

# 10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

August, 2025 1st Week

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (1st August)

# **Q1.** Consider the following description:

It is located in the Bargarh district of Odisha, near the Hirakud Dam on the Mahanadi River. The sanctuary holds historical significance as the noted freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai used it as a base during his rebellion against the British. His headquarters at Barapathara was situated within the sanctuary's boundaries. Which of the following wildlife sanctuaries is being referred to?

- (a) Simlipal Wildlife Sanctuary
- (b) Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary
- (c) Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary
- (d) Chilika Wildlife Sanctuary

# **Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:** The description refers to Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, located in the Bargarh district of Odisha near the Hirakud Dam on the Mahanadi River. It is historically significant as a stronghold of Veer Surendra Sai during his rebellion against British colonial rule, with his base at Barapathara situated within the sanctuary. Source-mint

- **Q2.** Mount Cilo, recently in the news due to significant glacial retreat, is located in which of the following regions?
- (a) Caucasus Mountains, Georgia
- **(b)** Zagros Mountains, Iran
- (c) Taurus Mountains, Turkey
- (d) Ural Mountains, Russia

#### **Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:** Mount Cilo is located at the southeastern end of the Taurus Mountain range, southeast of Lake Van, in the Anatolia region of Turkey. It has been in the news recently for losing nearly 50% of its glacier cover over the past 40 years, highlighting concerns over climate change and glacial retreat in the region. Source-TOI

- **Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding human blood groups:
- 1. Individuals with 0 negative blood group are considered universal donors.
- 2. Blood group is determined solely by the antigens present in white blood cells.

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: Individuals with O negative blood lack A, B, and Rh antigens, making them universal donors for red blood cell transfusions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Blood group is determined by antigens present on the surface of red blood cells (RBCs), not white blood cells.

Source-TH

- **Q4.** Consider the following statements about the Musi River:
- 1. It is a major tributary of the Krishna River flowing through Telangana.
- 2. Its source is the Anantagiri Hills in Vikarabad, Telangana.
- 3. Himayat Sagar and Osman Sagar are dams constructed over the Musi River.

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

# Correct Answer: (d)

**Explanation:** All three statements are correct. The Musi River is an important tributary of the Krishna River, flowing primarily through Telangana. It originates from the Anantagiri Hills near Vikarabad in Telangana. The two prominent reservoirs—Himayat Sagar and Osman Sagar—have been constructed on the Musi River and serve as key water sources for the Hyderabad region.

Source- TH

**Q5.** With reference to the Ramsar Convention, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Convention was adopted in Kenya in 1971.
- 2. It provides a framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
- 3. A wetland must meet at least one of the nine criteria to be designated as a Wetland of International Importance.
- 4. India has the highest number of Ramsar Sites globally.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

# Correct Answer: (b)

#### **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Ramsar Convention was adopted in Ramsar, Iran in 1971, and came into force in 1975.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Convention provides an intergovernmental framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** To qualify as a Wetland of International Importance, a site must meet at least one of the nine criteria established by the Convention.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** India has the highest number of Ramsar Sites in **Asia**, but not globally.

#### Source-HT

**Q6.** The World Economic Outlook report is released by

- a) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- b) World Bank
- c) World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

## Answer: D Explanation:

• The World Economic Outlook (WEO) provides a comprehensive picture of the global economy as well as details of individual countries. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) releases the WEO twice every year, in April and October, apart from updating it twice - in January and July.

Source: IE

Q7. With reference to the PM National Dialysis Programme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under National Health Mission (NHM).
- 2. The scheme ensures availability of dialysis services free of cost to Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries at the district hospitals in the country.

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 are correct** 

**Statement 1 is correct:** Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched the 'Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Program' (PMNDP) under the National Health Mission in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in Union Budget 2016-17.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP) ensures availability of dialysis services free of cost to Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries at the district hospitals in the country.

Source: PIB

**08.** Consider the following statements about the Soil Health Card Scheme:

- 1. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- 2. The Soil Health Card given under the scheme contains status of the soil with respect to 12 parameters including pH and Electrical Conductivity.
- 3. A Village Level Soil Testing Labs (VLSTLs) can be opened by a youth whose age should not be below 18 years and should not be more than 27 years.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

**Explanation: 2 and 3 are correct** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

Statement 2 is correct: The Soil Health Card contains status of the soil with respect to 12 parameters, namely N,P,K, S (Macro-nutrients); Zn, Fe, Cu, Mn, Bo (Micro - nutrients); and pH (Acidity or Basicity), EC (Electrical Conductivity) and OC (Organic Carbon).

**Statement 3 is correct:** The Village Level Soil Testing Labs (VLSTLs) can be set up by individual entrepreneur i.e. rural youth and community based entrepreneurs, including Self Help Groups (SHGs), Schools, Agriculture Universities etc. The beneficiary/village level entrepreneur should be a youth whose age should not be below 18 years and should not be more than 27 years.

