

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

1st week August, 2024

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

FORUMIAS



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Constitutional Bodies – II

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding composition of UPSC:

1. There is no bar on the strength of commission and left to the discretion of President.
2. The Constitution authorizes the parliament to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and other members of the Commission.

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 UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.

- The Constitution, without specifying the strength of the Commission has left the matter to the discretion of the president, who determines its composition.
- Usually, the Commission consists of nine to eleven members including the chairman.
- The Constitution also authorizes the president to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and other members of the Commission.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Under which of the following condition president has to refer to Supreme Court for removal of UPSC chairman and other members?

- a) adjudged as an insolvent
- b) paid employment outside the duties of his office
- c) infirmity of mind or body
- d) misbehavior

ANS: D

Explanation: The president can remove the chairman or any other member of UPSC for misbehavior.

- However, in this case, the president has to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry.
- If the Supreme Court, after the enquiry, upholds the cause of removal and advises so, the president can remove the chairman or a member.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following provisions provided by constitution for safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the UPSC?

1. Security of tenure
2. Entire expenses of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. The chairman of UPSC is eligible for further employment in the Government of India or a state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the UPSC:

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- (a) The chairman or a member of the UPSC can be removed from office by the president only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. Therefore, they enjoy security of tenure.
- (b) The conditions of service of the chairman or a member, though determined by the president, cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
- (c) The entire expenses including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. Thus, they are not subject to vote of Parliament.
- The chairman of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is not eligible for further employment in the Government of India or a state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following is/are comes under the functional jurisdiction of Union Public Service Commission?

1. Making reservations of appointments or posts in favor of any backward class of citizens.
2. Taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.
3. With regard to the selections for chairmanship or membership of commissions or tribunals.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The following matters are kept outside the functional jurisdiction of the UPSC. In other words, the UPSC is not consulted on the following matters:

- (a) While making reservations of appointments or posts in favor of any backward class of citizens.
- (b) While taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.
- (c) With regard to the selections for chairmanship or membership of commissions or tribunals, posts of the highest diplomatic nature and a bulk of group C and group D services.
- (d) With regard to the selection for temporary or officiating appointment to a post if the person appointed is not likely to hold the post for more than a year.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "State Public Service Commission (SPSC)":

1. The chairman and other members of SPSC are appointed by the President.
2. The Constitution does not specify the strength of the Commission but has left the matter to the discretion of the President.

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: A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the governor of the state.

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The Constitution does not specify the strength of the Commission but has left the matter to the discretion of the Governor.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC)”:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the president.

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 Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.

- While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned.
- Thus, a JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional body.
- The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the president.
- They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding finance commission:

1. It consists of a chairman and four other members.
2. They are not eligible for reappointment.

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

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the president.

They hold office for such period as specified by the president in his order. They are eligible for reappointment.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) Which of the following recommendations is/are given by finance commission to president?

1. To declare financial emergency.
2. To declare special category status to states.
3. To create inter – state council.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Finance Commission is required to make recommendations to the president of India on the following matters:

1. The distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states, and the allocation between the states of the respective shares of such proceeds.
2. The principles that should govern the grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre (i.e., out of the consolidated fund of India).
3. The measures needed to augment the consolidated fund of a state to supplement the resources of the panchayats and the municipalities in the state on the basis of the recommendations made by the state finance commission.
4. Any other matter referred to it by the president in the interests of sound finance.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) The 101st constitutional amendment is related to which of the following?

- a) UPSC
- b) Finance commission
- c) GST Council
- d) Election Commission

ANS: C

Explanation: The 101st Amendment Act of 2016 paved the way for the introduction of a new tax regime (i.e. goods and services tax - GST) in the country.

- The smooth and efficient administration of this tax requires co-operation and coordination between the centre and the states.
- In order to facilitate this consultation process, the amendment provided for the establishment of Goods and Services Tax Council or the GST Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) The famous Seshachalam Hills are recently in news located at?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Kerala
- c) Goa
- d) Chhattisgarh

ANS: A

Explanation: Seshachalam Hills are mountain ranges in Andhra Pradesh, India.

- Seshachalam ranges, which falls on the southern part of the Eastren Ghats, covering an area of 4,755.99 sq km in the districts of Chittoor and Kadapa.

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- Thus, Seshachalam became the first biosphere reserve in the entire State and 16th in the country.

Source: Laxmikanth

Constitutional Bodies - III

Q.1) With reference to 101st Amendment Act of 2016, who among the following empowered to create a GST Council?

- President
- Vice - President
- Prime Minister
- Finance Minister

ANS: A

Explanation: The 101st Amendment Act of 2016 paved the way for the introduction of a new tax regime (i.e. goods and services tax - GST) in the country.

- The smooth and efficient administration of this tax requires co-operation and coordination between the centre and the states.
- In order to facilitate this consultation process, the amendment provided for the establishment of Goods and Services Tax Council or the GST Council. The amendment inserted a new Article 279-A in the Constitution.
- This Article empowered the President to constitute a GST Council by an order. Accordingly, the President issued the order in 2016 and constituted the Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Who among the following is not a member of GST council?

- Finance Minister
- Prime Minister
- Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue or Finance
- Ministers nominated by each state

ANS: B

Explanation: The Council is a joint forum of the centre and the states and consists of the following members:

- The Union Finance Minister as the Chairperson
- The Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue or Finance
- The Minister in-charge of Finance or Taxation or any other Minister nominated by each state government

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following is not a statutory body?

- National Commission for Scheduled Castes
- National Commission for Minorities
- National Commission for Women
- National Human Rights Commission

ANS: A

Explanation: National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) is a constitutional body in the sense that it is directly established by Article 338 of the Constitution.

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On the other hand, the other national commissions like the National Commission for Women (1992), the National Commission for Minorities (1993), the National Human Rights Commission (1993) and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (2007) are statutory bodies in the sense that they are established by acts of the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs)”?

1. Article 338 of the Constitution provided for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes (SCs).
2. 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1972 provided for the establishment of a high level multi-member National Commission for SCs.
3. 89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Originally, Article 338 of the Constitution provided for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) to investigate all matters relating to the constitutional safeguards for the SCs and STs and to report to the President on their working.

