

ForumIAS

F

Prelims Marathon

2nd Week September 2024

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

FORUMIAS



Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

INDEX

| | |
|---|----|
| Revision..... | 2 |
| Environmental Organizations..... | 6 |
| Environmental Organizations - II..... | 9 |
| India and Climate change along with the Impacts of climate change in India..... | 12 |
| Climate Change organizations and mitigation strategies..... | 16 |
| Environment Impact Assessment and Eco system..... | 20 |
| Conservation Efforts made by Indian Government..... | 24 |

Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Under forest act 1927, a state may declare forestlands or waste lands as reserved forest and may sell the produce from these forests.
2. Under forest conservation act 1980, prior approval of the Central Government is required for diversion of forestlands for non-forest purposes.

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 1927 Act deals with the four categories of the forests, namely reserved forests, village forests, protected forests and private forests.

- A state may declare forestlands or waste lands as reserved forest and may sell the produce from these forests.
- Alarmed at India's rapid deforestation and resulting environmental degradation, Centre Government enacted the Forest (Conservation) Act in 1980.
- Under the provisions of this Act, prior approval of the Central Government is required for diversion of forestlands for non-forest purposes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following legislation was enacted by government to protect “un authorized usage of biodiversity knowledge by foreign individuals and organizations without sharing the benefits arising out of such use, and to check biopiracy”?

- a) Forest act 1927
- b) Forest conservation act 1980
- c) Biodiversity act 2002
- d) Forest rights act 2006

ANS: C

Explanation: The Biological Diversity Bill, which was introduced in the Parliament on 15th May, 2000, was referred to the department related Parliamentary Standing Committee for Science, Technology, Environment and Forests for examination and report.

- After examination of witnesses and recording evidences, the Standing Committee approved the Bill with some amendments.
- The Cabinet approved the proposal for moving the official amendments based upon the recommendations of the Committee.
- The Biological Diversity Bill 2002 has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 2nd December, 2002 and by the Rajya Sabha on 11th December, 2002.
- The main intent of this legislation is to protect India's rich biodiversity and associated knowledge against their use by foreign individuals and organizations without sharing the benefits arising out of such use, and to check biopiracy.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following prepares the “People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR)”?

- a) Biodiversity Management Committee
- b) National Biodiversity Authority
- c) State Biodiversity Board
- d) Ministry of environment & forests

ANS: A

Explanation: Under Section 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, every local body in the State shall constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee within its area of jurisdiction for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties & cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and micro-organisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

- The main function of the BMC is to prepare People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR) in consultation with local people.
- The Register shall contain comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them.
- The BMC shall be responsible for ensuring the protection of the knowledge recorded in PBR, especially to regulate its access to outside persons and agencies.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Biodiversity Act 2002”:

1. All foreign nationals or organizations require prior approval of NBA for obtaining biological resources and associated knowledge for any use.
2. Indian individuals /entities don’t require approval of NBA for transferring results of research with respect to any biological resources to foreign nationals/organizations.

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: All foreign nationals or organizations require prior approval of NBA for obtaining biological resources and associated knowledge for any use.

- Indian individuals /entities require approval of NBA for transferring results of research with respect to any biological resources to foreign nationals/organizations.
- Collaborative research projects and exchange of knowledge and resources under these projects are exempted provided they are drawn as per the policy guidelines of the Central Government and have its approval the objectives of conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing.
- However, Indian citizens/entities/local people including vaid and hakims to have free access to use biological resources within the country for their own use, medicinal purposes and research purposes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.5) Which of the following schemes are creating awareness on conservation of plant genetic resources including seeds of farmers' varieties and landraces?

1. Tribal sub – plan
2. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
3. Scheduled Caste Sub Plan

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Government of India is creating awareness on conservation of plant genetic resources including seeds of farmers' varieties and landraces through the schemes like Tribal Sub-Plan, North-Eastern Hill Region and Scheduled Caste Sub Plan.

A total of 233 most potential varieties of different crops identified by farmers are being conserved through on-farm cultivation, value chain and marketing involving Self Help Groups and Farmer Producer Organizations (in seven states including Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh) by National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources - Indian Council for Agricultural Research, New Delhi.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1946410>

Q.6) The “dholes” species id recently seen in news related to?

