

ForumIAS

F

Prelims Marathon

November, 2023

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

FORUMIAS



Science

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding solid fuel ducted ramjet:

1. It is a missile propulsion system that includes a thrust modulated ducted rocket with a reduced smoke nozzle-less missile booster.
2. The system utilizes a solid fuelled air breathing Ramjet Engine.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: SFDR is a missile propulsion system that includes a thrust modulated ducted rocket with a reduced smoke nozzle-less missile booster.

First flight of SFDR, developed under a joint Indo-Russian R&D project, was tested in 2018. It had achieved the speed of Mach 3.

The system utilizes a solid fuelled air breathing Ramjet Engine.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding "BrahMos":

1. It is a universal long range supersonic cruise missile system that can be launched from land, sea and air against surface and sea-based targets.
2. BrahMos is collaboration between India and Russia.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: BrahMos is a universal long range supersonic cruise missile system that can be launched from land, sea and air against surface and sea-based targets.

BrahMos is collaboration between India (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)) and Russia (NPO Mashinostoyenia). Name represents Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The S-400 system is often seen in news developed by?

- a) Russia
- b) Israel
- c) USA
- d) Japan

ANS: A

Explanation: India on track for sanctions waiver from US for buying Russian S-400 missile system.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

S-400 is a mobile long-range surface-to-air missile (LR-SAM) system.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements Agni – 3 missiles:

1. It has a range of over 3000 kilometers and can carry a payload of over 1.5 tonnes.
2. It was conceived under Integrated Guided Missile Development Program.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Agni-3 has a range of over 3000 kilometers and can carry a payload of over 1.5 tonnes.

- Agni series of missiles constitute the backbone of India's nuclear weapons delivery.
- It was conceived under Integrated Guided Missile Development Program.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "HELINA":

1. It is helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM).
2. It is developed by Israel.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Indigenously developed (by DRDO) helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) 'HELINA' was successfully flight tested.

- About HELINA (Helicopter based NAG): It is third generation fire and forgets class ATGM system mounted on the Advanced Light Helicopter.
- The system has all weather day and night capability.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The "INS Vikrant" is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Submarine
- b) Frigates
- c) Aircraft carrier
- d) Anti – tank missile

ANS: C

Explanation: PM commissioned India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier INS (Indian Naval Ship) Vikrant.

INS Vikrant has been designed by Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Design, and built at Cochin Shipyard Limited, a public sector shipyard under Ministry of Shipping.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) The “Carl-Gustaf M4” is recently seen in news developed by?

- a) Switzerland
- b) Sweden
- c) Israel
- d) Germany

ANS: B

Explanation: Sweden has announced plans to manufacture its Carl-Gustaf M4 weapon system in India.

- The Army has been using the Carl-Gustaf since 1976 and currently operates the Mk2 and Mk3 versions.
- The Carl-Gustaf recoilless rifle is a man-portable, multi-role weapon system.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The term “vagir” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Submarine
- b) Frigates
- c) Aircraft carrier
- d) Anti – tank missile

ANS: A

Explanation: Vagir is the fifth Scorpène- class conventional submarine under Project-75.

- It is a Kalvari class diesel-electric attack submarine.
- Vagir was launched into water on November 12, 2020 and commenced sea trials on February 1, 2022.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The term “chinook helicopter” is often seen in news developed by?

- a) USA
- b) Israel
- c) India
- d) Germany

ANS: A

Explanation: Chinook is a multi-role, vertical-lift platform, which is used for transporting troops, artillery, equipment, and fuel even over difficult terrains.

It is also used for humanitarian and disaster relief operations. It was inducted into the Indian Air Force in 2019.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Satkosia Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Odisha
- d) Kerala

ANS: C

Explanation: Satkosia Tiger Reserve, Bhubaneswar comprises two adjoining sanctuaries of central Odisha named as Satkosia Gorge Sanctuary and Baisipalli Sanctuary.

These two sanctuaries together covering an area of 963.87 sq km were notified as Tiger Reserve in December 2007.

Source: FORUMIAS

Science

Q.1) The “genetic engineering appraisal committee” functions under?

- a) Ministry of earth sciences
- b) Ministry of consumer affairs
- c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- d) Ministry of Industry

ANS: C

Explanation: The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

- As per Rules, 1989, it is responsible for appraisal of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.
- The committee is also responsible for appraisal of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered (GE) organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding CRISPR:

1. CRISPR is a genetic code or sequence found in bacteria.
2. Bacteria use CRISPR sequence to remember each specific virus that attacks them by incorporating virus DNA into their own bacterial genome.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: CRISPR is a genetic code or sequence found in bacteria. It is formed due to the activity of the previous bacteriophages that had infected them.

- Bacteria use CRISPR sequence to remember each specific virus that attacks them by incorporating virus DNA into their own bacterial genome.
- This gives the bacteria protection when a specific virus tries to attack again.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following IIT indigenously developed the “Chimeric Antigen Receptor T (CAR – T)”?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) IIT Hyderabad
- d) IIT Delhi

ANS: B

Explanation: For the first time that CAR-T therapy, indigenously developed by IIT Bombay and Tata Memorial Centre, and was tested on patients in India.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) The Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC) was inaugurated at?

- a) Haryana
- b) Telangana
- c) Kerala
- d) West Bengal

ANS: A

Explanation: Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC) was inaugurated at Faridabad, Haryana.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP):

1. It has developed by Department of Biotechnology.
2. It aims to track the regulatory approvals for a research proposal on a single portal.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Department of Biotechnology has developed BioRRAP to track the regulatory approvals for a research proposal on a single portal.

- BioRRAP provides a single route to direct the applicant to regulatory agencies providing requisite approval relevant to the biological research.
- BioRRAP ID generated through this portal is linked with the portals of various regulatory agencies.
- This will provide more credibility to such biological research and will strengthen interdepartmental synergies and increase efficacy in functioning of agencies regulating various aspect of biological research.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The “SPARK programme” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Ayurveda research
- b) Foreign scholarship
- c) Skill development of nano technology
- d) Bioinformatics

ANS: A

Explanation: SPARK aims to support the research ideas of young undergraduate students.

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) will offer research fellowships to young undergraduate students enrolled in Ayurveda colleges across the country.
- CCRAS is the apex body, Under Ministry of AYUSH, for research in Ayurveda on scientific lines.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Graphene”:

1. It is a single layer of carbon atoms, tightly bound in a hexagonal honeycomb lattice.
2. It is an allotrope of carbon.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Graphene is a single layer of carbon atoms, tightly bound in a hexagonal honeycomb lattice. It is an allotrope of carbon.

Thinnest compound at one atom thick, lightest material known, strongest compound discovered, good conductor of heat and electricity etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Hyperloop system”:

1. It consists of a low-pressure tube, a pod, and a linear motor.
2. The tube is evacuated to create a near-vacuum, which reduces air resistance and allows the pod to travel at high speeds.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A Hyperloop system consists of a low-pressure tube, a pod, and a linear motor.

- The tube is evacuated to create a near-vacuum, which reduces air resistance and allows the pod to travel at high speeds.
- The pod is propelled by a linear motor, which uses electromagnetic fields to move the pod along the tube.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Trans fats”:

1. They are unsaturated fats that have been artificially altered to make them solid at room temperature.
2. They are created by adding hydrogen to liquid vegetable oils, a process known as hydrogenation.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Trans fats are unsaturated fats that have been artificially altered to make them solid at room temperature.

- They are created by adding hydrogen to liquid vegetable oils, a process known as hydrogenation.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Trans fats are often used in processed foods to improve texture, shelf life, and flavor.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Parambikulam Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Goa

ANS: A

Explanation: Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is administratively under the control of the Kerala Forest Department. KFD is a law enforcement agency for the state of Kerala and is one of the few oldest and important administrative organs of the State with its Headquarters at Thiruvananthapuram.

Source: FORUMIAS

Science

Q.1) The “Muscat Manifesto” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Antimicrobial resistance
- b) Cloning
- c) Vaccine development
- d) GM crops

ANS: A

Explanation: The Muscat Manifesto is a declaration of intent by countries and organizations to accelerate action on antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

It was adopted at the Third Global Ministerial Conference on AMR, which was held in Muscat, Oman, in November 2022.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following international organization negotiated the pandemic treaty?

- a) WHO
- b) UNEP
- c) UNDP
- d) World Bank

ANS: A

The Pandemic Treaty is a proposed international agreement that would strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

The treaty is being negotiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and its 194 member states.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Bio-ethanol is derived from crops like corn and sugarcane through fermentation.
2. Bio-diesel is derived from vegetable oils, waste oils, and animal fats through transesterification.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Bio-ethanol: Derived from crops like corn and sugarcane through fermentation. Used as a blending agent with petrol, improving combustion performance and reducing emissions.

- Biodiesel: Derived from vegetable oils, waste oils, and animal fats through transesterification. Has lower emissions compared to diesel and can be used as an alternative fuel.
- Biogas: Produced by anaerobic decomposition of organic matter, such as animal and human waste. Used for heating, electricity, and in automobiles.
- Bio-butanol: Produced through the fermentation of starch, similar to bio-ethanol. Has high energy content and can be added to diesel to reduce emissions. Also used as a solvent and in the textile industry.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Clean Tech Exchange IC4” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Clean technology innovation centers
- b) Hybrid energy development
- c) Sustainable agriculture
- d) Plantations

ANS: A

Explanation: Clean Tech Exchange IC4 is a global network of clean technology innovation centers.

The network was launched in 2016 by the United States Department of Energy and the United Kingdom Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Mission Innovation is a global initiative aimed at addressing the urgent need for clean energy innovation to combat climate change and promote sustainable development.
2. Mission Innovation was launched in 2015 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mission Innovation is a global initiative aimed at addressing the urgent need for clean energy innovation to combat climate change and promote sustainable development.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Launched in 2015 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21), this collaborative effort brings together 24 countries and the European commission to double their investment in clean energy research and development.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding ethanol blending programme:

1. It was launched in 2003 with the goal of blending 5% ethanol with petrol.
2. The government has set a target of blending 20% ethanol with petrol by 2025.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Ethanol Blending Program is a government-led initiative to promote the use of ethanol in India.

- The program was launched in 2003 with the goal of blending 5% ethanol with petrol.
- The program has been successful in increasing the use of ethanol in India, and the government has now set a target of blending 20% ethanol with petrol by 2025.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding hydrogen fuel cell:

1. It utilizes hydrogen as a fuel to drive an electrochemical process that produces electricity.
2. Generating the water and heat as the sole by-products.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Hydrogen fuel cells are a clean, reliable, quiet, and efficient source of high-quality electric power.

- They utilize hydrogen as a fuel to drive an electrochemical process that produces electricity, generating only water and heat as the sole by-products.
- With hydrogen being one of the most abundant elements on Earth, it presents a cleaner alternative fuel option.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) are automobiles capable of running on a blend of gasoline and alternative fuels like ethanol or methanol.
2. Flex-fuel vehicles are designed to run on any blend of gasoline and ethanol up to 85% ethanol (E85).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) are automobiles capable of running on a blend of gasoline and alternative fuels like ethanol or methanol.

Flex-fuel vehicles are designed to run on any blend of gasoline and ethanol up to 85% ethanol (E85).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following is called as “white gold”?

- a) Petrol
- b) Mercury
- c) Lithium
- d) Copper

ANS: C

Explanation: Months after lithium reserves were discovered in Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, and Karnataka, it is now being reported that a reserve of the cosmic mineral has been discovered in Jharkhand as well.

- The eastern state—surrounded by Chhattisgarh, Bihar and West Bengal—is already known for reserves of Uranium, Mica, Bauxite, Granite, Gold, Silver, Graphite, Magnetite, Dolomite, Fireclay, Quartz, Feldspar, Coal (32 per cent of India), Iron, Copper (25 per cent of India) etc.
- Popularly known as ‘white gold’, lithium is one of the most sought-after minerals globally amid the push towards electric vehicles (EVs), owing to climate change.
- Only a handful of countries in the world have lithium reserves, be it in the form of salt lake brine or mines.
- Yet China, without having the largest lithium reserves, continues to dominate lithium mining and processing.

Source: <https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/economy/story/jharkhand-emerges-as-the-latest-hub-of-lithium-reserves-in-india-400491-2023-10-03>

Q.10) The “Dandeli-Anshi” tiger reserve is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Goa
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Gujarat

ANS: A

Explanation: Karnataka has been declared as No.1 State in Tiger Population in the country. At present the Tiger population is estimated around 300.

- As per India Tiger estimate 2010 conducted by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India.
- The State has 5 Tiger Reserves namely, Bandipur, Bhadra, Nagarhole, Dandeli-Anshi and BRT Tiger Reserves which is headed by Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger), Mysuru & Shivamogga.

Source: FORUMIAS

Science

Q.1) The “Supra Thermal & Energetic Particle Spectrometer (STEPS) instrument” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Mangalyan mission
- b) Chandrayan mission
- c) Shukrayan mission
- d) Aditya L1 mission

ANS: A

Explanation: ISRO successfully launched India’s first space-based observatory-class solar mission to study the Sun on September 2, to study the Sun.

- The Supra Thermal & Energetic Particle Spectrometer (STEPS) instrument, a part of the Aditya Solar Wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX) payload, has begun the collection of scientific data.
- STEPS comprises six sensors, each observing in different directions and measuring supra-thermal and energetic ions.
- The data collected during Earth’s orbits helps scientists to analyze the behavior of particles surrounding the Earth, especially in the presence of the magnetic field of Earth.
- STEPS measurements will continue for the rest of the life of Aditya L1 mission.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The spot where the Chandrayaan-3 Vikram Lander made a soft landing would be named Shiv Shakti Point.
2. The site where the Chandrayaan-2 Lander crash-landed on the Moon's surface in 2019 would be known as Tiranga Point.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The spot where the Chandrayaan-3 Vikram lander made a soft landing would be named Shiv Shakti Point.

- The site where the Chandrayaan-2 Lander crash-landed on the Moon’s surface in 2019 would be known as Tiranga Point.
- August 23, the day the Chandrayaan-3 Lander touched down on the lunar surface, would be celebrated as ‘National Space Day’.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) The gm crop “Varuna” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Mustard
- b) Maize
- c) Paddy
- d) Sugar cane

ANS: A

Explanation: Indian researchers developed the first ever low pungent mustard using Genome Editing (GE)

- New mustard variety is less pungent as it has lesser quantity of glucosinolate at par with the Canola quality limit (30 parts per million or PPM dry weight).
- It is produced through gene editing of ‘Varuna’, a highyielding Indian mustard variety, using CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing technology.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Agnibaan SOrTeD” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Private satellite launch vehicle
- b) Missile rockets
- c) Green hydrogen
- d) Electric vehicle

ANS: A

Explanation: Agnikul Cosmos, an Indian space-tech startup, to carry out a sub-orbital test flight of its launch vehicle called Agnibaan SOrTeD.

- It is a single-stage launch vehicle powered by Agnilet engine, which is an entirely 3D-printed, single-piece, semi-cryogenic engine.
- Agnibaan can carry payloads of up to 100 kg to a low Earth orbit (LEO) of up to 700 km.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “DRACO programme” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Mars
- b) Venus
- c) Moon
- d) Jupiter

ANS: A

Explanation: NASA and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) are working on DRACO program.

DRACO program aims to create a Nuclear Powered Space propulsion system that could cut down the travel time to Mars by half.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.6) The term “Neerakshi” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Frigate
- b) Submarine
- c) Underwater Vehicle
- d) Solar powered drone

ANS: C

Explanation: India launched its first of its kind Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) named ‘Neerakshi.

- It can be used for mine detection, mine disposal, underwater surveys etc.
- It has an endurance of four hours and can go up to 300 metres deep.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The Lunar Codex is a digitized collection of contemporary art, poetry, magazines, music, film, podcasts and books by 30,000 artists, writers, musicians and filmmakers in 157 countries.
2. The Lunar Codex is made up of 4 different time capsules to be launched on Moon.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Lunar Codex is a digitized (or miniaturized) collection of contemporary art, poetry, magazines, music, film, podcasts and books by 30,000 artists, writers, musicians and filmmakers in 157 countries.

- It is made up of 4 different time capsules to be launched on Moon.
- Launched via NASA Artemis / Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) program partners to the Moon.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Euclid mission” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) European Space agency
- b) NASA
- c) ISRO
- d) JAXA

ANS: A

Explanation: ESA’s (European Space Agency) Euclid mission lifted off. Euclid aims to investigate cosmic mysteries of dark matter and dark energy.

It will make a 3D map of the Universe by observing billions of galaxies.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “gravitational waves”:

1. They are ripples in the fabric of space time caused by the most energetic events in the cosmos.
2. Most powerful gravitational waves are created when objects move at very high speeds.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Gravitational Waves are ripples in the fabric of space time caused by the most energetic events in the cosmos, such as black hole mergers and neutron star collisions.

