

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

May, 2025 1st Week

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Akshvi digital wallet:

1. It is a digital platform that can be used by the communities to report their losses due to sudden loss of their jobs.
2. It is developed by the Ministry of Finance.
3. The wallet is launched on an all India level recently.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation: All Statements are incorrect

Statement 1 is incorrect: Using Akshvi digital wallet, the affected communities **log their losses and assets** every time they are faced with an incident (flood, drought, heatwave, landslide, lighting, hailstorm, etc) – regularly over a period of time.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is a **community-driven platform**, created by **SEEDS** (Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society) India.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It is presently piloted in **five districts of three states** (Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and West Bengal).

Source: DTE

Q2. With reference to the Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign 2025-26, consider the following statements:

1. The campaign aims to achieve 100% immunisation coverage of children against Measles and Rubella diseases.
2. Both Measles and Rubella are highly contagious bacterial infections.
3. The Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine is included in the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: The Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign 2025-26 **aims to achieve 100% immunisation coverage of children against Measles and Rubella.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: These both are highly contagious **viral infections** that can lead to severe complications or even death in children.

Statement 3 is correct: Two doses of the Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine are administered under the **Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP)**—the first at 9–12 months and the second at 16–24 months of age.

Source: DD News

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES):

1. It is a non-binding scheme.
2. Under the scheme, the nationals of Nepal and Sri Lanka are eligible for visa-free entry into India.
3. Under the scheme, Indian nationals are eligible for visa-free entry into Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 1 is correct

Statement 1 is correct: Despite being a regional facilitation mechanism, the SVES is not a binding treaty. It is based on mutual trust and bilateral goodwill.

Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect: Country-Specific Provisions – India:

- **Nepal & Bhutan:** Citizens of both countries do not require a visa to enter India.
- **Sri Lanka:** Sri Lankan nationals are also eligible for India's e-Tourist visa.
- **Indian Citizens:** Do not require visas to travel to Nepal and Bhutan.

Source: [BT](#)

Q4. Which one of the following statements best describes the process of delamination, related to plate tectonics?

- The process where the upper continental crust subducts under an oceanic crust.
- The detachment and sinking of the dense lowermost lithosphere (including the mantle lithosphere and lower crust) from the tectonic plate, allowing the underlying asthenosphere to rise and replace it.
- The subduction of oceanic lithosphere beneath a continental plate leading to volcanic arc formation.
- The lateral sliding of tectonic plates past each other along transform faults causing earthquakes.

Answer: B

Explanation: Delamination is a geodynamic process in plate tectonics where the dense, lower part of the lithosphere—comprising the mantle lithosphere and sometimes the lower crust—detaches or peels away from the overlying crust and sinks into the less dense, ductile asthenosphere beneath. This removal of the dense root causes the hotter, more buoyant asthenosphere to rise and replace the sinking material.

Source: [ET](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM):

- The CBAM imposes a border tax on carbon-intensive goods such as iron, steel, and aluminium.
- The CBAM is imposed by European Union on exported goods.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 1 is correct

Statement 1 is correct and Statement 2 is incorrect: European Union's proposed Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which is to be implemented from next year.

- The CBAM is a tool to put a price through **imposing border tax on imported carbon intensive goods**, like iron & steel, aluminium and cement.
- India has, however, strongly opposed the EU's move as it will put a tariff burden on such products of developing countries and impact their trade.

Source: [MSN](#)

Q6. With reference to the Sea of Marmara, consider the following statements:

- It connects the Black Sea to the Aegean Sea through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits, respectively.
- It lies partly within Turkey and partly within Greece.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A- 1 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: The Sea of Marmara connects the Black Sea (via the Bosphorus) to the Aegean Sea (via the Dardanelles).
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: The Sea of Marmara lies entirely within Turkey; it does not border Greece.

Source- [IT](#)

Q7. With reference to the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), launched in 2019, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide 55 litres per capita per day of potable water to every rural household through functional household tap connections by 2024.
2. The mission mandates that at least 50% of the members of the Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/Pani Samiti must be women.
3. It is a fully centrally funded scheme across all Indian states and Union Territories.
4. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti is the nodal agency for implementation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct**: JJM aims to provide 55 litres per capita per day to all rural households by 2024.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: The mission mandates that at least 50% of the VWSC/Pani Samiti members be women.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: JJM is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**, not fully funded by the Centre for all states. The funding pattern varies:
 - 90:10 for Himalayan and North-Eastern States,
 - 100% for UTs,
 - 50:50 for other states.
- **Statement 4 is correct**: The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti is the nodal body.

Source- [JE](#)

Q8. With reference to the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), consider the following statements:

1. The CCS is an extra-constitutional body headed by the Union Defence Minister.
2. It is responsible for all decisions related to India's defence policy, security, and matters that may have internal or external security implications.
3. The CCS also considers political and foreign policy issues that impact national security.
4. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet is a sub-committee under the CCS.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 4 only
- d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: A. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: The CCS is headed by the **Prime Minister**, not the Defence Minister.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: The CCS takes key decisions on defence, internal and external security matters.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: It also discusses foreign policy and political issues that may affect national security.

- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** is a separate Cabinet Committee, not a sub-committee of the CCS.

Source- [IE](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding corals and coral bleaching:

1. Corals are invertebrate animals that form colonies of polyps through a process called budding and are classified into hard corals and soft corals.
2. Hard corals build massive reef structures by secreting calcium phosphate, while soft corals do not contribute to reef formation.
3. Coral bleaching occurs when corals expel their symbiotic zooxanthellae algae due to environmental stress, primarily caused by rising ocean temperatures, leading to a loss of color and nutrients.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Corals are invertebrate animals that live in colonies formed through budding, and they are classified as hard or soft corals.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Hard corals secrete calcium carbonate, not calcium phosphate, to build reef structures. Soft corals do not contribute to reef formation, but they are still important to the marine ecosystem.
- Statement 3 is correct: Coral bleaching occurs when corals expel their zooxanthellae algae due to environmental stress, primarily rising ocean temperatures, which affects their color and nutrient source.

