

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

January, 2026 1st Week

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (2 January 2026)

Q1. Consider the following countries in relation to Bulgaria:

1. Romania
2. Turkey
3. Greece
4. Russia
5. Serbia

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

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only Four
- (d) All Five

Answer: (c) Only Four

Explanation: Bulgaria shares land borders with Romania (north), Serbia (west), Greece (south), and Turkey (southeast). Russia does not share a land border with Bulgaria; the two are separated by the Black Sea and intervening countries.

Source- [epaper](#)

Q2. The Pralay missile, recently tested by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is:

- (a) A long-range surface-to-air missile
- (b) An intercontinental ballistic missile
- (c) A submarine-launched ballistic missile
- (d) A short-range surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile

Correct Answer: (d) A short-range surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile

Explanation: Pralay is an indigenously developed missile system designed by DRDO. It is a short-range, surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile, capable of manoeuvring during flight to evade enemy air defence systems

Source- [NOA](#)

Q3. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), consider the following statements:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. PMMVY is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant women and lactating mothers, applicable only to women above 25 years of age working in the unorganised sector.

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: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: PMMVY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, not a Central Sector Scheme, making statement 1 incorrect. While PMMVY is a conditional cash transfer scheme, it is applicable to pregnant women and lactating

mothers aged 19 years and above, largely in the informal/unorganised sector, and not restricted to women above 25 years, making statement 2 incorrect.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q4. With reference to a Bomb Cyclone, consider the following statements:

1. It is an intense mid-latitude storm formed due to explosive cyclogenesis, marked by a rapid fall in surface air pressure within 24 hours.
2. The pressure drop required to classify a storm as bombogenesis is uniform across all latitudes.

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.** A bomb cyclone is an extratropical storm that undergoes explosive cyclogenesis with a sharp pressure fall in 24 hours.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The threshold for bombogenesis varies with latitude (e.g., ~24 mb at 60° latitude and ~17.8 mb at 40° latitude).

Source- [IE](#)

Q5. With reference to the Sirkeer Malkoha recently in the news, consider the following statements:

1. Sirkeer Malkoha (*Taccocua leschenaultii*) is a species of cuckoo bird.
2. It is commonly found in high-altitude Himalayan forests above the tree line.

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: The Sirkeer Malkoha is a non-parasitic cuckoo species, typically found in plains, scrublands, and open forests. Its recent sighting in Uttarkashi district is notable as it is usually reported from lower altitudes, not high-altitude Himalayan zones.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q6. "He was an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter from the south-western state of Kerala. He is recognised as the founder of the Nair Service Society (NSS), which represents the Nair community. He actively supported the Vaikom Satyagraha (1924–25) for temple entry rights for lower castes, even though he was not directly involved in the satyagraha. Following India's independence, he shifted his focus through the Nair Service Society (NSS) to counter the expansion of communist influence in Kerala. He was honored with the title Bharata Kesari (Lion of India) by the President of India for his lifelong service to society and the independence movement."

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

- a) Sree Narayana Guru
- b) Mannathu Padmanabha Pillai
- c) Ayyankali

d) K. Kelappan

Answer: B

Explanation: Mannathu Padmanabha Pillai

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the Parvati-Argha Bird Sanctuary:

1. It is located in Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh.
2. It was a part of the Saryu River.
3. It is designated as Ramsar site.

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: It is located in Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh. It is a permanent freshwater environment consisting of two oxbow lakes namely Parvati Tal and Argha Tal.

Statement 2 is correct: It was a part of the Saryu River. As the river changed its flow path these lakes were left as its remains. Thus, both the lakes are oxbow lakes.

Statement 3 is correct: It is designated as Ramsar site on March 22, 2021.

Source: [News On Air](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements about the Market Access Support (MAS) Intervention:

1. It is aimed at providing direct income support to farmers through minimum price guarantees.
2. It is being implemented under the NIRYAT DISHA sub-scheme of Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES).

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: It is aimed at strengthening international market access for Indian exporters, particularly MSMEs, first-time exporters and firms from priority sectors.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Market Access Support (MAS) Intervention is launched under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), a flagship initiative approved on 12 November 2025. It is being implemented under the NIRYAT DISHA sub-scheme of EPM.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements about mitochondria:

1. Mitochondria are double-membrane-bound organelles responsible for cellular respiration and ATP production in eukaryotic cells.
2. Mitochondria possess their own DNA and ribosomes, and are believed to have originated through the endosymbiotic theory.

