

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation**

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*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

**[4<sup>th</sup> Week] April, 2024**

## 10 PM Compilation April [Fourth Week] 2024

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## Art & Culture

**Q.1) The Yangli festival is observed by which one of the following tribal communities?**

- a) Bhil
- b) Gond
- c) Tiwa
- d) Mizo

## Geography

**Q.2) Which one of the following processes is primarily responsible for lowering the wet-bulb temperature?**

- a) Convection
- b) Radiation
- c) Evaporation
- d) Condensation

**Q.3) Consider the following pairs:**

**Water Bodies-----Specifications**

- 1. Red Sea-----connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean through the Suez Canal.
- 2. Strait of Hormuz-----connects the Atlantic Ocean with West African countries.
- 3. Gulf of Guinea-----connects the Persian Gulf countries to the Indian Ocean.

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

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) All three pairs
- d) None of the pairs

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

- 1. The deep-swirling patterns in the Indian Ocean flow in the same direction to surface currents.
- 2. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands play a significant role in altering ocean currents, impacting their direction and speed to a notable extent.
- 3. Oceans are fundamental to weather and climate prediction.

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

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

**Q.5) Consider the following impacts of Marine Heatwaves (MHW):**

- 1. Coral bleaching due to prolonged high temperatures.
- 2. Destruction of kelp forests leading to loss of biodiversity.
- 3. Increase in invasive species due to altered marine environments.

**How many of the above statements are correct regarding the consequences of Marine Heatwaves?**

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

## Polity

**Q.6) Consider the following:**

1. Investigating complaints regarding violation of rights of backward classes
2. Recommending inclusion or exclusion of castes/communities in the backward classes list
3. Advising the Central Government on measures for welfare of backward classes
4. Providing legal aid services to backward classes
5. Inquiring into matters related to reservation in educational institutions or posts in public services

**How many of the above are the functions of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?**

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

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

1. Article 329(b) of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act (RP Act) states that no election shall be called into question except through an election petition before the concerned High Court.
2. As per the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act), an elector above 25 years of age can contest Lok Sabha election from any constituency in India.
3. As per the election rules, a party cannot field a substitute candidate if the original nominee's papers are rejected.

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

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

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

1. According to the Section 53 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, if the number of candidates matches the number of seats, they are to be declared elected without a poll.
2. If a significant number of voters select None of the Above (NOTA) option, it invalidates the election.
3. If no candidates contest election from a constituency, the Election Commission of India (ECI) might be obliged to conduct another election, allowing a new set of candidates to run.

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

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

**Q.9) The primary function of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) is to:**

- a) Promote creativity and innovation in advertising.
- b) Ensure fair competition among businesses through advertising.
- c) Protect consumer interests by regulating advertising content.
- d) Generate revenue for the Indian government through advertising taxes.

**Q.10) What is the role of the Symbol Loading Unit (SLU) in the context of VVPAT usage during elections?**

- a) It records the votes cast by the voters
- b) It is used for loading candidate symbols onto the VVPATs
- c) It tabulates and displays election results
- d) It serves as a backup memory for EVMs

**Q.11) What is the primary purpose of curative jurisdiction?**

- To allow any court to change its previous judgments as per its own discretion.
- To correct errors in judgments that might have led to a miscarriage of justice.
- To enhance the public understanding of complex legal doctrines.
- To provide a standard process for all legal disputes.

**Q.12) With reference to the functions and powers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), consider the following statements:**

- The NHRC has the power to intervene in any proceeding involving any allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- The Commission has the authority to visit any jail or any other institution under the control of the State Government, where it believes human rights are being violated.
- The NHRC can review the safeguards provided under the Constitution or any law for the protection of human rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

**Q.13) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** The Election Commission can adjourn polling in a station due to severe natural disasters.

**Statement-II:** The Election Commission must approve the new date and hours before the adjourned poll can recommence.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

**Q.14) Which of the following officials involved in the electoral process is responsible for conducting elections at the polling station level?**

- Election Commissioner (EC)
- Presiding Officer (PO)
- Returning Officer (RO)
- Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

**Q.15) Among the following entities, which are likely to benefit from the training programs offered by the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)?**

- Indian Administrative Service officers
- Local government officials
- Corporate executives

**Which of the above options is/are correct?**

- Only 1 and 2
- Only 2 and 3
- Only 1 and 3
- 1, 2, and 3

## Acts & Policies

**Q.16) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Swachh Bharat Mission was launched with the aim of making India open defecation-free (ODF) and ensuring proper sanitation and waste management.
2. The Environment Performance Index (EPI) uses cultural diversity, human rights, and political stability to rank countries.

**Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**

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

**Q.17) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016, provides for reservation both in government and in higher education institutions.
2. Currently, India lacks a test for diagnosing specific learning disabilities (SLDs) in adults.

**Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**

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

**Q.18) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** Intensive confinement of animals in industrial poultry facilities violates the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960.

**Statement-II:** Overcrowding of animals in unsanitary conditions causes unnecessary pain and suffering.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

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

## International Relations/Organizations

**Q.19) Consider the following statements:**

1. India has the third-largest seafaring workforce in the world.
2. 'Human Rights at Sea' initiative has been launched by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to address the concerns and challenges faced by Indian seafarers.
3. International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Legal Committee (LEG) consider and develop international legal instruments for maritime safety and pollution prevention.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.20) With reference to the Group of Seven (G-7), consider the following statements:**

1. Its objective is to coordinate economic policies of member states.
2. Countries must have advanced economies and high net national wealth in order to become the members of G-7.
3. The G-7 has addressed the issue of climate change by banning the use of fossil fuels in member countries.
4. The G-7 influences the global economy through collective decision-making that can influence global economic policies and financial markets.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.21) How many of the following ASEAN member countries are also part of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations?**

1. Malaysia
2. Singapore
3. Indonesia
4. Thailand

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

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

**Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the relationship between ASEAN and India:**

1. India is a full member of ASEAN.
2. India and ASEAN have a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in goods, services, and investment.
3. The ASEAN-India strategic partnership was upgraded during the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit held in 2012.

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

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

## Economy

**Q.23) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?**

1. Horticultural crops provide valuable for small and marginal farmers because they are less labor-intensive than field crops.
2. Gujarat is the predominant producer and exporter of white onions in the country.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**Q.24) Consider the following statements:**

1. Payment Aggregators (PAs) are entities that settle payments from customers to merchants, allowing merchants to avoid creating their own payment systems.
2. PAs are used for in-person point-of-sale (PoS) transactions.
3. As per the new RBI's proposed guidelines, the minimum net worth required for non-banking entities providing offline payment aggregator services must be ₹10 crore when applying for authorisation.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.25) With reference to the advantages of the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status in the gem and jewellery sector, consider the following statements:**

1. AEO status enhances the international credibility of firms, making them more attractive to potential global partners.
2. Firms with AEO status are prioritized for government subsidies in the gem and jewellery sector.
3. The AEO status provides firms with legal protection against customs and trade disputes.

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

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

**Q.26) Consider the following functions performed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI):**

1. Granting licenses to food businesses.
2. Regulating the use of food additives.
3. Enforcing food safety laws across India.

**How many of the above functions are responsibilities of FSSAI?**

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

## Environment

**Q.27) With reference to the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL), consider the following statements:**

1. The National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory body established under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. The Prime Minister of India chairs the National Board of Wildlife.
3. Managing wildlife corridors between protected areas is one of the primary functions of NBWL.

**Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**

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



**Q.28) Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary is often referred to as the 'Bharatpur of the East' due to its:**

- a) Large elephant population
- b) Extensive bird species diversity
- c) Dense tiger habitat
- d) Rich aquatic plant life

**Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP):**

- 1. The primary objective of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) is to combat climate change.
- 2. NCAP also focuses on reducing ambient air concentration of PM2.5 and PM10 particulate matter.
- 3. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) implement the NCAP strategy across India.
- 4. PRANA is the name of the national portal launched for the NCAP.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.30) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. The Green Credit Programme aims to incentivize environmental restoration through a market-based mechanism, where individuals and companies earn credits for contributing to environmental and ecological restoration.
- 2. Unlike green credits, various projects in a carbon market cannot be measured by their carbon savings.

**Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**

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

**Q.31) Consider the following locations:**

- 1. Eravikulam National Park
- 2. Anamalai Tiger Reserve
- 3. Kudremukh National Park
- 4. Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary

**How many of the above have significant populations of Nilgiri Tahr?**

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

**Q.32) With reference to initiatives against plastic pollution in India, consider the following statements:**

- 1. The Swachh Bharat Mission explicitly includes a directive for the reduction of plastic waste in urban and rural areas.
- 2. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued guidelines categorizing plastic waste management rules under hazardous waste categories.
- 3. 'Plastic Parks' are being developed to encourage the recycling of plastic waste into useful products.

