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Prelims Marathon

3rd week August, 2024

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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INDEX

Bilateral Relations.....	2
Regional and global groupings.....	5
Policies and International Organizations	10
Schemes - I.....	14
Schemes - II.....	17



Bilateral Relations

Q.1) The “Oslo Guidelines” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Disaster Relief
- b) Prisoners of War
- c) Chemical weapons
- d) Nuclear weapons

ANS: A

Explanation: The Use of Foreign Military and Civil Defense Assets in Disaster Relief - “Oslo Guidelines” sets the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance for UN humanitarian agencies.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following country is the largest source of remittances to India?

- a) UK
- b) UAE
- c) USA
- d) Singapore

ANS: C

Explanation: India received an estimated \$125 billion in remittances in 2023. According to UN, around 18 million Indians now live overseas.

- Source Countries: Remittances from the US, UK, and Singapore (High-skilled migrants) collectively account for 36 % of total remittances.
- UAE is the second-largest source of remittances to India after the US, accounting for 18% of the total.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The famous “Duqm Port” is often seen in news related to?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Among the major ports on the Indian Oceans situated in the Indian Ocean Region, the port of Duqm situated in Oman has acquired strategic connotations.

- The Port of Duqm is part of the ambitious SEZAD project (Special Economic Zone Authority of Duqm) in the Sultanate of Oman.
- Established with the objective of diversifying the economy, the port is a Greenfield project and is fast emerging as a hub of economic activity due to its central location.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. India is 3rd largest consumer of crude oil.
2. India is world's 4th largest refiner of crude oil.

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: D

Explanation: India is 3rd largest consumer of oil after the USA and China (2021).

- Major suppliers of Crude oil to India: Russia, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, UAE.
- India is world's 4th largest refiner, 6th largest importer of petroleum products, and 7th largest exporter of petroleum products.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following initiatives launched by India to reduce oil imports?

1. Strategic Petroleum Reserves Programme
2. Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme
3. National Policy on Biofuel

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India's Initiative for reducing oil imports:

- Strategic Petroleum Reserves Programme (SPRs): to maintain energy security and to mitigate supply disruptions E.g. Chandikhol (Odisha), Padur (Karnataka)
- Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme: to reduce import dependence on fuel
- National Policy on Biofuel (2018): target of 20% blending of bio-ethanol in petrol by 2025-26
- Discovered Small Field (DSF) Policy: to monetizing hydrocarbon resources
- Reforms in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy: for enhancing domestic exploration and production of Oil & Gas
- Functional freedom to National Oil Companies and promotion of private sector participation: by streamlining approval processes through electronic single window mechanism

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following institution mediated the Indus Water Treaty between India and Pakistan?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) was signed by India and Pakistan (in 1960) and brokered by the World Bank (also a signatory).

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.7) Which of the following treaties is/are signed between India and Nepal?

1. Gandak agreement
2. Kosi agreement
3. Teesta agreement

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Koshi Agreement (1954), Gandak Agreement (1959), Tanakpur Barrage Agreement (1991) and Mahakali Treaty 1996: These treaties have been signed between India and Nepal.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The famous "Wadge Bank" is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Fishing grounds
- b) Mangroves
- c) Coral reefs
- d) Petroleum reserves

ANS: A

Explanation: Wadge Bank is one of the world's richest fishing grounds and in a much more strategic part of the sea than Katchatheevu Island.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation (sasec)":

1. It was established in 1992.
2. Asian Development Bank serves as secretariat to sasec.

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: SASEC was established in 2001. ADB serves as secretariat.

- It aims to boost intraregional trade and cooperation in South Asia.
- Members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following country is not part of “Abraham Accords”?

- a) Iran
- b) Israel
- c) Morocco
- d) Sudan

ANS: A

Explanation: Abraham accords refer to the collective agreement between the United States (US), the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Israel (signed in September 2020).

The Accords was later extended to Sudan, Bahrain and Morocco.