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 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: Mitochondria carry out aerobic respiration and generate ATP, hence called the “powerhouse of the cell.”

Statement 2 is correct: The presence of circular DNA and bacterial-type ribosomes supports the endosymbiotic origin of mitochondria.

Source: [TH](#)

Q10. Pench Tiger Reserve, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Assam
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Karnataka

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Pench Tiger Reserve located in Seoni district and Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh and Nagpur district of Maharashtra.

Source: [IE](#)

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (3 January)

Q1. Consider the following description:

A biome marked by a continuous grass cover with scattered trees and distinct wet and dry seasons. It occurs in tropical regions with moderate rainfall, supporting diverse grasses and large herbivores, and is found in the East African plains, parts of South America, northern Australia, and in India across the Deccan Plateau, Terai – Duar belt, and parts of western India.

Which of the following ecosystems is described above?

- (a) Tropical Rainforest
- (b) Temperate Grassland
- (c) Tropical Thorn Forest
- (d) Savanna

Answer: (d) Savanna

Source- [TH](#)

Q2. Which of the following became the first insect to be granted legal rights?

- (a) Honey bee
- (b) Dragonfly
- (c) Stingless bees
- (d) Butterfly

Correct Answer: (c) Stingless bees

Explanation: Stingless bees (Meliponini) of the Amazon have become the first insect species to be granted legal rights, recognising their crucial role in pollination, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem stability.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. With reference to the Sangita Kalanidhi Award, consider the following statements:

1. It was instituted by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
2. It is regarded as the highest honour for excellence in Hindustani classical music.
3. Violinist R.K. Shriramkumar has been conferred the Sangita Kalanidhi Award in 2025.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is Incorrect.** The Sangita Kalanidhi Award was instituted in 1942 by the Madras Music Academy, not by the Ministry of Culture.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect.** The award is regarded as the highest recognition in Carnatic music, not Hindustani classical music.
- **Statement 3 is Correct.** Violinist R.K. Shriramkumar has been conferred the Sangita Kalanidhi Award in 2025.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. With reference to copper, consider the following statements:

1. Chile possesses the largest proven copper reserves in the world.
2. The Malanjkhand copper mine, located in Rajasthan, is the largest open-pit copper mine 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: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is Correct.** Chile has the largest proven copper reserves globally.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect.** The Malanjkhand copper mine is located in Madhya Pradesh, not Rajasthan, and it is India's largest open-pit copper mine.

Source- [IE](#)

Q5. The term PathGennie, recently seen in the news, refers to:

- (a) A vaccine development programme launched by the Ministry of Health
- (b) An open-source computational software for accelerating drug discovery
- (c) A genomic sequencing facility set up in India
- (d) A satellite-based disease surveillance system

Correct Answer: (b) An open-source computational software for accelerating drug discovery

Explanation: PathGennie is a novel open-source computational framework developed under the Ministry of Science and Technology. It enables faster simulation of rare molecular events, thereby helping to accelerate drug discovery and development processes.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements about the Eurozone:

1. The Eurozone comprises 21 EU member states using the euro as sole legal tender, with Bulgaria as the latest member.
2. All member states of the European Union are mandatorily required to be part of the Euro Zone.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: The euro zone, also called the euro area, is a currency union of European Union member states that use the euro as their sole legal tender. The euro zone has a total of 21 member countries with Bulgaria being the latest.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Not all EU members are in the Euro Zone. Countries such as Denmark, Sweden, Poland, and Hungary do not use the euro.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q7. Consider the following countries:

1. Belarus
2. Turkey
3. Greece
4. Romania
5. Serbia

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Bulgaria is bordered by Greece and Turkey to the south, Serbia and North Macedonia to the west, and Romania to the north. It has a coast with Black Sea on its east.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements about the Collateral Support for Export Credit Initiative:

1. The initiative aims to enable collateral-free export credit for exporters by providing government-backed credit guarantee support to lending institutions.
2. It is implemented through the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd. (NCGTC) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

3. The initiative provides direct interest subvention to exporters on export loans to enhance price competitiveness in global markets.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The initiative reduces lenders' risk through a credit guarantee mechanism, enabling exporters—especially MSMEs—to access export credit without collateral.

