Forum AS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

26th June to 2nd July, 2023

PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Global Liveability Index 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The index has been released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- 2. Some cities in the Western Europe have slipped in rankings of the index.
- 3. Out of the four metrics, technology is a metric on which the index ranks the cities.

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 -

Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has released the Global Liveability Index 2023. The index ranked the cities based on these five metrics: healthcare, culture, environment, education, and stability.

Statement 2 is correct. Some cities in Western Europe have slipped in rankings due to increased instances of workers' strikes failing to "match gains" made by cities in Asia and the Middle East.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Nehru-Liaquat Pact, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is also known as Delhi Pact.
- 2. Under the terms of the pact, a mutual understanding was reached towards the development of atomic arsenals and to avoid accidental and unauthorised operational use of nuclear weapons.
- 3. Both countries, under the agreement, agreed not to violate the rules of the pact and to make all efforts to reinforce it.

Which of the statements given 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. The Nehru-Liaquat Pact is also known as the Delhi Pact. Under the agreement, both countries agreed not to violate the rules of the pact and to make all efforts to reinforce it.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It was a bilateral agreement signed between India and Pakistan in order to provide a framework for the treatment of minorities in the two countries.



Q.3) With reference to Joha Rice, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an aromatic rice cultivated in the Northeastern region of India.
- 2. It has got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- 3. The characteristic scent of Joha rice is similar to the basmati rice.
- 4. It has two unsaturated fatty acid.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. Joha Rice is an aromatic rice cultivated in the Northeastern region of India. It is an indigenous rice class of Assam and is a special class of winter rice in cultivation over centuries. It has got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Joha rice variety has two unsaturated fatty acids, linoleic acid (omega-6) and linolenic (omega-3) acid. These essential fatty acids (which humans cannot produce) can help maintain various physiological conditions. **Statement 3** is incorrect. The characteristic scent of Joha rice is classified as absolutely different from the famous basmati rice.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) The Union Ministry of Power has released a report titled National Energy Data: Survey and Analysis 2021-22. With reference to this report, consider the following statements:

- 1. India has crossed the threshold limit of emitting the total equivalent carbon dioxide (CO2).
- 2. As per the report, limited data exists on non-commercial energy sources.
- 3. The report highlighted that India has been able to conserve a significant amount of 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. As per the report, there has been total equivalent reduction in CO2 emissions in India for the period 2021-22. The reduction is around 280 million tonnes annually. **Statements 2 and 3** are correct. As per the report, there exists limited data on non-commercial energy sources such as biomass. As per the report, India conserved 249 billion units (BUs) of electricity to save Rs 1.60 lakh crore in bills for the 2021-22 financial year.



Q.5) With reference to the amendments made in the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the Time of Day (ToD) tariff, the price for electricity will remain same throughout the day.
- 2. As per the amendment in the metering provision, after the installation of a smart meter, consumers will not face any penalties for the maximum demand recorded by the smart meter prior to the installation date.

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. Under the Time of Day (ToD) Tariff, the price for electricity will vary according to the time of day. Tariffs during solar hours (duration of eight hours in a day as specified by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission) of the day shall be 10%-20% less than the normal tariff, while the tariff during peak hours will be 10 to 20% higher.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the amendment in the metering provision, after the installation of a smart meter, consumers will not face any penalties for the maximum demand recorded by the smart meter prior to the installation date.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to Grievance Redressal Assessment and Index (GRAI) 2022, consider the following statements:

- 1. The objective of index is to present an organisation-wise comparative picture and provide valuable insights about strengths and areas of improvement regarding the grievance redressal mechanism.
- 2. As per the index for the first time, the average disposal time of public grievances by central ministries and departments has come down.

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. The objective of index is to present an organisation-wise comparative picture and provide valuable insights about strengths and areas of improvement regarding the grievance redressal mechanism. As per the index for the first time, the average disposal time of public grievances by central ministries and departments has come down.



Q.7) Which of the following country has launched the Digital Silk Road (DSR) initiative?