- Later, the 65th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1990 provided for the establishment of a high level multi-member National Commission for SCs and STs in the place of a single Special Officer for SCs and STs.
- Again, the 89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies, namely, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (under Article 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (under Article 338-A).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following statement is not correct about “National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs)”?

- a) The separate National Commission for SCs came into existence in 2004.
- b) The National Commission for SCs consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members.
- c) The chairperson and other members of National Commission for SCs are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.
- d) The conditions of service and tenure of office of chairperson and other members of National Commission for SCs are determined by Parliament.

ANS: D

Explanation: The separate National Commission for SCs came into existence in 2004.

- It consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members. They are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.
- Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.6) Which of the following is/are functions of “National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs)”?

1. To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working.
2. To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs.
3. To participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The functions of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) are:

- (a) To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working;
- (b) To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs;
- (c) To participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state;
- (d) To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which constitutional amendment act conferred the constitutional status to National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?

- a) 91st
- b) 95th
- c) 99th
- d) 102nd

ANS: D

Explanation: In the Mandal case judgement (1992), the Supreme Court directed the central government to constitute a permanent statutory body to examine the complaints of under inclusion, over inclusion or non-inclusion of any class of citizens in the list of backward classes.

- Accordingly, the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was set up in 1993.
- Later, the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the Commission.
- For this purpose, the amendment inserted a new Article 338-B in the constitution.
- Hence, the Commission ceased to be a statutory body and became a constitutional body

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which constitutional amendment act inserted Article 350 - B into the Constitution?

- a) 1st
- b) 7th
- c) 23rd
- d) 42nd

ANS: B

Explanation: Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

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- Later, the States Re-organization Commission (1953–55) made a recommendation in this regard.
- Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350 – B in Part XVII of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which one of the following is not a regional office of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities?

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Belgaum
- c) Chennai
- d) Kolkata

ANS: A

Explanation: In pursuance of the provision of Article 350-B of the Constitution, the office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities was created in 1957.

- He is designated as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. The Commissioner has his headquarters at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh).
- He has three regional offices at Belgaum (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal). Each is headed by an Assistant Commissioner.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Article 148 of Indian constitution related to which of the following?

- a) Comptroller and Auditor General of India
- b) Finance Commission
- c) Inter – state council
- d) Zonal council

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution of India (Article 148) provides for an independent office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

- He is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department. He is the guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels—the Centre and the state.
- His duty is to uphold the Constitution of India and laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration.

Source: Laxmikanth

Non – Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “NITI Aayog”:

1. It was established on January 1, 2014.
2. It was created by executive resolution.

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: On the 13th of August, 2014, the Modi Government scrapped the 65- year-old Planning Commission and announced that it would be replaced by a new body.

- Accordingly, on January 1, 2015, the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was established as the successor to the planning commission.
- However, it must be noted here that the NITI Aayog, like that of the Planning Commission, was also created by an executive resolution of the Government of India (i.e., Union Cabinet).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following statements are correct about composition of NITI Aayog?

1. Prime Minister is chairperson of India.
2. There is no part – time members in it.
3. It has regional councils.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The composition of the NITI Aayog is as follows:

(a) Chairperson: The Prime Minister of India

(b) Governing Council: It comprises the Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures (i.e., Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir) and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.

(c) Regional Councils: These are formed to address specific issues and contingencies impacting more than one state or a region. These are formed for a specified tenure. These are convened by the Prime Minister and comprises of the Chief Ministers of States and Lt. Governors of Union Territories in the region. These are chaired by the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog or his nominee.

Part-time Members: Maximum of 2, from leading universities, research organizations and other relevant institutions in an e officio capacity. Part-time members would be on a rotation.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Which of the following is not a specialized wing of “NITI Aayog”?

- a) Research wing
- b) Consultancy wing
- c) Team India wing
- d) Environmental conservation wing

ANS: D

Explanation: NITI Aayog houses a number of specialized wings, including:

1. Research Wing: It develops in-house sectoral expertise as a dedicated think tank of top notch domain experts, specialists and scholars.
2. Consultancy Wing: It provides a marketplace of whetted panels of expertise and funding, for the Central and State Governments to tap into matching their requirements with solution providers, public and private, national and international. By playing match-maker instead of providing the entire service itself, NITI Aayog is able to focus its resources on priority matters, providing guidance and an overall quality check to the rest.
3. Team India Wing: It comprises of the representatives from every State and Ministry and serves as a permanent platform for national collaboration.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following is/are functions of “NITI Aayog”?

1. Design policy and programme framework.
2. Foster co-operative federalism.
3. Funds distribution to states.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The various functions performed by the NITI Aayog can be divided into four main heads:

1. Design policy and programme framework.
2. Foster co-operative federalism.
3. Monitoring and evaluation.
4. Think-tank, and Knowledge and Innovation Hub.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “National Human Rights Commission”:

1. The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and nine members.
2. The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.

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 commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and five members.

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The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court and members should be a serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court, a serving or retired chief justice of a high court and three persons (out of which atleast one should be a woman) having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Who among the following is not a member of six-member committee to recommend appointment of chairperson and members of NHRC?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Leader of Opposition
- c) Vice – President
- d) Central Home Minister

ANS: C

Explanation: The chairperson and members of NHRC are appointed by the president on the recommendations of a six-member committee consisting of the prime minister as its head, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament and the Central home minister.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following is/are functions of “National Human Rights Commission”?

- 1. To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant.
- 2. To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- 3. To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The functions of the Commission are:

- (a) To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant, either suo motu or on a petition presented to it or on an order of a court.
- (b) To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- (c) To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.
- (d) To review the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the protection of human rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) In which of the following year Central Information Commission was established by the Central Government?

- a) 1999
- b) 2001
- c) 2005
- d) 2009

ANS: C

Explanation: The Central Information Commission was established by the Central Government in 2005. It was constituted through an Official Gazette Notification under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)”:

- 1. It is a non – statutory body.
- 2. Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

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 Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is the main agency for preventing corruption in the Central government.

- It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government. Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962–64).
- Thus, originally the CVC was neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body. Later, in 2003, the Parliament enacted a law conferring statutory status on the CVC.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)”:

- 1. It is a multi – member body consisting of a Central Vigilance Commissioner and not more than two vigilance commissioners.
- 2. They are appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal.

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 CVC is a multi-member body consisting of a Central Vigilance Commissioner (chairperson) and not more than two vigilance commissioners.