- a) Wild dogs
- b) Butterflies
- c) Cranes
- d) Vultures

ANS: A

Explanation: Dholes are also known as Asiatic wild dogs, native to Asia and genetically similar to African wild dogs.

India- Found in 3 clusters (Western and Eastern Ghats, central Indian landscape and North East India).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “White-Cheeked Macaque”:

1. It is found in all north eastern states.
2. It is covered by the Wildlife Protection Act of 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: D

Explanation: White-Cheeked Macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) is a species of macaque found only in Medog County in southeastern Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh in northeastern India.

- It is not covered by the Wildlife Protection Act of India.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

- Along with White-Cheeked Macaques and Arunachal Macaque, Assamese Macaque (*Macaca assamensis*) and Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*) reported from the same landscape.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The term “bubble-netting” is associated with which of the following?

- a) Butterflies
- b) Crocodiles
- c) Whales
- d) Elephants

ANS: C

Explanation: The humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) is a species of baleen whale. Humpbacks use a unique method of feeding called bubble-netting, in which bubbles are exhaled as the whale swims in a spiral below a patch of water dense with food.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “leatherback turtles”:

1. They are smallest turtles on earth.
2. The Great Nicobar Island is a globally important nesting site of leatherback turtles 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: B

Explanation: The nesting site of leatherback turtles is threatened by a massive infrastructure plan of great Nicobar Island.

- Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) are marine turtles found worldwide.
- Leatherback turtles are the largest turtles on Earth. They can grow up to 2 meters long and weigh as much as 700 kilograms.
- The Great Nicobar Island is a globally important nesting site of leatherback turtles in India.
- They also nest at Galathea Bay in the Great Nicobar Island.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “sloth bears”:

1. It is an omnivorous mammal that can live up to 40 years.
2. They are the only bears to routinely carry their young on their backs.

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: A Sloth Bear (*Melursus ursinus*) is an omnivorous mammal that can live up to 40 years. Sloth bears are the only bears to routinely carry their young on their backs.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environmental Organizations

Q.1) Which one of the following is not part of earth summit 1992?

- a) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- b) Convention on Biological Diversity
- c) Convention to Combat Desertification
- d) Convention on Migratory Species

ANS: D

Explanation: Rio Conventions (earth summit) includes Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and UNFCCC.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The term “alterra” is recently seen in news associated with which of the following?

- a) Sea – level rise
- b) Green energy
- c) Climate investment
- d) Permafrost

ANS: C

Explanation: ALTÉRRRA is the world's largest private investment initiative to attract more climate investment to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following is/are objectives of UAE consensus?

1. Parties to transition away from fossil fuels to reach net zero.
2. Encourages parties to submit economy-wide Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
3. A new specific target to triple renewable and double energy efficiency by 2050.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The COP28 was recently concluded with the UAE Consensus, a landmark text which is agreed by 198.

- UAE Consensus is a landmark text that is agreed by 198 parties in the COP 28.
- The objectives of the UAE Consensus include:
 - Parties to transition away from fossil fuels to reach net zero,
 - Encourages parties to submit economy-wide Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs),
 - A new specific target to triple renewable and double energy efficiency by 2030,
 - To build momentum towards a new architecture for climate finance.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.4) Which of the following is not a member country of “Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation”?

- a) India
- b) Norway
- c) Brazil
- d) Rwanda

ANS: A

Explanation: Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation is a coalition of vanguard countries united by a shared ambition to transform food systems to deliver better outcomes for people, nature and the climate.

- The 5 alliance member countries include Brazil, Cambodia, Norway, Sierra Leone and Rwanda.
- India is not part of Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is not part of arrangement for establishment of “Global Environment Facility (GEF)”?

- a) World Bank
- b) UNESCO
- c) UN Development Programme
- d) UN Environment Programme

ANS: B

Explanation: Global Environment Facility - It is the largest source of multilateral funding for biodiversity globally, and distributes more than 1 billion dollar a year on average to address inter-related environmental challenges.

It was established as a pilot program in 1991 through arrangements between 3 implementing agencies,

- World Bank
- UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)”:

1. It was established by an international convention in 1982 in response to increasing commercial interest in Antarctic krill resources.
2. India is not a member of CCAMLR.

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: Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) was established by an international convention in 1982 in response to increasing commercial interest in Antarctic krill resources, a keystone component of the Antarctic ecosystem.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

27 Members, and a further 10 countries have acceded to the Convention. India is a Member of CCAMLR.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following is/are implementing agencies of “multilateral fund of Montreal protocol”?