- a) Myanmar
- b) China
- c) India
- d) Malaysia

Answer: B

Explanation – Digital Silk Road (DSR) initiative has been launched by China in 2015. The initiative aims at expanding information exchanges and digital cooperation with the emerging markets and developing economies.

Source: ORF

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. There is no explicit definition or categorization of cryptocurrencies under India's existing regulatory framework.
- 2. While securities such as stocks or bonds are focused on ownership or debt in companies, commodities involve trading physical goods and they are influenced by supply-demand dynamics, geopolitical events, and storage costs.

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. There is no explicit definition or categorization of cryptocurrencies under India's existing regulatory framework i.e., crypto currencies are neither categorized as commodity or securities. While securities such as stocks or bonds are focused on ownership or debt in companies, commodities involve trading physical goods and they are influenced by supply-demand dynamics, geopolitical events, and storage costs.

Source - ORF

Q.9) With reference to "Fetus in fetu" consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an extremely rare medical condition characterized by the presence of a malformed, partially developed fetus within the body of its twin.
- 2. It occurs during last stage of fetal development.
- 3. It often goes undetected until later in life when symptoms such as abdominal mass or pain arise.

Which of the statements given 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. Fetus in fetu is an extremely rare medical condition characterized by the presence of a malformed, partially developed fetus within the body of its twin. It often goes undetected until later in life when symptoms such as abdominal mass or pain arise.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It occurs during early fetal development when one twin engulfs and incorporates the other twin into its own body.

Source: **DNA**

Q.10) With reference to the Disposable income, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is referred to as gross income, which includes earnings derived from our work, including salaries, wages, bonuses, commissions, and other supplementary sources of income.
- 2. A decline in disposable income has the potential to decrease consumer spending, which could hinder the growth of the economy and weaken overall stability.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

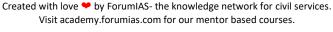
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. For an individual, gross income is your total pay, which is the amount of money you've earned, before taxes and other items are deducted. From the gross income, subtract the income taxes plus other necessary expenditures. The amount left represents the disposable income, i.e., the surplus amount left after all necessary expenditures (rent, transportation costs, etc.)

Statement 2 is correct. A decline in disposable income has the potential to decrease consumer spending, which could hinder the growth of the economy and weaken overall stability.

Source: DNA





PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to PM Kisan Mobile App, consider the following statements:

- 1. It has been launched under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).
- 2. The app enables beneficiary farmers under PM KISAN to complete their e-KYC process by using a one-time password or fingerprints.
- 3. The app will also provide very important information related to the scheme and PM Kisan accounts to the farmers.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. PM Kisan Mobile App has been launched under the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi". The app enables beneficiary farmers under PM KISAN to complete their e-KYC process by just scanning their faces on mobile phones instead of using a one-time password or fingerprints.

Statement 3 is correct. PM Kisan Mobile App will also provide very important information related to the scheme and PM Kisan accounts to the farmers.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Regulatory sandbox, consider the following statements:

- 1. A regulatory sandbox is a physical enclosure where regulators study and observe the behavior of sand particles in different weather conditions.
- 2. Users of a sandbox can test the product's viability without the need for a larger and more expensive roll-out.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. A Regulatory Sandbox is a controlled environment or framework established by regulatory authorities to allow innovative businesses, particularly in the financial and technology sectors, to test their products, services, or business models in a live market setting.

Statement 2 is correct. Users of a sandbox can test the product's viability without the need for a larger and more expensive roll-out. If the product appears to have the potential to be successful, the product might then be authorized and brought to the broader market more quickly.



Q.3) With reference to "Anxiety Disorders" consider the following statements:

- 1. Anxiety disorders are a cluster of mental disorders characterized by significant and uncontrollable feelings of anxiety and fear.
- 2. Social anxiety disorder is characterized by fear or anxiety concerning separation from those to whom an individual is attached.
- 3. Treatment decisions for anxiety disorders are based on the severity, persistence, and impact of symptoms, as well as patient preferences.

