

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation**

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*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

**January, 2026 2<sup>nd</sup> Week**

**Q1. With reference to Liechtenstein, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a landlocked country in Europe.
2. It is a member of the European Union.
3. It is bordered by Austria and Switzerland.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is Correct** — Liechtenstein is a landlocked country in Europe (in fact, doubly landlocked).
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect** — Liechtenstein is not a member of the European Union, though it participates in the European Economic Area (EEA).
- **Statement 3 is Correct** — It is bordered by Austria and Switzerland only.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q2. With reference to Bio-bitumen, consider the following statements:**

1. India has become the first country in the world to commercially produce bio-bitumen for road construction.
2. Bio-bitumen is also used for waterproofing applications, including buildings, roofs, and basements

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:**

- **Statement 1 is Correct** — India is the first country to commercially produce bio-bitumen for use in road construction.
- **Statement 2 is Correct** — Bio-bitumen is also used for waterproofing applications, including buildings, roofs, and basements.

Source- [NOA](#)

**Q3. Consider the following description:**

Situated in the Bargur Hills of Erode district, Tamil Nadu, this sanctuary lies between Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve and the Male Mahadeshwara and Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuaries of Karnataka. It is an identified tiger corridor, part of the Nilgiris Elephant Reserve, and lies at the junction of the Eastern and Western Ghats. The area forms the catchment of the Palar River, draining into the Cauvery.

Which of the following is being described above?

- (a) Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary
- (b) Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- (c) Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary
- (d) Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve

**Answer: (c) Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary**

Source- [TH](#)

**Q4. With reference to the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a statutory regulatory authority under the Ministry of Mines.

2. Its headquarters is located in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

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) Neither 1 nor 2**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is Incorrect** — DGMS functions under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, not the Ministry of Mines.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect** — The headquarters of DGMS is in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, not Ranchi

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q5. The Madhav Gadgil Commission, recently seen in the news, is associated with:**

- (a) Conservation and ecological protection of the Western Ghats
- (b) Conservation and ecological protection of the Aravalli Hills
- (c) Desertification control in arid regions of India
- (d) Conservation of Himalayan glaciers

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:** The Madhav Gadgil Commission, formally known as the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP), was constituted in 2010 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to suggest measures for the conservation and sustainable development of the Western Ghats.

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q6. Consider the following statements about Vitamin B12:**

- 1. Vitamin B12 is a water-insoluble vitamin.
  - 2. It is abundantly present in plant-based foods, making its deficiency rare among strict vegetarians.
- 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:** Vitamin B12 is a water-soluble vitamin essential for red blood cell formation, DNA synthesis, and proper neurological function.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** B12 is naturally found almost exclusively in animal-based foods, which makes vegetarians and near-vegetarians particularly vulnerable.

Source: [TH](#)

**Q7. With reference to the PANKHUDI Portal, consider the following statements:**

- 1. It is launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- 2. It aims to facilitate contributions from individuals, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), NGOs, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributors, and corporate entities to government initiatives for early childhood care and women empowerment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

**Answer: B**

**Explanation: Only 2**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The centre has launched this single-window digital platform to facilitate contributions from individuals, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), NGOs, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributors, and corporate entities to government initiatives for early childhood care and women empowerment.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q8.** Consider the following statements regarding the District-Led Textiles Transformation (DLTT) initiative:

1. It aims to promote district-specific textile value chains by leveraging local skills, raw materials, and traditional clusters.
2. It aims to elevate 100 Aspirational Districts into self-reliant hubs.
3. Under the DLTT initiative, financial incentives are provided exclusively to large textile manufacturing units, while MSMEs and artisans are excluded.

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: A**

**Explanation: 1 and 2 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** DLTT adopts a district-centric approach, identifying unique textile strengths such as handloom, handicrafts, and fibre-based clusters to build integrated value chains.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It aims to transform 100 high-potential districts into Global Export Champions and elevate 100 Aspirational Districts into self-reliant hubs.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** DLTT primarily targets MSMEs, artisans, weavers, and local clusters, not just large units. Inclusivity is a core objective.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the SWAMIH Fund:

1. It is India's largest social impact fund specifically formed for completing stressed and stalled residential projects.
2. The Ministry of Urban Affairs is the nodal ministry for the fund.

