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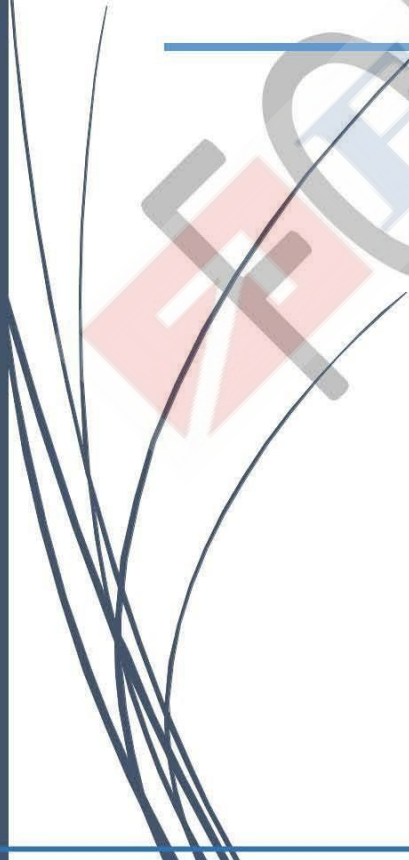
## Prelims Marathon

4<sup>th</sup> week May, 2024

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*HISTORY*  
*ECONOMICS*  
*POLITY*  
*SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*  
*GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

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## Social Issues

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Surrogacy (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2024”:**

1. It prohibits the use donor gametes under any condition.
2. Single women undergoing surrogacy must use self-eggs and donor sperms to avail surrogacy procedure.

**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:** In the exercise of powers conferred under Surrogacy (Regulation) Act 2021, the Government makes the following rules to amend the Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules, 2022.

- In case when District Medical Board certifies that the intending couple suffers from a medical condition necessitating the use of a donor gamete, then surrogacy using a donor gamete is allowed provided that the child to be born through surrogacy must have at least one gamete from the intending couple.
- Previously, Rule 7 of Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules, 2022 prohibited the use of donor gametes.
- Single women (widow or divorcee) undergoing surrogacy must use self-eggs and donor sperms to avail surrogacy procedure.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021”:**

1. It allows both altruistic and commercial surrogacy.
2. Abortion of surrogate child requires written consent of surrogate mother and authorization of appropriate authority.

**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:** Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 (Surrogacy Act 2021): Only altruistic surrogacy is allowed and penalizes commercial surrogacy.

- Establish National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board (NARTSB) to review and monitor implementation of Act, supervise functioning of State ARTSB (SARTSB), etc.
- Abortion of surrogate child requires written consent of surrogate mother and authorization of appropriate authority. This authorization must be compliant with MTP Act, 1971.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.3) Which of the following country/countries rolled back the abortion law?**

1. USA
2. Poland
3. France

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** According to Centre for Reproductive Rights, more than 60 countries have liberalized their abortion laws over past 30 years.

Only 4 countries –US, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Poland - have rolled back legality of abortion.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.4) The “Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Amendment Act 2021 allows termination of pregnancy in which of the following cases?**

1. Up to 20 weeks
2. For 20 to 24 weeks
3. Beyond 24 weeks

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** MTP (Amendment) Act 2021 allows termination of pregnancy in following cases:

- Up to 20 weeks: Available to all on the advice of one doctor.
- For 20 to 24 weeks: Available only in specific categories of women cases subject to advice of two doctors.
- Beyond 24 weeks: Available only on grounds of foetal abnormalities on advice of a medical board.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) was enacted in?**

- a) 1999
- b) 2001
- c) 2005
- d) 2010

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Article 15 (3) gives power to the legislature to make special provision for women and children. In exercise of this power, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) 2005 enacted.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

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

1. Dowry is defined by Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961.
2. Dowry death was added as a new offence in IPC 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:** Dowry, also known as Dahej (North India) or Sthreedhanam (South India), is defined by Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 as “Any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given either directly or indirectly by one party/ parents to other party in connection with marriage”.

- Dowry death was added as a new offence in IPC only in 1986.
- Section 304B (relates to Dowry Death) of IPC is read in conjunction with Section 113B (on Presumption of Dowry death) of Indian Evidence Act, 1872 in case of a dowry death.
- Section 80 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 contains provisions related to 'Dowry Death'.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

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

1. Boeing Sukanya Program to support girl's entry into the aviation sector.
2. 15 percent of India's pilots are women which is 3 times more than global average.

**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:** Recently, the Prime Minister launched the Boeing Sukanya Program to support girl's entry into the aviation sector.

- It aims to support entry of girl children from across India into country's aviation sector.
- It will provide opportunities for girls and women to learn critical skills in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields and train for jobs in aviation sector.
- For young girls, program will create STEM Labs at 150 planned locations to spark interest in STEM careers and provide scholarships to women who are training to be pilots.
- Fact: 15 percent of India's pilots are women which is 3 times more than global average.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) Which of the following initiative/s is/are taken by government to promote women in “Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields”?**

1. WEST
2. KIRAN
3. GATI

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Initiatives taken to promote women in STEM:

- I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map): By the Office of Principal Scientific Advisor provides a platform to provide Research infrastructure and Labs that can be availed by users across India.
- Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST): A new I-STEM initiative to empower women to contribute to the science, technology, and innovation ecosystem.
- Vigyan Jyoti: By the Department of Science & Technology to create a level-playing field for the meritorious girls in high school to pursue STEM.
- Knowledge Involvement Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN): Scheme of Department of Science & Technology encourages women scientists in the field of S&T.
- Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI): It seeks to bring institutional reforms to facilitate women in STEM and medicine disciplines at all levels.
- Consolidation of University Research for Innovation and Excellence (CURIE): It provides support to women universities in improving their R&D facilities.
- Biotechnology Career Advancement and Reorientation Programme (BioCARE): By Department of Biotechnology for Career Development of employed/ unemployed women Scientists for whom it will be the first extramural research grant.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

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

1. ILO Convention 190 is first international treaty to recognize right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, including gender based violence and harassment.
2. India has ratified this convention.