Which of the statements given 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. Anxiety disorders are a cluster of mental disorders characterized by significant and uncontrollable feelings of anxiety and fear. Treatment decisions are based on the severity, persistence, and impact of symptoms, as well as patient preferences.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Social anxiety disorder is characterized by the intense, persistent fear of being scrutinized or evaluated negatively by others.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Vedas are categorized under smriti of the Hindu sacred texts.
- 2. Upanishads are also known as the Vedanta.
- 3. Advaita Vedanta philosophy emphasizes on the illusory nature of the transient phenomenal world around us, and puts forth the idea that the brahman is the only and ultimate real.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Hindu scriptures are broadly classified in two categories: shruti ("the revealed") and smriti ("the remembered"). The first category is considered to be the most authoritative and consists of the four Vedas (Rig, Yajur, Sama and Atharva) and accompanying texts.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Upanishads are also known as the Vedanta as they signal the end of the total Veda. Advaita Vedanta philosophy emphasizes on the illusory nature of the transient phenomenal world around us, and puts forth the idea that the brahman is the only and ultimate real.



Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nilotinib is used for the treatment of chronic myeloid leukaemia, a type of blood cancer.
- 2. Nilotinib is sold under the brand name Tasigna and marketed worldwide by Novartis.

Select the correct statements from 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. The Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) has signed sub-licence agreements with India-based companies, along with an Indonesian firm, to make generic versions of the drug Nilotinib of the Switzerland-based pharmaceutical corporation Novartis. Nilotinib is used for the treatment of chronic myeloid leukaemia, a type of blood cancer. Nilotinib is sold under the brand name Tasigna and marketed worldwide by Novartis.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to Mineral Security Partnership (MSP) consider the following statements:

- 1. It an initiative led by China, aimed at partnering with like-minded countries to enhance the supply chain of critical minerals.
- 2. It aims to catalyze investment from governments and the private sector to develop strategic opportunities.
- 3. Finland is one of the member countries of MSP.

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: D

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. MSP is a US-led partnership to secure supply chains of critical minerals, aimed at reducing dependency on China.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. MSP aims to catalyze investment from governments and the private sector to develop strategic opportunities. US, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the European Commission are the members of MSP. Recently, India has also joined the initiative.



Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Thailand is the top producer of rare earth minerals globally, with an estimated 70 percent of the global production.
- 2. Lanthanum, a rare earth mineral, is available in India.
- 3. Under the India-Australia Critical Minerals Investment Partnership, India can take resources from Australia to meet the growing demand for critical minerals to help India's space and defence industries and the manufacture of electric vehicles.

Which of the statements given 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. China is the top producer of rare earth minerals globally, with an estimated 70 percent of the global production. However, the US, Myanmar, Australia and Thailand are also the major producer of rare earth minerals.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Some REs available in India are lanthanum, cerium, neodymium, praseodymium, and samarium. Under the India-Australia Critical Minerals Investment Partnership, India can take resources from Australia to meet the growing demand for critical minerals to help India's space and defence industries and the manufacture of electric vehicles.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) With reference to Artemis Accord signed by India recently, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an attempt by India to collaborate on the next generation of space technologies with the US.
- 2. It will also strengthen the bilateral relations between the US and Russia, as India being the part of the group, may act as a mediator between the two nations.
- 3. The agreement indicates a shift in the US stance towards India by allowing India access to crucial space technology.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. By signing the accord, India has aligned itself with the US-led space exploration program. This shows India's attempt to collaborate on the next generation of space technologies with the US. The agreement also indicates a shift in the US stance towards India by allowing India access to crucial space technology because in past, there has been instances where the US hindered India's access to crucial space technology.



Statement 2 is incorrect. Russia and China are not part of the group. Hence, there are no chances of mediating. Even if Russia would have been part of the group and India acted as a mediator, it wouldn't have strengthened the relation between the two nations.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India and Egypt share historical ties and have one of the oldest civilisational link.
- 2. Cotton forms a third of the India's export to the Egypt.
- 3. Egypt was the world's third-largest arms importer during 2015-19.

How many of the above statements are incorrect?