They are appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal on the recommendation of a three member committee consisting of the prime minister as its head, the Union minister of home affairs and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following comes under the jurisdiction of “Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)”?

1. Members of All India Services.
2. Officers of the rank of Scale V and above in the Public Sector Banks.
3. Officers in Grade D and above in Reserve Bank of India, NABARD and SIDBI.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The jurisdiction of the CVC extends to the following:

- Members of All India Services serving in connection with the affairs of the Union and Group A officers of the Central Government.
- Officers of the rank of Scale V and above in the Public Sector Banks.
- Officers in Grade D and above in Reserve Bank of India, NABARD and SIDBI.
- Chief Executives and Executives on the Board and other officers of E-8 and above in Schedule ‘A’ and ‘B’ Public Sector Undertakings.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)”:

1. It is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure.
2. It has all the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.

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 CVC conducts its proceedings at its headquarters (New Delhi).

- It is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure. It has all the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.
- It may call for information or report from the Central government or its authorities so as to enable it to exercise general supervision over the vigilance and anti-corruption work in them.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)”:

1. It was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

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 Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office.
- The Special Police Establishment (which looked into vigilance cases) setup in 1941 was also merged with the CBI.
- The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962–1964). The CBI is not a statutory body.
- It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)”:

1. It is the main investigating agency of the Central Government.
2. It provides assistance to the Central Vigilance Commission and Lokpal.

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 CBI is the main investigating agency of the Central Government.

- It plays an important role in the prevention of corruption and maintaining integrity in administration.
- It also provides assistance to the Central Vigilance Commission and Lokpal.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following is/are functions of “Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)”?

1. Investigating cases of corruption, bribery and misconduct of Central government employees.
2. Investigating cases relating to infringement of fiscal and economic laws.
3. Investigating serious crimes.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The functions of CBI are:

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- (i) Investigating cases of corruption, bribery and misconduct of Central government employees.
- (ii) Investigating cases relating to infringement of fiscal and economic laws, that is, breach of laws concerning export and import control, customs and central excise, income tax, foreign exchange regulations and so on. However, such cases are taken up either in consultation with or at the request of the department concerned.
- (iii) Investigating serious crimes, having national and international ramifications, committed by organized gangs of professional criminals.
- (iv) Coordinating the activities of the anticorruption agencies and the various state police forces.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) In which of the following year the National Investigation Agency (NIA) constituted?

- a) 2001
- b) 2004
- c) 2009
- d) 2013

ANS: C

Explanation: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted in 2009 under the provisions of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 (NIA Act).

It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following statements is/are correct about "National Investigation Agency (NIA)"?

1. It is headed by a Director-General.
2. It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. The headquarters of the NIA is at Mumbai.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The NIA was established in the backdrop of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, popularly known as the 26/11 incident.

- This national horror led to the realisation of the need for a separate federal agency to deal with terror-related crimes in the country. The headquarters of the NIA is at New Delhi.
- The branch offices of the NIA are located at Hyderabad, Guwahati, Mumbai, Lucknow, Kochi, Kolkata, Jammu and Raipur.
- The NIA is headed by a Director-General. He is appointed by the central government. His powers are similar to the powers exercisable by a Director-General of Police in respect of the police force in a state.
- The NIA works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- The state government extends all assistance and co-operation to the NIA for investigation of the offences specified under the NIA Act.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) Which of the following attacks are probed by “National Investigation Agency (NIA)”?

1. hijacking of aircrafts
2. attacks on nuclear installations
3. use of weapons of mass destruction

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The NIA is empowered to probe terror attacks including bomb blasts, hijacking of aircrafts and ships, attacks on nuclear installations and use of weapons of mass destruction.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) In which of the following year the Disaster Management Act enacted?

- a) 1999
- b) 2001
- c) 2005
- d) 2009

ANS: C

Explanation: The Government of India, recognizing the importance of disaster management as a national priority, had set up a High Powered Committee in 1999 and a National Committee in 2001 after the Gujarat earthquake, to make recommendations on the preparation of disaster management plans and suggest effective mitigation mechanisms.

However, after the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, the Government of India took a defining step in the legislative history of the country by enacting the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following is/are functions “National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)”?

1. To lay down policies on disaster management.
2. To approve plans prepared by the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the National Plan.
3. To recommend provision of funds for the purpose of mitigation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The NDMA has the responsibility for laying down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management for ensuring timely and effective response to disaster. The functions of the NDMA are as follows:

- To lay down policies on disaster management.
- To approve the National Plan.
- To approve plans prepared by the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the National Plan.

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- To coordinate the enforcement and implementation of the policy and plan for disaster management.
- To recommend provision of funds for the purpose of mitigation.

Source: Laxmikanth

Geography

Structure and Relief: Physiographic Divisions of India

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. India's southern boundary extends up to $6^{\circ}45'$ N latitude in the Bay of Bengal.
2. India's territorial limit extends towards the sea up to 24 nautical miles from the coast.

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 mainland of India extends from Kashmir in the north to Kanniyakumari in the south and Arunachal Pradesh in the east to Gujarat in the west.

- India's territorial limit further extends towards the sea up to 12 nautical miles (about 21.9 km) from the coast.
- Our southern boundary extends up to $6^{\circ}45'$ N latitude in the Bay of Bengal.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. India's latitudinal and longitudinal extent is about roughly 30 degrees.
2. Indian Standard Time is ahead of Greenwich Mean Time by 6 hours and 30 minutes.

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: If you work out the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India, they are roughly about 30 degrees, whereas the actual distance measured from north to south extremity is 3,214 km, and that from east to west is only 2,933 km.

- There is a general understanding among the countries of the world to select the standard meridian in multiples of $7^{\circ}30'$ of longitude.
- That is why $82^{\circ}30'$ E has been selected as the 'standard meridian' of India. Indian Standard Time is ahead of Greenwich Mean Time by 5 hours and 30 minutes.

Source: NCERT

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Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The distance between two longitudes decreases towards the poles.
2. The distance between two latitudes decreases towards the poles.

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 distance between two longitudes decreases towards the poles whereas the distance between two latitudes remains the same everywhere.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. With respect to geographical area, India is seventh largest country in the world.
2. Indian subcontinent completely lies in the sub – tropical zone of the earth.