Statement 2 is correct: The scheme is anchored in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and operationalised via NCGTC, targeting MSME export finance constraints.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The initiative does not provide interest subvention; it focuses on risk-sharing through collateral support, not subsidising interest rates.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements about Rani Velu Nachiyar:

- 1. Rani Velu Nachiyar was the queen of Sivaganga in Tamil Nadu and is regarded as one of the earliest Indian rulers to resist British East India Company rule.
- 2. She led the Revolt of 1857 in South India and was executed by the British after her capture.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: Rani Velu Nachiyar (1730–1796) ruled Sivaganga and successfully fought against the British East India Company in the late 18th century, much before 1857.

Statement 2 is incorrect: She had no connection with the Revolt of 1857 and was not executed by the British; she regained her kingdom and ruled until her death.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about relics of Buddha:

- 1. All the relics of Buddha were distributed at the place of his salvation i.e. Kushinagar.
- 2. The Piprahwa relics of Buddha were discovered at the city of Buddha's birth.
- 3. The stupas were erected over these sacred relics as a repository.

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: At the age of 80, Buddha attained **salvation in Uttar Pradesh's Kushinagar** district. The Mallas of Kushinagar cremated his body with ceremonies befitting a universal king. His **relics from the funeral pyre were collected and divided** into eight shares to be distributed.

Statement 2 is correct: Piprahwa Relics are the Buddha's relics which were excavated from the **Piprahwa Stupa in present-day Uttar Pradesh — widely recognised as the ancient city of Kapilavastu, the birthplace** of Lord Buddha.

Statement 3 is correct: His relics from the funeral pyre were collected and divided into eight shares to be distributed among the Ajathasatrus of Magadha, the Licchavis of Vaishali, the Sakyas of Kapilavastu, Mallas of Kushinagar, Bullies of Allakappa, the Mallas of Pava, the Koliyas of Ramagrama and a Brahmana of Vethadipa. The **purpose was erecting stupas over the sacred relics.**

Source: [DD News](#)

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs – January 5th

Q1. Consider the following statements about the Samudra Pratap:

1. It is a specialised pollution control vessel operated by the Indian Coast Guard.
2. It is a nuclear-powered vessel primarily deployed for underwater strategic deterrence missions.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct while Statement 2 is incorrect: Samudra Pratap is a specialised pollution control vessel operated by the Indian Coast Guard, designed to respond to oil spills and marine pollution incidents.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements about the Sangai deer:

1. It is an endemic and endangered species found exclusively in Keibul Lamjao National Park, Manipur.
2. It is adapted to live on floating biomass (phumdis) and is also known as the “dancing deer of Manipur.”
3. It is listed vulnerable in IUCN list.

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

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Sangai (*Rucervus eldii eldii*) is endemic to Manipur and survives only in Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park.

Statement 2 is correct: Its movement on floating phumdis gives it a dancing gait, hence the name “dancing deer.”

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Sangai deer is an endemic species and listed as 'Critically Endangered' in the IUCN Red List.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q3. Gandhar Oilfields, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Assam
- b) Punjab
- c) Gujarat
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The Gandhar oilfield is a major oil and gas field located in the Jambusar-Broach block of the Cambay Basin in Gujarat, India.

Source: [ET](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about OPEC+:

1. OPEC+ is a grouping of OPEC member countries and non-OPEC oil-producing nations that coordinate on oil production policies to influence global crude oil markets.
2. Russia is a non-OPEC member but plays a key role in OPEC+ decisions.
3. OPEC+ functions as a formal international organisation with a permanent secretariat separate from OPEC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: OPEC+ brings together 13 OPEC members and major non-OPEC producers to manage oil output and stabilise prices.

Statement 2 is correct: Russia, though not an OPEC member, is a central actor in OPEC+, especially in production cut agreements.

Statement 3 is incorrect: OPEC+ is not a separate international organisation; it is an informal coordination mechanism without an independent secretariat.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q5. With reference to the typhoid, consider the following statements:

1. It is caused by bacteria.
2. It can be transmitted from animals to humans.
3. It is more prevalent in places with less efficient sanitation and hygiene.