Source: FORUMIAS

Regional and global groupings

Q.1) The “Nagorno-Karabakh” conflict is between which of the following countries?

- a) Azerbaijan and Armenia
- b) Armenia and Iran
- c) Azerbaijan and Iran
- d) Iran and Russia

ANS: A

Explanation: The conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh is called one of the “frozen conflicts” of the world.

- This conflict erupted on September 19, when Azerbaijan launched an offensive and within 24 hours, declared victory over the separatist province of Nagorno-Karabakh.
- Authorities of the province have now said the ethnic Armenian enclave would dissolve on January 1, 2024.



Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “G – 20”:

1. It was formed after sub – prime lending crisis.
2. The 2023 summit was held in Brazil.

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 G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental organization comprising 19 countries and the European Union.

- It works to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development.
- The G20 is composed of most of the world’s largest economies. The G20 was founded in 1999 in response to several world economic crises and in its 2009 summit; the G20 declared itself the primary venue for international economic and financial cooperation.
- It was known as G7 at the very first time when it was established. At the beginning of the G20 these summits were held twice a year but in the year 2011, when France chaired and hosted the meeting of the G20, then the summits have been held only one in the year.
- The 2023 summit was held in India.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following country is not part of “India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC)”?

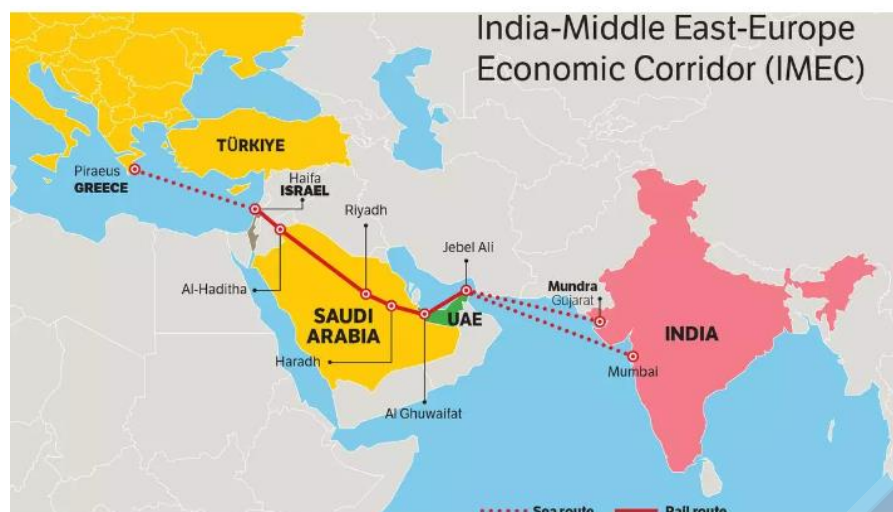
- a) Italy
- b) India
- c) Iran
- d) UAE

ANS: C

Explanation: At the G20 Summit, the US joined by the leaders of India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, France, Germany, Italy, and the European Commission, unveiled the multi-modal India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC).

- IMEC includes rail, ship-to-rail, and road routes across two corridors: East corridor links India to Arabian Gulf; northern connects Gulf to Europe.
- Its aim is to provide a reliable and cost-effective transit network from, and between India, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Europe.
- The Participants will also lay cable for electricity, digital connectivity and pipes for clean hydrogen export.

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Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following regional groupings are permanent members of “G – 20”?

1. European Union
2. African Union
3. SAARC

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The African Union became a full member of the G-20 on September 9, 2023.

- Welcoming the African Union’s Chairperson Azaly Assoumani to the table of the G-20 leaders, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the inclusion of the African bloc will enhance the effectiveness of the G-20.
- After the EU, African Union is the second regional bloc to join the G20.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following members is not part of “Global Biofuel Alliance”?

1. India
2. Bangladesh
3. Brazil

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Prime Minister of India along with the leaders of Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE, launched the Global Biofuel Alliance in 2023 on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi.