Source: PIB

**Q9.** Consider the following statements about PM MITRA SCHEME:

- 1. It is being launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare.
- 2. The scheme will help India in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 9.

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: Only 2 is correct** 

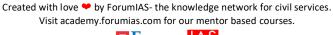
**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The scheme is launched by the Ministry of Textiles.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is aimed at helping India to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 9: "Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation". It is hoped that the PM MITRA Parks will have world-class industrial infrastructure which would attract cutting age technology and boost FDI and local investment in the textiles sector.

Source: PIB

**Q10**. Consider the following statements about the Asiatic Lions:

- 1. They are categorized as "Endangered" by the IUCN.
- 2. The Gir National Park in Gujarat is the last natural habitat of Asiatic Lions in the whole continent of Asia.





3. The International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) reinforces the global commitment to conserving big cats, including lions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: 2 and 3 are correct

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Due to sustained conservation, the IUCN moved the Asiatic lion from "Endangered" (2008) to Vulnerable (2025) on its Red List.

Statement 2 is correct: The Gir National Park in Gujarat, India, is the last remaining natural habitat for Asiatic lions in the world. They are not found anywhere else in Asia in the wild.

Statement 3 is correct: Launched in April 2023, the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) reinforces the global commitment to conserving big cats, including lions.

**Source: TNIE** 

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (2 August)

- **Q1.** With reference to Goswami Tulsidas, consider the following statements:
- 1. He was a contemporary of Mughal Emperor Akbar.
- 2. He wrote Ramcharitmanas in the Awadhi language.
- 3. His other works include Vinava Patrika and Krishna Gitavali.

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation- Tulsidas lived during Akbar's reign and wrote Ramcharitmanas in Awadhi to popularize the Ramayana. His other works include Vinaya Patrika, Krishna Gitavali, and Dohavali. Source- TOI

- **Q2.** With reference to Ashtamudi Lake, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is the second largest lake in Kerala after Vembanad Lake.
- 2. It has been designated as a Ramsar site.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

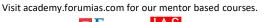
- (a) 1 only
- **(b)** 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

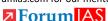
#### Correct Answer: (c)

**Explanation**: Ashtamudi Lake, located in Kollam district, is the second largest lake in Kerala after Vembanad. It was designated a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance in 2002 for its ecological richness and unique estuarine ecosystem.

Source- TH

- **Q3.** With reference to the Disqualification of Legislators under the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:
- 1. The Tenth Schedule was added by the Constitution (Fifty-Second Amendment) Act, 1985 to curb political
- 2. An independently elected legislator is disqualified if they join a political party after the election.
- 3. A nominated member is disqualified if they join any political party within six months of being nominated. Created with love ♥ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.





Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

# Correct Answer: (a)

# **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct**: The Tenth Schedule was added in 1985 to address defections and promote political stability.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: An independent MLA/MP is disqualified if they join a political party after the election.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: A nominated member is allowed to join a political party within six months of nomination. Disqualification applies after six months, not within.

Source-IT

**Q4.** With reference to the Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention.
- 2. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) serves as its Secretariat.
- 3. India is one of the member states of this initiative.

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

# Correct Answer: (a)

#### **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct**: IBRRI supports the implementation of the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan.
- Statement 2 is correct: IUCN acts as the Secretariat and supports it through the BRIDGE project.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: India is not a member of IBRRI. The members are Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Source- **IUCN** 

Q5. With reference to the ABHA ID (Ayushman Bharat Health Account), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a 14-digit number that uniquely identifies individuals in India's digital health ecosystem.
- 2. It is accepted by healthcare providers across the country.
- 3. Individuals can voluntarily opt out by requesting deletion or deactivation of their ABHA number. 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

#### Correct Answer: (d)

**Explanation :** The ABHA ID is a 14-digit unique health identifier under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. It enables digital access to health records and is recognized across healthcare providers nationwide. Participation is voluntary, and users can request permanent deletion or temporary deactivation of their ABHA ID at any time.

Source-TH

**Q6.** Consider the following statements about the Supply and Use Tables (SUTs):

1. They are released by the Ministry of Finance.



2. They offer a comprehensive framework that integrates the production, income, and expenditure approaches in measuring Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

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: Only 2** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released the 'Supply and Use Tables of 2020-21 and 2021-22'.

Statement 2 is correct: They offer a comprehensive framework that integrates the three approaches to measuring Gross Domestic Product (GDP)—production, income, and expenditure within a unified structure.

Source: PIB

**Q7**. Consider the following statements regarding the Panel of Chairperson of Lok Sabha:

- 1. The office of the Panel of Chairperson of Lok Sabha is neither mentioned in the Constitution nor in the Rules of Procedure of Lok Sabha.
- 2. A member of the panel of chairpersons cannot preside over the House, when the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is vacant.
  - 3. A minister can also be a member of panel of chairpersons.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

**Explanation: Only 2** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect: Enabling provision:** The **Panel of Chairperson is nominated** under **Section 9 in Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.** 

**Statement 2 is correct:** A member of the panel of chairpersons **cannot preside** over the House, when the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is **vacant**. During such time, the **Speaker's duties** are to be performed by such member of the House as the **President may appoint** for the purpose.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** A minister cannot be a member of panel of chairpersons.