1. Global Environment Facility
2. World Bank
3. UNCTAD

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Multilateral Fund was established in 1991 for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol under Article 10 of the treaty.

- The Fund's objective is to provide financial and technical assistance to developing country parties to the Montreal Protocol whose annual per capita consumption and production of ODS is less than 0.3 kg to comply with the control measures of the Protocol.
- The Fund's activities are implemented by UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO and the World Bank.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following organization selected “Airgun Surrender Abhiyan” as a model wildlife conservation programme?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Recently, Airgun Surrender Abhiyan was selected as a model wildlife conservation programme by UNESCO.

- An initiative to get local residents involved in environmental management and wildlife protection.
- Lumdung was declared as 1st Airgun free village of Arunachal Pradesh, where 46 air guns were surrendered.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Species Survival Commission” is recently seen in news related to?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: United Nations Biodiversity has urged people globally to use the word ‘funga’ whenever they say ‘flora and fauna’, in order to highlight the importance of fungi.

The Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature announced that it would use mycologically inclusive language in its internal and public-facing communications.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “CHAMP Pledge” is recently seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Climate action
- b) Child trafficking
- c) Malnutrition
- d) Child marriage

ANS: A

Explanation: The CHAMP was recently taken at the COP 28 that commits for new way of working for climate action where national governments work in partnership with their sub-national governments.

- It is a commitment taken by national governments on a new way of working in partnership with their sub-national governments.
- It is a new way of approaching the implementation of their next Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in time for COP30 in 2025.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environmental Organizations - II

Q.1) Which of the following is the operating entity of the financial mechanism for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC)?

- a) World bank
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) Global Environment Facility
- d) International Monetary Fund

ANS: C

Explanation: Global Environment Facility provides fund for biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, persistent organic pollutants (POPs), mercury, sustainable forest management, food security, and sustainable cities in developing countries.

It has served as an operating entity of the financial mechanism since the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC), 1994.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are market-based mechanisms of “Kyoto protocol”?

- 1. Emissions trading
- 2. Offshore energy trading
- 3. Joint implementation

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Kyoto Protocol aims to limit or reduce the greenhouse gas emissions by 3 market-based mechanisms – emissions trading, clean development mechanism and joint implementation.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following was signed to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs)?

- a) Minamata convention
- b) Stockholm convention
- c) Vienna convention
- d) Rotterdam convention

ANS: B

Explanation: Stockholm Convention- It is an international environmental treaty, signed in 2001 to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “30×30” target (protect 30% of land and 30% of coastal and marine areas by 2030) is the outcome of?

- a) Rio summit 1992
- b) World sustainable summit 2002
- c) Paris agreement 2015
- d) Montreal conference 2021

ANS: D

Explanation: The UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) has concluded in Montreal, Canada, promising to take urgent action to protect and restore the world’s biodiversity that inhabit this planet.

- One of the key take ways of conference is 30x30 target - Delegates committed to protect 30% of land and 30% of coastal and marine areas by 2030.
- Indigenous and traditional territories will also count toward this goal, as many countries and campaigners pushed for during the talks.
- The deal also aspires to restore 30% of degraded lands and waters throughout the decade, up from an earlier aim of 20%.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following fund/s is/are managed by “global environment facility”?

- 1. Global Biodiversity Framework Fund
- 2. Asia – Africa Climate Change Fund
- 3. Island Countries Development Fund

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The special funds set up and managed by the GEF are:

- The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) - It supports adaptation and technology transfer in all developing country parties to the UNFCCC, supporting both long-term and short-term adaptation activities in water resources management, land management, agriculture etc.,

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

- The Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) - It is established under the UNFCCC to address the special needs of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.
- Global Biodiversity Framework Fund - a new source of funding for protecting endangered species **and their ecosystems globally, which was approved by the GEF Council.**

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The first Africa Climate Summit (ACS23) was held in which of the following place?

- a) Ethiopia
- b) Kigali
- c) Nairobi
- d) Cairo

ANS: C

Explanation: The 1st Africa Climate Summit (ACS23) held in Nairobi culminated in the 'Nairobi Declaration', giving the continent a common voice ahead of upcoming key global engagements.

