# **Forum** AS

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

May, 2023

#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Sections pertaining to sexual harassment and sexual assault of the Indian Penal Code fall within the category of non-cognizable offences.
- 2. The POCSO Act mandates reporting of sexual offences against children.
- 3. A person can send the information to the Superintendent of Police, if police refuse to file an FIR.

### Which of the statements given 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. Sections pertaining to sexual harassment and sexual assault of the Indian Penal Code fall within the category of cognizable offences.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The POCSO Act mandates reporting of sexual offences against children. A person can send the information to the Superintendent of Police if police refuse to file an FIR.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.2) 'State of the Global Climate 2022' report has been published by -

- a) World Wide Fund for Nature
- b) Global Footprint Network
- c) World Meteorological Organisation
- d) International Union for Conservation of Nature

# Answer: C

**Explanation** – State of the Global Climate 2022' report has been published by World Meteorological Organisation.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) Which of the following will likely be the impact due to the rise in the rate of global mean sea-level (GMSL)?

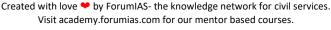
- 1. Changes in land cover
- 2. Increase in the number of cyclones
- 3. Groundwater turning saline

#### Select the correct answer from 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: D

**Explanation** – A rise in the rate of GMSL will cause changes in land cover. This means rising seas will swallow more of the land cover particularly in coastal areas. As the GSML continues to





rise, along with a rise in ocean temperatures, the chances of cyclones could increase. As the GSML continues to rise, more seawater could seep into the ground, leading to the groundwater turning more and more saline.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to the country Sudan:

- 1. It is bordered by the Central African Republic to the northwest.
- 2. It is Africa's third-largest country by area.
- 3. Its capital city is Addis Ababa.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. Sudan is bordered by the Central African Republic to the southwest. Its capital city is Khartoum, and its most populous city is Omdurman.

**Statement 2** is correct. Sudan is Africa's third-largest country by area.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. They are rare migratory birds from the sub-Saharan region in Africa.
- 2. It is the largest of all flamingos.
- 3. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened.

# Which of the statements given 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. Lesser Flamingos are rare migratory birds from the sub-Saharan region in Africa. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is the smallest of all flamingos.



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

- 1. It is the second largest brackish water lagoon in India.
- 2. The lake is located on the border between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.
- 3. The barrier island of Sriharikota separates the lake from the Bay of Bengal.

# Which of the following lakes has been described above?

- a) Chilika Lake
- b) Korattur Lake
- c) Parakkai Lake
- d) Pulicat Lake

# Answer: D

**Explanation** – Pullicat lake is the second largest brackish water lagoon in India. The lake is located on the border between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The barrier island of Sriharikota separates the lake from the Bay of Bengal.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Initiative consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative aims at preparing the world for future natural cala<mark>mities and</mark> promotes setting up resilient infrastructure against the disasters.
- 2. The initiative has been launched by the World Health Organization (WHO).

# 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. PRET initiative aims to be better prepared for future outbreaks of a similar scale and devastation as the COVID-19 pandemic. It also aims to provide guidance on integrated planning for responding to any respiratory pathogen such as influenza or coronaviruses.

**Statement 2** is correct. The PRET initiative has been launched by the World Health Organization (WHO).



# Q.8) With reference to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) consider the following statements:

- 1. SEBI comes under the purview of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- 2. It functions as an executive body under the Government 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: D Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. SEBI comes under the purview of the Ministry of Finance. SEBI was established on 12 April 1988 as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an Asian organization which focuses on boosting healthy relationships amongst the Asian countries.
- 2. It is the world's largest regional organization in terms of geographic scope and population.
- 3. It is governed by the Commission of Senior Officials (CSO).

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

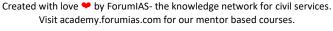
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. SCO is a Eurasian political, economic, international security and defence organization. The SCO is governed by the Heads of State Council (HSC), its supreme decision-making body, which meets once a year.

**Statement 2** is correct. SCO is the world's largest regional organization in terms of geographic scope and population.





# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

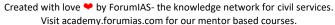
- 1. China's economy is more than five times India's economy.
- 2. China has narrowed the economic gap with the US and the larger Western power.
- 3. India faces a strategic challenge of the triangulation between China and Pakistan.

# Which of the statements given 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. China's economy is more than five times India's. China has narrowed the economic gap with the US and the larger Western power. India faces a strategic challenge of the triangulation between China and Pakistan.





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to 'Seamounts' consider the following statements:

- 1. A seamount is an underwater mountain.
- 2. They are formed by volcanic activity.
- 3. They are mostly extinct volcanoes.

# Which of the statements given 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. A seamount is an underwater mountain. The are formed by volcanic activity.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Seamounts can be active, extinct or dormant volcanoes.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is located on the side of Brahmagiri Hill.
- 2. The temple is a fine specimen of classical Karnataka Temple Architecture.
- 3. It is the only temple in the world where devotees can perform all the rituals related to one's life

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

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

# Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 3** are correct. Thirunelly Temple is located on the sides of Brahmagiri Hill, a part of Sahyadri Mountain Ranges. It is also the only temple in the world where devotees can perform all the rituals related to one's life.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The temple is a fine specimen of classical Kerala Temple Architecture.



### Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to "Hemis Monastery of Buddhists":

- 1. It is situated on the western banks of the Indus River.
- 2. It belongs to the Yellow Hat sect of Tibetan Buddhism.
- 3. The temple houses a tall statue of Maitreya Buddha.

# 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: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Hemis Monastery is a Buddhist monastery located in Ladakh. It is situated on the western banks of the Indus River.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. Hemis Monastery belongs to the Red Hat Sect or Drukpa lineage of Buddhism. The monastery is famous for its 2-day religious ceremony known as the Hemis Festival.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) Consider the following pairs:

# Organisation ----- Ministries Associated

- 1. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security ----- Ministry of Civil Aviation
- 2. Customs Department ----- Ministry of Home Affairs
- 3. Central Industrial Security Force ----- Ministry of Home Affairs
- 4. Bureau of Immigration ----- Ministry of External Affairs

# Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

# Answer: C

**Explanation – 1 and 3** are correctly matched. Customs Department falls under the Finance Ministry. Bureau of Immigration is responsible for immigration checks at airports, sea ports and land borders work under the Intelligence Bureau of the Union Home Ministry.



### Q.5) With reference to 'Bharat Tap initiative' consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to provide low-flow, sanitary ware at scale, and thereby reduce water consumption at the source considerably.
- 2. It is estimated that this initiative will save approximately 40% of water.

# 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. Bharat Tap initiative aims to provide low-flow, sanitary ware at scale, and thereby reduce water consumption at the source considerably. It is estimated that this initiative will save approximately 40% of water.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to "De-dollarisation of Trade" consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the process of reducing dependence on the US dollar for international transactions and financial operations.
- 2. It can be achieved by using cryptocurrencies.
- 3. De-dollarization reduces a country's autonomy in deciding their monetary policies.

### Which of the statements given 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. De-dollarisation of trade refers to the process of reducing dependence on the US dollar for international transactions and financial operations. It can be achieved by using alternative currencies or assets, such as the Euro, Chinese Yuan, or even cryptocurrencies.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. De-dollarization allows countries to exercise greater autonomy in their monetary policies, as they become less influenced by the US Federal Reserve's decisions.



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

- 1. India is the world's largest user of groundwater.
- 2. Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) supports the creation of Water User Associations (WUAs) for participatory irrigation management at the local level.
- 3. Water User Associations (WUAs) are community-based organizations that share a common interest of well performing irrigation systems.

# Which of the statements given 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 world's largest user of groundwater, catering to 85% of the rural and 45% of the urban domestic water supply. WUAs are community-based organizations that share a common interest of well performing irrigation systems.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. ABY aims to improve groundwater management in critical areas through community involvement, water budgeting, and preparation of water security plans at the gram panchayat level.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act, 2010 consider the following statements:

- 1. The Act designates the state government as the primary entity responsible for compensating victims in case of a nuclear accident.
- 2. The Act provides for the establishment of a Nuclear Damage Claims Commission to adjudicate claims arising from nuclear accidents.
- 3. The Act sets a time limit for filing claims for compensation.

# Which of the statements given 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. CLND Act, 2010 designates the nuclear plant operator as the primary entity responsible for compensating victims in case of a nuclear accident.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Act provides for the establishment of a Nuclear Damage Claims Commission to adjudicate claims arising from nuclear accidents. The Act sets a time limit for filing claims for compensation. Claims related to personal injury or death must be filed within 20 years of the nuclear incident, whereas claims for damage to property must be filed within 10 years.



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

- 1. Neurotoxins are poisonous substances which can directly affect the nervous system.
- 2. Methane has a pungent odour.
- 3. Chemical oxidation is done to remove gases such as hydrogen sulphide from wastewater.

# Which of the statements given 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. Neurotoxins are poisonous substances which can directly affect the nervous system. Chemical oxidation is done to remove gases such as hydrogen sulphide from wastewater

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Methane and carbon monoxide are odourless gases.

Source: The Indian Express

# Q.10) With reference to "Kanha Tiger Reserve" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the largest national park of the state of Gujarat.
- 2. It is divided into two protected areas.
- 3. It is the first tiger reserve in India to officially introduce a mascot, "Bhoorsingh the Barasingha".

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

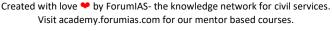
#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Kanha Tiger Reserve is the largest national park of the state of Madhya Pradesh. It is located in the Maikal range of Satpuras.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Kanha Tiger Reserve is divided into two protected areas, Hallon and Banjar, respectively. It is also the first tiger reserve in India to officially introduce a mascot, "Bhoorsingh the Barasingha".

Source: The Times of India





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. It is a rare genetic disorder that is part of a group known as lysosomal storage diseases.
- 2. It occurs when a protein called amyloid builds up in organs.
- 3. In India, Fabry is one of the rare diseases.

# Which of the statements given 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. Fabry disease is a rare genetic disorder that is part of a group known as lysosomal storage diseases. In India, Fabry is one of the rare diseases notified under Group 3(a) of the National Policy for Rare Diseases, 2021.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Fabry disease is caused by low levels of an enzyme called alpha galactosidase-A due to a problem in the genes.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) "Future of Jobs" Report has been published by -

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) International Labour Organization

Answer: A

**Explanation** – Future of Jobs" Report has been published by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.3) With reference to the Group of Seven (G7) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an intergovernmental military forum.
- 2. The G20 includes all of the G7 countries.
- 3. The G7 is not based on a treaty.

# Which of the statements given 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. G7 is an intergovernmental political forum.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The G20 includes all of the G7 countries. The G7 is not based on a treaty and has no permanent secretariat or office.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is the New Year festival celebrated by Bhaina Tribe.
- 2. Preparations for this festival begin as soon as farmers have harvested Kharif crops.

### 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. Bihan Mela is the seed festival celebrated by the Kondh Tribe in Odisha.

**Statement 2** is correct. Preparations for this festival begin as soon as farmers have harvested Kharif crops.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is an indigenous variety of dates found in the Saudi Arabia.
- 2. It is used in the food industry and soft-drink industry as a stabilizer.
- 3. There is no alternative to gum arabic in fizzy drinks.

# Which of the statements given 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. Gum Arabic is a natural gum derived from the hardened sap of two species of the Acacia tree – Senegalia Senegal and Vachellia seyal. About 70% of the world's supply of gum arabic comes from the Sahel region that runs through Sudan.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Gum Arabic is used in the food industry and soft-drink industry as a stabilizer. There is no alternative to gum arabic in fizzy drinks where it prevents ingredients from separating.



# Q.6) With reference to European Free Trade Association (EFTA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a regional trade organization.
- 2. Germany is the member country of EFTA.
- 3. EFTA companies are world leaders in pharmaceuticals.

# Which of the statements given 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. EFTA is a regional trade organization. EFTA companies are world leaders in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, machinery manufacturing, etc.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. EFTA include four countries – Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Cities in India have witnessed a sharp increase in the stray dog population.
- 2. India has the highest rabies burden in the world.
- 3. The prevalence of dog bites is higher in rural slums than urban slums.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

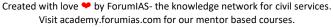
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Cities in India have witnessed a sharp increase in the stray dog population. India has the highest rabies burden in the world.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. A study published in 2016 found that the prevalence of dog bites was higher in urban slums than rural slums.





# Q.8) With reference to "Reserve currency" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a large amount of currency held by central banks to use for international transactions.
- 2. A reserve currency reduces exchange rate risk.
- 3. A reserve currency is a non-convertible currency.

# Which of the statements given 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. Reserve currency is a large amount of currency held by central banks to use for international transactions. A reserve currency reduces exchange rate risk because the purchasing country will not need to exchange its currency for the reserve currency while making purchases.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. A reserve currency's main feature is that it must be easily convertible and have a stable value.

Source: The Times of India

# Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has lost about 90-95% of its grasslands over the last two decades.
- 2. Cheetahs stalk preys like tigers.
- 3. Kuno is the only national park in India for cheetah.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. India has lost about 90-95% of its grasslands over the last two decades. Kuno is the only national park in India for cheetah.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Unlike tigers that stalk prey, cheetahs race to hunt.

Source: The Times of India

# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Extreme heat can stunt child growth.
- 2. Agriculture is the most climate-sensitive sector.
- 3. Farmers in India should be encouraged to grow hardy crops.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

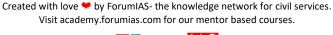
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# **Answer: D**

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. Extreme heat can stunt child growth. Agriculture is the most climate-sensitive sector. Farmers in India should be encouraged to grow hardy crops. Hardy crops have ability to survive in a specific climate zone and in adverse conditions.

Source: The Times of India





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. It is a powerful burst of radiation caused by the release of solar energy from a sunspot.
- 2. Energetic particles are either accelerated or lost from the Earth's radiation belts during these storms.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. A geomagnetic storm is a major disturbance of Earth's magnetosphere that occurs when there is a very efficient exchange of energy from the solar wind into the space environment surrounding Earth.

**Statement 2** is correct. Energetic particles are either accelerated or lost from the Earth's radiation belts during these storms.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) Which of the following is Not a "Laundromat country" in terms of purchasing the Russian oil?

- a) China
- b) India
- c) Turkey
- d) Sri Lanka

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – A report by Finland-based Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) has found that European countries that banned Russian oil imports are instead importing huge amounts of oil commodities from India, China, United Arab Emirates, Singapore and Turkey, therefore, qualifying them as laundromats.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) With reference to ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a maritime exercise between India and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- 2. It aims to provide an opportunity for Indian Navy and ASEAN navies to work closely and conduct seamless operations in the maritime domain.
- 3. The exercise will be held in four phases.

# Which of the statements given 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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**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. AIME is a maritime exercise between India and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). It aims to provide an opportunity for Indian Navy and ASEAN navies to work closely and conduct seamless operations in the maritime domain.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The exercise will be held in two phases: 'Harbour Phase' of the exercise is scheduled to be held at Changi Naval Base and 'Sea Phase' in the South China Sea.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to India Manufacturing Innovation Index (IMII) 2022, consider the following statements:

- 1. It provides a holistic score for the level of innovation across states.
- 2. Karnataka has been ranked the highest on IMII 2022.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

#### Answer: C

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. IMII 2022 provides a holistic score for the level of innovation across states. Karnataka has been ranked the highest on IMII 2022.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Psychedelics are a group of drugs that alter perception, mood and thought processing while a person is conscious.
- 2. These are addictive and toxic drugs.
- 3. In India, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 prohibits the use of psychedelic substances.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Psychedelics are a group of drugs that alter perception, mood and thought processing while a person is conscious. In India, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 prohibits the use of psychedelic substances.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Psychedelics are non-addictive and non-toxic.





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

- 1. The US Dollar accounts for approximately 90% of all Forex transactions.
- 2. Most central banks have more than 10% of gold in their Forex mix.

### 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 US Dollar accounts for approximately 90% of all Forex transactions.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Most central banks do not have more than 10% of gold in their Forex mix (except Russia and Turkey). This is because it provides no yield, and if all major central banks tried to boost their gold holdings, it would have a serious price impact.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to "Chagos Archipelago" consider the following statements:

- 1. It comprises low level islands in the Pacific Ocean.
- 2. Salomon island is present in its northern side.
- 3. The islands were a once a colony of the French.

# Which of the statements given 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. Chagos Archipelago comprises around 58 small, very low-lying islands in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Salomon island is present in the northern part of Chagos Archipelago. The islands were a once a colony of the French.

Source: ORF

#### Q.8) With reference to "Kondh Tribe" consider the following statements:

- 1. They are the largest tribal group in the state of Odisha.
- 2. Khonds speak the Khasia language.
- 3. They write it in the Odia script.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Kondh Tribe are the largest tribal group in the state of Odisha. They write it in the Odia script.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Khonds speak the Kui language.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding Buddhists' Thiksey Monastery?

- a) It is located in Ladakh.
- b) The monastery is affiliated with the Yellow Hat sect of Tibetan Buddhism.
- c) The temple houses a tall statue of Maitreya Buddha.
- d) The monastery is located on the bank of River Ravi.

Answer: D

**Explanation -** Thiksey Monastery is located on the banks of River Indus.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Article 200 of the Indian Constitution provides options before the Governor to give assent to the Bill sent by the legislature, or withhold assent, or reserve a Bill for the consideration of the President.
- 2. In the US, if the President does not sign or vetoes the Bill within the prescribed time limit, the bill lapses.

### 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. Article 200 of the Indian Constitution limits the options before the Governor to give assent to the Bill sent by the legislature, or withhold assent, or reserve a Bill for the consideration of the President.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. In the US, if the President does not sign or vetoes the Bill within ten days, it automatically becomes an Act.



#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Pulverised Coal Injection (PCI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It uses metallurgical coke for modern blast furnace iron making.
- 2. Injection rates of coals through PCI are higher than the injection rates of other fuels such as oil and natural gas.
- 3. PCI helps in injecting a wide range of coals.

# Which of the statements given 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. PCI uses non coking coal. This coal is cheaper than metallurgical coke. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Injection rates of coals through PCI are higher than the injection rates of other fuels such as oil and natural gas. PCI helps in injecting a wide range of coals.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Shilabhattarika is considered a leading figure of the Panchali literary style.
- 2. Pulakeshin II was the most famous ruler Vardhana dynasty.