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

Statement 1 is correct: Typhoid is a life-threatening infection caused by the bacterium *Salmonella Typhi*.

Statement 2 is incorrect: No animals carry this disease, so transmission is always from human to human.

Statement 3 is correct: Typhoid is more prevalent in places with less efficient sanitation and hygiene. It is most prevalent in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and sub-Saharan Africa.

Source: [ToI](#)

Q6. The Hangzhou Strategic Action Plan, seen in the news recently, is about

- a) China's 5-year economic development strategy
- b) UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme for biosphere reserves (2026-2035)
- c) Hangzhou Asian Games infrastructure development
- d) Global climate finance allocation framework

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Adopted at the 5th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in Hangzhou (2025), the plan guides UNESCO's MAB Programme and World Network of Biosphere Reserves through 2035, aligning with KMGBF's 30x30 target, SDGs, and equitable conservation via biosphere reserves as sustainability models.

Source: [Mongabay](#)

Q7. Consider the following countries:

- 1. Brazil
- 2. Peru
- 3. Ecuador
- 4. Panama

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

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Columbia is situated in the northwestern part of South America, serving as a bridge between South and Central America.
- Boundary: Venezuela and Brazil to the east, Peru and Ecuador to the south, Panama to the northwest.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements about Gayan-Bayan:

- 1. It is a traditional folk music and percussion ensemble of Bengal, closely associated with Vaishnavite monasteries (Sattras).
- 2. It is primarily a martial dance form performed during harvest festivals and involves the use of swords and shields.
- 3. The origin of Gayan-Bayan is traced to Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: None

Explanation: All are incorrect

Statement 1 is incorrect: Gayan–Bayan is a traditional folk music and percussion ensemble of Assam, closely associated with Vaishnavite monasteries (Satras).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Gayan–Bayan is not a martial dance; martial traditions in Assam include Bihu's Husori (to some extent) and Thang-Ta (Manipur), not Gayan–Bayan.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The origin of Mayamara Gayan-Bayan is traced to Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva (1553–1626), the founder of Mayamara Satra.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme in India:

1. It was introduced to provide subsidies on fertilizers based on their nutrient content (N, P, K, and S) rather than on a product-specific basis.
2. It aims to promote the balanced use of essential nutrients.
3. Under the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme, the government provides a fixed subsidy, revised annually or biannually, on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, including DAP.

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: The Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme was introduced in April 2010 by the Government of India to provide subsidies on fertilizers based on their nutrient content (N, P, K, and S) rather than on a product-specific basis, aiming to encourage balanced use of fertilizers.

Statement 2 is correct: The Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers aims to promote the **balanced use of essential nutrients**, such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and sulphur, thereby helping farmers avoid over-dependence on any single fertilizer and maintain soil health while improving productivity.

Statement 3 is correct: Under the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme, the government provides a fixed subsidy, revised annually or biannually, on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, including DAP. The subsidy amount is linked to the nutrient composition of each fertilizer grade.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about Microlensing:

1. It is a method astronomers use to find planets far away from Earth.
2. It is based on Einstein's theory of gravity, which says that massive objects like stars can bend light.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both are correct

Statement 1 is correct: Microlensing is a method astronomers use to find planets far away from Earth.

Statement 2 is correct: It is based on Einstein's theory of gravity, which says that massive objects like stars can bend light. Microlensing occurs when a star passes in front of another distant star as seen from Earth.

Source: [TH](#)

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (6 December)

Q1. With reference to the Somnath Temple, consider the following statements:

1. Persian Scholar Al Biruni gives a detailed account of the Somnath Temple, including its immense wealth and fame.
2. The present Somnath Temple was inaugurated and the installation ceremony was performed by Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Al Biruni, the 11th-century Persian scholar, described the Somnath Temple in detail, highlighting its prosperity, religious importance, and widespread fame.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The installation (Prana Pratishtha) ceremony of the present Somnath Temple was held on 11 May 1951 and was performed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, not Jawaharlal Nehru.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q2. Suryastra, recently seen in the news, refers to:

- (a) India's first indigenous long-range surface-to-air missile system
- (b) A Made-in-India universal multi-calibre rocket launcher inducted by the Indian Army
- (c) A new hypersonic cruise missile developed by DRDO
- (d) An advanced artillery gun system for the Indian Navy

Correct Answer: (b)

Short Explanation: Suryastra is India's first indigenous universal multi-calibre rocket launcher, procured by the Indian Army under a contract with NIBE Limited, strengthening indigenous artillery and long-range firepower.

