorbency.

**Statement 2** is correct. Rock cavern-based reserves are developed by excavation while salt caverns are developed by the process of solution mining.





# Q.9) Consider the following statements:

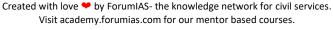
**Statement I:** The decision to recuse rests only on the conscience and discretion of the judge and no party can compel a judge to withdraw from a case.

**Statement II:** If a party has a reasonable belief that a judge may be biased in a case, the judge should consider recusing themselves to ensure impartiality and fairness in the judicial process. Which one of the following is correct in respect to the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement -II is incorrect.
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement -II is correct.

# Answer: B Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. The decision to recuse rests only on the conscience and discretion of the judge and no party can compel a judge to withdraw from a case. In Ranjit Thakur versus Union of India (1987), the SC said that if a party has a reasonable belief that a judge may be biased in a case, the judge should consider recusing themselves to ensure impartiality and fairness in the judicial process.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The GOBARdhan scheme is an initiative of the Government of India that aims to promote linear economy.
- 2. The Unified Registration Portal of GOBARdhan is an example of Cooperative Federalism.
- 3. In the Unified Registration Portal of GOBARdhan, any government, cooperative or private entity operating or intending to setup a Biogas/CBG/Bio CNG plant in India can obtain a registration number by enrolling in the portal.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan) is a vital umbrella initiative based on the whole of Government approach which aims to convert waste to wealth towards promoting a circular economy.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Unified Registration Portal of GOBARdhan is an example of Cooperative Federalism. In the Unified Registration Portal of GOBARdhan, any government, cooperative or private entity operating or intending to setup a Biogas/CBG/Bio CNG plant in India can obtain a registration number by enrolling in the portal.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.2) With reference to the KAVACH System, consider the following statements:

- 1. It helps in auto whistling while approaching Level Crossing Gates.
- 2. It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

#### 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. KAVACH System helps in auto whistling while approaching Level Crossing Gates.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The KAVACH system has been developed by the Research Design and Standards Organisation(RDSO) of the Ministry of Railways in collaboration with Indian industry.



# Q.3) In which of the following cases, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the sedition law?

- a) Shah Bano Case
- b) SR Bommai Case
- c) Putt Swamy case
- d) Kedar Nath Case

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – In Kedar Nath Sing case, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the sedition law while attempting to restrict its scope for misuse.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. India's pulses output has decreased in 2022-23.
- 2. The Yellow/white peas (matar) and chickpea (chana) has recorded dramatic import reduction in 2022-23.
- 3. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of chana has been raised between 2013-14 and 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: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. According to the Agriculture Ministry, India's pulses output has increased from 19.26 mt in 2013-14 to 27.50 mt in 2022-23.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Yellow/white peas (matar) and chickpea (chana) has recorded dramatic import reduction in 2022-23. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of chana has been raised between 2013-14 and 2022-23.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) Which of the following will likely be the consequence(s) of disappearing Aravali hillocks?

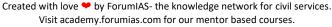
- 1. Increased man-animal conflict
- 2. Threat to existing ecosystem
- 3. Increased sand storm in certain places

#### Select the correct code given below:

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

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – The disappearing of Aravali hillocks will - Increase man-animal conflict, Threat to existing ecosystem, Increased sand storm in certain places.





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

- 1. More than 90 percent of the bad loans originate in Public Sector Banks (PSBs).
- 2. The action taken for evergreening of loans is severe in PSBs than the private banks.
- 3. PSBs hold a significant portion of people's savings and play a crucial role in providing loans to small businesses, farming, and acting as the primary channel for government schemes, subsidies, and pensions.

#### How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

#### Answer: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. More than 90 percent of the bad loans originate in PSBs. PSBs hold a significant portion of people's savings and play a crucial role in providing loans to small businesses, farming, and acting as the primary channel for government schemes, subsidies, and pensions.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. In the case of evergreening of loans, shareholders bear the brunt, promoters may be removed and even face legal consequences in private banks while in PSBs, no significant action is taken against bank chairman, board of directors, or officials.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A high density of tiger population has resulted in increased conflicts between humans and animals.
- 2. Translocation of tiger can help maintain genetic diversity among tiger populations.