# 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. Shilabhattarika is considered a leading figure of the Panchali literary style.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Pulakeshin II was the most famous ruler of the Chalukya dynasty.



# Q.3) With reference to National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22, consider the following statements:

- 1. The survey was conducted by the Department of Commerce along with the World Bank.
- 2. It aims to evaluate the innovation performance of manufacturing firms in India.
- 3. As per the survey, Jharkhand reported the highest share of innovative firms.

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

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

#### Answer: D

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. NMIS 2021-22 was conducted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. As per the survey, Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu had the highest share of innovative firms while Odisha, Bihar, and Jharkhand reported the lowest share of such firms.

**Statement 2** is correct. NMIS 2021-22 aims to evaluate the innovation performance of manufacturing firms in India.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD) consider the following statements:

- 1. The members of Commission for Social Development are elected by the UN Security Council.
- 2. It assists the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on all matters in the social field not covered by the specialised inter-governmental agencies.

# 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 members of Commission for Social Development are elected by United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

**Statement 2** is correct. CSocD assists the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on all matters in the social field not covered by the specialised intergovernmental agencies.





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

- 1. In India, divorcees have sharply declined over the past two decades.
- 2. Under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, a marriage may be dissolved on grounds of adultery.

# 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. In India, divorcees have doubled in number over the past two decades. **Statement 2** is correct. Under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, a marriage may be dissolved on grounds of adultery.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to "Gig Workers" consider the following statements:

- 1. Gig workers cannot create legally recognised unions.
- 2. Platform gig workers are generally casual wage workers and own-account workers in the conventional sectors.
- 3. Gig workers have the flexibility to work according to their convenience and availability.

### Which of the statements given 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. Gig workers cannot create legally recognised unions. Gig workers have the flexibility to work according to their convenience and availability.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Platform gig workers are those whose work is based on online software apps or digital platforms while non-platform gig workers are generally casual wage workers and own-account workers in the conventional sectors, working part-time or full time.



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

- 1. Human development refers to the process of improving people's lives by expanding their freedoms, opportunities, and capabilities.
- 2. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) was first recommended by the L M Singhvi Committee.
- 3. PRIs can help adapt rural development strategies to address climate change and its impacts on natural resources and livelihoods.

# Which of the statements given 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. Human development refers to the process of improving people's lives by expanding their freedoms, opportunities, and capabilities. PRIs can help adapt rural development strategies to address climate change and its impacts on natural resources and livelihoods.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) was first recommended by the Balwantrai Mehta committee in 1957.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Reintroducing cheetahs helps restore the natural balance of the ecosystem by reintroducing a top predator.
- 2. The presence of cheetahs in Indian national parks can lead to job creation.

# 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. Reintroducing cheetahs helps restore the natural balance of the ecosystem by reintroducing a top predator. The presence of cheetahs in Indian national parks can boost wildlife tourism, attracting more visitors and generating revenue. This in turn can lead to job creation and support for local businesses, benefiting communities living around national parks and wildlife reserves.



# Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to the "King Cobra":

- 1. They are categorized as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red Data Book.
- 2. They are part of the secondary consumer in the ecosystem.
- 3. They play a crucial role in regulating populations of other species.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

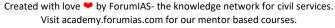
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

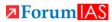
# Answer: C Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. King Cobra is categorized as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red Data Book. They play a crucial role in regulating populations of other species like rodents.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The King Cobras are part of the top predation/tertiary consumer in the ecosystem and are important in maintaining the balance of nature.

Source: India Today





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to the World Press Freedom Index 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. Australia has ranked first in the index.
- 2. Press freedom in India has declined.
- 3. Legal framework is one the indicators used by the index to rank countries.

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

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

### Answer: D

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Norway is ranked first for the seventh consecutive year.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. India is ranked 161 out of 180 countries. Press freedom in India has gone from "problematic" to "very bad", with the country slipping 11 ranks since the 2022 report. The index ranks countries based on five indicators: the political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context and security.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a highly contagious severe respiratory disease which primarily infects birds.
- 2. Currently, there is no vaccine for avian influenza (bird flu).
- 3. It has a low mortality 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: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Bird Flu is a highly contagious severe respiratory disease which primarily infects birds. Currently, there is no vaccine for avian influenza.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. It has a high mortality rate, especially in poultry but doesn't usually infect humans.



### Q.3) With reference to Central Counterparties (CCPs) consider the following statements:

- 1. It acts as the intermediary in a market transaction by guaranteeing the terms of trade.
- 2. A CCP is authorized by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to operate in India.

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

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

#### Answer: A

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. CCP performs two main functions as the intermediary in a market transaction –clearing and settlement – and guaranteeing the terms of trade.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A CCP is authorized by the RBI to operate in India under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. 3D printing is cheaper than traditional method of manufacturing.
- 2. 4D printing is an advanced version of 3D printing where the fourth dimension is time.

# 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. 3D printing is cheaper than traditional method of manufacturing. 4D printing is an advanced version of 3D printing where the fourth dimension is time.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a type of chemical bonding present in gases.
- 2. They have properties of both the bonding present in metals as well as those found in glasses.
- 3. It can be used to tailor the thermoelectric performance in quantum materials and efficiently convert waste heat to electricity.

# Which of the statements given 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. Metavalent bonding is a new type of chemical bonding in solids.

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**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Metavalent Bonding have properties of both the bonding present in metals (for good electrical conductivity) as well as those found in glasses (for low thermal conductivity). It can be used to tailor the thermoelectric performance in quantum materials and efficiently convert waste heat to electricity.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to the "Meitei community" consider the following statements:

- 1. They speak the Meitei language.
- 2. They are the largest community of Nagaland.
- 3. Cheiraoba is a festival celebrated by the community.

# Which of the statements given 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. Meitei community speak the Meitei language. The various types of festivals that are the most significant, and are celebrated with great joy by meiteis are Lai Haraoba, Cheiraoba, Yaosang among others.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Meiteis are the largest community in Manipur.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to Reporters Without Borders (RSF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an organisation that works to give refuge to migrants from conflict-torn countries.
- 2. It has consultative status with the United Nations.
- 3. Its headquarter is at Paris, France.

#### Which of the statements given 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. RSF is an international NGO which aims to defend and promote media freedom.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. RSF has consultative status with the United Nations. Its headquarter is at Paris, France.



# Q.8) With reference to Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to enhance economic cooperation and establish a rule-based order in the Indo-Pacific.
- 2. It is a type of Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- 3. All QUAD members are the members of IPEF.

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

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

#### Answer: D

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. IPEF aims to enhance economic cooperation and establish a rule-based order in the Indo-Pacific. All QUAD members are the member of IPEF.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It is not an FTA.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to "International Religious Freedom Report" consider the following statements:

- 1. The report has been released by the United Nations.
- 2. The report assesses religious freedom violations and progress in some countries and makes independent recommendations for the U.S. policy.
- 3. The recommendations made by the report is binding on the US government.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 3** are incorrect. International Religious Freedom Report is published by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF). The recommendations of USCIRF are not binding on the US government.

**Statement 2** is correct. The report assesses religious freedom violations and progress in 27 countries and makes independent recommendations for U.S. policy.





# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Household savings comprise financial and physical savings.
- 2. Mutual funds and equity have emerged as an important instrument for financial savings in the past few years.
- 3. While the CPI captures all transactions at first point of bulk sale in the domestic market, the WPI represents the cost of a representative basket of goods and services consumed by an average urban or rural household.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

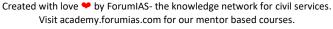
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# Answer: A Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Household savings comprise financial and physical savings. Mutual funds and equity emerged as an important instrument for financial savings in the past few years.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. While the overall CPI represents the cost of a representative basket of goods and services consumed by an average urban or rural household, the WPI captures all transactions at first point of bulk sale in the domestic market.

**Source: The Print** 





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The declaration has been signed between US and Russia.
- 2. It outlines cooperation towards nuclear deterrence strategy.
- 3. As per the declaration, the U.S. President will be the only sole authority to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation.

### Which of the statements given 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. Washington Declaration has been signed between US and South Korea.

**Statement 2** and 3 are correct. Washington Declaration outlines cooperation towards nuclear deterrence strategy. As per the declaration, the U.S. President will be the only sole authority to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The index has been released by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).
- 2. The index aims to produce map-based data for the heat impacted individuals living in urban slums
- 3. The index takes into account parameters such as temperature and humidity.

# Which of the statements given 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. Heat Index has been released by the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The index will take into account parameters such as temperature, humidity, wind and duration of exposure.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The index aims to quantify the impact of heat on its population and generate impact-based heatwave alerts for specific locations.



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

- 1. It is obtained by mixing solids with concentrated liquid at the threshold temperature.
- 2. Aurora is sometimes referred to as polar light.

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

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

#### Answer: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. An aurora is a natural phenomenon which is characterized by a display of a natural-coloured (green, red, yellow or white) light in the sky. These are caused by the Sun. **Statement 2** is correct. Aurora is sometimes referred to as 'polar light'. It is predominantly seen in regions of high altitudes like the Arctic and Antarctic.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It seeks to neutralize international aviation CO2 emissions from 2021 to 2019–2020 levels via offsetting programmes.
- 2. CORSIA is applicable only to flights originating from one country to another.
- 3. India has become a participant of all the three phases of its implementation.

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

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

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. CORSIA seeks to neutralize international aviation CO2 emissions from 2021 to 2019–2020 levels via offsetting programmes. It is applicable only to flights originating from one country to another.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. CORSIA will be implemented in three phases: pilot, voluntary and mandatory. India has decided not to participate in the voluntary phases of CORSIA.



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

- 1. Heat waves are not notified as a natural disaster at the national level in India.
- 2. The mortality rate in India for tropical cyclones increased whereas it decreased for heat waves between 2000-2019.
- 3. A moderate increase in the duration of heat waves will lead to a significant increase in the mortality rate in India.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Heat waves are not yet notified as a natural disaster at the national level in India. A moderate increase in the duration of heat waves will lead to a significant increase in the mortality rate in India.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Between 2000 and 2019, the mortality rate in India for tropical cyclones decreased by 94% whereas it increased by 62.2% for heat waves.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Optical tweezers are scientific instruments that use a highly focused laser beam to hold and move microscopic and sub-microscopic objects.
- 2. Optical tweezers are used in nanoengineering and nano-chemistry.
- 3. Optical tweezer was invented by Arthur Ashkin.

# Which of the statements given 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. Optical tweezers are scientific instruments that use a highly focused laser beam to hold and move microscopic and sub-microscopic objects. Optical tweezers are used in nanoengineering and nano-chemistry. Optical tweezer was invented by Arthur Ashkin.



# Q.7) With reference to Long-Term Aspirational Goals (LTAG) for international aviation consider the following statements:

- 1. The LTAG imposes commitments on individual States in the form of targets for reducing emissions in the aviation sector.
- 2. States are expected to achieve the emission goal in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner and in accordance with its national circumstances.

# 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 LTAG does not attribute specific obligations or commitments in the form of emissions reduction goals to individual States. Instead, it recognizes each State's special circumstances and respective capabilities.

**Statement 2** is correct. States are expected to achieve the emission goal in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner and in accordance with its national circumstances.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) consider the following statements:

- 1. Its headquarter is located in Beijing, China.
- 2. Its official languages are French and English.
- 3. SCO is dominated by Russia and China.

#### Which of the statements given 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. SCO headquarter is located in Beijing, China. SCO is dominated by Russia and China.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Its official languages are Russian and Chinese.





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

- 1. In India, 37% of children frequently experience reduced levels of concentration due to smartphone use.
- 2. Academic Performance Index (API) is a metric devised by the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to decide competent 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: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. As per the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, 24% of children use smartphones while they are in bed, which increases with age and 37% of children frequently experience reduced levels of concentration due to smartphone use.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Academic Performance Index (API) is a metric devised by the UGC to decide academic merit for teacher/professors.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Fifteenth Finance Commission recommended the fiscal deficit limit of states to be 3 percent of their gross state domestic product (GSDP) during 2023-26.
- 2. Odisha has reported a fiscal surplus for FY 2022-23.

#### 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 Fifteenth Finance Commission recommended the fiscal deficit limit of states to be 3 percent of their gross state domestic product (GSDP) during 2023-26. Odisha has reported a fiscal surplus for FY 2022-23.



#### **PRELIMS**

### Q.1) Which of the following statements best describes the term "Digital Twin"?

- a) It is a technology that provides users with a simulated experience of a virtual environment.
- b) It is a virtual replica of a physical object, system, or process.
- c) It is a virtual-reality space in which users can interact with a computer-generated environment and other users.
- d) It is a technology that enriches the user's perception and provides a live view of the real world with digital information by adding images, sound, video and other virtual details.

#### Answer: B

**Explanation** – A Digital Twin is a three-dimensional (3D) virtual replica of an object or system that delivers real-time insights into the performance, operation or profitability of a physical object.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to "Debt-for-climate Swap" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a mechanism that hold the countries accountable by the creditors for their lack of investments in the green technology.
- 2. The mechanism allows creditors to develop cooperation and achieve climate finance objectives and strengthen their diplomatic relations with debtor countries.

# 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. In a debt-for-climate swap, countries who borrowed money from other nations or multilateral development banks (e.g., the IMF and World Bank) could have that debt forgiven, if the money that was to be spent on repayment was instead diverted to climate adaptation and resilience projects.

**Statement 2** is correct. This mechanism allows creditors to develop cooperation and achieve climate finance objectives and strengthen their diplomatic relations with debtor countries.



# Q.3) With reference to National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been renamed as the National Programme for Prevention & Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD).
- 2. The programme now focuses on health promotion & awareness generation, screening, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility for treatment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

# 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. NPCDCS has been renamed as NP-NCD. NP-NCD focuses on health promotion & awareness generation, screening, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility for treatment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), including cancer.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) consider the following statements:

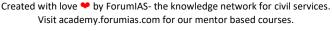
- 1. PHEIC is issued by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).
- 2. PHEIC for the first time was issued for Covid-19.

#### 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. A Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) is the WHO's highest alert level. The alert has previously been issued for Ebola, H1N1 Swine Flu, Poliovirus, etc.





# Q.5) With reference to Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched under Project Uday.
- 2. It aims to have surveillance centers for all field formations for the Indian Army by December 2025.
- 3. It will integrate thousands of sensors which will enable the provision of an integrated surveillance picture to commanders and staff at all levels.

## Which of the statements given 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. BSS has been launched under Project Sanjay.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. BSS aims to have surveillance centers for all field formations for the Indian Army by December 2025. It will integrate thousands of sensors which will enable the provision of an integrated surveillance picture to commanders and staff at all levels.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to "Krishi Mapper" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an integrated app for Geospatial Data in Agriculture.
- 2. The app covers monitoring of all land-interventions-based schemes.
- 3. The app aims at providing employment related information in the secondary and tertiary sector of the economy to the over employed workforce in agri-activities.

## 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. Krishi Mapper is an integrated app for Geospatial Data in Agriculture. The app covers monitoring of all land-interventions-based schemes/programs such as Digital Crop Survey, Natural Farming, Seed Production and Distribution, NFSM Horticulture, Agroforestry & other related schemes.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The app will help minimize the duplication of efforts and provide ready-to-analysis data products to innovators in India. It will also facilitate Ease of access to credit, near Real-time stress watches for the sector at various levels of granularity with the ability to drill down to individual land parcels under stress and Near Real-time assessment and processing of claims.



# Q.7) With reference to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) consider the following statements:

- 1. The proportion of deaths due to NCDs in India have decreased due to the development in healthcare facilities.
- 2. Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are amongst the major Non-Communicable 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: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. A study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) estimated that the proportion of deaths due to NCDs in India have increased from 37.9% in 1990 to 61.8% in 2016.

**Statement 2** is correct. The four major NCDs are cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), cancers, chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs) and diabetes which share four behavioural risk factors – unhealthy diet, lack of physical activity, and use of tobacco and alcohol.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a form of performance-linked incentive to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.
- 2. It aims to help encourage domestic manufacturing, reduce imports, and generate employment.

#### 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. PLI is a form of performance-linked incentive to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units. It aims to help encourage domestic manufacturing, reduce imports, and generate employment.



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

- 1. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) are among the most potent tools deployed by the Maoists.
- 2. Ground Penetrating radar, which can detect recent disturbances in the soil subsurface, has been very successful in detecting IEDs.

### 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. IEDs are among the most potent tools deployed by the Maoists.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Ground Penetrating radar, which can detect recent disturbances in the soil subsurface, has not proved successful in detecting IEDs.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) With reference to Account Aggregator (AA) Network, consider the following statements:

- 1. It helps an individual securely and digitally access and share information from one financial institution that they have an account with any other regulated financial institution in the AA network.
- 2. It is regulated by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA).
- 3. An Account Aggregator is a type of non-banking financial company.

#### Which of the statements given 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. AA helps an individual securely and digitally access and share information from one financial institution that they have an account with any other regulated financial institution in the AA network. An Account Aggregator is a non-banking financial company.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. AA is regulated by the RBI.



#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) programme, consider the following statements:

- 1. The programme has been launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- 2. It aims to provide training in Space Science and Technology to the young astronauts.
- 3. The programme will cover various domains of Space Science, including Astronomy and Astrophysics.

#### Which of the statements given 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. START programme has been launched by ISRO. The programme will cover various domains of Space Science, including Astronomy and Astrophysics.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The programme aims to provide students with introductory-level training in Space Science and Technology. The program is aimed at postgraduate and final-year undergraduate students of Physical Sciences and Technology.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is an intergovernmental organization of Arab states in the Middle East and Africa.
- 2. It was formed with the adoption of the Suwałki Agreement.
- 3. India has observer status to Arab League.

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

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

# Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Arab League is an intergovernmental organization of Arab states in the Middle East and Africa. Brazil, Eritrea, India, Armenia and Venezuela are its observer countries.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Arab League was formed in 1945 following the adoption of the Alexandria Protocol in 1944.



# Q.3) With reference to Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) Technology, consider the following statements:

- 1. ADAS encompasses a variety of technologies that provide drivers with warnings, alerts, and even automatic interventions to help them avoid accidents and prevent potential danger.
- 2. It can help reduce the number of accidents caused by human error.

