

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

9th to 14th October, 2023

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

PRELIMS

Q.1) Sammakka Saralamma Jatara is a tribal festival of -

- a) Odisha
- b) West Bengal
- c) Telangana
- d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: C

Explanation – Sammakka Saralamma Jatara is a tribal festival that is celebrated in the Telangana state of India. The festival is held in honor of Sammakka and Saralamma, two tribal women who are revered as goddesses by the Koyas, a tribal community in the region.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Yak Churpi is a naturally fermented milk product prepared from the milk of Himalayan Yak.
- 2. Arunachalee yak is the only registered yak breed in India.

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. Yak Churpi is a naturally fermented milk product prepared from the milk of Arunachalee yak.

Statement 2 is correct. Arunachalee yak is the only registered yak breed in India. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.3) With reference to Section 54EC Bonds (Capital Gains Bonds) consider the following statements:

- 1. These are fixed-income instruments that provide capital gains tax exemption under Section 54EC of the Income Tax Act to investors.
- 2. These bonds are transferable and can be used to claim a deduction on short-term capital gains.
- 3. These bonds offer attractive interest rates, which are usually higher than those offered by other fixed-income investment options.

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 3 are correct. Section 54EC Bonds are fixed-income instruments that provide capital gains tax exemption under Section 54EC of the Income Tax Act to investors. These bonds



offer attractive interest rates, which are usually higher than those offered by other fixed-income investment options.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Section 54EC Bonds are not transferable, and they cannot be used to claim a deduction on short-term capital gains. These bonds are specifically meant for investors earning long-term capital gains and would like tax exemption on these gains. Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a government incentive scheme that aims to promote the adoption of gasoline vehicles in India.
- 2. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

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. FAME Scheme provides incentives to manufacturers and buyers of electric and hybrid vehicles and aims to increase demand for these vehicles by providing financial support.

Statement 2 is correct. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.5) With reference to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a demand-driven scheme that guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household that wants it, covering all districts in the country except those with a 100% urban population.
- 2. Under the scheme, employed workers from various states receive a consistent, standardized wage.
- 3. It is a right-based scheme, which means that workers have a legal right to employment under the scheme.

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

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. MGNREGA is a demand-driven scheme that guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household that wants it, covering all districts in the country except those with a 100% urban population. It is a right-based scheme, which means that workers have a legal right to employment under the scheme.



Statement 2 is incorrect. The wages paid under MGNREGA are determined by the state government, and they can vary from state to state. The wages are also linked to the minimum wage for agricultural laborers in each state.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) With reference to the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to media companies in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 2. India is one of the founding members of AIBD.
- 3. It conducts various activities such as training programs, seminars, and workshops to promote the development of print media in the region.

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 3 are incorrect. AIBD is a regional inter-governmental organization that was established in 1977 under the aegis of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It is mandated to achieve a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region through policy and resource development. AIBD's mission is to enhance electronic media not the print media in the Asia-Pacific through policy, resources, and various activities like training, seminars, and workshops.

Statement 2 is correct. India is one of the founding members of AIBD.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Agro textiles are specialized textiles used in agriculture to enhance crop growth, protect plants, and improve farming practices.
- 2. Agro textiles are used for packaging and protecting fruits during transportation and storage.
- 3. Agro-textiles are a type of synthetic fiber that is made from petroleum.

Which of the statements given 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. Agro textiles are specialized textiles used in agriculture to enhance crop growth, protect plants, and improve farming practices. Agro textiles are used for packaging and protecting fruits during transportation and storage.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Agro-textiles are made from a variety of materials, including natural fibers, synthetic fibers, and blends of natural and synthetic fibers.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.8) With reference to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) consider the following statements:

- 1. These are a collection of seventeen interlinked objectives designed to serve as a "shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future".
- 2. The SDGs are legally binding on all countries.
- 3. SDGs are crucial to end poverty and other socio-economic and environmental problems.

Which of the statements given 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. SDGs are a collection of seventeen interlinked objectives designed to serve as a "shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future". SDGs are crucial to end poverty and other socio-economic and environmental problems.

Statement 2 is incorrect. SDGs are a voluntary set of goals adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. While the SDGs are not legally binding, countries are expected to take ownership and establish national frameworks for the achievement of the Goals.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Which of the following statement is incorrect with respect to M.S. Swaminathan, a renowned agricultural scientist?