#### 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 high density of tiger population has resulted in increased conflicts between humans and animals. Translocation of tiger can help maintain genetic diversity among tiger populations.



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

- 1. All-in-one insurance policy aims to give citizens protection against multiple risks, and expedite claim settlements by linking death registries onto a common industry platform.
- 2. Bima Vistar is a woman-centric workforce in each Gram Sabha that will meet the women heads of each household to convince them about a composite insurance product.

#### 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. All-in-one insurance policy aims to give citizens protection against multiple risks, and expedite claim settlements by linking death registries onto a common industry platform.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Bima Vistar is an insurance product that will be a bundled risk cover for life, health, property and casualties or accidents, with defined benefits for each risk that can be paid out faster than usual without the need for surveyors.

#### Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) are stockpiles of crude oil maintained by countries or private industries which are meant to tackle emergency situations to counter short-term supply disruptions.
- 2. The Strategic Crude Oil Storage facilities in India is managed by the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

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

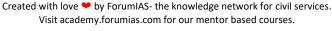
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. SPR are stockpiles of crude oil maintained by countries or private industries which are meant to tackle emergency situations to counter short-term supply disruptions.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Strategic Crude Oil Storage facilities in India is managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), a Special Purpose Vehicle which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.





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

- 1. Evergreening of loans are a process of removing bad loans from the books of banks after making adequate provisions for them whereas loan write-off is a practice of extending new or additional loans.
- 2. The P J Nayak Committee highlighted significant evergreening in banks.

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

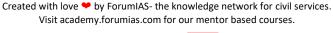
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Loan write-offs are a process of removing bad loans from the books of banks after making adequate provisions for them whereas evergreening of loans is a practice of extending new or additional loans.

**Statement 2** is correct. The P J Nayak Committee highlighted significant evergreening in banks.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The Higgs boson is a subatomic particle that is integral to our understanding of mass.
- 2. The strength of a particle's interaction with the Higgs boson determines its mass.
- 3. Higgs boson has a spin of one.

#### Which of the statements given 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 Higgs boson is a subatomic particle that is integral to our understanding of mass. The strength of a particle's interaction with the Higgs boson determines its mass.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The spin of Higgs bosons is zero.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Adverse possession refers to the occupation of land that one does not own.
- 2. Under the Limitation Act, 1963, any person in possession of private land for over 12 years or government land for over 30 years can become the owner of that property.

### 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 -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. Adverse possession refers to the occupation of land that one does not own. Under the Limitation Act, 1963, any person in possession of private land for over 12 years or government land for over 30 years can become the owner of that property.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. About 20% of people with chronic wounds are those with diabetes.
- 2. Chronic non-healing causes a staggering financial burden on the health care system.

#### 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 -

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**Statement 1** is incorrect. About 80% of people with chronic wounds are those with diabetes.

**Statement 2** is correct. Chronic non-healing causes a staggering financial burden on the health **care system.** 

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a soft stretchable polymer that helps the bandage maintain contact with and stick to the skin.
- 2. The application of smart bandage may increase number of cleaning and dressing of the wound.
- 3. Data collected by the bandage is passed to a flexible printed circuit board, which relays it wirelessly to a smartphone or tablet for review by a physician.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Smart Bandage is a soft stretchable polymer that helps the bandage maintain contact with and stick to the skin. Data collected by the bandage is passed to a flexible printed circuit board, which relays it wirelessly to a smartphone or tablet for review by a physician.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The application of smart bandage my reduce the cleaning and dressing of the wound.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.5) With reference to the "Amrit Dharohar Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative launched by the Government of India to establish a comprehensive framework and reduce infrastructural gaps in the fisheries sector.
- 2. The scheme was launched by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

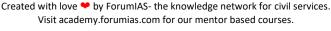
#### Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 2** are incorrect. Amrit Dharohar scheme aims to ensure the conservation of the existing Ramsar sites through public participation. The scheme was launched by the PM recently.