### 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. ADAS encompasses a variety of technologies that provide drivers with warnings, alerts, and even automatic interventions to help them avoid accidents and prevent potential danger. It can help reduce the number of accidents caused by human error.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) With reference to Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a common contagious virus that causes infections of the respiratory tract.
- 2. RSV is highly contagious and spreads through droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- 3. It is a double-stranded RNA virus.

#### Which of the statements given 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. RSV is a common contagious virus that causes infections of the respiratory tract. It is highly contagious and spreads through droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. It is a negative-sense, single-stranded RNA virus.



# Q.5) With reference to Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) consider the following statements:

- 1. It was established under the provision of Article 344 of the Constitution of India.
- 2. The Department of Science and Technology is the nodal Ministry to implement CSTT.
- 3. Its mandate is to evolve technical terminology in all Indian language.

### Which of the statements given 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. CSTT was established under clause (4) of Article 344 of the Constitution of India. Its mandate is to evolve technical terminology in all Indian language. **Statement 2** is incorrect. The Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education is the

nodal agency for implementing CSTT.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) Which of the following are the reason behind neurotoxic gas leaks?

- 1. Adequate Maintenance of Industrial Plants
- 2. Poor Waste Management
- 3. Overcrowded Urban Areas

#### Select the correct answer from 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** - Various reasons behind neurotoxic gas leaks are - Poor Waste Management, Inadequate Maintenance of Industrial Plants, Lack of Regulation and Monitoring, Overcrowded Urban Areas, Infrastructure Failures, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Manipur has a separate judicial and governance system for the tribal hill areas.
- 2. Hill tribes of Manipur practice shifting cultivation.
- 3. 60% of the households in Manipur are categorised as self-employed which is lower than the national average.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

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**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Manipur has a separate judicial and governance system for the tribal hill areas, which are controlled by Autonomous Hill Councils. Hill tribes of Manipur practice shifting cultivation.

Statement 3 is incorrect. 60% of the households in Manipur are categorised as self-employed, a proportion higher than the national average of 54%.

Source: The Times of India

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

- 1. The blue economy is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem.
- 2. India is the largest fish producing nation in the world.
- 3. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 is the least funded of all SDGs.

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

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

#### Answer: C

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The blue economy is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which is for ocean conservation, remains the least funded of all SDGs because the ocean accounts for only 2% of the Green Climate Fund.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India is the second-largest fish producing nation in the world.

Source: The Times of India

# Q.9) With reference to Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a non-profit organization.
- 2. It has been established to manage the entire IT system of the GST portal.
- 3. The government uses this portal to track every financial transaction and provide taxpayers with all 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: D**

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. GSTN is a non-profit organization. It has been established to manage the entire IT system of the GST portal. The government uses this portal to track every financial transaction and provide taxpayers with all services.





## Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to autonomous/driverless vehicles:

- 1. A driverless vehicle is one that is able to operate itself and perform necessary functions without any human intervention.
- 2. A driverless vehicle can increase traffic congestion.

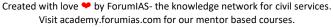
# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

# Answer: A Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. A driverless vehicle is one that is able to operate itself and perform necessary functions without any human intervention.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A driverless vehicle can - 1) Reduce traffic congestion, 2) Cut transportation costs, 3) Reduce urban CO2 emissions, 4) Can save unproductive time, 5) Decrease in accidents due to human error and 6) Decrease in human stress.





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana (TBSY) consider the following statements:

- 1. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the nodal ministry to implement the scheme.
- 2. It aims to provide lifelong cure opportunity to Thalassemia patients.
- 3. The initiative provides financial assistance for a package cost of 10 lakhs per Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT).

#### Which of the statements given 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. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the nodal ministry to implement the scheme. The initiative provides financial assistance for a package cost of 10 lakhs per Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT).

Statement 2is incorrect. The scheme aims to provide a one-time cure opportunity to underprivileged Thalassemia patients who have a matched sibling donor but do not have the financial resources to cover the cost of the procedure.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) consider the following statements:

- 1. IPEF members represent 40% of the global gross domestic product and 28% of the world's trade.
- 2. IPEF aims to counter China's increasing influence in the Indo-Pacific region.
- 3. India has joined all the pillars of IPEF.

## Which of the statements given 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. IPEF members represent 40% of the global gross domestic product and 28% of the world's trade. IPEF aims to counter China's increasing influence in the Indo-Pacific region.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. India has yet to take a call on whether to join the trade pillar, though it has joined the other three.



### Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to "Malcha Mahal":

- 1. It was built by Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- 2. The monument is protected by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- 3. It is also known as Wilayat Mahal.

# Which of the statements given 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. Malcha Mahal is located in Delhi. It was built in 1325 by the Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlaq.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The monument is not protected by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) With reference to Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) consider the following statements:

- 1. It occurs when the cartilage that cushions the ends of bones in our joints gradually deteriorates.
- 2. Rheumatoid arthritis can be very painful and can lead to permanent joint damage if left untreated for a longer period.

## 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. RA is an autoimmune and inflammatory condition in which a person's immune system unintentionally attacks healthy cells, leading to inflammation (painful swelling) in the affected areas of the body.

**Statement 2** is correct. RA can be very painful and can lead to permanent joint damage if left untreated for a longer period.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is the only ancient Shivalaya of its kind located at the highest point above sea level in Asia.
- 2. It is one of the Panch Kedars.
- 3. It was built in the Dravidian style of architecture.

#### Which of the statements given 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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**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Tungnath Temple is the only ancient Shivalaya of its kind located at the highest point above sea level in Asia. It is one of the Panch Kedars and is believed to have belonged to an ancient era almost 1000 years old.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. It was built in the Nagara style of architecture.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) With reference to China-Central Asia Summit, consider the following statements:

- 1. Leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are expected to attend the summit.
- 2. The focus of the summit will be on strengthening economic and diplomatic ties between Central Asia and China.

#### 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. Leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are expected to attend the summit. The focus of the summit will be on strengthening economic and diplomatic ties between Central Asia and China.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to "e-Raktkosh portal" consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- 2. The portal aims at spreading awareness about the blood cancer and provide low-cost treatment to the affected individuals.

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

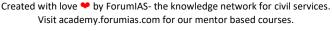
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. e-Raktkosh portal was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2016.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. e-Raktkosh portal is a Centralized Blood Bank Management System that provides a comprehensive IT solution to standardize and streamline the standard operating procedures, guidelines and workflow of blood banks across the country.





### Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to Thalassemia:

- 1. It is a chronic and genetic blood disorder due to which a patient's body cannot make enough hemoglobin leading to anemia.
- 2. This disease is passed from parents to children through genes and people suffering from it require blood transfusions to survive.
- 3. India is known as the thalassaemia capital of 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. Thalassemia is a chronic and genetic blood disorder due to which a patient's body cannot make enough hemoglobin leading to anemia. This disease is passed from parents to children through genes and people suffering from it require blood transfusions to survive. India is known as the thalassaemia capital of the world with 40 million carriers which means one in eight of thalassemia carriers live in India.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Slow traffic movement affects productivity and gross domestic product.
- 2. India spends too much money on intangible assets and very little on tangible assets.
- 3. Improving traffic movement can have significant effects on welfare.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Slow traffic movement affects productivity and gross domestic product. Improving traffic movement can have significant effects on welfare.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India spends too much money on tangible assets and very little on intangible assets. Tangible assets include roads. Intangible assets include a sound system for smooth traffic movement.



## Q.10) With reference to Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs) consider the following statements:

- 1. The Indian government defines Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs) under Section 2(47A) of the Finance Act, 2022.
- 2. VDAs can provide a higher level of privacy and security compared to traditional financial systems.
- 3. VDAs often have higher transaction costs compared to traditional banking services.

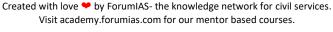
# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

# Answer: A Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. The Indian government defines Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs) under Section 2(47A) of the Finance Act, 2022. VDAs can provide a higher level of privacy and security compared to traditional financial systems, e.g., cryptocurrency.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. VDAs often have lower transaction costs compared to traditional banking services. For instance, cross border payments can be faster and cheaper with VDAs like Bitcoin.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The Mid-Atlantic region accounts for more than half of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most rapidly developing regions 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: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The Asia-Pacific region accounts for more than half of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

**Statement 2** is correct. The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most rapidly developing regions of the world.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It has a natural deep-water harbour which operates all year.
- 2. The port is located along the Red Sea.
- 3. The port is present in northern Israel.

## Which of the statements given 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. Haifa Port has a natural deep-water harbour which operates all year. The port is present in northern Israel.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The port is located along the Mediterranean Sea.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In 2020, Pakistan had the highest estimated pre-term birth rate.
- 2. Nearly one in 10 preterm babies are born in the 10 most fragile countries affected by humanitarian crises.

#### 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 -

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**Statement 1** is incorrect. In 2020, Bangladesh had the highest estimated pre-term birth rate. **Statement 2** is correct. Nearly one in 10 preterm babies are born in the 10 most fragile countries affected by humanitarian crises.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) consider the following statements:

- 1. The NCGG is mandated to work in the areas of governance, policy reforms, capacity building and training of civil servants and technocrats of India and other developing countries.
- 2. The governing body of NCGG is headed by the Principal Secretary.
- 3. NCGG functions under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

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

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

#### Answer: C

**Statements 1 and 3** are correct. NCGG is mandated to work in the areas of governance, policy reforms, capacity building and training of civil servants and technocrats of India and other developing countries. NCGG functions under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The affairs of the NCGG are managed under the overall superintendence and direction of the Governing Body, which is headed by the Cabinet Secretary.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) "ZTF SLRN-2020" was seen in the news recently is -

- a) A comet
- b) A star
- c) A planet
- d) A missile

Answer: B

**Explanation -** ZTF SLRN-2020 is a Sun-like star.



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

- 1. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is a one-year life insurance scheme renewable from year to year offering coverage for death due to any reason.
- 2. Atal Pension Yojana (APY) is administered by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

### 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. PMSBY is a one-year life insurance scheme renewable from year to year offering coverage for death or disability due to accident.

**Statement 2** is correct. APY is administered by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.7) With reference to Petersberg Climate Dialogue, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an annual high-level political and international forum held before the United Nations Climate Change Conferences (COP).
- 2. Its central goal is to strengthen trust both in multilateral climate negotiations and between 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 -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. Petersberg Climate Dialogue is an annual high-level political and international forum held before the United Nations Climate Change Conferences (COP). Its central goal is to strengthen trust both in multilateral climate negotiations and between states.



## Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A vostro account is an account that a bank holds in a foreign currency in another bank.
- 2. Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVA) is an additional arrangement to the existing system that uses freely convertible currencies and works as a complimentary system.

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

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

# Answer: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. A vostro account is an account that domestic banks hold for foreign banks in the former's domestic currency.

**Statement 2** is correct. SRVA is an additional arrangement to the existing system that uses freely convertible currencies and works as a complimentary system.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Predatory Pricing is the practice of a firm selling a product at very low price with the intention of driving competitors out of the market.
- 2. Competition Commission of India (CCI) has the power to take a call on predatory pricing in the telecom sector.

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

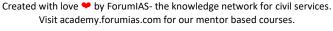
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Predatory Pricing is the practice of a firm selling a product at very low price with the intention of driving competitors out of the market.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. At present, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has the power to take a call on predatory pricing in the telecom sector.





## Q.10) Consider the following statements:

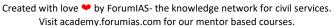
- 1. Around 87% of diesel fuel sales are in the transport sector.
- 2. Diesel cars accounted for less than 20% of overall passenger vehicle sales in 2021-22.
- 3. Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Haryana account for almost 40% of the diesel sold in India.

# 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: D Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. Around 87% of diesel fuel sales are in the transport sector. Diesel cars accounted for less than 20% of overall passenger vehicle sales in 2021-22. Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Haryana account for almost 40% of the diesel sold in India.





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. Its goal is to assess the possibility of monitoring border regions, particularly maritime borders.
- 2. The initiative has been launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

# 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 the initiative is to assess the feasibility of using drones to deliver vaccines and medical supplies.

**Statement 2** is correct. The initiative has been launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to "Sludge":

- 1. Sludge is a thick residue found in Sewage Treatment Plants set up to treat polluted water.
- 2. Sludge is rich in organic as well inorganic chemicals.
- 3. India has set standards for classifying sludge as class A or B.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

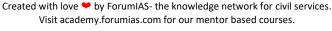
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Sludge is a thick residue found in Sewage Treatment Plants set up to treat polluted water. Sludge is rich in organic as well inorganic chemicals.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. India doesn't yet have standards classifying sludge as class A or B. It is categorized in the US.





# Q.3) With reference to National Medical Commission (NMC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a non-statutory body.
- 2. The Commission gives accreditation to medical schools.
- 3. It enforces high ethical standards in all aspects of medical service.

#### Which of the statements given 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. NMC is a statutory body, established by an act of Parliament known as the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 which came into force in 2020.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Commission gives accreditation to medical schools. It enforces high ethical standards in all aspects of medical service.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to "Harit Sagar Guidelines" consider the following statements:

- 1. The guidelines aim at evaluating bank stress in an economy.
- 2. The guidelines include provisions for adopting the international Green Reporting Initiative (GRI) standard.

## 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. Harit Sagar Guidelines lays emphasis on use of Clean/ Green energy in Port operation, developing Port capabilities for storage, handling and bunkering of Greener Fuels.

**Statement 2** is correct. The guidelines include provisions for adopting the international Green Reporting Initiative (GRI) standard.



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

- 1. Temperature rise over oceans is much higher than over lands across the world.
- 2. The annual mean temperature rise is India is significantly lower than annual mean temperatures across 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: B Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Temperature rise over land is much higher than over oceans.

**Statement 2** is correct. The annual mean temperatures had risen by 0.7 degree Celsius from 1900 in India. This is significantly lower than the 1.59-degree Celsius rise for land temperatures across the world.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Remission of punishment is meant to uphold a sense of community justice.
- 2. Convicts have right to remission as a fundamental right under the Article 21.
- 3. Articles 72 of the Constitution mandate humanitarian remission.

## Which of the statements given 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. Remission of punishment is meant to uphold a sense of community justice. Articles 72 and 161 of the Constitution do mandate humanitarian remission. **Statement 2** is incorrect. The Supreme Court in Mahender Singh v State of Haryana (2007) case clarified that remission should not be seen as the fundamental right of convicts.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. About 80% of India's total commercial airlines is on lease.
- 2. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is the statutory regulatory authority for airlines 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. About 80% of India's total commercial airlines is on lease. DGCA is the statutory regulatory authority for airlines in India.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) With reference to Indian Space Policy 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The policy states that ISRO will move out of the manufacturing of operational space systems.
- 2. The policy restricts non-government entities to undertake end-to-end activities in the space sector.
- 3. The policy focuses on space-based intelligence, reconnaissance, surveillance, communication, positioning and navigation capabilities.

## Which of the statements given 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 policy states that ISRO will move out of the manufacturing of operational space systems. The space policy focuses on space-based intelligence, reconnaissance, surveillance, communication, positioning and navigation capabilities.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The non-government entities are allowed to undertake end-to-end activities in the space sector through establishment and operation of space objects, ground-based assets and related services, such as communication.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Aerosols affect cloud formation.
- 2. Arctic region has warmed at least twice as much as the world average.
- 3. Aerosol concentration over the Indian region is significantly low.

## Which of the statements given 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. Aerosols affect cloud formation. Arctic region has warmed at least twice as much as the world average.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Aerosol concentration over the Indian region is quite high, due to natural as well as man-made reasons.





#### **PRELIMS**

## Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to the disease Monkeypox:

- 1. It is bacterial disease caused by the Streptococcus bacteria.
- 2. The disease can be transmitted to humans through physical contact.
- 3. Monkey pox can be prevented by avoiding physical contact with someone who has pox.

# Which of the statements given 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. Mpox (monkeypox) is a viral illness caused by the monkeypox virus, a species of the genus Orthopoxvirus.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Monkeypox can be transmitted to humans through physical contact. Monkey pox can be prevented by avoiding physical contact with someone who has pox.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.2) With reference to 'Debt Ceiling' consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a law that limits the total amount of money the government can borrow to pay its bills.
- 2. An increase in the debt ceiling increases the nation's financial commitments.
- 3. A breach in the debt ceiling limits can have financial implications for the nation.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Debt Ceiling is a law that limits the total amount of money the government can borrow to pay its bills. A breach in the debt ceiling limits can have financial implications for the nation such as downgrading by credit rating agencies, etc.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. An increase in the debt ceiling does not increases the nation's financial commitments because decisions to spend money are legislated separately. US practices the debt ceiling concept.



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

- 1. The Constitution provides for a mechanism by which disputes among members of a particular political party can be settled.
- 2. The power of the Governor to act without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers is of an extraordinary nature which must be exercised within the limits of law.
- 3. The Governor is not empowered to enter the political arena and play a role in inter or intraparty disputes.

## Which of the statements given 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. Neither the Constitution nor the laws enacted by Parliament provide for a mechanism by which disputes among members of a particular political party can be settled. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The power of the Governor to act without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers is of an extraordinary nature which must be exercised within the limits of law. The Governor is not empowered to enter the political arena and play a role in inter or intra-party disputes.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Voluntary carbon markets are created as a result of any national, regional and international policy or regulatory requirement.
- 2. Companies or individuals can use carbon markets to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. Carbon Credit Trading Scheme aims to develop the Indian Carbon Market (ICM) with the objective to decarbonise the Indian economy by pricing the Green House Gas (GHG) emissions through the trading of Carbon Credit Certificates.

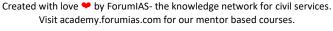
### Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 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. There are broadly two types of carbon markets: compliance and voluntary. Compliance markets are created as a result of any national, regional and/or international policy or regulatory requirement while Voluntary carbon markets refers to the issuance, buying and selling of carbon credits, on a voluntary basis.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Companies or individuals can use carbon markets to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon Credit Trading Scheme aims to develop the ICM with the objective to decarbonise the Indian economy by pricing the GHG emissions through the trading of Carbon Credit Certificates.





