

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

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HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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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 Eastern 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 at least 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:

- (i) Investigating cases of corruption, bribery and misconduct of Central government employees.

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- (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

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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.
- Due to the dry climate, high temperature, evaporation is faster and the soil lacks humus and moisture.

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- 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;

- The Western Ghats and the Andaman Nicobar Islands have tropical rain forests; the deltaic regions have tropical forests and mangroves;

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- 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?

- Palas
- Tendu
- Ebony
- 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?

- Punjab
- Haryana
- Gujarat

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- 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:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- 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. Madikeri

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.

- Besides, if a region provides for the needs of tourists at a cheap cost, it is likely to become very popular.

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- 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

Natural resources and mineral resources and distribution of key natural resources in India

Q.1) Which of the following is/are comes under the common property resources?

1. Private land
2. Un-classed government forests
3. Rivulets

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Land can also be classified on the basis of ownership as – private land and community land.

- Private land is owned by individuals whereas, community land is owned by the community for common uses like collection of fodder, fruits, nuts or medicinal herbs. These community lands are also called common property resources.
- Common property resources include all such resources that are meant for the common use of the villagers.

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- CPRs include all resources like village pastures and grazing grounds, village forests and woodlots, protected and un-classed government forests, waste land, common threshing grounds, watershed drainage, ponds and tanks, rivers, rivulets, water reservoirs, canals and irrigation channels.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct about fresh water resources?

1. It accounts for only about 2.7 per cent of earth's water resources.
2. Ninety percent of earth's fresh water resources occur as ice sheets and glaciers.
3. Only one per cent of freshwater is available and fit for human use.

How many of the statements given above are not correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Water is a vital renewable natural resource. Three-fourth's of the earth's surface is covered with water. It is therefore appropriately called the 'water planet'.

- It was in the primitive oceans that life began almost 3.5 billion years back.
- Even today, the oceans cover two-thirds of the earth's surface and support a rich variety of plant and animal life. The ocean water is however saline and not fit for human consumption.
- Fresh water accounts for only about 2.7 per cent. Nearly 70 per cent of this occurs as ice sheets and glaciers in Antarctica, Greenland and mountain regions. Due to their location they are inaccessible.
- Only 1 per cent of freshwater is available and fit for human use. It is found as ground water, as surface water in rivers and lakes and as water vapour in the atmosphere.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following is/are abrasive minerals?

1. Silica
2. Lime stone
3. Aluminum oxide

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Toothpaste cleans your teeth. Abrasive minerals like silica, limestone, aluminum oxide and various phosphate minerals do the cleaning.

Source: NCERT

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Q.4) Which of the following minerals is/are obtained from veins and lodes?

1. Copper
2. Coal
3. Zinc

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: In igneous and metamorphic rocks minerals may occur in the cracks, crevices, faults or joints.

- The smaller occurrences are called veins and the larger are called lodes. In most cases, they are formed when minerals in liquid/ molten and gaseous forms are forced upward through cavities towards the earth's surface.
- They cool and solidify as they rise. Major metallic minerals like tin, copper, zinc and lead etc. are obtained from veins and lodes.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following mineral is not formed through the process of evaporation?

- a) Bauxite
- b) Gypsum
- c) Potash salt
- d) Sodium salt

ANS: A

Explanation: In sedimentary rocks a number of minerals occur in beds or layers. They have been formed as a result of deposition, accumulation and concentration in horizontal strata.

- Coal and some forms of iron ore have been concentrated as a result of long periods under great heat and pressure.
- Another group of sedimentary minerals include gypsum, potash salt and sodium salt. These are formed as a result of evaporation especially in arid regions.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Hematite is the finest iron ore with a very high content of iron up to 70 per cent.
2. The Kudremukh iron ore mines located in the Western Ghats of Karnataka are a 100 per cent export unit.

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: Iron ore is the basic mineral and the backbone of industrial development. India is endowed with fairly abundant resources of iron ore. India is rich in good quality iron ores.

- Magnetite is the finest iron ore with a very high content of iron up to 70 per cent. It has excellent magnetic qualities, especially valuable in the electrical industry.

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- Hematite ore is the most important industrial iron ore in terms of the quantity used, but has slightly lower iron content than magnetite (50-60 per cent).
- Ballari-Chitradurga-Chikkamagaluru-Tumakuru belt in Karnataka has large reserves of iron ore. The Kudremukh mines located in the Western Ghats of Karnataka are a 100 per cent export unit.
- Kudremukh deposits are known to be one of the largest in the world. The ore is transported as slurry through a pipeline to a port near Mangaluru.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following is/are manufactured by using “manganese”?

1. Steel
2. Bleaching powder
3. Insecticides

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Manganese is mainly used in the manufacturing of steel and ferro-manganese alloy.

- Nearly 10 kg of manganese is required to manufacture one tonne of steel.
- It is also used in manufacturing bleaching powder, insecticides and paints.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) The famous “Balaghat mines in Madhya Pradesh” is related to which of the following?

- a) Gold
- b) Manganese
- c) Mica
- d) Copper

ANS: D

Explanation: The Balaghat mines in Madhya Pradesh, Khetri mines in Rajasthan and Singhbhum district of Jharkhand are leading producers of copper.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Bauxite deposits are formed by the decomposition of a wide variety of rocks rich in aluminium silicates.
2. Madhya Pradesh is the largest bauxite producing state in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Bauxite deposits are formed by the decomposition of a wide variety of rocks rich in aluminium silicates.

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India's bauxite deposits are mainly found in the Amarkantak plateau, Maikal hills and the plateau region of Bilaspur-Katni.

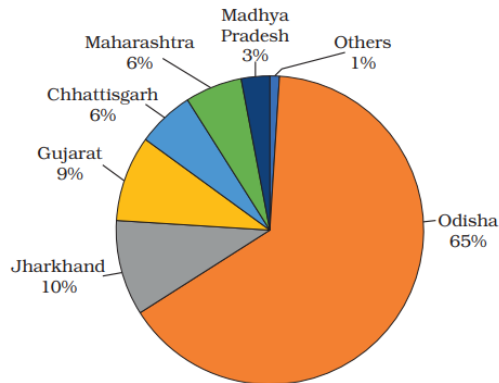


Fig. 5.5: Production of Bauxite showing state-wise share in per cent, 2018–19

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following mineral is made up of a series of plates or leaves?

- a) Bauxite
- b) Mica
- c) Copper
- d) Gold

ANS: B

Explanation: Mica is a mineral made up of a series of plates or leaves. It splits easily into thin sheets.

- These sheets can be so thin that a thousand can be layered into a mica sheet of a few centimeters high. Mica can be clear, black, green, red yellow or brown.
- Due to its excellent di-electric strength, low power loss factor, insulating properties and resistance to high voltage, mica is one of the most indispensable minerals used in electric and electronic industries.

Source: NCERT

World Population, Distribution & Human Development

Q.1) Who among the following quoted that “Asia has many places where people are few and few place where people are very many”?

- a) Thomas Robert Malthus
- b) William Petty
- c) Achille Guillard
- d) George B. Cressey

ANS: D

Explanation: The population of the world is unevenly distributed. The remark of George B. Cressey about the population of Asia that “Asia has many places where people are few and few place where people are very many” is true about the pattern of population distribution of the world also.

Source: NCERT

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Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. 90 per cent of the world population lives in about 1 per cent of earth's land area.
2. The 10 most populous countries of the world contribute about 60 per cent of the world's population.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Patterns of population distribution and density help us to understand the demographic characteristics of any area.

- The term population distribution refers to the way people are spaced over the earth's surface.
- Broadly, 90 per cent of the world population lives in about 10 per cent of its land area.
- The 10 most populous countries of the world contribute about 60 per cent of the world's population.
- Of these 10 countries, 6 are located in Asia.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Arrange the following countries in ascending order of population:

1. Mexico
2. Pakistan
3. Brazil

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: At present, Pakistan population is highest among 3 countries. It is around 23 crores compared to around 21 crores of Brazil, as in 2022. Whereas Mexico's Population is least among all, at 13 crores.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following factors influence the population distribution?

1. Availability of water
2. Climate
3. Soil

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Factors Influencing the Distribution of Population:

Geographical Factors:

- (i) Availability of water: Water is the most important factor for life. So, people prefer to live in areas where fresh water is easily available.

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- (ii) Landforms: People prefer living on flat plains and gentle slopes. This is because such areas are favorable for the production of crops and to build roads and industries.
- (iii) Climate: An extreme climate such as very hot or cold deserts is uncomfortable for human habitation. Areas with a comfortable climate, where there is not much seasonal variation attract more people.
- (iv) Soils: Fertile soils are important for agricultural and allied activities. Therefore, areas which have fertile loamy soils have more people living on them as these can support intensive agriculture.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following countries are noted decline in population growth (2020 - 2025)?

1. Pakistan
2. Japan
3. Bangladesh

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Countries with population decline are:

Country	Rate of Decline
Bulgaria	22.5%
Lithuania	22.1%
Latvia	21.6%
Ukraine	19.5%
Serbia	18.9%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	18.2%
Croatia	18%
Moldova	16.7%
Japan	16.3%

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following is/are push factors for population migration?

1. Better job opportunities
2. Epidemics
3. Political turmoil

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: People migrate for a better economic and social life. There are two sets of factors that influence migration.