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

- 1. India accounts for about 3% of South Asia's mangroves.
- 2. Mangroves are unique, natural eco-system having very high biological productivity and carbon sequestration potential, besides working as a bio-shield.
- 3. MISHTI scheme aims to comprehensively explore the possible area for the development of coral reefs across the coastal state.

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

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

#### Answer: A

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. India accounts for about 3% of South Asia's mangroves. Mangroves are unique, natural eco-system having very high biological productivity and carbon sequestration potential, besides working as a bio-shield.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. MISHTI scheme aims to comprehensively explore the possible area for the development of mangroves covering nearly 540 sq km, spreading across 11 states and two union territories over five years, starting from FY 2023-24.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Movement of trains between two stations is regulated by interlocking.
- 2. The railway signalling system in India is mostly automatic.
- 3. Electronic Interlocking (EI) is a network of signals and switches which would control the movement of trains.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Movement of trains between two stations is governed by 'block rules' whereas movement of trains within stations is regulated by 'interlocking'.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The railway signalling system in India is mostly automatic. Indian Railways is moving to a uniform signalling system called electronic interlocking (EI). EI is a network of signals and switches which would control the movement of trains.



# Q.8) With reference to the RBI Committee on customer care, consider the following statements:

- 1. The aims of the committee were to assess the state of customer care services, evaluate the adequacy of existing regulations, and propose measures for improvement.
- 2. The committee was chaired by the Deputy Governor of the RBI.
- 3. The committee highlighted that the current disincentive mechanism through the framework for Strengthening Internal Grievance Redress Mechanism in banks is functioning effectively.

### Which of the statements given 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 aims of the committee were to assess the state of customer care services, evaluate the adequacy of existing regulations, and propose measures for improvement. The committee was chaired by the Deputy Governor of the RBI.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The committee highlighted that the current disincentive mechanism through the framework for Strengthening Internal Grievance Redress Mechanism in banks is not functioning effectively.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to the "Defence Industrial Cooperation between India and the US" consider the following statements:

- 1. The cooperation roadmap shall guide the policy direction towards cooperation in high technology areas and identifying opportunities for co-development and co-production.
- 2. Under the Defence Industrial Cooperation, both sides reviewed the robust and multifaceted bilateral defence cooperation activities and agreed to maintain the momentum of engagement.

#### 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 -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. The cooperation roadmap shall guide the policy direction towards cooperation in high technology areas and identifying opportunities for co-development and co-production. Under the Defence Industrial Cooperation, both sides reviewed the robust and multifaceted bilateral defence cooperation activities and agreed to maintain the momentum of engagement.



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

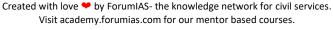
- 1. Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) is implemented by APEDA, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industries.
- 2. Under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP), the certification for organic product is carried out by local groups consisting of producers and consumers and is based on trust

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

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

# Answer: D Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. PGS is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The PGS ensures that organic product production adheres to quality standards. NPOP is implemented by APEDA, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industries. It involves accreditation of Certification Bodies and sets standards for organic production. Its Standards have been recognized by the EU, Switzerland, and the US.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. It is a dangerous bacterium resistant to antibiotics.
- 2. Acinetobacter baumannii survive on surfaces only for shorter period.
- 3. It was recognised as a red alert human pathogen.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Acinetobacter Baumannii is a dangerous bacterium resistant to antibiotics. It was recognised as a red alert human pathogen.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Acinetobacter baumannii can survive on surfaces for longer periods.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Union Home Ministry is the nodal ministry for implementing the NAMASTE scheme.
- 2. Under scheme for rehabilitation of manual scavengers, subsidies and loans are available to the manual scavengers to set up their own business.

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

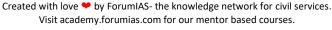
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. National Action Plan for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) is a joint project of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

**Statement 2** is correct. Under scheme for rehabilitation of manual scavengers, subsidies and loans are available to the manual scavengers to set up their own business.