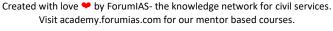
- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Historically, India-Egypt ties are perhaps the oldest civilisational link. In 2750 BCE, the Pharaoh Sahure sent ships to peninsular India. By the middle of the second millennium BCE, Egyptian mummies were wrapped in muslin dyed with indigo, both from India. Egypt was the world's third-largest arms importer during 2015-19.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Egypt's largest imports are refined petroleum, wheat, cars, corn and pharmaceuticals. India has the potential to supply all these. However, petroleum related products formed a third of the India's export with Egypt for the year 2022-23.





PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following is the function of Unnat Takniki Pradarshan Kendra (UTPRERAK)?

- a) Its function is to demonstrate and showcase energy-efficient technologies in key industry sectors.
- b) Its function is to streamline the grievance redressal mechanism with the global standard.
- c) The primary function of this initiative revolves around the provision of comprehensive technical assistance to countries situated in the Global South, particularly in the realm of space-oriented technologies.
- d) Its fundamental objective is to harness the power of cutting-edge technology and leverage its potential in order to reinforce and boost the soft power of India.

Answer: A

Explanation – The Ministry of Power has set up UTPRERAK, a Centre of Excellence, dedicated to accelerating adoption of clean technologies by industries. Out of various other functions, one of its functions is to demonstrate and showcase energy-efficient technologies in key industry sectors.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Wagner Group is a private military company and a network of mercenaries in Russia.
- 2. Private military forces are legal in Russia.
- 3. The Wagner Group was heavily involved in Russia's capture of the city of Bakhmut, in eastern Ukraine.

Which of the statements given 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. Wagner Group is a private military company and a network of mercenaries in Russia. The Wagner Group was heavily involved in Russia's capture of the city of Bakhmut, in eastern Ukraine.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Although private military forces are illegal in Russia, the Wagner Group registered as a company in 2022.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Delimitation refers to the process of demarcation of the boundaries of parliamentary or assembly constituencies.
- 2. The Delimitation Commission in India is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.
- 3. The copies of the orders of the Delimitation Commission are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, to make necessary modifications before finalizing the document.

Which of the statements given 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. Delimitation refers to the process of demarcation of the boundaries of parliamentary or assembly constituencies. The Delimitation Commission in India is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The copies of the orders of the Delimitation Commission are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but no modifications are permissible therein by them.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Which of the following is the objective of Nandi Portal?

- a) The primary objective of the portal is to create a platform that focuses on equipping women with job-oriented vocational skills.
- b) The objective of this portal is to establish a robust mechanism that serves as a dedicated platform for lodging complaints related to child sexual abuse, while also ensuring prompt notification to the nearest police station.
- c) It is a comprehensive and user-friendly online mechanism that enables exporters to seamlessly register their products and facilitates a streamlined and hassle-free experience throughout the documentation and exporting processes.
- d) It aims to revolutionize the process of approving and granting no-objection certificates (NOCs) for new veterinary drugs and vaccines through online mode.

Answer: D

Explanation – Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has launched Nandi Portal. Nandi stands for NOC Approval for New Drug and Inoculation System. The portal aims to revolutionize the process of approving and granting no-objection certificates (NOCs) for new veterinary drugs and vaccines through online mode.



Q.5) With reference to Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24 scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the scheme, special assistance is being provided to State Governments through the provision of secured loans and the reduction of interest amounts by half during the financial year 2023-24.
- 2. It aims at providing incentives to States for the scrapping of State Government vehicles and ambulances, waiver of liabilities on old vehicles, providing tax concessions to individuals for scrapping of old vehicles, and setting up of automated vehicle testing facilities.

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. Under the scheme, special assistance is being provided to the State Governments in the form of a 50-year interest-free loan up to an overall sum of Rs. 1.3 lakh crore during the financial year 2023-24.