- Most powerful gravitational waves are created when objects move at very high speeds.
- Their presence was first given by Einstein in his Theory of Relativity.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements Higgs boson:

1. It is popularly known as the God particle and is a subatomic particle.
2. Its existence was proved in 2012 through the experiments in LHC at CERN.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Higgs Boson is popularly known as the God particle and is a subatomic particle that was first theorized in the 1960s by physicist Peter Higgs and others.

- Its existence was proved in 2012 through the experiments in LHC at CERN.
- It carries the force that a particle experiences when it moves through an energy field, called the Higgs field that is believed to be present throughout the universe.

Source: FORUMIAS

Science

Q.1) The “Outer Space Treaty” is often seen in news enacted in which of the following year?

- a) 1955
- b) 1967
- c) 1972
- d) 1992

ANS: B

Explanation: Outer Space Treaty 1967: Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “Neuralink chip” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Satya Nadella
- b) Sundar Pichai
- c) Elon Musk
- d) Mark Zuckerberg

ANS: C

Explanation: US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Elon Musk’s Neuralink chip for human trials. It aims to build a next-generation brain implant with at least 100 times more brain connections than devices currently approved by FDA.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT)” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Ladakh
- b) Pune
- c) Bangalore
- d) Hyderabad

ANS: B

Explanation: GMRT is an instrument for studying astrophysical phenomena, ranging from nearby Solar system to the edge of observable Universe, at low radio frequencies (40 to 1450 MHz).

- It is operated by National Centre of Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) Pune, which is part of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.
- GMRT is an indigenous project. Design is based on ‘SMART’ concept – for Stretch Mesh Attached to Rope Trusses.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)”:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It derives its powers from the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: CDSCO works under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

It is a statutory body and established as Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)”:

1. It is a type of hemoglobin disorder.
2. It is inherited blood diseases that affect how oxygen is carried in the body.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a type of hemoglobin disorder, inherited blood diseases that affect how oxygen is carried in the body.

SCD is characterized by a modification in the shape of the red blood cell from a smooth, doughnut shape into a crescent or half-moon shape.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The “Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the statutory committee” is framed under?

- a) Forest act, 1927
- b) Environment (Protection) act, 1986
- c) Biodiversity act, 2002
- d) National Green Tribunal act, 2010

ANS: B

Explanation: GEAC is the statutory committee that functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.

- It is constituted under the “Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells (Rules, 1989)” framed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Its main function is to approve activities involving large-scale use of hazardous and recombinants in industrial production.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The “Phage Therapy” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Bio fertilizers
- b) Bacteria-killing viruses
- c) Mental disorder
- d) Covid after affects

ANS: B

Explanation: Bacteriophages, or phages, are viruses that infect and replicate only in bacterial cells.

- Phage therapy involves using phages to treat bacterial infections.
- Bacteriophages were discovered by Frederick Willian Twort in 1915 (Great Britain) and Felix d’Herelle in 1917 (France).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Project Taara” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Google
- b) Facebook
- c) Apple
- d) IBM

ANS: A

Explanation: Alphabet, parent company of Google, under Project Taara is currently deploying their light beam internet technology in India, Africa, and other locations around the world.

Project Taara utilizes Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) technology where free space acts as a communication channel between transceivers that are in line-of-sight.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Fattah - hypersonic Missile” is developed by?

- a) Iran
- b) UAE
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Pakistan

ANS: A

Explanation: Iran presented its first domestically made hypersonic Missile named “Fattah” having a target range of 1,400 km.

- A hypersonic missile refers to a type of weapon that travels at speeds that exceed five times the speed of sound typically exceeding Mach 5 or approximately 6,174 km/h.
- Hypersonic missiles fly at a much lower altitude than conventional ballistic missiles.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Simlipal Tiger Reserve” is often seen in news related to?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Assam
- c) Goa
- d) Odisha

ANS: D

Explanation: Simlipal is a tiger reserve in the Mayurbhanj district in the Indian state of Odisha covering 2,750 km². It is part of the Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve, which includes three protected areas—Similipal Tiger Reserve, Hadgarh Wildlife Sanctuary with 191.06 km² and Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary with 272.75 km².

Source: FORUMIAS

Science

Q.1) Which of the following is/are generative artificial intelligence programmes?

- 1. ChatGPT
- 2. Codex
- 3. GPT-3

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Generative artificial intelligence (AI): It describes algorithms that can be used to create new content like audio, code, images, text, simulations, and videos.

- It is achieved by training machine learning models on large amounts of data using neural networks and then using these models to generate new, synthetic data that is similar to the already existing data.
- There has been increasing popularity of generative AI programs, such as OpenAI’s ChatGPT, Google’s BARD AI, DALLÉ, Codex, GPT-3 etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding hydrogen fuel:

- 1. It has almost 2.5 times the energy per tonne compared as to natural gas.
- 2. It can potentially replace the coal and coke in iron and steel production.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Hydrogen has almost 2.5 times the energy per tonne compared as to natural gas, shifting to Hydrogen thereby reduces natural gas imports and also help in achieving our climate targets.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Hydrogen can potentially replace the coal and coke in iron and steel production, de-carbonizing this sector will also have significant impact on India's climate goals.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding "Partially Hydrogenated Oils (PHO)":

1. They are liquid at room temperature and prolong the shelf life of products.
2. They are primarily used for deep frying and as an ingredient in baked goods.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Partially hydrogenated oils (PHO) are solid at room temperature and prolong the shelf life of products.

- They are primarily used for deep frying and as an ingredient in baked goods.
- PHOs were first introduced into the food supply in the early 20th century as a replacement for butter and lard.
- They are not a natural part of the human diet and are fully replaceable.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements about Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs):

1. They are a diverse group of 20 conditions mainly prevalent in tropical areas.
2. They are 'neglected' because they are almost absent from the global health agenda.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: NTDs are a diverse group of 20 conditions mainly prevalent in tropical areas, where they affect more than 1 billion people who live in impoverished communities.

They are 'neglected' because they are almost absent from the global health agenda.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "BharOS":

1. It is an Android Open-Source Project based operating system.
2. Major difference between BharOS and Google's Android OS is that BharOS does not ship with Google services.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: BharOS is an AOSP (Android Open-Source Project) based operating system with no Google apps or services.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

It is developed by JandK Operations Private Limited, a non-profit organization incubated at IIT Madras. Major difference between BharOS and Google's Android OS is that BharOS does not ship with Google services.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following country is not part of Lithium Triangle?

- a) Argentina
- b) Bolivia
- c) Chile
- d) Chad

ANS: D

Explanation: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) said in 2022 that total lithium resources globally stand at 80 million tonnes although the reserves from which it can be accessed were pegged at just over 22 mn tonnes. Though found on each of the six inhabited continents, Chile, Argentina, and Bolivia — together referred to as the “Lithium Triangle” — hold more than 75% of the world's supply.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The “Hiten mission” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Japan
- b) USA
- c) China
- d) Russia

ANS: A

Explanation: Hiten (originally called Muses-A) was an ISAS (Japanese Space Agency) Earth orbiting satellite designed primarily to test and verify technologies for future lunar and planetary missions.

- The spacecraft carried a small satellite named Hagoromo which was released in the vicinity of the Moon.
- Hiten itself was put into a highly elliptical Earth orbit which passed by the Moon ten times during the mission, which ended when Hiten was intentionally crashed into the Moon on 10 April 1993.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR)”:

1. It is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory being jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.
2. It will map the entire globe in 12 days and provide spatially and temporally consistent data for understanding changes in Earth's ecosystems.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory being jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.

- NISAR will map the entire globe in 12 days and provide spatially and temporally consistent data for understanding changes in Earth's ecosystems, ice mass, etc.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- The 2,800 kilograms satellite consists of both Lband and S-band synthetic aperture radar (SAR) instruments, which makes it a dualfrequency imaging radar satellite.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “small satellite launch vehicle (SSLV)”:

1. It is a 3 stage Launch Vehicle of ISRO configured with three Solid Propulsion Stages and liquid propulsion-based Velocity Trimming Module as a terminal stage.
2. It is capable of launching Mini, Micro, or Nano-satellites (10 to 500 kg mass) to a 500 km orbit.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV): It is a 3 stage Launch Vehicle of ISRO configured with three Solid Propulsion Stages and liquid propulsion-based Velocity Trimming Module as a terminal stage.

- It is capable of launching Mini, Micro, or Nano-satellites (10 to 500 kg mass) to a 500 km orbit.
- Like Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch vehicle (GSLV), SSLV can accommodate multiple satellites, albeit smaller ones.
- Unlike PSLV and GSLV, SSLV can be assembled both vertically and horizontally.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following organization release the “International IP Index”?

- a) WEF
- b) IMF
- c) AIIB
- d) US Chambers of Commerce

ANS: D

Explanation: India ranked 42nd on International IP Index released by US Chambers of Commerce.

Annual Index evaluates protection of Intellectual Property (IP) rights in 55 of world’s leading economies, together representing around 90% of global GDP.

Source: FORUMIAS

Science - Revision

Q.1) The Joint European Torus (JET) is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Fission energy
- b) Fusion energy
- c) Solar energy
- d) Hydro energy

ANS: B

Explanation: The Joint European Torus (JET): It is a joint European project with the main purpose of opening the way to future nuclear fusion grid energy.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the “Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee (GDPDC)”:

1. It replaces and subsumes the functions and powers of National Spatial Data Committee (NSDC).
2. It is a 17-member body to be headed by a person of repute from industry, government, or academia.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee (GDPDC) shall be constituted at the national level as the apex body for formulating and implementing appropriate guidelines, strategies, and programs.

- The GDPDC, a 17-member body to be headed by a person of repute from industry, government, or academia.
- GDPDC would replace and subsume the functions and powers of National Spatial Data Committee (NSDC) and Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The treaties “PAROS and COPUOS” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Submarines
- b) Outer space
- c) Solar technology
- d) Sustainable development funding mechanism

ANS: B

Explanation: Conference on Disarmament (CD): It is the international forum for work on disarmament, and for matters related to weapons in space and other space security issues.

- One of its core focus areas is the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Guidelines on space sustainability: In 2019, U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) has adopted a set of 21 voluntary, non-binding guidelines to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “project netra” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Space debris
- b) Positioning system
- c) Rail collision avoidance system
- d) Tag free network system

ANS: A

Explanation: Project NETRA: Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has initiated ‘Project NETRA’ to monitor space debris.

It would provide first-hand information on the status of debris, which would aid further planning on protecting space assets.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) Mission”:

1. It is a collaborative effort between NASA and ISRO.
2. It is first satellite mission that will measure height of water in freshwater bodies and ocean on more than 90% of Earth’s surface.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The international Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) Mission is a collaborative effort between NASA and French space agency with contributions from Canadian and UK Space Agencies.

SWOT is first satellite mission that will measure height of water in freshwater bodies and ocean on more than 90% of Earth’s surface.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The famous “Perseverance rover mission” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Mars
- b) Moon
- c) Venus
- d) Jupiter

ANS: A

Explanation: Perseverance rover mission is part of NASA’s Mars Exploration Program, a long-term effort of robotic exploration of Mars.

It aims to look for signs of past microbial life, prepare for future human exploration and collect samples of rock and regolith (broken rock and soil) for possible return to Earth.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) The “GLASS report” is recently seen in news is released by?

- a) WHO
- b) WEF
- c) UNDP
- d) UNEP

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, WHO released Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS) report.

- GLASS was launched in 2015. GLASS-AMR provides a standardized approach to the collection, analysis and sharing of AMR data by countries
- The 2022 GLASS Report also, for the first time, included data on antibiotic consumption at the **national level**.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “WOMB” initiative launched by Delhi government is related to?

- a) Hepatitis B
- b) Anemia
- c) After affects of Covid
- d) Malaria

ANS: A

Explanation: Launched by Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences and Delhi government.

- Objective is to spread awareness about mother to-child transmission of Hepatitis B by appointing 100 mothers with Hepatitis B as ambassadors and educators.
- Program marks 25th year of the ‘yellow ribbon’ campaign launched in 1998 to increase public awareness about viral hepatitis.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Who among the following is the nodal ministry for online gaming?

- a) Ministry of sports
- b) Ministry of culture
- c) Ministry of home
- d) Ministry of Electronics and IT

ANS: D

Explanation: Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) has become the nodal ministry for online gaming.

- Appointment of MeitY as central regulatory authority will provide clarity and certainty to investors, industry and consumers.
- In absence of a nodal ministry, online gaming intersects with multiple ministries including MeitY, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and Ministry of Sports.
- The decision is in line with government’s initiative to push for growth of animation, visual effects, gaming and comics (AVGC) sector and making India a global hub for online gaming.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.10) Which of the following state in India unveiled the Asia's first drone delivery hub?

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Nagaland
- c) Assam
- d) Tripura

ANS: A

Explanation: Asia's first drone delivery hub was unveiled by Meghalaya government in partnership with startup TechEagle.

It aims to deliver vital supplies like drugs, diagnostic samples, vaccines quickly and safely to different regions of state using a dedicated drone delivery network.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) "Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2023 Global Monitoring report" is recently seen in news released by?

- a) World Bank
- b) WHO
- c) WEF
- d) Both A & B

ANS: D

Explanation: Recently, the Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2023 Global Monitoring report was jointly released by the World Health Organization and World Bank.

The report analyses progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) using two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators i.e.

- UHC Service Coverage Index (SCI) that covers essential health services (SDG 3.8.1).
- Out-of-Pocket Health Expenditure (OOPE) measuring catastrophic health spending (SDG 3.8.2).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding "universal health coverage (UHC)":

1. It means that all people have access to a full range of quality health services without financial hardship.
2. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: UHC means that all people have access to a full range of quality health services without financial hardship.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Malaviya Mission” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Solar energy
- b) Rural development
- c) Teacher training programme
- d) Skill development

ANS: C

Explanation: Organised by the University Grants Commission, in association with the Ministry of Education, the Malaviya Mission - Teacher Training Programme aims to provide tailored training programmes for teachers. This programme will work for the capacity building of faculty members in higher educational institutions.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA)” platform is an initiative of?

- a) NCERT
- b) UGC
- c) NCIET
- d) NEET

ANS: A

Explanation: DIKSHA is an initiative of National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT), Ministry of Education.

National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under MeitY is set to integrate Personalized Adaptive Learning (PAL) into its existing DIKSHA platform.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding NCERT:

1. It has granted the status of deemed to be university.
2. It is declared by Central Government under section 3 of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: NCERT has been granted the status of deemed to be university. Deemed university status will now allow NCERT to

- offer its own graduate, post-graduate and doctoral degrees and
- Have autonomy in terms of introduction of programmes, course structure, conducting examinations and management, among others.

Declared by Central Government under section 3 of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.6) The “Ayushman Bhav Campaign” is recently seen in news spearheaded by?

- a) Central government
- b) State government
- c) District administration
- d) Gram panchayat

ANS: D

Explanation: Ayushman Bhav Campaign is a collaborative effort spearheaded by Gram Panchayats to extend comprehensive healthcare coverage to every village and town.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the aim/s of national education policy, 2020?

- 1. It aims to increase the public investment to reach 6% of GDP.
- 2. It aims to increase the GER to 100% in preschool to secondary level by 2030.
- 3. It aims to increase GER in Higher Education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: National Education Policy 2020 Aims:

- At increasing the public investment to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest.
- Increase the GER to 100% in preschool to secondary level by 2030, whereas GER in Higher Education, including vocational education, from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution states “directs the State to provide public assistance to certain categories of citizens”?

- a) Article 40
- b) Article 41
- c) Article 44
- d) Article 47

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 41 directs the State to provide public assistance to certain categories of citizens.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) The “Article 342” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Scheduled tribes
- b) Mother tongue
- c) Higher education
- d) Scheduled languages

ANS: A

Explanation: Article 342 defines scheduled tribes (ST) as the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribal communities which the President may specify by public notification.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Mhadei wildlife sanctuary” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Goa
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: C

Explanation: The Mhadei wildlife sanctuary in Goa will be officially designated as a tiger reserve, becoming the 55th tiger reserve in India.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) Who among the following headed the “National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks”?

- a) Vijay Kelkar
- b) Prof. Virginius Xaxa
- c) Prof. K Kasturirangan
- d) Prof. K Nambidurai

ANS: C

Explanation: The National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks, under the chairmanship of Prof. K Kasturirangan, was formed to create a curriculum aligned with the NEP 2020.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are feature/s of “New Education Policy 2020”?