Source: TH

#### **08.** Consider the following countries:

- 1. Germany
- 2. Hungary
- 3. Switzerland
- 4. Italy
- 5. Austria
- 6. France
- 7. Croatia

How many of the above countries share a land boundary with Slovenia?

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

Answer: A Explanation:



• Slovenia share its boundaries with Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Italy, and Adriatic Sea (Gulf of Venice).

Source: Tol

- **Q9.** Which of the following best describes the BHASKAR platform launched by the Government of India?
- a) A digital platform that centralizes India's startup ecosystem by providing a registry for startups, investors, mentors, and other stakeholders to collaborate and access resources.
- b) A fintech solution for real-time monitoring of foreign direct investments in Indian startups.
- c) An agri-tech portal to disseminate weather and crop information to rural entrepreneurs.
- d) A government database for tracking patents and intellectual property filings in the technology sector.

Answer: A Explanation:

The BHASKAR (Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry) platform, launched under the Startup India program, serves as a one-stop digital platform to centralize and streamline the Indian startup ecosystem.

Source: **DD News** 

**Q10**. Consider the following statements about the National Film Awards:

- 1. The National Film Awards were instituted in 1954 to recognize excellence in Indian cinema and are currently administered by the National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC).
- 2. The awards are given in three main sections: Feature Films, Non-Feature Films, and Best Writing on Cinema.
- 3. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award, instituted as part of the National Film Awards, is the highest official recognition for a film personality in India.

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

#### **Explanation:** All statements are correct

• The National Film Awards began in 1954 and are now overseen by NFDC. They cover three principal sections and include the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award, which is regarded as the highest honor for outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.

Source: **DD News** 

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (4 August)

- **Q1.** With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- 2. The scheme provides annual income support of Rs. 6,000 to all landholding farmer families in three equal installments.
- 3. Institutional landholders and certain professionals are excluded from the scheme's benefits.
- 4. The Ministry of Rural Development implements the scheme.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

## Correct Answer: D.

#### **Explanation:**

• **Statement 1** is incorrect: PM-KISAN is a Central Sector Scheme, not Centrally Sponsored.



- **Statement 2** is correct: Rs. 6000 per annum is provided in three installments of Rs. 2000.
- **Statement 3** is correct: Institutional landholders and professionals (e.g., doctors, engineers) are excluded.
- **Statement 4** is incorrect: The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, not the Ministry of Rural Development.

#### **Source-HT**

**Q2:** The "Apna Ghar" initiative, aimed at providing resting facilities for truck drivers along highways and recently seen in the news, has been launched by which of the following ministries?

- **A.** Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- B. Ministry of Labour and Employment
- C. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- **D.** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

#### **Correct Answer: C.**

#### **Explanation:**

- Apna Ghar is a national initiative to provide resting facilities for truck drivers along highways.
- It has been launched by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, not the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- The scheme is being implemented through public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) at fuel retail outlets along national highways.

Source- ddnews

**Q3:** With reference to the election and constitutional provisions related to the Vice President of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Vice President is elected by an electoral college consisting of only elected members of both Houses of Parliament.
- 2. The election is conducted using the system of Proportional Representation by means of the Single Transferable Vote and secret ballot.
- 3. A political party can issue a whip to its MPs during the Vice Presidential election to ensure uniform voting. Which of the statements given above are correct?
- **A.** 1 and 2 only
- **B.** 2 only
- **C.** 2 and 3 only
- **D.** 1, 2 and 3

#### Correct Answer: B.

# **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect**: The electoral college for the Vice President includes both elected and nominated members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, as per Article 66.
- **Statement 2 is correct**: The election is conducted using the system of Proportional Representation by means of the Single Transferable Vote and secret ballot, under Article 66(1).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: No party whip is allowed during the Vice Presidential election to protect the secrecy and independence of voting.

# Source- HT

- **Q4.** Consider the following statements regarding the Kopili River:
- 1. Kopili is one of the major left-bank tributaries of the Brahmaputra River.
- 2. It is an interstate river flowing through the states of Meghalaya and Assam.

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: C.**

## **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct**: The Kopili River is a significant left-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra.
- Statement 2 is correct: It flows through Meghalaya and Assam, making it an interstate river in Northeast India.

**Source-PIB** 

**Q5:** Consider the following rivers:

- 1. Seonath
- Ionk
- 3. Hasdeo
- 4. Mand
- 5. Tel

How many of the above are tributaries of the Mahanadi River?