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

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

**Q.33) Which one of the following best describes the concept of 'Green Taxonomy'?**

- a) A classification system to identify sectors contributing to climate change.
- b) A method to evaluate corporate governance and economic development.
- c) A framework for defining environmentally sustainable investments.
- d) A legal mechanism for enforcing environmental regulations in industry.

**Q.34) Which of the following forest category is not specifically earmarked for conservation under strict governmental control?**

- a) Reserved Forests
- b) Protected Forests
- c) Unclassed Forests
- d) Open Forests

## Science & Technology

**Q.35) With reference to the metal mercury, consider the following statements:**

1. Mercury is used in fairness and anti-ageing creams.
2. Mercury is the only metal that is liquid at standard temperature and pressure (STP).
3. Mercury is known for its low electrical conductivity.

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

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

**Q.36) Which one of the following statements is NOT correct regarding the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)?**

- a) It is caused by an abnormal immune response in the digestive tract.
- b) It is contagious and can be spread from person to person.
- c) It can cause chronic inflammation and damage to the digestive tract.
- d) It can lead to symptoms like abdominal pain, diarrhea, and rectal bleeding.

**Q.37) Which one of the following best describes the primary action of antihistamines?**

- a) They increase the release of histamine from mast cells.
- b) They block the H1 receptor sites on cells, preventing histamine from attaching.
- c) They promote the synthesis of histamine in the immune system.
- d) They convert histamine into a less active form that does not cause allergic symptoms.

**Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the deployment of language models:**

1. Small language models are typically faster to train than large language models.
2. Large language models generally require specialized hardware like GPUs or TPUs for efficient training and inference.
3. Small language models are more effective at handling niche tasks specific to certain industries.

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

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

**Q.39) How many of the following statements correctly describe the impact of fairness creams containing mercury as mentioned in the article?**

1. Inhibiting melanin production, which lightens skin tone.
2. Psychological effects such as anxiety and depression.
3. Improve the skin's resistance to bacterial and fungal infections.

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

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

**Q.40) With reference to the hazards associated with liquid nitrogen in food consumption, consider the following statements:**

1. Liquid nitrogen can cause frostbite-like injuries to the mouth, throat, and stomach if ingested before it fully evaporates.
2. Inhalation of vapor from liquid nitrogen can lead to unconsciousness or even be fatal due to the displacement of oxygen.
3. The use of liquid nitrogen is banned in all forms of cooking and food preservation across India.

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

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

**Q.41) Which of the following offers scalable solutions to handle sudden spikes in viewer traffic, ensuring a smooth streaming experience?**

- a) Network as a Service (NaaS)
- b) Software as a Service (SaaS)
- c) Platform as a Service (PaaS)
- d) Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)

**Q.42) Consider the following applications:**

1. Improved sleep quality
2. Accelerated learning
3. Enhanced athletic performance
4. Augmented immune function

**How many of the above applications are potentially enhanced by biohacking practices?**

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

**Q.43) Consider the following aircraft carriers:**

1. INS Vikramaditya
2. INS Vikrant
3. INS Viraat
4. INS Vishal

**How many of the above are currently active and indigenously built aircraft carriers in the Indian Navy?**

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

## Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (c)	3 - (a)	4 - (b)	5 - (c)	6 - (c)	7 - (a)	8 - (c)	9 - (c)
10 - (b)	11 - (b)	12 - (c)	13 - (b)	14 - (b)	15 - (a)	16 - (a)	17 - (c)	18 - (a)
19 - (c)	20 - (c)	21 - (b)	22 - (b)	23 - (b)	24 - (b)	25 - (a)	26 - (c)	27 - (b)
28 - (b)	29 - (c)	30 - (a)	31 - (b)	32 - (c)	33 - (c)	34 - (c)	35 - (a)	36 - (b)
37 - (b)	38 - (b)	39 - (b)	40 - (b)	41 - (a)	42 - (d)	43 - (a)		

## Answers & Explanations

### Art & Culture

#### 1. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Tiwa community, primarily found in the Indian states of Assam and Meghalaya, celebrates the Yangli festival, also known as Lakshmi Puja. This festival is related to agriculture, which is the primary source of income for the Tiwas. During Yangli, the community performs traditional dances and offers prayers for a successful harvest, seeking protection for their crops from pests and natural calamities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### Geography