# Q.5) With reference to "YUVA PRATIBHA - Culinary Talent Hunt Initiative" consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the scheme is to identify outstanding individuals from amongst the different academic streams and enhance their talents by upgrading their skills.
- 2. The contest is open to all citizen and non-citizens residing 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: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. The aim of this initiative is to: 1) To bring out lost recipes and promote the culinary talent of Indian youth, 2) To create awareness of the contribution of nutricereals (millets) for food security and nutrition, 3) To promote national outreach of millets and 4) To incorporate millets in food preparation. The contest is open to the citizens of India within the age group of 18 to 40 years.

## Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Corporate tax is a type of indirect tax.
- 2. Global Minimum Corporate Tax (GMCT) is the minimum amount of corporate tax a company must pay on its income, both domestic and foreign.
- 3. The Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) initiative seeks to grant tax rebates to businesses that adhere to sound and transparent tax practices.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. Corporation Tax or Corporate Tax is a direct tax levied on the net income or profit of a corporate entity from their business. BEPS aims to curb practices that allowed companies to reduce their tax liabilities by exploiting loopholes in the tax law.

**Statement 2** is correct. GMCT is the minimum amount of corporate tax a company must pay on its income, both domestic and foreign.



# Q.7) With reference to "Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi program" consider the following statements:

- 1. The program will focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) at Anganwadi across the country.
- 2. The ECCE program will prioritize education in the mother tongue, aligning with the principles of the New Education Policy.
- 3. Department of Women and Child Development will provide training for Anganwadi workers.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

# Answer: C Explanation –

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi program will focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) at Anganwadi across the country. The ECCE program will prioritize education in the mother tongue, aligning with the principles of the New Education Policy.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) will provide training for Anganwadi workers.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to "Santiniketan":

- 1. It is adorned with splendid sculptures, frescoes, murals, and paintings created by renowned artists such as Nandalal Bose.
- 2. It was built by Rabindranath Tagore.

#### 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: S Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Santiniketan is adorned with splendid sculptures, frescoes, murals, and paintings created by renowned artists such as Nandalal Bose and Rabindranath Tagore.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Santiniketan was originally an ashram built by Debendranath Tagore (father of Rabindranath Tagore).



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

- 1. It is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country.
- 2. The platform has been developed by National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW).

# 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. Saksham platform is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country. It has been developed by National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW).

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10). Consider the following statements:

- 1. Diesel vehicles emit higher levels of particulate matter (PM) and noxious gases compared to petrol vehicles.
- 2. Fuel cell vehicles use compressed natural gas to power an electric motor.
- 3. A shift to electric and gas-powered vehicles would likely result in significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

## Which of the statements given 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. Diesel vehicles emit higher levels of particulate matter (PM) and noxious gases compared to petrol vehicles. A shift to electric and gas-powered vehicles would likely result in significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Fuel cell vehicles (FCVs) use hydrogen gas to power an electric motor.



#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. Satkosia Tiger Reserve is the largest tiger reserve of Jharkhand.
- 2. Currently, Satkosia has no big cats.

### 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. Satkosia Tiger Reserve is the second-largest tiger reserve of Odisha.

**Statement 2** is correct. Currently, Satkosia has no big cats. Tigers were translocated from Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve and Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh but the efforts failed.

**Source:** The Times of India

## Q.2) Which of the following is the aim of 'Cape Town Convention'?

- a) It recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.
- b) It aims to control or prevent international commercial trade in endangered species or products derived from them.
- c) It is an international environmental convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.
- d) It is an international treaty intended to standardize transactions involving movable property.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Cape Town Convention is an international treaty intended to standardize transactions involving movable property. India is a signatory of this convention.

Source: The Times of India

# Q.3) With reference to Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a portal which seeks to store the data of individual's all identity cards at a single place and provide with e-identity cards for the same.
- 2. The portal is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications.

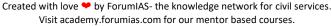
#### Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. CEIR is the citizen centric portal for tracing the lost/stolen mobile devices.





**Statement 2** is correct. The portal is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications.

Source: The Times of India

## Q.4) With reference to Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It serves as a common platform for critical states and principal maritime partners to deliberate on regional affairs, aiming to foster Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).
- 2. It is a flagship consultative forum for countries in the Indian Ocean Region over regional affairs.

## 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. IOC serves as a common platform for critical states and principal maritime partners to deliberate on regional affairs, aiming to foster Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR). It is a flagship consultative forum for countries in the Indian Ocean Region over regional affairs.

Source: The Times of India

## Q.5) With reference to "Model Prisons Act, 2023" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Act proposes separate accommodation for women prisoners and transgender prisoners.
- 2. It provides for video conferencing with the courts and scientific and technological interventions in prisons as part of reforming prison management.
- 3. The Act includes the provision that allows the use of mobile phones by the prison inmates.

### Which of the statements given 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 Act proposes separate accommodation for women prisoners and transgender prisoners. It provides for video conferencing with the courts and scientific and technological interventions in prisons as part of reforming prison management.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Model Prisons Act has a provision for punishment of prisoners and jail staff for use of prohibited items like mobile phones etc. in jails.

Source: The Times of India



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

- 1. The cost of running electric vehicles is significantly higher than that of running petrol or diesel vehicles.
- 2. The development of electric vehicle in India may not reduce the dependence on imports for the electric vehicle.
- 3. Electric roads are a potential solution to the limited range and charging time problems of electric vehicles, especially for long-distance travel.

## Which of the statements given 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 cost of running electric vehicles is significantly less than that of running petrol or diesel vehicles.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The development of electric vehicle in India may not reduce the dependence on imports for the vehicle due to the dependence on lithium-ion batteries. Lithium-ion batteries are imported. Electric roads are a potential solution to the limited range and charging time problems of electric vehicles, especially for long-distance travel.

Source: **DNA** 

# Q.7) With reference to Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims at boosting exports by providing online information of the products required overseas and providing seamless transfer of the payments and products.
- 2. ONDC currently does not have a separate portal for ordering food and it operates on third party's portal.

### 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. ONDC is aimed at creating an e-commerce website experience, somewhat similar to Amazon and Flipkart. The platform is now also being used to deliver foods like Swiggy and Zomato.

**Statement 2** is correct. ONDC currently does not have a separate app for ordering food, the customers have an option of ordering food through Paytm and Magicpin. It also delivers groceries and home essentials, similar to Blinkit and Swiggy Instamart.

Source: **DNA** 



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

- 1. Section 20 of the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act 1956 binds parents to maintain their child until the age of maturity, whether legitimate or illegitimate.
- 2. Laws in India do not provide rights to parents, who are not being maintained by their adult child, to file a case against their children.
- 3. In China, the Elderly Rights Law of 2013 requires adult children to visit their elderly parents regularly and provide them with emotional support, as well as financial assistance if necessary.

## Which of the statements given 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. Section 20 of the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act 1956 binds parents to maintain their child until the age of maturity, whether legitimate or illegitimate. In China, the Elderly Rights Law of 2013 requires adult children to visit their elderly parents regularly and provide them with emotional support, as well as financial assistance if necessary.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The parents who are not being maintained by their adult child can enforce their right by filing a case under section 125 of CrPC.

Source: DNA

# Q.9) 'Operation Kavach' was carried out recently, to -

- a) save the youth from the menace of drugs.
- b) evacuate Indian nationals from violence-hit Sudan.
- c) track illegal trafficking of women and & children
- d) evacuate stranded fishermen in the Indian Ocean.

## Answer: A

**Explanation** – Operation Kavach is primarily intended to save the youth from the menace of drugs.

Source: <u>Hindustan Times</u>



## Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. An anti-cyclonic trough is a region within a low-pressure system where the atmospheric pressure is relatively lower compared to its surroundings.
- 2. Anti-cyclonic troughs are often generated by the interaction of cold and warm air masses.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

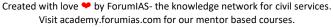
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

# Answer: B Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. An anti-cyclonic trough is a region within a high-pressure system where the atmospheric pressure is relatively higher compared to its surroundings.

**Statement 2** is correct. Anti-cyclonic troughs are often generated by the interaction of cold and warm air masses.

Source: India Today





#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. Baobab trees are native to Eastern Russia.
- 2. Madhya Pradesh is the only state in India where baobab trees are found in abundance.
- 3. Baobabs trees belong to the deciduous type of forests.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

#### Answer: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Baobab trees are native to mainland Africa and the island country of Madagascar.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Baobab trees are found in U.P., Maharashtra, M.P. and some other places in India. However, Madhya Pradesh is the only state in India where baobab trees are found in abundance. Baobabs trees belong to the deciduous type of forests.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Milkweed Butterflies are a diverse group of butterflies belonging to the brush-footed butterfly family.
- 2. These butterflies fly rapidly.
- 3. They feed mainly on milkweed plants and sometimes on nightshade.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Milkweed Butterflies are a diverse group of butterflies belonging to the brush-footed butterfly family. They feed chiefly on milkweed plants and sometimes on nightshade.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. These butterflies fly slowly, and some migrate great distances.



# Q.3) RBI has released a report titled Report on Currency and Finance: Towards a Greener Cleaner India. With reference to this report, consider the following statements:

- 1. Amongst the BRICS nations and the major advanced economies (AEs), Brazil is the most vulnerable to physical risks arising from climate change.
- 2. The pressure of currency depreciation in countries frequently affected by climate disasters can cause financial instability, higher import costs, and negative terms of trade.
- 3. Climate-induced uncertainty can make households save more for precautionary purposes, bringing down the real equilibrium 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: B Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. According to the report, amongst the BRICS nations and the major advanced economies (AEs), India is the most vulnerable to physical risks arising from climate change.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The pressure of currency depreciation in countries frequently affected by climate disasters can cause financial instability, higher import costs, and negative terms of trade. Climate-induced uncertainty can make households save more for precautionary purposes, bringing down the real equilibrium interest rate.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to Mitochondrial Donation Treatment (MDT) consider the following statements:

- 1. Mitochondrial donation is an assisted reproductive technology which can help some women to avoid transmitting mitochondrial disease to their biological children.
- 2. Mitochondria generate energy and are also responsible for cell function in the human body.
- 3. Mitochondrial donation treatment can prevent mitochondrial disease caused by a mutation in nuclear DNA.

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

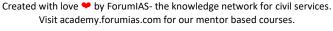
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# Answer: A

## Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Mitochondrial donation is an assisted reproductive technology which can help some women to avoid transmitting mitochondrial disease to their biological children. Mitochondria generate energy and are also responsible for cell function in the human body.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Mitochondrial donation treatment cannot prevent mitochondrial disease caused by a mutation in nuclear DNA and cannot cure people with existing mitochondrial disease.





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

- 1. Operation flood transformed India from a cotton deficient nation to cotton surplus nation.
- 2. India is the largest producer of milk in 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: B

## Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Operation flood transformed India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer, surpassing the United States of America in 1998.

**Statement 2** is correct. India is the largest producer of milk in the world.

Source: ForumIAS

## Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. About 80% of the country's economically active female population is employed in the farm sector.
- 2. The work participation rate for women is higher in urban areas than rural areas.
- 3. Women comprise about one-third of the agricultural labour force.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

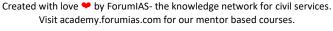
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. About 80% of the country's economically active female population is employed in the farm sector. Women comprise about one-third of the agricultural labour force.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The work participation rate for women is higher in rural areas (41.8%) than urban areas (35.31%).





### Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to "Quantum Technology':

- 1. IBM was the first company to make an actual quantum computer available on the cloud.
- 2. Quantum computing can explore problems in chemistry and pharma related to protein folding and drug design.
- 3. Quantum computing can have application in currency arbitrage, credit scoring and portfolio optimisation for a client in the financial services domain.

## Which of the statements given 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. IBM was the first company to make an actual quantum computer available on the cloud in 2016. Quantum computing can explore problems in chemistry and pharma related to protein folding and drug design. Quantum computing can have application in currency arbitrage, credit scoring and portfolio optimisation for a client in the financial services domain.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Millets are processed before making it available for consumption. In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1. The husk is removed from the grains because it is composed of cellulosic matter that the human body cannot digest.
- 2. Sieving is the process of grinding the flour while milling removes large impurities.
- 3. Polishing is the process of transforming brown rice into white rice by rubbing off the bran and germ.

## Which of the statements given above are correct?

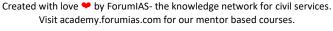
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The husk is removed from the grains because it is composed of cellulosic matter that the human body cannot digest. Polishing is the process of transforming brown rice into white rice by rubbing off the bran and germ.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. While milling grind the grains into flour, sieving removes large impurities, including bran.





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

- 1. The right to statutory bail is available to accused persons in cases when the investigating agency fails to complete its investigation within the stipulated time.
- 2. If the authorities are unable to complete the investigation within the prescribed time period, the accused is not eligible to apply for default bail.

#### 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 right to statutory bail is available to accused persons in cases when the investigating agency fails to complete its investigation within the stipulated time

**Statement 2** is incorrect. If the authorities are unable to complete the investigation within the time period of 60 or 90 days, the accused can apply for default bail under Section 167(2) of the CrPC.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.10) Consider the following statements with reference to "India's Nuclear Doctrine":

- 1. India is committed to not being the first to use nuclear weapons in a conflict but would retaliate if attacked with such weapons.
- 2. India would not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against countries that do not possess them.
- 3. India's nuclear doctrine provides a clear and credible stance on the country's position regarding the use of nuclear weapons.

#### Which of the statements given 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 committed to not being the first to use nuclear weapons in a conflict but would retaliate if attacked with such weapons. India would not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against countries that do not possess them. India's nuclear doctrine provides a clear and credible stance on the country's position regarding the use of nuclear weapons.



#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. The Neyyar River flows through it.
- 2. The Palghat Gap is classified as dry evergreen forest.
- 3. The Gap is a geological shear zone that runs from east to west.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The Bharathappuzha River flows through the Palghat Gap.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. The Palghat Gap is classified as dry evergreen forest. The Gap is a geological shear zone that runs from east to west.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to Reduce, Recycle and Reuse (RRR) Centres, consider the following statements:

- 1. RRR centres are being launched to reduce waste generation all over India.
- 2. These centres will serve as a one-stop solution for citizens, institutions, to deposit unused or used plastic items, clothes, shoes, footwear, books, and toys.

#### 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. RRR Centres are being launched to reduce waste generation in Urban India.

**Statement 2** is correct. These centres will serve as a one-stop solution for citizens, institutions, commercial enterprises, etc to deposit unused or used plastic items, clothes, shoes, footwear, books, and toys.



#### Q.3) With respect to "Donanemab" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a drug being developed to treat people with multimorbidity.
- 2. The drug is being developed by the U.S.-based pharmaceutical Eli Lill.

#### 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. Donanemab is a drug being developed to treat people with early Alzheimer's disease.

Statement 2 is correct. The drug is being developed by the U.S.-based pharmaceutical Eli Lill.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a native species of South Georgia.
- 2. Eretmoptera murphyi feasts on dead organic matter.
- 3. Eretmoptera murphyi can only survive in water.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Eretmoptera murphyi is a native species of South Georgia. Eretmoptera murphyi feasts on dead organic matter.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Eretmoptera murphyi can survive on land as well as on water.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) consider the following statements:

- 1. UNFF is a high-level intergovernmental policy forum.
- 2. It was established by the UN Security Council (UNSC).
- 3. The forum is composed of all Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies.

#### Which of the statements given 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. UNFF is a high-level intergovernmental policy forum. The Forum is composed of all Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It was established by the UN Economic and Social Council in 2000.

**Source:** ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme envisages the development of Indian Space Station on a continuous basis.
- 2. The scheme is based on Master Planning for the long term and implementation of the elements of the Master Plan.

#### 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. Amrit Bharat Station Scheme envisages the development of railway stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.

**Statement 2** is correct. The scheme is based on Master Planning for the long term and implementation of the elements of the Master Plan as per the needs and patronage of the station.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Modules, consider the following statements:

- 1. Solar PV modules are made by connecting together photovoltaic (PV) cells or solar cells.
- 2. They are manufactured from semiconductor materials like crystalline silicon.
- 3. Solar modules convert the mechanical energy into light 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: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Solar PV modules are made by connecting together photovoltaic (PV) cells or solar cells. They are manufactured from semiconductor materials like crystalline silicon.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Solar modules convert the light energy captured from the sun into electric energy.





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

- 1. Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) 21 data-set was introduced in place of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) to expand coverage of the organized sector.
- 2. The MCA 21 data set only includes manufacturing sector in its calculations.
- 3. The MCA21 data offers a broad aggregate picture of the corporate 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. MCA 21 data-set was introduced in place of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) to expand coverage of the organized sector. The MCA21 data offers a broad aggregate picture of our corporate sector.

**Statement 2** is incorrect: The MCA21 dataset includes manufacturing and service-sector companies in its calculations.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.9) With reference to "Competition Act, 2002" consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to defend the economy from anti-competitive practices.
- 2. It empowers the Reserve Bank of India to impose penalties for anti-competitive practices and abuse of dominant position.

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

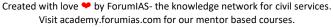
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Competition Act, 2002 aims to defend the economy from anti-competitive practices.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. It empowers the Competition Commission of India to impose penalties for anti-competitive practices and abuse of dominant position.





# Q.10) With reference to Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS) consider the following statements:

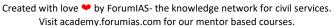
- 1. It is a bank-led model which allows online financial transactions at Point-of-Sale (PoS) devices and micro-ATMs of any bank using Aadhaar authentication.
- 2. The AePS only require the user's bank account to be linked with their Aadhaar number for the financial transaction.
- 3. The AePS model removes the need for OTPs, bank accounts and other financial details.

# Which of the statements given 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. AePS is a bank-led model which allows online financial transactions at Point-of-Sale (PoS) devices and micro-ATMs of any bank using Aadhaar authentication. The AePS only require the user's bank account to be linked with their Aadhaar number for the financial transaction. The AePS model removes the need for OTPs, bank accounts and other financial details.