1. New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (5+3+3+4).
2. Ensuring Universal Access at All Levels of schooling from pre-primary school to Grade 12.
3. Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: New Education Policy 2020 Features:

- New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (5+3+3+4)
- Ensuring Universal Access at All Levels of schooling from pre-primary school to Grade 12.
- Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development).
- A separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)”:

1. It was launched in 1995.
2. It includes 3 pension and 2 non – pension schemes.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) was launched in 1995 and includes five sub-schemes (3 related to pension and two non-pensions).

Pension Assistance:

- Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS): BPL persons aged 60-79 years are entitled to a monthly pension of Rs. 200 and Rs.500 thereafter (after the age of 80 years).
- Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS): BPL widows aged 40-59 years are entitled to a monthly pension of Rs. 200.
- Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS): BPL persons aged 18-59 years with severe and multiple disabilities are entitled to a monthly pension of Rs. 200.

Non-pensions assistance:

- National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS): BPL household is entitled to a one-time assistance amounting to Rs. 10,000 on the death of primary breadwinner aged between 18 and 64 years.
- Annapurna scheme: 10 kg of food grains per month are provided free of cost to those senior citizens who, though eligible, have remained uncovered under IGNOAPS.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Article 151 of Indian Constitution deal with?

- a) Audit report
- b) Advice of Supreme Court to President
- c) Inter State relations
- d) Water management

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) presented a report on Performance AB-PMJAY.

The report was submitted to the President of India under Article 151 of the Constitution.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Madhya Pradesh has the highest population of STs.
2. Lakshadweep has the highest percentage of ST population.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: ST population in India: 8.6% (as per Census of India 2011).

- Lakshadweep (94.8%), followed by Mizoram (94.4%), has the highest percentage of ST population.
- In absolute numbers, Madhya Pradesh has the highest population of STs.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following problem/s is/are faces by health care system of tribal people?

1. Language and cultural barriers
2. Failing to acknowledge and integrate their indigenous healing methods
3. Inadequate availability of skilled healthcare

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Challenges faced by the healthcare system for the tribal health:

- Language and cultural barriers impede effective communication between healthcare providers and tribal patients, leading to misunderstandings.
- Failing to acknowledge and integrate their indigenous healing methods has created distrust among tribal populations to seek healthcare from modern facilities.
- Geographical remoteness: Tribal communities are often located in remote and inaccessible areas, such as mountainous with inadequate transportation infrastructure.
- Inadequate availability of skilled healthcare leads to delayed diagnoses, inappropriate treatment, and limited access to specialized medical care.
- Tribal healthcare is subsumed in rural healthcare under the assumption that tribal people have the same health problems and similar needs.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Which of the following convention/s is/are signed by India?

1. Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961
2. Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
3. Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Steps taken in India to prevent drug abuse: Signatory to UN conventions: Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) In which of the following year, Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was enacted?

- a) 1985
- b) 1988
- c) 1992
- d) 1997

ANS: A

Explanation: Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985: Provides for identification, treatment, rehabilitation, social re-integration of the addict among others and instituted Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). NCB under the Ministry of Home Affairs control the supply, production and distribution of drugs.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The "COTPA 2003" is often seen in news related to?

- a) Cyber information
- b) Tobacco Products
- c) Chemical fertilizers
- d) Chemical weapons

ANS: B

Explanation: Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003:

- The act regulates the advertisement, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products.
- It prohibits smoking in public places.
- Makes it mandatory to use pictorial health warnings on tobacco products, the size of the graphic depiction of health warnings was increased to 85% of the box since April 2016.
- It also sets rules for the sale of tobacco products to minors.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) The “Tankai method” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Farming
- b) Ship building
- c) Waxing technique
- d) Land measurement

ANS: B

Explanation: Ministry of Culture and Indian Navy to launch a project to revive the 2000-year-old technique of shipbuilding known as the Tankai method.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Ol Chiki Script” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Santhali Language
- b) Lambadi Language
- c) Ahom Language
- d) Koya Language

ANS: A

Explanation: Prime Minister wished the people of the Santhal tribe on the occasion of Hul diwas using the Ol Chiki Script of the Santhali language.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) Which of the following state, recently introduced the Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Karnataka
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Kerala

ANS: C

Explanation: Recently, the Rajasthan government introduced 'The Rajasthan Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill, 2023'.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Article 41 of Indian constitution is often seen in news related to?

- a) Uniform civil code
- b) Right to work
- c) Free legal aid
- d) Writs

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 41 of the Indian Constitution directs the state to secure the right to work, education and public assistance in certain cases such as unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding "World Food Programme":

1. It is a joint initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and WHO.
2. It is a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The World Food Programme (WFP) is the leading humanitarian organization saving lives and changing lives, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience.

- It was founded in 1961 by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) with its headquarters in Rome, Italy.
- It is also a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), a coalition of UN agencies and organizations aimed at fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) The report “Advancing social justice” is recently released by?

- a) WHO
- b) FAO
- c) WEF
- d) ILO

ANS: D

Explanation: Recently, the International Labour Organization (ILO) released a report titled ‘Advancing social justice’ that calls for advancing social justice through promoting decent work.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following ministry releases the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report 2023?

- a) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- b) The Ministry of Finance
- c) The Ministry of Home
- d) The Ministry of Social Justice

ANS: A

Explanation: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report 2023.

For monitoring SDG Goals and targets, a Global Indicator Framework (GIF) was framed by the Interagency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEGSDGs).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following organization releases the “Gender Gap Report”?

- a) WEF
- b) UNDP
- c) World Bank
- d) UN Women

ANS: A

Explanation: World Economic Forum’s (WEF) released Gender Gap Report- 2023.

- As per the latest report, India has ranked at 127 out of 146 countries in terms of gender equality.
- India has improved 1.4% points and 8 places from its earlier rank of 135 from 2022 index.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The “Gender Social Norms Index” is recently seen in news released by?

- a) UNDP
- b) WEF
- c) UN Women
- d) World Bank

ANS: A

Explanation: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released 2023 Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) report.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Report is titled as 'Breaking down Gender Biases: Shifting social norms towards gender equality'.
- GSNI captures beliefs, biases and prejudices regarding gender equality in capabilities and rights, which provides an account of the root causes of gender inequality.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following parameter/s is/are taken into consideration for National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)?

1. Teaching
2. Learning and Resources
3. Graduation Outcome

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ministry of Education has released 8th edition of India Rankings of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in country.

Ranking is based on National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

Five broad categories of parameters identified in NIRF includes: Teaching; Learning and Resources; Research and Professional Practice; Graduation Outcome; Inclusivity and Outreach; and Perception.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The dashboard "ANTARDRIHSTI" is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Free legal aid
- b) Investigative agencies
- c) Financial inclusion
- d) Child education

ANS: A

Explanation: RBI governor launched a Financial Inclusion Dashboard, named, ANTARDRIHSTI.

- It will provide the required insight to assess and monitor the progress of financial inclusion by capturing relevant parameters.
- It will also enable to gauge the extent of financial exclusion at granular levels across the country so that such areas can be addressed.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The "Global Competitiveness Index" is recently seen in news published by?

- a) US Chamber of Commerce
- b) UN WIPO
- c) WEF
- d) International Institute for Management Development

ANS: D

Explanation: Recently Global Competitiveness Index was published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD). Denmark, Ireland, and Switzerland have been named the top three among 64 economies measured for their global competitiveness.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- India dropped 3 spots to finish 40th but is still in a better position than it was in 2019-2021.
- The three main measures that helped India in its score are exchange rate stability, compensation levels, and improvements in pollution control.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) The “Global Slavery Index 2023” is recently seen in news released by?

- a) WEF
- b) IMF
- c) UNDP
- d) Walk Free

ANS: D

Explanation: G20 countries including India are fuelling modern slavery, says new report.

- Walk Free (international human rights group) released the Global Slavery Index 2023, an assessment of modern slavery conditions in 160 countries.
- Index uses the data released by International Labor Organization (ILO), Walk Free, and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “University Grants Commission (UGC)” is often seen in news enacted in?

- a) 1948
- b) 1956
- c) 1965
- d) 1972

ANS: B

Explanation: University Grants Commission, abbreviated as UGC, was launched as a statutory association under the UGC Act (1956).

- It makes sure to synchronize, define, and sustain higher education norms in the country.
- UGC identifies universities in India and spends funds on well-known institutes and universities.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. World Drug Report 2023 released by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
2. The UNODC is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime headquartered in Vienna.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: World Drug Report 2023 released by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- The UNODC is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime headquartered in Vienna.
- It provides technical assistance, research and normative support to Member States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Radhakrishnan Committee” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Space programme
- b) Higher education
- c) Health reforms
- d) Police reforms

ANS: B

Explanation: The Radhakrishnan Committee’s report on reforms in accreditation system of India’s Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) has been put in public domain.

This overarching Committee headed by former ISRO chief Dr K Radhakrishnan was set up by the Ministry of Education (MoE) in 2022.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment is often seen in news enacted in?

- a) 2001
- b) 2009
- c) 2013
- d) 2018

ANS: C

Explanation: To make workplaces safer for women by preventing, prohibiting, and redressing acts of sexual harassment against them in the workplace ‘Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act or POSH, 2013’ was enacted.

The Act broadened and gave legislative backing to what are known as the Vishaka Guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court in a judgment passed in 1997.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) launched Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) Scheme.
2. PBPB will focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) at anganwadis across the country.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Union Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) launched PBPB Scheme.

PBPB will focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) (first six years of children) at anganwadis across the country.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) “Saksham Learning Management Information System (LMIS)” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Medical education
- b) Sustainable agriculture
- c) Cyber security awareness
- d) Witness protection scheme

ANS: A

Explanation: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management) LMIS.

- It has been developed by the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi.
- SAKSHAM is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country.
- It will ensure inclusive capacity building of health professionals from primary health centres located in rural and remote areas all the way up to tertiary care and corporate hospitals in metropolitan cities.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) “75/25 initiative” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Non – Communicable diseases
- b) Ethanol blending
- c) Gas distribution
- d) Education

ANS: A

Explanation: 75/25 initiative: 75 million people with hypertension and diabetes to be put on Standard Care by 2025, through the PHCs.

It is the largest cover of NCDs in the world for primary healthcare.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The term “AIRAWAT” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Super computer
- b) Hydrogen bus
- c) Aircraft
- d) Submarine

ANS: A

Explanation: India’s AI supercomputer AIRAWAT has been ranked 75th in the Top 500 Global Supercomputing List, announced at the International Supercomputing Conference held in Germany.

AIRAWAT supercomputer is India’s largest and fastest AI supercomputing system, with a remarkable speed of 13,170 teraflops.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Mpox is a viral disease most commonly found in Africa.
2. The virus is a member of the Poxviridae family.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The World Health Organization (WHO) has ended the global health emergency for Mpox.

- Mpox is a viral disease most commonly found in Africa and has infected around 87,000 people in 2022.
- The virus is a member of the Poxviridae family which is genetically similar to other poxviruses.
- It spreads through close contact with an infected individual and can be transmitted from animals too.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) The “Samarth Portal” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Education
- b) Skill Development
- c) Primary health care
- d) Zero budget farming

ANS: A

Explanation: Samarth Portal: Sponsored by Ministry of Education, Project Samarth under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology, NMEICT-II (now NMEICT-III) scheme in 2019. It integrates technology and allows HEIs to deploy a digital framework for planning, management, delivery, and monitoring of education services in a seamless manner.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)”:

1. AISHE has been conducted since 2015.
2. It is conducted by NITI Aayog.

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Ministry of Education (MoE) released All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-2021.

- AISHE has been conducted since 2011 by MoE covering all higher educational institutions located in country.
- It collects detailed information on different educational parameters.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) The “Common Cause v Union of India” case is often seen in news related to?

- a) Euthanasia
- b) Gender justice
- c) Global commons
- d) Universal basic income

ANS: A

Explanation: In a 2018 judgment (Common Cause v Union of India), SC had recognized the right to die with dignity as an inextricable facet of the right to live with dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “World Social Report 2023” is recently seen in news released by?

- a) United Nations Secretariat
- b) IMF
- c) World Bank
- d) UNDP

ANS: A

Explanation: World Social Report 2023 is a flagship publication of Department of Economic and Social Affairs of United Nations Secretariat.

- Report builds on framework of Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and explores social and economic opportunities and challenges that population ageing presents.
- MIPAA was adopted at second World Assembly on Ageing in April 2002.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “NIPUN Bharat Mission” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Medical education
- b) Vocational education
- c) Skill development
- d) Numeracy

ANS: D

Explanation: Ministry of Education has launched a National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat), for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) by the end of Grade 3, by 2026-27.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements “Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)”:

1. PVTGs reside in 17 States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
2. The highest numbers of PVTGs are found in Odisha (13).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: PVTG (earlier known as Primitive Tribal Groups) is the category within Scheduled Tribes created on the recommendation of Dhebar commission (1973).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

In 1975, Government of India declared 52 tribal group as PVTG's. While in 1993 an additional 23 groups were added to the category, making it a total of 75 PVTGs out of 705 Scheduled Tribes.

PVTGs reside in 17 States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The highest number of PVTGs are found in Odisha (13) followed by Andhra Pradesh (12).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following is the first state in the country to use robotic technology to clean all its commissioned manholes?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Goa
- d) Andhra Pradesh

ANS: B

Explanation: Kerala became the first state in the country to use robotic technology to clean all its commissioned manholes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The Attukal Pongala - the largest congregation of women for a festival in the world held in?

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

ANS: A

Explanation: The Attukal Pongala held in Attukal Temple, Thiruvananthapuram is the largest congregation of women for a festival in the world.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following state first Indian State to enact a Right to Health Act?

- a) Kerala
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: C

Explanation: Rajasthan became the first Indian State to enact a Right to Health Act.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The "Betla National Park" is often seen in news located at?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation: Betla National Park falls in Latehar district of Jharkhand. It is the only National Park of the State. It spreads in 226.33 sq.km. And was notified in 1986.

Betla National Park is part of core area of Palamau Tiger Reserve.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society

Q.1) The famous “vaikom satyagraha” is related to which of the following?

- a) Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation: The people of the oppressed classes especially the Ezhavas, were prohibited from walking on the four roads surrounding the Vaikom Mahadeva temple.

As the year 2024 marks the centenary of the Vaikom Satyagraha, Kerala and Tamil Nadu jointly inaugurated the centenary celebrations.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The famous “Kakinada session of INC” took place in?

- a) 1921
- b) 1923
- c) 1929
- d) 1935

ANS: B

Explanation: In 1923, at the behest of T.K. Madhavan, at the Kakinada session of Indian National Congress (INC), KPCC adopted a resolution to take up anti untouchability as a key issue.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Antiquities and Art Treasures Act enacted in which of the following year?

- a) 1947
- b) 1961
- c) 1972
- d) 1979

ANS: C

Explanation: Antiquities are defined under Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (AATA) and include items such as any coin, sculpture, painting, epigraph or other work of art or craftsmanship.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) The famous “Matua Maha Mela” is related to which of the following?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Kerala
- c) Assam
- d) Rajasthan

ANS: A

Explanation: PM has urged people to visit Matua Maha Mela in West Bengal. Mela is organised on birth anniversary of Shri Harichand Thakur (1812-1878), who was the founder of the sect of Vaishnavite Hinduism called Matua.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “Kattunayakan tribe” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Assam
- b) Kerala
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Odisha

ANS: B

Explanation: Oscar award to documentary Elephant Whisperers is a tribute to conservation legacy of the Kattunayakan tribe. They are one of the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of India. Found in parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala (Nilgiris and surrounding region).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) “Aruvipuram movement” is related to which of the following?

- a) Kerala
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Gujarat

ANS: A

Explanation: Aruvipuram movement was Temple Entry movement launched by Sri Narayan Guru in Aruvipuram village of Kerala. It was one of the first movements for equal rights to temple entry.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) In which of the following year “Archaeological Survey of India” established?

- a) 1861
- b) 1871
- c) 1881
- d) 1891

ANS: A

Explanation: Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) established in 1861, it is an attached office of the Ministry of Culture.

It is the premier organization of India for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of India.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) The “Charaideo Maidams” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Assam

ANS: D

Explanation: The Government of India has decided to nominate Assam’s Charaideo Maidams or Moidams (Ahom Burial Mounds) for the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for the year 2023.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Parasnath hill” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Rajasthan

ANS: A

Explanation: In Jharkhand, Parasnath hill being declared a tourist spot and an eco-sensitive zone.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10. The Ottanthullal (or Thullal) is a recite-and-dance art-form of?

- a) Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Gujarat

ANS: A

Explanation: Ottanthullal (or Thullal) is a recite-and-dance art-form of Kerala that is famous for its humour and social satire.

Source: FORUMIAS

Society – Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) grouped the country into four seismic zones.
2. BIS is the official agency for publishing the seismic hazard maps and codes.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: There are four seismic zones (II, III, IV, and V) in India based on scientific inputs relating to seismicity, earthquakes occurred in the past and tectonic setup of the region.