#### 2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Evaporation is primarily responsible for lowering the wet-bulb temperature. When water evaporates from a surface, it takes away heat energy from the surroundings, causing a cooling effect. The wet-bulb temperature is a measure of the cooling effect of evaporating water on an object or surface. Wet-bulb temperature is a measure that combines the effects of temperature and humidity. It represents the lowest temperature that can be achieved through evaporative cooling, which is the body's primary means of cooling down. High wet-bulb temperatures can strain the cardiovascular system, as the body needs to work harder to maintain a stable core temperature.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

#### 3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only 1 is correctly matched.
- Strait of Hormuz: The Strait of Hormuz is a strategically important strait located between the Gulf of Oman and the Persian Gulf. It is a crucial passage for maritime traffic, linking the Persian Gulf countries, such as Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates, to the Indian Ocean.
- Gulf of Guinea: The Gulf of Guinea is a large bay on the western coast of Africa, surrounded by countries such as Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, and the island nation of São Tomé and Príncipe. It has become an area of concern due to the increasing incidence of piracy and other maritime security challenges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**4. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Deep-swirling patterns in the Indian Ocean, known as eddies, often flow in a different direction than surface currents. These eddies are a result of complex interactions between various factors such as ocean currents, temperature, salinity, and the Earth's rotation.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Maldives significantly impact ocean currents, affecting their direction and speed. Research has shown that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands significantly influence the circulation patterns in the Bay of Bengal, affecting both the direction and speed of ocean currents. These islands disrupt the flow of major currents like the East India Coastal Current and the Equatorial Counter Current, creating complex circulation patterns in the surrounding waters. Oceans play a fundamental role in weather and climate prediction. Ocean currents and surface temperatures significantly impact global climate patterns and weather events, such as El Niño and La Niña phenomena. Additionally, heat exchange between the ocean and the atmosphere influences various weather phenomena, including hurricanes and monsoons.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**5. Correct Answer is (C)**

- All three statements correctly describe the consequences of Marine Heatwaves. MHWs lead to coral bleaching as corals expel the algae living in their tissues due to stress from high temperatures. They also cause the destruction of kelp forests, which are critical habitats for marine life, leading to biodiversity loss. Additionally, altered marine environments from MHWs can favor the spread of invasive species, further disrupting local ecosystems.

Source: [Forum IAS](#) , [Forum IAS](#)

**Polity**

**6. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) is an Indian constitutional body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The main work of the commission is to participate and advise actively on the socio-economic development of the socially backward classes (OBCs) along with evaluating the progress of their development. Amongst the functions mentioned above, providing legal aid services to backward classes is not a function of the NCBC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**7. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 329(b) of the Constitution of India stipulates that no election to either House of Parliament or to the House or either House of the Legislature of a State shall be called into question except by an election petition presented to such authority and in such manner as may be provided for by or under any law made by the appropriate Legislature. This is also reflected in Section 80 of the Representation of the People Act (RP Act). The RP Act allows an elector who is above 25 years of age to contest Lok Sabha elections from any constituency in India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The election rules allow for a substitute candidate to be fielded by a political party if the original candidate's nomination papers are rejected.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**8. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Section 53 of The Representation of the People Act, 1951, states that if the number of contesting candidates is equal to the number of seats to be filled, the returning officer shall declare all such candidates to be duly elected. If no candidates contest an election from a constituency, the Election Commission of India (ECI) may be required to conduct another election

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to fill the vacant seat. In such cases, the ECI could allow a new set of candidates to run for election in the respective constituency.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Election Commission of India has clarified that even if NOTA receives more votes than any of the candidates, it does not invalidate the election. The candidate with the highest number of votes among the contesting candidates is still declared the winner.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (C)

- ASCI is a self-regulatory voluntary organization of the advertising industry in India. Its main objective is to ensure that advertising is honest, decent, and fair to consumers by promoting responsible advertising practices and regulating the content of advertisements across various media platforms. By doing so, ASCI aims to maintain public confidence in advertising and contribute to the overall growth and development of the advertising industry. As a self-regulatory body, ASCI does not have statutory enforcement power to impose penalties or punishments on violators of its guidelines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (B)

- The SLU is specifically designed to load candidate symbols onto the VVPATs, which is crucial for ensuring that the VVPATs display the correct symbols associated with each candidate during voting. This process is essential for the integrity of the voting system as it links candidate choices visibly for voter verification.