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Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following countries are new full time permanent members of BRICS?

1. Japan
2. Iran
3. Israel

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Recently, five new members namely Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates have joined BRICS as full-time permanent members.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following are member participants of “Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)”?

1. India
2. Indonesia
3. Saudi Arabia

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The IPEF was launched in May 2022 and currently includes 14 partners - Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, United States and Vietnam.

It provides a platform for countries in the region to collaborate on advancing resilient, sustainable, and inclusive economic growth, and aims to contribute to cooperation, stability and prosperity in the region.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following country recently joined the “Shanghai Cooperation Organization” as permanent member?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Armenia
- c) Belarus
- d) Azerbaijan

ANS: C

Explanation: The member countries of Shanghai Cooperation Organization are India, Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus.

- Belarus joined SCO as the 10th member on 4th July 2024. Afghanistan and Mongolia hold Observer Status.

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

- Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bahrain, Cambodia, Egypt, Kuwait, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Turkey and UAE have a dialogue partner status.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are criteria for “International Energy Agency (IEA)” membership?

1. Must be a member country of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
2. A demand restraint program to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%.
3. Legislation and measures to ensure that all oil companies under its jurisdiction report information upon request.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Criteria for IEA membership:

- Must be a member country of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- Crude oil and/or product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year’s net imports.
- India has strategic oil reserves of 9.5 days of its needs and combined with storage at refineries and depots, it is equal to the 66-day requirement.
- A demand restraint program to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%.
- Legislation and measures to ensure that all oil companies under its jurisdiction report information upon request.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The famous “Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary” is often seen in news located at?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary is one of the largest inland freshwater lakes in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- It provides important stopover and foraging ground for birds migrating along the Central Asian Flyway.
- Some 10,000 individuals of 14 colonial water bird species have been found nesting here.

Source: FORUMIAS

Policies and International Organizations

Q.1) Which of the following is/are priority areas funded by “New Development Bank”?

1. Infrastructure
2. Balance – of – Payment crisis
3. Sustainable development

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: At NDB, we priorities infrastructure and sustainable development projects that propel economic growth and improve the lives of people in our member countries.

- Everything we do is aimed at shaping a more sustainable future. Our work is centered on delivering the development impact in a fast, flexible and efficient manner.
- To catalyze the sustainable and inclusive development that we envisage, we are always listening to, learning from and collaborating with our member countries, international organizations, development finance institutions, local communities, civil society and other development partners.

Source: <https://www.ndb.int/about-ndb/focus-areas/>

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Asian Development Bank”:

1. It allows only Asian region countries only.
2. It was modeled closely on the IMF and it lends short term balance of payment crisis only.

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: Asian Development Bank was conceived as a financial institution that would be Asian in character and foster economic growth and cooperation in one of the poorest regions in the world.

- ADB now has 68 members of which 49 from within Asia and Pacific while remaining 19 from outside.
- The bank admits member countries from Asian region and non-regional developed countries.
- ADB was modeled closely on the World Bank and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with members' capital subscriptions.
- ADB assists its members, and partners, by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.3) Which of the following rights are provided to coastal nations by UNCLOS in “Exclusive economic zone (EEZ)”?

1. Exploration
2. Exploitation
3. Conservation

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Exclusive economic zone (EEZ) -This extends outwards to 200 nautical miles from the baseline. In EEZ, the coastal nations have sovereign rights for exploration, exploiting, conserving and managing all the natural resources therein.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “Neptune Declaration” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Welfare of seafarers
- b) Space debris
- c) International Space Station
- d) Telescope development

ANS: A

Explanation: Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change was unveiled at the Davos summit 2021.

- It aims to promote and protect the welfare of seafarers. It was launched in response to the crew change crisis raised from corona virus-related travel bans.
- Signed by more than 850 organizations, it outlines the main actions that are required to be taken in order to resolve the crew change crisis.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is not a dialogue partner “Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)”?