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The Push factors make the place of origin seem less attractive for reasons like unemployment, poor living conditions, political turmoil, unpleasant climate, natural disasters, epidemics and socio-economic backwardness.

The Pull factors make the place of destination seem more attractive than the place of origin for reasons like better job opportunities and living conditions, peace and stability, security of life and property and pleasant climate.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following human development approach is associated with “Prof. Amartya Sen”?

- a) Income approach
- b) Welfare approach
- c) Basic needs approach
- d) Capability approach

ANS: D

Explanation: Capability approach: This approach is associated with Prof. Amartya Sen. Building human capabilities in the areas of health, education and access to resources is the key to increasing human development.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following human development approach look at human beings as beneficiaries or targets of all development activities?

- a) Income approach
- b) Welfare approach
- c) Basic needs approach
- d) Capability approach

ANS: B

Explanation: Welfare Approach: This approach looks at human beings as beneficiaries or targets of all development activities.

- The approach argues for higher government expenditure on education, health, social secondary and amenities.
- People are not participants in development but only passive recipients.
- The government is responsible for increasing levels of human development by maximizing expenditure on welfare.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following human development approach initially is proposed by “International Labor Organization (ILO)”?

- a) Income approach
- b) Welfare approach
- c) Basic needs approach
- d) Capability approach

ANS: C

Explanation: Basic Needs Approach: This approach was initially proposed by the International Labor Organization (ILO).

- Six basic needs i.e.: health, education, food, water supply, sanitation, and housing were identified.

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- The question of human choices is ignored and the emphasis is on the provision of basic needs of defined sections.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following is the only country in the world to officially proclaim the Gross National Happiness (GNH) as the measure of the country's progress?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Bhutan is the only country in the world to officially proclaim the Gross National Happiness (GNH) as the measure of the country's progress.

- Material progress and technological developments are approached more cautiously taking into consideration the possible harm they might bring to the environment or the other aspects of cultural and spiritual life of the Bhutanese.
- This simply means material progress cannot come at the cost of happiness. GNH encourages us to think of the spiritual, non-material and qualitative aspects of development.

Source: NCERT

Races & Tribes in India

Q.1) According to the "B S Guha racial classification", which of the following is/are negroids?

1. Irulas
2. Kurichya
3. Ezhavas

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Negritos were regarded as the earliest inhabitants of India. They have survived in their original habitat in Andaman and Nicobar islands.

Some of the hill tribes of South India including Kadars, Irulas, Paniyans and Kurumbas also come under this category.

Source: Kerala NCERT

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Q.2) Which of the following is/are features of “Proto-Australoids”?

1. Yellow complexion
2. Thick jaw
3. Wavy hair

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Proto-Australoids: It is believed that the proto-Australoid elements are widespread in Indian population.

- The Proto-Australoids are said to have come from the West and exhibit the features such as wavy hair, prominent eye ridges, sunken nose, thick jaw, low forehead, and small chins.
- Some proto-Australoid racial features have been noted from the skeletal remains found from Mohenjodaro.
- It shows that Proto-Australoids might have laid the foundation of Indian culture.
- The tribal groups of Central India, like Munda, Ho, Oraon, Santhals, Gond and Khond and the Kurichya tribe of Kerala represent this racial stock.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following group is divided into “Alpinoids, Dinarics and Armanoids”?

- a) Negroids
- b) Mangaloid
- c) Western Brachycephals
- d) Nordics

ANS: C

Explanation: The Western Brachycephalic group is divided into Alpinoids, Dinarics and Armanoids sub types.

- The Alpinoids are represented by the Banias of Gujarath, Kathi of Kathiawar and Kayastas of Bengal.
- The representative population of Dinaric is found in Bengal, Orissa and Coorg. Brahmins of Bengal and of Mysore are the representatives of Dinaric.
- Both the Alpino and Dinaric people might have entered into India through Baluchistan, Sindh, Gujarath and Maharashtra and penetrated to Sri Lanka from Karnataka.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the second largest tribal populated country in the world.
2. The Scheduled Tribes are the communities which are included in the Schedule of Indian Constitution.

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 Scheduled Tribes are the communities which are included in the Schedule of Indian Constitution.

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- Article 366 (25) of the Constitution of India refers to Scheduled Tribes as those communities, who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution.
- India is the second largest tribal populated country in the world only next to Africa.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following state has highest percentage of tribal population?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Mizoram
- c) Assam
- d) Nagaland

ANS: B

Explanation: Among the Indian States and Union Territories, Lakshadweep (94.8%) has the highest tribal population followed by Mizoram (94.4%), Nagaland (86.5%) and Meghalaya (86.1%).

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following state has no tribal population?

- a) Punjab
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Kerala
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: The lowest tribal concentration is recorded from Uttar Pradesh (0.6%). No tribal population is recorded from Punjab and Haryana.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following is/are features of tribal life?

1. Geographical isolation
2. Heterogeneous ethnic group
3. Endogamous group

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The tribal life is characterized by many unique elements as outlined below:

1. Geographical Isolation: Isolation is one of the striking features of tribal communities. Most of the tribal communities live far away or remote from the mainstream. Many of them subsist on forest-based economy.
2. Homogeneous Ethnic group: The tribal communities are homogeneous in nature. The members of a tribal community follow the same culture. Their religion, customs, beliefs and practices, food habits and dress patterns are similar. The members of a tribal community possess a mutual sense of unity and 'we' feeling due to this homogenous outlook.
3. Definite Territory: The tribes inhabit and remain within a definite and common topography. In the absence of a common topography, the tribe would lose its characteristic features like community sentiments, language and 'we' feeling.

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4. Endogamous group: The tribes are endogamous in nature. The members of a tribal group generally marry within their own group.

5. Direct Personal Relationship: Direct face to face and personal relationships are seen among the members of a tribal society. All the members of a tribal group know each other. The various social, economic and religious activities help the tribes to maintain their relationship.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following tribe is not part of Andaman Nicobar Islands?

- a) Toda
- b) Onge
- c) Shompen
- d) Jarawas

ANS: A

Explanation: Onge, Jarawas, Sentinelese, Shompen, Andamenese and Nicobarese are some of the tribes of Andaman Nicobar Islands.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following tribes is/are Mongoloid origin?

- 1. Sentinelese
- 2. Jarawas
- 3. Onge

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Andaman and Nicobar Islands is home to four Negrito and two Mongoloid tribes.

- Those belonging to the Negrito origin – the Great Andamanese, the Onge, the Jarawas and the Sentinelese - are still at hunting-gathering stage of economy.
- Tribes of Mongoloid origin are Nicobarese and Shompen.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Q.10) The chenchu tribes are recently seen in news related to?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Proto -Australoid group: Most of the Tribal population of India belong to this racial group.

- They are characterized by medium stature, dark brown skin colour, and curly hair, sink nose, low forehead and everted lips. Some scholars call them as Pre-Dravidian.
- These people exhibit strong muscular and wellbuilt body. These types are represented by Gond of Bastar, Bhils of Rajasthan, Oraons, Mundas and Santhals of Chotanagapur, **Chenchus of Andhra Pradesh**, Kurumbas of Attapadi and Kol, Kharia, Ho tribes of Bihar.

Source: Kerala NCERT

Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Aquaculture and Land Reforms and Land use pattern

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding land use patterns:

1. Any land which is left fallow for more than five years is a currently fallow land.
2. Culturable wasteland is left without cultivation for one or less than one agricultural year.

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: Culturable Wasteland: Any land which is left fallow (uncultivated) for more than five years is included in this category.

- It can be brought under cultivation after improving it through reclamation practices.
- Current Fallow: This is the land which is left without cultivation for one or less than one agricultural year.
- Fallowing is a cultural practice adopted for giving the land rest. The land recoups the lost fertility through natural processes.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following categories of land use patterns is/are increased from 1950 - 51 to 2014 - 15?

1. Area under forest
2. Culturable wasteland
3. Area under tree crops & grooves

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: India has undergone major changes within the economy over the past four or five decades, and this has influenced the land-use changes in the country.

- Four categories have undergone increases, while four have registered declines.
- Share of area under forest, area under non-agricultural uses, current fallow lands and net area sown have shown an increase.

Source: NCERT

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Q.3) Which of the following is/are examples of “common property resources”?

1. Pasture lands
2. Village water bodies
3. Community forests

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: CPRs can be defined as community’s natural resource, where every member has the right of access and usage with specified obligations, without anybody having property rights over them.

Community forests, pasture lands, village water bodies and other public spaces where a group larger than a household or family unit exercises rights of use and carries responsibility of management are examples of CPRs.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The kharif season largely coincides with northeast retreating monsoon.
2. Rice, cotton and bajra are the examples of kharif crops.

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 kharif season largely coincides with Southwest Monsoon under which the cultivation of tropical crops, such as rice, cotton, jute, jowar, bajra and tur is possible.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The irrigated type of farming is known as barani.
2. In India, the dry land farming is largely confined to the regions having annual rainfall less than 75 cm.

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: On the basis of main source of moisture for crops, the farming can be classified as irrigated and rain fed (barani).

- There is difference in the nature of irrigated farming, as well as based on the objective of irrigation, i.e., protective or productive.
- In India, the dry land farming is largely confined to the regions having annual rainfall less than 75 cm.

Source: NCERT

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Q.6) Which of the following is/are hardy and drought resistant crops?

1. Ragi
2. Bajra
3. Moong

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: In India, the dryland farming is largely confined to the regions having annual rainfall less than 75 cm.