Statement 2 is correct. The scheme also aims at providing incentives to **States** for the scrapping of State Government vehicles and ambulances, waiver of liabilities on old vehicles, providing tax concessions to individuals for scrapping of old vehicles, and setting up of automated vehicle testing facilities.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. PM-MITRA Scheme targets the unorganized sector and provides a pension benefit to individuals based on their contribution towards the scheme during their working years.
- 2. The Ministry of Rural Development will provide financial support in the form of Development Capital Support for the PM-MITRA Scheme.

Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. PM-MITRA Scheme aims to create a world-class industrial infrastructure that would attract cutting-edge technology and boost FDI and local investment in the textile sector. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) owned by Centre and State Government jointly will be set up for each MITRA park which will oversee the implementation of the project. The Ministry of Textiles will provide financial support in the form of Development Capital Support upto Rs. 500 crore per park to the park SPV.



Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. NATO Plus Five is a secret alliance consisting of non-NATO countries that work together to undermine NATO's goals and disrupt global security.
- 2. South Korea is one of the countries of NATO plus five.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: B Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. NATO Plus is a grouping of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and five countries, which work toward boosting global defence cooperation.

Statement 2 is correct. Countries of NATO plus five are – Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The increased exposure of personal lives on the internet and enhanced user data sharing has led to the emergence of Technology Facilitated Gender Based Violence (TFGBV).
- 2. Technology-facilitated GBV includes behaviors such as stalking, bullying, sexual harassment, which are carried out utilizing computer and mobile technology.
- 3. The harm caused by technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) may be smaller than that caused by physical assault.
- 4. TFGBV is a form of gender-based discrimination and a violation of human rights.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The increased exposure of personal lives on the internet and enhanced user data sharing has led to the emergence of Technology Facilitated Gender Based Violence (TFGBV). TFGBV includes behaviors such as stalking, bullying, sexual harassment, which are carried out utilizing computer and mobile technology. TFGBV is a form of gender-based discrimination and a violation of human rights as it tends to harm women.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The impact of TFGBV can be as harmful as offline violence, with negative effects on the health and wellbeing of women and girls as well as serious economic, social and political impacts. TFGBV can restrict the online activity of women and girls and inhibit their access to the Internet.



Q.9) With reference to the Indian Economy, consider the following statements:

- 1. The base effect is a phenomenon where the current period's economic performance or data is influenced by the weather conditions during that period.
- 2. Food and Beverages have high weightage in the CPI basket than the milk and products.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. The base effect relates to inflation in the corresponding period of the previous year. If the inflation rate was too high in the corresponding period of the previous year, then even a smaller rise in the Price Index will give a low rate of inflation and vice-versa.

Statement 2 is correct. Weight of different products in CPI basket– Food and Beverages (54.18%), Cereals and product (12.35%), Milk and products (7.72%), Spices (3.11%), Education (3.46%), Oils and fats (4.21%).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Right to Education Act, 2009 safeguards education rights for all children in India, including those with special needs like autism.
- 2. Samagra Shiksha scheme treats school education as a continuum and is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4).

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. The Right to Education Act 2009 safeguards education rights for all children in India, including those with special needs like autism. The Samagra Shiksha scheme is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII. The scheme treats school education as a continuum and is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4).

Source: <u>LiveLaw</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A large amount of rainfall in India is stored and utilized for various purposes.
- 2. Policymakers exaggerate the need for water conservation as it is not much needed because the Earth is predominantly covered in water, with approximately 71% of its surface consisting of oceans, seas, and other bodies of water.
- 3. Implementing strict regulations and limitations on water usage can hinder economic growth and development.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. India receives about 1,200 mm of rainfall each year, yet only 6% is effectively captured and stored. Despite the Earth is predominantly covered in water, there is still need for water conservation because there is limited availability of freshwater (about 2.5%), and the majority of that is inaccessible in the form of glaciers and polar ice caps, increase in population worldwide has put stress on freshwater resources, climate change is also affecting rainfall patterns and leading droughts, along with other reasons.

Statement 3 is correct. Industries such as agriculture, manufacturing, and energy production rely heavily on water, and imposing restrictions could negatively impact productivity and economic progress.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Cyclogenesis occurs when the Earth's magnetic field interacts with atmospheric conditions, leading to the gamma ray bursts.
- 2. National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) aims to enhance the preparedness and resilience of coastal communities.