Source- [DH](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012:

1. The POCSO Act defines a child as any person below the age of 18 years and covers offences such as sexual assault, sexual harassment, and the use of children for pornographic purposes.
2. In 2019, the Act was amended to introduce the provision of capital punishment for certain aggravated sexual offences against children.
3. The Act mandates that trials for offences committed under it must be completed within three years from the date of the offence.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Act clearly defines a child as anyone under 18 years and lays out specific offences such as penetrative sexual assault (Sec 3), sexual assault (Sec 7), sexual harassment (Sec 11), use in pornography (Sec 13), and abetment (Sec 16-18).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The 2019 amendment introduced stricter punishments, including the **death penalty** for aggravated penetrative sexual assault.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Act mandates that trials **must be completed within one year** from the date of cognizance, **not three years**.

Source- [TH](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements about African Hyenas:

1. There are four species of hyenas found in Africa and none of the four is found outside the continent.
2. The Brown hyena is categorized as 'Endangered' by the IUCN, while the Striped hyena is categorized as 'Least Concern'.

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

Answer: D

Explanation: Both Statements are incorrect

Statement 1 is incorrect: There are **four distinct species of hyena found in African continent -**

- i) Striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) which is **also found in the Middle East and Asia**
- ii) Brown hyena (*Parahyaena brunnea*)
- iii) Aardwolf (*Proteles cristatus*)
- iv) Spotted hyena (*Crocutta crocutta*)

Statement 2 is incorrect: Brown hyena and Stripped hyena, both are categorized as '**Nearly Threatened**' with less than 10,000 mature individuals left in the wild.

Source: DTE

Q2. With reference to the 'Revive Our Ocean' Initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
2. It will assist local communities in their efforts to establish "marine protected areas" in coastal waters.
3. The initiative will start as a pilot project focusing on the European coastal waters initially.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 2 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: 'Revive Our Ocean' Initiative is **launched by the NGO Dynamic Planet** together with the **National Geographic Society's Pristine Seas programme**.

Statement 2 is correct: It aims to help communities **profit from efforts to protect at least 30% of the world's oceans** by the end of the decade. It will **assist local communities** in their efforts to establish "marine protected areas" in coastal waters.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Focus countries: It will focus initially on tackling overfishing and ocean climate impacts in **Britain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Mexico, the Philippines and Indonesia**

Source: DTE

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding continental shelf:

1. It is the shallowest part of the ocean showing sharp slope gradient of more than 35° or more.
2. The continental shelf along the Chilean coast is one of the widest in the world.
3. A coastal nation has exclusive rights to explore and exploit resources on their continental shelf within 200 nautical miles from its baseline.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 3 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is the **extended margin of each continent** occupied by relatively **shallow seas and gulfs**. It is the **shallowest** part of the ocean showing an average **gradient of 1° or even less**.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The shelves are **almost absent or very narrow** along some of the margins like the coasts of Chile, the west coast of Sumatra, etc. On the contrary, the Siberian shelf in the Arctic Ocean, the largest in the world, stretches to 1,500 km in width.

Statement 3 is correct: Under the **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**, the continental shelf is the **seabed and subsoil extending up to 200 nautical miles from a coastal state's baseline** or further if the natural margin extends beyond this limit. Coastal nations have **exclusive rights to explore and exploit resources** on their continental shelf.

Source: [TH](#)

Q4. With reference to the Padma Awards, consider the following statements:

1. These awards are announced annually on the eve of Independence Day.
2. The government servants including those working with PSUs are not eligible for these Awards.
3. The Award can be used as a suffix or prefix to the awardees' name.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 2 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.

Statement 2 is correct: All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, **Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible** for these Awards.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The award **does not amount to a title** and **cannot be used as a suffix or prefix** to the awardees' name.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding National Parks located in Odisha:

1. The Similipal and Bhitarkanika are the only two National Parks located in Odisha.
2. Simlipal protected area is also a biosphere reserve in India.
3. Simlipal National Park is the only place to find the melanistic tigers in the world.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Explanation: All Statements are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Similipal is the 107th national park and the second in the eastern state of Odisha, after the Bhitarkanika.

Statement 2 is correct: Similipal possesses multi-layered significance as a **wildlife sanctuary, project tiger, UNESCO biosphere reserve, and elephant reserve and now a National Park**.

Statement 3 is correct: The Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) is the **world's only home to wild melanistic tigers**.

Source: [IE](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the River Cities Alliance (RCA)

1. The River Cities Alliance (RCA) was launched in 2021 to enhance institutional capacity, promote inter-city collaboration, and facilitate the formulation of Urban River Management Plans (URMPs).
2. The URMP Framework, which guides cities in managing rivers, was launched by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and NMCG in 2020, with a focus on environmental, social, and economic aspects.
3. The RCA is implemented through a partnership between the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
4. As of 2025, 145 cities have joined the RCA, and any river city can join the alliance at any time.