- a) France
- b) Japan
- c) Italy
- d) China

ANS: A

Explanation: Dialogue Partners – Italy, Japan, Germany, China, USA, UK, Russia, Turkey, Korea and Egypt. Saudi Arabia has been admitted as the 11th Dialogue Partner in IORA in 2023.

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024



Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The term “RIMES” associated with which of the following?

- a) Hazards
- b) Primary health care
- c) Missile development
- d) Green energy

ANS: A

Explanation: Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) is an intergovernmental institution registered with UN, for the generation and application of early warning information.

Established in 2009 by the efforts of countries in Africa and Asia, aftermath the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The Seabed 2030 project was launched by which of the following?

- a) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- b) United Nations (UN) Ocean Conference
- c) Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- d) Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

ANS: B

Explanation: Seabed 2030 project was launched at the United Nations (UN) Ocean Conference in 2017.

- It is a collaborative project between the Nippon Foundation of Japan and the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO).
- It aims to bring together all available bathymetric data (depth and shape of the ocean floor) to create a map of the world ocean floor by 2030 and make it available to all.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.8) Which of the following countries are members of “Wassenaar Arrangement”?

1. China
2. India
3. Iran

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Participating States of the Wassenaar Arrangement are:

- Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.
- The Wassenaar Arrangement has been established in order to contribute to regional and international security and stability, by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilising accumulations.
- Participating States seek, through their national policies, to ensure that transfers of these items do not contribute to the development or enhancement of military capabilities which undermine these goals, and are not diverted to support such capabilities.
- The aim is also to prevent the acquisition of these items by terrorists.

Source: <https://www.wassenaar.org/about-us/>

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Nuclear Suppliers Group”:

1. It is a legally binding export control regime.
2. It is a group of nuclear supplier countries that seeks to contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

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: Originally called “London Club”, it was founded in response to the Indian nuclear test in 1974.

- It is a voluntary, non-legally binding export control regime.
- It is a group of nuclear supplier countries that seeks to contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons through the implementation of two sets of Guidelines for nuclear exports and nuclear-related exports.
- The NSG Guidelines were published in 1978 by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to ensure that nuclear trade for peaceful purposes does not contribute to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.10) The “Tax Inspectors Without Borders” is a joint initiative of Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and?

- a) World Bank
- b) Financial Action Task Force
- c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- d) World Economic Forum

ANS: C

Explanation: TIWB is joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to strengthen developing countries' auditing capacity and multinationals' compliance.

Source: FORUMIAS

Schemes - I

Q.1) The famous “NAMASTE Scheme” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Sanitation
- b) Renewable energy
- c) Sustainable farming
- d) Transgender scheme

ANS: A

Explanation: National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) Scheme aims at providing alternative livelihoods support and entitlements to sanitation workers.

- NAMASTE's earlier name is “Self-Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” (SRMS) which is being implemented since 2007.
- It is a joint initiative of - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)”:

1. It provides physical aids and assisted-living devices for all senior citizens.
2. The expenditure for this scheme is being met by the petrol cess.

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: C

Explanation: Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) provides physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens belonging to Below Poverty Line.

- It is a Central Sector Scheme. The expenditure for this scheme is being met from the "Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund".
- It is being implemented by the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO), a PSU under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Yojana”:

1. It is implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. No age ceiling for selecting the beneficiaries.

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: PM-DAKSH Yojana empowers millions from India's marginalized communities.

- Its aim is to enhance competency level of the target groups to make them employable both in self-employment and wage-employment for their socio-economic development.
- It is implemented by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. Age criterion for the scheme is 18-45 years.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following scheme is not part of “Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS)”?

- a) Top Class Education for SCs
- b) Top Class Education for STs
- c) Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs
- d) National Fellowship for SCs

ANS: B

Explanation: The umbrella scheme of "SHREYAS" comprises 4 central sector sub- schemes namely "Top Class Education for SCs", "Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs", "National Overseas Scheme for SCs" and "National Fellowship for SCs".