- **A.** Only three
- B. Only Four
- **C.** All five
- D. None

#### **Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** All the rivers listed above — Seonath, Jonk, Hasdeo, Mand, and Tel — are tributaries of the Mahanadi River:

**Source-TH** 

# Q6. Consider the following statements about the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA):

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. It works under the aegis of Ministry of Finance.
- 3. 'Niveshak Didi' initiative was launched by the IEPFA to promote Financial Literacy "By the women, for the women" concept.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

#### Answer: B

Explanation: 1 and 3 are correct

Statement 1 is correct: It is a statutory body in India, established in 2016 under the Companies Act, 2013. **Statement 2 is incorrect: Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Statement 3 is correct: To take the Financial Literacy drive ahead, IPPB, in collaboration with Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) under the aegis of Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), launched the initiative called 'Niveshak Didi' to promote Financial Literacy "By the women, for the women" concept.

Source: PIB

**Q7**. With reference to the National Film Awards, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Awards are announced by the National Film Development Corporation of India working under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- 2. The awards are presented biennially by the President of India.
- 3. The 2025 edition of the Awards is the 71st occasion of its distribution.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

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#### d) None

Answer: A

**Explanation: Only 1** 

**Statement 1 is correct:** Awarded by: National Film Development Corporation of India under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The awards are presented annually by the President of India.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The 71st National Film Awards are given away for the year of 2023.

Source: PIB

#### **Q8**. Consider the following paragraph:

"He was an Indian freedom fighter, known for designing the initial version of the Indian National Flag. He was a lecturer, author, geologist, educationalist, agriculturist, and a polyglot. He also authored a book titled 'Thalli Raayi' on geology. He was an expert in diamond mining."

Which one of the following personalities is described in the above paragraph?

- a) S. N. Bose
- b) P. C. Mahalanobis
- c) Acharya Vinoba Bhave
- d) Pingali Venkayya

# Answer: D Explanation:

• Pingali Venkayya (2 August 1876– 4 July 1963) was an Indian freedom fighter, known for designing the initial version of the Indian National Flag. Apart from his role in the independence movement, Venkayya was a lecturer, author, geologist, educationalist, agriculturist, and a polyglot. He was a lecturer, author, geologist, educationalist, agriculturist, and a polyglot. He also authored a book titled 'Thalli Raayi' on geology. He was an expert in diamond mining.

Source: PIB

**Q9**. Consider the following statements about the National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS):

- 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- 2. It is a pre matric scholarship scheme open only to students studying in government and government aided schools.
- 3. The KVS, NVS and other government residential schools are excluded from the scheme.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 2 and 3 are correct

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) is a Central Sector scholarship scheme.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The NMMSS is a pre matric scholarship scheme open only to students studying in government and government aided schools.

**Statement 3 is correct:** It excludes KVS, NVS and other govt residential schools.

Source: PIB

**Q10**. The Nubra Valley, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Ladakh
- d) Sikkim



# Answer: C Explanation:

Nubra is a historical region of Ladakh, India that is currently administered as a subdivision and a tehsil
in the Leh district. Its inhabited areas form a tri-armed valley cut by the Nubra and Shyok rivers. Its
Tibetan name Dumra means "valley of flowers".

Source: PIB

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (5 August 2025)

- **Q1.** Consider the following statements regarding the fisheries sector in India:
- 1. India is the second largest fish producing country in the world after China.
- 2. Fisheries is included in the Concurrent List under the Constitution of India.
- 3. The Union Budget 2025–26 proposed the highest-ever total annual budgetary support for the fisheries sector.

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

# **Correct Answer: C**

# **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India is the second-largest fish producing country in the world after China, accounting for approximately 8% of global fish production.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Fisheries is listed under the State List, not the Concurrent List. Specifically, it falls under Entry 21 of List II in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Union Budget 2025–26 proposed the highest-ever annual budgetary support for the fisheries sector.

Source-newsonair

**Q2.** With reference to India's defence capabilities, consider the following pairs:

Aircraft Type	Description
I. C-295	Tactical military transport aircraft
II. Rafale	Multi-role fighter aircraft
III. Boeing P-8I	Advanced airborne early warning system

#### How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

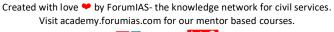
- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

#### **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation:**

- **C-295 is Correct**. A tactical transport aircraft for logistics and troop movement, recently inducted into the Indian Air Force.
- **Rafale is Correct**. A 4.5-generation multi-role fighter aircraft from France.
- **Boeing P-8I is Incorrect**. It is a long-range maritime patrol and anti-submarine warfare aircraft, not an airborne early warning system.

Source- The print





## **Q3.** Consider the following description:

Popularly known as the 'Wonder Plant' or 'Ladakh Gold', it grows above the tree line in cold deserts like Ladakh and Spiti. It bears sour orange/yellow berries rich in vitamin C, and can withstand -43°C to 40°C, making it drought-resistant.

Which plant is correctly defined by the above characteristics?