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. Cyclogenesis is the development or strengthening of cyclonic circulation in the atmosphere (a low-pressure area).

Statement 2 is correct. National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) aims to enhance the preparedness and resilience of coastal communities.



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) is a system implemented by governments to track and monitor the personal financial transactions of individuals, infringing upon their privacy and violating their rights to financial autonomy.
- 2. Under the Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS), an individual can use their biometric credentials to carry out banking transactions in Aadhaar-linked bank accounts.
- 3. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has been widely recognized as a transformative mechanism that aims to foster financial inclusion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) is a system implemented by governments to provide welfare benefits and subsidies directly to beneficiaries, bypassing intermediaries and ensuring efficient and transparent delivery of funds.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. Under the Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS), an individual can use their biometric credentials to carry out banking transactions in Aadhaar-linked bank accounts. DBT encourages people, especially from rural and underprivileged backgrounds, to open bank accounts, thus promoting financial inclusion.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to Precision fermentation, consider the following statements:

- 1. It involves programming microorganisms, such as yeast, to produce specific proteins by inserting genetic instructions or DNA sequences into their cells.
- 2. It holds immense potential in minimizing the environmental footprint associated with the conventional methods of food production.

Select the correct statement using the codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Precision fermentation s a cutting-edge technology that combines traditional fermentation methods with precision biology techniques. It involves programming microorganisms, such as yeast, to produce specific proteins by inserting genetic instructions or DNA sequences into their cells. Precision fermentation reduces the environmental impact of food production by minimizing deforestation, soil degradation, and methane emissions from livestock.



Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Yoga, as a philosophical system, revolves around the interpretation and understanding of the Vedas.
- 2. Shatkarmas, a variety of yogic practice, helps in developing the mind's inherent capabilities and leads to benefits such as reduced stress, improved memory, and enhanced concentration
- 3. Yoga has the power to enhance focus and clarity of thought.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Yoga focuses on the practice of physical postures, breath control, concentration, and meditation to attain self-realization and liberation. Shatkarmas (purification practice), a variety of yogic practice, help cleanses the body and prepares it for more advanced practices. Examples include Kunjal or Varisar Dhauti, which improve digestion, and Jal Neti and Sutra Neti, which aid in the cleansing of the nasal sinus and improvement of eyesight.

Statement 3 is correct. Yoga has the power to enhance focus and clarity of thought.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Which of the following may be the negative impact of implementing Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)?

- 1. It can prevent carbon leakage.
- 2. It could lead to trade tensions and disputes.
- 3. It can affect developing countries that rely heavily on carbon-intensive industries.

Select the correct code given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. This is an advantage of implementing CBAM. CBAM prevents "carbon leakage", the phenomenon where companies transfer their operations to countries with less stringent emissions regulations.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The negative impact of implementing CABM may be – trade tensions and disputes as it appears to contravene the WTO's non-discrimination principles. Countries could challenge the CBAM at the WTO, arguing it discriminates against 'like' goods based on their carbon content and it can affect developing countries that rely heavily on carbon-intensive industries which do not have enough resources to reduce its carbon emission.



Q.7) The Union Cabinet has approved the constitution of an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to facilitate the world's largest grain storage plan in the cooperative sector. With reference to this, consider the following statements:

- 1. The plan would strengthen food security in the country by ensuring a larger portion of the grain production is safely stored and distributed.
- 2. Under the plan, India aims to promote centralized storage systems.
- 3. The plan aims to empower Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) by facilitating their expansion into various business activities, thus enhancing the incomes of the farmer.

Which of the statements given 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. The world's largest grain storage plan would strengthen food security in a country by ensuring a larger portion of the grain production is safely stored and distributed. The plan also aims to empower Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) by facilitating their expansion into various business activities, thus enhancing the incomes of the farmer

Statement 2 is incorrect. Unlike many other nations' centralized storage systems, India's plan promotes decentralization, aiming to construct storage facilities in every block with capacities between 500-2000 tonnes.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs):

- 1. Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) are signals emitted from Earth's atmosphere due to interactions between lightning and radio waves.
- 2. FRBs are so powerful they can outshine the entire galaxy from which they emerge.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) are intense, millisecond-duration bursts of radio waves that originate from deep space.