- a) He was known as the Father of the Indian Green Revolution.
- b) He advocated for sustainable agriculture that balanced human progress with environmental protection.
- c) He worked to promote agriculture and supported the establishment of a Central Institute for Women in Agriculture.
- d) His contributions to Indian agriculture were largely theoretical and lacked practical relevance.

Answer: D

Explanation – M.S. Swaminathan's contributions to Indian agriculture were practical and had a significant impact. He is known for his pioneering work in the Green Revolution, which introduced high-yielding crop varieties and modern agricultural practices, leading to increased food production and improved livelihoods for farmers in India.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The government is empowered to temporarily ban the export and impose Minimum Export Price (MIP) to discourage exports of certain commodities to ensure their availability in the domestic markets.
- 2. Demand Side inflation is caused by shortage of factors of production like labour, land, capital etc. and also due to artificial scarcity created due to hoarding.

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: A

Explanation –

Statement 1 is correct. The government is empowered to temporarily ban the export and imposes Minimum Export Price (MIP) to discourage exports of certain commodities to ensure their availability in the domestic markets. Ex-Recent rice export and onion export ban.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Demand Side inflation is caused by high demand and low production which creates a demand-supply gap and it leads to a hike in prices due to increase in consumption.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Udangudi Panangkarupatti, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is also referred to as palm jaggery.
- 2. It is only produced during the monsoon season.
- 3. It is white in color and has a hard, brittle texture.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation –

Statement 1 is correct. Udangudi Panangkarupatti is also referred to as palm jaggery.

Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Udangudi Panangkarupatti is produced throughout the year, but the quality of the jaggery is best during the monsoon season. It is a dark brown color and has a chewy, caramel-like consistency.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to Rani Durgavati, consider the following statements:

- 1. She was born in Mahoba's Chandela dynasty.
- 2. She surrendered to the Mughals after the Battle of Chauragarh.
- 3. She is remembered as a symbol of Indian resistance against imperialism.

Which of the statements given 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. Rani Durgavati was born in Mahoba's Chandela dynasty. She is remembered as a symbol of Indian resistance against imperialism.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Rani Durgavati did not surrender to the Mughals after the Battle of Chauragarh. She fought bravely and was killed in battle.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.3) With reference to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, consider the following statements:

- 1. The council is meant to make recommendations to the Union and the states on important issues related to GST, like the goods and services that may be subjected or exempted from GST.
- 2. It is a government body that is responsible for setting the prices of goods and services.
- 3. The Council's decisions are not legally binding.

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: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. The council is meant to make recommendations to the Union and the states on important issues related to GST, like the goods and services that may be subjected or **exempted from GST**.

Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The GST Council is a government body in India responsible for setting tax rates and making policy decisions related to the Goods and Services Tax (GST). It does not set the prices of goods and services in the market rather it sets the taxes. The GST Council's decisions are legally binding in India.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.4) With reference to the Territorial Army (TA) consider the following statements:

- 1. The origins of India's Territorial Army can be traced to the days of the British Raj when the British raised a territorial army through the Indian Territorial Act, 1920.
- 2. The primary role of the TA is to relieve the regular army from static duties such as road security and protection of communication lines.
- 3. The TA is only open to Indian citizens who have served in the regular army.

Which of the statements given 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 origins of India's Territorial Army can be traced to the days of the British Raj when the British raised a territorial army through the Indian Territorial Act, 1920. The primary role of the TA is to relieve the regular army from static duties such as road security and protection of communication lines.

Statement 3 is incorrect. While former regular army personnel are eligible to join the TA, it is also open to civilian volunteers who meet the eligibility criteria. Indian citizens, both with and without prior military experience, can join the Territorial Army.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>



Q.5) With reference to Sagar Parikrama, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: It is a campaign to promote the Indian seafood industry.

Statement-II: It is aimed at strengthening the fisheries sector in India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of 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: D

Explanation –

Statement 1 is incorrect. Sagar Parikrama is a transformative journey planned across the coastal belt to show solidarity with the fisherfolk, fish farmers, and related stakeholders, and to promote responsible fisheries and sustainable marine ecosystems.