Which of the following statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (b) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (d) 2, 3, and 4 only

Answer: (a) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct: The River Cities Alliance (RCA) was launched in 2021 with the objective of enhancing institutional capacity, encouraging inter-city collaboration, and facilitating the formulation of Urban River Management Plans (URMPs)
- **Statement 2** is correct: The URMP Framework was indeed launched in 2020 by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and NMCG, with a focus on managing rivers through an integrated approach, which includes environmental, social, and economic aspects.
- **Statement 3** is incorrect: The RCA is implemented through a partnership between the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, not the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- **Statement 4** is correct: As of 2025, 145 cities have joined the RCA, and any river city can join the alliance at any time.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the Ancient Muziris Port:

1. Muziris was located on the Malabar Coast in the modern-day state of Kerala and was active from the 1st century BCE to the early medieval period.
2. Muziris was primarily known for its trade in silk, porcelain, and ivory, with little focus on spices.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- A- 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct: Muziris was indeed located on the Malabar Coast in present-day Kerala and was active from around the 1st century BCE to the early medieval period.
- **Statement 2** is incorrect: While Muziris did trade in ivory and semi-precious stones, it was most renowned for its spice trade, particularly black pepper, often referred to as "black gold." The port was not primarily known for silk or porcelain.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Exercise Balikatan:

1. It is the largest bilateral military exercise between the Philippines and the United States.
2. The exercise is conducted once every five years under the ASEAN Defense Cooperation Framework.
3. It aims to improve military interoperability and readiness under the Mutual Defense Treaty between the two nations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Exercise Balikatan is indeed the largest bilateral military exercise conducted between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the United States.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The exercise is held *annually*, not once every five years, and it is not under the ASEAN Defense Cooperation Framework.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** One of the primary objectives of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and readiness of both militaries in support of the **Mutual Defense Treaty** between the U.S. and the Philippines.

Source- [TH](#)

Q9. The AIM4NatuRe (Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Nature Restoration) initiative, recently seen in the news, was launched by which of the following organizations?

- A. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- B. World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- C. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- D. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Correct Answer: C. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Explanation: The AIM4NatuRe initiative, short for **Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Nature Restoration**, was launched by the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** on **Earth Day (22nd April)**. Its objective is to **enhance global ecosystem restoration monitoring and reporting**, especially in support of achieving international biodiversity and restoration goals.

Source- [FAO](#)

Q10. With reference to the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), consider the following statements:

1. I4C has been established under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to act as a nodal point at the national level in the fight against cybercrime.
2. It aims to provide a framework for law enforcement agencies to deal with cybercrime in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: I4C has been established under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, not the Ministry of Electronics and IT.
- Statement 2 is correct: I4C provides a framework and ecosystem for law enforcement agencies to address cybercrime comprehensively.

Source- [TH](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements about Rajamannar Committee on Centre-State relations:

1. It recommended that the Article 356 should be repealed.
2. It criticised the role played by the Planning Commission with regards to its financial powers.
3. It recommended the abolition of All-India Services.
4. It recommended that the Centre-State disputes should be resolved under guidance of the Planning Commission.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: C

Explanation: Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: The committee recommended that Article 356—the provision that allows the Centre to impose President's Rule in a state—be repealed entirely.

Statement 2 is correct: The committee criticised the **Planning Commission**, created by an executive order of the Centre and sole decider of grants to be given to States.

Statement 3 is correct: The committee recommended the abolition of All-India Services (IAS, IPS, and IFS) to reduce the Central Government's control over State administration.

Statement 4 is incorrect: It recommended that a strong **Inter-State Council** be set up under **Article 263** to resolve differences in a spirit of dialogue.

Source: [TH](#)

Q2. With reference to the Rafael Marine fighter jets, consider the following statements:

1. It is fifth generation stealth aircraft to be used in naval aviation.
2. It can conduct both air-to-air and air-to-ground missions simultaneously.
3. The Indian version of the jet will be modified to equip with ASTRA Mk1 air-to-air Beyond Visual Range Missile.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: **Rafale-Marine Fighter Jet** is a **single-seat, carrier-borne, 4+ generation** aircraft capable of performing a wide range of missions, including deep strikes, air defence, and reconnaissance.

Statement 2 is correct: It is also described as an "**omnirole aircraft**", meaning that it can conduct **both air-to-air and air-to-ground missions** simultaneously.

Statement 3 is correct: It will be loaded with the **Meteor and MICA** air-to-air missiles, **SCALP** cruise missiles, **Exocet** anti-ship missiles and **ASTRA Mk1** air-to-air **Beyond Visual Range Missile**.

Source: [IE](#)

Q3. Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India?

- a) Francois Bernier
- b) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
- c) Jean de Thevenot
- d) Abbe Barthelemy Carre

Answer: B

Explanation: The foreign traveller who extensively discussed diamonds and diamond mines of India was **Jean-Baptiste Tavernier**. He was a French gem merchant and traveller who made multiple journeys to India during the 17th century. His accounts of diamond mining and trade in India are particularly detailed.

Source: [IE](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about the Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India (GHCI):

- 1. It is India's first certification framework to verify that hydrogen is produced exclusively using renewable energy.
- 2. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
- 3. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is the implementing agency of the scheme.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: All Statements are correct

Statement 1 is correct: GHCI is India's first certification framework to verify that hydrogen is produced exclusively using renewable energy, ensuring its recognition as "green".

Statement 2 is correct: It is launched by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** is the implementing agency of the scheme.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the National Investigation Agency (NIA)

- 1. It is a statutory body established under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008, after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.
- 2. NIA comes under the Ministry of Defence.

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 1 is correct

Statement 1 is correct: It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in India.

- Established in - 2008.
- Head Quarters - New Delhi.
- Established under - National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 after the deadly 26/11 terror attacks on Mumbai.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Nodal Ministry – **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.

Source: [India TV](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. The sanctuary is located in the Balasore district of Odisha and forms part of the Chota Nagpur Plateau region.
2. It is an integral part of the Similipal-Kuldiha-Hadgarh Elephant Reserve, which is crucial for the movement and conservation of elephants.
3. The sanctuary is ecologically linked to the Similipal Tiger Reserve through the Sukhupada hill ranges.
4. The sanctuary is drained by the Mahanadi River, which plays a crucial role in the region's hydrological balance.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
B) 1, 2, and 4 only
C) 2, 3, and 4 only
D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct, Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Balasore district of Odisha and falls under the Chota Nagpur Plateau region.
- Statement 2 is correct, as the sanctuary is part of the Similipal-Kuldiha-Hadgarh Elephant Reserve.
- Statement 3 is correct, as it is ecologically connected to the Similipal Tiger Reserve through the Nato and Sukhupada hill ranges.
- Statement 4 is incorrect, the sanctuary is drained by the Kuldiha stream and its tributaries, not the Mahanadi River.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Cholistan Desert (Rohi):

1. The Cholistan Desert, located in the western part of the Thar Desert was once irrigated by the Hakra River.
2. Derawar Fort, located in the Cholistan Desert, is the best surviving example of medieval forts built to protect the desert caravan routes and enable agricultural activities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer- C- Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct. The Cholistan Desert was once irrigated by the Hakra River, which changed its course around 600 B.C., rendering the area inhospitable and leading to the desertification of the region.
- **Statement 2** is correct. Derawar Fort, a significant historical site in the Cholistan Desert, is an example of the series of medieval forts built to safeguard the desert caravan routes and facilitate the region's agricultural economy.