Statement 2 is correct. FRBs are so powerful they can outshine the entire galaxy from which they emerge.





Q.9) Which of the following statement is correct regarding eSewa Kendras?

- a) These are passport approval specialized facilities designed to cater to the growing demands of individuals seeking efficient and seamless processing of their passport applications.
- b) It acts as a rehabilitation center for the people affected by the natural calamities.
- c) It enables litigants to obtain information with respect to case status and to obtain copies of judgments and orders.
- d) These are establishments dedicated to ensuring prompt and efficient delivery of requested information under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

Answer: C

Explanation – e-Sewa Kendras have been created in the High Courts and in one District Court in each State on a pilot basis. It is being expanded to cover all court complexes. It enables litigants to obtain information with respect to case status and to obtain copies of judgments and orders. These centers also extend assistance in the e-filing of cases.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Tectonic deformation refers to the changes in the Earth's crust caused by the movement and interaction of tectonic plates.
- 2. Tectonic deformation occurs due to the immense pressures and stresses exerted on the crust as a result of plate interactions.
- 3. Fracturing is a type of tectonic deformation, where rocks bend or curve due to compressional forces

Which of the statements given 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. Tectonic deformation refers to the changes in the Earth's crust caused by the movement and interaction of tectonic plates. Tectonic deformation occurs due to the immense pressures and stresses exerted on the crust as a result of plate interactions.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Fracturing is a type of tectonic deformation, where rocks break into smaller pieces due to stresses exceeding their strength. This can result in the formation of joint sets, fractures, and cracks in the Earth's crust.



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Sulfur-coated Urea, consider the following statements:

- 1. Sulphur-coated urea is a type of fertilizer that releases nitrogen rapidly, causing plants to experience excessive nutrient uptake and leading to environmental pollution.
- 2. Sulphur-coated urea helps to minimize nitrogen leaching in waterlogged conditions for rice and wheat cultivation.

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. Sulphur-coated urea is a type of controlled-release fertilizer that is made by coating urea with sulphur and wax that increases nitrogen efficiency, improves plant growth and reduces water pollution. The purpose of the coating is to slow down the release of nitrogen into the soil, providing a more gradual and sustained supply of nutrients to the plants. In addition, sulfur itself is a secondary nutrient and it does not pollute the soil when applied appropriately.

Statement 2 is correct. Sulphur-coated urea helps to minimize nitrogen leaching in waterlogged conditions for rice and wheat cultivation.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) The Union Cabinet approved the National Research Foundation (NRF) Bill, 2023. With reference to NRF, consider the following statements:

- 1. The NRF will be an apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in the country as per recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP).
- 2. Prime Minister will be the ex-officio President of the Governing Board of NRF.
- 3. Department of School Education & Literacy will be the administrative department of NRF.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NRF will be an apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in the country as per recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP). Prime Minister will be the ex-officio President of the Governing Board of NRF. Statement 3 is incorrect. Department of Science and Technology (DST) will be the administrative Department of NRF.



Q.3) With reference to Green Credit scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under this scheme, carbon credits can be sold and bought domestically.
- 2. The green credits will be tradable and those earning it will be able to put these credits up for sale on a proposed domestic market platform.

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. Under this, individuals, industries, farmers producers' organisations (FPOs), urban local bodies (ULB), gram panchayats and private sectors, among a host of other entities, will be able to earn "green credit" for undertaking environment-friendly actions. These include planting trees, conserving water, waste management and reducing air pollution.

Statement 2 is correct. The green credits will be tradable and those earning it will be able to put these credits up for sale on a proposed domestic market platform. These credits, through a market mechanism, can also be traded for money.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to the Panchayat Development Index (PDI), consider the following statements:

- 1. The aim of the index is to measure the incremental progress towards the achievement of Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through Panchayats.
- 2. The PDI ranks panchayats on the basis of scores, and categorises them into four grades.