Statement 2 is correct. Sagar Parikrama is aimed at strengthening the fisheries sector in India. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.6) With reference to Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST) consider the following statements:

- 1. It was established under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.
- 2. It is a process to assess the global response to climate change every year.
- 3. The outcome of the GST shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their action and support, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

Which of the statements given 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. GST was established under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement. The outcome of the GST shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their action and support, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Global Stocktake is a process established under the Paris Agreement to assess the collective progress of countries towards achieving the goals of the agreement. It is not conducted annually. It is a process under the Paris Agreement that occurs every five years.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.7) With reference to Travel for LiFE Initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative aims to create awareness about sustainable tourism and encourage tourists and tourism businesses to take simple actions that result in conservation of the environment and promotion of responsible tourism practices.
- 2. It encourages tourism businesses to adopt sustainable practices and earn certification at bronze, silver, and gold levels within the program.
- 3. It promotes specific types of tourism, such as ecotourism and adventure tourism.

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. Travel for LiFE Initiative aims to create awareness about sustainable tourism and encourage tourists and tourism businesses to take simple actions that result in conservation of the environment and promotion of responsible tourism practices. It encourages tourism businesses to adopt sustainable practices and earn certification at bronze, silver, and gold levels within the program.

Statement 3 is incorrect. There is no such aim of the initiative. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.8) Consider the following statements with reference to the animal Dhole:

- 1. They are also known as Asian wild dogs.
- 2. In India, Dholes can be found in Eastern Ghats.
- 3. They are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Dholes are also known as Asian wild dogs. In India, Dholes are found in three clusters namely the Western and Eastern Ghats, central Indian landscape and North East India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. They are listed in Schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. **Source:** <u>ForumIAS</u>



Q.9) With reference to the Mediation Act 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. The act requires persons to try to settle civil or commercial disputes through mediation before approaching any court or tribunal.
- 2. Mediation proceedings under the Act must be completed within a period of 120 days from the date of the first appearance before the mediator, which may be extended for a maximum period of 60 days.
- 3. The areas included in mediation involves serious allegations of fraud, criminal offenses, environmental matters reserved for the National Green Tribunal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The act requires persons to try to settle civil or commercial disputes through mediation before approaching any court or tribunal. Mediation proceedings under the Act must be completed within a period of 120 days from the date of the first appearance before the mediator, which may be extended for a maximum period of 60 days.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The areas excluded from mediation Act include serious allegations of fraud, criminal offenses, environmental matters reserved for the National Green Tribunal, and matters relating to competition, telecom, securities and electricity law and land acquisition. **Source:** ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Israel is the third-largest Asian trade partner of India.
- 2. After Russia, Israel supplies the most military equipment to India.
- 3. Israel's major exports to India include precious stones and metals, electronic equipment, fertilisers, machines, etc.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Israel is the third-largest Asian trade partner of India and 10th overall. After Russia, Israel supplies the most military equipment to India, with the military business between the two worth over Rs 74,000 crore. Israel's major exports to India include precious stones and metals, electronic equipment, fertilisers, machines, etc. **Source: DNA**



PRELIMS

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

- 1. PUSA-44 is a semi-dwarf indica rice variety developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- 2. It is a high-yielding variety that is resistant to pests and diseases.
- 3. The time period required by PUSA-44 to get mature is lesser than other paddy varieties.

Which of the statements given 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. PUSA-44 is a semi-dwarf indica rice variety developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). It is a high-yielding variety that is resistant to pests and diseases.

Statement 3 is incorrect. PUSA-44 takes about 160 days to mature, which is much longer (about 35-40 days) than other paddy varieties.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Complementary feeding is the process of introducing solid foods and/or liquids other than breast milk or infant formula to a baby's diet before they reach 6 months of age.
- 2. The Take Home Rations (THR) programme offers fortified rations for use at home for children aged 6 to 36 months as well as pregnant and lactating women, with the goal of bridging the nutrition gap among them.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), complementary feeding should not be started before 6 months of age. This is because the baby's digestive system is not fully developed before 6 months old, and they are at risk of malnutrition.

Statement 2 is correct. The Take Home Rations (THR) programme offers fortified rations for use at home for children aged 6 to 36 months as well as pregnant and lactating women, with the goal of bridging the nutrition gap among them.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.3) With reference to Vilayati kikar (Prosopis juliflora) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a native species to India.
- 2. It has a deep root system that can tap into underground water supplies, leading to water shortages for native plants and animals.
- 3. It is a valuable source of fodder for livestock.

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. Vilayati kikar is native to Mexico, South America, and the Caribbean. It was introduced to India in the 19th century by the British.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Vilayati kikar has a deep root system that can tap into underground water supplies, leading to water shortages for native plants and animals. It is a valuable source of fodder for livestock

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the apex organization for the promotion and development of cooperatives in India.
- 2. It is a statutory corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament.