- Previously, earthquake zones were divided into five zones with respect to the severity of the earthquakes but the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) grouped the country into four seismic zones by unifying the first two zones.
- BIS is the official agency for publishing the seismic hazard maps and codes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are cause/s of “Tsunamis”?

1. Earthquake
2. Landslide
3. Volcanic activity

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tsunamis (Japanese for “harbour wave”), also known as a seismic sea wave, are a series of very large waves with extremely long wavelength, in the deep ocean, the length from crest to crest may be 100 km and more. It is usually generated by sudden displacements in the sea floor caused by earthquake, landslides, or volcanic activity.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. About 10 per cent of the World's tropical cyclones affect the Indian coast.
2. More cyclones occur in the Bay of Bengal than in the Arabian Sea.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India's long coastline of nearly 7,500 km consists of 5,400 km along the mainland, 132 km in Lakshadweep and 1,900 km in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- About 10 per cent of the World's tropical cyclones affect the Indian coast.
- More cyclones occur in the Bay of Bengal than in the Arabian Sea.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) According to World Meteorological Organization for how many day/s the daily maximum temperature exceeds the average maximum temperature by five degrees Celsius for a Heat Wave?

- a) 1 day
- b) 2 days
- c) 3 days
- d) 5 days

ANS: D

Explanation: The World Meteorological Organization defines a heat wave as five or more consecutive days during which the daily maximum temperature exceeds the average maximum temperature by five degrees Celsius.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are cause/s of flood/s?

1. Storm surge
2. High intensity rainfall
3. Melting of ice

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Floods occur commonly when water in the form of surface runoff exceeds the carrying capacity of the river channels and streams and flows into the neighboring low-lying flood plains.

Floods can also be caused due to a storm surge, high intensity rainfall for a considerably longer time period, melting of ice and snow, reduction in the infiltration rate and presence of eroded materials in the water due to higher rate of soil erosion.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.6) Which of the following is/are landslide prone area/s in India?

1. The Himalayas
2. North East India
3. The Nilgiris

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Landslides occur in the hilly regions of India such as the Himalaya, North-East India, the Nilgiris, Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats.

It is estimated that 30 per cent of the World's landslides occur in the Himalayan ranges.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements "red sanders":

1. It is a flora-species that is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Eastern Ghats.
2. TRAFFIC factsheet highlighted Red Sanders is India's most exploited tree species.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: TRAFFIC factsheet highlighted Red Sanders is India's most exploited tree species.

- TRAFFIC was established in 1976 by WWF and IUCN as a wildlife trade monitoring network to undertake data collection, recommendations on wildlife trade.
- Red Sanders is a flora-species that is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Eastern Ghats.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Point Calimere":

1. It is situated in Kerala.
2. It is designated as a Ramsar site.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary was established in the year of 1967 and is situated in the state of Tamil Nadu.

- It houses the famous bird sanctuary of Vedaranyam and the Talaignayar forests.
- It is designated as a Ramsar site.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) The famous “Satpura Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Kerala

ANS: C

Explanation: Satpura Tiger Reserve also known as Satpura National Park is located in the Narmadapuram District of Madhya Pradesh in India. Its name is derived from the Satpura range. It covers an area of 524 km².

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Keeladi Excavations” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala
- d) Karnataka

ANS: B

Explanation: Keeladi is a tiny hamlet in Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu.

- It is located, near temple city of Madurai, along the Vaigai River.
- 2015 excavations at Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in Sangam age.

Source: FORUMIAS

Bilateral Relations

Q.1) “New Southbound Policy (NSP)” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) China
- b) Taiwan
- c) Japan
- d) Russia

ANS: B

Explanation: Recently the annual India-Taiwan deputy economic minister-level meeting was held in India. Giving India priority under its ‘New Southbound Policy (NSP)’.

NSP launched in 2016 aims to leverage Taiwan’s cultural, technological and economic assets to enhance its regional integration and promote broader development of Indo-Pacific region.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) “Khulna Darshana railway link project” is recently signed between India and?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan
- c) Myanmar
- d) Sri Lanka

ANS: A

Explanation: Khulna Darshana railway line link project - The project is upgradation of existing (doubling of Broad Gauge) infrastructure linking the current cross border rail link at Gede-Darshana to Khulna thereby augmenting the rail connections between the two countries, especially to Dhaka, but also in future to Mongla Port. The project cost is estimated at USD 312.48 million.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following is NOT part TAPI gas pipeline project?

- a) Armenia
- b) Turkmenistan
- c) Pakistan
- d) India

ANS: A

Explanation: TAPI Pipeline, also called Peace pipeline, is a 1,814km natural gas pipeline that originates from Turkmenistan and passes through Afghanistan and Pakistan to reach India.

The project is being developed by TAPI Pipeline Company (TPCL), a consortium established by four individual state-owned gas companies Turkmengaz (Turkmenistan), Afghan Gas (Afghanistan), Interstate Gas Service (Pakistan), and Gas Authority of India and Indian Oil (India).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following international institution act as a mediator for Indus Water Treaty?

- a) IMF
- b) UNDP
- c) World Bank
- d) ADB

ANS: C

Explanation: India and Pakistan signed the IWT in September, 1960 after nine years of negotiations, with the World Bank being a signatory to the pact.

The treaty sets out a mechanism for cooperation and information exchange between the two sides on the use of the water of the Indus River and its five tributaries Sutlej, Beas, Ravi, Jhelum, and Chenab.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.5) The “West Seti and Seti River (SR6) projects” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Nepal
- b) Bhutan
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Pakistan

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, India and Nepal have signed a MoU to develop the hydropower projects.

- Project is to develop the West Seti and Seti River (SR6) projects. Also, projects like Seti Hydro project, which was to be originally build under the Chinese BRI, is now being built by India.
- Thus, the hydroelectric relationship is seen as a counter to China in Nepal. West Seti River is a tributary of Karnali River located in the far western region of Nepal.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The famous “Mahakali treaty” signed between India and?

- a) Bhutan
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Nepal
- d) Bangladesh

ANS: C

Explanation: India is involved in other projects such as the Mahakali Treaty, the Upper Karnali Project and the Arun – III projects in western and eastern Nepal, respectively.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Soft loans to neighboring countries:

1. The Centre launched “The Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme” (IDEAS) to provide concessional financing for projects in developing countries.
2. The volume of India’s soft loans to neighboring countries has increased from \$3 billion to almost \$15 billion in the last eight years.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The volume of India’s soft loans to neighbouring countries has increased from \$3 billion to almost \$15 billion in the last eight years.

In 2003, the Centre launched “The Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme” (IDEAS) to provide concessional financing for projects in developing countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) The “debt trap diplomacy” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Taiwan
- b) Japan
- c) China
- d) Russia

ANS: C

Explanation: Debt-trap diplomacy is a theory that describes a powerful lending country or institution seeking to saddle a borrowing nation with enormous debt so as to increase its leverage over it.

- Debt-trap diplomacy was associated with Indian academic Brahma Chellaney, who promoted the term in early 2017.
- To gain rapid political and economic ascendancy across the globe, China is dispensing billions of dollars in the form of concessional loans to developing countries, mostly for their large-scale infrastructure projects.
- These developing nations, which are primarily low- or middle-income countries, are unable to keep up with the repayments, and Beijing then gets a chance to demand concessions or advantages in exchange for debt relief.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Kushiyara River” treaty is recently seen in news signed between India and?

- a) Nepal
- b) Bhutan
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Myanmar

ANS: C

Explanation: India and Bangladesh have finalised the text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on interim water sharing of the Kushiyara River.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following is NOT a member of BIMSTEC?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Bhutan
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Nepal

ANS: A

Explanation: BIMSTEC is a regional organization that was established on 06 June 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.

- BIMSTEC will be based on respect for the principle of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, and political independence, non-interference in internal affairs, non-aggression, peaceful co-existence, mutual respect and mutual benefit.
- The 7 members of BIMSTEC are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Source: FORUMIAS

Bilateral Relations

Q.1) The “United Nations Security Council’s (UNSC’s) 1267” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Nuclear weapons
- b) International Terrorists
- c) Cyber Security
- d) Biological Weapons

ANS: B

Explanation: India and US have jointly submitted a proposal to list LeT commanders on the United Nations Security Council’s (UNSC’s) 1267 terror list.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. FATF was set up in 1989 by the G7 countries.
2. FATF has all 5 permanent members of UNSC.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: FATF was set up in 1989 by the G7 countries. It has 39 members that include all 5 permanent members of UNSC and 2 regional organizations – Gulf Cooperation Council and the European Commission.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following is NOT a Central Asian country?

- a) Kazakhstan
- b) Kyrgyzstan
- c) Tajikistan
- d) Azerbaijan

ANS: D

Explanation: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are the 5 Central Asian countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) The “Chabahar Port” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Iraq
- b) Oman
- c) Pakistan
- d) Iran

ANS: D

Explanation: Chabahar Port is a seaport in Sistan-Balochistan province of Iran, on the Gulf of Oman. It serves as Iran’s only oceanic port, and consists of two separate ports named Shahid Kalantari and Shahid Beheshti.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are member/s of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)?

- 1. China
- 2. India
- 3. Turkmenistan

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: SCO is an intergovernmental organization founded in Shanghai on 15 June 2001. Eight Member States – China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The “extended finance facility” is often seen in news related to?

- a) IMF
- b) ADB
- c) AIIB
- d) World Bank

ANS: A

Explanation: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved Sri Lanka’s request for a \$2.9 billion bailout and the programme will enable it to access up to \$7 billion in overall funding.

Sri Lanka has reached an agreement with IMF to access credit under IMF’s Extended Finance Facility.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. India is a founder member of the IMF.
2. India has not taken any financial assistance from the IMF since 1993.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India is a founder member of the IMF. India has not taken any financial assistance from the IMF since 1993.

Repayments of all the loans taken from International Monetary Fund have been completed on May 2000.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Special Drawing Rights (SDR)” is often seen in news related to?

- a) IMF
- b) AIIB
- c) ADB
- d) World Bank

ANS: A

Explanation: India’s current quota in the IMF is SDR (Special Drawing Rights) 5,821.5 million making it the 13th largest quota holding country at IMF and giving it shareholdings of 2.44%.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Hanimadhoo Airport” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Mauritius
- b) Maldives
- c) Myanmar
- d) Sri Lanka

ANS: B

Explanation: India is developing an international airport at Hanimadhoo in Haa Dhaalu atoll of the Maldivian archipelago.

The \$ 136.6-million development of the Hanimadhoo airport has been financed by a line of credit to the Maldives from India’s Exim Bank.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the world's second largest inter-governmental organization after the UN.
2. India is not a member of the OIC.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The OIC is formerly the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. It is the world's second largest inter-governmental organisation after the UN, with a membership of 57 states.

- Its stated objective is "to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world".
- India is not a member of the OIC.

Source: FORUMIAS

International Relations

Q.1) Which of the following is/are member country/countries of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Iraq
3. Iran

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is a regional political and economic alliance of 6 countries in the Gulf region - Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain.

The GCC was established by an agreement concluded in 1981 in Riyadh.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “Industrial Security Agreement” was signed between India and?

- a) USA
- b) Russia
- c) France
- d) Japan

ANS: A

Explanation: India-US defense cooperation is based on “New Framework for India US Defense Cooperation”, which was renewed for a period of ten years in 2015.

In 2016, the defense relationship was designated as a Major Defense Partnership (MDP).

Several defense agreements have been signed:

- Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Association (August 2016)
- Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (September 2018)
- Industrial Security Agreement (December 2019)
- Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (October 2020)

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Exercise Pitch Black” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Australia
- b) Italy
- c) Spain
- d) France

ANS: A

Explanation: In 2018, Indian Air Force participated for the first time in the Exercise Pitch Black in Australia.

- Exercise Pitch Black 22 was hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force at its Darwin Air Base.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Spanning over duration of three weeks, the exercise saw the participation of 17 Air Forces and over 2500 military personnel.
- The IAF contingent included four Su-30 MKI & two C-17 aircraft.
- The participating forces took part in various multi-aircraft combat drills by day & night, simulating complex aerial scenarios, involving large formations.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Who among the following is NOT part of G4 countries?

- a) Australia
- b) Germany
- c) Japan
- d) India

ANS: A

Explanation: The G4 is a grouping of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan which are aspiring to become permanent members of the UNSC.

They are supporting each other's bids for permanent membership of the UNSC.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following defense exercise/s is/are taken place between India and France?

1. Varuna
2. Shakti
3. Maitri

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Signed in 1998, the time-tested strategic partnership between India and France has continued to gain momentum over shared values and aspirations of peace, stability and their desire for strategic autonomy.

The relations is further strengthened with the robust network of military dialogues and regularly held joint exercises:

- Varuna (navy)
- Garuda (air force)
- Shakti (army)

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The "Milan" – a biennial naval exercise between India and?

- a) Spain
- b) Italy
- c) Maldives
- d) Mongolia

ANS: B

Explanation: Milan – a biennial naval exercise between India and Italy.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Which of the following is NOT part of NORDIC countries?

- a) Denmark
- b) Norway
- c) Sweden
- d) Belgium

ANS: D

Explanation: The Nordic Region consists of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland, as well as the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding permanent residency:

1. It is a visa status that allows the bearer of the PR card to legally reside in the host country without being a citizen of that country.
2. Permanent residents are entitled to live, work, go to school and access health care in the host country.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Permanent Residency is a visa status that allows the bearer of the PR card to legally reside in the host country without being a citizen of that country.

Permanent residents are entitled to live, work, go to school and access health care in the host country.

In order to be eligible to apply for permanent residency status in any given country, individuals usually have to meet certain requirements, such as

- Having work experience in the country
- Having studied in the country
- Speaking the language, etc.

PR status can also lead to citizenship by naturalization provided the resident has lived in the country for a certain number of years.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)” is often seen in news, initiative of?

- a) China
- b) Japan
- c) Russia
- d) Germany

ANS: A

Explanation: Beijing’s outreach in South Asia increased manifold in the early 2000s with its economic boom.

It began to further its strategic ends in the region through loans, financial incentives, and mega-infrastructure projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Gorumara National Park” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) Sikkim

ANS: B

Explanation: Gorumara National Park is a National Park in northern West Bengal, India.

- Located in the Doars region of the Himalayan foothills, it is a medium-sized park with grasslands and forests.
- Gorumara National Park was established in 1992. It is primarily known for its population of Indian rhinoceros.

Source: FORUMIAS

Government Schemes

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE)”:

1. It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Rural Development.
2. It is a Central sector scheme.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE): is a scheme for improving the living standards of sanitation workers in urban areas.

- It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- It is a Central sector scheme.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “SMILE-75 Initiative” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Sustainable farming
- b) Solar energy on roof tops
- c) Rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging
- d) Primary health care

ANS: C

Explanation: An initiative that has identified 75 Municipal Corporations to implement comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of begging under “SMILE: Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise”.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Which of the following scheme/s is/are subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)?

1. Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan
2. Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana
3. Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: During 2021-22, Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) has been merged with two other existing schemes to be known as Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY).

Schemes subsumed are:

- Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP)
- Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)
- Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)”:

1. It was established by executive resolution.
2. Under the NCPCR, the child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: NCPCR was set up in 2007 under the Act of Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

- It is a statutory body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- Under the NCPCR, the child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “Operation Megh Chakra” is recently seen in news done by?

- a) Indian Air Force
- b) Central Vigilance Commission
- c) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- d) Indian Coast Guard

ANS: C

Explanation: Operation Megh Chakra: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducted searches across India, as part of a pan-India drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.6) The “GOAL” programme is often seen in news related to?

- a) Tribal welfare
- b) Widow development
- c) Skill development hubs
- d) Space exploration

ANS: A

Explanation: GOAL (Going Online as Leaders): An initiative for digital empowerment of tribal youth and women through concept of mentor and mentee.

It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Meta (formerly Facebook).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)”:

1. NSTFDC was set up in 2001 under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
2. It works for the socio-economic and educational up-liftment of Scheduled Tribes (STs) through better self-employment avenues.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC): NSTFDC was set up in 2001 under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

- It works for the socio-economic and educational upliftment of Scheduled Tribes (STs) through better self-employment avenues.
- It devises and implements financial assistance schemes exclusively for the tribal.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “NISHTHA portal” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Teacher training
- b) Rehabilitation of destitute children
- c) Employment portal
- d) Skill training for rural youth

ANS: A

Explanation: NISHTHA portal: Help teachers in training for digital delivery of classes so that the learning outcomes of students could be improved.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) The “Tele-MANAS” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Mental health
- b) Online education
- c) Disaster management
- d) Government to government business

ANS: A

Explanation: Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking across States (Tele-MANAS): An initiative to provide free tele-mental health services all over the country 24x7, particularly catering to people in remote or under-served areas.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “MISHTI” programme is often seen in news related to?