**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:** ILO Convention 190 is first international treaty to recognize right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, including genderbased violence and harassment.

- India has not ratified this convention.
- UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by UN General Assembly in 1979 and has been ratified by India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.10) The “PMGDISHA scheme” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Women security
- b) Primary health care
- c) Digital literacy
- d) Financial inclusion

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Launched in 2017, the PMGDISHA scheme is the Government’s flagship Digital Literacy scheme for rural areas.

- It envisages to make 6 crore persons in rural areas, across States/UTs, digitally literate.
- This will reach to around 40% of rural households by covering one member from every household where there is no digitally literate person.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

### Social Issues – II

**Q.1) The “PENCiL initiative” is often seen in news related to which of the following?**

- a) Child labor
- b) Preventive detention
- c) Habitual offenders
- d) Tribal welfare

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** PENCiL (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labor) Portal: It has become a pivotal tool in rescuing and rehabilitating victims of child labor.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act 2016”:**

1. It prohibits employment of Children below 14 years in all employment.
2. It prohibits employment of adolescents (14-18 Years) in the scheduled hazardous occupations and processes.

**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:** Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act 2016: Prohibit employment of Children below 14 years in all employment and also with provisions for prohibition on employment of adolescents (14-18 Years) in the scheduled hazardous occupations and processes.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.3) Which of the following legislation/s is/are govern the adoption in India?**

1. Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (HAMA) 1956
2. Juvenile Justice Act, 2015
3. Adoption Regulations, 2022

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Process through which adopted child is permanently separated from his biological parents and becomes lawful child of his adoptive parents with all rights, privileges and responsibilities that are attached to a biological child.

Legislation governing Adoption:

- Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (HAMA) 1956: It amends and codifies the law relating to adoptions and maintenance among Hindus.
- It is applicable to any person, who is a Hindu by religion in any of its forms including Virashaiva, Lingayat or follower of Brahmo, Prarthana or Arya Samaj; Buddhist, Jaina or Sikh by religion.
- JJ Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2022: Governs inter- and intra- country adoption of orphaned, abandoned, or surrendered children and children of relatives.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.4) Which of the following is/are law/s governing the Anti-Trafficking Crimes?**

1. Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
2. Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act, 1976
3. Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Laws governing Anti-Trafficking Crimes:

- Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 prohibits immoral trafficking and sex work.
- Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act, 1976 abolishes bonded labor system to prevent economic and physical exploitation of weaker sections of people.
- Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 makes commercial dealing in human organs a punishable offence.
- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 protects children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and pornography.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.5) Which of the following country was the first country to legalize same-sex marriages?**

- a) Switzerland
- b) Netherlands
- c) Australia
- d) Norway

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Netherlands was the first country to legalize same-sex marriages in 2001.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) The "Prayatna" project is often seen in news related to which of the following?**

- a) Child welfare
- b) Transgender
- c) Destitute women
- d) Ethnic communities

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** NITI Aayog report "Best Practices in Social Sector" mentioned "Prayatna" project, a livelihood and enterprise training program for Transgender people in Delhi-NCR.

- It aims to help beneficiaries to attain a basic quality of life and impart entrepreneurship skills to some of them.
- It was approved by Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) Executive Committee.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) The "PM - JANMAN" is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Child labor
- b) Preventive detention
- c) Insurance protection
- d) Tribal welfare

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Recently, Union government launched PM JANMAN (PM- Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day).

- In Union Budget 2023-24, Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission was announced; following which PM JANMAN was launched.
- It comprises of 11 critical interventions through 9 ministries with an estimated outlay of ₹ 24104 crore for 3 years.
- It aims to saturate PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities like safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health, and nutrition, etc.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) The “Article 342” of Indian constitution is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Scheduled tribes
- b) Inter – state commerce
- c) Water disputes
- d) Land transfer

**ANS: A**

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

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)”:**

1. There are 75 PVTGs spread over 18 states and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
2. Madhya Pradesh houses highest number (13) of PVTGs 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: A**

**Explanation:** Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):

- These are centrally recognized special categories from among STs.
- First recognized in 1973 as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) based on recommendations of the U N Dhebar Commission (1961).
- In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as PVTGs. Currently, there are 75 PVTGs spread over 18 states and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- Odisha houses highest number (13) of PVTGs in India.
- Recently, Bharia PVTG in Madhya Pradesh and Kamar and Baiga tribe in Chhattisgarh were granted Habitat Rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) The “Idate Commission” is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) De-notified tribes
- b) Primary health care
- c) Teachers training
- d) Urban development

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Recently, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) stressed the need to implement the Idate Commission report which recommended setting up a permanent commission for De-Notified, Nomadic, and Semi Nomadic Tribes (DNTs) in India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Social Issues – III

**Q.1) The “Hakki Pikki Tribe” is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) Karnataka
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Gujarat
- d) Nagaland

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** On August 2023, 114 tribal people from the Hakki Pikki tribal community in Karnataka got title deeds to the land they had been cultivating for about a century.

- The colony for the nomadic tribe is located on the edge of the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP), about 36 km from Bengaluru.
- The Hakki Pikkis are traditionally a semi-nomadic tribe of bird catchers and hunters, who settled down in several parts of Karnataka.