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) Rajasthan Government has announced to introduce the Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare) Bill 2023. With reference to this bill consider the following statements:

- 1. The bill has proposed to set up a Rajasthan Platform-Based Gig Workers Social Security and Welfare Fund.
- 2. Platform-based Gig Workers Welfare Board will be chaired by the state Labour minister, and will have representatives from gig workers' unions, aggregators, and members of civil society.
- 3. All platform-based workers in the state would be automatically registered with the Board regardless of their employment period with the respective platform.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare) Bill 2023 has proposed to set up a Rajasthan Platform-Based Gig Workers Social Security and Welfare Fund. Platform-based Gig Workers Welfare Board will be chaired by the state Labour minister, and will have representatives from gig workers' unions, aggregators, and members of civil society. All platform-based workers in the state would be automatically registered with the Board regardless of their employment period with the respective platform.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a viral infection caused by the dengue virus which is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female mosquitoes.
- 2. Most people who get dengue won't have symptoms.
- 3. Dengue in India has not yet been classified as notifiable disease.

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

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

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. Dengue is a viral infection caused by the dengue virus which is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female mosquitoes. Most people who get dengue won't have symptoms.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Dengue is a notifiable disease in India.



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

- 1. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) provides necessary technical and organizational frameworks to ensure that digital services are secure, reliable, and accessible to everyone.
- 2. BharatNet is a proposed digital infrastructure for the healthcare sector in India, which aims to provide a common platform for health data exchange and interoperability.

#### 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 provides necessary technical and organizational frameworks to ensure that digital services are secure, reliable, and accessible to everyone.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. BharatNet is a high-speed broadband network project aimed at providing affordable internet connectivity to rural areas in India.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to Sodium-ion batteries (SIB) consider the following statements:

- 1. SIBs have less global warming potential than lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries.
- 2. SIBs have lower operational safety than Lithium-ion batteries (LIBs).
- 3. SIBs can be discharged to zero volts to avoid accidents during transportation.

### Which of the statements given 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. SIBs have 45% less global warming potential than lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries. SIBs can be discharged to zero volts to avoid accidents during transportation.

Statement 2 is incorrect. SIBs have higher operational safety than Lithium-ion batteries (LIBs).



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

- 1. Mission LiFE seeks to prevent heart-related deaths among Indians by offering preventive measures and raising public awareness.
- 2. Meri LiFE app aims to showcase the power of citizens, especially young people, in saving the environment by emphasizing the impact of simple actions in daily life.

#### 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. Mission LiFE is designed with the objective to mobilize at least one billion Indians and other global citizens to take individual and collective action for protecting and conserving the environment in the period 2022–28.

**Statement 2** is correct. Meri LiFE app aims to showcase the power of citizens, especially young people, in saving the environment by emphasizing the impact of simple actions in daily life.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) T P Rajendran committee is related with -

- a) Advising the government on agricultural pricing policies.
- b) Recommendation on electoral laws.
- c) Reviewing to the objections of industry on the ban of harmful pesticides.
- d) Looking into the issue of minorities.

#### Answer: C

**Explanation** – T P Rajendran committee was formed to review to the objections of industry on the ban of harmful pesticides.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Ethanol is a psychoactive drug that, in low doses, reduces the level of neurotransmission in the body, leading to its typical intoxicating effects.
- 2. Alcohol, which is frequently consumed, is known scientifically as methanol.
- 3. Ethanol, inside the body, is metabolised in the liver and the stomach by alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) enzymes to acetaldehyde.

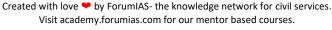
#### Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 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. Ethanol is a psychoactive drug that, in low doses, reduces the level of neurotransmission in the body, leading to its typical intoxicating effects. Ethanol, inside





the body, is metabolised in the liver and the stomach by alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) enzymes to acetaldehyde.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Alcohol, which is frequently consumed, is known scientifically as ethanol.

**Source:** ForumIAS

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

- 1. The Delhi government has legislative and executive power over all administrative services in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD).
- 2. The Delhi government has the authority to direct civil servants in the implementation of its policies.
- 3. The National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Act, 2021 Act passed by the Central government gave more powers to the LG, leading to power tussle and confusion over decision-making in Delhi's administration.

### Which of the statements given 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 Delhi government has legislative and executive power over all administrative services in the NCTD except matters related to land, law and order, and the police. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The Delhi government has the authority to direct civil servants in the implementation of its policies. The National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Act, 2021 Act passed by the Central government gave more powers to the LG, leading to power tussle and confusion over decision-making in Delhi's administration.

Source: ForumIAS

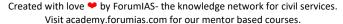
# Q.9) The Indian government has recently updated the regulations governing the sale of gold jewelry and artifacts. With reference to these regulations consider the following statements:

- 1. The new rules require that all jewelry and artifacts must display the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) logo and purity mark.
- 2. Under the new rules, gold jewelry which are already hallmarked with the old hallmark signs require re-hallmarking with the Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number.
- 3. The new gold hallmarking rules provide consumer protection in case the jewelry does not match the description associated with the HUID.

# Which of the statements given 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 new rules require that all jewelry and artifacts must display the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) logo and purity mark. It also provides consumer protection in case the jewelry does not match the description associated with the HUID.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Under the new rules, gold jewelry which are already hallmarked with the old hallmark signs do not require re-hallmarking with the Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number.

Source: DNA

# Q.10) With reference to Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) Rule 2022, consider the following statements:

- 1. These rules are notified for promoting generation, purchase and consumption of green energy including the energy from Waste-to-Energy plants.
- 2. According to these rules, tariff for supply of renewable power by discoms are to be fixed with the tariff for supply for non-renewables power.
- 3. Under the rules, consumers are entitled to demand supply of Green Power from Discoms.

# Which of the statements given 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. Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) Rule 2022 is notified for promoting generation, purchase and consumption of green energy including the energy from Waste-to-Energy plants. Under the rules, consumers are entitled to demand supply of Green Power from Discoms.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. According to these rules, tariff for supply of renewable power by discoms are to be set separately.

Source: The Times of India





#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to the Middle East to India Deepwater Pipeline (MEIDP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a 2,000-km-long energy corridor that aims to connect the Gulf & Middle East regions to India for the transportation of Natural Gas.
- 2. The pipeline has been proposed by the Asia Pacific Gas Enterprise.
- 3. The pipeline will allow options to import gas from Oman, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkmenistan and Qatar.

#### Which of the statements given 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. MEIDP is a 2,000-km-long energy corridor that aims to connect the Gulf & Middle East regions to India for the transportation of Natural Gas. The pipeline will allow options to import gas from Oman, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkmenistan and Qatar.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The pipeline has been proposed by South Asia Gas Enterprise (SAGE).

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been set up to ensure a clean registry, provides hassle-free filing and timely, process-bound striking off of company names from the Register.
- 2. It operates through the Registrar of Companies (RoC) and is part of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) efforts to improve the Ease of Doing Business and facilitate company exits.

#### 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. C-PACE has been set up to ensure a clean registry, provides hassle-free filing and timely, process-bound striking off of company names from the Register. It operates through the Registrar of Companies (RoC) and is part of MCA's efforts to improve the Ease of Doing Business and facilitate company exits.



# Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to "Hysterectomy":

- 1. It involves surgically blocking the fallopian tubes in the females so that the egg which the ovary releases cannot reach the uterus.
- 2. In India, there is increasing concern about patterns of hysterectomy at a population level.

#### 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. Hysterectomy is surgery to remove the uterus. After a hysterectomy, females will not menstruate (have periods) or be able to get pregnant.

**Statement 2** is correct. In India, there is increasing concern about patterns of hysterectomy at a population level.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Minimum Import Price (MIP) is the price below which an exporter is not allowed to export the commodity from India.
- 2. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) frames rules related to exports and imports.
- 3. Minimum Import Price (MIP) has been recently introduced for apples of Jammu and Kashmir.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. MIP is the price below which import of the commodity is not allowed. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. DGFT frames rules related to exports and imports. MIP has been recently introduced for apples of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Source:** ForumIAS

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

- 1. Artificial sweeteners contain high calories.
- 2. Artificial sweeteners have been linked to an increased risk of Type-2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and mortality in the long run.

# 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. Artificial sweeteners provide a sweet taste with very little to no calories.

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**Statement 2** is correct. Artificial sweeteners have been linked to an increased risk of Type-2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and mortality in the long run.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.6) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Sanchar Saathi Portal':

- 1. It is an initiative of the Department of Telecommunications.
- 2. The portal aims at enhancing 5G connectivity by providing dispute redressal mechanism to the citizens.
- 3. The portal facilitates the citizens to check the genuineness of IMEI on their mobile devices.

# Which of the statements given 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. Sanchar Saathi Portal is an initiative of the Department of Telecommunications. The portal facilitates the citizens to check the genuineness of IMEI on their mobile devices.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The portal allows citizens to: 1) Check the connections registered on their names, 2) Report fraudulent or unrequired connections, 3) Block the mobile phones which are stolen/lost and 4) Check IMEI genuineness before buying a mobile phone.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is based upon the overnight general collateral Treasury repo rate, reflecting the financing cost for treasury securities.
- 2. Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) comprises the weighted averages of the rates charged in the repo transactions.

#### Select the correct answer form 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. SOFR is based upon the overnight general collateral Treasury reporate, reflecting the financing cost for Treasury securities.

**Statement 2** is correct. SOFR comprises the weighted averages of the rates charged in these repo transactions.





# Q.8) With reference to BL Lacertae (BL Lac) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of active galactic nucleus (AGN).
- 2. BL Lacs are characterized by rapid and large-amplitude flux variability and significant optical polarization.
- 3. BL Lac objects have spectra dominated by a relatively featureless non-thermal emission continuum over the entire electromagnetic range.

#### Which of the statements given 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. BL Lac is a type of active galactic nucleus (AGN). BL Lacs are characterized by rapid and large-amplitude flux variability and significant optical polarization. BL Lac objects have spectra dominated by a relatively featureless non-thermal emission continuum over the entire electromagnetic range.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.9) The Union Budget 2023-24 hiked Tax Collected at Source (TCS) rates to 20 percent on overseas tour packages and funds remitted under liberalised remittance scheme (LRS). In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1. TCS is a tax that is directly collected by the government.
- 2. 20% TCS is not be applicable on healthcare and education sector.
- 3. The 20% TCS will increase the cost of using an international credit card.

#### Which of the statements given 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. TCS is a tax that is collected by a third party, such as a bank or credit card company, on behalf of the government.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. This 20% TCS is not be applicable on healthcare and education sector. The 20% TCS will increase the cost of using an international credit card because earlier it was 5%.

Source: The Times of India



#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. A green deposit is a fixed-term deposit for investors looking to invest their surplus cash reserves in environmentally friendly projects.
- 2. It is a non-interest-bearing deposit.
- 3. Proceeds from green deposits cannot be used for non-environment friendly projects.

#### Which of the statements given 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 green deposit is a fixed-term deposit for investors looking to invest their surplus cash reserves in environmentally friendly projects. Proceeds from green deposits cannot be used for non-environment friendly projects.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Green deposits provide the interest to the investors in return.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is an annual festival celebrated in the Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka.
- 2. The festival involves the traditional buffalo race.
- 3. The festival is generally held from November to March.

#### Which of the following festival is described above?

- a) Kambala Festival
- b) Hampi Festival
- c) Karaga Festival
- d) Gowri Festival

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – Kambala is an annual festival celebrated in the Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka. The festival involves the traditional buffalo race generally held from November to March.



#### Q.3) With reference to Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a zoonotic disease.
- 2. LSD affects the lymph nodes of the infected animal causing the nodes to enlarge and appear like lumps on the skin.
- 3. The Lumpy Skin Disease Virus shares antigenic similarities with the sheep pox virus.

#### Which of the statements given 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. LSD is not a zoonotic virus, meaning the disease cannot spread to humans.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. LSD affects the lymph nodes of the infected animal causing the nodes to enlarge and appear like lumps on the skin. The Lumpy Skin Disease Virus shares antigenic similarities with the sheep pox virus.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Greenwashing refers to companies purposely keeping quiet about their sustainability goals, even if they are well-intentioned, for fear of being labeled green washers.
- 2. Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN) seeks to provide a more efficient way for innovative firms to interact with regulators, helping them navigate between countries as they look to scale new ideas.

#### 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. Greenwashing is the process of conveying a false impression or misleading information about how a company's products are environmentally sound.

**Statement 2** is correct. GFIN seeks to provide a more efficient way for innovative firms to interact with regulators, helping them navigate between countries as they look to scale new ideas.



#### Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to "Jallikattu":

- 1. It is a traditional sport that is popular in the Andhra Pradesh.
- 2. It is celebrated during the Pongal festival.
- 3. It is a sport in which men compete with one another to maintain control of the humps of agitated bulls that are released in an open arena.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Jallikattu is a traditional sport that is popular in the Tamil Nadu.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Jallikattu is celebrated during the Pongal festival. It is a sport in which men compete with one another to maintain control of the humps of agitated bulls that are released in an open arena.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to Group of Seven (G7) countries consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a formal grouping of seven developing economies of the world.
- 2. The European Union is not part of the rotating annual presidency of the G7.
- 3. The G7 is a forum designed for frank and open discussion between leaders, ministers and policy-makers.

#### Which of the statements given 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 G7 is an informal grouping of seven of the world's advanced economies.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The European Union (EU) is a non-enumerated member of the G7 and is not a part of the rotating annual presidency. The G7 is a forum designed for frank and open discussion between leaders, ministers and policy-makers.



# Q.7) With reference to Logistics Performance Index, 2023 consider the following statements:

- 1. The index is published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- 2. The rank of India has dropped in the index.
- 3. The ability to track consignments is one of the components used by the Logistics Performance Index

### 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. Logistics Performance Index is released by the World Bank. India has been ranked 38 out of 139 countries, climbing six places from the previous index.

**Statement 3** is correct. The ability to track consignments is one of the components used in the Logistics Performance Index.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Maldives has the best customs efficiency in the world.
- 2. World Bank's Ease of Doing Business was based on the idea that less regulation is always better.

#### 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. Singapore has the best customs efficiency in the world.

**Statement 2** is correct. World Bank's Ease of Doing Business was based on the idea that less regulation is always better. This index has been discontinued by the World Bank.



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

- 1. Freedom of speech is the bulwark of democracy and is regarded as the first in the hierarchy of liberties.
- 2. The Constitution ensures every citizen the right to equality with the right against discrimination on any ground including sex and sexual orientation.

#### 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. Freedom of speech is the bulwark of democracy and is regarded as the first in the hierarchy of liberties. The Constitution ensures every citizen the right to equality with the right against discrimination on any ground including sex and sexual orientation.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Tiger translocation is needed when certain regions experience a significant decline in their tiger populations due to reasons like poaching, habitat loss, and human-animal conflict.
- 2. Tiger translocation can create imbalance in the ecosystem.

# 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. Tiger translocation is needed when certain regions experience a significant decline in their tiger populations due to reasons like poaching, habitat loss, and human-animal conflict.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Tiger translocation can maintain balance in the ecosystem because tiger relocation is only done from the places which has high tiger population to the places which has lower population. This can help in maintaining the balance in the ecosystem as they are the apex predators.



#### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) The President of India has Promulgated the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023. With reference to this ordinance consider the following statements:

- 1. The Ordinance creates a new statutory authority called the National Capital Civil Service Authority (NCCSA).
- 2. NCCSA will be headed by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.
- 3. The NCCSA will make recommendations to LG regarding transfer posting, vigilance and other incidental matters.

#### Which of the statements given 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 Ordinance creates a new statutory authority the National Capital Civil Service Authority (NCCSA). The NCCSA will make recommendations to the LG regarding transfer posting, vigilance and other incidental matters.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The NCCSA will be headed by the elected Chief Minister of Delhi in addition to the Chief Secretary and the Principal Secretary of the Home Department.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, consider the following statements:

- 1. It recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders.
- 2. It is the successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).

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

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

#### Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It is the successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015.



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

- 1. Arsenic is a natural component of the earth's crust and is widely distributed throughout the environment.
- 2. Arsenic is less toxic in its inorganic form.
- 3. People are exposed to high levels of inorganic arsenic through drinking contaminated water.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Arsenic is a natural component of the earth's crust and is widely distributed throughout the environment. People are exposed to elevated levels of inorganic arsenic through drinking contaminated water.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Arsenic is highly toxic in its inorganic form.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.4) In which of the following judgment, the Supreme Court held the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right?

- a) Navtej Singh Johar & Other vs Union of India
- b) K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India
- c) Cardinal Mar George Alencherry vs State of Kerala
- d) Madhyamam Broadcasting Ltd. vs Union of India

#### Answer: B

**Explanation -** The SC in K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India held the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to Voluntary Local Review (VLR) consider the following statements:

- 1. Bangalore has become the first city in India to released its Voluntary Local Review (VLR).
- 2. A VLR can only be initiated by a local government.
- 3. VLR highlights areas that a city need improvement, like provisioning of adequate shelter.

#### 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. Bhopal has become the first city in India to released its Voluntary Local Review (VLR). A VLR does not necessarily have to be initiated by a local government. It can be carried out by any city-level stakeholder within the framework of Agenda 2030.

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**Statement 3** is correct. VLR highlights areas that need improvement, like provisioning of adequate shelter, air pollution, city planning capacity, and even distribution of open spaces.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) satellite, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a constellation of seven satellites that work with a 24\*7 network of ground stations while orbiting above Earth in a geostationary orbit.
- 2. NavIC system operates in the L1 band while GPS operates in the L5 band.
- 3. NavIC offers Standard Position Service (SPS) as well as Restricted Service (RS).

### Which of the statements given 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. NavIC is a constellation of seven satellites that work with a 24\*7 network of ground stations while orbiting above Earth in a geostationary orbit. NavIC offers two services: Standard Position Service (SPS) for civilian users and Restricted Service (RS) for strategic users, including the military.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The NavIC system operates in the L5 band, which is a protected frequency specifically assigned to the Indian system whereas GPS operates in the L1 band.

Source: India Today

#### Q.7) With reference to 'El Nino' consider the following statements:

- 1. El Nino is a weather phenomenon that occurs when ocean temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Oceans falls below normal.
- 2. During El Nino, the trade winds that blow from east to west weaken, allowing the warm surface waters to move eastward and accumulate in the central and eastern Pacific.

# 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. El Nino is a weather phenomenon that occurs when ocean temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Oceans rise above normal.

**Statement 2** is correct. During El Nino, the trade winds that blow from east to west weaken, allowing the warm surface waters to move eastward and accumulate in the central and eastern Pacific.