- The summit culminated in the Nairobi Declaration, an eleven-point call to action proclaiming African States' unified stance on climate action.
- It will form the basis of Africa's negotiating position at COP28 climate summit in United Arab Emirates.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following is not part of "Brazzaville Summit of the Three Basins"?

- a) Congo basin
- b) Amazon basin
- c) Western Ghats
- d) Borneo - Mekong

ANS: C

Explanation: Brazzaville Summit of the Three Basins aim is to enhance cooperation between countries of tropical forest basins- the Amazon, the Congo and the Borneo-Mekong.

The three global ecosystems account for 80% of the world's tropical forests and 2/3rd of the earth's biodiversity.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Champions of the Earth Award":

1. It is awarded every two years.
2. It was launched by the UN Secretariat.

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: In 2023, UNEP's Champions of the Earth seeks innovations, solutions, actions and initiatives working to 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

- It is the UN's highest environmental honor which is awarded annually.
- It is awarded by - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and launched in 2005.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following presents the “Michel Batisse Award”?

- UNICEF
- UNESCO
- UNEP
- UNDP

ANS: B

Explanation: The director of Gulf of Mannar biosphere reserve was selected for UNESCO Michel Batisse Award for 2023.

It is a \$12,000 award given every 2 years during the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) Council.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Seville Strategy” is often seen in news associated with which of the following?

- Wetlands
- Biosphere reserves
- Green house gas emissions
- Peat land development

ANS: B

Explanation: The Seville Strategy provides recommendations for developing effective biosphere reserves and for setting out the conditions for the appropriate functioning of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

Source: FORUMIAS

India and Climate change along with the Impacts of climate change in India

Q.1) Consider the following states regarding “Paris Agreement”:

1. It is a non – binding agreement on climate change.
2. It is adopted by more than UN member states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Paris Agreement: It is a legally binding international treaty on climate change.

- It was launched in 2015 and adopted by 196 countries.
- Its aim is to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

NOTE: The UN's Membership has grown from the original 51 Member States in 1945 to the current 193 Member States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following is/are initiatives launched by India?

1. LiFE mission
2. Global Biofuel Alliance
3. Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Climate Friendly Initiatives of India:

- International Solar Alliance- It was a joint effort by India and France to mobilize efforts against climate change through deployment of solar energy solutions launched in 2015.
- Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure- It is an international climate initiative by India in 2019 to promote resilient climate-proof critical infrastructure in member countries.
- Global Biofuel Alliance- It is an alliance driven by India, the United States, and Brazil, to accelerated adoption of biofuels, creating new biofuels, setting globally recognized standards, identifying global best practices, and ensuring industry participation.
- LiFE mission- Lifestyle for Environment is an international mass movement to protect and preserve the environment launched in COP 26 at Glasgow in 2021.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The "Global Cooling Pledge" is a joint initiative of UNEP and which of the following country?

- a) United Arab Emirates
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) India
- d) France

ANS: A

Explanation: Around 63 countries signed up the world's 1st ever pledge to drastically cut cooling emissions at the COP28 climate summit in Dubai.

Joint initiative - United Arab Emirates as host of COP28 and the UNEP-led Cool Coalition.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Global Stocktake (GST)”:

1. It is an exercise aimed at assessing the progress in the fight against climate change was mandated by Paris agreement.
2. It must be conducted for every five years, starting from 2020.

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: Global Stocktake (GST) was mandated by the 2015 Paris Agreement, GST is an exercise aimed at assessing the progress in the fight against climate change.

- The GST helps in deciding ways and means to enhance global action to bridge the adequacy gap.
- The Paris Agreement says GST must be conducted every 5 years, starting in 2023.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following green house gas has highest average life span in the atmosphere?

- a) Carbon dioxide
- b) Methane
- c) Chlorofluorocarbon
- d) Sulfur Hexafluoride

ANS: D

Explanation:

| Greenhouse gas | Average lifetime in the atmosphere | Global warming potential of one molecule of the gas over 100 years (Relative to carbon dioxide=1) |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Carbon dioxide | 50-200 years* | 1 |
| Methane | 12 years | 21 |
| Nitrous oxide | 120 years | 310 |
| CFC-12 | 100 years | 10,600 |
| CFC-11 | 45 years | 4,600 |
| HFC-134a | 14.6 years | 1,300 |
| Sulfur hexafluoride | 3,200 years | 23,900 |

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) principle was formalized in which of the following summit?