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (B)

- The article explains that curative jurisdiction is specifically designed as a remedial mechanism to correct grave errors in judgments or orders that have led to a miscarriage of justice, thereby ensuring fairness and justice in legal proceedings.

### 12. Correct Answer is (C)

- All statements are correct regarding the powers and functions of the NHRC. It has a broad mandate to intervene in legal proceedings, inspect state-controlled institutions, and review existing protections for human rights to ensure their effective implementation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Both statements are correct, reflecting the procedural requirements and authority of the Election Commission in cases of polling disruptions. However, Statement-II does not explain Statement-I but rather outlines the subsequent procedural step that must be followed after an adjournment decision has been made due to a severe natural disaster or other disruptions.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 14. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Returning Officer (RO) and the Presiding Officer (PO) are directly responsible for overseeing the conduct of elections at the polling station level. The RO supervises the overall election process within a constituency, including managing polling stations, while the Presiding Officer conducts polling at a specific polling station. These officers ensure that the voting process is carried out smoothly and in accordance with the legal framework. The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) oversees the elections at the state level, and the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) heads the Election Commission, which sets policies and guidelines for national and state elections but does not directly manage individual polling stations.

**15. Correct Answer is (A)**

- The NCGG primarily benefits Indian Administrative Service officers and local government officials through its training programs focused on enhancing governance and public administration skills. While corporate executives may benefit indirectly through improved governance frameworks, the direct target of NCGG's training programs is public officials involved in administration and governance.

Source: [PIB](#)

**Acts & Policies**

**16. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission) was launched in 2014 to focus on sanitation and waste management in India. One of its key goals is making India open defecation-free (ODF) by building toilets and encouraging better sanitation practices.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The EPI ranks countries based on environmental performance indicators across categories such as climate change performance, environmental health, and ecosystem vitality. The Environment Performance Index (EPI) is a ranking system that evaluates a country's performance on environmental health. It's a biennial report developed by the Yale Center for Environmental Law & Sustainability in collaboration with the World Economic Forum and the Columbia University Center for International Earth Science Information Network.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**17. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016, provides for reservation in government jobs and higher education institutions for persons with benchmark disabilities, including physical, visual, hearing, speech, and intellectual disabilities, as well as mental illness and multiple disabilities. The Act aims to ensure equal opportunities and promote social inclusion for people with disabilities. India currently lacks a standard, widely accepted test for diagnosing specific learning disabilities (SLDs) in adults. While several tools and assessments are available for identifying SLDs in children, there is a need for more specialized diagnostic tools and procedures tailored to the adult population.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**18. Correct Answer is (A)**

- The article clearly states that keeping animals in intensive confinement, such as cramming chickens in battery cages in high densities, constitutes a crime under the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960 (Assertion A is true). It further mentions that the unsanitary conditions and overcrowding of animals at these facilities cause unnecessary pain and suffering, which is a violation of the PCA Act (Reason R is true). Reason R directly explains why the intensive confinement practices mentioned in Assertion A, specifically overcrowding in unsanitary conditions, violate the PCA Act, making it the correct explanation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**International Relations/Organizations**

**19. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. India provides 9.35% of the global seafarers and ranks third in the list of the largest seafarer supplying nations to the world maritime industry. The 'Human Rights at Sea' initiative has been launched by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in collaboration with the Indian government to address the challenges faced by Indian seafarers, such as non-payment of wages, abandonment, illegal detentions, and piracy. The IMO Legal Committee

deals with legal matters within the scope of the organization, including the development of international legal instruments concerning maritime safety and pollution prevention.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**20. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. One of the primary objectives of the Group of Seven (G7) is to coordinate the economic policies of its member states. The group aims to facilitate economic cooperation and address various global issues, including economic growth and stability. The G7 comprises the world's leading advanced economies and requires member countries to have a high net national wealth, which reflects their economic strength and development. The current G7 member countries—Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States—were chosen based on their economic prominence and political influence during the 1970s when the group was formed. Though there is no formal process for adding new members, the existing members may consider inviting other countries with significant economic and political clout to join the group in the future. The G7 holds significant influence over the global economy through collective decision-making, as their combined economic output represents a substantial portion of global gross domestic product (GDP). G7's decisions on economic policies, trade, and other financial matters can impact global markets and economies.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The G7 has not banned the use of fossil fuels in member countries. Instead, the G7 has focused on commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to invest in sustainable development, among other initiatives to address climate change.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**21. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Malaysia and Singapore are part of the TPP negotiations. Indonesia and Thailand are not part of this trade agreement, which aims to deepen economic ties between Asia-Pacific nations by reducing tariffs and fostering trade to boost growth.