Source: India Today





#### Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Narco Test':

- 1. Narco Test is known as the Truth Serum test.
- 2. It is same as the polygraph test.
- 3. A person confession or result under the narco test can be used as evidences in the courts.

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

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

# Answer: A Explanation –

**Statement 1** is correct. Narco Test is known as the Truth Serum test.

**Statement 2 and 3** are incorrect. Narco Test is different from the polygraph test. As per a Supreme Court ruling, results of such tests cannot be considered "confessions". As per the Indian Evidence Act of 1871, results of such tests are not admissible as evidence in Indian courts. However, information or material uncovered as a result of such a test can be admitted as evidence.

# Source: **DNA**

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

- 1. As per the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), there are four Protected Areas (PAs) categories with varying governance structures.
- 2. Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWH) are areas within national parks and sanctuaries that have been established through scientific and objective criteria that needs to be kept inviolate for the purpose of wildlife conservation.

# 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. There five Protect Areas under the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA) – National Parks (NP), Wildlife Sanctuaries (WLS), Conservation Reserves, Community Reserves, and Tiger Reserves (TR).

**Statement 2** is correct. CWH are areas within national parks and sanctuaries that have been established through scientific and objective criteria that needs to be kept inviolate for the purpose of wildlife conservation.

Source: ORF



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

- 1. India has brought 22 percent of its terrestrial area and 5 percent of its marine and coastal areas under the Protected Area Network.
- 2. Galathea Bay Sanctuary is present in Kerala.
- 3. Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) are geographically defined area other than a protected area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

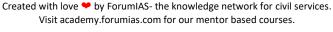
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# Answer: C Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. India has reported that it has effectively brought 22 percent of its terrestrial area and 5 percent of its marine and coastal areas under the Protected Area Network. OECMs are geographically defined area other than a protected area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Galathea Bay Sanctuary is present in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and form a part of the Important Marine Protected Areas of India.

Source: ORF





#### **PRELIMS**

#### Q.1) With reference to "Ganga Praharis Initiative" consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the initiative is to establish a motivated cadre of "Ganga Prahari" to support the local level institutions and monitor the quality of the natural resources of the river by mobilizing local communities at the grassroots level.
- 2. Ganga Praharis are motivated and trained volunteers from among the local communities working for biodiversity conservation and cleanliness of the Ganga River.
- 3. Ganga Praharis have been selected by a screening test conducted at the places nearby the river Ganga and also based on their prior experience in conserving the natural environment.

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

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

# Answer: A Explanation –

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. The aim of the initiative is to establish a motivated cadre of "Ganga Prahari" to support the local level institutions and monitor the quality of the natural resources of the river by mobilizing local communities at the grassroots level. Ganga Praharis are motivated and trained volunteers from among the local communities working for biodiversity conservation and cleanliness of the Ganga River.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Ganga Praharis have been identified through a series of site level consultative meetings and workshops held in villages located on the bank of the Ganga River and its select tributaries. The primary criterion for identification is their passion and zeal to serve the river and to maintain its integrity in terms of cleanliness and biodiversity value

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to the International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) consider the following statements:

- 1. It facilitates the development of regional surveillance networks and, ultimately, a global early warning system to protect against pandemics.
- 2. It is hosted by the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence.

#### 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. IPSN is a global network to help protect people from infectious disease threats through the power of pathogen genomics. Its goal is to detect and respond to disease threats before they become epidemics and pandemics and to optimize routine disease surveillance.



**Statement 2** is incorrect. IPSN is hosted by the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. There are random temperature fluctuations that lead to refractive index fluctuations when the sunlight passes through the Earth's atmosphere.
- 2. The Earth's atmosphere is a homogenous medium through which the Sun light passes.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

#### Answer: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. There are random temperature fluctuations that lead to refractive index fluctuations when the sunlight passes through the Earth's atmosphere.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The Earth's atmosphere is not a homogenous medium through which the Sun light passes.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to withdraw ₹2,000 notes from circulation. In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1. The withdrawal will create huge disruption in the economic activities.
- 2. It will decrease banks' deposit base and liquidity in the money markets.
- 3. No requisition form and identity proof are required to exchange Rs 2,000 notes.

#### 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 -

**Statements 1 and 2** are incorrect. This withdrawal will not create any big disruption as the increased adoption of digital transactions and the availability of 100- and 500-rupee denominations will help minimize disruptions. This decision could boost banks' deposit base and liquidity in the money markets by anywhere between ₹40,000 crore to ₹1.1 lakh crore, even if just about a third of 2000 rupees notes are flushed out by the exercise.

Statement 3 is correct. State Bank of India (SBI) has clarified that no requisition form and identity proof are required to exchange Rs 2,000 notes. This means any member of the public can exchange Rs 2,000 notes across the counter in any branch without any identity proof or slip.



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

- 1. The U.K. has been the leading country in the world to have reduced salt consumption in the population.
- 2. A high-salt diet over a period of time can silently damage many of our organs and body functions.
- 3. India does not have a national policy to reduce sodium (salt) intake.

# Which of the statements given 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 U.K. has been the leading country in the world to have reduced salt consumption in the population. A high-salt diet over a period of time can silently damage many of our organs and body functions. India does not have a national policy but it does have voluntary measures to reduce sodium (salt). Sodium labelling is also not mandatory in India so far.

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.6) With reference to the "FAME Scheme" consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the scheme is to provide subsidized solar panel for installation at homes.
- 2. The scheme is a part of the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan.
- 3. This scheme also aims to establish a solar charging infrastructure.

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

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

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. The main objectives of the scheme are a) encourage faster adoption of Electric and hybrid vehicle by way of offering upfront Incentive on purchase of Electric vehicles and b) establish necessary charging Infrastructure for electric vehicles.

**Statement 2** is correct. The scheme is a part of the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan.



# Q.7) With reference to Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a scheme that enables Indian residents to remit funds abroad for certain specified purposes.
- 2. The scheme also aims to promote and encourage non-residents to invest in India and promote outward remittances from India.
- 3. In order to avail the benefit of the LRS, the individual need not be an Indian resident.

# Which of the statements given 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. LRS is a scheme that enables Indian residents to remit funds abroad for certain specified purposes. The scheme also aims to promote and encourage non-residents to invest in India and promote outward remittances from India.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. In order to avail the benefit of the LRS, the individual must be an Indian resident as defined under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).

Source: ForumIAS

#### Q.8) Which of the following statements describe the term "Biomanufacturing"?

- a) It is a synthetic substance that can be introduced to a living body as a medicinal device or replace bodily function or an organ.
- b) It is a peril to the human health system or environment emerging from any biological activity, with microorganisms.
- c) It is the generation of natural products through enzymatic reactions, as in cellular metabolism.
- d) It involves the use of living systems, especially microorganisms and cell cultures, to generate molecules and materials on a commercial scale.

#### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Biomanufacturing involves the use of living systems, especially microorganisms and cell cultures, to generate molecules and materials on a commercial scale.





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

- 1. A loan loss provision is a cash reserve that banks set aside to cover losses incurred from defaulted loans.
- 2. Under Expected Credit Loss (ECL)-based loan loss provisioning framework, banks are mandated to forecast anticipated credit losses through forward-looking estimations, rather than waiting for credit losses to materialize before making corresponding provisions for those losses.
- 3. Excessive loan loss provision will significantly increase net interest income and increase overall operating profit.

# Which of the statements given 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. A loan loss provision is a cash reserve that banks set aside to cover losses incurred from defaulted loans. Under Expected Credit Loss (ECL)-based loan loss provisioning framework, banks are mandated to forecast anticipated credit losses through forward-looking estimations, rather than waiting for credit losses to materialize before making corresponding provisions for those losses.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Excessive loan loss provision will significantly reduce net interest income and reduce overall operating profit.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Forest Development Corporations (FDCs) were established by states with the aim to raise industrial plantations of teak, eucalyptus, bamboo etc., to enhance the production of forest produce, to restore the productivity of degraded forest areas, etc.
- 2. Monoculture practice harms biodiversity in the long run while miscellaneous forests provide maximum food availability for wildlife in fruits, leaves and grass, and shrubby canopy throughout the year.

#### 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. FDCs were established by states with the aim to raise industrial plantations of teak, eucalyptus, bamboo etc., to enhance the production of forest produce, to restore the productivity of degraded forest areas, etc. Monoculture practice harms biodiversity in the long run while miscellaneous forests provide maximum food availability for wildlife in fruits, leaves and grass, and shrubby canopy throughout the year.



#### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. Genome sequencing is the process of determining the entirety, or nearly the entirety, of the DNA sequence of an organism's genome at a single time.
- 2. Reference genome represents all human diversity.

#### 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. Genome sequencing is the process of determining the entirety, or nearly the entirety, of the DNA sequence of an organism's genome at a single time.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Reference genome was not representative of all human beings as it was built using mostly the genome of a single individual of mixed African and European ancestry.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Radiometric dating is a technique which is used to date materials such as rocks or carbon, in which trace radioactive impurities were selectively incorporated when they were formed.
- 2. Carbon-14 is an isotope of the element carbon that is stable and highly radioactive.

# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

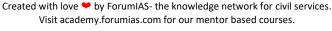
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. Radiometric dating is a technique which is used to date materials such as rocks or carbon, in which trace radioactive impurities were selectively incorporated when they were formed.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Carbon-14 – Radiocarbon (Carbon 14) is an isotope of the element carbon that is unstable and weakly radioactive.





#### Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to "Methane":

- 1. Methane is responsible for around 30% of the rise in global temperatures since the Industrial Revolution.
- 2. Coal bed methane is the methane produced during the coal formation process, which gets trapped on the surface of the coal in tiny pores and fractures.
- 3. In India, there are no effective policies targeting methane emissions from rice cultivation and biomass burning.

# Which of the statements given 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. Methane is responsible for around 30% of the rise in global temperatures since the Industrial Revolution. Coal bed methane is the methane produced during the coal formation process, which gets trapped on the surface of the coal in tiny pores and fractures. In India, there are no effective policies targeting methane emissions from rice cultivation and biomass burning.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The pangenome map is a graph unlike the earlier reference genome which was a linear sequence.
- 2. Short-read technologies have been employed to create complete and contiguous chromosome maps in the pangenome project.
- 3. The present pangenome map does not contain Indian genome sequences.

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

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

#### Answer: D

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The pangenome map is a graph unlike the earlier reference genome which was a linear sequence. The present pangenome map does not contain Indian genome sequences.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Longer-read technologies have been employed to create complete and contiguous chromosome maps in the pangenome project.



#### Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to "PARAKH":

- 1. It has been set up as an organization under the University Grants Commission (UGC).
- 2. It has been launched as part of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020.
- 3. Its mandate is to act as a common platform for interaction of all concerned stakeholders in order to develop a holistic approach that ensures a fair assessment system which promotes equity in performance and equivalence in the assessment of students.

# Which of the statements given 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. PARAKH stands for Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development. It has been set up as an organization under NCERT.

**Statement 2** and **3** are correct. PARAKH has been launched as part of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020. Its mandate is to act as a common platform for interaction of all concerned stakeholders in order to develop a holistic approach that ensures a fair assessment system which promotes equity in performance and equivalence in the assessment of students.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Electronic Cigarettes Act 2019, consider the following statements:

- 1. The act defines electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) as electronic devices that heat a substance, which may contain nicotine and other chemicals, to create vapour for inhalation.
- 2. The Act prohibits the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution and advertisement of e-cigarettes in India.
- 3. The Act permits individual to use any place for the storage of the stock of e-cigarettes.

#### Which of the statements given 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 act defines electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) as electronic devices that heat a substance, which may contain nicotine and other chemicals, to create vapour for inhalation. The Act prohibits the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution and advertisement of e-cigarettes in India.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Under the act, no person is allowed to use any place for the storage of any stock of e-cigarettes.





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

- 1. Calcium-41 is a rare long-lived radioisotope of calcium.
- 2. Calcium-41 is produced through cosmic ray interactions in the soil and is found in the Earth's crust.

#### 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. Calcium-41 is a rare long-lived radioisotope of calcium. Calcium-41 is produced through cosmic ray interactions in the soil and is found in the Earth's crust.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Decoupling from a nation refers to move businesses away from areas that are considered risky in terms of the returns they could generate.
- 2. De-risking means having resilient, effective supply chains and ensuring a nation is not subjected to the coercion of any other country.

# Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

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

# Answer: B Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. Decoupling refers to the deliberate dismantling – and eventual recreation elsewhere – of some of the sprawling cross-border supply chains that have defined globalization. In other words, decoupling is complete movement of a nation from the dependency of other nation in doing businesses.

**Statement 2** is correct. De-risking means having resilient, effective supply chains and ensuring a nation is not subjected to the coercion of any other country.



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

- 1. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) with a substantial creative capacity will impact the employment levels in software and business-processing services.
- 2. AI provides a tool for less proficient workers to narrow the gap with more able ones.
- 3. Artificial intelligence (AI) can mitigate the effects of hacking, fake news, and fake voices.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) with a substantial creative capacity will impact the employment levels in software and business-processing services because the services they sell can easily be done by AI-based programmes. AI also provides a tool for less proficient workers to narrow the gap with more able ones.

Statement 3 is incorrect. AI can deepen the impact of fake news, fake voices and hacking.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Rural tourism allows visitors to experience and appreciate the rich, diverse cultural heritage that rural areas offer.
- 2. Rural tourism can generate income and employment for local communities.
- 3. Linking textile with tourism initiative aims to promote traditional industries and handicrafts in each district of India, thereby creating employment opportunities and preserving traditional crafts.

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

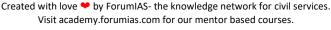
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

#### Answer: A

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Rural tourism allows visitors to experience and appreciate the rich, diverse cultural heritage that rural areas offer. Rural tourism can generate income and employment for local communities.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Under Linking textile with tourism initiative, eight craft villages have been identified nationwide to encourage tourism and crafts in a single location, further contributing to the local economy.





#### **PRELIMS**

#### Q.1) With reference to 'Ordinance' consider the following statements:

- 1. Constitution gives the President of India powers to promulgate ordinances when Parliament is in session.
- 2. An Ordinance has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament.
- 3. An Ordinance shall not be considered void if it makes a law that Parliament is not competent to enact under the Constitution.

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

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

#### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. Article 123 of the Constitution gives the President of India powers to promulgate ordinances when Parliament is not in session and an immediate action is required. If an Ordinance makes a law that Parliament is not competent to enact under the Constitution, it shall be considered void.

Statement 2 is correct. An Ordinance has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Sepsis occurs when the body has an extreme reaction to an infection.
- 2. In severe type of sepsis, there's a significant drop in blood pressure that can lead to respiratory or heart failure.
- 3. Sepsis is most often caused by bacterial infections.

#### Which of the statements given 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. Sepsis occurs when the body has an extreme reaction to an infection. Sepsis is most often caused by bacterial infections but almost any infection can cause sepsis if left untreated.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. There are three stages of sepsis – sepsis, severe sepsis and septic shock. In septic shock, there's a significant drop in blood pressure that can lead to respiratory or heart failure, stroke, dysfunction of other organs, and possibly death.



# Q.3) With reference to Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been described as a tool to put a fair price on the carbon emitted during the production of carbon-intensive goods that are entering the EU and to encourage cleaner industrial production in non-EU countries.
- 2. CABM would apply to all products imported to EU from the developing nations.
- 3. With the implementation of CABM, India, Brazil and South Africa would be most affected among the developing countries.

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

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

# Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. CBAM has been described as a landmark tool to put a fair price on the carbon emitted during the production of carbon-intensive goods that are entering the EU and to encourage cleaner industrial production in non-EU countries. With the implementation of CABM, India, Brazil and South Africa would be most affected among the developing countries. **Statement 2** is incorrect. CBAM would initially apply to imports of certain goods and selected precursors, whose production is carbon-intensive and are at risk of 'leakage' such as the cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizers, electricity and hydrogen sectors.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Rail connectivity is one of the key components of the bilateral development partnership between India and Bangladesh.
- 2. Currently, three pairs of passenger trains operate between India-Bangladesh.

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

- 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. Rail connectivity is one of the key components of the bilateral development partnership between India and Bangladesh. Currently, three pairs of passenger trains operate between India-Bangladesh.



# Q.5) With reference to Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) 2023 Summit, consider the following statements:

- 1. Gough Island is one of the member countries of FIPIC.
- 2. The first FIPIC summit was held in 2014 at Suva, Fiji.
- 3. In 2023 summit, the Indian government has announced to establish of a super-speciality cardiology hospital in Fiji.

### Which of the statements given 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. FIPIC includes 14 island countries – Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu – that are located in the Pacific Ocean, to the northeast of Australia. **Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The first FIPIC summit was held in 2014 at Suva, Fiji. In 2023 summit, the Indian government has announced to establish of a super-speciality cardiology hospital in Fiji.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to the "Krishna River" consider the following statements:

- 1. The Krishna River originates at Talakaveri, located in the Kodagu district in the Indian state of Karnataka.
- 2. Musi River is its tributary.
- 3. It is the fourth-largest river in terms of water inflows and river basin area 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. The Krishna River originates in the Western Ghats near Mahabaleshwar in the state of Maharashtra.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. Musi River is one of the tributaries of the river Krishna. Krishna River is also the fourth-largest river in terms of water inflows and river basin area in India.





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

- 1. A tort law is needed in India to enhance legal provisions, protect the most vulnerable and ensure justice.
- 2. Punitive damages are intended to compensate for actual losses, while compensatory damages aim to punish the defendant.
- 3. India does not have the concept of punitive damages in its 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: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. A tort law is needed in India to enhance legal provisions, protect the most vulnerable and ensure justice. India does not have the concept of punitive damages in its laws.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Compensatory damages are intended to compensate for actual losses, while punitive damages aim to punish the defendant.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. An integrated system of medicine combines different healthcare practices to provide the most effective treatment for the patient.
- 2. The integrated system of medicine disregards the importance of scientific evidence and relies solely on ancient, traditional practices without any validation.
- 3. An integrated system of medicine allows for a holistic approach to patient care, considering the complete physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the person, rather than focusing solely on disease treatment.

# Which of the statements given 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. An integrated system of medicine combines different healthcare practices to provide the most effective treatment for the patient. An integrated system of medicine allows for a holistic approach to patient care, considering the complete physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the person, rather than focusing solely on disease treatment.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The integrated system of medicine integrates evidence-based practices from various medical systems, including traditional medicine, complementary therapies, and modern scientific research, to provide comprehensive and effective healthcare solutions.