- a) Stockholm conference
- b) Earth summit
- c) Sustainable development summit
- d) Paris agreement

ANS: B

Explanation: Earth Summit- Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) is a principle that was formalized in UNFCCC of Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, 1992.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Green Climate Fund”:

1. It was launched at Paris agreement.
2. It is a financial mechanism for UNFCCC.

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: Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established in 2010 as financial mechanism for UNFCCC based in Incheon, South Korea.

It supports program, policies, projects, etc. through state-of-the-art funding window that involves a country owned partnership approach and flexible financing solutions and climate investment expertise.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Arrange the following emitters in descending order:

1. China
2. India
3. USA

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The UN report has revealed that the world was set to become warmer by at least 3 degrees Celsius by the end of the century with the current climate policies of the countries.

The three largest emitters are China, United States and India.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The famous “thwaites Glacier” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Arctic region
- b) Antarctica region
- c) Siberian region
- d) Hindukush region

ANS: B

Explanation: The scientists have used a high-resolution computer model of the Amundsen Sea, the most vulnerable sector of the ice sheet, to provide comprehensive assessment of warming in West Antarctica.

- Amundsen Sea will warm roughly 3 times faster than the historical rate through the rest of this century leading to much more rapid melting of ice shelves.
- The study worsens the outlook for Thwaites Glacier that is rapidly melting beneath its connected ice shelf.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.10) The famous “Dibru-Saikhowa National Park” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Assam
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Nagaland
- d) Himachal Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is a national park located in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts, Assam, India.

It was designated a Biosphere Reserve in July 1997 with an area of 765 km², including a core area of 340 km² and a buffer zone of 425 km².

Source: FORUMIAS

Climate Change organizations and mitigation strategies

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

- 1. Sundarbans is the world’s largest mangrove ecosystem in the world.
- 2. West Bengal, Gujarat and Andaman and Nicobar Islands has highest percentage of mangrove cover 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: C

Explanation: Mangroves cover 4,992 sqkm (0.15%) of India’s total area. Sundarbans is the world’s largest mangrove ecosystem in the world.

Highest percentage of mangrove covers in India - West Bengal, Gujarat and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following scheme/s is/are launched by government of India to promote climate smart agriculture?

- 1. National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change
- 2. National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture
- 3. International solar alliance

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Climate resilient agriculture has the potential to assure food security, empower farmers, & protect the ecosystems.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

- It is a comprehensive strategy for managing farmlands, crops, livestock, and forests that counteracts the negative impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity.
- FAO in 2019 said that CSA is an approach for transforming food and agriculture systems to support sustainable development and safeguard food security under climate change.

Steps taken by India to promote CSA:

- National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change- It was launched in 2015 to support concrete adaptation activities which mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture- It is a network project of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) that aims to enhance the resilience of Indian agriculture to climate change and climate vulnerability through strategic research and technology demonstration
- National Action Plan on Climate Change- It was launched in 2008 to mitigate and adapt to the adverse impact of climate change.
- It contains 8 national missions that cover various sectors and objectives related to climate change.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following institution developed an “innovative technology uses algae-assisted fuel cells to capture carbon dioxide, treat wastewater and generate power”?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) IIT Jhodpur
- d) IIT Kanpur

ANS: C

Explanation: IIT Jodhpur’s innovative technology uses algae-assisted fuel cells to capture carbon dioxide, treat wastewater and generate power.

It is an indirect method for converting CO₂ into carbonates and then uses it for algal growth.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following pollutants is emitted by stubble burning?

1. Methane
2. Ozone
3. Carbon monoxide

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Stubble burning emits toxic pollutants in the atmosphere containing harmful gases like Carbon Monoxide (CO), methane (CH₄), carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds (VOC).

These pollutants disperse in the surroundings and eventually affect air quality and people’s health by forming a thick blanket of smog.

Source: <https://www.business-standard.com/about/what-is-stubble-burning>

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.5) Which of the following is/are characteristics of green crackers?

1. Increased shell size
2. High ash content
3. Dust suppressants

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Green Crackers are fireworks made with a reduced shell size without ash, and use additives such as dust suppressants to reduce emissions and particulate matter.