**Source:** <https://www.thehindu.com/videos/watch-why-is-the-hakki-pikki-tribal-community-unhappy-with-the-land-given-to-them/article67371633.ece>

**Q.2) Which of the following tribe/s is/are pastoral communities?**

- 1. Bhils
- 2. Kurabas
- 3. Chenchus

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Three types of nomadic communities:

- Hunter/trappers of birds and animals, gamer, etc., such as Konda Reddis, Chenchus etc.
- Pastoral communities such as Pardis, Guzzars, Banjaras, Bhils, Kurabas, Madhuras, etc.
- Peripatetic groups of peddlers, fortune tellers, storytellers, acrobats, dancers, dramatists, etc.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

**Q.3) The “Renke Commission” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Tribal welfare
- b) Child care
- c) Adoption guidelines
- d) Naxalites welfare

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** As per Renke Commission (2008), there are nearly 1,500 nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes and 198 De-notified tribes, comprising 15crore Indians.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.4) The “IMPRINT India” initiative is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Research development
- b) Bilateral investment
- c) Export promotion
- d) Vaccine distribution

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) India: First-of-its-kind Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to bring forth public-private collaborative funding for research projects.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Who among the following is president (ex – officio) of Anusandhan National Research Foundation (NRF) governing board?**

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Home Minister
- c) Union Minister of Science & Technology
- d) Finance Minister

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Department of Science and Technology (DST) will be the administrative Department of NRF which will be governed by a Governing Board consisting of eminent researchers and professionals across disciplines.

Since the scope of the NRF is wide-ranging – impacting all ministries - the Prime Minister will be the ex-officio President of the Board and the Union Minister of Science & Technology & Union Minister of Education will be its ex-officio Vice-Presidents.

NRF’s functioning will be governed by an Executive Council chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

**Source:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1967353#:~:text=NRF's>

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “World University Rankings 2024”:**

1. Less number of Indian Universities has found a place on the list compared with 2023.
2. University of Oxford is listed as the best University in the world.

**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:** World University Rankings 2024: The recent ranking by Times Higher Education included 1,904 universities across 108 countries.

- Around 91 Indian Universities have found a place on the list (In 2023, it was 75).
- University of Oxford (UK) is listed as the best University in the world.
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore placed in 201-250 brackets, topped the list of Indian Universities.
- 4 Indian universities are placed in 501-600 brackets (Anna University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Mahatma Gandhi University and Shoolini University).
- India is the 4th most well-represented nation in the 2024 rankings (6th in 2023).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023”:**

1. Less than 20 years old institutions can now apply for Deemed to be Universities status.
2. Cluster of institutions managed by more than one sponsoring body can apply for Deemed to be University status.

**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:** Ministry of Education released UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023.

- Less than 20 years old institutions can now apply for DtbU status.
- Previously, under 2019 Regulations, higher educational institutions having ‘existence for not less than 20 years’ were eligible for applying for the status.
- Cluster of institutions managed by more than one sponsoring body can apply for Deemed to be University (DtbU) status.
- Institutions DtbU may start new courses or programs in any field, with prior approval of its Executive Council and, also wherever applicable, with approval of relevant statutory council.
- Institutions DtbU shall compulsorily create Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) identities of their students and upload their credit scores in digital lockers.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.8) Which of the following institution released the “National Credit Framework (NCrF) Report”?**

- a) UGC
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) Centre for Science & Environment
- d) RBI

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** University Grants Commission (UGC) released the National Credit Framework (NCrF) Report. It is an inclusive single Meta Framework to seamlessly integrate credits earned through school education, higher education, and vocational & skill education.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Vidya Samiksha Kendras (VSKs)”:**

1. It monitors real-time status of various projects/ activities under ambit of Samagra Shiksha.
2. It keeps track of enrolled students including learning outcomes from National Achievement Survey.

**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:** Objective of Vidya Samiksha Kendras (VSKs):

- Monitor real-time status of various projects/ activities under ambit of Samagra Shiksha.
- Keep track of enrolled students including learning outcomes from National Achievement Survey, dropouts' data, etc.
- Setup centralized helpdesk for grievance redressal mechanism for stakeholders of School ecosystem.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Which of the following initiative/s taken by government to achieve Universal Health Coverage?**

1. Ayushman Bharat Yojana
2. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)
3. Intensified Mission Indradhanush

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Initiatives taken to achieve Universal Health Coverage:

- Ayushman Bharat Yojana aims to undertake interventions to holistically address health at primary, secondary and tertiary level.
- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) to improve equitable access to quality healthcare by encouraging use of technologies such as telemedicine and enabling national portability of health services.
- National Health Policy 2017 aims at achieving UHC and delivering quality health care services to all at affordable cost.
- Intensified Mission Indradhanush focusses on reaching zero-dose children aged between 0 and 5 years and pregnant women who might have missed any vaccine doses in the national immunisation schedule.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Social Issues – IV

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Anganwadi Services Scheme”:**

1. It is an integral part of Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) scheme.
2. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under ministry of social justice and empowerment.

**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:** Anganwadi system, launched under Anganwadi Services Scheme (now renamed as Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0), is an integral part of Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) scheme. Anganwadi Services Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under MoWCD.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “National Nutrition Mission (NNM) or POSHAN Abhiyan”:**

1. It was launched in 2017.
2. Its objective is to reduce stunting in identified Districts of India with the highest malnutrition burden.

**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 Nutrition Mission (NNM) or POSHAN Abhiyan:

It was launched in 2017 to monitor, supervise, fix targets and guide nutrition-related interventions across the Ministries.

- The objective of POSHAN Abhiyaan is to reduce stunting in identified Districts of India with the highest malnutrition burden by improving utilization of key Anganwadi Services.
- It aims to ensure holistic development and adequate nutrition for pregnant women, mothers and children.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) The “WASH scheme” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Water and sanitation
- b) Wage improvement
- c) Maternity benefits
- d) Cropping system

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** WASH is a collective term for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene relating to Access to safe drinking water, Improved sanitation facilities and maintaining basic level of hygiene.

- SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Report stated that in 2019, use of safe WASH services could have prevented 2.5% of all deaths and 2.9% of all Disability-Adjusted Life years (DALYs) globally.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.4) Which of the following institution releases the “Global Hunger Index (GHI)”?**

- a) World Bank
- b) WEF
- c) UNDP
- d) Concern Worldwide and WeltHungerHilfe

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023 is released by Concern Worldwide and WeltHungerHilfe, Non-Government Organizations from Ireland and Germany respectively.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Which of the following institution released the “India Ageing Report 2023”?**

- a) United Nations Population Fund
- b) World Bank
- c) WEF
- d) UNDP

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** UNFPA released India Ageing Report 2023, in collaboration with International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)”:**

1. Its genesis is rooted in UN Charter.
2. It works closely with governments and stakeholders to help countries meet their economic, social, and environmental goals.

**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:** UNDESA genesis is rooted in UN Charter.

- It is guided by transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- It works closely with governments and stakeholders to help countries meet their economic, social, and environmental goals.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) The “UN Commission on Population and Development” was established by?**

- a) UNDP
- b) World Bank
- c) WEF
- d) UNECOSOC

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Population Commission was established by the UN Economic and Social Council (UNECOSOC) in 1946. It was renamed as UNCPD in 1994.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) Which of the following institution releases the “Global Food Policy Report 2023”?**

- a) UNDP
- b) FAO
- c) IFPRI
- d) World Bank

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** IFPRI released the Global Food Policy Report 2023: Rethinking food crisis responses.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Which of the following institution releases the “Global Gender Gap Index”?**

- a) UNDP
- b) FAO
- c) WEF
- d) World Bank

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Global Gender Gap Index released annually by World Economic Forum.

- 4 Parameters: Economic Participation and Opportunity; Educational Attainment; Health and Survival; Political Empowerment.
- India was ranked at 127 out of 146 countries in 2023.
- India has achieved 44.4% representation of women in local governance.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

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

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Gujarat
- d) West Bengal

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Madhav National Park is situated in Shivpuri District of Gwalior division in northwest Madhya Pradesh, India.

Two national highways pass through the park, the Agra to Bombay former National Highway 3 and the Jhansi to Shivpuri National Highway 27.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Revision

**Q.1) Which of the following country/countries is/are member/s of “Arab league”?**

1. Somalia
2. Ethiopia
3. Western Sahara

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Arab League, formally known as the League of Arab States, was established in 1945 with initially 6 nations: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria.

Currently it gathers 22 Arab countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen, who have pledged to cooperate on economic and military affairs, among other issues.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Which of the following organization publishes annually “World Oil Outlook”?**

- a) Gulf Cooperation Council
- b) Arab League
- c) Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
- d) G - 20

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries: It is an intergovernmental organization of 13 nations to coordinate and unify their petroleum policies and ensure the stabilization of oil markets, in order to have regular supply of petroleum to consumers, a steady income to producers, and a fair return on capital for those investing in the petroleum industry.

Since 2007, OPEC has published the "World Oil Outlook" annually, in which it presents a comprehensive analysis of the global oil industry including medium- and long-term projections for supply and demand.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) The “Treaty of Chaguaramas” is recently seen in news associated with?**

- a) CARICOM Countries
- b) OPEC
- c) OPEC plus
- d) Arab League

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Caribbean community, also known as CARICOM, was formed in 1973 by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

- It is an economic and political community that works jointly to shape policies for the region and encourages economic growth and trade.
- It is a grouping of 15 member states and 5 associate members (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Commonwealth of Nations”:**

1. It is an organization of 56 member states that are mostly former territories of the British Empire.
2. Member states have legal obligation to one another.

**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:** Commonwealth of Nations: It is an organization of 56 member states that are mostly former territories of the British Empire.

- It operates by intergovernmental consensus of the member states, organized through the Commonwealth Secretariat and non-governmental organizations, organized through the Commonwealth Foundation.
- Member states have no legal obligation to one another.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) The famous “Ottawa Declaration” is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) CARICOM Countries
- b) OPEC
- c) Arctic Council
- d) G – 20

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Arctic Council: It is the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic.

- The Ottawa Declaration lists the following countries as Members of the Arctic Council - Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States.
- In addition, 6 organizations representing Arctic indigenous peoples have status as Permanent Participants.
- The Observer status in the Arctic Council is open to Non-Arctic States. Observers primarily contribute through their engagement in the Council at the level of Working Groups.
- Observers - China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland and UK.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.6) Which of the following is NOT a member of MERCOSUR group?**

- a) Mexico
- b) Chile
- c) Peru
- d) Colombia

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** MERCOSUR: It is a full customs union and a trading bloc with members Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

- Venezuela was suspended from membership in 2016. Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana and Suriname are its associate members. Observer countries are New Zealand and Mexico.
- Its purpose is to promote free trade and the fluid movement of goods, people, and currency.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) The famous "Ten Principles of Bandung" is associated with which of the following?**

- a) ASEAN
- b) G - 20
- c) NAM
- d) East Asia Summit

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** NAM was established in 1961 with 29 members. India is one of the founding members. It has since grown to 120 members to become one of the largest groupings of nation-states.

- While some meetings with a third-world perspective were held before 1955, historians consider that the Bandung Asian-African Conference is the most immediate antecedent to the creation of NAM.
- This Conference was held in Bandung in 1955 with the aim of identifying and assessing world issues at the time and pursuing out joint policies in international relations.
- The principles that would govern relations among large and small nations, known as the "Ten Principles of Bandung" were proclaimed at that Conference.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.8) Which of the following is/are member/s of "Eurasia Economic Union"?**

- 1. Armenia
- 2. Poland
- 3. Serbia

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Eurasia Economic Union (EAEU) is a political and economic union of 5 states located in central and northern Eurasia i.e., Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia.