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

- 1. International credit card transactions result in an inflow of foreign exchange to the home country.
- 2. The imposition of tax on international credit card transactions under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) promotes financial transparency.
- 3. Imposing taxes on international credit card transactions adds an additional financial burden on card users.

# Which of the statements given 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. International credit card transactions result in an outflow of foreign exchange from the home country.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. The imposition of tax on international credit card transactions under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) promotes financial transparency. Imposing taxes on international credit card transactions adds an additional financial burden on card users.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to "Digital Personal Data Protection Bill 2022":

- 1. The bill envisages a Data Protection Board of India whose members will be appointed and removed based on rules created unilaterally by the Centre.
- 2. The Data Protection Board will conduct inquiries related to the violation of data privacy and exercise the powers of a civil court without being obligated to have a judicial member.

# 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. The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill 2022 envisages a Data Protection Board of India whose members will be appointed and removed based on rules created unilaterally by the Centre. The Data Protection Board will conduct inquiries related to the violation of data privacy and exercise the powers of a civil court without being obligated to have a judicial member.

Source: The Print



### **PRELIMS**

- Q.1) With reference to UDAN 5.1 scheme, consider the following statements:
- 1. Viability Gap Funding (VGF) caps for the operators have been increased substantially for both single and twin-engine helicopters to enhance financial viability for operating the awarded routes.
- 2. The scheme will now allow routes where both the origin and destination locations are in a priority area.
- 3. Airfare caps have been reduced by as much as 25% to make flying in helicopters more affordable for passengers.

# Which of the statements given 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 UDAN 5.1 scheme, VGF caps for the operators have been increased substantially for both single and twin-engine helicopters to enhance financial viability for operating the awarded routes. Airfare caps have been reduced by as much as 25% to make flying in helicopters more affordable for passengers.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The scheme now allows routes where one of the origin or destination locations is in a priority area. Earlier both points had to be in priority areas.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.2) Which of the following statements is correct regarding the term "Bench Hunting"?

- a) It contains information like the bench, courtroom number and the position of the matter.
- b) It means a police officer has the authority to make an arrest without a warrant and to start an investigation with or without the permission of a court.
- c) It is an application filed seeking an interim court order to prevent the respondents from performing an action or to prevent an order from being carried out.
- d) It refers to petitioners managing to get their cases heard by a particular judge or bench to ensure a favourable order.

Answer: D

**Explanation** – Bench Hunting refers to petitioners managing to get their cases heard by a particular judge or bench to ensure a favourable order.



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

- 1. The test is based on the assumption that physiological responses that are triggered when a person is lying are different from what they would be otherwise.
- 2. The consent of the person is necessary for conducting the narco test.

# 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. In a 'narco' or narcoanalysis test, a drug called sodium pentothal is injected into the body of the accused, which transports them to a hypnotic or sedated state, in which their imagination is neutralized. In this hypnotic state, the accused is understood as being incapable of lying and is expected to divulge information that is true.

**Statement 2** is correct. The consent of the person is necessary for conducting the narco test.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. The Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) is responsible for reviewing and accrediting National Human Rights Institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles every five years.
- 2. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) can represent India at the UN Human Rights Council even if it has not been accredited by the GANHRI.

### 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. GANHRI is responsible for reviewing and accrediting National Human Rights Institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles every five years.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Without the accreditation, NHRC will be unable to represent India at the UN Human Rights Council.



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

- 1. Sengol is gold coated silver sceptre features an intricately carved 'nandi' at the top, which is meant to represent the concept of justice.
- 2. Sengol, during the Chola dynasty, served as a ceremonial spear and was considered a sacred symbol of authority, representing the transfer of power from one ruler to the next.
- 3. Sengol is preserved in the Kolkata Museum.

### Which of the statements given 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. Sengol is gold coated silver sceptre features an intricately carved 'nandi' at the top, which is meant to represent the concept of justice. Sengol, during the Chola dynasty, served as a ceremonial spear and was considered a sacred symbol of authority, representing the transfer of power from one ruler to the next.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Sengol preserved in a museum in Allahabad since 1947.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to "Forum Shopping" consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the practice of deliberately choosing a specific court or Judge for a legal case in the hope of getting a favourable outcome.
- 2. Forum shopping can undermine the authority and legitimacy of courts and judges by creating perceptions of bias or favoritism.
- 3. Forum shopping can decrease the costs of litigation.

### Which of the statements given 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. Forum Shopping refers to the practice of deliberately choosing a specific court or Judge for a legal case in the hope of getting a favourable outcome. It can undermine the authority and legitimacy of courts and judges by creating perceptions of bias or favoritism.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Forum shopping can increase the costs and complexity of litigation by creating conflicts of laws and multiple proceedings.





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

- 1. The fastest high-performance computing system in the world is currently present in Germany.
- 2. The AIRAWAT Proof of Concept (PoC) of 200 AI Petaflops Mixed Precision peak compute capacity is currently funded by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- 3. The deployment of AIRAWAT will empower academia, research labs, the scientific community, industry, and startups to develop indigenous AI-enabled products and solutions, particularly for addressing India-specific challenges.

### Which of the statements given 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 fastest high-performance computing system in the world is currently the Frontier-Cray system at Oakridge National Laboratory, United States.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. The AIRAWAT Proof of Concept (PoC) of 200 AI Petaflops Mixed Precision peak compute capacity is currently funded by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. The deployment of AIRAWAT will empower academia, research labs, the scientific community, industry, and startups to develop indigenous AI-enabled products and solutions, particularly for addressing India-specific challenges.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to the "State of the Global Climate Report 2022" consider the following statements:

- 1. It provides scientific evidence of the changing climate and its impact on global weather patterns, ecosystems, and human societies.
- 2. As per the report, the levels of three major greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide) have decreased.
- 3. As per the report, the global mean sea level continued to rise in 2022.

### Which of the statements given 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. State of the Global Climate Report provides scientific evidence of the changing climate and its impact on global weather patterns, ecosystems, and human societies. As per the report, the global mean sea level continued to rise in 2022.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. As per the report, the levels of three major greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide) have continued to increase in 2022.





### Q.9) With reference to the "Gravitational Waves" consider the following statements':

- 1. Gravitational waves can be detected through their effect on the measurement of space and time.
- 2. The most common method used to detect gravitational waves is through the use of hydrometers.
- 3. Gravitational waves were first conceptualised by Albert Einstein as part of his theory of relativity.

# Which of the statements given above are correct?

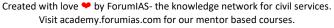
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

# Answer: C Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 3** are correct. Gravitational waves can be detected through their effect on the measurement of space and time. Gravitational waves were first conceptualised by Albert Einstein as part of his theory of relativity.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The most common method used to detect gravitational waves is through the use of interferometers, which measure the ripples in space and time by measuring the change in length of two perpendicular arms of the interferometers.

Source: India Today





### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. These are amphibians that spend their whole lives underwater.
- 2. They exist in the wild in only one place.
- 3. They have the ability to regenerate lost body parts.
- 4. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened.

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

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

# Answer: C

# Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. Axolotl are amphibians that spend their whole lives underwater. They exist in the wild in only one place. They have the ability to regenerate lost body parts.

**Statement 4** is incorrect. Its IUCN status is Critically Endangered.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to "SAMARTH" campaign, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a campaign to promote Digital Transactions in all Gram Panchayats.
- 2. Its aim is to empower rural communities by enabling them to participate in the digital economy and access the benefits of digital transactions.

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

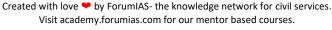
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. SAMARTH campaign is a campaign to Promote Digital Transactions in 50000 Gram Panchayats.

**Statement 2** is correct. Its aim is to empower rural communities by enabling them to participate in the digital economy and access the benefits of digital transactions.





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

- 1. Cosmic dust particles contribute to the formation of stars and planetary systems by providing material for accretion.
- 2. 2I/Borisov was the first interstellar comet to be observed and studied by mankind.
- 3. Cosmic dust particles are same as the dust found on Earth.

### Which of the statements given 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 2** are correct. Cosmic dust particles contribute to the formation of stars and planetary systems by providing material for accretion. 2I/Borisov was the first interstellar comet to be observed and studied by mankind.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Cosmic dust particles are not the same as the dust found in our house but it is more like smoke with small particles varying from collections of just a few molecules to grains of 0.1 mm in size.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to "Cheetah Project Steering Committee" consider the following statements:

- 1. The committee is mandated to decide on opening up the cheetah habitat for eco-tourism.
- 2. The committee will be in force for four years and will convene at least two meetings every month.
- 3. The committee will suggest regulations and ways to involve the local community in the project activities.

### Which of the statements given 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. Cheetah Project Steering Committee is mandated to decide on opening up the cheetah habitat for eco-tourism. The committee will suggest regulations and ways to involve the local community in the project activities.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The committee will be in force for two years and will convene at least one meeting every month.





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

**Statements 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.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to the Electric Vehicle Manufacturing, consider the following statements:

- 1. Batteries, which account for about 40% of an EV's total value, are predominantly produced in China.
- 2. Currently, India does not have any domestic electric vehicle car manufacturer.
- 3. Chinese, Korean, and Japanese companies control the processing of materials in the battery supply chain.

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

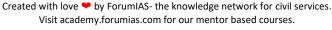
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Batteries, which account for about 40% of an EV's total value, are predominantly produced in China. Chinese, Korean, and Japanese companies control the processing of materials in the battery supply chain.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India has two main homegrown electric car manufacturers: Tata Motors and Mahindra and Mahindra.





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

- 1. Free market capitalism is founded on the principle of liberty in the economy, with rights for everyone to use their properties as they will.
- 2. The G7 countries represent only 15% of the world's citizens.
- 3. The Global Solutions Summit is an international conference aimed at keeping the Indo-Pacific region free from Chinese influence.

### Which of the statements given 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. Free market capitalism is founded on the principle of liberty in the economy, with rights for everyone to use their properties as they will. The G7 countries represent only 15% of the world's citizens.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Global Solutions Summit is an international conference aimed at addressing key policy challenges facing the G20 and G7 and other global governance fora.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to the city Darjeeling:

- 1. It is a town located in Assam.
- 2. It was once a summer resort for the British Raj elites.
- 3. Mt. Kanchenjunga one of the world's highest peaks is located in its backdrop.

### Which of the statements given 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. Darjeeling is a town located in West Bengal, in the Himalayan foothills. It would soon become a non-attainment city.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Darjeeling was once a summer resort for the British Raj elites. Mt. Kanchenjunga one of the world's highest peaks is located in its backdrop.





### Q.9) With reference to "Mohenjodaro's Dancing Girl" consider the following statements:

- 1. It was discovered by the archaeologist Ernest McKay.
- 2. Its finding indicates the presence of high art in Harappan society.
- 3. The bottom part of the girl is covered while the top has been left uncovered.

# Which of the statements given 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. Mohenjodaro's Dancing Girl was discovered by the archaeologist Ernest McKay. Its finding indicates the presence of high art in Harappan society.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Mohenjodaro's dancing girl is just 10.5 cm in height, is dark and completely in nude with the exception of multiple bangles and a necklace.

Source: ForumIAS

# 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) Thandikudi pass is located in -

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

Answer: C

**Explanation** – Thandikudi pass is located in Tamil Nadu. Excavations in this area had yielded silver coins of the Roman Empire.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.2) Yavana, in the ancient literature, refers to -

- a) A cultivator
- b) An agent
- c) Revenue officer
- d) Greek speakers

Answer: D

**Explanation** – Yavana in Sanskrit and Yona in Pali refers to people from Greek or Greek speakers. Later these words were also applied to Romans, Arabs and western in general.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.3) Consider the following statements with reference to the Pandya dynasty:

- 1. Romans, during the Pandya, introduced the people to wine made from grapes.
- 2. Roman traders practiced a form of corporate social responsibility initiative at the time of Pandya.
- 3. The Roman traders used to take advantage of the polar easterlies blowing in the Arabian Sea to reach the ports in Kerala.

# How many of the above statements are correct?

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

### **Answer: B**

#### Explanation -

**Statements 1 and 2** are correct. Romans, during the Pandyas, introduced the people to wine made from grapes. Roman traders practiced a form of corporate social responsibility initiative at the time of Pandyas as traders constructed tanks and temples during their journey so as to create an atmosphere of goodwill among the local population.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Roman traders used to take advantage of the monsoonal winds blowing in the Arabian Sea to reach the ports in Kerala.





# Q.4) With reference to the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces, consider the following statements:

- 1. They are often referred to as Red Helmets.
- 2. They provide security, political, and peacebuilding support to countries under conflicts.
- 3. Every peacekeeping mission is authorized by the UN Economic and Social Council.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. United Nations Peacekeeping Forces are often referred to as Blue Berets or Blue Helmets because of their light blue berets or helmets. Every peacekeeping mission is authorized by the UN Security Council.

**Statement 2** is correct. It provides security, political, and peacebuilding support to countries under conflicts.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) With reference to the "Joint Malnutrition Estimate" consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the estimate, India continues to show a rise in stunting.
- 2. As per the estimate, the prevalence of obesity has marginally increased in a decade 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: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. As per the estimate, India continues to show a reduction in stunting. **Statement 2** is correct. As per the estimate, the prevalence of obesity has marginally increased in a decade in India.



### Q.6) With reference to the disease Dengue, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a viral infection caused by the dengue virus.
- 2. Climate change has been one of the factors towards rise in the dengue.
- 3. The cases of dengue in rural areas have dropped.

### Which of the statements given 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. Dengue is a viral infection caused by the dengue virus. Climate change has been one of the factors towards rise in the dengue.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Rural areas contributed approximately 32% of the total cases in 2015-16 and have increased to 41%-45% now.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.7) "Arretine Ware Pottery" is associated with which of the following?

- a) The Indus valley Civilization
- b) Mauryan Empire
- c) Roman Empire
- d) Ottoman Empire

### Answer: C

**Explanation** – Arretine Ware Pottery is associated with the Roman Empire. It was a type of bright-red, polished pottery originally made at Arretium (modern Arezzo) in Tuscany from the 1st century BC to the 3rd century AD. Romans brought this pottery for Indian kings. The quality of the pottery was high, considering its mass production.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Foucault pendulum was seen sometimes in the news with reference to which of the following?

- a) Illustrate the earth's rotation
- b) Protection from Earthquakes
- c) Checking time precisely
- d) Increasing electromagnetic radiation

#### Answer: A

**Explanation** – Foucault pendulum is a deceptively simple device used to illustrate the earth's rotation. The new Parliament building's one of the key features includes a Foucault pendulum suspended from its 'Constitutional Gallery' area. It was designed and installed by the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), Kolkata.



# Q.9) With reference to the Electric Vehicle Manufacturing, consider the following statements:

- 1. Batteries, which account for about 40% of an EV's total value, are predominantly produced in China.
- 2. Currently, India does not have any domestic electric vehicle car manufacturer.
- 3. Chinese, Korean, and Japanese companies control the processing of materials in the battery supply chain.

# Which of the statements given 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. Batteries, which account for about 40% of an EV's total value, are predominantly produced in China. Chinese, Korean, and Japanese companies control the processing of materials in the battery supply chain.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. India has two main homegrown electric car manufacturers: Tata Motors and Mahindra and Mahindra.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Free market capitalism is founded on the principle of liberty in the economy, with rights for everyone to use their properties as they will.
- 2. The G7 countries represent only 15% of the world's citizens.
- 3. The Global Solutions Summit is an international conference aimed at keeping the Indo-Pacific region free from Chinese influence.

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

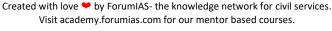
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

### Answer: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Free market capitalism is founded on the principle of liberty in the economy, with rights for everyone to use their properties as they will. The G7 countries represent only 15% of the world's citizens.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Global Solutions Summit is an international conference aimed at addressing key policy challenges facing the G20 and G7 and other global governance fora.





### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) consider the following statements:

- 1. GLOF is formed due to the advancing of glaciers.
- 2. GLOFs are generally rapid events.
- 3. GLOFs result in large downstream river discharges.

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

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

### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. GLOF is formed due to the retreating glacier. Glacier retreats (shrinks) whenever the melting exceeds accumulation. Most of the world's glaciers have been retreating since about 1850.

**Statements 2 and 3** are correct. GLOFs are generally rapid events. GLOFs result in large downstream river discharges.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements;

- 1. The responsibility of prison management and administration lie with the central government.
- 2. Model Prisons Act 2023 intends to bring about attitudinal change towards prisoners and initiate vocational training and skill development for prisoners for their reintegration into society.

# 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 responsibility of prison management and administration lie with the state government.

**Statement 2** is correct. Model Prisons Act 2023 intends to bring about attitudinal change towards prisoners and initiate vocational training and skill development for prisoners for their reintegration into society.



# Q.3) With reference to Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a non-profit company whose network will enable the display of products and services from all participating e-commerce platforms in search results across all apps on the network.
- 2. ONDC works on full-stack model.
- 3. It aims to democratize digital commerce.

# Which of the statements given 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. ONDC is a non-profit company whose network will enable the display of products and services from all participating e-commerce platforms in search results across all apps on the network. It aims to democratize digital commerce.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A full stack model means a platform like Amazon. However, ONDC follows a market place model.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) With reference to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) consider the following statements:

- 1. Medium Enterprises makes up for over 99% of the total estimated number of MSMEs.
- 2. PM SVANidhi scheme functions with the goal of bringing informal micro enterprises under the formal ambit to help them avail benefits under India's priority sector lending rules.

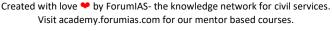
# Select the correct answer from the code given below:

- 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. Micro Enterprises makes up for over 99% of the total estimated number of MSMEs. PM SVANidhi (Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi) that provides credit to small entrepreneurs such as hawkers and street vendors.





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

- 1. The first population census in India was conducted by Lord Ripon in the British government.
- 2. Language diversity and cultural variations pose challenges in conducting population census.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. The first population census in India was conducted in 1872 by Lord Mayo in the British government.