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:** It is India's largest social impact fund specifically formed for completing stressed and stalled residential projects.

- Objective: To provide priority debt financing for stalled residential projects in the affordable and mid-income housing segment.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** Nodal ministry: Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

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

1. It is an initiative by the Prasar Bharati.
2. It aims to promote the digital economy by encouraging the creation of quality content.

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:** Prasar Bharati has Launched the 'Creator's Corner' initiative on DD News to empower digital creators nationwide.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The initiative aims to promote the digital economy by encouraging the creation of quality content and expanding its reach through a partnership between Prasar Bharati and individual content creators.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

#### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (12 December)

**Q1. The Shaksgam Valley, recently seen in the news, is located in:**

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

**Answer: (d) Ladakh**

**Explanation:** The Shaksgam Valley lies in the Ladakh region, north of the Karakoram Range. It is a strategically important area and an integral part of India, though it is under illegal occupation following the 1963 China-Pakistan agreement.

**Source-** [HT](#)

**Q2. With reference to the Samagra Shiksha scheme, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. It was launched to adopt a holistic approach to school education from pre-nursery to Class XII.
3. It subsumed the earlier schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).

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

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** because Samagra Shiksha is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), not a Central Sector Scheme.
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct**, as the scheme aims to integrate school education from pre-school to Class XII and merges SSA, RMSA and TE into a single umbrella programme.

**Source-** [TH](#)

**Q3. Consider the following description:**

It is located in Kerala and shares its boundaries with the Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka), Kottiyoor Wildlife Sanctuary, and the North Wayanad forest division. The area is characterised by evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, and the Cheenkanni River, originating from the Brahmagiri ranges, flows through its dense forests.

Which of the following is correctly described above?

- (a) Silent Valley National Park
- (b) Thattekad Bird Sanctuary
- (c) Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary
- (d) Periyar Tiger Reserve

**Answer: (c) Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary**



Source- [TH](#)

**Q4. With reference to FDI trends in H1 FY26 (April–September 2025) in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Singapore was the largest source of FDI into India during H1 FY26, followed by the United States.
2. Gujarat remained the top recipient of FDI, followed by Maharashtra.

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:** As per DPIIT data, Singapore emerged as the largest source of FDI into India during H1 FY26, followed by the United States (and Mauritius thereafter).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Maharashtra, not Gujarat, was the top recipient of FDI. It was followed by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, not Gujarat.

Source- [BL](#)

**Q5. The Hadramout Province, recently seen in the news, is located in:**

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) Oman
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Yemen

**Answer: (d) Yemen**

**Explanation:** Hadramout is a large province in eastern Yemen, with Mukalla as its capital and major port city. It borders Saudi Arabia and has gained attention due to recent developments involving Saudi-backed, internationally recognised Yemeni government forces retaking Mukalla.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q6. Consider the following statements about the Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM):**

1. It is a third-generation “fire and forget” missile.
2. It is being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

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:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested the Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) with top-attack capability against a moving target. Bharat Dynamics Limited and Bharat Electronics Limited are the development-cum-production partners for the missile system.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is a third-generation “fire and forget” missile.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q7. With reference to the Arbitration Council of India, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. Its chairman is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
3. It is tasked with making recommendations to the Central Government to make provisions for easy resolution of commercial disputes.

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 Arbitration Council of India (ACI) is a statutory body established to promote and regulate arbitration mechanisms in the country.

**Statement 2 is correct:** ACI will be chaired by a former Supreme Court or High Court judge or an eminent arbitration expert, appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

**Statement 3 is correct: Functions:** As per Section 43D of the Act, the Council would discharge the functions like - Make recommendations to the Central Government to make provisions for easy resolution of commercial disputes.