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: C

Explanation –

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. NCDC is the apex organization for the promotion and development of cooperatives in India. It is a statutory corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on 13 March 1963.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.5) With reference to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) consider the following statements:

- 1. The PLFS results can be used primarily to calculate the overall GDP of India.
- 2. As per the PLFS 2022-23, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has increased in rural areas from 2017-18.

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. While PLFS provides valuable information about labor force participation and employment, it is not the primary source for GDP calculations.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the PLFS 2022-23, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has increased in rural areas from 50.7% in 2017-18 to 60.8% in 2022-23.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.6) With reference to Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the India Myanmar Border (IMB), consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The FMR was implemented as part of India's Act East policy to improve relations with Myanmar and promote trade and cultural exchange.

Statement-II: The FMR allows people from all nationalities and ethnicities living within 16 km of the IMB to travel freely between India and Myanmar without a visa.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of 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: C

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. The FMR was implemented as part of India's Act East policy to improve relations with Myanmar and promote trade and cultural exchange.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Free Movement Regime (FMR) is specific to Indian and Myanmar citizens. It does not apply to people from other countries or nationalities, even if they live within the 16 km zone near the Indo-Myanmar border.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.7) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) consider the following statements:

- 1. It was launched by the government to provide for the welfare of areas and people affected by mining related operations.
- 2. The scheme offers financial support to mining companies to help them achieve their goals.
- 3. PMKKKY provides for utilization of at least 60% of the funds for high priority areas like drinking water supply, environment preservation and pollution control measures, etc.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. PMKKKY was launched by the government to provide for the welfare of areas and people affected by mining related operations. It provides for utilization of at least 60% of the funds for high priority areas like drinking water supply, environment preservation and pollution control measures, etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme is not intended to provide financial assistance to mining companies but rather to address the social and environmental concerns associated with mining operations.

Source: <u>ForumIAS</u>

Q.8) With reference to Multimodal artificial intelligence (AI) consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a type of AI that can process and understand multiple types of data, or modalities, such as text, images, audio, and video.
- 2. It is based on transfer learning to minimize the problem of the machine learning field.

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. Multimodal artificial intelligence is a type of AI that can process and understand multiple types of data, or modalities, such as text, images, audio, and video.
Statement 2 is incorrect. Multimodal AI is not a technique based on transfer learning but rather a field within artificial intelligence that focuses on processing and understanding information from multiple data sources or modalities, such as text, images, audio, and video.
Source: ForumIAS



Q.9) With reference to Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) consider the following statements:

- 1. India introduced the CCTS under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, to manage greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. It is a system that allows companies and individuals to buy and sell carbon credits, which represent the right to emit a certain amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases.

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: C

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India introduced the CCTS under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, to manage greenhouse gas emissions. It is a system that allows companies and individuals to buy and sell carbon credits, which represent the right to emit a certain amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases.

Source: ForumIAS



PRELIMS

Q.1) Which of the following is correct with reference to Hemochromatosis?

- 1. It is a condition in which the body does not absorb enough iron from the food.
- 2. It has been dubbed "bronze diabetes" because of the skin darkening and concomitant pancreatic illness.
- 3. The most common type of hemochromatosis is hereditary hemochromatosis, which is caused by a gene change passed down through families.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statement 1 is incorrect. Hemochromatosis, also known as iron overload, is a genetic disorder that causes the body to absorb too much iron from food.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Hemochromatosis has been dubbed "bronze diabetes" because of the skin darkening and concomitant pancreatic illness. The most common type of hemochromatosis is hereditary hemochromatosis, which is caused by a gene change passed down through families.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is a process of adding sensitive data to a text to make it more secure.
- 2. It is commonly used in the financial industry to protect credit card numbers, account numbers, and other personal financial information.
- 3. It enhances data security through encryption.

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 3 are incorrect. Tokenisation is the process of replacing sensitive data with a non-sensitive token. This token is a unique identifier that is generated using a cryptographic algorithm. The original data is stored securely in a separate location, known as a token vault. Tokenization is not a way to make data more secure by encrypting it. Encryption and tokenization are two different security techniques that can be used to protect data.