#### Q.3) With reference to the Digital Economy, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Digital Economy refers to an Economy in which digital computing technologies are used in Economic Activities.
- 2. India has the second-fastest rate of growth of digital adoption among mature and emerging digital economies.
- 3. EdTech will see the largest expansion by 2030.

#### Which of the statements given 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 Digital Economy refers to an Economy in which digital computing technologies are used in Economic Activities. As per Trai, India has the second-fastest rate of growth of digital adoption among mature and emerging digital economies.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. HealthTech and InsurTech, both sized at or less than \$2 billion today, will demonstrate the largest expansion by 2030.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a compound that shows useful activity as a narrow-spectrum antibiotic.
- 2. It disrupts the normal function of the CCR2 protein in bacteria.
- 3. It is effective against Acinetobacter baumannii.

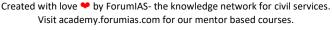
#### Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 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. Abaucin is a compound that shows useful activity as a narrow-spectrum antibiotic. It disrupts the normal function of the CCR2 protein in bacteria. It is effective against Acinetobacter baumannii.





# Q.5) With reference to the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It deals with matters related to the safety of rail travel and operations.
- 2. It's headquartered is in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- 3. It reports to the Ministry of Railways.

#### Which of the statements given 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. CRS deals with matters related to the safety of rail travel and operations. It's headquartered is in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The CRS is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA). It does not report to the Ministry of Railways of the Railway Board.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to the "Lateral Entry" consider the following statements:

- 1. It involves the appointment of specialists from the private sector at junior level positions in the central government.
- 2. The lateral entry appointments are done on a permanent basis.

#### 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: D

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 2** are incorrect. Lateral entry involves the appointment of specialists from the private sector at middle and senior-level positions in the Central government. The lateral entry appointments are done on a contractual basis.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) With reference to the African Union (AU) consider the following statements:

- 1. The largest urban agglomeration in the AU is Lagos, Nigeria.
- 2. Its secretariat is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 3. It is a permanent observer at the United Nations General Assembly.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -



**Statements 1** is incorrect. The largest city in the AU is Lagos, Nigeria, while the largest urban agglomeration is Cairo, Egypt.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. AU secretariat is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It is a permanent observer at the United Nations General Assembly.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to the India Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the official platform for the African-Indian relations.
- 2. The first two summits of IAFS followed the Banjul formula.
- 3. Benin is one of its permanent members.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. IAFS is the official platform for the African-Indian relations. The first two summits of IAFS followed the Banjul formula.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. South Africa, Nigeria, Senegal, Algeria, and Egypt are five permanent members of IAFS.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.9) With reference to the "Deepfakes" consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the production of authentic information by machines using deep learning.
- 2. Deep Learning has enhanced our ability to understand, and even reinterpret, history.

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

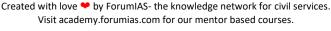
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. A deepfake is something that a machine has produced using deep learning and which contains false information.

**Statement 2** is correct. Deep learning has been adapted in comedy, cinema, music, and gaming. It has enhanced our ability to understand, and even reinterpret, history.





# Q.10) Which of the following are the reasons for lapses in road safety?

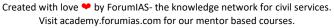
- 1. Faulty design
- 2. Poor maintenance
- 3. Human error

# Select the correct code given below:

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

Answer: D

**Explanation** – Faulty design, Poor maintenance, Human error, Improper safety protocols and regulations are some of the reasons behind lapses in road safety.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The therapy targets only the specific bacteria they are programmed to attack.
- 2. Phage therapy may increase antimicrobial resistance.
- 3. The patients getting the therapy often have minimal side effects.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Phage therapy targets only the specific bacteria they are programmed to attack. The patients getting the therapy often have minimal side effects.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Phages are highly specific in their action, targeting only the specific bacteria they are programmed to attack. This can potentially reduce the risk of antibiotic resistance.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to "Exploration of Coal and Lignite Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to explore and estimate coal resources in the country, facilitating the preparation of detailed project reports for coal mining.
- 2. Under this scheme, exploration for Coal and Lignite is conducted in five broad stages.