**Source:** [TH](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Gee's Golden Langur, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is endemic to India and Bhutan only.
- 2. It is categorized as critically endangered by the IUCN.
- 3. The species is strictly arboreal.

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:** They are endemic only to Assam and Bhutan. They are concentrated between the Manas and Sankosh rivers in India and the foothills of Bhutan's Black Mountains.

**Statement 2 is incorrect: IUCN status: Endangered**

**Statement 3 is correct:** The species is strictly arboreal, using contiguous, tall canopy across moist evergreen, semi-evergreen and riverine forests.

**Source:** [DTE](#)

**Q9.** Consider the following countries:

- a) Kazakhstan
- b) Uzbekistan
- c) Kyrgyzstan
- d) Turkmenistan

How many of the above countries share a coast with the Aral Sea?

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

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- The Aral Sea marks the border between Kazakhstan to the north and Uzbekistan to the south.

**Source:** [Mongabay](#)

**Q10.** Consider the following pairs:

- | <b>Puppetry</b> | <b>Regions</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Kathputli    | Rajasthan      |
| 2. Putul Nach   | Odisha         |

3. Bommalattam                      Karnataka
4. Gombeyatta                      Tamil Nadu

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 only**

String Puppet Theatre of India

- Kathpuli of Rajasthan
- Kundhei of Odisha: Light wooden string puppets are used to narrate stories from the Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Puranas, accompanied by Odissi-style music.
- Gombeyatta of Karnataka: String puppets modelled on Yakshagana characters perform mythological and folk narratives with elaborate costumes and headgear.
- Bommalattam of Tamil Nadu: Large and heavy puppets, using a mix of string and rod techniques, enact episodes from Hindu mythology.
- Putul Nach of West Bengal: Wooden string puppets present folk tales, social themes, and epics, supported by local music and narration.

Source: [TH](#)

#### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (13 January)

**Q1. Operation Hawkeye, recently in the news, is:**

- (a) A US military operation in Venezuela
- (b) A NATO naval exercise in the Mediterranean Sea
- (c) A joint US–Israel operation in Iran
- (d) A US-led counter-terrorism operation involving air and precision strikes against ISIS in Syria

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** Operation Hawkeye is a US-led counter-terrorism operation executed through US Central Command (CENTCOM), involving air and precision strikes against ISIS targets in Syria.

Source- [HT](#)

**Q2. With reference to Western Disturbances, consider the following statements:**

1. They are extra-tropical cyclones originating over the Mediterranean region.
2. They mainly cause rainfall in southern India and are important for kharif crops.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:** Western Disturbances originate over the Mediterranean and are carried by the subtropical westerly jet stream. They cause winter rainfall in north-western India and are beneficial for rabi crops, not kharif crops.

Source- [IT](#)

**Q3. Consider the following countries:**

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Oman
3. Iran



How many of the above share a land border with Yemen?

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:** Yemen shares land borders with Saudi Arabia (to the north) and Oman (to the east). Iran does not share a land border with Yemen.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q4. With reference to Exercise Sanjha Shakti, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a trilateral exercise involving the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force.
2. It was conducted in the Gulf of Kutch region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** Exercise Sanjha Shakti is a Military–Civil Fusion exercise of the Indian Army, not a tri-services exercise. It was conducted at the Dighi Hills Range under the Southern Command, not in the Gulf of Kutch region.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q5. With reference to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), consider the following statements:**

1. It is an intergovernmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future.
2. India is one of the founding members of IRENA.
3. The headquarters of IRENA is located in Vienna, Austria.

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:** IRENA is an intergovernmental organisation promoting renewable energy transitions, and India is a founding member. Its headquarters is in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, not Vienna.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q6. With reference to the Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPM), consider the following statements:**

1. The Ministry of Science and Technology is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
2. The scheme provides sales-linked incentives to the manufacturers under the scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

**Explanation: Only 2**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The nodal ministry is the Ministry of Mines (with oversight from the Department of Atomic Energy and NITI Aayog).