Statement 2 is correct. Tokenisation is commonly used in the financial industry to protect credit card numbers, account numbers, and other personal financial information. The RBI Governor has recently proposed the introduction of card-on-file tokenization (CoFT) facility at the issuerbank level.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Capacity Building scheme under Digital India programme envisions building adequate and relevant capacities at all levels in the Government.
- 2. The Digital India programme aims to transform India into a knowledge-based economy and a digitally empowered society by ensuring digital services, digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide.

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. Capacity Building scheme under Digital India programme envisions building adequate and relevant capacities at all levels in the Government. The Digital India programme aims to transform India into a knowledge-based economy and a digitally empowered society by ensuring digital services, digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gaganyaan Mission aims to demonstrate the capability to send humans to low earth orbit (LEO) onboard an Indian Launch Vehicle and bring them back to earth safely.
- 2. Test Vehicle Development Flight (TV-D1) is the first crewed test flight of the Gaganyaan spacecraft.

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: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Gaganyaan Mission aims to demonstrate the capability to send humans to low earth orbit (LEO) onboard an Indian Launch Vehicle and bring them back to earth safely. **Statemen 2** is incorrect. The TV-D1 is uncrewed test flight of the Gaganyaan spacecraft. It is a high-altitude abort test as part of the Gaganyaan program. It will test the Gaganyaan spacecraft's performance in a variety of environments and conditions, and will help to ensure that it is safe for human astronauts to fly on.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework:

- 1. The PCA framework is a set of guidelines that enable the RBI to provide financial assistance to NBFCs that are facing financial difficulties.
- 2. The PCA framework aims to dilute the effectiveness of the financial sector by identifying potential problem areas and taking proactive measures.

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: D

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The PCA framework is actually a set of guidelines that enable the RBI to intervene in NBFCs that are showing signs of financial stress. The PCA framework is intended to strengthen the financial sector by identifying and addressing potential problems early.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Italy is India's third largest European trading partner.
- 2. India's primary exports to Italy comprise metals such as iron and steel, leather, chemicals, gems, and jewellery.
- 3. Italy is a member of International Solar Alliance.

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. Italy is India's fourth largest European trading partner and the 12th largest foreign investor in the country with FDI reaching the US\$2 billion mark in 2020.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India's primary exports to Italy comprise metals such as iron and steel, leather, chemicals, gems, and jewellery. In 2021, India and Italy inked a Strategic Partnership on Energy Transition to advance collaboration on areas like green hydrogen and biofuels and Italy also joined the successful India-France led International Solar Alliance. **Source: ForumIAS**



Q.7) With reference to BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) consider the following statements:

- 1. The BRICS ICC is an annual conference on climate change and environmental protection.
- 2. The conference also helps to promote the importance of competition law and enforcement in promoting economic growth and innovation.
- 3. The 8th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) 2023 is being hosted by Brazil.

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 3 are incorrect. The BRICS ICC is a biennial conference organized by the competition authorities of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. It fosters cooperation, experience sharing, and discussions on competition enforcement challenges. The 8th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) 2023 is being hosted by India.

Statement 2 is correct. BRICS ICC helps to promote the importance of competition law and enforcement in promoting economic growth and innovation.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.8) With reference to Exercise Bharat NCX 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to train senior management and technical personnel of Government/Critical Sector organizations and Public and Private agencies on contemporary cyber threats and handling cyber incidents and response.
- 2. It is being organized by the Ministry of Defense (MoD) in partnership with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. Exercise Bharat NCX 2023 aims to train senior management and technical personnel of Government/Critical Sector organizations and Public and Private agencies on contemporary cyber threats and handling cyber incidents and response.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Exercise Bharat NCX 2023 is being organized by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) in strategic partnership with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU). **Source:** ForumIAS



Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Gaza Strip is a sovereign state located on the west coast of the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Egypt to the north and east and Israel to the southwest.
- 2. Hamas seeks to establish an Islamic state in all of historical Palestine, from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, and to liberate the Palestinian territories from Israeli occupation.

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 Gaza Strip is not a sovereign state. It is a Palestinian territory located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Israel to the north and east and Egypt to the southwest.

Statement 2 is correct. Hamas seeks to establish an Islamic state in all of historical Palestine, from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, and to liberate the Palestinian territories from Israeli occupation.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.10) Consider the followings statements:

- 1. Ayurvedic medicine focuses on the root cause of the disease and aims to treat the whole person, while modern medicine focuses on treating the symptoms of the disease.
- 2. Ayurvedic medicine is not regulated in the same way as modern medicine in India.
- 3. Ayurveda employs extensive surgical procedures to treat disease.