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1989083>

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “New Swarnima Scheme”:

1. It is a term loan scheme for sc, st and obc women.
2. Maximum loan amount under the scheme is 10 lakhs.

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: New Swarnima Scheme its aim is to inculcate the spirit of self-dependence among the women of Backward Classes under term loan.

- Eligibility - Women belonging to Backward Classes having annual family income less than Rs.3 lakh.
- Maximum Loan Amount - Rs. 2 Lakh (per beneficiary).

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Scheme on minor rape survivors”:

1. It is not mandatory for the girl child victim to have a copy of a first information report (FIR) to avail benefits under the scheme.
2. It aims to support minor victims under aegis of the Nirbhaya scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Scheme on minor rape survivors: The scheme will provide shelter, food, safe transportation for court hearings, and legal aid for rape/gang rape survivors or minor girls who get pregnant.

- Under the scheme, immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including access to education, police assistance, maternity, neonatal and infant care, psychological and mental counseling, legal support and insurance cover will be provided.
- The benefits will be provided to girl child victim and her newborn under one roof.
- It will not be mandatory for the girl child victim to have a copy of a first information report (FIR) to avail benefits under the scheme.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following organization has entrusted to develop a national portal Track-Child?

- a) Wipro
- b) TCS
- c) IBM
- d) National Informatics Centre (NIC)

ANS: D

Explanation: Track-Child Portal: A scheme that enables tracking of the missing and found children. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been entrusted to develop a national portal Track-Child.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The famous “Dhebar commission” related to which of the following?

- a) Tribal welfare
- b) Child welfare
- c) Food for work programme
- d) MGNREGS

ANS: A

Explanation: Dhebar commission- In 1973, it created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.9) Which of the following institution funding the “Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Program”?

- a) Asian Development Programme
- b) World Bank
- c) New Development Bank
- d) UNDP

ANS: B

Explanation: Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Program: Ministry of Education and World Bank organized a workshop on School-to-Work Transition under STARS Program.

- It is an education reform initiative in India which is financially aided by the World Bank.
- It aims to improve the assessment system in schools to ensure equal education for all.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following institution helped the ministry of education to launch “SATHEE (Self-Assessment Test and Help for Entrance Exams)”?

- a) IIT – Madras
- b) IIT – Mumbai
- c) IIT – Delhi
- d) IIT – Kanpur

ANS: D

Explanation: SATHEE (Self-Assessment Test and Help for Entrance Exams) is an open learning platform to help students prepare for competitive exams at no cost.

- It has been launched by the Ministry of Education and IIT-Kanpur.
- The preparation material will be available in English, Hindi and other regional languages.

Source: FORUMIAS

Schemes - II

Q.1) Which of the following is not a priority area of Yuva Sangam under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat campaign?

- a) Paryatan
- b) Parampara
- c) Prakriti
- d) Prodyogik

ANS: C

Explanation: Ministry of Education has launched the 3rd phase of Yuva Sangam under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat campaign.

- The students within the age group of 18 to 30 will get multi-dimensional exposure in 5 broad areas.
- Paryatan (tourism), Parampara (traditions), Pragati (development), Prodyogik (technology) and Paraspar sampark (people-to-people connect) in the host States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.2) The famous “APAAR scheme” is related to which of the following?

- a) Education
- b) Health
- c) Agriculture
- d) Defense

ANS: A

Explanation: One Nation One Student ID (APAAR) – Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry is a special ID system for all students in India, starting from childhood.

- Each student would get a lifelong APAAR ID. Registration is voluntary, not mandatory.
- A consent form needs to be signed by the student or parents in case of minors regarding the usage of their Aadhaar data which will be used to verify the name and date of birth.
- Objective of the APAAR is - ‘One nation, One Student ID’ stems from the NEP 2020 to track academic progress from preprimary to higher education.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following institutions is/are covered under “Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN)”?