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

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

ANS: B

Explanation: From the values of latitude, it is understood that the southern part of the country lies within the tropics and the northern part lies in the sub-tropical zone or the warm temperate zone.

India with its area of 3.28 million sq. km accounts for 2.4 per cent of the world's land surface area and stands as the seventh largest country in the world.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following is/are forms northern boundary of peninsular plateau?

1. Kachchh
2. Aravali Range
3. Rajmahal Hills

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The northern boundary of the Peninsular Block may be taken as an irregular line running from Kachchh along the western flank of the Aravali Range near Delhi and then roughly parallel to the Yamuna and the Ganga as far as the Rajmahal Hills and the Ganga delta.

Apart from these, the Karbi Anglong and the Meghalaya Plateau in the northeast and Rajasthan in the west are also extensions of this block.

Source: NCERT

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Q.6) Which of the following hills is part of peninsular India?

1. Nallamala hills
2. Veliconda hills
3. Mahendragiri hills

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Peninsula mostly consists of relict and residual mountains like the Aravali hills, the Nallamala hills, the Javadi hills, the Veliconda hills, the Palkonda range and the Mahendragiri hills, etc

Source: NCERT

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

1. The river valleys here are shallow with low gradients.
2. Most of the east flowing rivers form deltas before entering into the Bay of Bengal.

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 river valleys in peninsular plateau are shallow with low gradients.

Most of the east flowing rivers form deltas before entering into the Bay of Bengal. The deltas formed by the Mahanadi, the Krishna, the Kaveri and the Godavari are important examples.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following features can find in Himalayan region?

1. Deltas
2. Gorges
3. Rapids

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Himalayas along with other peninsular mountains are young, weak and flexible in their geological structure unlike the rigid and stable Peninsular Block.

- These mountains are tectonic in origin, dissected by fast-flowing rivers which are in their youthful stage.
- Various landforms like gorges, V-shaped valleys, rapids, waterfalls, etc. are indicative of this stage.

Source: NCERT

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Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Indo-Ganga-Brahmaputra Plain”:

1. It was a geo-synclinal depression.
2. It has been gradually filled by the sediments brought by the Himalayan and Peninsular rivers.

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 third geological division of India comprises the plains formed by the river Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.

- Originally, it was a geo-synclinal depression which attained its maximum development during the third phase of the Himalayan mountain formation approximately about 64 million years ago.
- Since then, it has been gradually filled by the sediments brought by the Himalayan and Peninsular rivers. Average depth of alluvial deposits in these plains ranges from 1,000-2,000 m.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following is known for its marshy and swampy conditions?

- a) Bhabar
- b) Tarai
- c) Khadar
- d) Bhangar

ANS: B

Explanation: South of the Bhabar is the Tarai belt, with an approximate width of 10-20 km where most of the streams and rivers re-emerge without having any properly demarcated channel, thereby, creating marshy and swampy conditions known as the Tarai.

This has a luxurious growth of natural vegetation and houses a varied wildlife.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following geographical features found in the northern plains?

1. sand bars
2. meanders
3. braided channels

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Northern plains have characteristic features of mature stage of fluvial erosional and depositional landforms such as sand bars, meanders, oxbow lakes and braided channels.

Source: NCERT

Drainage System of India

Q.1) Which of the following factors determine the drainage pattern of an area?

1. Topography
2. Periodicity of flow
3. Slope

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The flow of water through well-defined channels is known as 'drainage' and the network of such channels is called a 'drainage system'.

The drainage pattern of an area is the outcome of the geological time period, nature and structure of rocks, topography, slope, amount of water flowing and the periodicity of the flow.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are not correct?

1. A river drains the water collected from a specific area called as its catchment area.
2. An area drained by a river and its tributaries is called a drainage basin.
3. The boundary line separating one drainage basin from the other is known as the watershed.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: A river drains the water collected from a specific area, which is called its 'catchment area'. An area drained by a river and its tributaries is called a drainage basin.

- The boundary line separating one drainage basin from the other is known as the watershed.
- The catchments of large rivers are called river basins while those of small rivulets and rills are often referred to as watersheds.

Source: NCERT

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Q.3) Which of the following geographical features separate the Arabian Sea drainage from Bay of Bengal sea drainage?

1. Delhi ridge
2. Sahyadris
3. Aravalis

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Indian drainage system may be divided on various bases.

- On the basis of discharge of water (orientations to the sea), it may be grouped into: (i) the Arabian Sea drainage; and (ii) the Bay of Bengal drainage.
- They are separated from each other through the Delhi ridge, the Aravalis and the Sahyadris.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following river basins has catchment area more than 20,000 sq. km?

1. Krishna
2. Meghna
3. Mahi

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: On the basis of the size of the watershed, the drainage basins of India are grouped into three categories:

- (i) Major river basins with more than 20,000 sq. km of catchment area. It includes 14 drainage basins such as the Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Krishna, the Tapi, the Narmada, the Mahi, the Pennar, the Sabarmati, the Barak, etc.
- (ii) Medium river basins with catchment area between 2,000-20,000 sq. km incorporating 44 river basins such as the Kalindi, the Periyar, the Meghna, etc.
- (iii) Minor river basins with catchment area of less than 2,000 sq. km include fairly good number of rivers flowing in the area of low rainfall.

Source: NCERT

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Q.5) Which of the following rivers are much older than the Himalayan Rivers?

1. Chambal
2. Betwa
3. Son

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: On the basis of the mode of origin, nature and characteristics, the Indian drainage may also be classified into the Himalayan drainage and the peninsular drainage.

Although it has the problem of including the Chambal, the Betwa, the Son, etc. which are much older in age and origin than other rivers that have their origin in the Himalayas.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) With reference to river flows, which of the following are depositional stage features?

1. Flat valleys
2. Flood plains
3. Braided channels

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Himalayan drainage system has evolved through a long geological history. It mainly includes the Ganga, the Indus and the Brahmaputra river basins.

- Besides deep gorges, these rivers also form V-shaped valleys, rapids and waterfalls in their mountainous course.
- While entering the plains, they form depositional features like flat valleys, ox-bow lakes, flood plains, braided channels, and deltas near the river mouth.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following river is known as “sorrow of Bihar”?