- a) Mangroves
- b) Wetlands
- c) Coral reefs
- d) Tiger reserves

ANS: A

Explanation: MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes): The Union Budget for 2023-24 announced an initiative for mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands, under MISHTI.

Source: FORUMIAS

Government Schemes

Q.1) The “Platform of Platforms (POP)” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Agriculture marketing
- b) Stock market
- c) Municipality bonds
- d) Angel Investors

ANS: A

Explanation: The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare launched the Platform of Platforms (POP) under the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) on the sidelines of the State Agriculture and Horticulture Ministers’ Conference in Bengaluru, Karnataka

- With the introduction of POP, farmers will be facilitated to sell the produce outside their state borders.
- This will increase farmers’ digital access to multiple markets, buyers and service providers and bring transparency in business transactions with the aim of improving price search mechanism and quality commensurate price realization.
- 41 service providers from different platforms are covered under POP facilitating various value chain services like trading, quality checks, warehousing, fintech, market information, transportation etc.
- The PoP will create a digital ecosystem, which will benefit from the expertise of different platforms in different segments of the agricultural value chain.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) The “PRANA portal” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Air pollution
- b) Sustainable agriculture
- c) Primary healthcare
- d) Heavy metals pollution

ANS: A

Explanation: Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities (PRANA). It is a portal for monitoring of implementation of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The term “MIIRA” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Millets
- b) Maize
- c) Paddy
- d) Mangroves

ANS: A

Explanation: Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness (MIIRA): India is planning to propose the launch of a global initiative to encourage the consumption and production of millets.

MIIRA is in line with the UN declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets, the proposal for which was moved by India and supported by 72 countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following is/are provision/s of “National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013”?

1. The Act entitles 35 kg of food grains per AAY Household per month.
2. Meal and maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000 to pregnant women.
3. Meals for children up to 14 years of age.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The NFSA, 2013 aims to provide for food and nutritional security in the human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantities of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.

- The Act entitles 35 kg of food grains per AAY Household per month, whereas 5 Kg of foodgrain per PHH Person per month.
- These 5 Kgs of food grains per person per month will be given at Rs. 3/2/1 per Kg for rice/wheat/coarse grains.
- Meal and maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000 to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and 6 months after the child birth.
- Meals for children up to 14 years of age.
- Eldest woman of the beneficiary household (18 years or above) is considered as ‘Head of Family’ for issuing ration cards.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Grey water is defined as wastewater that is produced from household processes.
2. Grey water can contain harmful bacteria and even fecal matter that contaminates soil and groundwater.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A grey water management system has been successfully implemented in Tamil Nadu as a part of the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G) Phase II campaign.

- Grey water – Grey water is defined as wastewater that is produced from household processes (e.g. washing dishes, laundry and bathing).
- Grey water can contain harmful bacteria and even faecal matter that contaminates soil and groundwater.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The term “DHARA” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Urban rivers
- b) Ground water pollution
- c) Ponds near coasts
- d) Ox bow lakes

ANS: A

Explanation: Driving Holistic Action for Urban Rivers (DHARA) Conference was organized recently in Pune.

- It is an annual meeting of the members of the River Cities Alliance (RCA).
- A platform to discuss solutions on managing local water resources.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Mission Innovation (MI)”:

1. It is the inter-governmental platform addressing clean energy innovation through action-oriented cooperation.
2. India is a member of Mission Innovation.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mission Innovation (MI): It is the inter-governmental platform addressing clean energy innovation through action-oriented cooperation.

- It is a global initiative catalysing a decade of action and investment in research, development and demonstration to make clean energy affordable, attractive and accessible for all.
- This will accelerate progress towards the Paris Agreement goals and pathways to net zero.
- Mission Innovation is a global initiative of 22 countries and the European Commission (on behalf of the European Union). India is a member of Mission Innovation.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) The “Lakhpati Didi initiative” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Ayushman Bharat scheme
- b) Self Help Groups
- c) Financial inclusion
- d) Zero budget farming

ANS: B

Explanation: The Ministry of Rural Development has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Ayush to collaborate in making Lakhpati Didis from the SHGs.

Initiative on creating Lakhpati Didis (women with annual earnings of Rs. 1 lakh and more).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “project – NIPUN” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Skill development
- b) Teacher training
- c) Renewable energy
- d) Organic farming

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, the National Initiative for Promoting Upskilling of Nirman workers (NIPUN) – a project for skill training of construction workers – was launched.

- It is an innovative project for skill training of construction workers.
- To train over 1 lakh construction workers, through fresh skilling and up-skilling programmes and provides them with work opportunities in foreign countries also.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary, undulating hills of Aravali, supporting the dry deciduous forests of North Gujarat, provide an unimaginable beautiful ambience to Balaram-Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary.

- The sanctuary derives its name from two historical temples- Balaram and Ambaji, situated at the opposite corners of the sanctuary.
- This picturesque area was constituted as a Wildlife Sanctuary by Government of Gujarat on 7th August' 1989 for the purpose of protection, propagation and development of wildlife and its environment.

Source: FORUMIAS

Government Schemes

Q.1) The “Niryat portal” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Foreign trade
- b) Skill development
- c) SME’s rationalization
- d) Digital education

ANS: A

Explanation: Prime Minister launched a new portal – NIRYAT which is developed as a one stop platform for stakeholders to get all necessary information related to India’s foreign trade.

National Import-Export Record for Yearly Analysis of Trade (NIRYAT) Portal: portal that is committed to analyze India’s imports and exports in a comprehensive manner.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “BIND scheme” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Infrastructure development of Prasar Bharati
- b) Primary health care development
- c) School education
- d) Vocational education with industry connect

ANS: A

Explanation: Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND): A scheme for infrastructure development of Prasar Bharati—All India Radio (AIR) and Door darshan (DD).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements National Pension System (NPS):

1. It was introduced in 2009.
2. It applicable to Armed forces also.

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

ANS: D

Explanation: National Pension System (NPS): The Central Government has introduced the National Pension System in 2004 (except for armed forces).

- NPS was made available to all Citizens of India from 2009. NPS is based on a unique individual pension account viz.
- Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) created for each subscriber.
- A citizen of India aged between 18-70 years can join NPS either in their individual capacity or in association with their Employer.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) Which of the following institution is the pension regulator in India?

- a) SEBI
- b) NPS
- c) IRDA
- d) PFRDA

ANS: D

Explanation: PFRDA, which is the pension regulator, operates the National Pension System (NPS). National Pension System Trust (NPST) established by PFRDA is the registered owner of all assets under NPS.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS)”:

- 1. It is a pan-India searchable database of crime and criminal-related fingerprints.
- 2. It is developed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India has inaugurated a National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS): A pan-India searchable database of crime and criminal-related fingerprints.

NAFIS is developed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Scheme”:

- 1. It is a voluntary contributory pension scheme for the workers of the unorganized sector.
- 2. The age criteria for the scheme are 18 – 40.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Scheme: A 50:50 voluntary contributory pension scheme for the workers of the unorganized sector for their old age protection and social security.

- The un-organized workers mostly engaged as home based workers, street vendors, mid-day meal workers, etc whose monthly income is up to Rs 15,000/ per month.
- These workers must also belong to the entry age group of 18-40 years.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) The “Udyami Bharat Programme” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) MSME
- b) Bullet trains
- c) Hydrogen fuel vehicles
- d) Hybrid vehicles

ANS: A

Explanation: The Prime Minister participated in the ‘Udyami Bharat’ programme at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. It is a reflective of the continuous commitment of the government, right from day one, to work towards empowerment of MSMEs.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Self-Reliant India Fund” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) MSME sector
- b) Telecom sector
- c) Education sector
- d) Agriculture sector

ANS: A

Explanation: The Self-Reliant India (SRI) Fund is an MSME fund that would be able to channelize diverse variety of funds into underserved MSMEs and address the growth needs of viable and high growth MSMEs.

Structure - The SRI Fund is a SEBI-registered Category II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP)” scheme is often seen in news, sponsored by?

- a) IMF
- b) ADB
- c) AIIB
- d) World Bank

ANS: D

Explanation: Government has launched a World Bank supported Central Sector Scheme called Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP).

Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP): A new scheme for addressing the generic and COVID related challenges in the MSME sector.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Nameri tiger reserve” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: A

Explanation: The Nameri Tiger Reserve (NTR) is situated in the northern part of the Sonitpur district of Assam, along the foothills of Arunachal Pradesh.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- The habitat is biologically rich and is famous for the white winged wood duck. The Nameri National Park constitutes the core of NTR, which is bound by rivers, viz. Jia-Bhoreli in the west and Bor-Dikorai in the east.
- The Pakke Tiger Reserve of Arunachal Pradesh is on the North and the habitat is contiguous.
- The reserve is one of the important conservation areas on the north bank landscape of the River Brahmaputra.

Source: FORUMIAS

Revision

Q.1) The “Windsor Framework” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Japan
- b) France
- c) Russia
- d) Ireland

ANS: D

Explanation: Windsor framework will replace the Northern Ireland Protocol, which had proved to be among the thorniest of Brexit fall-outs, creating problems both economic and political.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The term “Uyghurs” is often seen in news related to?

- a) China
- b) Kazakhstan
- c) Armenia
- d) Japan

ANS: A

Explanation: China has vehemently rejected the United Nations Human Rights Office report on human rights violations in the northwestern Xinjiang region.

- Xinjiang- Located in the northwest China, Xinjiang covers one-sixth of China’s territory. It is officially known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR).
- Uyghurs- the Uyghurs are mostly Muslims and they speak their own language which is similar to Turkish.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following was earlier known as “formosa”?

- a) China
- b) Taiwan
- c) Korea peninsula
- d) Japan

ANS: B

Explanation: The Taiwan is located in the East China Sea to the northeast of Hong Kong, north of the Philippines and south of South Korea, and southwest of Japan.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Taiwan earlier known as Formosa is a tiny island off the east coast of China.
- Taiwan observes October 10 “double 10” as its national day and the Republic of China was declared on December 29 1911.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Muhasasa system” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Iran
- b) Israel
- c) Iraq
- d) Bangladesh

ANS: C

Explanation: The Muhasasa (apportionment) system is the heart of the political system in Iraq.

- This system was transferred to the country during the occupation by the US in 2003.
- According to the Muhasasa system, post the elections, Iraq’s political order will function on a “spoils” basis, with offices being shared among Shia, Sunni and Kurdish political groups.
- This system has played a key role in making sure that the effective power has remained with the tight coalition of Shia parties and the remaining influence being shared with Sunni and Kurd communities.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “Fergana region” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) European Union
- b) Northern Africa
- c) Central Asia
- d) Central America

ANS: C

Explanation: The heavy clashes on the Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan border have turned the world’s eyes to the border issues in the Central Asia that could not been completely solved for the last 31 years.

The region, Fergana, is divided between Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan without taking into account the ethnic structure and culture of the inhabitants.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The term “Gilts” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Bonds
- b) Spices
- c) Sea gulls
- d) Pristine species

ANS: A

Explanation: Gilts are bonds that are issued by the British government and generally considered low-risk equivalent to U.S. Treasury securities.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) The “Nord Stream pipeline” linking Russia and Europe located in?

- a) English Channel
- b) Baltic Sea
- c) North Sea
- d) Black Sea

ANS: B

Explanation: Nord Stream Pipeline owned by the Russian energy giant, Gazprom, Nord Stream Pipeline is the longest subsea pipeline.

- It is an export gas pipeline that runs under the Baltic Sea carrying gas from Russia to Europe.
- The gas for Nord Steam comes mainly from the Bovanenkovo oil and gas condensate deposit in Western Siberia.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Cambridge Analytica lawsuit” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Google
- b) Facebook
- c) Apple
- d) Volkswagen

ANS: B

Explanation: Cambridge Analytica lawsuit is primarily about the Facebook’s role in the 2016 U.S. election.

- A probe revealed that a London-based data analytics firm, Cambridge Analytica, misused data from as many as 50 million Facebook users.
- The firm collected the personal data of many users without their consent to build psychographic profiles of voters.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mandhan Yojana”:

1. It is a central sector and pension scheme.
2. It is eligible for only small and marginal farmers who own less than 2 hectares of land.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mandhan Yojana is a new central sector and pension scheme.

- It is eligible for only small and marginal farmers who own less than 2 hectares of land (While PM-KISAN is for all farmers).
- Under this Scheme, a minimum fixed monthly pension of Rs.3,000 is provided on attaining the age of 60 years.
- It is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala
- d) Rajasthan

ANS: D

Explanation: The Mukundra Tiger Reserve (TR) is located near Kota, Rajasthan.

- The park is situated in a valley formed by two parallel mountains viz. Mukundra and Gargola.
- The 4 rivers (Ramzan, Ahu, Kali and Chambal) form the boundary of the valley.
- It is located on the eastern bank of the Chambal River and is drained by its tributaries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Acts & Amendments

Q.1) Which of the following scheduled tribe (ST) community/communities is/are included in ST's list through the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Act, 2022?

- 1. Deshwari
- 2. Patbandi
- 3. Raut

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Act, 2022 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on February 7, 2022 by the Minister of Tribal Affairs, Mr. Arjun Munda.

- The Act amends the Schedule to the ST Order to include certain communities in the list of STs in Jharkhand.
- These are the Deshwari, Ganjhu, Dautalbandi (Dwalbandi), Patbandi, Raut, Maajhia, Khairi (Kheri), Tamararia (Tamadia), and Puran communities.
- Further, the Schedule to the SC Order is being amended to omit the Bhogta community from the list of SCs in Jharkhand. The community is instead being included in the list of STs in the state.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) In which of the following area/s, one-third of all seats for women through women reservation bill, 2023?

1. Lok Sabha
2. State legislative assemblies
3. The Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on September 19, 2023.

- The Bill seeks to reserve one-third of the total number of seats in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.
- The Bill reserves, as nearly as may be, one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha, state legislative assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023:

1. It repeals the Science and Engineering Research Board Act, 2008.
2. It provides for establishing the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (NRF).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on August 4, 2023.

- It repeals the Science and Engineering Research Board Act, 2008 and dissolves the Science and Engineering Research Board set up under it.
- The Bill provides for establishing the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (NRF).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023:

1. It will apply to the processing of digital personal data within India outside India.
2. Personal data may be processed only for a lawful purpose upon consent of an individual.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 will apply to the processing of digital personal data within India where such data is collected online, or collected offline and is digitized.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- It will also apply to such processing outside India, if it is for offering goods or services in India.
- Personal data may be processed only for a lawful purpose upon consent of an individual.
- Consent may not be required for specified legitimate uses such as voluntary sharing of data by the individual or processing by the State for permits, licenses, benefits, and services.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are part of National Capital Civil Services Authority?

1. Prime Minister
2. Chief Minister
3. Principal Home Secretary of Delhi

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The National Capital Civil Services Authority, which consists of the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary of Delhi, and Principal Home Secretary of Delhi.

The Authority will make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor (LG) regarding transfers and postings of officials and disciplinary matters.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the “Indian Institute of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023”:

1. The act amends the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.
2. The act classifies the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai as IIM, Mumbai.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Indian Institute of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 28, 2023. The act amends the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.

- The Act declares Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) as institutes of national importance and regulates their functioning.
- IIMs provide post-graduate education in the field of management and allied areas.
- The act classifies the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai as IIM, **Mumbai**.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the “Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment act, 2023”:

1. It amends the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002.
2. The maximum area for undertaking exploration under a single composite license will be 60 minutes latitude by 60 minutes longitude.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 27, 2023.

- The Bill amends the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002. The Act regulates mining in maritime zones of India.
- The maximum area for undertaking exploration under a single composite license will be 30 minutes latitude by 30 minutes longitude.
- The maximum area for undertaking production under a single composite license will be 15 minutes latitude by 15 minutes longitude.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding the “Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023”:

1. The Act allows pitting, trenching, drilling, and sub-surface excavation as part of reconnaissance.
2. The Act introduces an exploration license, which will authorize either reconnaissance or prospecting, or both activities for specified minerals.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 amends the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The Act regulates the mining sector.

- The Act allows pitting, trenching, drilling, and sub-surface excavation as part of reconnaissance.
- The Act introduces an exploration license, which will authorize either reconnaissance or prospecting, or both activities for specified minerals.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) Which of the following is NOT a Nordic country?

- a) Belgium
- b) Denmark
- c) Norway
- d) Iceland

ANS: A

Explanation: Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland, collectively known as the Nordic countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The "Guru Ghasidas National Park" is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Maharashtra

ANS: B

Explanation: Guru Ghasidas National Park (Sanjay) National park is a beautiful place, located in the Koriya district of the state of Chhattisgarh. Total area of the park is about 1440.71 km².