- 1. IIT’s
- 2. IIM’s
- 3. IIIT’s

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) was launched in 2015-16 by Ministry of Education (MoE).

- Objectives of GIAN are to increase the footfalls of international faculty in the Indian academic institutes and to create avenue for possible collaborative research.
- Is to develop high quality course material in niche areas, both through video and print mediums.
- GIAN Implementation Committee – It is headed by Secretary (HE), MoE to finalize and approve courses and also decide on budget allocation.
- Coverage – Initially, it will include all IITs, IIMs, Central Universities, IISc Bangalore, IISERs, NITs and IIITs subsequently cover good State Universities.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Ayushman Bharat Scheme”:

1. It is the world’s largest health assurance scheme.
2. Its launch was recommended by NITI Aayog.

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: Ayushman Bharat Scheme is the world’s largest health assurance scheme.

- It was recommended by the National Health Policy, 2017.
- Its aim is to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which encompasses promotive, preventive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative care.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following institution is not part of “MedTech Mitra initiative”?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- c) Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)
- d) All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)

ANS: D

Explanation: MedTech Mitra is a platform that will help the young talents of the country by holding their hands to give final shape to their research and help them in getting regulatory approval.

- It is an initiative of NITI Aayog, Indian Council of Medical Research in partnership with Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
- The platform brings together various stakeholders in the field of medical technology to enhance cooperation among various stakeholders and collaborate with them to promote progress in the health sector.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The famous “YANTRA initiative” associated with which of the following sector?

- a) Electronics
- b) Defense
- c) Ayush
- d) Automobile

ANS: C

Explanation: Yoga and Ayurveda in Neurosciences, Therapeutics and Research Approaches (YANTRA) is an international conference on Integrative Medicine with a theme on models of integration in healthcare.

It was held at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) in association with Jignasa, which provides a common platform to address all aspects related to AYUSH systems.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.7) Which of the following ministry launched the India's first "Indian Food and Wood certification scheme"?

- a) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- b) Ministry of Agriculture
- c) Ministry of Consumer affairs
- d) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

ANS: D

Explanation: MoEFCC launched the India's first "Indian Food and Wood certification scheme".

- Its aim is to offer voluntary 3rd party certification to promote sustainable forest management and agro-forestry in the country.
- To incentivize entities like State forest departments, individual farmers, or Farmer Producer Organizations, farm forestry and other wood-based industries in the value chain.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Under project cheetah, African cheetahs are translocated from the forests of South Africa and Namibia to?

- a) Bandipur tiger reserve
- b) Sariska national park
- c) Kuno national park
- d) Seshachalam tiger reserve

ANS: C

Explanation: Project Cheetah is India's cheetah relocation programme and the 1st intercontinental reintroduction of a wild, large carnivore species.

Under this project, the African cheetahs are trans-located from the forests of South Africa and Namibia to the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana":

1. It is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of fisheries sector.
2. It is implemented in all States and Union Territories for 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024- 25.

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: D

Explanation: PMMSY - It is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of fisheries sector.

- Its aim is to double the income of fish farmers and fishers in the country and to bring about Blue Revolution.
- The PMMSY is an umbrella scheme with 2 separate Components - Central Sector Scheme (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- PMMSY is implemented in **all** States and Union Territories for 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024- 25

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August [Third Week] 2024

Q.10) Which of the following is not covered under operation greens scheme?

- a) Potato
- b) Tomato
- c) Onion
- d) Chilli

ANS: D

Explanation: In the budget speech of Union Budget 2018-19, a new Scheme “Operation Greens” was announced on the line of “Operation Flood”, with an outlay of Rs.500 crore to promote Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management.

- Accordingly, Ministry of Food Processing has been implementing the scheme for development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain since November 2018.
- The scheme has two components namely (I) Long Term Intervention-Integrated Value Chain Development Projects and (II) Short-Term Interventions.

Source: <https://www.mofpi.gov.in/Schemes/about-operation-greens>