- It facilitates the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people among its member countries.
- India is holding negotiations to finalize free trade agreement with EAEU.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.9) Which of the following is NOT a member of Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) – regional grouping?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** CSC is a regional security grouping initially known as the Trilateral for Maritime Security Cooperation.

- India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives were part of trilateral maritime security collaboration, while Mauritius joined at 5th meeting of grouping in Male in 2022.
- Observer status – Bangladesh and Seychelles, now they have received invitations to become active participants in the group.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Which of the following city has become the first Indian city to become part of the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF)?**

- a) Chennai
- b) Pune
- c) Ahmadabad
- d) Bangalore

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to become part of the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF).

- World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF) was founded in 2012 by Justine Simons OBE, London's Deputy Mayor for Culture & the Creative Industries.
- It is a global network of cities that share research and intelligence and explore the role of culture in future prosperity.
- The network currently has 40 cities spanning six continents. Bengaluru is set to join the league of cities like New York, London, Paris, Tokyo and Dubai among others.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## History – Ancient India – Pre – History Phase

**Q.1) Robert Bruce Foote, who discovered what was probably the first Paleolithic tool discovered in India — the hand axe at which of the following place?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The history and identity of human settlements in India go back to prehistoric times. The credit for doing an early extensive study of Indian pre-history go to Robert Bruce Foote, who discovered what was probably the first Paleolithic tool discovered in India — the Pallavaram hand axe (Tamil Nadu).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Paleolithic Age”:**

1. It was developed in the Ice Age.
2. The Paleolithic man of India are said to have belonged to the Negrito race and lived in caves and rock shelters.

**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 Paleolithic Age is the earliest period of the Stone Age, which developed in the Pleistocene period or the Ice Age.

- It was spread in practically all parts of India except the alluvial plains of the Indus and Ganga.
- The Paleolithic man of India are said to have belonged to the Negrito race and lived in caves and rock shelters.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) Which of the following period (age) used the stone tools made of flakes predominantly?**

- a) Lower Paleolithic
- b) Middle Paleolithic
- c) Upper Paleolithic
- d) Neolithic

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Use of stone tools made of flakes, mainly scrapers, borers, points, and bladelike tools – in middle Paleolithic age.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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

1. Homo sapiens first appeared at the end of lower Paleolithic period.
2. Use of hand axes, choppers, and cleavers in upper Paleolithic period.

**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:** Use of hand axes, choppers, and cleavers, mainly for chopping, digging, and skinning - in lower Paleolithic period.

Upper Paleolithic period: Homo sapiens first appeared at the end of this phase. Coincided with the last phase of the Ice Age, when the climate became comparatively warm and less humid.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.5) Who among the following was first discovered the rock painting in Indian sub – continent?**

- a) Archibold Carlleyle
- b) Altamira
- c) Cockburn
- d) Anderson

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In India the earliest paintings have been reported from the Upper Palaeolithic times.

It is interesting to know that the first discovery of rock paintings was made in India in 1867–68 by an archaeologist, Archibold Carlleyle, twelve years before the discovery of Altamira in Spain.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) The famous “Lakhudiyar caves” is located at?**

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Assam

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Lakhudiyar Caves are located in the Barechhina village at the banks of the Suyal River in the Almora district of Uttarakhand.

- On the walls of the caves are paintings depicting animals, humans and also tectiforms, created with fingers in black, red and white.
- There are also a few animal motifs, one of them closely resembling a fox. Wavy lines, rectangle-filled geometric designs and groups of dots are seen here.
- These paintings provide one of the richest experiences of Prehistoric art in the country. The caves have become a historically significant site.
- Culture Board depicting details on painted rock shelters of Lakhudiyar was discovered by Dr. M. P. Joshi in 1968.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The Mesolithic and Neolithic Cultures belong to the Holocene era.
2. Kupgallu, Piklihal and Tekkalkota painting sites are located at Uttarakhand.

**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 Mesolithic Age represents the intermediate stage in Stone Age Culture. Both Mesolithic and Neolithic Cultures belong to the Holocene era (which succeeded the Pleistocene era around 10,000 years ago).

Some of the examples of sites early rock paintings are Lakhudiyar in Uttarakhand, Kupgallu in Telangana, Piklihal and Tekkalkotta in Karnataka, Bhimbetka and Jogimara in Madhya Pradesh etc.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) Who among the following termed the Neolithic phase as Neolithic Revolution?**

- a) V. Gordon Childe
- b) P V Joshi
- c) Robert Bruce Foote
- d) Mortimer Wheeler

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In northern India, the Neolithic age emerged around c.8000–6000 BCE.

- At some places in south and eastern India, it is as late as 1000 BCE.
- Its significance in pre-history can be gauged by the fact that V. Gordon Childe termed the Neolithic phase as Neolithic Revolution.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) In which of the following site found the “community food preparation and feasting”?**

- a) Maski
- b) Piklihal
- c) Budihal
- d) Lakhudiyar

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Some of the important excavated Neolithic Sites along with their unique aspects are as follows: Burzahom (unique rectangular chopper, domestic dogs buried with their masters in graves) and Gufkral in Jammu and Kashmir (famous for pit dwelling, stone tools, and graveyards located within households) Maski, Brahmagiri, Piklihal (proof of cattle herding), Budihal (community food preparation and feasting).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The famous “Koldihwa site” is located at which of the following state?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Koldihwa is an archaeological site in Uttar Pradesh, India. It is situated in the valleys of Belan River near village Devghat.

Along with Mahagara, it is one of the few Neolithic sites in Uttar Pradesh. Both are in district Prayagraj.

**Source: NCERT**

## Harappan Civilization

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

1. The Harappan civilization geographical area is lesser than the civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt.
2. The Harappan civilization was belongs to Iron Age.

**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:** The Harappan civilization was the first urban civilization in South Asia, contemporaneous with the civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt.