These regions grow hardy and drought resistant crops such as ragi, bajra, moong, gram and guar (fodder crops) and practise various measures of soil moisture conservation and rain water harvesting.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following is/are water intensive crops?

1. Rice
2. Jute
3. Sugar cane

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: In wetland farming, the rainfall is in excess of soil moisture requirement of plants during rainy season. Such regions may face flood and soil erosion hazards.

These areas grow various water intensive crops such as rice, jute and sugarcane and practice aquaculture in the fresh water bodies.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Cereals occupy about thirty four percent of total cropped area in India.
2. India is the third largest cereals producer in the world.

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 cereals occupy about 54 per cent of total cropped area in India.

The country produces about 11 per cent cereals of the world and ranks third in production after China and U.S.A.

Source: NCERT

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Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding rice crop:

1. It is grown only in tropical humid areas.
2. About one-fourth of the total cropped area in the country is under rice cultivation.

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: Rice is a staple food for the overwhelming majority of population in India.

- Though, it is considered to be a crop of tropical humid areas, it has many varieties which are grown in different agro-climatic regions.
- India contributes 22.07 per cent of rice production in the world and ranked second after China in 2018.
- About one-fourth of the total cropped area in the country is under rice cultivation.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Wheat is primarily a temperate crop.
2. Yield level of maize is lower than other coarse cereals.

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: Wheat is the second most important cereal crop in India after rice. India produces about 12.8 per cent of total wheat production of world (2017).

- It is primarily a crop of temperate zone. Hence, its cultivation in India is done during winter i.e. rabi season.
- Yield level of maize is higher than other coarse cereals. It is high in southern states and declines towards central parts.

Source: NCERT

Industries- types, Transport and Communication in India

Q.1) Which of the following activities comes under the definition of “industry”?

1. Production of goods
2. Extraction of minerals
3. Provision of services

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Industry refers to an economic activity that is concerned with production of goods, extraction of minerals or the provision of services.

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Thus we have iron and steel industry (production of goods), coal mining industry (extraction of coal) and tourism industry (service provider).

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following factors affect the location of an industry?

1. Power
2. Land
3. Labor

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The factors affecting the location of industries are the availability of raw material, land, water, labour, power, capital, transport and market.

Industries are situated where some or all of these factors are easily available.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following industrial regions is/are located in South America?

1. Santiago
2. Bahia coast
3. Tijuana

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation:

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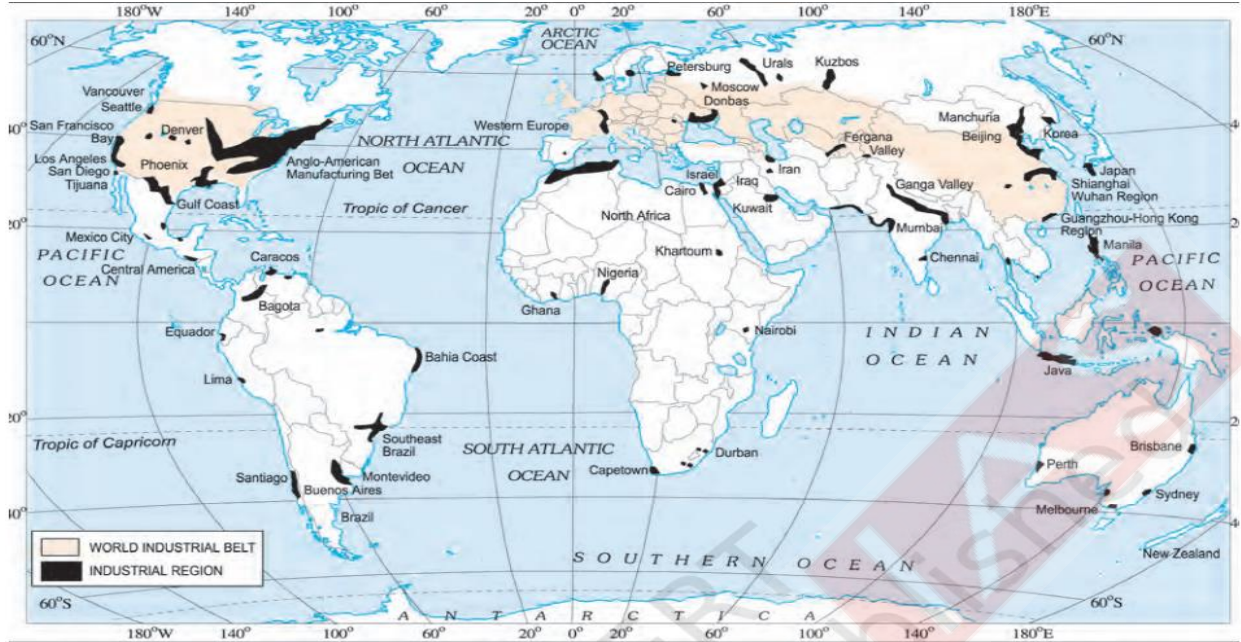


Fig 4.4: World's Industrial Regions

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following is/are sunrise industries?

1. Steel
2. Wellness
3. Hospitality and knowledge

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Emerging industries are also known as 'Sunrise Industries'. These include Information technology, Wellness, Hospitality and Knowledge.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the third largest cement producer in the world after China and USA.
2. India became a net exporter of finished steel over the past decade.

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: Cement: India is the 2nd largest cement producer in the world after China.

- Share of manufacturing in total gross value added at current prices (in FY23): 14.3 %.
- Steel sector: Highest levels of production and consumption during FY24.

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- India became a net exporter of finished steel over the past decade.

Source: Economic Survey

Q.6) Which of the following issues is/are faced by steel industry in India?

1. Fluctuations of prices in international market
2. Low dependency on import coked coal
3. High energy intensity

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Issues of steel industry in India:

- Fluctuation in prices in international market.
- Dependence on import of coking coal: An essential raw material for steel production (56.1 MT in FY23 and 58.1 MT in FY24)
- High Energy intensity: Emission intensity of 2.5 tonnes of CO₂ per tonne of crude steel compared to the global average of 1.9 tonnes of CO₂ per tonne of crude steel.
- Emissions: Accounts for 12% of India's GHG emissions.

Source: Economic Survey

Q.7) Between fiscal year 2019 and 2023, arrange the infrastructure investment in ascending order:

1. Central government
2. State government
3. Private sector

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: India's investment in infrastructure was largely funded by the public sector. Between fiscal year 2019 and 2023, the Central and State Governments contributed to 49% and 29% of the total investments, respectively, while the private sector contributed 22%.

Source: Economic Survey

Q.8) The "CORSA" scheme is often seen in news related to?

- a) Railways
- b) Roadways
- c) Aviation
- d) Shipping

ANS: C

Explanation: Compliance with Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) for aviation sector.

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- CORSIA is the first global market-based measure for any sector and represents a cooperative approach that moves away from a “patchwork” of national or regional regulatory initiatives.
- It offers a harmonized way to reduce emissions from international aviation, minimizing market distortion, while respecting the special circumstances and respective capabilities of ICAO Member States.
- CORSIA complements the other elements of the basket of measures by offsetting the amount of CO2 emissions that cannot be reduced through the use of technological improvements, operational improvements, and sustainable aviation fuels with emissions units from the carbon market.

Source: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/default.aspx>

Q.9) Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) is being implemented with financial assistance from?

- a) World Bank
- b) Asian Development Bank
- c) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- d) New Development Bank

ANS: A

Explanation: Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP): DRIP is being implemented with financial assistance from the World Bank to improve the safety and operational performance of selected existing dams along with dam safety institutional strengthening with system-wide management approach.

- DRIP phase-I (2012-21): 223 dams were rehabilitated.
- DRIP Phase II (2021-31): Envisage improving the safety and operational performance for rehabilitation of 736 dams.

Source: Economic Survey

Q.10) The famous “Guru Ghasidas National Park” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Himachal Pradesh

ANS: C

Explanation: Famous for its varied availability of flora and fauna, Guru Ghasidas National Park, also known as Sanjay National Park, is a national park located in the Koriya district of Chhattisgarh and Sidhi, Singrauli districts of Madhya Pradesh.

The entirety of the national park covers a massive area of 466.657 square km. It is also a major part of the Narmada Valley dry deciduous forests ecoregion, as well as a part of the Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve.