Source- [TH](#)

Q3. With reference to the Battery Pack Aadhaar Number (BPAN), consider the following statements:

1. It is a 21-character unique identification number proposed for all types of batteries, including non-rechargeable household batteries, introduced in the Indian market.
2. BPAN is mainly aimed at lead-acid batteries used in conventional automobiles, as they dominate India's battery demand.

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: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** BPAN is proposed for battery packs, especially advanced batteries, and not for all battery types such as disposable household batteries.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** BPAN primarily focuses on lithium-ion battery packs, particularly those used in electric vehicles, not lead-acid batteries

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following description:

It is one of the most important food crops of India and is predominantly a Kharif (summer) crop. It requires hot and humid climatic conditions, with a mean monthly temperature of about 24°C. The crop generally needs high rainfall, though in low-rainfall regions it is grown with the help of irrigation. It grows best in deep clayey and loamy soils that can retain water.

Which of the following crops is being described above?

- (a) Wheat
- (b) Maize
- (c) Barley
- (d) Rice

Answer: (d) Rice

Source- [NOA](#)

Q5. NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission, recently seen in the news, is a:

- (a) Human spaceflight mission to the International Space Station
- (b) Space telescope for studying dark energy
- (c) Mission to collect and return samples from an asteroid
- (d) Mars rover mission for searching microbial life

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation: OSIRIS-REx (Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification and Security-Regolith Explorer) is NASA's first mission to collect and return samples from an asteroid, specifically asteroid Bennu, to study the building blocks of the Solar System and life.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. With reference to the Mishmi Takin, consider the following statements:

1. It is a goat-antelope native to Asia.
2. It is found in Northeast India, especially in eastern Arunachal Pradesh.
3. Both males and females possess stout horns.

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: The Mishmi takin is a goat-antelope native to Asia. It is a subspecies of takin.

Statement 2 is correct: The Mishmi takin is found in Northeast India, especially in eastern Arunachal Pradesh. It also occurs in northern Myanmar and in parts of China, including regions near Tibet.

Statement 3 is correct: Both males and females possess stout horns that are ridged at the base and curve upward to a short point.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD):

1. It is celebrated on 9 January every year to commemorate the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1905.
2. The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs to engage with the Indian diaspora and strengthen their connection with India.
3. The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is conferred by the Prime Minister of India on distinguished members of the Indian diaspora.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: 9 January marks Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa in 1915, symbolising the contribution of the diaspora to nation-building.

Statement 2 is correct: PBD is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) as the primary platform for engagement with Overseas Indians.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is conferred by the President of India, not the Prime Minister.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements about the Australian Open:

1. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments and is played on hard courts at Melbourne Park.
2. It is the only Grand Slam tournament played on clay courts.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Australian Open is held annually at Melbourne Park, and since 1988 it has been played on hard courts.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The French Open is played on clay courts; the Australian Open is played on hard courts.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. 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, 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](#)

Q10. The Trade Watch Quarterly, seen in the news recently, is published by

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) Export-Import Bank of India
- d) Federation of Indian Export Organisations

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Trade Watch Quarterly is NITI Aayog's flagship analytical publication tracking India's quarterly merchandise and services trade performance, global demand-supply trends, sectoral competitiveness, and policy insights; fifth edition for Q1 FY26 released January 6, 2026.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (7 January)

Q1. With reference to the Kushana Empire, consider the following statements:

1. Kanishka I, emperor of the Kushan dynasty, promoted Buddhism and is associated with the convening of the Third Buddhist Council.
2. The Kushana Empire was administratively divided into satrapies governed by satraps.
3. The Kushanas mainly issued copper coins, indicating a largely barter-based economy.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Kanishka I is associated with the Fourth Buddhist Council, not the Third.

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

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

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Kushana Empire was divided into satrapies governed by satraps, indicating decentralised administration.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Kushanas issued extensive gold coins, reflecting a monetised economy and long-distance trade.