**Statement 2 is correct:** Financial Outlay

- Total outlay: Rs 7,280 crore.
- Rs 6,450 crore as sales-linked incentives for five years.
- Rs 750 crore as capital subsidy for setting up 6,000 MTPA capacity.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q7.** With reference to the Pax Silica Initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It is a collaborative effort aimed at strengthening trusted and resilient semiconductor supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region.
2. India is a founding member alongside Japan, South Korea, and Australia.

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 Pax Silica Initiative is a strategic, cooperative framework discussed among like-minded countries (including India) to promote secure, resilient, and trusted semiconductor supply chains, particularly in the Indo-Pacific. The term “Pax Silica” symbolically reflects peace and stability built around semiconductor (“silicon”) ecosystems.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** India was notably excluded from the founding group, which includes Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Netherlands, UK, Israel, UAE, and Australia.

**Source:** [IE](#)

**Q8.** Consider the following statements regarding the Himalayan Brown Bear:

1. It is primarily found in the high-altitude regions of the Western and Central Himalayas.
2. It is classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
3. The species is omnivorous and enters hibernation during winter due to extreme cold and scarcity of food.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 and 3 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Himalayan Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*) inhabits alpine meadows and high-altitude valleys of the Western Himalayas, especially in Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, and parts of Jammu & Kashmir.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Himalayan Brown Bear is listed as Least Concern globally under the IUCN Red List (as part of the brown bear species), though its local populations are threatened. In India, it is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

**Statement 3 is correct:** It is an omnivorous mammal and undergoes hibernation during winter months to survive harsh climatic conditions.

**Source:** [Mongabay](#)

**Q9.** The NIRANTAR platform, seen in the news recently, is about:

- (a) A national digital portal for real-time monitoring of air and water pollution levels
- (b) A collaborative platform of institutions to strengthen research coordination and sustainable use of natural resources
- (c) An online grievance redressal mechanism for environmental violations

(d) A climate finance platform for funding renewable energy projects

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- NIRANTAR is a MoEFCC-led institutional platform aimed at enhancing synergy, coordination, and evidence-based policymaking among natural resource and environmental research institutions, without creating new structures or manpower.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q10.** Consider the following statements about the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA):

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
2. It has been entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the import of sugar into the country.
3. The export promotion of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages is done by APEDA in India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

**Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are correct**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is a statutory body established under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985. It works under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

**Statement 2 is correct:** APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the import of sugar as well.

**Statement 3 is correct:** APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of the following scheduled products like Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

#### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (14 January)

**Q1. Consider the following countries:**

1. Denmark
2. Poland
3. Czech Republic
4. Austria
5. Switzerland

How many of the above share a land border with Germany?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) All five**

**Explanation-** Germany shares land borders with nine countries—Denmark (north), Poland and the Czech Republic (east), Austria and Switzerland (south), and France, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the Netherlands (west).

**Source-** [PIB](#)

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB):**

1. It regulates refining, transportation, and distribution of petroleum products and natural gas, but does not regulate the production of crude oil and natural gas.
2. It can adjudicate disputes among entities in the petroleum and natural gas sector, and appeals against its decisions lie before the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL).

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) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** PNGRB's regulatory mandate excludes upstream production activities, and under the PNGRB Act, 2006, it has adjudicatory powers, with appeals against its orders lying before the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL).

Source- [TH](#)

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Australia Group:**

1. It aims to enable exporters and transshipment countries to minimise the risk of proliferation of chemical and biological weapons (CBW).
2. It is a formal, treaty-based arrangement with legally binding obligations on its participants.
3. India is not a member of the Australia Group.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:** Statement 2 is incorrect because the Australia Group is an informal and non-legally binding export control arrangement, and statement 3 is incorrect as India became a member in 2018.