Source: FORUMIAS

Map based questions from India & Agriculture

Q.1) Arrange the following rivers from south to north:

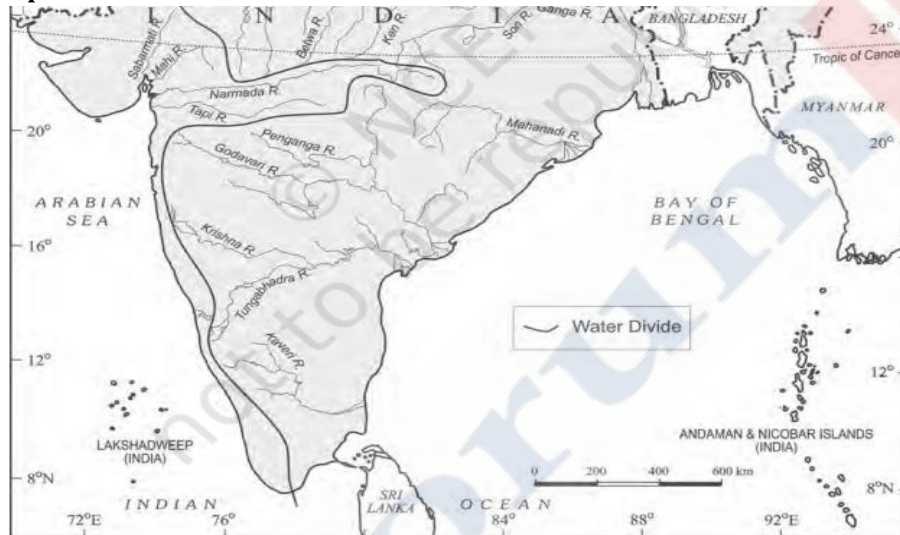
1. Kaveri
2. Krishna
3. Tungabhadra
4. Godavari

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- b) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4
- c) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- d) 2 - 3 - 1 - 4

ANS: B

Explanation:



Source: NCERT

Q.2) Arrange the following rivers from west to east:

1. Gomati
2. Gandak
3. Ghaghara
4. Ganga

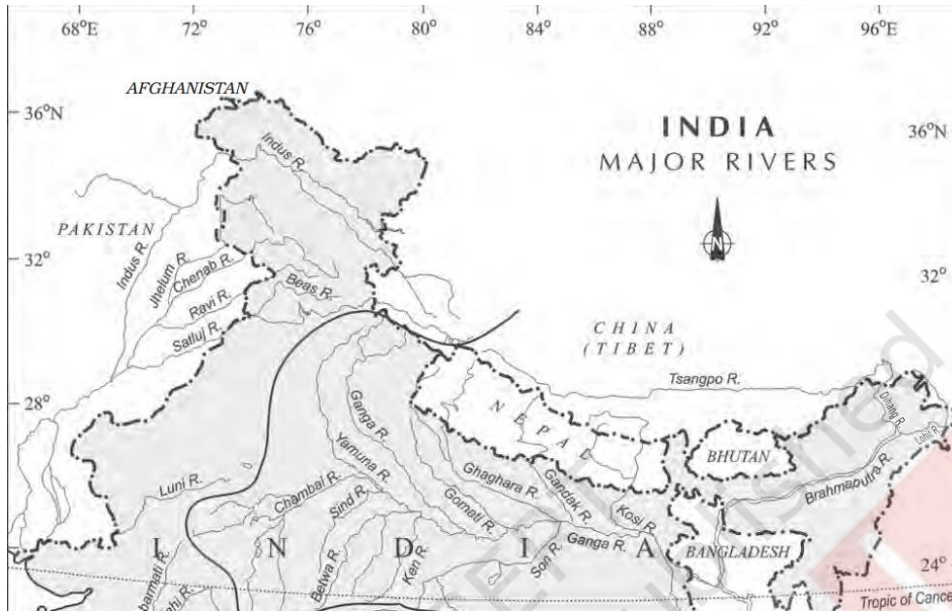
Select the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 4 - 1 - 3 - 2
- b) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3
- c) 1 - 4 - 3 - 2
- d) 1 - 4 - 2 - 3

ANS: A

Explanation:

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Source: NCERT

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “pulses”:

1. These are legume crops which increase the natural fertility of soils through nitrogen fixation.
2. India is the second largest producer of pulses in the world.

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: Pulses are a very important ingredient of vegetarian food as these are rich sources of proteins.

- These are legume crops which increase the natural fertility of soils through nitrogen fixation.
- India is a leading producer of pulses in the world.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following state has highest yield in groundnut?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: India produces about 18.8 per cent of the total groundnut production in the world (2018). It is largely a rainfed kharif crop of dry lands.

- But in southern India, it is cultivated during rabi season as well. It covers about 3.6 per cent of total cropped area in the country.
- Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra are the leading producers.

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- Yield of groundnut is comparatively high in Tamil Nadu where it is partly irrigated. But its yield is low in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) The term “narma” associated with which of the following?

- a) Jute
- b) Cotton
- c) Sugarcane
- d) Groundnut

ANS: B

Explanation: Cotton is a tropical crop grown in kharif season in semi-arid areas of the country.

- India lost a large proportion of cotton growing area to Pakistan during partition.
- However, its acreage has increased considerably during the last 50 years.
- India grows both short staple (Indian) cotton as well as long staple (American) cotton called ‘narma’ in north-western parts of the country.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) In which of the following states coffee is cultivated?

1. Kerala
2. Karnataka
3. Tamil Nadu

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Coffee is cultivated in the highlands of Western Ghats in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Karnataka alone accounts for more than two-third of total production of coffee in the country.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding tea crop:

1. It is indigenous crop of India.
2. Its leaves have rich content of caffeine and tannin.

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: Tea is a plantation crop used as beverage. Black tea leaves are fermented whereas green tea leaves are unfermented.

- Tea leaves have rich content of caffeine and tannin. It is an indigenous crop of hills in northern China.

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- It is grown over undulating topography of hilly areas and well-drained soils in humid and sub-humid tropics and sub-tropics.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) The term “Sholas” associated with which of the following?

- a) Temperate forests
- b) Plantation hills
- c) Corals
- d) Mangroves

ANS: A

Explanation: The temperate forests are called Sholas in the Nilgiris, Anaimalai and Palani hills.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following is/are southern montane forest species?

1. Magnolia
2. Laurel
3. Cinchona

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The southern mountain forests include the forests found in three distinct areas of Peninsular India viz; the Western Ghats, the Vindhyas and the Nilgiris.

- As they are closer to the tropics, and only 1,500 m above the sea level, vegetation is temperate in the higher regions and subtropical on the lower regions of the Western Ghats, especially in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
- Some of the other trees of this forest of economic significance include magnolia, laurel, cinchona and wattle.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following is/are soil conservation method/s?

1. Mulching
2. Contour barriers
3. Rock dam

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Some methods of soil conservation are listed below:

- **Mulching:** The bare ground between plants is covered with a layer of organic matter like straw. It helps to retain soil moisture.

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- Contour barriers: Stones, grass, soil are used to build barriers along contours. Trenches are made in front of the barriers to collect water.
- Rock dam: Rocks are piled up to slow down the flow of water. This prevents gullies and further soil loss.

Source: NCERT

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following event/s leads to landslides?

1. Earthquake
2. Floods
3. Volcanoes

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Landslides are simply defined as the mass movement of rock, debris or earth down a slope.

- They often take place in conjunction with earthquakes, floods and volcanoes. A prolonged spell of rainfall can cause heavy landslide that can block the flow of river for quite some time.
- The formation of river blocks can cause havoc to the settlements downstream on its bursting.
- In the hilly terrain landslides have been a major and widely spread natural disaster that often strike life and property and occupy a position of major concern.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following is/are agents of weathering activity?

1. Temperature
2. Frost action
3. Plants

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Weathering: The breaking up and decay of exposed rocks, by temperature changes, frost action, plants, animals and human activity.

Source: NCERT

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Q.3) Which of the following is/are part of Meghalaya plateau?

1. Abor hills
2. Khasi hills
3. Dafla hills

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Northeastern Plateau: In fact it is an extension of the main peninsular plateau.

- It is believed that due to the force exerted by the northeastward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin, a huge fault was created between the Rajmahal hills and the Meghalaya plateau.
- Later, this depression got filled up by the deposition activity of the numerous rivers. Today, the Meghalaya and Karbi Anglong plateau stand detached from the main Peninsular Block.
- The Meghalaya plateau is further sub-divided into three: (i) The Garo Hills; (ii) The Khasi Hills; (iii) The Jaintia Hills, named after the tribal groups inhabiting this region.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following mineral resources is/are available in Meghalaya plateau?

1. Thorium
2. Uranium
3. Sillimanite

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Similar to the Chotanagpur plateau, the Meghalaya plateau is also rich in mineral resources like coal, iron ore, sillimanite, limestone and uranium.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) The "Nehru Trophy" is often seen in news related to?

- a) Boat race
- b) Chess
- c) Badminton
- d) Kabaddi

ANS: A

Explanation: Every year the famous Nehru Trophy Vallamkali (boat race) is held in Punnamada Kayal in Kerala.

Source: NCERT

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

- a) Endangered species
- b) Backwaters
- c) Hills
- d) Mangroves

ANS: B

Explanation: The Malabar coast has got certain distinguishing features in the form of ‘Kayals’ (backwaters), which are used for fishing, inland navigation and also due to its special attraction for tourists.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which one of the following peak is the highest peak?

- a) Saddle peak
- b) Mount Diavolo
- c) Mount Koyob
- d) Mount Thuiller

ANS: A

Explanation: Some important mountain peaks in Andaman and Nicobar Islands are Saddle peak (North Andaman – 738 m), Mount Diavolo (Middle Andaman – 515 m), Mount Koyob (South Andaman – 460 m) and Mount Thuiller (Great Nicobar – 642 m).

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Who among the following tribe does not practice the “transhumance” activity?

- a) Gujjars
- b) Bhotiyas
- c) Gaddis
- d) Chenchus

ANS: D

Explanation: Blue pine and spruce appear at altitudes of 2,225-3,048 m. At many places in this zone, temperate grasslands are also found.

- But in the higher reaches there is a transition to Alpine forests and pastures.
- Silver firs, junipers, pines, birch and rhododendrons, etc. occur between 3,000-4,000 m.
- However, these pastures are used extensively for transhumance by tribes like the Gujjars, the Bakarwals, the Bhotiyas and the Gaddis.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following is not part of “Nilgiri biosphere reserve”?