- These crackers lack barium compounds that are responsible for the green hue and noise pollution.
- The idea was introduced by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) in 2018.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following state panchayat introduced the initiative of “bartan bank”?

- a) Odisha
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Gujarat

ANS: A

Explanation: A panchayat in Odisha’s Nuapada district recently introduces Bartan Bank to reduce plastic waste.

The Bartan Bank will act as a repository of steel utensils as alternatives to single use plastics during community functions and social gatherings.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Renewables 2022 Global Status Report”?

1. India has the 4th highest renewable energy installed capacity.
2. India is the 4th highest wind power capacity.
3. India is the 4th highest solar power capacity.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: As per Renewables 2022 Global Status Report, India stands:

- 4th globally in renewable energy installed capacity
- 4th in wind power capacity
- 4th in solar power capacity

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.8) The “PM JI-VAN Yojana” is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Bio fuels
- b) Primary health care
- c) Residential education
- d) Natural farming

ANS: A

Explanation: Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (JaiV Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana aims to provide financial support to Integrated Bioethanol Projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstock.

Centre for High Technology (CHT), a technical body under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG), will be the implementation Agency for the scheme.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Biochar”:

1. It is produced through pyrolysis method.
2. Its production is a carbon – negative process.

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: Biochar is a carbon-rich material that is made from biomass through a thermo-chemical conversion process known as pyrolysis.

- Pyrolysis – In this process, organic materials, such as wood chips, leaf litter or dead plants, are burned in a container with very little oxygen.
- Biochar production is a carbon-negative process, which means that it actually reduces CO₂ in the atmosphere.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “green tug transition programme” is recently seen in news related to?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH launched the ‘Green Tug Transition Programme’ (GTTP).

- India’s first National Centre of Excellence in Green Port & Shipping (NCoEGPS) was inaugurated in Gurugram, Haryana.
- In the event ‘Green Tugs Transition Programme (GTTP)’ was launched for operating green tugs in all major ports by 2025.
- NCoEGPS will act as the nodal entity for GTTP.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

- India aims at becoming 'Global Hub for Green Ship' building by 2030 with launch of Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP).
- A tug boat or tugs are marine vessels that maneuver ships by pushing or pulling them, mostly using tow lines.
- They tug ships in circumstances where the ships cannot or does not move using its own power like in narrow harbours, canals, etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environment Impact Assessment and Eco system

Q.1) The famous "T. N. Godavarman Thirumalpad vs Union of India" case often seen in news related to?

- a) Forests
- b) Renewable energy
- c) Sustainable development
- d) Agro forestry

ANS: A

Explanation: The Supreme Court (SC) recently directed the Government to follow the definition of "forest" as laid down in the 1996 judgment in T. N. Godavarman Thirumalpad v. Union of India.

T.N Godavarman Thirumalpad v. Union of India (1996): Definition of "forest" was expanded to include:

- All areas recorded as "forest" in any government (Union and State) record, irrespective of ownership, recognition, and classification.
- All areas that conformed to the "dictionary" meaning of forest.
- Areas that are identified as "forest" by expert committees set up by the State governments following the 1996 order.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following acts promotes the "Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)"?

1. Forest Conservation Act
2. Indian Forest Act
3. Wildlife Protection Act

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Measures taken by India for SFM:

- Legislative Framework: Forest Conservation Act (FCA) 1980 (allows government to declare reserved or protected forest areas), the Indian Forest Act 1927, and Wildlife Protection Act 1972 etc.
- Joint Forest Management (JFM) involving forest authorities and local communities.
- Afforestation and Reforestation Programs: National Afforestation Program (NAP), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Green Highways Programme etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

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

1. It is a central sector scheme.
2. It provides central assistance to tiger range States for ex-situ conservation of tigers in designated tiger reserves.

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: Project Tiger is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), launched in 1973.

It provides central assistance to tiger range States for in-situ conservation of tigers in designated tiger reserves.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “TRAFFIC” initiative is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Thermal energy efficiency
- b) Biofuels
- c) Wildlife protection
- d) Renewable energy

ANS: C

Explanation: TRAFFIC is a leading non-governmental organization working to ensure that trade in wild species is legal and sustainable for the benefit of the planet and people.