Source- [IE](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Haji Pir Pass:

1. The Haji Pir Pass is located in the Pir Panjal Range of Jammu and Kashmir.
2. The pass connects Poonch in India to Rawalakot in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), and it was historically a vital route connecting Jammu to the Kashmir Valley before 1947.
3. The Haji Pir Pass was recaptured by India during the 1965 Indo-Pak War under Operation Bakshi but was returned to Pakistan following the Tashkent Agreement in 1966.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None

Answer- C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct. The Haji Pir Pass is located at an altitude of 2,637 meters (8,652 feet) in the Pir Panjal Range of Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Statement 2** is correct. The pass historically connected Poonch in India to Rawalakot in PoK, playing a vital role in connecting Jammu to the Kashmir Valley.
- **Statement 3** is correct. India recaptured the pass during the 1965 Indo-Pak War, but it was returned to Pakistan after the Tashkent Agreement in 1966.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA):

1. The CCPA was established under Section 10 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, and is responsible for enforcing consumer rights, preventing unfair trade practices, and curbing false advertisements.
2. The CCPA is headed by a Chief Commissioner and is composed of two additional commissioners, one dealing with goods-related issues and the other with service-related complaints.
3. The CCPA can only initiate class-action suits in cases involving monetary disputes and cannot conduct investigations through its Investigation Wing.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only One
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None

Answer- B- Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct. The CCPA was indeed established under Section 10 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, to protect and enforce consumer rights, prevent unfair trade practices, and curb misleading advertisements.
- **Statement 2** is correct. The CCPA is headed by a Chief Commissioner, and there are two other commissioners: one dealing with goods-related issues and the other with service-related complaints.
- **Statement 3** is **incorrect**. The CCPA has the authority to initiate class-action suits in various cases, including but not limited to recalls, refunds, and cancellation of licenses. Moreover, it is empowered to conduct investigations through its Investigation Wing, headed by a Director-General.

Source- [CCPA](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs):

1. Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs) are cluster-level enterprises that supply natural farming inputs such as bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, and organic formulations to farmers.
2. These centres have been established under National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) to promote natural farming practices.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer- C- Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct. BRCs provide essential natural farming inputs and serve as local hubs for promoting natural and sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Statement 2** is correct. BRCs have been established under the **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)**.

Source- [DTE](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding natural hydrogen:

1. It is also known as the blue hydrogen.
2. It can be produced from the process of serpentinisation.
3. Relative cost of white hydrogen is lesser than green hydrogen.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: Natural hydrogen is also called white/gold/geological hydrogen, to distinguish it from “green” (from renewables), “blue” (from natural gas with carbon capture), or “grey” (from fossil fuels) hydrogen.

Statement 2 is correct: Production: It is produced by processes such as -

- **Serpentinisation** - It is a geological process where ultramafic rocks are altered by water and heat, transforming them into serpentinite. This process also **releases hydrogen gas**.
- **Radiolysis of water** by radioactive rocks
- From **organic matter at depth**.

Statement 3 is correct: White hydrogen’s estimated cost is around \$1 per kilogram, significantly lower than green hydrogen, which costs about \$6 per kilogram, making it a **more affordable clean energy source**.

Source: [TH](#)

Q2. Moselle region, seen in the news due to discovery of huge reserves of white hydrogen, is located in which one of the following continent?

- a) Africa
- b) Asia
- c) Australia
- d) Europe

Answer: D

Explanation: A massive 46-million-ton natural hydrogen reserve discovered in Moselle region. It is a river valley spanning **north-eastern France, south-western Germany, and eastern Luxembourg in Western Europe**.

Source: [TH](#)

Q3. With reference to the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body constituted under National Security Act, 2002.
2. Its recommendations are binding on the National Security Council (NSC) of India.
3. It was established on recommendations of a special Task Force headed by K. C. Pant.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 3 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) is neither a statutory body nor a Constitutional body.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Its recommendations are only advisory and non-binding.

Statement 3 is correct: It was first established in 1998 on recommendation of a special Task Force headed by K. C. Pant.

Source: [TH](#)

Q4. "He was a Maratha ruler and military commander born in 1695. His strategic acumen and undeterred ambition earned him the prestigious title of Senasahib Subha from Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj. He led campaigns in Bengal (1745–1755), and expanded Maratha rule to Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. The Maharashtra government has reclaimed the iconic sword of this Maratha warrior at an auction in London recently."

Who among the following is described in the above paragraph?

- a) Kanhoji Bhosale
- b) Appasaheb (Mudhoji II) Bhosale
- c) Raghuji Bhosale I
- d) Parsoji Bhosale

Answer: C

Explanation: Raghuji Bhosale I (also spelt Raghoji Bhonsle) was a Maratha ruler and military commander born in 1695. He played a significant role in the expansion of the Maratha Empire in the 18th century, carving out the Nagpur Kingdom in east-central India under Chhatrapati Shahu I. His rise started under the mentorship of his uncle Kanhoji Bhosale. He led campaigns in Bengal (1745–1755), and expanded Maratha rule to Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. The Maratha warrior's strategic acumen and undeterred ambition earned him the prestigious title of Senasahib Subha from Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj.