- a) Kosi
- b) Gandak
- c) Teesta
- d) Gomti

ANS: A

Explanation: In the Himalayan reaches, the course of these rivers is highly tortuous, but over the plains they display a strong meandering tendency and shift their courses frequently.

- River Kosi, also known as the ‘sorrow of Bihar’, has been notorious for frequently changing its course.
- The Kosi brings huge quantity of sediments from its upper reaches and deposits it in the plains.

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- The course gets blocked, and consequently, the river changes its course.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Indus River”:

1. It is the westernmost of the Himalayan Rivers in India.
2. In Tibet, it is known as Singi Khamban.

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 Indus System: It is one of the largest river basins of the world, covering an area of 11,65,000 sq. km (in India it is 321,289 sq. km and a total length of 2,880 km (in India 1,114 km).

- The Indus also known as the Sindhu, is the westernmost of the Himalayan rivers in India.
- It originates from a glacier near Bokhar Chu (31°15' N latitude and 81°40' E longitude) in the Tibetan region at an altitude of 4,164 m in the Kailash Mountain range.
- In Tibet, it is known as ‘Singi Khamban; or Lion’s mouth.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following rivers are tributaries of Indus River?

1. Dras
2. Gilgit
3. Zaskar

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Indus receives a number of Himalayan tributaries such as the Shyok, the Gilgit, the Zaskar, the Hunza, the Nubra, the Shigar, the Gasting and the Dras.

- It finally emerges out of the hills near Attock where it receives the Kabul River on its right bank.
- The other important tributaries joining the right bank of the Indus are the Khurram, the Tochi, the Gomal, the Viboa and the Sangar. They all originate in the Sulaiman ranges.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following rivers is part of “Panjnad”?

1. Jhelum
2. Sutlej
3. Beas

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Panjnad is the name given to the five rivers of Punjab, namely the Satluj, the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenab and the Jhelum.

Source: NCERT

Weather, Climate and Seasons of India

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The word monsoon connotes the climate associated with seasonal reversal in the direction of winds.
2. The prevalent climate in India, South and South East Asia is hot monsoonal climate.

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: Monsoon connotes the climate associated with seasonal reversal in the direction of winds. India has hot monsoonal climate which is the prevalent climate in south and Southeast Asia.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) In which of the following places receive rainfall more than 1000cm?

1. Jaisalmer
2. Cherrapunji
3. Mawsynram

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Variations are noticeable not only in the type of precipitation but also in its amount. While Cherrapunji and Mawsynram in the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya receive rainfall over 1,080 cm in a year, Jaisalmer in Rajasthan rarely gets more than 9 cm of rainfall during the same period.

Source: NCERT

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Q.3) Which of the following factors determining the climate of India?

1. Latitude
2. Himalayas
3. Distance from the sea

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India's climate is controlled by a number of factors.

- **Latitude:** You already know the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the land of India. You also know that the Tropic of Cancer passes through the central part of India in east-west direction. Thus, northern part of the India lies in sub-tropical and temperate zone and the part lying south of the Tropic of Cancer falls in the tropical zone.
- **The Himalayan Mountains:** The lofty Himalayas in the north along with its extensions act as an effective climatic divide. The towering mountain chain provides an invincible shield to protect the subcontinent from the cold northern winds.
- **Distance from the Sea:** With a long coastline, large coastal areas have an equable climate. Areas in the interior of India are far away from the moderating influence of the sea. Such areas have extremes of climate.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following places are located at same latitude?

1. Agra
2. Hyderabad
3. Darjiling

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Temperature decreases with height. Due to thin air, places in the mountains are cooler than places on the plains.

For example, Agra and Darjiling are located on the same latitude, but temperature of January in Agra is 16°C whereas it is only 4°C in Darjiling.

Source: NCERT

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Q.5) Which of the following is/are impact of El – Nino?

1. It distorts the equatorial atmospheric circulation.
2. Irregularities in the evaporation of sea water.
3. Reduction in the amount of planktons which further reduces the number of fish in the sea.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: El-Nino is merely an extension of the warm equatorial current which gets replaced temporarily by cold Peruvian current or Humboldt current (locate these currents in your atlas).

This current increases the temperature of water on the Peruvian coast by 10°C . This results in:

- (i) the distortion of equatorial atmospheric circulation;
- (ii) irregularities in the evaporation of sea water;
- (iii) Reduction in the amount of planktons which further reduces the number of fish in the sea.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Cold Weather Season”:

1. December and January are the coldest months in the northern plains.
2. The mean daily temperature remains below 21°C over most parts of northern India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Usually, the cold weather season sets in by mid-November in northern India. December and January are the coldest months in the northern plain.

- The mean daily temperature remains below 21°C over most parts of northern India.
- The night temperature may be quite low, sometimes going below freezing point in Punjab and Rajasthan.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) The “blossom Shower” is associated with which of the following?

- a) Jammu & Kashmir
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Punjab

ANS: C

Explanation: Blossom Shower: With this shower, coffee flowers blossom in Kerala and nearby areas.

Source: NCERT

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Q.8) Which of the following is/are reasons for Tamil Nadu coast remains dry during monsoon season?

1. Due to presence of cyclonic depression in Bay of Bengal.
2. The Tamil Nadu coast is situated parallel to the Bay of Bengal branch of southwest monsoon.
3. Tamil Nadu lies in the rain shadow area of the Arabian Sea branch of the south-west monsoon.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Tamil Nadu coast remains dry during monsoon season. There are two factors responsible for it:

- (i) The Tamil Nadu coast is situated parallel to the Bay of Bengal branch of southwest monsoon.
- (ii) It lies in the rain-shadow area of the Arabian Sea branch of the south-west monsoon.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "Season of Retreating Monsoon":

1. The months of October and November are known for retreating monsoons.
2. By the end of September, the low pressure trough of the Ganga plain starts moving southward in response to the southward march of the sun.

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 months of October and November are known for retreating monsoons.

- By the end of September, the southwest monsoon becomes weak as the low pressure trough of the Ganga plain starts moving southward in response to the southward march of the sun.
- The monsoon retreats from the western Rajasthan by the first week of September.
- It withdraws from Rajasthan, Gujarat, Western Ganga plain and the Central Highlands by the end of the month.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chenab is the largest tributary of the Indus.
2. The Jhelum rises from a spring at Verinag situated at the foot of the Pir Panjal in the south-eastern part of the valley of Kashmir.