- Of the three aforementioned civilizations, the Harappan civilization occupied most area (about 8,00,000 sq km).
- Earlier historians had called this civilization the Indus Valley Civilizations, but since then, major settlements have been excavated in the Ghaggar-Hakra belt that spread far beyond the Indus region.
- Harappa, as the first archaeological site to be discovered, therefore gives its name to the entire civilization. It forms a part of the proto-history of India, and belongs to the Bronze Age.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) Which of the following specialized craft/s making during the Harappan Civilization?**

1. Stone-working
2. Bead-making
3. Wheeled transport

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Early Harappan phase, known as the Regionalisation Era, was the formative, proto-urban phase of the Harappan civilization.

It is related to the Hakra phase of settlements, and the settlements in this period are marked by their fortification, a fairly high level of expertise in specialised crafts such as stone-working, bead-making, and metalcrafting, the use of wheeled transport, and the existence of trade networks.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.3) Which of the following archeological site/s is/are found in Haryana?**

1. Kalibangan
2. Balakot
3. Amri

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Some of the early Harappan archaeological sites are Padri in Gujarat, Kalibangan in Rajasthan, Dholavira in Kutch, Harappa in West Punjab, Balakot, Amri, and Bhirrana in Haryana, Kot Diji and Gumla.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.4) Which of the following material trait/s is/are found in the “Harappan Civilization”?**

1. Red and black pottery
2. Terracotta figurines
3. Standardized brick size

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Mature Harappan phase, or the Integration Era, was the urban phase of the Harappan civilisation, which shows the characteristics of a full-fledged civilisation.

- It is pertinent to note that the unqualified term, ‘Harappan Culture’ or ‘Harappan Civilisation’, primarily refers to this mature urban phase.
- It is equally important to understand the fact that the use of term ‘Harappan Culture’ or ‘Harappan Civilisation’ for all the excavated sites does not mean that all the other sites are identical to Harappa.
- It only pertains to the fact that the other sites have the same basic set of Harappan material traits, such as the typical red and black pottery, terracotta figurines, standardised brick size in 1:2:4 ratio, and so on.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) Which of the following “Harappan Site” is divided into three parts?**

- a) Kalibangan
- b) Dholavira
- c) Kot Diji
- d) Bhirrana

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Dholavira is the largest Indus Valley Site in independent India. It is located on Khadir Beyt, an island in the Great Rann of Kutch in Gujarat.

- It has been excavated by R S Bisht team of ASI. It had three citadels.
- Each of these three citadels of Dholavira was improved than Harappa and Mohen-jo-Daro and had an inner closure as well.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are town planning feature/s of Harappan Civilization?**

1. Two storey's houses
2. Windows faces the streets
3. Tiled bathrooms

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Harappan civilisation is known for its urban outlook and sophisticated sense of civic planning and organisation.

- Houses were often of two or more storeys, though varied in size but quite monotonous.
- No window faced the streets and the houses had tiled bathrooms. Some houses had their own wells.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding "Harappan Society":**

1. It was an urban society.
2. It has at least three distinct social groups consists of ruled, rich merchants and poor laborers.

**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 Harappan society was an urban society, comprising mostly of the middle classes. The houses excavated suggest at least three distinct social groups: Ruled rich merchants and poor laborers who lived in the lower part of the city.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) The terms "Dilmun and Makan" are related to which of the following?**

- a) Trading stations
- b) Ports
- c) Pre – historic sites
- d) Hoarding sites

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Mesopotamian texts speak of three intermediate trading stations called Dilmun (probably Bahrain on Persian Gulf), Makan (probably the Makran coast, Oman) and, Meluhha.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “trade in Harappan Civilization”:**

1. There was no external trade in Harappan Civilization.
2. Inland transport primarily employed on bullock carts.

**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 inferences about Harappan Economy have been derived from its flourishing trade relations with its contemporary Mesopotamian and Persian civilizations. The Mesopotamians called the Indus Region ‘Meluhha’.

- The key aspects of Harappan trade networks and economy are as follows: They carried out internal and external trade.
- There was no metallic money in circulation and trade was conducted by means of barter. Inland transport primarily employed bullock carts.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.10) In which of the following site a dockyard has been excavated?**

- a) Lothal
- b) Kalibangan
- c) Rakhigarhi
- d) Dirrahan

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** A dockyard has been excavated in Lothal.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## The Vedic Age

**Q.1) Which of the following subject/s is/are used by Philologists to study language?**

1. History
2. Etymology
3. Linguistics

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Philologists study language in oral and written forms of languages based on historical evidence. They use etymology, comparative linguistics, literary criticism, history, and linguistics in their studies.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

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

1. No words of the Munda and Dravidian languages have been identified in Rig Veda.
2. The Aryans used domesticated horses and chariots.

**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:** Though the Rig Veda is in Sanskrit, about 300 words of the Munda and Dravidian languages have been identified in it, suggesting cultural mix with earlier inhabitants.

From the Vedas it is evident that Aryans used domesticated horses and chariots.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Vedic age society:**

1. They practiced the hunting and food gathering.
2. The dead was buried and cremated.

**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:** From the Vedas it is evident that Aryans used domesticated horses and chariots. Their chariots had spoked wheels and they used bows and arrows.

- They practiced agriculture and pastoralism. They buried and also cremated the dead.
- The cult of fire and the use of soma drink were prevalent among the speakers of the IndoAryan languages.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following animal is not mentioned in the "Rig Veda"?**

1. Horse
2. Tiger
3. Rhinoceros

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The term asva and several other terms in Rig Veda have common roots in various Indo-Aryan languages.