- TRAFFIC is a driving force behind the TX2 initiative, working to stop the illegal wildlife trade and reduce consumer demand.
- This resulted in the creation of Tiger Day, held annually on July 29th in order to promote awareness about the need to protect tigers through conservation initiatives.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following organization releases the World Wildlife Crime Report 2024?

- a) UNESCO
- b) UNEP
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

ANS: D

Explanation: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) released World Wildlife Crime Report 2024.

UNODC established in 1997 in Vienna (Austria), to fight against illicit drugs and organised crime.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.6) The famous “Shaligrams” is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Fossils
- b) Leaf scriptures
- c) Biofuel plants
- d) Sustainable villages

ANS: A

Explanation: Shaligrams, worshipped by Hindus and Buddhists for over 2,000 years, are becoming rarer because of climate change.

- They are ancient fossils of ammonites, a class of extinct sea creatures related to modern squids.
- Originating from a single remote region in northern Nepal in the Kali Gandaki River Valley of Mustang.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The “soliga” tribes are often seen in news indigenous to which of the following state?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Soligas are an indigenous tribe of Karnataka. They are indigenous people of South India and are credited with being the first at many things:

- They are considered the first settlers of India.
- Their home, Biligiri Rangan (BR) Hills, was among the first areas to be declared a wildlife sanctuary in India, in 1974.
- In 2011, when the region was declared a tiger reserve, the Soligas were the first community to win resident rights in a tiger reserve.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Candida Auris” is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Virus
- b) Bacteria
- c) Fungus
- d) Plants

ANS: C

Explanation: Recently, Candida auris, a drug-resistant fungus that was identified as a global threat was found in hospitalized stray dogs in Delhi.

- Candida auris is an emerging multidrug-resistant fungus causing life-threatening outbreaks.
- The World Health Organization has declared Candida auris as one of the world's 4 'critical priority' fungal pathogens.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.9) The “Pyrrosia, Aleuropteris and Corallodiscus” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Drug resistant bacteria
- b) Ancient virus
- c) Sea fossils
- d) Desiccation-tolerant plants

ANS: D

Explanation: In the Western Ghats, researchers have found 62 species of plants, 16 are Indian endemic, and 12 are exclusive to Western Ghats outcrops that can survive extreme dehydration.

- Desiccation-tolerant (DT) vascular plants are able to withstand extreme dehydration, losing up to 95% of their water content, and they revive themselves once water is available again.
- DT in India - India now has 9 new generic records for the global list of desiccation-tolerant (DT) plants.
- They are identified as Pyrrosia, Aleuropteris, Corallodiscus, Arundinella, Bhidea, Bothriochloa, Danthonidium, Dimeria and Glyphochloa.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following is/are not extinct animals?

- 1. Formosan clouded leopard
- 2. Bali Tiger
- 3. Japanese sea lion

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Extinct animals- Formosan clouded leopard, Bali tiger, Schomburgk's deer, Japanese sea lion and Syrian wild ass.

- Formosan clouded leopard is a leopard species. An extensive 15 year survey from 1997 to 2012 failed to find any individuals
- Bali tiger is a tiger species, which is described as smallest tiger on the Sunda Islands. It was believed to have gone extinct in 1950s.
- Japanese sea lion is a species of aquatic mammal. It went extinct in the 1970s.

Source: FORUMIAS

Conservation Efforts made by Indian Government

Q.1) Which of the following activities is/are not permitted within the Coastal Regulation Zone under Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Act, 2023?

1. Hatcheries
2. Eco – resorts
3. Broodstock multiplication centers

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: About Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Act, 2023:

- Broaden the definition of “coastal aquaculture” removing the ambiguity existing between the farm and other verticals of coastal aquaculture.
- Registration granted under Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act shall prevail and be treated as valid permission under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification.
- Permitting certain aquaculture activities in CRZ areas like hatcheries, nucleus breeding centres, and broodstock multiplication centres.
- Prevent the use of antibiotics and pharmacologically active substances.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct about organic farming in India?

1. India has the 2nd highest number of organic farmers in the world.
2. India ranks 3rd in terms of certified area globally.
3. Sikkim became the world’s first 100% organic state.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Status of Organic Farming in India:

- India has the highest number of organic farmers in the world (44.3lakhs) [Economic Survey 2022-23]
- India ranks 6th in terms of certified area globally. (The World of Organic Agriculture Statistics and Emerging Trends 2023).
- Sikkim became the world’s first 100% organic state.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.3) The “Participatory Guarantee System” is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Animal husbandry
- b) Crop rotation
- c) Organic farming
- d) Coastal farming

ANS: C

Explanation: The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, National Centre of Organic Farming and F.A.O have undertaken a technical co-operation programme for promotion of organic agriculture.