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 Jhelum, an important tributary of the Indus, rises from a spring at Verinag situated at the foot of the Pir Panjal in the south-eastern part of the valley of Kashmir.

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- It flows through Srinagar and the Wular Lake before entering Pakistan through a deep narrow gorge. It joins the Chenab near Jhang in Pakistan.
- The Chenab is the largest tributary of the Indus. It is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga, which join at Tandi near Keylong in Himachal Pradesh.
- Hence, it is also known as Chandrabhaga. The river flows for 1,180 km before entering into Pakistan.

Source: NCERT

Soils and its distribution in India

Q.1) Which of the following is/are factors determine the formation of soil?

1. Parent rock
2. Relief
3. Climate

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The soil is a living system. It takes millions of years to form soil up to a few cm in depth. Relief, parent rock or bed rock, climate, vegetation and other forms of life and time are important factors in the formation of soil.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) "These soils are covered the most of northern plains and formed by three rivers" - related to which of the following?

- a) Black soils
- b) Red soils
- c) Alluvial soils
- d) Montane soils

ANS: C

Explanation: Alluvial Soils: This is the most widely spread and important soil. In fact, the entire northern plains are made of alluvial soil.

These have been deposited by three important Himalayan river systems- the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) The terms "Duars and Chos" associated with which of the following?

- a) Black soils
- b) Red soils
- c) Alluvial soils
- d) Montane soils

ANS: C

Explanation: The alluvial soil consists of various proportions of sand, silt and clay. As we move inland towards the river valleys, soil particles appear somewhat bigger in size.

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- In the upper reaches of the river valley i.e. near the place of the break of slope, the soils are coarse.
- Such soils are more common in piedmont plains such as Duars, Chos and Terai.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following minerals are found in alluvial soils?

1. Potash
2. Lime
3. Phosphor

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Alluvial soils as a whole are very fertile. Mostly these soils contain adequate proportion of potash, phosphoric acid and lime which are ideal for the growth of sugarcane, paddy, wheat and other cereal and pulse crops

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following soil predominantly found in the Deccan trap area?

- A. Black soils
- B. Red soils
- C. Alluvial soils
- D. Montane soils

ANS: A

Explanation: Black Soil: These soils are black in colour and are also known as regur soils.

- Black soil is ideal for growing cotton and is also known as black cotton soil.
- It is believed that climatic condition along with the parent rock material is the important factors for the formation of black soil.
- This type of soil is typical of the Deccan trap (Basalt) region spread over northwest Deccan plateau and is made up of lava flows.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following minerals are found in black soils?

1. Phosphor
2. Lime
3. Magnesium

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The black soils are made up of extremely fine i.e. clayey material. They are well-known for their capacity to hold moisture.

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- In addition, they are rich in soil nutrients, such as calcium carbonate, magnesium, potash and lime.
- These soils are generally poor in phosphoric contents.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) “These soils develops in areas with high temperature, heavy rainfall and formed due to intense leaching” – related to which of the following?

- a) Black soils
- b) Red soils
- c) Alluvial soils
- d) Laterite soils

ANS: D

Explanation: Laterite has been derived from the Latin word ‘later’ which means brick.

- The laterite soil develops in areas with high temperature and heavy rainfall.
- This is the result of intense leaching due to heavy rain.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) In which of the following states red laterite soils are found?

1. Kerala
2. Tamil Nadu
3. Andhra Pradesh

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Red laterite soils in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala are more suitable for crops like cashew nut.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following is/are features/characteristics of arid soils?

1. They are generally sandy in texture and saline in nature.
2. The lower horizons of the soil are occupied by Kankar.
3. Arid soils range from red to brown in colour.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Arid soils range from red to brown in colour. They are generally sandy in texture and saline in nature.

- In some areas the salt content is very high and common salt is obtained by evaporating the water.

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- Due to the dry climate, high temperature, evaporation is faster and the soil lacks humus and moisture.
- The lower horizons of the soil are occupied by Kankar because of the increasing calcium content downwards.
- The Kankar layer formations in the bottom horizons restrict the infiltration of water.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau.
2. Yellow soils are also found in parts of Odisha and Chattisgarh and in the southern parts of the middle Ganga plain.

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: Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau.

- Along the piedmont zone of the Western Ghat, long stretch of area is occupied by red loamy soil.
- Yellow and red soils are also found in parts of Odisha and Chattisgarh and in the southern parts of the middle Ganga plain.
- The soil develops a reddish colour due to a wide diffusion of iron in crystalline and metamorphic rocks. It looks yellow when it occurs in a hydrated form.
- The fine-grained red and yellow soils are normally fertile, whereas coarse-grained soils found in dry upland areas are poor in fertility. They are generally poor in nitrogen, phosphorous and humus.

Source: NCERT

Indian Flora and Fauna

Q.1) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Himalayan Heights – temperate vegetation
2. Western Ghats – rain forests
3. Deltaic regions – mangroves

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India is a land of great variety of natural vegetation. Himalayan heights are marked with temperate vegetation;

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- The Western Ghats and the Andaman Nicobar Islands have tropical rain forests; the deltaic regions have tropical forests and mangroves;
- The desert and semi desert areas of Rajasthan are known for cacti, a wide variety of bushes and thorny vegetation.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the type of forests are found in India?

1. Tropical evergreen
2. Tropical thorn
3. Littoral

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: On the basis of certain common features such as predominant vegetation type and climatic regions, Indian forests can be divided into the following groups: Types of Forests

- (i) Tropical Evergreen and Semi Evergreen forests
- (ii) Tropical Deciduous forests
- (iii) Tropical Thorn forests
- (iv) Montane forests
- (v) Littoral and Swamp forests.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Tropical Evergreen?

1. They are found in warm and humid areas with an annual precipitation of over 200 cm.
2. They are well stratified with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers.
3. There is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves, flowering and fruition.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tropical Evergreen and Semi Evergreen Forests: These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats, hills of the northeastern region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- They are found in warm and humid areas with an annual precipitation of over 200 cm and mean annual temperature above 22°C.
- Tropical evergreen forests are well stratified, with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers, with short structured trees followed by tall variety of trees.
- In these forests, trees reach great heights up to 60 m or above. There is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves, flowering and fruition.

Source: NCERT

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Q.4) Which of the following floral species are found in semi evergreen forests?