- In the Rig Veda, the term asva (horse) occurs 215 times and vrishabha (bull) 170 times.
- Tiger and rhinoceros, which are tropical animals, are not mentioned in the Rig Veda.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.5) Which of the following region is not part of early Vedic age geographical spread?**

- Western Uttar Pradesh
- West Bengal
- Punjab
- Afghanistan

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In the Indian subcontinent, the early Aryans lived in the area of eastern Afghanistan, Pakistan, Punjab and fringes of Western Uttar Pradesh.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the society of Rig Vedic period:**

- Varna was the term used by Aryans to refer to color and category.
- Social classes were classified as warriors, priests and common people.

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

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Vedic people distinguished themselves from the non-Aryan people. Varna was the term used by Aryans to refer to colour and category.

- The Rig Veda refers to Arya varna and Dasa varna. The Dasas and Dasyus were conquered and treated as slaves.
- They came to be considered sudras in the later period. Social classes were classified as warriors, priests and common people.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the society of Rig Vedic age:**

- Slavery and wage labor were prevailed.
- Horse-drawn chariots and bronze objects were possessed by only a few.

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

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Slavery was common and slaves were given as gifts to the priests, but there is no reference to wage labor.

- Horse-drawn chariots and bronze objects were possessed by a few, suggesting social distinction.
- Vedic society was largely egalitarian initially, and social distinctions emerged later.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) With reference to the Rig Vedic age, the term “Panis” is associated with which of the following?**

- a) Traders
- b) Slaves
- c) Wage laborers
- d) Priests

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Panis were itinerary traders or perhaps caravan traders. Panis are also seen as enemies in some verses.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Kinship was the basis of the social structure of Rig Vedic society.
2. The term janapada occurs in the Rig Veda 21 times.

**Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Kinship was the basis of the social structure of Rig Vedic society. People were identified with specific clans and the clans formed the tribe or jana.

The term jana occurs in the Rig Veda 21 times but janapada does not occur even once.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) With reference to ancient Rig Vedic age, the term “sapatni” was related to?**

- a) Wife of grihapati
- b) Dancers
- c) Female priests
- d) Tribal heads

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The family (griha) was the main social unit within the tribe. It was headed by the grihapati and his wife was known as sapatni.

**Source: NCERT**

## The Mahajanapadas of the Indo - Gangetic Plain

**Q.1) Which of the following statements is/are correct about second urbanization?**

1. The centre of economic and political activity shifted from the Indus Basin to Ganga Basin.
2. The centre was closer to the iron production centres.
3. The region has better rainfall and river systems.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The sixth century BCE is known as an era of 'Second Urbanisation' in the Indian Subcontinent.

- After the decline of the Harappan towns and nearly after a gap of more than a thousand years, urban centres emerged again but not in the Indus plain.
- The centre of economic and political activity shifted from the North-West, Punjab, Haryana, and Western UP, to Eastern UP and Bihar (Ganga Basin).
- This region was not only fertile on account of better rainfall and river systems, but was also closer to the iron production centres.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) Which of the following was/were the reasons for development of mahajanapadas?**

1. Better iron tools
2. Warrior class and weapons
3. People allegiance to territory

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Later Vedic period, people had started agriculture, which made them settle down at a particular place.

- The new iron agricultural tools and implements (such as the ploughshare) enabled the people to clear thick forest cover and cultivate the hard soil of this area.
- Also, iron weapons made the warrior class more important, and slowly, people gained a strong allegiance to the territory they belonged to rather than the Jana or tribe.
- These permanent settlements led to the foundation of the Janapadas or territorial states, under the control of the king.
- The use of better iron tools and weapons enabled some territorial states to become very large, and they came to be called Mahajanapadas (large territorial states) in North India (cities and states became visible in South India a few centuries later).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.3) The “Anguttara Nikaya” is related to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Sikhism
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** According to Buddhist texts, Anguttara Nikaya (the land between Himalayas and Narmada) was divided into 16 independent states (Mahajanapadas).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.4) Which of the following mahajanapada is divided in to two parts by the “Sarayu River”?**

- a) Anga
- b) Kosala
- c) Avanti
- d) Kashi

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Sarayu river divided the Kosala state into two parts: Northern part’s capital: Shravasti and Southern part’s capital: Kushavati.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) “Champa” was a capital city and important commercial centre on the trade routes and merchants sailed from here to Suvarnabhumi – related to?**

- a) Anga
- b) Mallas
- c) Vajji
- d) Chedi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Champa was a capital city of Anga and important commercial centre on the trade routes and merchants sailed from here to Suvarnabhumi (South-East Asia).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.6) “Kusinara and Pava” are very important in the history of Buddhism – related to?**

- a) Anga
- b) Mallas
- c) Vajji
- d) Chedi

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Kushinara and Pava were capital cities of Mallas. Kusinara and Pava are very important in the history of Buddhism, since Buddha took his last meal and was taken ill at Pava, and went to his Mahaparinirvana at Kusinara.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.7) The famous city of Kannauj was situated in the kingdom of?**

- a) Kuru
- b) Vatsa
- c) Panchala
- d) Shurarena

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The famous city of Kannauj was situated in the kingdom of Panchala.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Which of the following is/are not Gana-Sanghas?**

- 1. Vajji
- 2. Malla
- 3. Vatsa

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** It should be noted that the most powerful states in the 6th century were Magadha, Kosala, Vatsa, and Avanti and two of the Mahajanapads, the Vajji and Malla were Gana-Sanghas.

The Gana-Sanghas (literally meaning an assembly of Gana, those who claim to be of equal status) were an alternative polity to the kingdoms.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) With reference to mahajanapadas, the term “Santhagara” was associated with?**

- a) Assembly of people
- b) Slaves
- c) Priests
- d) Spies

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The corporate aspect of government was a major attribute of Gana-Sanghas.