- A. Rhododendron arboreum
- B. Sea Buckthorn
- C. Juniperus communis
- D. Ephedra gerardiana

#### **Correct Answer: B**

Source- TH

**Q4.** Recently, the India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) featured in the news is launched by:

- A. Ministry of Heavy Industries
- B. NITI Aavog
- C. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D. Bureau of Energy Efficiency

#### Correct Answer: B.

**Explanation:** The India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) is a first-of-its-kind tool developed to track and benchmark the performance of States and Union Territories in achieving EV goals, across dimensions such as EV adoption, charging infrastructure readiness, and technology & innovation. It was launched by NITI Aayog. Source-PIB

**Q5.** Consider the following statements about the Asian Giant Tortoise:

- 1. It is the largest tortoise species in Asia.
- 2. It is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

#### Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation:**

The Asian Giant Tortoise (Manouria emys phayrei) is indeed the largest tortoise species in Asia. According to the latest data by the IUCN Red List, it is classified as Critically Endangered.

Source-TH

**Q6.** The Kayes Region, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Syria
- b) Sudan
- c) Mali
- d) Yemen

#### **Answer: C**

#### **Explanation:**

The Kayes Region is one of ten first level national subdivisions in Mali called Regions. The region has been in news due to abduction of Indians by a jihadist terror organisation.

Source: TH

**Q7**. Consider the following statements about the Human Outer Planetary Exploration (HOPE) mission:

- 1. It is a mission launched by the ISRO in collaboration with the NASA.
- 2. The mission aims to prepare humans for a long journey towards planets beyond Kupier belt in solar system.





3. The module for the mission is placed at high altitude, cold region of Andes Mountains in Chile to mimic the environment of outer planets of solar system.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

#### Answer: D

**Explanation: None is correct** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The HOPE mission has been built and is being operated by Protoplanet, a Bengaluru-based startup. It is being backed by ISRO's Human Spaceflight Centre. It also involves scientific contributions from IIT Bombay, IIT Hyderabad, IIST, and RGCB Trivandrum.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Mission is **focused on people**, **testing** how humans handle the **physical and mental challenges** they would likely face during a **long space journey**, such as a crewed mission to **Mars**. **Statement 3 is incorrect: Set up at:** It has been set up in one of the most **Mars-like environments** on Earth,

a high-altitude, cold desert in **Tso Kar valley in Ladakh** located **4,530 m** above sea level.

Source: Firstpost

**Q8.** With reference to the Battery Waste Management Rules (BWMR) 2022, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Rules are released by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- 2. The rules apply to all types of batteries including the electric vehicle batteries but exclude the refurbished batteries.

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: None are correct**

**Statement 1 is incorrect: The** Battery Waste Management Rules (BWMR) 2022 are released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The rules apply to **all types of batteries**—Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries, and industrial batteries, including both new and refurbished batteries.

Source: TH

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the drug regulation in India:

- 1. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Health fixes and monitors the prices of drugs in India.
- 2. The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is issued by the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013.
- 3. The approval of new drugs is given by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) working under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

#### Answer: D

# **Explanation: None are correct**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals fixes and monitors the prices of drugs, including OTC drugs, under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 ("DPCO, 2013") in India.



**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is issued by the Department of Health and Family Welfare and incorporated in the First Schedule to DPCO, 2013.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is the Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. Its main functions are - regulatory control over the import of drugs, approval of new drugs and clinical trials. It works under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Source: PIB

# **Q10.** Consider the following countries:

- 1. Senegal
- 2. Mali
- 3. Niger
- 4. Nigeria
- 5. Chad
- 6. Sudan

How many of the above countries are located in Sahel region?

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

# Answer: D Explanation:

• Sahel region runs through portions of the countries of Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, and Eritrea.

Source: Tol

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (6 August)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY):

- 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- 2. It provides cash incentives to pregnant women and lactating mothers to support nutritional intake and compensate for wage loss.

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: C

**Explanation:** PMMVY is a centrally sponsored scheme under the 'Samarthya' sub-scheme of Mission Shakti. It aims to provide financial assistance to pregnant women and lactating mothers for improved nutrition and partial wage loss compensation.

Source- <u>newsonair</u>

**Q2.** Consider the following statements regarding Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

- 1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 2. CPCB was constituted under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- 3. CPCB is responsible for developing the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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



# **Correct Answer: B Explanation:**

- **Statement 1** is **correct**: CPCB is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: CPCB was constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, not the Air Act. It was later given powers under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: CPCB is responsible for developing and maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in India.

Source-TH

- **Q3.** The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, recently in the news, is a Cold War-era international treaty between:
- A. United States and China
- B. United States and the United Kingdom
- **C.** United States and the former Soviet Union
- D. United States and Canada

#### **Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The INF Treaty was signed in December 1987 by the United States and the former Soviet Union, and entered into force on 1 June 1988. It aimed to eliminate all ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges between 500 and 5,500 kilometers.

Source- AIR

- **Q4.** Consider the following statements regarding the Nilgiri Tahr:
- 1. It is a mountain ungulate endemic to the southern part of the Western Ghats.
- 2. The Silent Valley National Park in Kerala has the highest density and largest surviving population of Nilgiri Tahr.
- 3. As per the IUCN Red List, the Nilgiri Tahr is classified as Critically Endangered.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- **B.** Only two
- **C.** All three
- D. None

#### Correct Answer: A

#### **Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: The Nilgiri Tahr is indeed endemic to the southern Western Ghats.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: The Eravikulam National Park, not Silent Valley, hosts the largest population.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: Nilgiri Tahr is listed as Endangered, not Critically Endangered, on the IUCN Red List.