It was declared as a National park in the year of 1981. The park has been renamed after the Satnami reformist hero, Guru Ghasidas.

Source: FORUMIAS

Acts & Amendments

Q.1) The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 substitutes the UA category with the following category/categories?

- 1. UA 7 plus
- 2. UA 13 plus
- 3. UA 16 plus

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on July 20, 2023. The Bill amends the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

- The Bill substitutes the UA category with the following three categories to also indicate age-appropriateness: (i) UA 7+, (ii) UA 13+, or (iii) UA 16+.
- The age endorsement within the UA category by the Board will inform guidance of parents or guardians, and will not be enforceable by any other persons other than parents or guardians.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) Which of the following is/are provision/s of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980?

1. De-reservation of reserved forests
2. Assigning forest land by way of lease
3. Use of forest land for non-forest purpose

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, is an important Central statute for the conservation of forests in the country.

It provides that the de-reservation of reserved forests, use of forest land for non-forest purpose, assigning forest land by way of lease or otherwise to private entity and clearing of naturally grown trees for the purpose of re-forestation requires prior permission of the Central Government.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Green Channel Route” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) The Competition (Amendment) Act 2023
- b) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- c) The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
- d) The IT Amendment Act, 2022

ANS: A

Explanation: The green channel route is already in vogue as a procedure, but now the Competition (Amendment) Act 2023 has formally included this route to the Competition Act.

- The introduction of the ‘Green Channel Route’ is another step forward in the ‘Ease of Doing Business’ initiative of the Government.
- Where there is a merger or acquisition and there is no horizontal, vertical or complementary overlap between the companies then deemed approval can be given on the day the application is filed.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV)” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Ahmadabad
- b) Vadodara
- c) Nagpur
- d) Pune

ANS: B

Explanation: Indian Railways’ Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) Vadodara and Airbus today entered into collaboration to significantly strengthen the Indian aviation sector.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.5) The Parliament passed the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022, which is pursuant to India's accession to?

1. Antarctic Treaty
2. Madrid Protocol
3. The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Parliament passed the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022, which aims at having India's own national measures for protecting the Antarctic environment as also the dependent and associated ecosystem.

- After the Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on 22nd July, it was cleared by Rajya Sabha today after it was moved by Minister of Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh.
- The bill is in pursuant to India's accession to Antarctic Treaty, the Protocol on Environment Protection (Madrid Protocol) to the Antarctic Treaty and to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The "EAGLE Act of 2022" is often seen in news related to?

- a) USA
- b) JAPAN
- c) RUSSIA
- d) AUSTRALIA

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, the White House supported the US Congress pass a legislation whose aim is to eliminate the per-country quota on issuing green cards and the House of Representatives will soon vote on the EAGLE Act of 2022.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The "One Country – Two Systems" is often seen in news related to?

- a) China
- b) Taiwan
- c) Japan
- d) Israel

ANS: A

Explanation: China uses the constitutional principle "one country, two systems" to govern the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau.

According to the principle, Hong Kong and Macau, both former colonies, will be allowed to have independent economic and political systems from that of mainland China, while still being a part of the country.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) The “Gasht-e Ershad - Guidance Patrols” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Iraq
- b) Iran
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Kuwait

ANS: B

Explanation: The morality police known formally as “Gasht-e Ershad” (Guidance Patrols) in Iran enforce a dress code in the country that requires women wear to wear hijabs in public.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Periyar Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Telangana
- d) Odisha

ANS: A

Explanation: Saddled in the southern region of the Western Ghats, spread across an area of 777 sq. km of forest land and home to a luxuriant collection of different species of flora and fauna is the Periyar Tiger Reserve.

This spectacular stretch of greenery gets its name from the River Periyar (Kerala) which has its origin deep inside the reserve.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Ramsar Site” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Wetlands
- b) Lakes
- c) Ponds
- d) River Streams

ANS: A

Explanation: A Ramsar site is a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, which is also known as the ‘Convention on Wetlands’ — an intergovernmental environmental treaty established by UNESCO in 1971, and named after the city of Ramsar in Iran, where the convention was signed that year.

Source: FORUMIAS

Acts & Amendments

Q.1) The “National Green Tribunal Act” is often seen in news was enacted in?

- a) 2001
- b) 2005
- c) 2010
- d) 2013

ANS: C

Explanation: The National Green Tribunal, established in 2010, as per the National Green Tribunal Act is a specialized judicial body equipped with expertise solely for the purpose of adjudicating environmental cases in the country.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “National Green Tribunal”:

1. The Tribunal’s orders are enforceable as the powers vested are the same as in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.
2. The Tribunal has powers to review its own decisions.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Tribunal is tasked with providing effective and expeditious remedy in cases relating to environmental protection, conservation of forests and other natural resources and enforcement of any legal right relating to environment.

- The Tribunal’s orders are binding and it has power to grant relief in the form of compensation and damages to affected persons.
- The Tribunal’s orders are enforceable as the powers vested are the same as in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.
- The Tribunal has powers to review its own decisions. If this fails, the decision can be challenged before the Supreme Court within ninety days.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The 73rd Amendment act of 1992 is often seen in news related to?

- a) Forest conservation
- b) Wildlife protection
- c) Self help groups
- d) Panchayat raj system

ANS: D

Explanation: 73rd Amendment act granted constitutional status and protection to the Panchayati Raj institutions. For this purpose, the Amendment has added a new Part-IX entitled as ‘the panchayats’ and a new Eleventh Schedule containing 29 functional items of the panchayats.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) Which constitutional amendment act made elementary education as fundamental right?

- a) 56th Constitutional amendment act
- b) 61st Constitutional amendment act
- c) 74th Constitutional amendment act
- d) 86th Constitutional amendment act

ANS: D

Explanation: Eighty Sixth Amendment Act, 2002 made elementary education a fundamental right under the Article 21A.

- Changed the subject matter of Article 45 in Directive Principles
- Added a new fundamental duty under Article 51-A

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The famous “89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Electoral reforms
- b) Bifurcation of SC and ST commission
- c) Primary health care
- d) Seat allocation of Rajya Sabha

ANS: B

Explanation: Eighty Ninth Amendment Act, 2003 bifurcated the erstwhile combined National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes into two separate bodies, namely, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (Article 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (Article 338-A).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Under which of the following constitutional amendment act, “the total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Central Council of Ministers, shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha”?

- a) 77th
- b) 83rd
- c) 91st
- d) 93rd

ANS: C

Explanation: Ninety First Amendment Act, 2003 made the following provision related to Council of Ministers is: The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Central Council of Ministers, shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Which of the following language/s is/are included in 8th schedule through 92nd constitutional amendment act?

- a) Bodo
- b) Dogri
- c) Santhali

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ninety Second Amendment Act, 2003 included four more languages in the Eighth Schedule. They are Bodo, Dogri (Dongri), Maithili and Santhali. With this, the total number of constitutionally 83 recognized languages increased to 22.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The famous “101st constitutional amendment act” is related to?

- a) Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- b) Land boundary agreement
- c) Inflation targeting
- d) Water sharing

ANS: A

Explanation: One Hundred and First Amendment Act, 2017 introduction of the Goods and Services Tax.

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) is an indirect tax (or consumption tax) used in India on the supply of goods and services.
- It is a comprehensive, multistage, destination-based tax: comprehensive because it has subsumed almost all the indirect taxes except a few state taxes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Kanha National Park” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) West Bengal
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: A

Explanation: Kanha National Park, also known as Kanha Tiger Reserve, is a vast expanse of grassland and forest in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh.

- Tigers, jackals and wild pigs can be spotted in Kanha Meadows. The elevated plateau of Bamhridadar is home to birds of prey.
- Animals often gather at the watering holes of Sondar Tank and Babathenga Tank. The park's flora and fauna are documented in the park's Kanha Museum.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Kuno National Park” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Madhya Pradesh

ANS: D

Explanation: Kuno National Park is a national park and Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh, India. It derives its name from Kuno River. It was established in 1981 as a wildlife sanctuary with an initial area of 344.686 km² in the Sheopur and Morena districts.

In 2018, it was given the status of a national park.

Source: FORUMIAS

Organizations & Bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “UN Economic & Social Council”:

1. It is the United Nations’ central platform for reflection, debate, and innovative thinking on sustainable development.
2. It has 54 members, which are elected by the General Assembly for a 3-year term.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: UN Economic & Social Council is the United Nations’ central platform for reflection, debate, and innovative thinking on sustainable development.

- It coordinates the activities of UN and other organizations working and social and economic issues.
- It also coordinates intergovernmental level work of UN Specialized Agencies.
- It has 54 members, which are elected by the General Assembly for a 3-year term.
- Seats in the council are allocated based on geographical representation. 11 of them are allotted to Asian states.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding “International Court of Justice”?

1. It is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.
2. It is seated at the Peace Palace, Hague, Netherlands.
3. It is the only principal organ of UN to be not located in New York.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It is also called as the “World Court”.

- It is seated at the Peace Palace, Hague, Netherlands. It is the only principal organ of UN to be not located in New York.
- It settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions to the UN and its specialized agencies.
- It hears cases related to war crimes, illegal state interference, ethnic cleansing, and other issues.
- It is composed of 15 judges elected to 9-year terms of office by the UNGA and the Security Council.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “UN specialized agencies”:

1. They are autonomous international organizations working with the United Nations.
2. There are totally 15 specialized agencies under the United Nations (UN).

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The UN specialized agencies are autonomous international organizations working with the United Nations.

- All were brought into relationship with the UN through negotiated agreements.
- Some existed before the First World War. Some were associated with the League of Nations. Others were created almost simultaneously with the UN. Others were created by the UN to meet emerging needs.
- In other words, Specialized Agencies are legally independent international organizations with their own rules, membership, organs and financial resources, which were brought into relationship with the United Nations through negotiated agreements.
- There are totally 15 specialized agencies under the United Nations (UN).

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.4) India is NOT a member of which of the following institution?

- a) International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
- b) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- c) International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- d) International Development Association (IDA)

ANS: A

Explanation: India is a member of four of the five constituents of the World Bank Group viz., International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).

India is not a member of ICSID (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following organization is private arm of World Bank Group?

- a) International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
- b) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- c) International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- d) International Development Association (IDA)

ANS: C

Explanation: IFC is the private sector arm of The World Bank founded in 1956. IFC provides financing for private enterprise investments in developing countries.

It also provides advisory services to encourage the development of private enterprise in nations.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The “Green Equity Approach” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- b) International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- c) International Development Association (IDA)
- d) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

ANS: B

Explanation: IFC’s green equity approach: Under IFC’s Approach to Greening Equity Investments in Financial Institutions, IFC will work with clients where we have equity or equity-like exposures to increase their climate lending and reduce their exposure to coal- related projects.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The “Meghalaya Community-led Landscape Management Project” is supported by?

- a) World Bank
- b) IMF
- c) UNDP
- d) ADB

ANS: A

Explanation: Meghalaya Community-led Landscape Management Project – This World Bank supported project was launched in 2018 to empower communities in Meghalaya to strengthen rural communities and traditional institutions to take charge of their natural resources.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “World Health Organization”:

1. It has 194-member countries.
2. It has the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to international health.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: WHO is the first global health organization, replacing many regional and national health bodies.

- It has 194-member countries, and its secretariat is in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It has the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to international health.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “International Health Partnership (IHP+)” is an initiative of World Health Organization and?

- a) IMF
- b) UNDP
- c) WEF
- d) World Bank

ANS: D

Explanation: International Health Partnership (IHP+) – World Bank with the World Health Organization, administers the International Health Partnership (IHP+).

IHP+ is a group of partners committed to improving the health of citizens in developing countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Bannerghatta National Park” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Assam
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: B

Explanation: Bannerghatta National Park is a national park in India, located near Bangalore, Karnataka.

- It was founded in 1970 and declared as a national park in 1974.
- In 2002, a small portion of the park became a zoological garden, the Bannerghatta Biological Park.

Source: FORUMIAS

Organizations & Bodies

Q.1) The “Marrakesh Treaty” is often seen in news related to?

- a) WIPO
- b) IMF
- c) UNEP
- d) UNDP

ANS: A

Explanation: The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation. Established in 1967, WIPO has 193 member states.

Marrakesh Treaty of WIPO – It is to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired and print disabled.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)”:

1. It was established by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
2. It is a body of climate experts for assessing the science related to climate change.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): It was established by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988.

- IPCC, a body of climate experts, is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.
- The IPCC does not undertake scientific assessments but only evaluates the state of scientific evidence on various aspects of climate change.
- It prepares comprehensive Assessment Reports on climate change and Special Reports.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Which of the following country/countries is/are formally quit/withdrawn from “UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)”?

1. Israel
2. USA
3. Russia

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is responsible for promoting peace, social justice, human rights and international security through international cooperation on educational, science and cultural programs.

- It is based in Paris, France. It accorded recognition in 2011 to Palestine as its member.
- U.S and Israel have formally quit the UNESCO.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following organization leads the “Man and Biosphere Programme”?

- a) UNESCO
- b) UNEP
- c) UNDP
- d) WMO

ANS: A

Explanation: UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is responsible for promoting peace, social justice, human rights and international security through international cooperation on educational, science and cultural programs.

It leads the Man and Biosphere Programme for protecting Biosphere reserves across the world.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The famous “Lima Declaration” is often seen in news related to?

- a) UNIDO
- b) UNESCO
- c) UNDP
- d) UNEP

ANS: A

Explanation: UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is an UN coordinating body central to the promotion of industrial development, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.

According to Lima Declaration (2013), UNIDO’s mission is to promote Inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in member states.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.6) The “International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)” is related to?

- a) FAO
- b) World Bank
- c) UNEP
- d) UNCBD

ANS: A

Explanation: Food and Agriculture Organization: It was established in 1945 with the objective of eliminating hunger and improving nutrition and standards of living by increasing agricultural productivity.

- Its secretariat is in Rome, Italy. FAO receives 100% of its funding from its member countries.
- Some of the important key programmes of FAO are Food Security Programmes, Codex Alimentarius, and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):

1. It is dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries.
2. It provides low-interest loans and grants to developing countries to finance innovative agricultural and rural development programmes and projects.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: International Fund for Agricultural Development is an international financial institution, the UN’s food and agriculture hub.

- IFAD is dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries.
- It provides low-interest loans and grants to developing countries to finance innovative agricultural and rural development programmes and projects.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following institution deals with the actual or potential balance of payments problems?

- a) IMF
- b) UNDP
- c) World Bank
- d) IFAD

ANS: A

Explanation: IMF was conceived at a UN conference in Bretton Woods in July 1944.

- Established to build a framework for economic cooperation in the aftermath of the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- A core responsibility of the IMF is to provide loans to member countries experiencing actual or potential balance of payments problems.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.9) The “Special Drawing Rights (SDR)” is often seen in news related to?

- a) IMF
- b) WEF
- c) AIIB
- d) ADB

ANS: A

Explanation: Special Drawing Rights – The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries’ official reserves.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following institution was created through “Versailles Peace Treaty”?

- a) ILO
- b) GATT
- c) IMO
- d) IMF

ANS: A

Explanation: International Labour Organization: It was created in 1919 by the Versailles Peace Treaty ending World War I.

- After the demise of the League of Nations, the ILO became the first specialized agency associated with the UN.
- The organization has 187 of the 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands (a nation in the South Pacific, with political links to New Zealand).

Source: FORUMIAS

Organizations & Bodies

Q.1) The “New Arrangement to Borrow (NAB)” is often seen in news related to?

- a) ADB
- b) NDB
- c) AIIB
- d) IMF

ANS: D

Explanation: Through New Arrangement to Borrow (NAB), a number of member countries and institutions stand ready to lend additional resources to the IMF.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) The “Bunker convention” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) WIPO
- b) IMO
- c) UNDP
- d) UNIDO

ANS: B

Explanation: India has had the privilege of being elected to and serving the council of the IMO, ever since it started functioning, except for two years during 1983-1984.

- The Bunker convention was adopted in 2001 and came into force in 2008.
- Its aim is to ensure that adequate, prompt, and effective compensation is available to persons who suffer damage caused by oil spills, when carried as fuel in ships’ bunkers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The famous “Chicago convention” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) ICAO
- b) UNEP
- c) WEF
- d) ISA

ANS: A

Explanation: International Civil Aviation Organization: It was created after the Chicago convention on International Civil Aviation drafted in 1955.

It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency as well as for aviation environmental protection.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “CORSIA – scheme” is often seen in news related to?

- a) ICAO
- b) UNEP
- c) WEF
- d) ISA

ANS: A

Explanation: CORSIA – ICAO introduced a scheme to measure carbon emission, called as “CORSIA – Carbon Offsetting and Reporting Scheme for International Aviation”.