Which of the statements given 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. Ayurvedic medicine focuses on the root cause of the disease and aims to treat the whole person, while modern medicine focuses on treating the symptoms of the disease. Ayurvedic medicine is not regulated in the same way as modern medicine in India. **Statement 3** is incorrect. In modern medicine, surgical procedures are extensive and cover a wide range of medical conditions and treatments. Ayurveda, on the other hand, historically had a more limited scope for surgical procedures compared to modern medicine.

Source: ForumIAS



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to Global Amphibian Assessment, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a comprehensive assessment of the conservation status of all known amphibian species.
- 2. As per the Second Global Amphibian Assessment report, the Micrixalus genus (dancing frogs) in the Western Ghats is the most threatened frog genus in India.
- 3. As per the Second Global Amphibian Assessment report, all amphibians are declining at the same rate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Global Amphibian Assessment is a comprehensive assessment of the conservation status of all known amphibian species. As per the Second Global Amphibian Assessment report, the Micrixalus genus (dancing frogs) in the Western Ghats is the most threatened frog genus in India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Second Global Amphibian Assessment (GAA2) report found that while all amphibians are declining, the rates of decline vary depending on the species and the region.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) With reference to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) consider the following statements:

- 1. The CTBT allows for low-level nuclear explosions or experiments that produce nuclear yield among the five nuclear weapons states.
- 2. The CTBT has been ratified by all the Annex II states.
- 3. As per the treaty, any country that violates the CTBT will be subject to economic sanctions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation -

Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The CTBT prohibits all nuclear test explosions, regardless of their yield. As of September 2023, out of 44 Annex II states five of the Annex II states have signed but not ratified the CTBT, including China, Egypt, Iran, Israel, and the United States. Violating the CTBT has political repercussions, but the treaty doesn't outline specific economic sanctions, i.e., violation will lead to economic sanctions has not been outlined in any of the articles of the treaty.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.3) Which of the following statement is correct?

- a) Cashew was first introduced in India at Pondicherry by the French.
- b) At the time of the introduction of the cashew, it was known mainly as a crop for soil degradation.
- c) The first cashew factory was started in Seringapatam.
- d) Goan cashew (kernel) has been granted the geographical indication (GI) tag.

Answer: D

Explanation – Cashew was native to northeast Brazil in Latin America and was introduced to Goa by the Portuguese in the 16th century (1570). At the time of its introduction on Indian coasts, cashew was known mainly as a crop for afforestation and soil conservation. The first cashew factory in Goa started operations in 1926 and the first consignment of cashew kernels was exported in 1930.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a scholarship program that provides full tuition and living expenses to all Indian youth who want to attend college.
- 2. It will allow youth to get access to resources & connection to opportunities.

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. It is a platform for youth development that provides youth with access to information and resources, supports youth-led development projects and initiatives, builds the leadership skills and capacities of youth, and promotes social cohesion and harmony among youth.

Statement 2 is correct. MY Bharat will allow youth to get access to resources & connection to opportunities.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gaza is called an open-air prison because of the severe restrictions on movement and access to goods and services that have been imposed on the Strip by Israel and Egypt for many years.
- 2. The blockade has led to widespread poverty and unemployment in Gaza.

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: C Explanation –



Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Gaza is called an open-air prison because of the severe restrictions on movement and access to goods and services that have been imposed on the Strip by Israel and Egypt for many years. The blockade has led to widespread poverty and unemployment in Gaza.

Source: ForumIAS

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

- 1. It is the world's smallest flowering plant.
- 2. It lacks roots, stems, or leaves.
- 3. It grows in salt water.
- 4. It is a producer of oxygen and a rich source of protein.

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. Watermeal is the world's smallest flowering plant. It lacks roots, stems, or leaves It is a producer of oxygen through photosynthesis and a rich source of protein.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Watermeal thrives in quiet, nutrient-rich freshwater environments like ponds, lakes and marshes.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Niobium oxidizes in Earth's atmosphere very slowly, which makes it a good choice for jewelry as a hypoallergenic alternative to nickel.
- 2. Niobium is a poor conductor of electricity.
- 3. The main source of Niobium is the mineral columbite.