Source- [TH](#)

Q2. With reference to the Payments Regulatory Board, consider the following statements:

1. It is mandated to regulate and supervise all payment systems, including electronic and non-electronic, domestic and cross-border systems.
2. It is chaired by the Union Finance Secretary.

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. Statement 2 is incorrect because the Payments Regulatory Board is chaired by the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, not the Union Finance Secretary.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q3. The term Mpemba Effect, recently seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) A physical phenomenon explaining changes in reaction rates with temperature
- (b) A biological process related to cold adaptation in organisms
- (c) A geological process involving rapid cooling of magma
- (d) A phenomenon where hot liquids can cool or freeze faster than cold liquids under certain conditions

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The Mpemba Effect refers to the counterintuitive physical phenomenon in which a hot liquid may cool or freeze faster than a colder one under specific conditions.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q4. Consider the following conventions:

1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
3. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
4. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
5. Minamata Convention on Mercury

For how many of the above conventions does the Global Environment Facility (GEF) act as a financial mechanism?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

Correct Answer: (d) All five

Explanation: The Global Environment Facility (GEF) serves as the designated financial mechanism for all the listed conventions—CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, Stockholm Convention, and Minamata Convention—by providing grants and financial support to developing countries for meeting their treaty obligations.

Source- [ecobusiness](#)

Q5. The Standards Help Inform & Nurture Empowered Women (SHINE) Scheme, recently seen in the news, is launched by:

- (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (b) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation: The SHINE Scheme is an initiative of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) aimed at empowering women by spreading awareness about standards, quality, and safety through training programmes and community-level engagement with NGOs and Self-Help Groups.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q6. The 'State Finances 2023-24' Report is released by

- a) Finance Ministry of India
- b) CAG
- c) Niti Aayog
- d) RBI

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The State Finances 2023-24 Report presents a consolidated and audited overview of the finances of all 28 States. The report was released by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Source: [ANI](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about Popocatepetl Volcano:

- 1. It is an active stratovolcano located in central Mexico, forming part of the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt.
- 2. It is the highest volcano in North America and is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: Popocatepetl is one of Mexico's most active volcanoes, situated between Mexico City and Puebla, within the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The highest volcano in North America is Pico de Orizaba, not Popocatepetl. While Mexico is influenced by Pacific tectonics, Popocatepetl is not directly on the main Pacific Ring of Fire.

Source: [TH](#)

Q8. The Siau Island, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Italy
- b) Indonesia
- c) Philippines
- d) Yemen

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Siau Island (Pulau Siau) is a small, volcanic island in North Sulawesi, Indonesia, known for its active Karangetang volcano, unique endemic tarsiers.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements about biomaterials:

1. Biomaterials are natural or synthetic materials designed to interact with biological systems for medical or therapeutic purposes.
2. Biodegradable biomaterials are commonly used in applications such as sutures, drug delivery systems, and tissue engineering scaffolds.
3. All biomaterials are biologically inert and do not trigger any immune response in the human body.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: Biomaterials include metals, polymers, ceramics, and natural substances engineered to support, replace, or repair tissues and organs.

Statement 2 is correct: Biodegradable biomaterials are widely used in absorbable sutures, controlled drug release, and regenerative medicine.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Biomaterials are designed to be biocompatible, not necessarily inert; some intentionally interact with tissues or immune systems.

Source: [TH](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about the e-Production Investment Business Visa (e-B-4 Visa):

It is a new sub-category of the Business Visa created to facilitate entry of foreign specialists, engineers, and technical experts for production-related activities in Indian companies.

Under this initiative, Indian companies must obtain recommendation from the concerned line ministry before foreign professionals can apply for the e-B-4 Visa on the e-Visa portal.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: The e-B-4 Visa (Production Investment Visa) was introduced under the Business Visa regime to enable foreign experts to engage in activities such as equipment installation and commissioning, production support, quality checks, training, supply-chain development, and senior management visits.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The requirement for line ministry recommendations has been removed; Indian companies can now generate digital sponsorship letters on the National Single Window System (NSWS) to support the visa application.

Source: [TH](#)

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (8 January)

Q1. The term Global Minimum Tax, recently seen in the news, refers to an initiative associated with which of the following organisations?

- (a) World Trade Organization (WTO)
- (b) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- (c) World Bank
- (d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The Global Minimum Tax is part of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS). It seeks to curb tax avoidance by multinational enterprises by prescribing a 15% global minimum effective corporate tax rate.