- They were based in smaller geographical areas and had more representative government.
- The discussion matters were placed before the assembly who met in a hall, called Santhagara.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.10) The “Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary” is often seen in news related to?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** A South African delegation, including wildlife experts, was arrived in February to assess the conditions at Madhya Pradesh's Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary which is slated to become the second home of cheetahs in India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## The Mahajanapadas of the Indo – Gangetic Plain - II

**Q.1) Which of the following was/were the reason/s for the growth of towns in the Gangetic plains?**

1. Agricultural surplus
2. Growth of crafts and trade
3. Population growth

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Agricultural surplus, the growth of crafts and trade, and the growing population led to the emergence of towns in the Gangetic plains.

This is called the second urbanization in Indian history after the first urbanization evident in the Harappan Civilization.

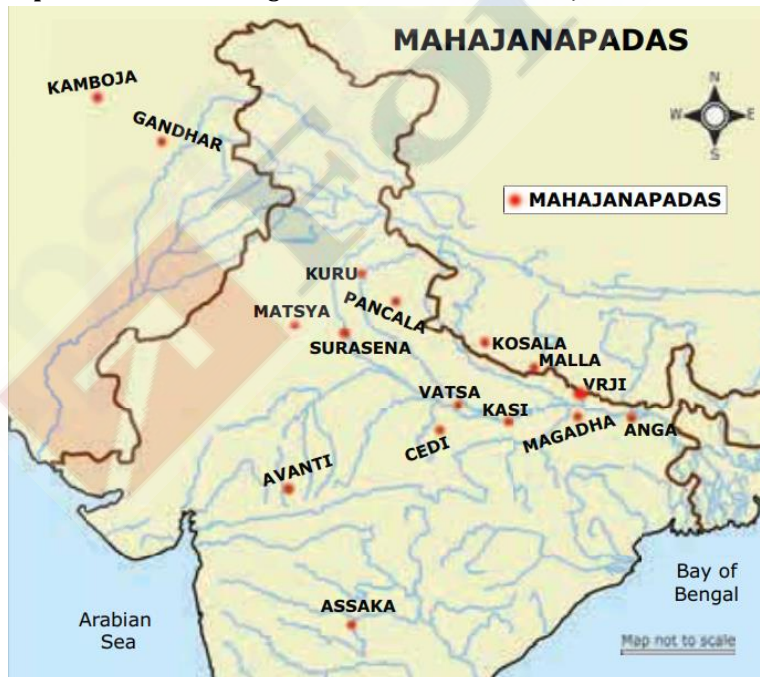
**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following mahajanapada was the westernmost?**

- a) Gandhara
- b) Kamboja
- c) Anga
- d) Shurasena

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** According to Puranic, Buddhist and Jaina traditions, there were sixteen mahajanapadas.



**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.3) Which of the following was/were comprised of proto-states of the Gangetic region?**

1. Chiefdoms
2. Republics
3. Small kingdoms

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The proto-states of the Gangetic region were known as janapadas and comprised chiefdoms, republics and small kingdoms. Sixteen mahajanapadas find mention in the early texts.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following was/were the political feature/s of the “mahajanapadas”?**

1. The kingdoms were governed by kings and the administration was centralized.
2. The brahman priests provided legitimacy to the king through various rituals.
3. The kingship was hereditary and the succession was in most cases based on the law of primogeniture.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The mahajanapadas on the Gangetic plains were all monarchies. Vedic orthodoxy was an established practice in these kingdoms.

- The priestly class enjoyed a preeminent status in the mahajanapadas unlike in the gana-sanghas.
- The kingdoms were governed by kings and the administration was centralised.
- The brahman priests provided legitimacy to the king through various rituals.
- The kingship was hereditary and the succession was in most cases based on the law of primogeniture.
- The king was assisted by councils called parishad and sabha. The councils were advisory in nature.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.5) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**

1. Grihapatis – Small land owners
2. Kassakas – large land owners
3. Karmakaras – laborers

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The richer landowners were called grihapatis. These landowners employed labourers called dasas or karmakaras. The smaller landowners were known as kassakas or krishakas.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following was the contemporary of both Buddha and Mahavira?**

- a) Bimbisara
- b) Ajatashatru
- c) Udayabhadra
- d) Asoka

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The political conflict among the Mahajanapadas ultimately led to the emergence of Magadha as the most powerful state and the centre of a vast empire.

- Magadha's rise to political supremacy began with Bimbisara, who belonged to the Haryanka dynasty, and ruled for 52 years, from 544 to 492 BCE.
- In the Mahavamsa, it is stated that he was anointed as the king by his father at the age of 15, which suggests that he was not the founder of his dynasty.
- He was a contemporary of both Buddha and Mahavira, and paid equal respect to them.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following policy/policies were followed by Bimbisara to expand his empire?**

1. Matrimonial alliances
2. Hostile relations with strong rulers
3. Conquest of weak neighbors

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Through his conquests and diplomacy, Bimbisara made Magadha the paramount power. He pursued a three-pronged policy, namely, matrimonial alliances, friendship with strong rulers, and conquest of weak neighbours to expand the empire.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation May [Fourth Week] 2024

**Q.8) The capital "Girivraja" was related to which of the following?**

- a) Avanti
- b) Magadha
- c) Gandhara
- d) Kamboja

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Magadha: Capital at Rajgriha (Girivraja), which was an impressive city and almost impregnable as surrounded by five hills, the openings in which were closed by stone walls on all sides.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) With reference to mahajanapadas, the term "Mahashilakantaka" related to?**

- a) War machine
- b) Stupa
- c) Rock cut cave
- d) Monolithic pillar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Ajathashatru used two innovative military weapons:

- War engine, which was used to those stones like catapults (Mahashilakantaka).
- Chariot with mace for mass-killing (Rathamusala).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Bagor is one of the largest and best documented Mesolithic sites in India, located at?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Bagor, Rajasthan on River Kothari is one of the largest and best documented Mesolithic sites in India.

**Source: NCERT**