- One of the important components of this programme was to explore and develop PGS as a means of Organic Guarantee for products produced and consume within India.
- The first PGS model for India was developed based on existing models around the world. It specially borrowed and built on the strengths of existing successful PGS programs in Brazil, New -Zealand and United States.

PGS India system is based on participation, shared vision, transparency and trust.

PGS India programme provides two types of certificates:

- PGS-Green Certificate: Granted to those groups which are running under conversion period.
- PGS-Organic Certificate: Granted to those which have successfully completed the conversion period and have achieved the level of organic.

Source: <https://agri-horti.assam.gov.in/frontimpotentdata/participatory-guarantee-system-0>

Q.4) Which of the following crops is/are benefitted by climate change?

- 1. Wheat
- 2. Cotton
- 3. Rainfed rice

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Impact of Climate change on Agriculture:

- Projected decline in yields of rainfed rice, wheat by 2050.
- Beneficial for crops like cotton, chick pea, due to reduced frosts.
- Shift in crop zones like of Apple and other temperate crops.
- About 1.8-2 million tonnes of estimated annual milk loss due to heath stress in cattle and buffalo.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “PM PRANAM” scheme is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Fertilizers
- b) Primary health care
- c) Tertiary care
- d) Health insurance

ANS: A

Explanation: PM-PRANAM (PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth) was launched in Union Budget 2023–24.

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Its aim is to promote the balanced use of chemical and alternative fertilizers, generating awareness of regenerative agriculture (RA).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “urea gold”:

1. It is an organic fast-release fertilizer.
2. It is prepared by coating preheated urea granules with molten zinc.

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: Urea Gold (Sulphur-Coated Urea):

- It is a non-organic slow-release fertilizer and is generally prepared by coating preheated urea granules with molten sulphur.
- Sulphur coating ensures a more gradual release of nitrogen, prolonging urea action, increasing efficiency and reduces frequent application of fertilizer, thus enhancing soil health.
- As per Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) study, use of SCU leads to reduction in urea consumption by 25%.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following provisions are brought by “Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024”?

1. Local body has been mandated to undertake an annual assessment of plastic waste generated in following five year period.
2. Elimination of Single Use Plastics.
3. Centralized Portal for Registration.

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Recently, the government notified the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024 (PMW Rules 2024) under the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Key provisions of PWM Rules, 2024:

- Local body has been mandated to undertake an annual assessment of plastic waste generated, including estimation of the quantity of plastic waste to be generated in following five-year period.
- Centralized Portal for Registration: for Producers, Importers, Brand-Owners and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic.
- Elimination of Single Use Plastics (SUP): Local body shall take necessary measures to prevent stocking, distribution, sale and usage of prohibited SUP items in their jurisdiction and submit annual report.

Source: FORUMIAS

Prelims Marathon Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

Q.8) The “International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)” is recently seen in news associated with?

- a) UNEP
- b) FAO
- c) UNDP
- d) Food Safety Commission

ANS: B

Explanation: International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) is also known as seed treaty, is a legally binding agreement adopted in 2001 (31st session of the FAO) to conserve, use and manage PGRFA around the world.

- It makes possible the sharing of plant genetic resources across borders through a unique Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS).
- Provided an international legal framework for the establishment of Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway.
- India is a party and has enacted the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act 2001 to safeguard interest of farmers engaged in the conservation and improvement of plant genetic resources.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The famous “Chipko movement” is often seen in news related to which of the following state?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Rajasthan

ANS: C

Explanation: The Chipko movement was a nonviolent resistance against forest cutting in the Reni village in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. Silent valley movement
2. Appiko movement
3. Narmada Bachao Andolan

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Major environmental movements:

- Silent Valley Movement (1973) against hydro-electric dam on Kundapuzha River, Kerala.
- Appiko movement (1983) led by Panduranga Hegde in Karnataka. Inspired by the Chipko movement and included women in Karnataka's Western Ghats.
- Narmada Bachao Andolan (1985) against large dam on Narmada.

Source: FORUMIAS