Source- [BT](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements about Venezuela:

- 1. Venezuela has the largest proven oil reserves in the world.
- 2. Venezuela produces more than 10 percent of total world oil production.
- 3. Venezuela is home to the highest waterfall in the world, Angel Falls.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Venezuela possesses the largest proven oil reserves in the world (around 303 billion barrels, about 17 % of global reserves).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Venezuela's current oil production is far below 10 % of total global oil output (around ~1 % of world production).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall, is located in Venezuela.

Source- [TH](#)

Q3. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists : 2026
- 2. International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence : 2029
- 3. International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism : 2027

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: All three pairs are correctly matched as per United Nations declarations.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following pairs regarding constitutional articles associated with the Election Commission of India:

1. Article 324 – Superintendence, direction and control of elections
2. Article 325 – One general electoral roll and prohibition of discrimination
3. Article 326 – Adult suffrage limited to Indian citizens above 18 years
4. Article 327 – Power of State Legislatures to make laws on elections
5. Article 328 – Parliamentary power to legislate on elections

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Pairs 1, 2 and 3 are correctly matched.
- Pair 4 is incorrect because Article 327 empowers Parliament, not State Legislatures, to make laws on elections.
- Pair 5 is incorrect because Article 328 empowers State Legislatures, not Parliament, to legislate on elections.

Source- [NIE](#)

Q5. Justice Mission-2025, recently seen in the news, was launched by:

- (a) United States Armed Forces
- (b) People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China
- (c) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- (d) Israel Defence Forces

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Justice Mission-2025 is a large-scale military exercise conducted by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China, including operations in the air and maritime areas around Taiwan.

Source- [Globaltaiwan](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Mrs. Hume's pheasant:

1. It is the state bird of Nagaland.
2. It is categorized as endangered by the IUCN.
3. It is threatened due to habitat loss and fragmentation due to shifting cultivation.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 3 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is the state bird of Mizoram.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The species is listed as vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.

Statement 3 is correct: Habitat loss and hunting are major threats to the population. Globally there are between 6000 and 15000 individuals, mainly found in Mizoram and Manipur in India apart from Myanmar and Thailand.

Source: [Mongabay](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES):

1. The HCES is conducted by the Niti Aayog to collect data on consumption patterns and living standards of households in India.
2. Data from the HCES is used in the estimation of poverty lines, Consumer Price Index (CPI) weights and national accounts aggregates.
3. The HCES is conducted annually as part of the Population Census to estimate household income levels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: HCES is carried out by the NSO under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) to capture household consumption expenditure across rural and urban India.

Statement 2 is correct: HCES data is crucial for poverty estimation, revision of CPI weights, and inputs into national income calculations.

Statement 3 is incorrect: HCES is not part of the Population Census and is not conducted annually; it is a sample survey conducted every five years.

Source: [MoSPI](#)

Q8. The Murlen National Park, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Kerala
- b) Mizoram
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Goa

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Murlen National Park is a national park located in the Champhai district Mizoram in India.

Source: [Mongabay](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements about the Dust EXperiment (DEX):

1. It is an ISRO payload designed to study space dust and particulate matter in the near-Earth space environment.
2. The primary objective of DEX is to study interstellar dust beyond the Solar System using deep-space probes.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: DEX is an ISRO experiment aimed at measuring dust particles in near-Earth orbit, helping assess risks to satellites and understand the space environment.

Statement 2 is incorrect: DEX does not study interstellar dust beyond the Solar System; its focus is on near-Earth space and orbital debris/dust.

Source: [ET](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about the Thwaites Glacier:

1. Thwaites Glacier is located in West Antarctica and is often referred to as the “Doomsday Glacier” due to its potential impact on global sea-level rise.
2. Thwaites Glacier is situated in the Arctic region and is primarily fed by meltwater from the Greenland Ice Sheet.

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: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: Thwaites Glacier lies in West Antarctica and its collapse could contribute significantly to global sea-level rise, hence the nickname “Doomsday Glacier.”

Statement 2 is incorrect: Thwaites Glacier is not in the Arctic and has no connection with the Greenland Ice Sheet.

Source: [DTE](#)