Source: [IE](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding recent I4C's inclusion under PMLA, 2002:

1. I4C is the 27th entity authorized to share information with the Enforcement Directorate under Section 66 of PMLA, 2002.
2. I4C operates under the Ministry of Finance to combat cyber-enabled financial crimes.

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 1 is correct

Statement 1 is correct: The Finance Ministry has included the I4C in the list of agencies with which the Enforcement Directorate is permitted to share information under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act

(PMLA). I4C will be the 27th entity authorized for getting data from ED under Section 66 of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The measure comes amid growing instances of cyber frauds, Digital arrest and most cyber frauds are trans-national in nature. I4C operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Source: [BL](#)

Q6. The “Special 301 Report”, recently seen in the news, is released by which of the following organizations?

- A. World Trade Organization (WTO)
- B. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- C. United States Trade Representative (USTR)
- D. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Answer: C. United States Trade Representative (USTR)

Explanation- It is an annual publication by the United States Trade Representative (USTR), mandated under the Trade Act of 1974. The report identifies countries that, according to the United States, do not provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights (IPRs) or fail to ensure fair and equitable market access for US IPR holders.

Source- [ForumIAS](#)

Q7. With reference to the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to make India a global hub for the production and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.
- 2. The target is to produce 50 million metric tonnes (MMT) of Green Hydrogen per annum by 2030.
- 3. The SIGHT Programme is a key component under this mission.
- 4. It includes demand creation through exports and domestic consumption as one of its strategies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B. 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The National Green Hydrogen Mission, launched in 2023, indeed aims to make India a global hub for the production, usage, and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The mission targets the production of 5 million metric tonnes (MMT) of Green Hydrogen per annum by 2030, not 50 MMT.
- Statement 3 is correct: The Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme is a key component of the NGHM.
- Statement 4 is correct: The mission includes demand creation strategies, both through exports and domestic consumption, and also focuses on addressing supply-side constraints and developing a certification framework.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q8. With reference to Vembanad Lake, consider the following statements:

- 1. Vembanad Lake is the longest lake in India and the largest in Kerala.
- 2. It is the largest Ramsar site in India.
- 3. The Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary, located on its eastern shore, adds to its ecological significance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Vembanad Lake is indeed the **longest lake in India**, stretching approximately **96.5 km**, and the **largest lake in Kerala**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** the largest Ramsar site in India is the Sunderbans in West Bengal
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary**, located on the lake's **eastern shore**, enhances its **ecological and tourism value**.

Source- [TH](#)

Q9. With reference to the geography of Egypt, consider the following statements:

1. Egypt shares a border with both Sudan and Israel.
2. The Nile River flows from north to south through Egypt and empties into the Red Sea.

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

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Egypt shares borders with Sudan (south) and Israel (northeast).
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The Nile River flows from south to north and empties into the Mediterranean Sea, not the Red Sea.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to Green Municipal Bonds (GMB), consider the following statements:

1. Green Municipal Bonds are non-convertible debt instruments issued by municipal bodies to finance environmentally sustainable projects.
2. Only state governments are constitutionally empowered to issue Green Municipal Bonds under Article 243W of the Indian Constitution.
3. Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam was the first urban local body in India to issue a certified Green Municipal Bond.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Green Municipal Bonds (GMBs) are a type of non-convertible debt security issued by municipal bodies to fund climate-friendly projects such as clean energy, water management, and pollution control.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Article 243W empowers **municipal bodies**, not state governments, with functions related to urban planning and services. Thus, municipal corporations can issue such bonds, not just state governments.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam made history by issuing India's first **certified** Green Municipal Bond, marking a significant step toward sustainable urban financing.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India (GHCI):

1. It is aimed at establishing a framework to certify green hydrogen production and ensure transparency, traceability, and market credibility.
2. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
3. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is the implementing agency of the scheme.
4. The green hydrogen certificate issued under the scheme is non-transferable and non-tradable.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: C

Explanation: Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India (GHCI) is aimed at establishing a framework to certify green hydrogen production and ensure transparency, traceability, and market credibility.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** is the nodal ministry of the scheme.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** is the implementing agency of the scheme.

Statement 4 is correct: Certificate characteristics:

- The green hydrogen certificate is non-transferable and non-tradable.
- It cannot be used to claim any form of emission reduction credits under carbon markets or offset mechanisms.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q2. Which one of the following Badami Chalukyan kings is known to adopt a title as 'Rana-rasika'?

- a) Kirtivarman I
- b) Pulakesin II
- c) Vikramaditya I
- d) Pulakesin I

Answer: C

Explanation: Vikramaditya I was the son of Pulakeshin II and ruled between 654 and 681 AD. After Pulakeshin II's death, the Chalukya Empire suffered from internal strife and external threats, particularly from the Pallavas, who occupied the Chalukya capital, Vatapi (Badami). His most significant achievement was driving the Pallavas out of Vatapi and reclaiming the Chalukya capital, marking a turning point in the Chalukya-Pallava rivalry. He consolidated the Chalukya kingdom by plundering Kanchipuram, the Pallava capital. He adopted grand titles such as Maharajadhiraja ("king of great kings"), Satyashraya, Rajadhiraja, and **Rana-rasika ("lover of war")**, reflecting his military prowess and restored sovereignty.

Source: [HT](#)

Q3. With reference to the 'S8 Tension', consider the following statements:

1. It refers to a persistent discrepancy between the values of S8 obtained from different types of astronomical observations.
2. The Hubble tension deals with the rate of cosmic expansion while the S8 tension concerns the distribution and clustering of matter.

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both Statements are correct

Statement 1 is correct: The "S8 tension" refers to a **persistent discrepancy** between the values of S8 obtained from two different types of astronomical observations: Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) Data and Large-scale Structure and Galaxy Surveys.

Statement 2 is correct: These two (mentioned above) sets of measurements do not overlap within their statistical uncertainties, meaning that **if one is correct, the other is very unlikely to be correct** by chance. This is similar to the well-known "Hubble tension," but while the Hubble tension deals with the rate of cosmic expansion, the S8 tension **concerns the distribution and clustering of matter**.