It is an emission mitigation approach for the global airline industry that aims to address any annual increase in total CO2 emissions from international civil aviation above 2020 levels.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.5) The “CryptoFund” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) UNIDO
- b) UNESCO
- c) UNICEF
- d) World Bank

ANS: C

Explanation: United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) works to reach the most disadvantaged Children and adolescents and aims to protect the rights of every child, everywhere.

- CryptoFund - It is a new financial vehicle allowing UNICEF to receive, hold, and disburse cryptocurrency.
- This crypto-currency-denominated fund is a part of UNICEF’s Innovation Fund. The investments are made in bitcoin and ether.
- UNICEF is the first UN organization to hold and make transactions in crypto-currencies.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “World Food Programme”:

1. It is the world’s largest humanitarian organization committed towards its global goal of ending hunger by the year 2030.
2. The operations are funded by voluntary donations from world governments, corporations and private donors.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The WFP, the food-assistance branch of the UN.

- It is the world’s largest humanitarian organization committed towards its global goal of ending hunger by the year 2030.
- The operations are funded by voluntary donations from world governments, corporations and private donors.
- It strives to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, with the ultimate goal of eliminating the need for food aid itself.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)”:

1. The first UN-Habitat Assembly was held in Nairobi, Kenya.
2. UNEP and UN-Habitat jointly facilitated the observance of the first-ever International Day of Zero Waste on March 30, 2023.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency for human settlements and sustainable urban development.

- The first UN-Habitat Assembly was held in Nairobi, Kenya.
- United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat conference) is held once in bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 & 2016).
- UN-Habitat is the custodian agency for 9 of the 15 indicators under SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities).
- UNEP and UN-Habitat jointly facilitated the observance of the first-ever International Day of Zero Waste on March 30, 2023.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Adaptation Gap Report” is often seen in news related to?

- a) UNEP
- b) UNDP
- c) WEF
- d) ADB

ANS: A

Explanation: UNEP/UN Environment is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda.

It publishes the following reports: Global Environment Outlook, Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Actions on Air Quality & Rise of Environmental Crime Report (along with INTERPOL).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Green Climate Fund”:

1. It was established under the Cancun Agreements in 2010.
2. It was established as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Green Climate Fund (GCF): It was established under the Cancun Agreements in 2010 by 194 countries party to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- It was established as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture, serving the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.
- The Fund pays particular attention to the needs of societies that are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and African States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “Global Environment Facility (GEF)”:

1. It was established on the eve of the 2002 Rio Earth Summit.
2. It is a Unique Partnership of 18 agencies, including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, national entities and international NGOs.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Global Environment Facility (GEF): It was established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

- It is a Unique Partnership of 18 agencies, including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, national entities and international NGOs.
- GEF is a family of funds dedicated to confronting biodiversity loss, climate change, pollution, and strains on land and ocean health.

Source: FORUMIAS

Revision

Q.1) UNCTAD was formed specifically to handle the problems of developing countries dealing with?

1. Trade
2. Investment
3. Development

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a permanent intergovernmental body established by the United Nations General Assembly.

UNCTAD was formed specifically to handle the problems of developing countries dealing with trade, investment and development issues.

Source: FORUMIAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) The “World Economic Situation and Prospects report” published by which of the following institution?

- a) UNCTAD
- b) UNIDO
- c) WEF
- d) IMF

ANS: A

Explanation: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a permanent intergovernmental body established by the United Nations General Assembly.

Reports published by UNCTAD – Trade and Development Report, World Investment Report, The Least Developed Countries Report, World Economic Situation and Prospects, Information and Economy Report, Technology and Innovation Report, Commodities and Development Report.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Blue Deal” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) UNIDO
- b) UNCLOS
- c) UNCTAD
- d) IMO

ANS: C

Explanation: In 2021, the UNCTAD proposed a ‘Blue Deal’ for global trade, investment and innovation for the post-COVID-19 economy.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following organization is known as “Atoms for Peace” organization?

- a) IAEA
- b) NSG
- c) WEF
- d) UNEP

ANS: A

Explanation: International Atomic Energy Agency: It seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons and materials by the early detection of the misuse.

- It was established in 1957 as an autonomous organization report to both the UNGA and Security Council.
- It is widely known as the world’s “Atoms for Peace” organization.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The famous “Marrakesh Agreement” is related to which of the following?

- a) WTO
- b) WIPO
- c) WEF
- d) World Bank

ANS: A

Explanation: World Trade Organization: It operates a global system of trade rules, acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements, it settles trade disputes between its member countries and it supports the needs of developing countries.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

WTO officially commenced under the Marrakesh Agreement, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “World Trade Organization”:

1. Ministerial Conference is the highest decision-making body of WTO.
2. All decisions are taken through consensus and any member can exercise a veto.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: WTO operates a global system of trade rules, acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements, it settles trade disputes between its member countries and it supports the needs of developing countries.

- Ministerial Conference is the highest decision-making body, where members are represented by its trade ministers, which meets every 2 years.
- All decisions are taken through consensus and any member can exercise a veto.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The famous “most favored nation (MFN)” clause is often seen in news related to?

- a) WTO
- b) ISA
- c) IMF
- d) ADB

ANS: A

Explanation: MFN status is an economic position in which a country enjoys the best trade terms given by its trading partner.

- It receives the lowest tariffs, the fewest trade barriers, and the highest import quotas (or none at all).
- The World Trade Organization’s 164 members have the Principle of nondiscrimination and offers most favored nation (MFN) treatment.
- Under this principle, the WTO members commit to treating other members equally so they can all benefit from each other’s lowest tariffs, highest import quotas and fewest trade barriers for goods and services.
- The only exceptions are developing countries, regional trade areas, and customs unions.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “United Nations Human Rights Council”:

1. It is an inter-governmental body within the UN system.
2. Its resolutions are legally binding.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: UNHRC is an inter-governmental body within the UN system (a subsidiary body of UNGA).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- It replaced the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. It is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights around the world.
- Members are elected by the UN General Assembly with 3-year terms by absolute majority, with a maximum of 2 consecutive terms. It has 47 seats.
- It meets 3 times a year to examine human rights violations worldwide. Its resolutions are not legally binding but carry moral authority.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The famous “Astana Declaration” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Primary health care
- b) Green energy
- c) Nuclear non – proliferation
- d) Ground water

ANS: A

Explanation: Astana Declaration vows to strengthen primary healthcare and achieve universal health coverage by 2030.

It marked the 40 years of the historic Alma Ata Declaration, which declared health a human right for all.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Palamau Tiger Reserve” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Assam
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: A

Explanation: The Palamau Tiger Reserve is one of the nine original tiger reserves in Jharkhand, India and the only one in this state. It forms part of Betla National Park and Palamau Wildlife Sanctuary.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environment & Ecology

Q.1) Which of the following matter/s is/are comes under “ecology”?

1. Effects of environment on organisms
2. Energy flow in environment
3. Mineral cycling

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ecology is defined “as a scientific study of the relationship of the living organisms with each other and with their environment.”

It deals with the ways in which organisms are molded by their environment, how they make use of environmental resources including energy flow and mineral cycling.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) Which of the following has/had the reference of ecological principles?

1. Charaka-Samhita
2. Sushruta-Samhita
3. Aranyakas

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Our ancient Indian texts have references to ecological principles.

- The classical texts of the Vedic period such as the Vedas, the Samhitas, the Brahmanas and the Aranyakas-Upanishads contain many references to ecological concepts.
- The Indian treatise on medicine, the Charaka-Samhita and the surgical text Sushruta-Samhita, show that people during this period had a good understanding of plant and animal ecology.

Source: Shankar IAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Which of the following is non – biotic component of environment?

- a) Green plants
- b) Decomposers
- c) Radiation
- d) Parasites

ANS: C

Explanation: The environment is not static. Both biotic and abiotic factors are in a flux and keep changing continuously.

Components of Environment	
Abiotic	Biotic
Energy	Green plants
Radiation	Non-green plants
Temperature & heat flow	Decomposers
Water	Parasites
Atmospheric gases and wind	Symbionts
Fire	Animals
Gravity	Man
Topography	
Soil	
Geologic substratum	

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) Which of the following is not an inorganic compound?

- a) Proteins
- b) Nitrate
- c) Sulfur
- d) Phosphates

ANS: A

Explanation: Inorganic compound such as carbon dioxide, water, sulphur, nitrates, phosphates, and ions of various metals are essential for organisms to survive.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are primary producer/s?

- 1. Algae
- 2. Bacteria
- 3. Green plants

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Primary producers are basically green plants (and certain bacteria and algae).

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

They synthesize carbohydrate from simple inorganic raw materials like carbon dioxide and water in the presence of sunlight by the process of photosynthesis for themselves, and supply indirectly to other nonproducers.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “consumers”:

1. They are incapable of producing their own food.
2. They depend on organic food derived from plants, animals or both.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Consumers are incapable of producing their own food (photosynthesis).

- They depend on organic food derived from plants, animals or both.
- Consumers can be divided into two broad groups namely micro and macro consumers.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Herbivores are primary consumers which feed mainly on plants.
2. Omnivores are organisms which consume both plants and animals.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Herbivores are primary consumers which feed mainly on plants e.g. cow, rabbit.

Omnivores are organisms which consume both plants and animals e.g. man, monkey.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) The term “osmotrophs” related to which of the following?

- a) Primary producers
- b) Consumers
- c) Decomposers
- d) Omnivores

ANS: C

Explanation: Micro consumers - Saprotrophs (decomposers or osmotrophs): They are bacteria and fungi which obtain energy and nutrients by decomposing dead organic substances (detritus) of plant and animal origin.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

The products of decomposition such as inorganic nutrients which are released in the ecosystem are reused by producers and thus recycled.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are example/s of ecotone?

1. Mangrove forest
2. Grassland
3. River bank

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ecotone is a zone of junction between two or more diverse ecosystems.

- For e.g. the mangrove forests represent an ecotone between marine and terrestrial ecosystem.
- Other examples are – grassland, estuary and river bank.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The “Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Western Ghats
- b) Eastern Ghats
- c) Purvanchal hills
- d) Andaman & Nicobar

ANS: A

Explanation: The Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve is located in the southernmost end of the Western Ghats and incorporates peaks towering 1,868 m above sea level.

It covers 3,500 km² and encompasses tropical forest ecosystems that fall within the Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts of Tamil Nadu and the Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts of Kerala.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environment & Ecology

Q.1) Which of the following is/are characteristic/s of “ecotone”?

1. It may be very narrow or quite wide.
2. It is a zone of tension.
3. Well developed ecotones contain some organisms which are entirely different from that of the adjoining communities.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Characteristics of Ecotone:

- It may be very narrow or quite wide. It has the conditions intermediate to the adjacent ecosystems. Hence it is a zone of tension.
- It is linear as it shows progressive increase in species composition of one in coming community and a simultaneous decrease in species of the other out going adjoining community.
- Well developed ecotones contain some organisms which are entirely different from that of the adjoining communities.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “ecological niche”:

1. It is the unique functional role or place of a species in an ecosystem.
2. A niche is unique for a species, which means no two species have exact identical niches.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A niche is the unique functional role or place of a species in an ecosystem.

- It is a description of all the biological, physical and chemical factors that a species needs to survive, stay healthy and reproduce.
- A niche is unique for a species, which means no two species have exact identical niches.
- Niche plays an important role in conservation of organisms.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.3) Which of the following species is/are found in “tundra forest”?

1. Reindeer
2. Snowy owl
3. Lemming

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Devoid of trees except stunted shrubs in the southern part of tundra biome, ground flora includes lichen, mosses and sedges.

- The typical animals are reindeer, arctic fox, polar bear, snowy owl, lemming, arctic hare, and ptarmigan.
- Reptiles and amphibians are almost absent.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Tropical rain forest”:

1. It covers about 7% of the earth’s surface & 40% of the world’s plant and animal species.
2. Most animals and epiphytic plants are concentrated in the canopy or tree top zones.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tropical rainforest covers about 7% of the earth’s surface & 40% of the world’s plant and animal species.

- Multiple storeys of broad-leaved evergreen tree species are in abundance.
- Most animals and epiphytic plants are concentrated in the canopy or tree top zones.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are example/s of “lotic water system”?

1. Freshwater streams
2. Springs
3. Creeks

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Fresh water ecosystem is classified as lotic (moving water) or lentic (still or stagnant water). Lotic water system includes freshwater streams, springs, rivulets, creeks, brooks, and rivers.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) Which of the following is NOT a lentic water system?

- a) Swamps
- b) Bogs
- c) Pools
- d) Rivers

ANS: D

Explanation: Fresh water ecosystem is classified as lotic (moving water) or lentic (still or stagnant water).

- Lotic water system includes freshwater streams, springs, rivulets, creeks, brooks, and rivers.
- Lentic water bodies include pools, ponds, some swamps, bogs and lakes.
- They vary considerably in physical, chemical and biological characteristics.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Environmental Information System (ENVIS)”:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme has been implemented since 1982.
2. Its purpose is to integrate country-wide efforts in environmental information.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Environmental Information System (ENVIS), a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry has been implemented since 1982.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

The purpose of the scheme is to integrate country-wide efforts in environmental information collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination through ENVIS websites, which are dedicated to different interesting themes.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “energy flow” in ecosystem:

1. Energy is the basic force responsible for all metabolic activities.
2. The flow of energy from producer to top consumers is called energy flow which is unidirectional.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Energy is the basic force responsible for all metabolic activities.

- The flow of energy from producer to top consumers is called energy flow which is unidirectional.
- The study of Tropic level interaction in an ecosystem gives an idea about the energy flow through the ecosystem.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are cetacean/s?

1. Dolphin
2. Porpoise
3. Whale

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Dolphins, Porpoises and whales are called cetaceans.

A cetacean is a creature belonging to a group of water living mammals that have no hind limbs and a blowhole for breathing. They are not fish!

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: D

Explanation: The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve is situated in the Pilibhit district and Shahjahanpur District of Uttar Pradesh, forming part of the Terai Arc Landscape, in the upper Gangetic Plain Bio-geographic Province.

- Some river originating from the reserve, which is also the catchment of several others like Sharda, Chuka and Mala, Khannot.
- The habitat is characterized by sal forests, tall grasslands and swamp maintained by periodic flooding from rivers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Protected Areas

Q.1) The wildlife protection act is often seen in news enacted in?

- a) 1958
- b) 1966
- c) 1970
- d) 1972

ANS: D

Explanation: The adoption of a National Policy for Wildlife Conservation in 1970 and the enactment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act in 1972 lead to a significant growth in the protected areas network, from 5 national parks and 60 sanctuaries to a network of 669 Protected Areas with geographical area of the country, 4.92%.

Source: Shankar IAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are NOT correct?

1. Grazing activities are permitted in national park.
2. Wildlife sanctuary can be created for a particular species whereas the national park is not primarily focused on a particular species.
3. The Central Government may also declare, Wild Life Sanctuary and National Park under certain conditions.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: National Parks enjoy a greater degree of protection than sanctuaries.

- Certain activities which are regulated in sanctuaries, such as grazing of livestock, are prohibited in National Parks.
- Wildlife sanctuary can be created for a particular species (for e.g. grizzled giant squirrel w.l.s in srivalliputhur) whereas the national park is not primarily focused on a particular species.
- The Central Government may also declare, Wild Life Sanctuary and National Park under certain conditions.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.3) The Marble Palace Zoo, which was established in the year 1854, is the oldest existing zoo in the country is located at?

- a) Madras
- b) Kolkata
- c) Mumbai
- d) Delhi

ANS: B

Explanation: The Marble Palace Zoo in Calcutta city which was established in the year 1854 is the oldest existing zoo in the country.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Biosphere reserves are sites established by countries and recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.
2. The national Biosphere Reserve Programme in India was initiated in 1986.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Biosphere reserves are sites established by countries and recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme to promote sustainable development based on local community efforts and sound science.

- The national Biosphere Reserve Programme was initiated in 1986.
- To ensure participation of local inhabitants for effective management and devise means of improving livelihood of the local inhabitants through sustainable use.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are biodiversity hot spots present in India?

1. The Himalayas
2. Indo- Burma
3. Sunderland

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: There are 4 biodiversity hot spots present in India.

They are: 1. The Himalayas 2. Indo- Burma and 3. The western Ghats & Sri Lanka 4. Sunderland

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) Which of the following is called as "Sahyadri Hills"?

- a) Eastern Ghats
- b) The Eastern Himalayas
- c) Western Ghats
- d) The Western Himalayas

ANS: B

Explanation: Western Ghats, also known as the "Sahyadri Hills" encompasses the mountain forests in the southwestern parts of India.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) Which of the following “National Park” is located at Sawai Madhopur district?