Source: [NewsonAir](#)

**22. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India and ASEAN have established a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement covering goods, services, and investment, which significantly enhances economic ties and facilitates smoother trade and investment flows. The ASEAN-India strategic partnership was indeed upgraded during the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in 2012, marking a significant step in strengthening relations and cooperation across various sectors. Statement 1 is incorrect; India is not a full member of ASEAN but a very important strategic partner and participates in several of ASEAN's regional forums and summits, such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and East Asia Summit.

**Economy**

**23. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Horticultural crops are generally more labor-intensive than field crops. They often require more intensive management, including regular pruning, pest and disease control, and sometimes hand-harvesting. The value of horticultural crops for small and marginal farmers lies in their higher yield per hectare and potential for higher economic returns, not in being less labor-intensive.
- Statement 2 is correct. Gujarat is the predominant producer and exporter of white onions in India. The state contributes significantly to the country's overall onion production and plays a crucial role in meeting domestic demand and driving onion exports. Other major onion-producing states in India include Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Source: [The Hindu](#)



**24. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Payment aggregators facilitate the transfer of funds from customers to merchants, which helps merchants by eliminating the need to develop and maintain their own payment processing systems. Payment aggregators are used for both online and offline transactions. While they can facilitate in-person point-of-sale transactions, they are also widely used for online e-commerce transactions.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. According to the new RBI's proposed guidelines, non-banking entities providing offline payment aggregator services must have a minimum net worth of ₹15 crore at the time of application, which is expected to increase to ₹25 crore by March 31, 2028. Prior guidelines regulated PAs only in online settings, like e-commerce. However, the new draft guidelines extend regulations to offline transactions by PAs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**25. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct as AEO status does enhance a firm's international credibility by demonstrating compliance with global supply chain security standards, making them more attractive to partners.
- Statement 2 is incorrect because government subsidies are not directly linked to AEO status.
- Statement 3 is also incorrect, while AEO status provides various facilitations in customs procedures, it does not grant legal protection against customs and trade disputes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**26. Correct Answer is (C)**

- All three statements correctly describe the responsibilities of FSSAI. The authority grants licenses to various types of food businesses, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations. It regulates the use of food additives, providing guidelines on permissible substances and their acceptable limits to ensure consumer safety. Additionally, FSSAI is responsible for enforcing food safety laws across India to maintain high standards of food quality and safety.

**Environment**

**27. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory body established under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The primary functions of NBWL include: 1) Framing policies and advising the central government on promoting conservation and development of wildlife and forests, 2) Making recommendations for the effective implementation of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, 3) Reviewing and approving projects in and around protected areas that may have an impact on wildlife and their habitats, 4) Advising on matters relating to the protection and management of wildlife and its habitats, including the establishment and management of sanctuaries and national parks. However, managing wildlife corridors between protected areas is not one of the primary functions of NBWL.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Prime Minister of India is the ex-officio chairperson of the National Board of Wildlife.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**28. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The comparison to Bharatpur, also known as Keoladeo National Park, highlights the rich avifauna found in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary. Much like Bharatpur, Pobitora is home to a wide variety of bird species, including many migratory birds, making it a popular destination for birdwatchers and ornithologists. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Assam, India. It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1987 and covers 38.85

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square kilometers. It is known for its high density of Indian rhinoceros, one of the largest populations in Assam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**29. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) is to improve air quality and reduce the concentration of particulate matter (PM) in the ambient air. While reducing greenhouse gas emissions can help improve air quality, the primary focus of NCAP is on PM reduction rather than combating climate change directly.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. One of the main goals of the NCAP is to reduce the concentrations of particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) in the air by 20-30% by 2024 compared to 2017 levels. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) plays a key role in implementing the NCAP strategy across India, overseeing the execution and monitoring of various initiatives under the program. PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities) is the national portal launched to support the implementation and monitoring of the NCAP.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**30. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Green Credit Programme (GCP) is designed as a market-based mechanism to incentivize voluntary environmental actions, including environmental and ecological restoration. Individuals, companies, and various organizations can earn credits for activities such as afforestation, water conservation, and other environment-positive actions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Projects in a carbon market are specifically measured by their carbon savings. Carbon credits are issued based on the amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases that are reduced, avoided, or sequestered by these projects. However, in green credits, measuring the impact of one unit of water conservation versus one unit of ecosystem restoration is complex and lacks a common metric.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**31. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Significant populations of Nilgiri Tahr are found in Eravikulam National Park and Anamalai Tiger Reserve. These areas provide the montane grassland habitats necessary for the Nilgiri Tahr. In contrast, Kudremukh National Park and Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary, both located in Karnataka, do not have significant Nilgiri Tahr populations. These locations do not support the specific ecological conditions preferred by Nilgiri Tahrs, such as open montane grasslands at certain elevations, which are prevalent in parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala but not in the ecological zones of Kudremukh and Bhadra.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**32. Correct Answer is (C)**