- a) Seshachalam hills
- b) Silent Valley
- c) Nilambur
- d) Siruvani Hills

ANS: A

Explanation: Nilgiri biosphere reserve: Part of Wynad, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Madumalai, Nilambur, Silent Valley and Siruvani Hills (Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka).

Source: NCERT

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Q.10) The “dhanauri wetlands” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Himachal Pradesh

ANS: C

Explanation: Dhanauri wetlands support a fairly large population of the vulnerable sarus crane and a congregation of at least 20,000 waterfowl and other species.

The sarus crane is threatened by the loss and degradation of wetlands, as a result of drainage and conversion to agriculture; ingestion of pesticides and hunting of adults and collection of eggs and chicks for trade, food, medicinal purposes and, in certain areas, to help prevent damage to crops, according to an analysis by Wildlife Institute of India.

Source: FORUMIAS

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

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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

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

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- 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?

- IMF
- UNDP
- World Bank
- 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

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

- Gandak agreement
- Kosi agreement
- Teesta agreement

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- 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?

- Fishing grounds
- Mangroves
- Coral reefs
- 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

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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.

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Source: FORUMIAS

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)”?

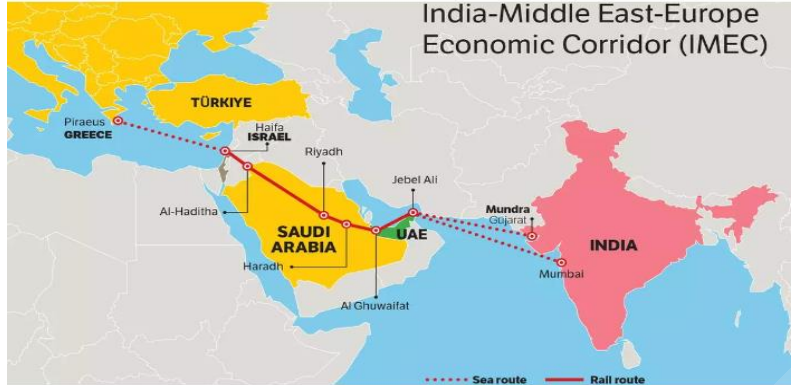
- a) Italy
- b) India
- c) Iran
- d) UAE

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).

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- 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.



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.

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- 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

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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.

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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

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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

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

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 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 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 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 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 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 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>

Schemes – III

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana (PMJAY)”:

1. Its aim is to provide free medical surgeries to people below the poverty line.
2. It is implemented by Indian Medical Association.

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 'Jan Aushadhi Scheme' was revamped as 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana' (PMJAY).

- It is launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses.
- Under the scheme, dedicated outlets known as Janaushadhi Kendras are opened to provide generic medicines at affordable prices.
- The Scheme is implemented by a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, which is Pharma & Medical Bureau of India (PMBI).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “PM- PRANAM” scheme is often seen in news associated with which of the following?

- a) Fertilizers
- b) Solar energy
- c) Digital education
- d) Space technology

ANS: A

Explanation: PM-PRANAM was launched in Union Budget 2023–24.

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- Its aim is to promote the balanced use of chemical and alternative fertilizers, generating awareness of regenerative agriculture (RA).
- Its objective is to incentivize the States and UTs to promote usage of alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “nano urea”:

1. India’s first liquid nano urea plant is inaugurated at Kochi, Kerala.
2. It has a shelf life of one year.

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: India’s first liquid nano urea plant is inaugurated at Kalol, Gujarat.

It has a shelf life of a year, and farmers need not be worried about caking when it comes in contact with moisture.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following mineral is coated in urea gold?

- a) Magnesium
- b) Copper
- c) Lime stone
- d) Sulfur

ANS: D

Explanation: Urea Gold – It is a new variety of urea that is coated with sulfur which is expected to address sulfur deficiencies in the soil.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “project – TAMARA” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Water quality treatment
- b) Supercomputing
- c) Thorium plant
- d) Solar grid

ANS: A

Explanation: Development and Commercialization of Intelligent Water Body Management System (IWMS)- TAMARA.

- It is a smart aeration system enhanced with sensors and IoT-based technology to manage water quality.
- This modern approach not only improves existing methods of treating water and wastewater but also ensures that water bodies and aquaculture ponds stay clean and healthy for everyone.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.6) Which of the following is not achieved successful deep-ocean crewed mission?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: U.S.A., Russia, China, France, and Japan have achieved successful deep-ocean crewed missions.

Source: FORUMIAS

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

1. It is an online platform for buying handicrafts and handloom items made by rural women registered with Self Help Groups (SHGs).
2. It is launched by ministry of skill development.

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: eSARAS is an initiative of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM).

- It aims to collect and organize the authentic handcrafted products from across the country.
- It is an online platform for buying handicrafts and handloom items made by rural women registered with Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- This online platform showcases the products made by self-managed Self Help Groups (SHGs) and federated institutions.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following ministry launched the “Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Seher Campaign”?

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
- b) Ministry of Consumer affairs
- c) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- d) Ministry of Cooperatives

ANS: C

Explanation: Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Seher Campaign was launched by ministry of Housing & Urban affairs.

- Its aim is to champion the RRR's of waste management- Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.
- The RRR Centres will serve as one-stop collection centres to deposit unused or used plastic items, clothes, shoes, footwear, books, and toys.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.9) The famous “Graphene-Aurora Program” was launched by which of the following ministry?

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
- b) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
- c) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- d) Ministry of Science & technology

ANS: B

Explanation: Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has launched the ‘Graphene-Aurora program’ at Kerala recently.

It aims to fill the gap between R&D and commercialization by providing a complete facility to startup and industry.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following state is not part of “e - Cabinet System”?

- a) Tripura
- b) Karnataka
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: B

Explanation: Tripura has launched an e-cabinet system to promote digitization of government services and information.

- It is a software portal for state governments to conduct Cabinet meetings electronically.
- Tripura has become the 4th state - and 2nd in the Northeast - after Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh, to have introduced an e-cabinet system.

Source: FORUMIAS

Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “International Energy Agency (IEA)”:

1. It is an autonomous intergovernmental organization.
2. UN member states can become members of the IEA.

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: International Energy Agency (IEA) is an autonomous intergovernmental organization established in the framework of the OECD.

- It was initially designed to help countries co-ordinate a collective response to disruptions in the supply of oil.
- Only OECD member states can become members of the IEA. Except for Chile, Iceland, Israel, Latvia, Slovenia all OECD member states are members of the IEA.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.2) Which of the following country is not a member of “BIMSTEC”?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: BIMSTEC – Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.

- It is a regional organization group of littoral countries encircling the Bay of Bengal with own flag and emblem.
- Members – 7 members (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following is not part of “AUKUS” group?

- a) ASEAN
- b) Australia
- c) United Kingdom
- d) United States of America

ANS: A

Explanation: In September 2021, leaders of Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States announced the creation of an enhanced trilateral security partnership called "AUKUS."

It is intended to strengthen the ability of each government to support security and defense interests, building on longstanding and ongoing bilateral ties.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following is/are member countries of “Collective Security Treaty Organisation”?

1. Armenia
2. Azerbaijan
3. Belarus

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: In 2002, as Central Asia loomed larger in geopolitics, it declared itself the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, a fullblown intergovernmental military alliance.

- Also known as the “Tashkent Pact” or “Tashkent Treaty”.
- It has 6 members - Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan. Uzbekistan had quit the alliance in 2012.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.4) Which of the following countries is/are of “NATO PLUS group”?

1. Israel
2. Japan
3. Australia

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: NATO Plus is a security arrangement that brings together the grouping of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 5 countries - Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan and Israel.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “G7”:

1. It is an intergovernmental economic group consisting of 7 largest IMF advanced economies.
2. It has binding impact on policy, and all decisions and commitments made at G7 meetings.

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: G7 Grouping is an intergovernmental economic group consisting of 7 largest IMF advanced economies such as Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK, and the US.

EU is also represented within the G7 as an invitee. Formerly called G8 with Russia in it, but due to Crimean crisis, Russia was ejected from the group.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following is/are member countries of “G - 11”?

1. India
2. Singapore
3. New Zealand

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: G11 will be the expansion of the G7 grouping which will include G7 countries, India, Australia, South Korea, and Russia.

- G7 consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. It is being widely perceived as an “anti-Chinese” platform.
- It has no binding impact on policy, and all decisions and commitments made at G7 meetings need to be ratified independently by governing bodies of member states.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.7) Which of the following treaty/treaties is/are associated with “European Union”?

1. Maastricht Treaty
2. Treaty of Lisbon
3. Copenhagen treaty

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: European Union is a political and economic union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe.

- The United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union on 31 January 2020.
- The Maastricht Treaty established the European Union in 1993 and introduced European citizenship.
- The latest major amendment to the constitutional basis of the EU, the Treaty of Lisbon, came into force in 2009.
- The Lisbon Treaty contains a clause under Article 50, providing for a member to leave the EU.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following is/are member countries of “Gulf Cooperation Council”?

1. Egypt
2. Yemen
3. Iran

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Gulf Cooperation Council is a regional political and economic alliance of 6 Gulf States i.e., Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Its aim is to achieve ever closer union between the energy rich Gulf countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The famous “Ottawa Declaration” is associated with which of the following?