Source: [TH](#)

Q4. The Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR) is located in which one of the following states?

- a) Bihar
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Rajasthan

Answer: B

Explanation: Palamu Tiger Reserve is located in the **western part of the Chotanagpur plateau and is spread over two districts, viz, Latehar and Garhwa in Jharkhand**. The reserve forms a part of the **Betla National Park**.

Source: [NIE](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements about a Private Member's Bill (PMB):

- 1. A nominated Member of Parliament can't introduce a PMB.
- 2. A notice period of six month is required for introducing a PMB in Parliament.
- 3. No PMB has been passed in the Parliament for last 50 years.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 3 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: A Private Member's Bill (PMB) is a legislative proposal introduced by any Member of Parliament (MP) who is **not a Minister, whether elected or nominated**.

Statement 2 is incorrect: For introducing a PMB in Parliament, a notice period of **one month** is required under parliamentary rules.

Statement 3 is correct: Since Independence, only 14 PMBs have ever been passed and received Presidential assent, with the last one becoming law in 1970 (**more than 50 years**).

Source: [TH](#)

Q6. With reference to the Vizhinjam International Seaport, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is India's first deepwater container transshipment port.
- 2. The port planned to serve as a global bunkering hub, supplying clean, green fuels such as hydrogen and ammonia.
- 3. It is being developed under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model by a subsidiary of Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c) All three

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct. Vizhinjam is indeed India's first deepwater container transshipment port.
- Statement 2: correct. The port planned to serve as a global bunkering hub, supplying clean, green fuels such as hydrogen and ammonia.
- Statement 3: Correct. The project is being developed through PPP by Adani Vizhinjam Ports Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q7. The "Right to Digital Access" is recognized as a fundamental right in India under part of which of the following Articles of the Indian Constitution?

1. Article 14 – Right to Equality
 2. Article 19 – Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression
 3. Article 21 – Right to Life and Personal Liberty
 4. Article 32 – Right to Constitutional Remedies
- (a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 3
(c) Only 2 and 4
(d) 1, 2, and 3

Correct Answer: (b) Only 3

Explanation: The Supreme Court, in the *Amar Jain v. Union of India and Ors.* judgment, held that the **Right to Digital Access** is a part of the **Right to Life and Personal Liberty** under **Article 21** of the Constitution, ensuring inclusive access to e-governance and welfare delivery systems.

Source- [TH](#)

Q8. The Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane is approved by:

- A) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- B) Union Ministry of Agriculture
- C) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
- D) Sugarcane Commission of India

Answer: A) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

Explanation- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane.

Source- [TH](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding Adi Shankaracharya:

1. He propounded the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta, which asserts that Atman and Brahman are essentially one and the same.
2. He rejected Bhakti as a means to attain liberation, emphasizing only knowledge (Jnana) as the path to Moksha.
3. He established four mathas in four directions of India to preserve and propagate Vedic knowledge.

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

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Adi Shankaracharya was the foremost exponent of **Advaita Vedanta**, which teaches that **Atman (individual soul)** and **Brahman (universal reality)** are **non-different**. The perceived duality is **Maya (illusion)**.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While Shankaracharya emphasized **Jnana (knowledge)** as the direct path to **Moksha**, he **did not reject Bhakti**. In fact, he acknowledged **Bhakti (devotion)** as a valid and supportive spiritual practice, particularly for those not yet ready for the path of knowledge.

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.

Visit academy.forumias.com for our mentor based courses.

- **Statement 3: Correct.** To ensure the revival and preservation of **Sanatana Dharma**, he established **four mathas (monastic centers)** in the **four cardinal directions** of India:
 - **Sringeri** in the South
 - **Dwarka** in the West
 - **Puri** in the East
 - **Badrinath** in the North**Source-** [TH](#)

Q10. "Project SeaCURE", recently seen in the news, is related to:

- A. A UK-led naval security exercise in the North Sea
- B. A collaborative effort to map underwater mineral resources
- C. A pilot project to extract carbon dioxide directly from seawater
- D. An initiative to restore marine ecosystems through coral reef regeneration

Answer: C. A pilot project to extract carbon dioxide directly from seawater

Explanation: Project SeaCURE is a **UK government-funded pilot project** aimed at testing the feasibility of removing CO₂ from seawater. This approach is being explored as a cost-effective and scalable method to address rising atmospheric carbon dioxide levels, contributing to climate change mitigation efforts.

Source- [CNN](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements about the Orange Economy:

- 1. It is also known as the creative economy.
 - 2. It is the knowledge-based economic activities upon which the 'creative industries' are based.
 - 3. WAVES 2025 is the first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit hosted by the Government of India.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Explanation: All Statements are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Orange Economy is also known as the creative economy.

Statement 2 is correct: The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) defines it as an evolving concept which builds on the interplay between human creativity and ideas and intellectual property, knowledge and technology. Essentially **it is the knowledge-based economic activities upon which the 'creative industries' are based.**

Statement 3 is correct: WAVES 2025 is the **first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit**, held at the **Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai**, and hosted by **the Government of India**. It aims to position India as a **global hub for Media & Entertainment (M&E)**, intellectual property, and technological innovation.

Source: [BT](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements about Satvahana Dynasty:

- 1. It was founded by Simuka with its capital at Pratishthana.
- 2. It was the first Deccanese dynasty to build an empire in daksinapatha.
- 3. Gautamiputra Satakarni is regarded as one of the most important Satavahana king known for his campaigns against Mongols.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Statements 1 and 2 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Simuka is regarded as the founder of the Satavahana dynasty with its capital at Pratishthana (Paithan).