Source- TH

- **Q5.** Consider the following statements regarding potatoes in India:
- 1. Potatoes were introduced to India by Portuguese sailors in the early 17th century.
- 2. India is the largest producer of potatoes in the world.
- 3. The International Potato Centre (CIP) regional centre is going to be set up at Bhopal, India.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- **C.** All the three
- D. None



# Correct Answer: A

# **Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: Potatoes were introduced to India by Portuguese sailors in the early 1600s.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: India is a major producer but not the largest; China is the largest producer of potatoes.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: The CIP regional centre is planned to be established in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, not Bhopal.

**Source-** TH, ForumIAS

**Q6**. Consider the following statements about the ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath:

- 1. It is the latest archeological site of India listed as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO.
- 2. The Dhamekha Stupa of Sarnath was constructed by Ajatshatru as a preaching site for Lord Gautama. 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 are incorrect** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** India has submitted this year a dossier titled 'Anci<mark>ent Bud</mark>dhist Site, Sarnath' to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for the 2025-26 nomination cycle. It is not listed as a WHS by UNESCO as of today.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Dhamekha Stupa: A conspicuous structure believed to be the dwelling place of Pañcavaggiya monks after leaving Lord Buddha. It was constructed by Emperor Ashoka.

Source: DH

**Q7.** Which of the following agencies have released the Ayurveda Aahara - a definitive list of Ayurvedic food preparations?

- a) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- b) Ministry of Ayush
- c) Both 1 and 2
- **d)** None of the above

# **Answer: C**

# **Explanation:**

• The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), in consultation with the Ministry of Ayush, have released a definitive list of Ayurvedic food preparations under the category of "Ayurveda Aahara."

Source: PIB

**Q8**. Consider the following statements about the Lalit Kala Akademi:

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. It is funded by the Ministry of Culture.
- 3. The headquarters of the Lalit Kala Akademi is located in Mumbai.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: 1 and 2 are correct

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Akademi was given the status of statutory authority in 1957, under the Societies Registration Act 1860.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is funded by the Ministry of Culture.



**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The headquarters is in New Delhi, not Mumbai.

Source: PIB

**Q9.** Which one of the following straits connects the Sea of Japan with the Okhotsk Sea?

- a) Tsushima strait
- b) Korea strait
- c) Tartar Strait
- d) Tasmania strait

# Answer: C Explanation:

• The Sea of Japan is connected with the East China Sea in the south via the Tsushima and Korea straits and with the Okhotsk Sea in the north by the La Perouse and Tartar straits.

Source: TH

**Q10.** Consider the following statements about the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR):

- 1. It is located in the terai arc of Uttar Pradesh.
- 2. It is the origin source of the river Gomti.

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 are correct** 

**Statement 1 is correct:** It is located in the Pilibhit District, Lakhimpur Kheri District, and Bahraich District of Uttar Pradesh, in the upper Gangetic Plain Biogeographic Province. It lies along the India-Nepal border in the foothills of the Himalayas and is part of the Terai Arc Landscape.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The river Gomti originates from the PTR, which is also the catchment of several others like Sharda, Chuka, and Mala Khannot.

Source: Tol

# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (7 August)

- Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS):
- 1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- 2. Students of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are eligible for this scheme.
- 3. The parental income must not exceed Rs. 5 lakh per annum from all sources.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All the Three
- D. None

# Answer: A Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct NMMSS is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2008 by the Ministry of Education
- Statement 2 is incorrect Students of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are not eligible.
- Statement 3 is incorrect The parental income limit is Rs. 3.5 lakh per annum, not Rs. 5 lakh.

Source- **DDnews** 

**Q2.** Consider the following countries:



- 1. Brazil
- 2. Argentina
- 3. Colombia
- 4. Guyana
- 5. Peru

How many of the above countries have Amazon forest area?

- A. Only three
- B. Only four
- C. All of the above
- D. None

#### Answer: B

## **Explanation:**

- Brazil, Colombia, Guyana, and Peru have parts of the Amazon forest within their borders.
- Argentina does not have any Amazon forest area.
- The Amazon spans 8 countries and one overseas territory.

Source- DTE

**Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP):

- 1. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization providing food aid.
- 2. Its headquarters is located in Rome, Italy.
- 3. It has received the Nobel Peace Prize.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

#### **Answer: C**

#### **Explanation:**

- The WFP is indeed the world's largest humanitarian organization providing food aid.
- Its headquarters are in Rome, Italy.
- It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020 for its efforts to combat hunger and improve conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas.