- a) Arctic Council
- b) MERCOSUR group
- c) Commonwealth of Nations
- d) CARICOM Countries

ANS: A

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

The Ottawa Declaration lists the following countries as Members of the Arctic Council - Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation August 2024

Q.10) Which of the following is/are member countries of “MERCOSUR group”?

1. Argentina
2. Brazil
3. Chile

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

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

Venezuela was suspended from membership in 2016. Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana and Suriname are its associate members. Observer countries are New Zealand and Mexico.

Source: FORUMIAS

Organization and bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Specialized Agencies”:

1. These are legally independent international organizations.
2. There are totally 25 specialized agencies under the United Nations (UN).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Specialized Agencies are legally independent international organizations with their own rules, membership, organs and financial resources, which were brought into relationship with the United Nations through negotiated agreements.

- Some existed before the First World War. Some were associated with the League of Nations. Others were created almost simultaneously with the UN. Others were created by the UN to meet emerging needs.
- There are totally 15 specialized agencies under the United Nations (UN).
- These agencies carry out operations to promote multilateral cooperation from professional and technical viewpoints in an extremely broad range of areas, such as labour, education, science, culture, agriculture and public health.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.2) Which of the following institution/s is/are part of “World Bank Group (WBG)”?

1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
2. International Finance Corporation
3. International Labor Organization

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The World Bank Group (WBG) is a family of 5 international organizations that make leveraged loans to developing countries. The organizations are

- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD),
- International Development Association (IDA),
- International Finance Corporation (IFC),
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “International Bank for Reconstruction & Development”:

1. It is the largest development bank in the world.
2. It finances investments across all sectors and provides technical support and expertise at each stage of a project.

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: IBRD is a global development cooperative owned by 189-member countries and it is the largest development bank in the world.

- It is headquartered in Washington, D.C. It was established in 1944 to finance the reconstruction of European nations devastated by World War II.
- IBRD finances investments across all sectors and provides technical support and expertise at each stage of a project.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “International Finance Corporation (IFC)”:

1. It is the private sector arm of the World Bank founded in 1956.
2. It provides financing for private enterprise investments in both developing and developed countries.

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: IFC is the private sector arm of The World Bank founded in 1956. IFC provides financing for private enterprise investments in developing countries.

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- It also provides advisory services to encourage the development of private enterprise in nations.
- The IFC funds banks and other financial institutions that in turn lend to other projects (financial intermediaries).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “World Health Organization”:

1. It is the first global health organization with the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to international health.
2. World Health Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of WHO.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: WHO is the first global health organization with the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to international health.

It has 194-member countries, and its secretariat is in Geneva, Switzerland. World Health Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of WHO, attended by delegations from all member states.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following treaty/convention is not associated with “World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)”?

- a) Paris convention
- b) Berne convention
- c) Washington convention
- d) Marrakesh Treaty

ANS: C

Explanation: WIPO is the global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation. Established in 1967, WIPO has 193 member states.

WIPO's predecessor was the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIPRI) that administered 2 conventions - Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works. BIRPI is thus transformed to become WIPO.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)”:

1. It was established by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988.
2. It undertakes scientific assessments and evaluates the state of scientific evidence on various aspects of climate change.

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: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988.

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- IPCC, a body of climate experts, is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.
- The IPCC does not undertake scientific assessments but only evaluates the state of scientific evidence on various aspects of climate change.
- It prepares comprehensive Assessment Reports on climate change and Special Reports.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following report/activity is not associated with “UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)”?

- a) Global Education Monitoring report
- b) Gender Parity Index
- c) Man and Biosphere Programme
- d) World Migration Report

ANS: D

Explanation: UNESCO aims to promote peace, social justice, human rights and international security through international cooperation on educational, science and cultural programs. It has 194 member states and is based in Paris, France.

- It is known for its World Heritage Mission which encourages world countries to protect Natural and Cultural Heritage sites.
- It publishes the Global Education Monitoring report and Gender Parity Index. It also leads the Man and Biosphere Programme for protecting Biosphere reserves across the world.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Codex Alimentarius Commission”?

1. It is an international food safety and quality standard-setting body.
2. It is created by “UNEP and UNDP”.
3. India is not a member.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international food safety and quality standard-setting body established in 1963.

- It is created by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO).
- Presently the Commission has 189 Codex Members - 188 Countries and The European Union.
- Each member of the Commission is responsible for identifying any new scientific and other relevant information, which may warrant revision of any existing Codex standards or related text.
- India became the member of Codex Alimentarius in 1964.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.10) The “Special Drawing Rights” is often seen in news associated with which of the following?

- a) IMF
- b) World Bank
- c) UNESCO
- d) IFC

ANS: A

Explanation: IMF was conceived at a UN conference in Bretton Woods in July 1944 to build a framework for economic cooperation in the aftermath of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves.

Source: FORUMIAS

Organization and bodies – II

Q.1) Which of the following is not a criterion for allocation of quota system in International Monetary Fund?

- a) Economic openness
- b) International reserves
- c) Economic variability
- d) Human development

ANS: D

Explanation: IMF was conceived at a UN conference in Bretton Woods in July 1944 to build a framework for economic cooperation in the aftermath of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Quota system - IMF quotas are distributed according to a 4-pronged formula that considers a member country's GDP, its economic openness, economic variability and international reserves.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are source of IMF's financing?

1. Quotas
2. New arrangement to borrow
3. Standby arrangement

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Source of funding in IMF - Quotas are the IMF's main source of financing.

- Each member of the IMF is assigned a quota, based broadly on its relative position in the world economy.
- The New Arrangement to Borrow (NAB) constitutes a second line of defense to supplement IMF resources.
- Bilateral Borrowing Agreements serve as a third line of defense after quotas and the NAB.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “International Labour Organization”:

1. It is responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards.
2. It is the only tripartite U.N. agency that brings together governments, employers and workers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: International Labour Organization was created in 1919 by the Versailles Peace Treaty ending World War I.

- After the demise of the League of Nations, the ILO became the 1st specialized agency associated with the UN.
- It is responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards. ILO is the only tripartite U.N. agency that brings together governments, employers and workers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following conventions are ratified by India?

1. Bunker convention
2. Ballast water management convention
3. Nairobi Convention

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: India has the privilege of being elected to the council of the IMO, ever since it started functioning, except for two years during 1983-1984.

- Ballast water management convention was adopted in IMO in 2004 and came into force in 2017 to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms from one region to another.
- The Bunker convention was adopted in 2001 and came into force in 2008 to ensure that adequate, prompt, and effective compensation is available to persons who suffer damage caused by oil spills, when carried as fuel in ships' bunkers.
- India does not ratify the Bunker as well as Ballast water conventions.
- Nairobi Convention (2007) - It provides the legal basis for States to remove shipwrecks that may have the potential to affect the safety of lives, goods and property at sea, as well as the marine environment.
- India ratifies the Nairobi convention on ship wreck.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.5) Which of the following organization was created by “Chicago Convention”?

- a) International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- b) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- c) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- d) International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

ANS: D

Explanation: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was created after the Chicago convention on International Civil Aviation drafted in 1955.

It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency as well as for aviation environmental protection.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following organization/convention associated with “Long-Term Global Aspirational Goal (LTAG)”?

- a) Global Environmental Facility
- b) International Civil Aviation Organization
- c) World Bank
- d) International Monetary Fund

ANS: B

Explanation: LTAG - Long-Term Global Aspirational Goal (LTAG) for **international aviation** of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 in support of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement's temperature goal.

India & ICAI - India has stated that it will start participating in the ICAO's CORSIA and the Long-Term Aspirational Goals (LTAG) from 2027.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following is/are functions of “International Telecommunication Union (ITU)”?

- 1. Allocation of radio spectrum
- 2. Allocation of satellite orbits
- 3. Standardization and development of ICTs

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is responsible for the allocation of radio spectrum and satellite orbits, and for the standardization and development of ICTs worldwide.

The ITU has 193-member states that elect representatives to the ITU Council.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.8) Which of the following area/s United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) working?

1. Elimination of poverty
2. Protection of human rights
3. Empowerment of women

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: UNDP was formed in 1965 to help countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable human development.

- UNDP is working to strengthen new frameworks for development, disaster risk reduction and climate change.
- It also encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all of its programmes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)”:

1. It works to reach the most disadvantaged Children and adolescents and aims to protect the rights of every child, everywhere.
2. It doesn’t allow crypto currency donations.

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: UNICEF works to reach the most disadvantaged Children and adolescents and aims to protect the rights of every child, everywhere.

- Its work is funded entirely through the voluntary support of millions of people around the world and partners in government, civil society and the private sector.
- CryptoFund - It is a new financial vehicle allowing UNICEF to receive, hold, and disburse crypto-currency.
- UNICEF is the 1st UN organization to hold and make transactions in crypto-currencies.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following publishes “The Least Developed Countries Report”?

- a) UN Conference on Trade & Development (UN CTAD)
- b) United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- c) United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)
- d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

ANS: A

Explanation: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a permanent intergovernmental body established by the United Nations General Assembly.

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- It was formed to handle the problems of developing countries dealing with trade, investment and development issues.
- Reports published by UNCTAD - Trade and Development Report, World Investment Report, The Least Developed Countries Report, World Economic Situation and Prospects, Information and Economy Report, Technology and Innovation Report, Commodities and Development Report.