#### 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. Exploration of Coal and Lignite Scheme aims to explore and estimate coal resources in the country, facilitating the preparation of detailed project reports for coal mining.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Under this scheme, exploration for Coal and Lignite is conducted in two broad stages: (i) Promotional (Regional) Exploration and (ii) Detailed Exploration in Non-Coal India Limited blocks.



# Q.3) With reference to the India-U.S. Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It represents a key institutional innovation to unlock the potential of high-tech trade between the two countries envisaged as a part of the initiative on critical and emerging technologies (ICET).
- 2. Under the dialogue, India has agreed to lower its purchase of oil from Russia.

#### 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. IUSSTD represents a key institutional innovation to unlock the potential of high-tech trade between the two countries envisaged as a part of the initiative on critical and emerging technologies (ICET).

**Statement 2** is incorrect. There is no such agreement. IUSSTD focused on ways in which both governments can facilitate the development and trade of technologies in critical domains such as semiconductors, space, telecom, quantum, AI, defence, bio-tech and others.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to the Kerala Fibre Optical Network (KFON) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to reduce the digital divide by ensuring high-speed broadband internet access to all houses and government offices.
- 2. It promises an internet speed from 5 Mbps to 10 Mbps.
- 3. The KFON infrastructure will be shared with all service providers, including cable operators.

#### 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. KFON aims to reduce the digital divide by ensuring high-speed broadband internet access to all houses and government offices. The KFON infrastructure will be shared with all service providers, including cable operators.

Statement 2 is incorrect. KFON promises an internet speed from 10 mbps to 10 Gbps.



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

# Ramsar Sites -----States

- 1. Vembanad Wetland----- Kerala
- 2. Pong Dam Lake ----- Assam
- 3. Loktak Lake ----- Manipur
- 4. Kolleru Lake ----- Andhra Pradesh

#### How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

#### Answer: C

Explanation - 1, 3 and 4 are correctly matched. Pong Dam Lake is in Himachal Pradesh.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to "PM PRANAM" scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the scheme is to promote healthy activities amongst the people, including diet and lifestyle.
- 2. The government has provided a separate budget for 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: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. PM PRANAM aims to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers by incentivising states. The scheme will have no separate budget and will be financed through the savings of existing fertilizer subsidies.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to the National Testing Agency (NTA) consider the following statements:

- 1. NTA was established as a Society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- 2. It is an autonomous and self-sustained testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions.
- 3. It chaired by the Prime Minister of India.

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

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

#### Answer: A

# Explanation -

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**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. NTA was established as a Society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860. It is an autonomous and self-sustained testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions. **Statement 3** is incorrect. NTA is chaired by an eminent educationist appointed by the Ministry of HRD.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Transgenders are legally entitled to avail abortion services.
- 2. Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee include queer non-binary lawyers.
- 3. Transgenders are exempted from the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Transgenders are legally entitled to avail of abortion services. Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee include queer non-binary lawyers. **Statement 3** is incorrect. The Government of India expanded the ambit of Ayushman Bharat. It included transgender persons through the TG Plus card which entitles them to health.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Abusive market practices are prohibited under the provision of the Sebi Act of 1993 and the Sebi (prohibition of fraudulent & unfair trade practices relating to securities market) regulation 2003.
- 2. The Advertising Standards Council of India has laid down guidelines for influencers, who can influence purchasing and investing decisions.

### 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. Abusive market practices are prohibited under the provision of the Sebi Act of 1993 and the Sebi (prohibition of fraudulent & unfair trade practices relating to securities market) regulation 2003. The Advertising Standards Council of India has laid down guidelines for influencers, who can influence purchasing and investing decisions.

Source: The Times of India



# Q.10) Kilauea volcano is located at

a) Hawaii

b) Nagoya

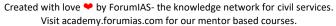
c) Central Java

d) Botswana

Answer: A

**Explanation** – Kilauea volcano is located at Hawaii.

Source: NDTV





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The per capita cost of a student studying abroad is lower than the cost incurred by a student studying in India.
- 2. Foreign university setting campuses in India will help India to stop the flow of foreign exchange out of the nation.