Source- AIR

## **Q4.** What is the use of biochar in farming?

- 1. Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in vertical farming.
- 2. When biochar is part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms.
- 3. When biochar is part of the growing medium, it helps retain water for a longer time.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only

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

# **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Biochar improves soil health by enhancing microbial activity (including nitrogen fixers), increasing water retention, and is used in various farming methods including vertical farming.

Source-TH

**Q5.** Consider the following statements regarding Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar (MGMD):

- 1. It aims to document and digitally map the cultural identity of villages across India.
- 2. This initiative is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.



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:**

- Statement 1 is correct MGMD aims to document and digitally map cultural identities of about 6.5 lakh villages across India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Culture, not the Ministry of Rural Development.

Source-PIB

**Q6.** Consider the following statements about Hepatitis D:

- 1. Hepatitis D infection cannot occur in the absence of hepatitis B virus (HBV).
- 2. It is declared as carcinogenic to humans by the WHO.
- 3. It can be transmitted through sexual intercourse.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

**Explanation: All are correct** 

Statement 1 is correct: Hepatitis D is an inflammation of the liver caused by the hepatitis D virus (HDV), which requires hepatitis B virus (HBV) for its replication. Hepatitis D infection cannot occur in the absence of HBV. So, Chronic HDV occurs only in people living with HBV.

Statement 2 is correct: HDV has recently been classified as carcinogenic to humans by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) mongraph programme, just like hepatitis B and C.

Statement 3 is correct: It may also be transmitted through sexual intercourse, or rarely from a mother to her child before or around birth (vertical transmission).

Source: **BS** 

**Q7.** Consider the following statements regarding the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty:

- 1. The Treaty required both the United States and the Soviet Union to eliminate all ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges between 500 and 5.500 km, including those with nuclear as well as conventional warheads.
- 2. The Treaty permitted both countries to continue producing and deploying sea-based and air-launched missiles within the specified range limits.
- 3. It was the first arms control agreement to introduce comprehensive on-site verification measures.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

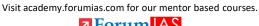
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

**Explanation:** All are correct

The INF Treaty banned and led to the elimination of all ground-launched missiles (500-5,500 km) of both conventional and nuclear types; permitted deployment of air- and sea-launched missiles; and pioneered robust on-site verification measures.

**Source: NDTV** 





**Q8.** Which of the following best describes the Yashoda AI initiative launched in 2025?

- a) A government program to automate rural banking
- b) An AI-based tool for real-time translation in Indian languages
- c) An AI literacy and cybersecurity education program for women, led by the National Commission for Women
- d) A mobile health monitoring platform for rural healthcare workers

# Answer: C Explanation:

 An AI literacy and cybersecurity education program for women, led by the National Commission for Women.

Source: PIB

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the election of the Vice President of India:

- 1. The Vice President is elected by an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament, including elected and nominated members.
- 2. The election follows the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote and is conducted by secret ballot.
- 3. State Legislative Assembly members participate in the election as part of the electoral college.

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

**Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** The Vice President is elected indirectly by an electoral college of members of both Houses of Parliament (including nominated members) using proportional representation via single transferable vote and secret ballot.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The members of State Legislative Assemblies do not participate in the Vice Presidential election; only members of Parliament do.

Source: PIB

**Q10.** Consider the following statements about the VigyanDhara scheme:

- 1. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Education.
- 2. It is a central sector scheme.
- 3. It aims to promote S&T capacity building as well as research, innovation, and technology development in the country.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

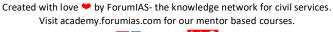
**Answer: B** 

Explanation: 2 and 3 are correct

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The VigyanDhara scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Science & Technology. **Statement 2 is correct:** The VigyanDhara scheme is a central sector scheme and is being implemented at pan India level.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The aim of the Vigyan Dhara scheme is to promote capacity building in science and technology (S&T), as well as to advance research, innovation, and technology development.

Source: PIB





# 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (8 August)

# Q1. With reference to Mount Kilimanjaro, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is located in Tanzania, East Africa.
- 2. It is a stratovolcano.
- 3. It has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

#### Correct Answer: C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Mount Kilimanjaro is situated in northeastern Tanzania, near the border with Kenya, in East Africa. It is the highest peak in Africa.
- Statement 2 is correct: Kilimanjaro is a dormant stratovolcano composed of three volcanic cones Kibo, Mawenzi, and Shira.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In 1987, UNESCO designated Mount Kilimanjaro National Park as a World Heritage Site for its unique ecological and geological significance.

Source- AIR

# Q2. Zamzam Camp and Abu Shouk (Naivasha) Camp, recently seen in the news, are refugee camps located in:

- A. Kenya
- B. Sudan
- C. Ethiopia
- D. Central African Republic

# **Correct Answer: B**

#### **Explanation:**

- Zamzam Camp- Located south of El Fasher, capital of North Darfur, Sudan.
- Abu Shouk (Naivasha) Camp Situated north-west of El Fasher in North Darfur, Sudan.

Source- the guardian

## Q3. Consider the following countries:

- 1. Italy
- 2. Germany
- 3. Belgium
- 4. Spain
- 5. Andorra

How many of the above countries share a land border with France?