**Statement 2** is correct. Language diversity and cultural variations pose challenges in conducting population census.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) consider the following statements:

- 1. The survey covers all the Institutions in the country engaged in imparting of higher education.
- 2. The survey defines higher education as the education which is obtained after completing ten years of schooling and is of duration of at least nine months.

# Select the correct answer from the code given below:

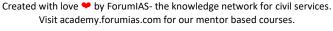
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer: A

### Explanation -

**Statement 1** is correct. AISHE covers all the Institutions in the country engaged in imparting of higher education.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The survey defines higher education as the education which is obtained after completing 12 years of schooling & is of duration of at least nine months. Or after completing 10 years of schooling & is of duration of at least 3 years.





# Q.7) With reference to "Powassan virus disease" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a rare but serious illness caused by the Powassan virus.
- 2. It is spread to humans by the bite of an infected deer tick, groundhog tick or squirrel tick.
- 3. Not all ticks carry these viruses.

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

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

# Answer: C Explanation –

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. Powassan virus disease is a rare but serious illness caused by the Powassan virus. It is spread to humans by the bite of an infected deer tick, groundhog tick or squirrel tick. Not all ticks carry these viruses and not all people bitten by a tick will get sick. A tick needs to be attached to a person for a certain length of time before it can cause disease.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Quantum mechanics/physics is the study of how atomic particles exist and interact with each other.
- 2. Quantum physics describes many aspects of nature at macroscopic scale.
- 3. In Quantum physics, objects have characteristics of both particles and waves.

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

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

### Answer: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Quantum mechanics/physics is the study of how atomic particles exist and interact with each other. In Quantum physics, objects have characteristics of both particles and waves.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Quantum physics describes many aspects of nature at microscopic level.



### Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to the city Darjeeling:

- 1. It is a town located in Assam.
- 2. It was once a summer resort for the British Raj elites.
- 3. Mt. Kanchenjunga one of the world's highest peaks is located in its backdrop.

# Which of the statements given 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. Darjeeling is a town located in West Bengal, in the Himalayan foothills. It would soon become a non-attainment city.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. Darjeeling was once a summer resort for the British Raj elites. Mt. Kanchenjunga one of the world's highest peaks is located in its backdrop.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) With reference to "Mohenjodaro's Dancing Girl" consider the following statements:

- 1. It was discovered by the archaeologist Ernest McKay.
- 2. Its finding indicates the presence of high art in Harappan society.
- 3. The bottom part of the girl has been covered by a black covering while the top has been left uncovered.

# Which of the statements given 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. Mohenjodaro's Dancing Girl was discovered by the archaeologist Ernest McKay. Its finding indicates the presence of high art in Harappan society.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The Mohenjodaro's dancing girl is just 10.5 cm in height, is dark and completely in nude with the exception of multiple bangles and a necklace.



### **PRELIMS**

# Q.1) With reference to London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for long-term loans.
- 2. Rupee is one of the currencies on which LIBOR is based on.
- 3. The Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) is a benchmark interest rate for dollar-denominated derivatives and loans that is replacing the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR).

### 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: D Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are incorrect. LIBOR is a benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for short-term loans. LIBOR is based on five currencies including the U.S. dollar, the euro, the British pound, the Japanese yen, and the Swiss franc, and serves seven different maturities.

**Statement 3** is correct. The Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) is a benchmark interest rate for dollar-denominated derivatives and loans that is replacing the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR).

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) With reference to the World Energy Investment Report 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. Investments in clean energy have surpassed investments in fossil fuels.
- 2. Over 90% of the surge in clean energy investment has been done by the developing economies.

### 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. As per the World Energy Investment Report 2023, Investments in clean energy have surpassed investments in fossil fuels.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Over 90% of the surge in clean energy investment since 2021 has been concentrated in advanced economies and China.



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

- 1. Australia has become the first country in the world to impose a ban on short-haul domestic flights.
- 2. Air transport, globally, accounts for just about 2% of global carbon dioxide emissions every year, and less than two percent of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. Source country is held responsible for the emissions produced by airlines operating international flights.

# 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: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. France has become the first country in the world to impose a ban on short-haul domestic flights. No nation is responsible for the emissions produced by airlines operating international flights.

**Statement 2** is correct. Air transport, globally, accounts for just about 2% of global carbon dioxide emissions every year, and less than two percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.4) Which of the following statement is correct regarding "Spear Phishing"?

- a) It uses deceptive email messages especially targeting high-level decision makers within an organization, such as CEOs and CFOs.
- b) It uses a phone call or voicemail to prompt users to expose private information.
- c) It is an advanced form of social engineering in which the attacker creates a fake website and then tricks the DNS server into redirecting their targets to this website.
- d) It is an email or electronic communications scam targeted towards a specific individual, organization or business.

### Answer: D

**Explanation** – Spear Phishing is an email or electronic communications scam targeted towards a specific individual, organization or business.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. All judges of the Supreme Court are equal in terms of their judicial powers.
- 2. In the Bench which includes the Chief Justice of India (CJI), the vote or power given to the CJI is more than that of his companion judges.
- 3. The U.S. has a system where all the judges collectively exercise power and render decisions.

# Which of the statements given 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. All judges of the Supreme Court are equal in terms of their judicial powers. The U.S. has a system where all the judges collectively exercise power and render decisions.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. In the Bench which includes the Chief Justice of India (CJI), the vote or power given to the CJI is same as that of his companion judges.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.6) With reference to Lightweight Payment and Settlement System (LPSS) consider the following statements:

- 1. The payment system ensures that the processing of transactions continues even at the times of global economic crisis.
- 2. The LPSS will operate independently of existing payment systems like RTGS, NEFT, and UPI.

# 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. LPSS aims to ensure that the processing of transactions continues without disruption during catastrophic events such as natural calamities and war. This system can be operated from anywhere by a bare minimum of staff.

**Statement 2** is correct. The LPSS will operate independently of existing payment systems like RTGS, NEFT, and UPI.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Rare earth permanent magnets are used in electronics.
- 2. A rare earth permanent magnet has nearly 30 percent of rare earth metals by weight.

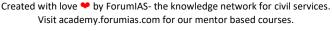
### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

#### Answer: C

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. Rare earth permanent magnets have a wide-range applications in electronics, automobiles, the military, etc. These are also used in new technologies like hypersonic weapons and directed energy systems. A rare earth permanent magnet has nearly 30 percent of rare earth metals by weight.





# Q.8) The government has recently released a special commemorative Rs 75 coin during the inauguration of the new parliament building. With reference to this coin, consider the following statements:

- 1. One side of the coin of the will bear the image of old Parliament building while the other side has image of Mahatma Gandhi.
- 2. Bharat and India will be written in English and Devanagari script on the coin.
- 3. The coin is a legal tender.

# 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: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are incorrect. The Rs 75 coin will have the image of the new Parliament building with Sansad Sankul written in the Devanagari script, and on the lower periphery, "Parliament Complex" will be written in English on one side and the other side will have Lion Capital and the phrase Satyamev Jayate will be written. The coin is meant for commemorative purpose therefore, it is not a legal tender.

**Statement 2** is correct. The coin will also have Bharat and India will be written in English and Devanagari script.

Source: **DNA** 

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

- 1. These are amphibians that spend their whole lives underwater.
- 2. They exist in the wild in only one place.
- 3. They have the ability to regenerate lost body parts.
- 4. Its IUCN status is Near Threatened.

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

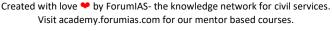
- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

### Answer: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1, 2 and 3** are correct. Axolotl are amphibians that spend their whole lives underwater. They exist in the wild in only one place. They have the ability to regenerate lost body parts.

**Statement 4** is incorrect. Its IUCN status is Critically Endangered.





### Q.10) With reference to "SAMARTH" campaign, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a campaign to promote Digital Transactions in all Gram Panchayats.
- 2. Its aim is to empower rural communities by enabling them to participate in the digital economy and access the benefits of digital transactions.

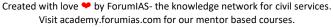
# Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

# Answer: B Explanation –

**Statement 1** is incorrect. SAMARTH campaign is a campaign to Promote Digital Transactions in 50000 Gram Panchayats.

**Statement 2** is correct. Its aim is to empower rural communities by enabling them to participate in the digital economy and access the benefits of digital transactions.





### **PRELIMS**

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

- 1. A person having no bank account can send funds through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT).
- 2. The National Electronic Funds Transfer method does not have a minimum transfer limit ceiling.
- 3. The Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) method is used for low transaction value.

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

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

#### Answer: B

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 2** are correct. A person having no bank account can send funds through NEFT. Such a person will have to deposit cash at the nearest NEFT enabled branch of any bank. The transfer can be done to a beneficiary having a bank account with another NEFT enabled bank. The National Electronic Funds Transfer method does not have a minimum transfer limit ceiling.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. RTGS method is used for high transaction value. The minimum limit for RTGS transaction is Rs 2 lakhs.

Source: ORF

### Q.2) With reference to "Foucault's pendulum" consider the following statements:

- 1. The period of rotation of the pendulum depends on the latitude of the pendulum and the length of the pendulum.
- 2. The pendulum works on the principle of conservation of liner momentum.
- 3. The longest Foucault pendulum in the world is located in the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

#### Which of the statements given 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 period of rotation of the Foucault pendulum depends on the latitude of the pendulum and the length of the pendulum. The longest Foucault pendulum in the world is located in the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The pendulum works on the principle of conservation of angular momentum.

Source: India Today



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

- 1. Tsunamis are large ocean waves that are usually caused by underwater earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or landslides.
- 2. The phenomenon of occurrence of the tidal wave is associated with the tsunamis.

# 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. Tsunamis are large ocean waves that are usually caused by underwater earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or landslides.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. A tsunami and a tidal wave are two different and unrelated phenomena. A tidal wave is a shallow water wave caused by the gravitational interactions between the Sun, Moon, and Earth. A tsunami is an ocean wave triggered by large earthquakes that occur near or under the ocean.

**Source:** India Today

### Q.4) With reference to Chytridiomycosis (chytrid), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a single-celled fungus that enters a skin cell, multiplies, and then breaks back out onto the surface of the animal.
- 2. This disease is killing frogs worldwide.
- 3. Asia leads the world in chytrid research.

### Which of the statements given 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. Chytridiomycosis is a single-celled fungus that enters a skin cell, multiplies, and then breaks back out onto the surface of the animal. This disease is killing frogs worldwide.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Asia is lagging behind the rest of the world in chytrid research.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.5) Which of the following statements is incorrect regard the Babool tree?

- a) Its seed oil can be an alternative to chemicals for controlling major farm pests.
- b) Its pods have antibacterial properties and are effective against gram-positive bacteria.
- c) Babool helps in the reclamation of degraded areas by fixing nitrogen and acting as a windbreak.
- d) Babool tree mostly occurs in polar climatic region.

Answer: D

**Explanation** - Babool tree mostly occurs in tropical and subtropical regions.

Source: ForumIAS

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# Q.6) With reference to City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to support competitively selected projects, promoting circular economy with focus on integrated waste management at the city level, climate-oriented reform actions at the State level, and institutional strengthening and knowledge dissemination at the National level.
- 2. CITIIS 2.0 will contribute positively to India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and Conference of the Parties (COP26) commitments.
- 3. The program will run for a period of 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. CITIIS 2.0 aims to support competitively selected projects, promoting circular economy with focus on integrated waste management at the city level, climate-oriented reform actions at the State level, and institutional strengthening and knowledge dissemination at the National level. CITIIS 2.0 will contribute positively to India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and Conference of the Parties (COP26) commitments.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. The program will run for a period of four years, i.e., from 2023 till 2027.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.7) With reference to National Electricity Plan (NEP) 2022-32, consider the following statements:

- 1. The average emission factor is expected to increase by the end of 2031-32.
- 2. The share of non-fossil-based capacity is likely to increase by the end of 2031-32.

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

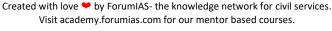
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

# Explanation -

**Statement 1** is incorrect. As per the National Electricity Plan (NEP) 2022-32, the average emission factor is expected to reduce by the end of 2031-32.

**Statement 2** is correct. As per the National Electricity Plan (NEP) 2022-32, the share of non-fossil-based capacity is likely to increase by 68.4% by the end of 2031-32.





### Q.8) With reference to graphene, which of the following statement is incorrect?

- a) It is impermeable to gases.
- b) Graphene composites are used in aerospace.
- c) It is heavier than steel.
- d) Graphene oxide membranes are used for water purification and desalination.

### Answer: C

**Explanation** – Graphene is 200 times stronger than steel but six times lighter.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Cosmic dust particles contribute to the formation of stars and planetary systems by providing material for accretion.
- 2. 2I/Borisov was the first interstellar comet to be observed and studied by mankind.
- 3. Cosmic dust particles are same as the dust found on Earth.

### Which of the statements given 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. Cosmic dust particles contribute to the formation of stars and planetary systems by providing material for accretion. 2I/Borisov was the first interstellar comet to be observed and studied by mankind.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Cosmic dust particles are not the same as the dust found in our house but it is more like smoke with small particles varying from collections of just a few molecules to grains of 0.1 mm in size.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.10) With reference to "Cheetah Project Steering Committee" consider the following statements:

- 1. The committee is mandated to decide on opening up the cheetah habitat for eco-tourism.
- 2. The committee will be in force for four years and will convene at least two meetings every month.
- 3. The committee will suggest regulations and ways to involve the local community in the project activities.

### Which of the statements given 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. Cheetah Project Steering Committee is mandated to decide on opening up the cheetah habitat for eco-tourism. The committee will suggest regulations and ways to involve the local community in the project activities.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. The committee will be in force for two years and will convene at least one meeting every month.





### **PRELIMS**

### Q.1) Which of the following is symbolized by the Nandi Bull present at the top of Sengol?

- a) Peace and prosperity
- b) Justice and strength
- c) Liberty and affection
- d) Mindfulness

Answer: B

**Explanation** – Nandi Bull at the top of Sengol symbolizes justice and strength.

Source: ForumIAS

# Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Every member of the Parliament takes an oath under the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution.
- 2. A money bill needs approval only in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha has a limited, recommendatory role.

### 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. Every member of the Parliament takes an oath under the Third Schedule of the Constitution.

**Statement 2** is correct. A money bill needs approval only in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha has a limited, recommendatory role.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. At present, India's energy efficiency has declined.
- 2. A carbon tax can help in raising revenue for the government.
- 3. Improvements in energy efficiency are critical to reduce emissions.

### Which of the statements given 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. At present, India's energy efficiency has been improving at 2.3% per annum over the last 10 years.

**Statement 2 and 3** are correct. A carbon tax can help in raising revenue for the government. Improvements in energy efficiency are critical to reduce emissions.

**Source:** ForumIAS

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

- 1. Biodiversity is everywhere.
- 2. Biodiversity helps in mitigation of climate change.
- 3. Biodiversity is a concept that only applies to large-scale ecosystems like rainforests and coral reefs.

### 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. Biodiversity is everywhere. It is inside our bodies, in villages, towns, and cities, and in well-organised ecological communities and ecosystems. Biodiversity helps in mitigation of climate change.

**Statement 3** is incorrect. Biodiversity is a fundamental concept that applies to ecosystems of all sizes, from the vast rainforests to small urban gardens.

Source: ForumIAS

### Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to the Vande Bharat Trains:

- 1. These are self-propelled train that doesn't require an engine.
- 2. The Vande Bharat trains are manufactured in Germany.
- 3. The train has GPS-based passenger information 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: C

#### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. Vande Bharat Trains are self-propelled train that doesn't require an engine. The train has GPS-based passenger information system.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Vande Bharat Trains are manufactured in India.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. Formation water is caused by the distillation and filtration process of heavy manufacturing industries.
- 2. Formation water poses significant threat for the marine environment.

### 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. Formation water is disposed in huge volumes during crude oil excavation and processing. It consists of oily components, brine solutions, and solvents that are used during various phases in the oil industry.

**Statement 2** is correct. Formation water is usually drained off and reaches the rivers and streams, ultimately deteriorating the water quality and threatening the existing aquatic life.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Evergreening of loans is a standard and legitimate practice in the banking industry, aimed at providing borrowers with flexible repayment options and assisting them in managing their financial obligations effectively.
- 2. Evergreening of loans can help banks to attract businesses and investments.

### 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. Evergreening of loan refers to giving a fresh loan to a borrower to pay up an old loan. It is a practice that is done to save the previous loan from defaulting, so that it does not appear as a non-performing asset (NPA) on a bank's books.

**Statement 2** is correct. Evergreening of loans are done by banks to attract businesses and investments.

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.8) With reference to Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing (ERSO) initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. The pilot project of the initiative is being held in Bengaluru and will be run for three months.
- 2. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is the Nodal Ministry for implementing the initiative.
- 3. The aim of the initiative is to validate certain transformational policy and process changes to make India the Repair Capital of the World.

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

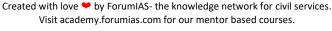
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

### Answer: C

### Explanation -

**Statement 1 and 3** are correct. The pilot project of ERSO initiative is being held in Bengaluru and will be run for three months. The aim of the initiative is to validate certain transformational policy and process changes to make India the Repair Capital of the World.

**Statement 2** is incorrect. Ministry of Electronics & IT is the Nodal Ministry for implementing the initiative.





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

- 1. The total number of populations of BRICS nation is less than that of ASEAN countries.
- 2. The combined population density of ASEAN countries is more than of the BRICS countries.

# 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 total number of populations of BRICS nation (3.2 billion) is more than that of ASEAN countries (680.1 million).

**Statement 2** is correct. The combined population density of ASEAN countries (154 per km sq.) is more than of the BRICS countries (83 per km sq.).

**Source:** ForumIAS

# Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has the lowest per capita emissions among major economies.
- 2. Under the Kyoto Protocol, carbon markets have worked at the international level.
- 3. A carbon market allows investors and corporations to trade both carbon credits and carbon offsets simultaneously.

### Which of the statements given 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 -

**Statements 1, 2 and 3** are correct. India, despite having 17% of the global population, has the lowest per capita emissions among major economies, accounting only 5% of the global total emissions. Under the Kyoto Protocol, carbon markets have worked at the international level. A carbon market allows investors and corporations to trade both carbon credits and carbon offsets simultaneously.