Source: FORUMIAS

Organization and bodies - III

Q.1) India Meteorological Department (IMD), the Government of Japan, and which of the following organization announced a new initiative to accelerate climate action in 10 states and Union Territories across the country?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India Meteorological Department (IMD), the Government of Japan, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) announced a new initiative to accelerate climate action in 10 states and Union Territories across the country.

- To be rolled out in partnership with the IMD at the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the initiative will support Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) to achieve net-zero emissions and ensure climate-resilient development.
- The launch comes within a week of the Cabinet approval of India's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) to be communicated to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Source: <https://www.undp.org/india/press-releases/imd-government-japan-and-undp-launch-project-accelerate-climate-action-india>.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding "United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)":

1. It is a consortium of 36 United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies, departments and offices.
2. It meets every year under the chairmanship of the UNSDG Chair.

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: United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) is a consortium of 36 United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies, departments and offices.

- It was previously known as the United Nations Development Group (UNDG).
- It serves as a high-level forum for joint policy formation and decision-making and guides, supports, tracks and oversees the coordination of development operations in 162 countries and territories.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.3) Which of the following organization launched the “Generation Unlimited India (YuWaah)” to facilitate skilling youth in India?

- a) UNDP
- b) UNSDG
- c) UNICEF
- d) UNESCO

ANS: C

Explanation: To facilitate skilling youth, UNICEF launched Generation Unlimited India (YuWaah) in 2019.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following institution proposed a Blue Deal for global trade, investment and innovation for the post-COVID-19 economy?

- a) UNCTAD
- b) UNDP
- c) UNIDO
- d) IMO

ANS: A

Explanation: In 2021, the UNCTAD proposed a ‘Blue Deal’ for global trade, investment and innovation for the post-COVID-19 economy.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “United Nations Environment Assembly”:

1. It is the world’s highest-level decision-making body on the environment.
2. It is hosted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) every two years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) is the world’s highest-level decision-making body on the environment which brings together representatives to address the world’s most pressing environmental challenges.

- UNEA is hosted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) every two years. It was created in 2012 as the governing body of the UNEP.
- All the members of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) are members of the UNEA.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.6) Which of the following was established as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture, serving the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement?

- a) World Bank
- b) Global Environment Facility
- c) Green Climate Fund
- d) New Development Bank

ANS: C

Explanation: Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established under the Cancun Agreements in 2010 by 194 countries party to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

- It was established as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture, serving the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.
- The Fund pays particular attention to the needs of societies that are highly vulnerable to climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and African States.

Source: FORUMIAS

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

1. Its headquarters is located at Vienna, Austria.
2. United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat conference) is held once in decade cycle.

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: UN-Habitat is the United Nations agency for human settlements and sustainable urban development. Its headquarters is located at Nairobi, Kenya.

United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat conference) is held once in bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 & 2016).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following organization “aims to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth are safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled”?

- a) UNESCO
- b) UNICEF
- c) UN Fund for Population Activities (UN FPA)
- d) WHO

ANS: C

Explanation: The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency.

- The organization informally known as ‘United Nations Population Fund’.
- It aims to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.9) The “UN Capital Development Fund” is affiliated with which of the following institution?

- a) UNDP
- b) UNEP
- c) UNESCO
- d) UNCTAD

ANS: A

Explanation: The UN Capital Development Fund was created in 1966 by the UN General Assembly.

- It is an autonomous, voluntarily funded UN organization, affiliated with the UN Development Programme.
- It assists developing countries in the development of their economies by supplementing existing sources of capital assistance by means of grants and loans.
- It makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world’s 46 Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following organization commenced under the Marrakesh Agreement?

- a) World Bank
- b) European Bank
- c) World Trade Organization
- d) International Monetary Fund

ANS: C

Explanation: WTO officially commenced under the Marrakesh Agreement, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

It operates a global system of trade rules, acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements, it settles trade disputes between its member countries and it supports the needs of developing countries.

Source: FORUMIAS

Laws, Acts and amendments proposed

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)”:

1. It was brought immediately after Kargil war.
2. It regulates foreign donations and ensures that such contributions do not adversely affect internal security

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 FCRA was enacted during the Emergency in 1976.

- The FCRA regulates foreign donations and ensures that such contributions do not adversely affect internal security.
- The FCRA is applicable to all associations, groups and NGOs which intend to receive foreign donations.
- It is mandatory for all such NGOs to register themselves under the FCRA.

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Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are comes under the definition of “foreign contribution” of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)?

1. Donation
2. Transfer of any article
3. Securities

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Foreign contribution: A donation, delivery or transfer of any article, currency or foreign security by any person who has received it from any foreign source, either directly or through one or more persons refers to foreign contribution.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “IT Act, 2000”:

1. It provides a legal framework for electronic governance by giving recognition to electronic records and digital signatures.
2. It doesn't define cyber crimes.

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: IT Act, 2000: The Act provides a legal framework for electronic governance by giving recognition to electronic records and digital signatures.

- It also defines cybercrimes and prescribes penalties for them.
- The Act directed the formation of a Controller of Certifying Authorities to regulate the issuance of digital signatures.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.4) Under Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which of the following countries are granted citizenship to avoid religious persecution?

1. Myanmar
2. Sri Lanka
3. Nepal

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Under Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) citizenship is granted to six minorities (Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi, and Christian) fleeing religious persecution from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “women reservation bill of 2023”:

1. It is not applicable to the seats reserved for SCs and STs in Lok Sabha and states legislatures.
2. Seats reserved for women will be rotated after every 10 years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on September 19, 2023.

The Bill seeks to reserve one-third of the total number of seats in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.

- **Reservation for women:** The Bill reserves, as nearly as may be, one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha, state legislative assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. This will also apply to the seats reserved for SCs and STs in Lok Sabha and states legislatures.
- **Commencement of reservation:** The reservation will be effective after the census conducted after the commencement of this Bill has been published. Based on the census, delimitation will be undertaken to reserve seats for women. The reservation will be provided for a period of 15 years. However, it shall continue till such date as determined by a law made by Parliament.
- **Rotation of seats:** Seats reserved for women will be rotated after each delimitation, as determined by a law made by Parliament.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.6) Which of the following is/are subsidiary companies of “General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC)”?

1. National insurance
2. Western insurance
3. Oriental insurance

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The General Insurance Business (Nationalization) Act, 1972 set up the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC).

The businesses of the companies nationalized under the Act were restructured in four subsidiary companies of GIC:

- National Insurance
- New India Assurance
- Oriental Insurance
- United India Insurance

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) “It is a title that gives its owner the legal right to exclude others from making, using, or selling an invention for a limited period of years in exchange for publishing an enabling public disclosure of the invention” – related to which of the following?

- a) Copyright
- b) Patent
- c) Trademark
- d) Trade secrets

ANS: B

Explanation: A patent is a title that gives its owner the legal right to exclude others from making, using, or selling an invention for a limited period of years in exchange for publishing an enabling public disclosure of the invention.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following acts are seeks to replace by the “Telecommunications Act, 2023”?

1. Post Office Act of 1854
2. Indian Telegraph Act, 1885
3. Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: In December, 2023, the Telecommunications Act, 2023 was published in the official gazette, after the Bill was passed by both Houses of the Parliament and received the Presidential assent.

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The Bill seeks to replace the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following law enacted by the Government of India for ensuring self-governance through traditional Gram Sabhas for people living in the Scheduled Areas of India?

- a) Seventy third constitutional amendment act, 1992
- b) Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996
- c) Forest rights act 2006
- d) National green tribunal act 2010

ANS: B

Explanation: The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 or PESA Act is a law enacted by the Government of India for ensuring self-governance through traditional Gram Sabhas for people living in the Scheduled Areas of India.

It was enacted by Parliament in 1996 and came into force on 24th December 1996.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Govind Pashu Vihar Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Uttarakhand

ANS: D

Explanation: Taking pride of place in the district of Uttarkashi, Govind National Park (GNP) and Govind Pashu Vihar Wildlife Sanctuary (GWS) are protected areas covering an area of about 958 sq km.

- A part of the Upper Tones Valley was notified as a Sanctuary in 1955 while GNP was notified in 1991.
- The area also encompasses the Rupin and Supin valleys that form important catchment for the Tons, the main tributary of River Yamuna.
- The region boasts varied climatic zones – sub-tropical, temperate and alpine – that results in diverse flora, including Himalayan cedar, rhododendron, Himalayan spruce, Himalayan yew, beech, spikenard.
- As many as 70 species of butterflies, 20 species of mammals and 100 species of birds have also been recorded here.

Source: FORUMIAS

Laws, Acts and amendments proposed – II

Q.1) Which of the following constitutional amendment act added the ninth schedule to Indian Constitution?

- a) 1st constitutional amendment
- b) 7th constitutional amendment
- c) 12th constitutional amendment
- d) 24th constitutional amendment

ANS: A

Explanation: The 1st Amendment Act, 1951: ☐

- Empowered the state to make special provisions for the advancement of socially and economically backward classes.

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- Provided for the saving of laws providing for the acquisition of estates, etc.
- Added Ninth Schedule to protect the land reforms and other laws included in it from judicial review. After Article 31, Articles 31A and 31B were inserted.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following tribe is not associated with "Uttarakhand"?

- a) Tharu
- b) Jaunsari
- c) Raji
- d) Toda

ANS: D

Explanation: Uttarakhand have 5 major tribes identified by the Government of India. These are Tharu, Jaunsari, Buksa, Bhotia, and Raji.