Which of the statements given 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. Niobium oxidizes in Earth's atmosphere very slowly, which makes it a good choice for jewelry as a hypoallergenic alternative to nickel. The main source of Niobium is the mineral columbite, which is found in countries such as Canada, Brazil, Australia, and Nigeria.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Niobium is a good conductor of electricity.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.8) With reference to the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) consider the following statements:

- 1. It's a mechanism designed to prevent carbon leakage.
- 2. The CBAM will be ineffective because it only covers a small number of sectors.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. CBAM is mechanism designed to prevent carbon leakage.

Statement 2 is incorrect. While it's true that the CBAM only covers a limited number of industries, such as steel and cement, it's designed to be a first step in a broader effort to address carbon emissions. In addition, even though the CBAM only covers a small number of industries, these industries make up a significant portion of global carbon emissions. Hence, it is incorrect to say that it would be ineffective.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Subsidies on water and electricity led farmers to excessively grow water-intensive paddy crops.
- 2. Farmers burn stubble to prepare fields due to limited time between harvests.
- 3. Subsidies encourage practices that are not always beneficial in the long term.

Which of the statements given 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. Subsidies on water and electricity led farmers to excessively grow water-intensive paddy crops. Farmers burn stubble to prepare fields due to limited time between harvests. Subsidies encourage practices not always beneficial in the long term. **Source:** ForumIAS



Q.10) Which of the following are direct causes of the persistence of inter-state water disputes in India?

- 1. Unbalanced distribution of powers between Union and state governments
- 2. High illiteracy
- 3. Unscientific water data management

Select the correct codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation – Unbalanced distribution of powers between Union and state governments and Unscientific water data management, among others, are the reason for persistence of Inter-State Water Disputes. High Illiteracy is not a direct cause of inter-state water disputes in India. **Source:** ForumIAS



PRELIMS

Q.1) With reference to the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) consider the following statements:

- 1. IORA plays a significant role in enhancing regional cooperation and advancing sustainable development in the Indian Ocean region.
- 2. IORA aims to establish dominance in the Indian Ocean region, asserting control over it as its territory.
- 3. During the recent Council of Ministers (COM) meeting of IORA, member countries resolved to encourage the adoption of a common currency for trade among them.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation -

Statement 1 is correct. IORA is an inter-governmental organisation consisting of 23 states bordering the Indian Ocean. It was founded in 1997 to foster regional cooperation and economic development. It plays a significant role in enhancing regional cooperation and advancing sustainable development in the Indian Ocean region.

Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. IORA is focused on promoting cooperation, dialogue, and development among its member countries in the Indian Ocean region and it does intend to establish dominance in the Indian Ocean region, asserting control over it as its territory. During the recent Council of Ministers (COM) meeting of IORA, countries adopted the Colombo Communique. The Communique welcomed Sri Lanka as the new Chair of IORA and India as the new Vice-Chair for the year 2023-25. It also adopted the IORA Vision 2030 and beyond, which sets out the Association's long-term goals and priorities.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Sagar Maitri Mission is a joint military exercise involving India's three branches of the armed forces, conducted to assess their readiness in responding to potential threats in India's coastal regions.
- 2. The INS Sagardhwani is a warship equipped with advanced weapons and surveillance systems.

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: D

Explanation -

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Sagar Maitri Mission is an initiative by the DRDO to establish long-term scientific partnerships with Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries, namely: Oman, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and Myanmar. INS



Sagardhwani is a marine acoustic research ship (MARS) owned by the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), a DRDO laboratory. The ship is designed to carry out oceanographic research, including marine acoustic research, and is equipped with advanced scientific instruments and sensors. The ship is not designed or equipped for military operations or surveillance activities.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.3) In the context of the Rubber Industry in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. India is one of the largest consumers of natural rubber globally.
- 2. Approximately 40% of India's total natural rubber consumption is currently met through imports, as the domestic production falls short of meeting the demand.
- 3. Conveyor belt is the largest consumer of rubber in India, accounting for over 50% of the total consumption.

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: D

Explanation –

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indian rubber industry is crucial to the economy, offering employment to millions. It comprises two main sectors: natural rubber and synthetic rubber. Natural rubber comes from rubber tree latex, while synthetic rubber is petroleum-based. The natural rubber sector dominates, constituting over 80% of India's rubber consumption, making India a major global consumer of natural rubber. Kerala is the largest producer of natural rubber in India, followed by Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The rubber industry in India is highly dependent on natural rubber imports, as the domestic production is not sufficient to meet the demand.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The tyre sector is the largest consumer of rubber in India, accounting for over 50% of the total consumption. Other major consumers of rubber include the footwear, conveyor belt, and hose industries.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.4) With reference to the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023, consider the following statements:

- 1. In the rankings provided by the index, India is positioned below Sri Lanka, indicating that India's performance in the assessed criteria falls short of that of Sri Lanka.
- 2. Access to clean water and sanitation for children under the age of five is included among the indicators utilized by the Global Hunger Index (GHI).