- a) Sariska
- b) Ranathambore
- c) Gir
- d) Sunderbans

ANS: B

Explanation: Ranthambore National Park is one of the biggest and most renowned national parks in Northern India.

The park is located in the Sawai Madhopur district of southeastern Rajasthan, which is about 130 km from Jaipur.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Project Tiger” centrally sponsored scheme was launched in?

- a) 1952
- b) 1962
- c) 1973
- d) 1988

ANS: C

Explanation: Project Tiger centrally sponsored scheme was launched in 1973.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are sub species of tiger?

- 1. Bengal
- 2. South China
- 3. Siberian

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The scientific name for the tiger is *Panthera tigris*. There are eight subspecies of tiger: among the eight, at present five subspecies are present in the wild.

They are - Bengal, South China, Indochinese, Sumatran, and Siberian. Three subspecies of tiger—Caspian, Bali, and Javan—are extinct.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The “Dehing Patkai” national park is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Assam
- b) Tripura
- c) Nagaland
- d) Mizoram

ANS: A

Explanation: Dehing Patkai National Park is located in the Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts of Assam and covers an area of 231.65 km² (89.44 sq mi) rainforest.

- It was declared a wildlife sanctuary on 13 June 2004. On 13 December 2020 Government of Assam upgraded it into a national park.
- On 9 June 2021 Forest Department of Assam officially notified it as a national park.

Source: FORUMIAS

Protected Areas

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “tiger reserves”:

1. Core zone of tiger reserve areas are notified by the State Government in consultation with an Expert Committee.
2. Buffer zone aims at promoting co-existence between wildlife and human activity.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Core zone: Critical tiger habitat areas established, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria.

- These areas are notified by the State Government in consultation with an Expert Committee (constituted for that purpose).
- Buffer zone aims at promoting co-existence between wildlife and human activity with due recognition of the livelihood, developmental, social and cultural rights of the local people.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are power/s of National Tiger Conservation Authority?

1. To approve the Tiger Conservation Plan prepared by the State Government.
2. To evaluate and assess various aspects of sustainable ecology and disallow any ecologically unsustainable land use.
3. To lay down normative standards for tourism activities and guidelines for project tiger.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA): The Amendment Act of 2006 provides for the constitution of a statutory authority known as the National Tiger Conservation Authority to aid in the implementation of measures for the conservation of the tiger.

- To approve the Tiger Conservation Plan prepared by the State Government.
- To evaluate and assess various aspects of sustainable ecology and disallow any ecologically unsustainable land use such as mining, industry and other projects within tiger reserves.
- To lay down normative standards for tourism activities and guidelines for project tiger from time to time for tiger conservation in the buffer and core area of tiger reserves and ensure their due compliance.
- To provide information on protection measures including future conservation plan, estimation of population of tiger and its natural prey species.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “project elephant”:

1. It was launched in February, 1982.
2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme to assist states for conservation of elephants.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Project Elephant was launched in February, 1992 as centrally sponsored scheme to assist states having free ranging populations of wild elephants and to ensure long term survival of identified viable populations of elephants in their natural habitats.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) Which of the following animal/s is/are poached for their tusk?

1. Walrus
2. Narwhal
3. Hippopotamus

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The hippopotamus, walrus, narwhal, mammoth, Rhino and most commonly, Asian and African elephants are poached for their ivory tusk.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) The “MIKE” programme is often seen in news related to?

- a) Leopard
- b) Butterflies
- c) Elephants
- d) Tigers

ANS: C

Explanation: Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) Programme: Mandated by COP resolution of CITES, MIKE program started in South Asia in the year 2003 with following purpose:

To provide information needed for elephant range States to make appropriate management and enforcement decisions, and to build institutional capacity within the range States for the long-term management of their elephant populations.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) Which of the following is most affected species of drug “diclofenac”?

- a) Vultures
- b) Elephants
- c) Tigers
- d) Leopards

ANS: A

Explanation: Diclofenac is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) administered to reduce inflammation and to reduce pain in certain conditions.

- NSAIDs are associated with adverse kidney (renal) failure which is caused due to the reduction in synthesis of renal prostaglandins.
- Vultures which were unable to break down the chemical diclofenac, suffer from kidney failure when they eat the carcass of animals which have been administered with the drug – Diclofenac.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) In which of the following state/s is/are snow leopard commonly found?

1. Himachal Pradesh
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Sikkim

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The snow leopard is a globally endangered species. Merely 7,500 are estimated to be surviving over two million square kilometers in the Himalaya and Central Asian mountains, where they are facing tremendous human pressures.

- Distribution in India – in Indian Himalayas, high altitude areas located above the forests (alpine meadows and cold deserts) Areas above 3000m broadly constitute snow leopard range in India.
- In the five Himalayan states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) The “Dachigam National Park” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Kashmir
- b) Sikkim
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation: The Kashmir stag (*Cervus affinis hanglu*) also called Hangul is a subspecies of Central Asian Red Deer native to northern India.

In Kashmir, it's found in Dachigam National Park at elevations of 3,035 meters.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are fresh water dolphins?

1. Baiji
2. Bhulan
3. Boto

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Ganges Dolphin is among the four “obligate” freshwater dolphins found in the world – the other three are the ‘baiji’ found in the Yangtze River (China), the ‘bhulan’ of the Indus (Pakistan) and the ‘boto’ of the Amazon River (Latin America).

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The “Indravati National Park” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Kerala

ANS: C

Explanation: Indravati National Park is a national park located in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh state in India.

The park derives its name from the Indravati River, which flows from east to west and forms the northern boundary of the reserve with the Indian state of Maharashtra.

Source: FORUMIAS

Biodiversity & Conservation

Q.1) Which of the following stage/s diversity is/are exist?

- 1. Genetic level
- 2. Species level
- 3. Ecosystem level

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Biodiversity is part of our daily lives and livelihood, and constitutes resources upon which families, communities, nations and future generations depend.

Biodiversity is considered to exist at three levels: genetics, species, and ecosystems.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are causes of biodiversity loss?

- 1. Floods
- 2. Landslides
- 3. Rivalry among species

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The extinction of species takes place when they are exploited for economic gain or hunted as sport or for food.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- Extinction of species may also occur due to environmental reasons like ecological substitutions, biological factors and pathological causes which can be caused either by nature or man.
- Natural causes: floods, earthquakes, landslides, rivalry among species, and lack of pollination and diseases.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.3) Which of the following is NOT an in-situ conservation method?

- a) National park
- b) Wildlife sanctuary
- c) Biosphere reserve
- d) Zoological park

ANS: D

Explanation: Conserving the animals and plants in their natural habitats is known as in-situ conservation. The established natural habitats are:

- National parks
- Sanctuaries
- Biosphere reserves
- Reserved forests
- Protected forests

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) The “Red Data Book” is often seen in news released by?

- a) IUCN
- b) UNEP
- c) UNDP
- d) WEF

ANS: A

Explanation: Species judged as threatened are listed by various agencies as well as by some private organizations. The most cited of these lists is the Red Data Book.

- It is a loose-leaf volume of information on the status of many kinds of species.
- This volume is continually updated and is issued by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) located in Morges, Switzerland.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Which of the following biome/s is/are found in India?

1. Tropical Humid Forests
2. Tropical Deciduous Forests
3. Coniferous forests

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The term biome means the main groups of plants and animals living in areas of certain climate patterns. It includes the way in which animals, vegetation and soil interact together.

The plants and animals living in the area are adapted to that environment. The five biomes of India are:

- 1) Tropical Humid Forests
- 2) Tropical Dry or Deciduous Forests (including Monsoon Forests)
- 3) Warm deserts and semi-deserts
- 4) Coniferous forests and
- 5) Alpine meadows.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) In which of the following place/s lichens grow?

1. Rocks
2. Tree trunks
3. Dead wood

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Lichen is a peculiar combination of an alga and a fungus– the two live deriving mutual benefits.

They are group of grayish green plants which grow on rocks, tree-trunks, dead wood, etc.

Source: Shankar IAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Bryophytes”:

1. They usually grow in moist places.
2. They are the second largest group of green plants in India.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The plant body is differentiated into a small stem and simple leaves, but true roots are absent.

- They usually grow in moist places. E.g. Liverworts, mosses.
- They are the second largest group of green plants in India distributed largely in Eastern Himalaya, North-eastern India, Western Himalaya and the Western Ghats.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Malabar Civet”:

1. It is endemic to India.
2. It is nocturnal in nature.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Malabar Civet (*Viverra civettina*) is considered to be one of the world’s rarest mammals.

- It is endemic to India and was first reported from Travancore, Kerala.
- It is nocturnal in nature and found exclusively in the Western Ghats.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “penguins”:

1. They don’t live near freshwater.
2. They drink salt water.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Penguins don’t live near freshwater. They drink salt water.

They have a special gland in their bodies that takes the salt out of the water they drink and pushes it out of grooves in their bill.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The “Namdapha Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Sikkim
- d) Tripura

ANS: A

Explanation: Namdapha Tiger Reserve was declared in the year 1983 as the 15th Tiger Project of the country with a core area of 1985.245 Sq.Km and a buffer area of 245 Sq.Km.

- Thus the total area of the Reserve is 1985 Sq.Km.
- Namdapha is in fact the name of a river which originates from Daphabum (Dapha is the name of hill, Bum means peak of hill) and meets Noa-Dehing river.
- This river flows right across in a North-South direction of the National Park and hence the name Namdapha has been given.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environment Legislations

Q.1) ““The state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forest and wildlife of the country” – related to?

- a) Article 32
- b) Article 44
- c) Article 47
- d) Article 48 – A

ANS: D

Explanation: Article-48-A of the constitution provides: “The state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forest and wildlife of the country.”

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) The “Management Effective Evaluation” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Protected areas
- b) Green energy
- c) Sustainable habitat
- d) Organic farming

ANS: A

Explanation: Management Effective Evaluation (MEE), MEE conducted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Wildlife Institute of India is the assessment of how well protected areas are being managed and their effectiveness in conserving target flora and fauna, the reserves were put into four categories — ‘very good’, ‘good’, ‘fair’ and ‘poor’.

Source: Shankar IAS

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986”:

1. It empowers the State Government to take all appropriate measures to prevent and control pollution.
2. It prescribes a special procedure for handling hazardous substances and the concerned person has to handle the hazardous substances according to the procedure of the Act.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: As compared to all other previous laws on environment protection, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is a more effective and bold measure to fight the problem of pollution.

- The Act empowers the Central Government to take all appropriate measures to prevent and control pollution and to establish effective machinery for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and protecting controlling and abating environmental pollution.
- The Act prescribes a special procedure for handling hazardous substances and the concerned person has to handle the hazardous substances according to the procedure of the Act.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) The “Fair and equitable sharing” is associated with which of the following act?

- a) Wildlife protection act, 1972
- b) Environment protection act, 1981
- c) Biological diversity act, 2002
- d) National Green Tribunal act, 2010

ANS: C

Explanation: The Biological Diversity Act 2002 was born out of India’s attempt to realize the objectives enshrined in the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1992 which recognizes the sovereign rights of states to use their own Biological Resources.

Objectives: (i) Conservation of biological diversity; (ii) Sustainable use of its components; and (iii) Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Which of the following is the nodal agency for implementation of “forest rights act, 2006”?

- a) Ministry of environment and forest
- b) Ministry of tribal affairs
- c) Ministry of home affairs
- d) Ministry of agriculture

ANS: B

Explanation: Forest Rights Act, 2006 provides for the restitution of deprived forest rights across India, including both individual rights to cultivated land in forestland and community rights over common property resources.

Nodal Agency for the implementation of forest rights act, 2006 is Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) According to forest rights act, 2006, what is the maximum limit for recognizing the rights on forest land?

- a) 2 hectares
- b) 4 hectares
- c) 6 hectares
- d) 8 hectares

ANS: B

Explanation: The maximum limit of the recognizing rights on forest land is 4 ha.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “fire corals”:

- 1. They are more closely related to jellyfish than corals.
- 2. Generally found in murky inshore waters and display a tolerance for siltation.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Fire corals: They are more closely related to jellyfish than corals. On contact, one usually feels a burning sensation similar to a sting from a jellyfish.

Habitat: Generally found in murky inshore waters and display a tolerance for siltation. They often are found in clear offshore sites.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Epiphytes”:

- 1. They grow on the host plant.
- 2. They do not draw food from the host plant.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Epiphytes - plant growing on the host plant but not nourished by the host plant.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

- They do not draw food from the host plant. They only take the help of the host plant in getting access to light. Their roots perform two functions.
- While changing roots establish the plant on the branches of the host plant, aerial roots draw moisture from the air. Eg. Vanda.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “bats”:

1. They nurse their babies with milk and have fur.
2. They are only mammals that can fly.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Bats are MAMMALS. They are warm blooded, nurse their babies with milk and have fur. Bats are only mammals that can fly.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) The “Ntangki National Park” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Nagaland
- b) Tripura
- c) Sikkim
- d) Himachal Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Located 40 km from the town of Peren and about 37 km from Dimapur is the Ntangki National Park also known as the Intanki by many.

- Spread over a distance of 200 sq km, this park was established by the British administrators in the year 1923.
- Considered one of the best National Parks in the North East, it has thick rain forests which creates natural habitat for many birds, reptiles and mammals.
- Mountains, cliffs and dense forests make it a great place for camping and other adventurous activities.
- Here in this National Park you can see wild buffaloes (mithun) and hoolok gibbon which is found only in Nagaland.

Source: FORUMIAS

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following is/are “detritus feeders”?

1. Earthworm
2. Nematodes
3. Arthropods

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Earthworm and certain soil organisms (such as nematodes, and arthropods) are detritus feeders and help in the decomposition of organic matter and are called detritivores.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “ecosystem”:

1. They can regulate their own species structure and functional processes.
2. This capacity of ecosystem of self regulation is known as homeostasis.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ecosystems are capable of maintaining their state of equilibrium.

- They can regulate their own species structure and functional processes.
- This capacity of ecosystem of self regulation is known as homeostasis.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.3) Which of the following fauna is/are found in “Savannah”?

1. Antelopes
2. Rhinoceros
3. Mongoose

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Savannah is most extensive in Africa. Grasses with scattered trees and fire resisting thorny shrubs.

The fauna include a great diversity of grazers and browsers such as antelopes, buffaloes, zebras, elephants and rhinoceros; the carnivores include lion, cheetah, hyena; and mongoose, and many rodents.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.4) The “fresh water from rivers meet ocean water and the two are mixed by action of tides” – describes?

- a) Lakes
- b) Mangroves
- c) Estuaries
- d) Seepage

ANS: C

Explanation: Coastal bays, river mouths and tidal marshes form the estuaries. In estuaries, fresh water from rivers meet ocean water and the two are mixed by action of tides. Estuaries are highly productive as compared to the adjacent river or sea.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Bioaccumulation”:

1. It refers to how pollutants enter a food chain.
2. It is an increase in concentration of a pollutant from the environment to the first organism in a food chain.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Bioaccumulation refers to how pollutants enter a food chain.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2023

In bioaccumulation there is an increase in concentration of a pollutant from the environment to the first organism in a food chain.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.6) In which of the following process, one species benefits, the other is unaffected?

- a) Mutualism
- b) Commensalism
- c) Amensalism
- d) Competition

ANS: B

Explanation: Commensalism: one species benefits, the other is unaffected. Example: cow dung provides food and shelter to dung beetles. The beetles have no effect on the cows.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.7) Which of the following process is/are involved in carbon return back to atmosphere?

- 1. Respiration
- 2. Decomposition
- 3. Photosynthesis

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Carbon is present in the atmosphere, mainly in the form of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

- Carbon cycle involves a continuous exchange of carbon between the atmosphere and organisms.
- Carbon from the atmosphere moves to green plants by the process of photosynthesis, and then to animals.
- By process of respiration and decomposition of dead organic matter it returns back to atmosphere.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Tropical rain forests”:

1. It occurs near the equator.
2. They are the most diverse and rich communities on the earth.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tropical rain forests: Tropical rain forests occur near the equator. Tropical rain forests are among the most diverse and rich communities on the earth.

- Both temperature and humidity remain high and more or less uniform.
- The annual rainfall exceeds 200 cm and is generally distributed throughout the year.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.9) The “Rajbari National Park” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Tripura
- b) Nagaland
- c) West Bengal
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation: Situated in the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary, the Rajbari (Bison) National Park is one of India’s well-known National Parks. It is located at Tripura, India. The park is spread over a whopping 31.63 square kilometres.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Goa
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation: The Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu is one of the protected areas having diverse flora and fauna.

This region has got vegetation types which gradually changes from dry thorn forest to dry deciduous.

Source: FORUMIAS