- All statements are correct. The Swachh Bharat Mission includes initiatives to reduce plastic waste. The CPCB has indeed categorized some plastic waste management under hazardous waste rules to enforce stricter control measures. Additionally, the concept of 'Plastic Parks' is a part of India's approach to enhance the plastic recycling industry and manage plastic waste more effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**33. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Green taxonomy is primarily a framework that helps in defining what can be considered as environmentally sustainable investments. It classifies economic activities and assets based on their environmental sustainability, aiming to prevent greenwashing and encourage investments towards sustainable development.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

**34. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Unclassed forests are not specifically earmarked for conservation under strict governmental control, unlike reserved forests, which are permanently earmarked for conservation and where rights like grazing and cultivation are seldom allowed. Protected forests have some minor restrictions but allow rights like grazing and cultivation. Unclassed forests include a mix of inaccessible forests and privately owned lands, making them less regulated compared to reserved and protected forests.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

**Science & Technology**

**35. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Mercury, in the form of mercury salts, is used in some skin-lightening and anti-ageing creams because it can inhibit the formation of melanin, leading to a lighter skin tone. Mercury is the only metal that remains liquid at standard room temperature and pressure. This unique property makes it useful in some thermometers and other specific applications.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Mercury is actually a good conductor of electricity. It is used in some electrical switches and certain types of lighting due to this property.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**36. Correct Answer is (B)**

- IBD is not contagious and cannot be spread from person to person. It is a group of chronic inflammatory conditions that affect the digestive tract, primarily consisting of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**37. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Antihistamines work primarily by blocking the action of histamine at the H1 receptor sites on cells, thereby preventing the histamine from triggering allergic response symptoms such as itching, swelling, and mucus production. This action helps alleviate symptoms associated with allergies.

**38. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Small language models indeed require less time and resources to train due to their smaller size and complexity. Large language models often require specialized hardware such as GPUs or TPUs to manage their computational demands efficiently. Statement 3 is incorrect; while small language models can be optimized for specific tasks, large language models generally surpass them in effectiveness due to their broader training data and superior generalization capabilities.

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

**39. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The mercury in fairness creams inhibits melanin production, effectively lightening the skin, and can lead to psychological effects due to its systemic toxicity. Statement 3 is incorrect as the article notes that these creams actually reduce the skin's resistance to infections.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## 10 PM Compilation April [Fourth Week] 2024

### 40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct, highlighting the severe risks of using liquid nitrogen in food preparation, including potential frostbite-like injuries and risks of suffocation from vapor inhalation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. liquid nitrogen is not banned in all cooking and food preservation practices but is restricted to ensure it evaporates fully before consumption and is used safely.

### 41. Correct Answer is (A)

- NaaS offers scalable solutions to handle sudden spikes in viewer traffic, ensuring a smooth streaming experience. This characteristic of NaaS is critical as it supports dynamic demand management and protects sensitive information across various digital platforms.

Source: [Financial Express](#)

### 42. Correct Answer is (D)

- Red-light therapy and intermittent fasting are biohacking practices known for their broad benefits, which include improved sleep quality due to the regulation of circadian rhythms, accelerated learning through enhanced neuronal function, enhanced athletic performance by improving cellular energy production, and augmented immune function through metabolic and cellular health optimization.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 43. Correct Answer is (A)

- As of the latest updates, only INS Vikrant is both active and indigenously built. INS Vikramaditya was purchased from Russia and refitted for the Indian Navy, INS Viraat was decommissioned in 2017 and was originally acquired from the UK, and INS Vishal is a planned aircraft carrier, not yet built or commissioned.