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: A Explanation –



Statement 1 is correct. As per the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023, India has been ranked 111 out of a total of 125 countries in 2023. India's neighboring countries, Pakistan (102), Bangladesh (81), Nepal (69th), and Sri Lanka (60) have performed better than India in the index. India ranked 107th out of 121 countries in 2022.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The GHI is a composite index that combines four indicators: 1) Undernourishment: The proportion of the population that is undernourished (i.e., does not have enough to eat to lead a normal, active life), 2) Child stunting: The proportion of children under the age of five who are stunted (i.e., have low height for their age), 3) Child wasting: The proportion of children under the age of five who are wasted (i.e., have low weight for their height.) and 4) Child mortality: The under-five mortality rate (i.e., the number of children who die before their fifth birthday per 1,000 live births).

Source: ForumIAS

Q.5) In which of the following, Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) find practical applications?

- 1. Studies related to space weather
- 2. Areas with high levels of atmospheric interference
- 3. Bharatmala and Sagarmala Projects
- 4. Regions characterized by inadequate GPS signal reception

Select the correct codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation – Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) can be prone to errors. Hence, Survey of India has set up a network of Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) to enhance accuracy, offering highly precise real-time positioning with an accuracy of approximately ±3 cm. CORS can be applied in studying space weather, Bharatmala and Sagarmala Projects for improving the logistics sector and other government schemes for mapping and surveys. In areas with high levels of atmospheric interference, the CORS station may not be able to provide accurate positioning data and similarly in regions characterized by inadequate GPS signal reception.

Source: ForumIAS



Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A challenge trial involves providing an additional option to the defendant during the legal proceedings.
- 2. Challenge trials provide the opportunity to conduct a Polygraph Test, subject to the defendant's voluntary agreement to undergo this test.

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-

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Challenge trials infect animals with a pathogen to assess vaccines or treatments. They help determine minimum infectious doses, immunity duration, and vaccine effectiveness. Recently, the Central Panel for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) has withdrawn its 2022 circular that allowed stray dogs to be used in vaccine trials.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.7) With reference to Passport to Earning (P2E) Initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a digital platform that aims to provide young people with free, world-class and jobrelevant skills training and position them for employment opportunities.
- 2. The significance of this initiative lies in its proactive approach to tackling the increasing skills gap experienced by youth on a global scale.
- 3. The initiation of the program in India is currently hindered by the relatively low percentage of the population with access to passports.

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. P2E Initiative is a digital platform that aims to provide young people with free, world-class and job-relevant skills training and position them for employment opportunities. The significance of this initiative lies in its proactive approach to tackling the increasing skills gap experienced by youth on a global scale. The initiative has been launched by the UNICEF.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Till now, P2E Initiative has skilled and certified more than one million young people in India in areas of financial literacy and digital productivity. Notably, 62% of all young learners who benefitted from P2E courses in India are adolescent girls and young women. **Source:** ForumIAS



Q.8) Govt has removed lithium and niobium from the list of 'specified' atomic minerals. What might be the implications of this decision?

- 1. Restrict the exploration and production of these minerals in India.
- 2. Privatization of these minerals' exploration and mining.
- 3. Boost the economy

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation – Govt has removed lithium and niobium from the list of 'specified' atomic minerals. This will make it easier for private companies to explore and mine these minerals in India. This will help to increase the domestic production of these minerals and reduce India's dependence on imports. Ultimately, boosting the economy.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Other Backward Classes (OBCs) is a classification based on caste.
- 2. There is no clear way of defining the OBCs like there is for SCs and STs.
- 3. The OBCs are the largest social group in India.

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. OBC is an administrative category and not a caste category. Castes are social groups that are defined by birth. OBCs, on the other hand, are a diverse group of castes and communities that are united by their social and economic backwardness.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. There is no clear way of defining the OBCs like there is for SCs and STs because OBCs are a diverse group of castes and communities that are united by their social and economic backwardness. According to the 2011 census, the OBCs make up 41% of the Indian population. This makes the OBCs the largest social group in India.

Source: ForumIAS