Statement 2 is correct: Their kingdom included present-day Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and at times extended into Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. It was the **first Deccanese dynasty to build an empire in daksinapatha**—i.e., the southern region.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Satvahanas reached their zenith under the reign of Gautamiputra Satakarni (c. 106-130 AD). He is remembered for his successful **campaigns against the Shakas** and for restoring the kingdom's glory after a period of decline.

Source: [TH](#)

Q3. With reference to the ECINET Platform, consider the following statements:

1. The Platform aims to integrate and reorient over 40 of EC's existing mobile and web applications.
2. The data provided through ECINET will be strictly aligned within the legal framework established for conducting elections 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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both Statements are correct

Statement 1 is correct: ECINET- ECI Single Digit Platform is a new one-stop platform that will integrate and reorient over 40 of EC's existing mobile and web applications.

Statement 2 is correct: The data on ECINET will be entered solely by the authorized EC official to ensure that data is as accurate as possible. The data provided through ECINET will be strictly aligned within the legal framework established by the Representation of People Act 1950, 1951, Registration of Electoral Rules, 1960 Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 and instructions issued by ECI from time to time.

Source: [AIR](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about genome-edited rice varieties developed by ICAR:

1. These rice varieties are the first genome-edited rice varieties developed in the world.
2. These are considered as a Genetically Modified (GM) as they incorporate some foreign DNA.
3. The 'Pusa DST Rice 1' is a salinity tolerant crop variety.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Genome-Edited Rice Varieties are developed by the ICAR - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi and the Indian Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Hyderabad. They **are world's first genome-edited rice varieties**, named as - DRR Rice 100 (Kamla) and Pusa DST Rice 1.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Current genome technology involves using living organisms from native crop species (known as SDN 1 and SDN2 types of genome editing) to enhance productivity and achieve desired results, rather than incorporating alien organisms or bacteria. The two new varieties incorporate **no foreign DNA**, so they are **not genetically modified (GM)**. Hence, **these varieties are exempt from the biosafety regulations** outlined in Rules 7-11 of the 1989 Environment (Protection) Act.

Statement 3 is correct: Pusa DST Rice 1 was developed from MTU1010 and is a 'salinity tension tolerant' crop.

Source: [TH](#)

Q5. Consider the following pairs:

Dams

Rivers

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. Baglihar Dam | Chenab river |
| 2. Kishanganga Dam | Jhelum river |
| 3. Salal Dam | Sutlej River |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Pair 1 is matched correctly

Pair 1 is matched correctly: Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project is a **run-of-the-river power project on the Chenab River in the Ramban district** of Jammu and Kashmir, India.

Pair 2 is matched incorrectly: The Kishanganga Dam is a significant hydroelectric project **located on the Kishanganga River (a tributary of the Jhelum, known as the Neelum in Pakistan)** in the Gurez valley, Bandipora district, Jammu & Kashmir, India.

Pair 3 is matched incorrectly: **Salal Dam**, also known as **Salal Hydroelectric Power Station**, is a **run-of-the-river hydropower project on the Chenab River** in the Reasi district of the Jammu and Kashmir. It was the **first hydropower project built by India** in Jammu and Kashmir **under the Indus Water Treaty regime**.

Source: [BT](#)

Q6. Match List-I (Festival) with List-II (Associated Region/Community):

List-I (Festival)

List-II (Region/Community)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Ramman | 1. Garhwal region, Uttarakhand |
| B. Wangala | 2. Garo tribe, Meghalaya |
| C. Hornbill Festival | 3. Nagaland |
| D. Myoko | 4. Apatani tribe, Arunachal Pradesh |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1
- D) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2

Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Explanation:

- Ramman is a religious festival and ritual theatre recognized by UNESCO, celebrated in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand, especially in Saloor-Dungra village.
- Wangala is a harvest festival celebrated by the Garo tribe in Meghalaya to honor the Sun God and Misi Saljong (god of fertility).
- Hornbill Festival is a cultural festival of Nagaland, showcasing the heritage of its numerous tribes.
- Myoko is celebrated by the Apatani tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, known for rituals invoking fertility, prosperity, and community bonding.

Source- [The Tribune](#)

Q7. The term "Bioswales," seen in the news recently, is related to which of the following?

- A) Management of stormwater runoff
- B) Conservation of biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems
- C) Methods to increase soil fertility
- D) Techniques for reducing air pollution in urban areas

Answer- A

Explanation- Bioswales are shallow, vegetated channels designed to collect, filter, and manage stormwater runoff.

Source- [ForumIAS](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Angola:

- 1. Angola is located on the east coast of Southern Africa.
 - 2. The Cuango and Cuanza rivers are important for hydropower generation and inland water transport in Angola.
 - 3. Angola shares its borders with Namibia, Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: B) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Angola is located on the **west coast** of Southern Africa, not the east.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Cuango and Cuanza rivers** are significant for **hydropower** and **inland transport**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Angola borders **Namibia (south), Zambia (east),** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (north)**.

Source- [Forum IAS](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) is constructed on the Godavari River in Telangana and is currently the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project.
 - 2. KLIP is a newly conceptualized project with no connection to any earlier irrigation projects in the region.
- 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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** KLIP is built on the **Godavari River** in **Kaleshwaram, Telangana,** and is considered the **world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** KLIP is **redesigned from the Pranahita-Chevella project,** which was a part of **erstwhile Andhra Pradesh's irrigation planning**.

Source- [IE](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding Amaravati:

1. The Amaravati Stupa, referred to as Maha Chaitya, is among the oldest Buddhist monuments in India and dates back to the 2nd century BCE.
2. Acharya Nagarjuna, who expounded the Madhyamika philosophy that forms the basis of Mahayana Buddhism, is believed to have lived in the Amaravati region.
3. Amaravati was the capital of the Pallava dynasty and a major center of Shaivism during the early medieval period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Amaravati Stupa**, also known as **Maha Chaitya**, dates back to the **2nd century BCE** and is one of the oldest and most significant Buddhist monuments in India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** **Acharya Nagarjuna**, a key figure in the development of **Madhyamika philosophy** and **Mahayana Buddhism**, is traditionally associated with the **Amaravati region**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** **Amaravati** was the **capital of the Satavahana dynasty, not the Pallavas**. While it has Shaivite heritage (e.g., Sri Amaralingeswara Swamy Temple), it was not a Pallava capital.