#### Select the correct answer from 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 per capita cost of a student studying abroad is almost 100 times the cost incurred by a student studying in India.

**Statement 2** is correct. Foreign university setting campuses in India will help India to stop the flow of foreign exchange out of the nation.

Source: India Today

# Q.2) With reference to the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a law enforcement agency and economic intelligence agency responsible for enforcing economic laws and fighting economic crime in India.
- 2. It functions under the Union Home Ministry.
- 3. The Directorate of Enforcement has its headquarters at New Delhi.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### **Explanation** -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. ED is a law enforcement agency and economic intelligence agency responsible for enforcing economic laws and fighting economic crime in India. The Directorate of Enforcement has its headquarters at New Delhi.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Source: India Today



# Q.3) With reference to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an international crime investigating agency.
- 2. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- 3. CBI derives power to investigate from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

#### Which of the statements given 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. CBI is the domestic crime investigating agency of India.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. CBI operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. It derives power to investigate from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Source: India Today

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

- 1. Biodiverse ecosystems regulate climate and diseases.
- 2. Water, soil, and air pollution pose a significant threat to biodiversity.
- 3. The IUCN status of Golden Langur is Vulnerable.

#### How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Biodiverse ecosystems not only serve as a habitat for species, but also provide food and water, regulate climate and diseases, support nutrient cycling and production of oxygen, and have several recreational benefits. Water, soil, and air pollution pose a significant threat to biodiversity.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The IUCN status of Golden Langur is Endangered.

Source: India Today



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

- 1. Broadleaf trees are more flammable than evergreens.
- 2. The Acadian Forest is much less prone to large wildfires than forests in western Canada.

# 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. Broadleaf trees are less flammable than evergreens because their branches and leaves are further from the ground, and their leaves hold more moisture.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Acadian Forest is much less prone to large wildfires than forests in western Canada.

Source: India Today

# Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A geomagnetic storm is a disturbance in Earth's magnetic field caused by the arrival of a Coronal mass ejections (CME's) charged particles.
- 2. CMEs are giant bursts of X-rays and energy that travel at the speed of light across all directions in the solar system.
- 3. If the CME is directed towards Earth and its magnetic fields are aligned with Earth's, then the impact can be more severe.

#### Which of the statements given 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. A geomagnetic storm is a disturbance in Earth's magnetic field caused by the arrival of a Coronal mass ejections (CME's) charged particles. If the CME is directed towards Earth and its magnetic fields are aligned with Earth's, then the impact can be more severe.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. CMEs are massive bursts of plasma and magnetic fields that are released from the Sun's corona.

Source: India Today



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

- 1. Aditya L-1 mission is a lunar exploration mission by the ISRO.
- 2. The Aditya L-1 spacecraft will be launched to Lagrange Point 1.

# 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. Aditya L-1 mission is designed to study the solar coronal.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Aditya L-1 spacecraft will be launched to Lagrange Point 1.

Source: India Today

### Q.8) With reference to the AUKUS Grouping, consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the members of the group.
- 2. Under the AUKUS pact, the US and the UK will assist Australia in acquiring nuclear-powered submarines.
- 3. The pact also includes cooperation on advanced cyber mechanisms, artificial intelligence and autonomy and quantum technologies.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Australia, US and UK are part of the group AUKUS.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. Under the AUKUS pact, the US and the UK will assist Australia in acquiring nuclear-powered submarines. The pact also includes cooperation on advanced cyber mechanisms, artificial intelligence and autonomy and quantum technologies.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.9) With reference to the Ground-Level Ozone, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a colourless and highly irritating gas.
- 2. It is also known as stratospheric ozone.
- 3. In winter months cold and foggy conditions inhibit ground-level ozone formation.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Ground-Level Ozone is a colourless and highly irritating gas. In winter months cold and foggy conditions inhibit ground-level ozone formation.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Ground-Level Ozone is also known as Tropospheric ozone.

Source: ForumIAS

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