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 aim of the index is to measure the incremental progress towards the achievement of Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through Panchayats. The PDI ranks panchayats on the basis of scores, and categorises them into four grades. Those with scores under 40% fall in grade D, 40-60% in grade C, 60-75% in grade B, 75 to 90% in category A, while those scoring above 90% will be categorised as A+.



Q.5) Consider the following pairs:

GI tagged products----- States

- 1. Pawndum ----- Assam
- 2. Kandangi Saree ----- Goa
- 3. Kinhal Toys ----- Arunachal Pradesh
- 4. Sambhal Horn ----- Uttar Pradesh

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: A

Explanation – Only option 4 is correctly matched. Pawndum is a handicraft from Mizoram, Kandangi Saree is from Tamil Nadu, Kinhal Toys are from Karnataka.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Dateline El Nino is a type of El Nino event where the warming of sea surface temperatures occurs primarily in the central equatorial Pacific region near the International Date Line.
- 2. A canonical El Nino often leads to above-average rainfall in the western Pacific region, including parts of Southeast Asia and Australia, while leading to a below-average rainfall along the western coast of South America, particularly in Peru and Ecuador.
- 3. Canonical El Nino and Dateline El Nino both are part of the El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) climate pattern.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Dateline El Nino is a type of El Nino event where the warming of sea surface temperatures occurs primarily in the central equatorial Pacific region near the International Date Line. Canonical El Nino and Dateline El Nino both are part of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) climate pattern.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A canonical El Nino often leads to below-average rainfall in the western Pacific region, including parts of Southeast Asia and Australia, while increasing rainfall along the western coast of South America, particularly in Peru and Ecuador. Canonical El Nino is the traditional El Nino which usually happens.



Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Unlike earthquakes, which can neither be predicted nor prevented, floods, in most cases, are predictable.
- 2. Around 12 percent of the country's geographical area is known to be flood-prone.
- 3. Flood management is not present in any of the Constitution's three lists.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Unlike earthquakes, which can neither be predicted nor prevented, floods, in most cases, are predictable. Around 12 percent of the country's geographical area is known to be flood-prone. Flood management is not present in any of the Constitution's three lists.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Greedflation refers to a price rise introduced by companies to take advantage of inflation while Shrinkflation refers to a reduction in the quantity or quality of a product while the price remains the same.
- 2. In Greedflation, production costs increase to a lesser extent while e-commerce businesses maintain the same retail price.

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. Greedflation refers to a price rise introduced by companies to take advantage of inflation while Shrinkflation refers to a reduction in the quantity or quality of a product while the price remains the same.

Statement 2 is incorrect. In shrinkflation, production costs increase to a lesser extent while e-commerce businesses maintain the same retail price whereas in greedflation, production costs usually do not rise enough for price increases to be justified.



Q.9) Consider the following:

- 1. Graphite
- 2. Indium
- 3. Niobium
- 4. Lithium
- 5. Limestone
- 6. Gypsum

Which of the above are categorized as Critical Minerals?

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- b) 2, 3, 4, and 6 only
- c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
- d) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

Answer: A

Explanation – A total of 30 minerals were found to be most critical for India: Antimony, Beryllium, Bismuth, Cobalt, Copper, Gallium, Germanium, Graphite, Hafnium, Indium, Lithium, Molybdenum, Niobium, Nickel, PGE, Phosphorous, Potash, REE, Rhenium, Silicon, Strontium, Tantalum, Tellurium, Tin, Titanium, Tungsten, Vanadium, Zirconium, Selenium and Cadmium.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India lacks the capability to provide 24×7 power and consistent water supply, essential for chip making industry.
- 2. The US has denied semiconductor technology to China to prevent it from gaining high tech dominance over 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: C

Explanations -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Currently, India lacks the capability to provide 24×7 power and consistent water supply, essential for chip making industry. The US has denied semiconductor technology to China to prevent it from gaining high tech dominance over the world.