- A. Only two
- B. Only three
- C. Only four
- D. All five

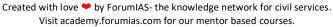
# **Answer-D**

Source-BBC

#### Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)

- 1. It consists of six members: three from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and three appointed by the Central Government.
- 2. The RBI Governor is the chairperson of the MPC and has only a regular vote, with no casting vote.
- 3. The MPC meets at least six times a year.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?





- A) Only one
- B) Only two
- C) All three
- D) None of the above

# Answer: A Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The MPC has six members three from RBI and three appointed by the Central Government.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The RBI Governor has both a regular vote and a casting vote in case of a tie.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: The MPC meets at least four times a year, not six.

Source-TH

# Q5. Krill are often called a "trophic bridge" in marine ecosystems because they:

- 1. Feed on phytoplankton and serve as a primary food source for many larger marine animals.
- 2. Are responsible for regulating oceanic salinity levels through their migratory patterns.
- 3. Connect lower and higher trophic levels, thus maintaining the energy flow in the marine food web. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

# Answer: B Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct because krill feed on phytoplankton and are a key food source for whales, seals, penguins, and other marine animals.
- Statement 2 is incorrect; krill do not regulate oceanic salinity through their migration. Salinity is influenced mainly by evaporation, precipitation, river inflow, and ocean currents.
- Statement 3 is correct as krill act as a critical link between the primary producers (phytoplankton) and higher trophic levels, thus maintaining energy flow in marine food webs.

Source- IE

**Q6**. Consider the following statements regarding Employee Stock Option Plans (ESOP) in India:

- 1. It is a benefit scheme where companies offer employees the right to buy shares at an unspecified price after a specific period.
- 2. Under an ESOP, employees are under the obligation to purchase company shares.
- 3. Employees may exercise their ESOPs and become shareholders at any time, regardless of whether the vesting period has elapsed.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: D** 

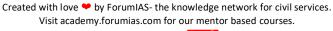
**Explanation: All are incorrect** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** An Employee Stock Option Plan (ESOP) is a **benefit scheme** where companies **offer employees the right to buy shares at a predetermined price after a specific period.** 

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** Under an ESOP, employees are granted the right, but not the obligation, to purchase company shares at a predetermined price after completing a specified vesting period.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The employees can exercise their options only after the vesting period, not before.

Source: **SEBI** 





- **Q7.** Which of the following best describes the main objective of the Hague–Visby Rules, seen in the news recently?
- a) To provide a mandatory international framework governing the rights and liabilities of carriers and shippers under bills of lading for carriage of goods by sea.
- b) To regulate the recruitment of maritime workers on international ships.
- c) To set international pollution standards for commercial shipping.
- d) To establish rules for insurance claims on lost cargo.

# Answer: A Explanation:

• To provide a mandatory international framework governing the rights and liabilities of carriers and shippers under bills of lading for carriage of goods by sea.

Source: **AIR News** 

- **Q8.** Consider the following statements regarding the Co-Lending Model (CLM) and the RBI's framework in India:
- 1. The co-lending model allows banks to collaborate with NBFCs to jointly lend to priority sector borrowers.
- 2. The co-lending model is applicable only to large NBFCs with an asset size of more than ₹500 crore.
- 3. The co-lending framework aims to improve credit flow to underserved sectors and enhance financial inclusion.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: 1 and 3 are correct

**Statement 1 is correct: Co-lending:** It is a brilliant example of financial teamwork where two financial institutions, like a big bank and an NBFC, team up to give out loans together. The CLM permits banks (excluding RRBs, UCBs, and SFBs) to co-lend with NBFCs (including HFCs), especially to the priority sector, to enhance credit access.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** There is no such restriction in the RBI framework that limits co-lending only to NBFCs with assets over ₹500 crore. The guidelines apply generally to all NBFCs and HFCs, subject to their regulatory compliance.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The framework aims to improve last-mile credit delivery, particularly in the priority sector like agriculture, MSMEs, housing, etc., thereby promoting financial inclusion.

Source: ET

**Q9**. Consider the following statements about the SheLeads initiative:

- 1. It is a flagship initiative of UN Economic and Social Council India Office.
- 2. It is aimed to advance gender equality in public and political leadership.

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

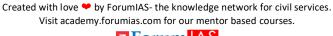
Answer: B

**Explanation: Only 2** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** SheLeads is a flagship initiative of UN Women India Country Office.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is aimed to advance gender equality in public and political leadership, aiming to support women leaders in contesting the upcoming/next Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections.

Source: PIB





**Q10**. With reference to the SHINE initiative, consider the following statements:

- 1. The initiative is launched by the Ministry of Sports in collaboration of Ministry of Education.
- 2. It aims to encourage school students to take part in sports activities on competitive basis. 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 are incorrect** 

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The initiative is launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Health Research

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The initiative aimed to introduce students to the field of health and biomedical research.

Source: **AIR News** 