Source- [IT](#)

Q1. Consider the following statements about snow leopard:

1. It inhabits the mountains of central Asia only.
2. It is categorized as *Vulnerable* by the IUCN.
3. It is also known as the 'ghost of the mountains' as it often hunts for the human preys.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only Statement 2 is correct

Statement 1 is incorrect: The snow leopard inhabits the mountains of **central Asia and the Indian subcontinent**, ranging from an elevation of about 1,800 metres (about 6,000 feet) in the winter to about 5,500 metres (18,000 feet) in the summer. They are found in 12 countries, including China, Bhutan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Russia, and Mongolia.

Statement 2 is correct: IUCN Red List: Vulnerable

Statement 3 is incorrect: The snow leopard often referred to as the "ghost of the mountains because it is rarely seen by humans.

Source: [HT](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements about missiles used by Indian armed forces in Operation Sindoor:

1. SCALP is an air-launched stealth cruise missile.
2. METEOR is a Beyond Visual Range, next-generation air-to-air missile.
3. BRAHMOS is a subsonic cruise missile, adaptable for land, sea, and air platforms.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation: Statements 1 and 2 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: SCALP stands for Système de Croisière Autonome à Longue Portée, a long-range, **air-launched cruise missile** developed by France.

Statement 2 is correct: METEOR (Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile - BVRAAM): A next-generation air-to-air missile built by MBDA, effective in electronic warfare environments.

Statement 3 is incorrect: BRAHMOS is a **supersonic** cruise missile jointly developed by India and Russia, named after the Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers. It operates on Fire-and-Forget Principle, adaptable for land, sea, and air platforms.

Source: [IE](#)

Q3. Consider the following countries:

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Bahrain
3. Kuwait
4. Iraq
5. Iran
6. U.A.E.

How many of the above countries share a coast along the Persian Gulf?

- a) Only three
- b) Only four
- c) Only five
- d) All six

Answer: D

Explanation: The Persian Gulf is a shallow inland sea in Western Asia.

- It is bounded by:
 - North: **Iran**
 - Southwest: **Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE**
 - Northwest: **Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain**

Source: [IE](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about Jenu Kuruba tribe:

1. It is recognized as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).
2. It is primarily found in Odisha state of India.
3. The traditional small settlement of the Jenu Kuruba people is known as Hadi.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: The Jenu Kuruba is recognized as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)**, primarily found in the Kodagu and Mysore districts of Karnataka.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Jenu Kuruba tribe is primarily located **in Karnataka state**.

Statement 3 is correct: They live in small **settlements called Hadi**.

Source: [SURVI](#)

Q5. Which of the following best defines the term 'Total Allowable Catch (TAC)'?

- a) An amount fixed by the EPFO to the Union Government employees.
- b) An alien species that is allowed in a biodiversity.
- c) A regulatory limit on the total quantity of fish that can be harvested.
- d) Sample that can be collected from the Moon from a particular area.

Answer: C

Explanation: Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is a regulatory limit on the total quantity of fish that can be harvested from a specific water body or region. It is typically imposed by government agencies and international bodies with jurisdiction over fisheries or fish stocks in seas, oceans, lakes, and other water bodies.

Source: [TH](#)

Q6. With reference to the Cashless Treatment of Road Accident Victims Scheme, 2025, consider the following statements:

- 1. The scheme covers all road accident victims for up to ₹1.5 lakh in treatment costs, regardless of fault or vehicle ownership.
- 2. The scheme is implemented by the National Health Authority (NHA) in coordination with State Road Safety Councils.
- 3. The Steering Committee overseeing the scheme is chaired by the CEO of the National Health Authority.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The scheme provides ₹1.5 lakh coverage per victim, applicable to any person injured in a road accident involving a motor vehicle.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The implementation is carried out by the NHA along with State Road Safety Councils.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Steering Committee is headed by the **Road Secretary**, not the CEO of NHA.

Source- [FoumIAS](#)

Q7. With reference to the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC), consider the following statements:

- 1. Kozhikode has recently been inducted as a member of the GNAFCC, a WHO-led initiative promoting age-friendly communities.
- 2. The GNAFCC aims to connect only cities from developing countries to promote equitable elderly care models.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kozhikode has been honoured with membership in WHO's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The GNAFCC includes members from both developing and developed countries (1300 members from 51 countries), and its aim is global in scope—not limited to developing countries.

Source- [TH](#)

Q8. Alcatraz Island, recently in news, is located in:

- (a) Gulf of Mexico
- (b) San Francisco Bay
- (c) Hudson Bay
- (d) Chesapeake Bay

Correct Answer: (b) San Francisco Bay

Source- [IE](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Maldives:

1. The Maldives is located entirely north of the Equator in the Arabian Sea.
2. The Eight Degree Channel, a strategic waterway, separates the Maldives from India's Lakshadweep archipelago.
3. The Maldives has a maritime boundary with Sri Lanka but not with India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Maldives lies *both north and south* of the Equator.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Eight Degree Channel separates Minicoy (India) from the Maldives, and it is strategically significant.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Maldives shares maritime boundaries with both **India and Sri Lanka**.

Source- [ET](#)

Q10. With reference to the Art Deco architectural style in India, consider the following statements:

1. Art Deco architecture in India was primarily associated with royal palaces and colonial administrative buildings.
2. Laxman Mahadeo Chitale played a key role in introducing Art Deco architecture to Madras during the early 20th century.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Art Deco was adopted by banks, cinemas, studios, and commercial buildings—not royal palaces or colonial administration.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** L.M. Chitale is credited with introducing Art Deco to Madras, where it shaped numerous civic and residential structures.

Source- [TH](#)