1. White Cedar
2. Hollock
3. Kail

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The semi evergreen forests are found in the less rainy parts of these regions.

- Such forests have a mixture of evergreen and moist deciduous trees.
- The under growing climbers provide an evergreen character to these forests.
- Main species are white cedar, hollock and kail.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Tropical Deciduous Forests”:

1. These are the most widespread forests in India.
2. They spread over regions which receive rainfall between 70 – 200 cm.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tropical Deciduous Forests: These are the most widespread forests in India. They are also called the monsoon forests. They spread over regions which receive rainfall between 70-200 cm.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following species are found in “Moist deciduous forests”?

1. Teak
2. Sandalwood
3. Hurra

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Moist deciduous forests are more pronounced in the regions which record rainfall between 100-200 cm.

- These forests are found in the northeastern states along the foothills of Himalayas, eastern slopes of the Western Ghats and Odisha.

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- Teak, sal, shisham, hurra, mahua, amla, semul, kusum, and sandalwood etc. are the main species of these forests.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following species is not found in dry deciduous forest?

- a) Palas
- b) Tendu
- c) Ebony
- d) Axlewood

ANS: C

Explanation: Dry deciduous forest covers vast areas of the country, where rainfall ranges between 70 -100 cm.

- On the wetter margins, it has a transition to the moist deciduous, while on the drier margins to thorn forests.
- As the dry season begins, the trees shed their leaves completely and the forest appears like vast grassland with naked trees all around.
- Tendu, palas, amaltas, bel, khair, axlewood, etc. are the common trees of these forests.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) In which of the following states tropical thorn forests found?

1. Punjab
2. Haryana
3. Gujarat

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Tropical thorn forests occur in the areas which receive rainfall less than 50 cm.

- These consist of a variety of grasses and shrubs.
- It includes semi-arid areas of south west Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The Himalayan ranges show a succession of vegetation from the tropical to the tundra.
2. Deciduous type of forests is found in the foothills of the Himalayas.

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: In mountainous areas, the decrease in temperature with increasing altitude leads to a corresponding change in natural vegetation.

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- Mountain forests can be classified into two types, the northern mountain forests and the southern mountain forests.
- The Himalayan ranges show a succession of vegetation from the tropical to the tundra, which change in with the altitude.
- Deciduous forests are found in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following places mangrove forests found in India?

1. Sunderbans
2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
3. Godavari

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: In India, the mangrove forests spread over 6,740 sq. km which is 7 per cent of the world's mangrove forests.

- They are highly developed in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Sunderbans of West Bengal.
- Other areas of significance are the Mahanadi, the Godavari and the Krishna deltas.
- These forests too, are being encroached upon, and hence, need conservation.

Source: NCERT

Economic Geography of the World

Q.1) Which of the following activities come under primary sector?

1. Utilization of building materials
2. Utilization of vegetation
3. Utilization of water

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Primary activities are directly dependent on environment as these refer to utilization of earth's resources such as land, water, vegetation, building materials and minerals.

Source: NCERT

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Q.2) Which of the following is/are the characteristics of hunting and gathering?

1. It requires a small amount of capital investment.
2. It operates at very low level of technology.
3. It produces surplus yield.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Gathering is practiced in regions with harsh climatic conditions. It often involves primitive societies, who extract both plants and animals to satisfy their needs for food, shelter and clothing.

- This type of activity requires a small amount of capital investment and operates at very low level of technology.
- The yield per person is very low and little or no surplus is produced.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) In which of the following areas gathering activity practiced?

1. Northern Canada
2. Southern Chile
3. Northern fringe of Australia

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Gathering is practiced in:

- (i) high latitude zones which include northern Canada, northern Eurasia and southern Chile;
- (ii) Low latitude zones such as the Amazon Basin, tropical Africa, Northern fringe of Australia and the interior parts of Southeast Asia.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following activities come under secondary sector?

1. Manufacturing
2. Processing
3. Infrastructure

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Secondary activities add value to natural resources by transforming raw materials into valuable products.

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- Cotton in the boll has limited use but after it is transformed into yarn, becomes more valuable and can be used for making clothes.
- Iron ore, cannot be used; directly from the mines, but after being converted into steel it gets its value and can be used for making many valuable machines, tools, etc.
- The same is true of most of the materials from the farm, forest, mine and the sea.
- Secondary activities, therefore, are concerned with manufacturing, processing and construction (infrastructure) industries.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following is/are characteristics of manufacturing activity?

1. application of power
2. mass production of identical products
3. specialized labor

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Manufacturing involves a full array of production from handicrafts to molding iron and steel and stamping out plastic toys to assembling delicate computer components or space vehicles.

In each of these processes, the common characteristics are the application of power, mass production of identical products and specialized labor in factory settings for the production of standardized commodities.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding "Foot Loose Industries":

1. They can be located in a wide variety of places.
2. They are not dependent on any specific raw materials.

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: Foot loose industries can be located in a wide variety of places.

- They are not dependent on any specific raw material, weight losing or otherwise.
- They largely depend on component parts which can be obtained anywhere.
- They produce in small quantity and also employ a small labor force.
- These are generally not polluting industries. The important factor in their location is accessibility by road network.

Source: NCERT

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Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “High Technology Industry”:

1. It has large share of white collar workforce.
2. It is based upon intensive research and development activities.

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: High technology, or simply high-tech, is the latest generation of manufacturing activities.

- It is best understood as the application of intensive research and development (R and D) efforts leading to the manufacture of products of an advanced scientific and engineering character.
- Professional (white collar) workers make up a large share of the total workforce.
- These highly skilled specialists greatly outnumber the actual production (blue collar) workers.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Tertiary activities are directly involved in the processing of physical raw materials.
2. The trade, transport, communication and services are some of the tertiary activities.

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: Tertiary activities, therefore, involve the commercial output of services rather than the production of tangible goods.

- They are not directly involved in the processing of physical raw materials.
- Thus, trade, transport, communication and services are some of the tertiary activities.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following is/are tourist destinations in India?

1. Goa
2. Coorg
3. Madikere

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Culture and Economy: These attract tourists with a penchant for experiencing ethnic and local customs.

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- Besides, if a region provides for the needs of tourists at a cheap cost, it is likely to become very popular.
- Home-stay has emerged as a profitable business such as heritage homes in Goa, Madikere and Coorg in Karnataka.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following activities come under the quinary sector?