As of 2011 India census, Uttarakhand has a tribal population of 2,91,903, with Tharu being the largest tribe, followed by Jaunsari and Buksa.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following examination/s is/are covered under Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024?

1. Exams conducted by UPSC
2. Exams conducted by SPSC's
3. Agniveer recruitment

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Among other authorities, including those that may be notified/added to this list in the future, exams conducted by the below agencies will be covered under the proposed antichecking bill.

1. Union Public Service Commission (i.e., for civil service entrance exams)
2. Staff Selection Commission (i.e., for posts in union ministries and subordinate offices)
3. Railway Recruitment Boards (i.e., for certain kinds of jobs in the Indian Railways)
4. Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (i.e., for all public sector banks, except State Bank of India)
5. National Testing Agency (i.e., for entrance exams for admission to higher educational institutions)

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.4) Which of the following is/are provisions of “Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 2024”?

1. The Central Government will prescribe the manner of nomination of the chairman of the State Pollution Control Board.
2. The Central government may exempt certain categories of industrial plants from the application of Section 25 relating to restriction on new outlets and new discharges.
3. The amount of penalty imposed is to be credited to the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority Fund.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 2024, among other things, seeks to provide-

- The Central Government will prescribe the manner of nomination of the chairman of the State Pollution Control Board.
- The Central government may exempt certain categories of industrial plants from the application of Section 25 relating to restriction on new outlets and new discharges.
- The Central government may issue guidelines on the matters relating to the grant, refusal or cancellation of consent by any State Board for establishment of any industry, operation or process or treatment and disposal system or bringing into use of new or altered outlets, etc.
- The amount of penalty imposed is to be credited to the Environmental Protection Fund established under section 16 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding key provisions of “Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023:

1. The CEC and ECs will be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee.
2. The salary and conditions of service of the CEC and ECs will be equivalent to that of Supreme Court Judge.

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 CEC and Other Election Commissioners Bill, 2023:

- The Bill replaces the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991. It provides for the appointment, salary, and removal of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs).
- The CEC and ECs will be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of a Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consist of the Prime Minister, a Union Cabinet Minister, and Leader of Opposition/leader of the largest opposition party in Lok Sabha.

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- Recommendations of the Selection Committee will be valid even when there is a vacancy in this Committee.
- A Search Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary will propose a panel of names to the Selection Committee. Eligibility for the posts includes holding (or having held) a post equivalent to the Secretary to the central government.
- The salary and conditions of service of the CEC and ECs will be equivalent to that of Cabinet Secretary. Under the 1991 Act, it was equivalent to the salary of a Supreme Court Judge.

Source: <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/prs-products/prs-legislative-brief-4256>

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Godavari River Management Board (GRMB)”:

1. It is an autonomous body.
2. It was constituted under the administrative control of the Central Government in pursuance of the state reorganization act 1956.

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: Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) is an autonomous body.

- It was constituted under the administrative control of the Central Government in pursuance of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.
- Its agenda is administration, regulation, maintenance and operation of such projects, as may be notified by the Central Government from time to time.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following constitutional amendment added the “Anti - Defection to Constitution”?

- a) 7th constitutional amendment
- b) 35th constitutional amendment
- c) 44th constitutional amendment
- d) 52nd constitutional amendment

ANS: D

Explanation: The anti-defection law or the Tenth Schedule was added to the Constitution by the 52nd Amendment Act in 1985.

Any question regarding disqualification arising out of defection is to be decided by the presiding officer of the House.

Source: FORUMIAS

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Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Indian Forest Act, 1927”?

1. The act sought to consolidate and reserve the areas having forest cover, or significant wildlife.
2. It defined the procedure to be followed for declaring an area as Reserved Forest, Protected Forest or a Village Forest.
3. It aimed to regulate movement and transit of forest produce, and duty leviable on timber and other forest produce.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Indian Forest Act, 1927:

- The act sought to consolidate and reserve the areas having forest cover, or significant wildlife.
- It also aimed to regulate movement and transit of forest produce, and duty leviable on timber and other forest produce.
- It also defined the procedure to be followed for declaring an area as Reserved Forest, Protected Forest or a Village Forest.
- The act has detailed definition of what a forest offence is, what are the acts prohibited inside a Reserved Forest, and penalties leviable on violation of the provisions of the Act.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following act established the “National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)”?

- a) Wildlife protection act
- b) Environment protection act
- c) Biological Diversity Act
- d) Forest rights act

ANS: C

Explanation: The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established by the Central Government in 2003 to implement India’s Biological Diversity Act (2002). It is a Statutory Body.

It performs facilitative, regulatory, and advisory functions for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following act is not subsumed under “Code on Wages, 2019”?

- a) The Payment of Wages Act
- b) The Minimum Wages Act
- c) The Equal Remuneration Act
- d) The Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Act

ANS: D

Explanation: The Code on Wages, 2019, has been notified on 08 August 2019.

The provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, have been assimilated and subsumed in the Code.

Source: FORUMIAS

Laws, Acts and amendments proposed – III

Q.1) Which of the following country is not part of golden triangle?

- a) Thailand
- b) Laos
- c) Vietnam
- d) Singapore

ANS: D

Explanation: The Golden Triangle is an area formed roughly by the upland frontier areas of Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, and China.

- This area covers approximately 950,000 square kilometres (367,000 sq mi) of mountainous areas of the three adjacent countries.
- Today, the Golden Triangle is once again flooding regional and global markets with opium, methamphetamines, and other drugs.
- Nearly 95% of the total opium produced in the Golden Triangle region is produced in Myanmar.

Source: FORUMIAS

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

1. It was set up on the recommendation of second administrative reforms commission.
2. It was given statutory status under the Central Vigilance Commission Act 2003.

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: CVC was set up in 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam.

It was given “statutory status” under the Central Vigilance Commission Act 2003.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The Special Marriage Act (SMA), 1954 is applicable to which of the following?

1. Christians
2. Muslims
3. Jains

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Special Marriage Act (SMA), 1954: The Act is an Indian law that provides a legal framework for the marriage of people belonging to different religions or castes.

- It governs a civil marriage where the state sanctions the marriage rather than the religion.

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- The Indian system, where both civil and religious marriages are recognized, is similar to the laws in the UK's Marriage Act of 1949.
- The applicability of the Act extends to the people of all faiths, including Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists, across India.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding "Stamp Duty":

1. It is payable under Section 3 of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.
2. No penalty attracts if there is any delay in payment of stamp duty.

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: Stamp Duty is a tax, similar to income tax, collected by the government. Stamp duty is payable under Section 3 of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

- Stamp Duty must be paid in full and on time. If there is a delay in payment of stamp duty, it attracts penalty.
- A stamp duty paid instrument / document is considered a proper and legal instrument / document and has evidentiary value and is admitted as evidence in courts.
- Document not properly stamped, is not admitted as evidence by the court.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following constitutional amendment act "focuses on restoring the authority of state government to identify Other Backward Classes (OBCs) that are socially and economically backward"?

- a) 77th constitutional amendment
- b) 92nd constitutional amendment
- c) 97th constitutional amendment
- d) 105th constitutional amendment

ANS: D

Explanation: The 105th Amendment Act of 2021 focuses on restoring the authority of state government to identify Other Backward Classes (OBCs) that are socially and economically backward.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following article of Indian constitution is/are related to citizenship?

1. Article 3
2. Article 4
3. Article 5

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution does not define the term 'citizen' but details of various categories of persons who are entitled to citizenship are given in Part 2 (Articles 5 to 11).

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Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) In which of the following year the “Consumer Protection Act” introduced?

- a) 1959
- b) 1972
- c) 1986
- d) 1992

ANS: C

Explanation: Consumer Protection Act is one of the main laws that provide protection to consumers in India. The Act was introduced in the year 1986 and then amended in the year 2002 through the Consumer Protection Amendment Act, 2002.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) “It is a type of intellectual property that gives its owner the exclusive right to make copies of creative work, usually for a limited time” – related to?

- a) Copy right
- b) Patent
- c) Trade mark
- d) Trade secrets

ANS: A

Explanation: Copyright is a type of intellectual property that gives its owner the exclusive right to make copies of creative work, usually for a limited time.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which constitutional amendment act brought a provision of “a Governor can be appointed for more than one state”?

- a) 1st constitutional amendment
- b) 7th constitutional amendment
- c) 12th constitutional amendment
- d) 24th constitutional amendment

ANS: B

Explanation: Governor is the head of the state, appointed by the President.

- After the 7th Constitutional Amendment, 1956 a Governor can be appointed for more than one state.
- Lieutenant-Governor is the head of a Union Territory. A Lieutenant Governor also has the same powers.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The famous “Aghanashini Estuary” is recently seen in news associated with?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Aghanashini Estuary is an estuary where the Aghanashini River flows into the Arabian Sea in Karnataka State.

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- In addition to its estuarine and shallow marine waters, it features rocky and pebble shores, intertidal mudflats and some aquaculture ponds and rice fields.
- These diverse environments provide habitats to more than 80 fish, 115 birds and 45 mangroves and mangrove-associated species, including globally threatened species such as halavi guitarfish (*Glaucostegus halavi*), lesser adjutant (*Leptoptilos javanicus*) and Indian river tern (*Sterna aurantia*).

Source: <https://rsis Ramsar.org/ris/2534>