1. Creation of new ideas
2. Data interpretation
3. Evaluation of new technologies

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Quinary activities are services that focus on the creation, re-arrangement and interpretation of new and existing ideas; data interpretation and the use and evaluation of new technologies.

- Often referred to as 'gold collar' professions, they represent another subdivision of the tertiary sector representing special and highly paid skills of senior business executives, government officials, research scientists, financial and legal consultants, etc.
- Their importance in the structure of advanced economies far outweighs their numbers.

Source: NCERT

Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding "retreating southwest monsoon":

1. This season is marked by skies with rain bearing nimbus clouds and fall in temperature.
2. A bulk of the rainfall of the coromondal coast is derived from this season.

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

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The retreating southwest monsoon season is marked by clear skies and rise in temperature. The land is still moist.

- Owing to the conditions of high temperature and humidity, the weather becomes rather oppressive. This is commonly known as the 'October heat'.
- The widespread rain in this season is associated with the passage of cyclonic depressions which originate over the Andaman Sea and manage to cross the eastern coast of the southern Peninsula. These tropical cyclones are very destructive.
- A bulk of the rainfall of the coromondal coast is derived from these depressions and cyclones. Such cyclonic storms are less frequent in the Arabian Sea.

Source: NCERT

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Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “loo”:

1. It is a cold, moist and soothing wind.
2. It flows from west to east side.

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: Loo: Hot, dry and oppressing winds blowing in the Northern plains from Punjab to Bihar with higher intensity between Delhi and Patna.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following rivers rises or originates nearby Rohtang pass?

1. Ravi
2. Beas
3. Sutluj

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Ravi is another important tributary of the Indus. It rises west of the Rohtang pass in the Kullu hills of Himachal Pradesh and flows through the Chamba valley of the state.

- Before entering Pakistan and joining the Chenab near Sarai Sidhu, it drains the area lying between the southeastern part of the Pir Panjal and the Dhauladhar ranges.
- The Beas is another important tributary of the Indus, originating from the Beas Kund near the Rohtang Pass at an elevation of 4,000 m above the mean sea level.
- The river flows through the Kullu valley and forms gorges at Kati and Largi in the Dhauladhar range. It enters the Punjab plains where it meets the Satluj near Harike.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Arrange the following from ascending to descending order of river Ganga length flows through states:

1. Uttar Pradesh
2. West Bengal
3. Bihar

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 – 3 – 2
- b) 1 – 2 – 3
- c) 2 – 1 – 3
- d) 3 – 2 – 1

ANS: B

Explanation: The River Ganga has a length of 2,525 km. It is shared by Uttarakhand (110 km) and Uttar Pradesh (1,450 km), Bihar (445 km) and West Bengal (520 km).

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Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following is not a left bank tributary of river Ganga?

- a) Mahananda
- b) Gandak
- c) Kosi
- d) Son

ANS: D

Explanation: The Ganga river system is the largest in India having a number of perennial and non-perennial rivers originating in the Himalayas in the north and the Peninsula in the south, respectively.

The Son is its major right bank tributary. The important left bank tributaries are the Ramganga, the Gomati, the Ghaghara, the Gandak, the Kosi and the Mahananda.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following river is also called as “Siang or Dihang”?

- a) Ganga
- b) Yamuna
- c) Indus
- d) Brahmaputra

ANS: D

Explanation: The Brahmaputra, one of the largest rivers of the world, has its origin in the Chemayungdung glacier of the Kailash range near the Mansarovar Lake.

It emerges as a turbulent and dynamic river after carving out a deep gorge in the Central Himalayas near Namcha Barwa (7,755 m). The river emerges from the foothills under the name of Siang or Dihang.

Source: NCERT

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

1. It has no antecedent river as its tributary.
2. It enters into Bangladesh near Dhubri and flows southward.

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 Brahmaputra receives numerous tributaries in its 750 km long journey through the Assam valley.

- Its major left bank tributaries are the Burhi Dihing and Dhansari (South) whereas the important right bank tributaries are the Subansiri, Kameng, Manas and Sankosh.
- The Subansiri which has its origin in Tibet is an antecedent river. The Brahmaputra enters into Bangladesh near Dhubri and flows southward.

Source: NCERT

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Q.8) Which of the following is/are reasons for declining wildlife in India?

1. Incidence of forest fire.
2. Hunting was taken up as a sport by the elite.
3. Grazing by domestic cattle

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Some of the important reasons of the declining of wildlife are as follows:

- (i) Industrial and technological advancement brought about a rapid increase in the exploitation of forest resources.
- (ii) More and more lands were cleared for agriculture, human settlement, roads, mining, reservoirs, etc.
- (iii) Pressure on forests mounted due to lopping for fodder and fuel wood and removal of small timber by the local people.
- (iv) Grazing by domestic cattle caused an adverse effect on wildlife and its habitat.
- (v) Hunting was taken up as a sport by the elite and hundreds of wild animals were killed in a single hunt. Now commercial poaching is rampant.
- (vi) Incidence of forest fire.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)":

1. It is an international inter-governmental treaty.
2. It aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

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: CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments.

- It aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
- Roughly 5,000 species of animals and 28,000 species of plants are protected. Bears, dolphins, cacti, corals, orchids and aloes are some examples.

Source: NCERT

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Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding retail trade:

1. Consumer cooperatives were the first of the large-scale innovations in retailing.
2. Departmental stores delegate the responsibility and authority to departmental heads for purchasing of commodities and for overseeing the sale in different sections of the stores.

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: Retail Trading: This is the business activity concerned with the sale of goods directly to the consumers.

- Most of the retail trading takes place in fixed establishments or stores solely devoted to selling.
- Street peddling, handcarts, trucks, door-to-door, mail-order, telephone, automatic vending machines and internet are examples of non-store retail trading.
- Consumer cooperatives were the first of the large-scale innovations in retailing.
- Departmental stores delegate the responsibility and authority to departmental heads for purchasing of commodities and for overseeing the sale in different sections of the stores.
- Chain stores are able to purchase merchandise most economically, often going so far as to direct the goods to be manufactured to their specification.
- They employ highly skilled specialists in many executive tasks. They have the ability to experiment in one store and apply the results to many.

Source: NCERT