Source- [idsa](#)

**Q4. The term Greenwald limit, recently seen in the news, is related to:**

- (a) Maximum permissible radiation exposure in nuclear power plants
- (b) Upper limit on uranium enrichment in nuclear reactors
- (c) Thermal efficiency limit of solar power plants
- (d) Theoretical plasma density limit in a tokamak fusion reactor

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** The Greenwald limit refers to the maximum stable plasma density achievable in a tokamak fusion reactor, beyond which plasma becomes unstable.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q5. Consider the following as sources of aerosols:**

1. Desert dust
2. Sea spray
3. Volcanic ash
4. Forest fires

How many of the above are natural sources of aerosols?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) All four**

**Explanation:** Desert dust, sea spray, volcanic ash, and forest fires are all **natural sources** of atmospheric aerosols.

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q6.** Who among the following is the head of the "Task Force on Unified Framework for Development of Coaching Ecosystem", seen in the news recently?

- a) Pullela Gopichand
- b) Abhinav Bindra
- c) Neeraj Chopra
- d) P.T. Usha

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- The Task Force, constituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, submitted its report in January 2026, led by badminton coach Pullela Gopichand; it recommends a National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB), tiered coaching pathways, and "TOPS for Coaches" for professionalizing India's sports coaching ecosystem.

Source: [PIB](#)

**Q7.** Consider the following statements about the Mithi River:

1. It flows entirely in the state of Maharashtra.
  2. It is a tributary of the Godavari River.
- 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 Mithi River is one of the four rivers flowing through the city of Mumbai.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It flows for approximately 18 km before meeting the Arabian Sea at Mahim Creek.

Source: [IE](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Responsible Nations Index (RNI), consider the following statements:

1. It is India's first globally anchored index designed to measure national responsibility beyond economic and military power.
2. It is being launched by the World Intellectual Foundation.
3. The "Environmental Responsibility" is one of the core dimensions to prepare the Index.

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:** RNI is India's first globally anchored index designed to measure national responsibility beyond economic and military power.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Launched by: World Intellectual Foundation in collaboration with Jawaharlal Nehru University, Indian Institute of Management Mumbai, and the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Core Dimensions of the Index: The Index is structured around three major dimensions of responsibility - Internal Responsibility, Environmental Responsibility and External Responsibility.

Source: [PIB](#)



**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the Shaksgam Valley:

1. It lies in south-west of Siachen Glacier.
2. The valley is drained by the Shaksgam River which is a tributary of the Yarkand River.

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: 2 only**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The valley borders China's Xinjiang province to the north, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to the south and west and the Siachen Glacier region to the east. Hence, it lies west of Siachen Glacier.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The valley is drained by the Shaksgam River which is a tributary of the Yarkand River (a river of Xinjiang region of China).

**Source:** [India Today](#)

**Q10.** With reference to the Artemis II Mission, consider the following statements:

1. The mission is being launched by European Space Agency (ESA).
2. It will land humans on the surface of the moon for the first time since 1970s.

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:** Artemis II is the first crewed mission of NASA's Artemis programme to send humans to the vicinity of the Moon since 1972.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** Artemis II is a crewed lunar flyby mission and will not include a lunar landing.

**Source:** [TH](#)

#### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (15 January)

**Q1.** Consider the following statements regarding the NPS Vatsalya Scheme, 2025:

1. The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
2. Accounts under the scheme can be opened only for resident Indian minors and are not available to NRIs or OCIs.
3. The scheme mandates a minimum contribution of ₹1,000 and sets a maximum limit on investments.

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

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

**Correct Answer: (c) All three**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** because the NPS Vatsalya Scheme, 2025 is administered by the Union Ministry of Finance and regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), not by the Ministry of Labour and Employment or the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** as the scheme is open to all Indian citizens below 18 years of age, including NRIs and OCIs; it is not restricted only to resident Indian minors.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect** since the scheme prescribes a minimum initial and annual contribution of ₹250, and does not impose any maximum limit on contributions.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q2.** Global Economic Prospects report, recently seen in news, is released by:

- (a) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (c) World Bank
- (d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Correct Answer: (c) World Bank**

**Explanation:** The Global Economic Prospects (GEP) is a flagship report published by the World Bank, providing analysis and projections on global and regional economic growth, especially for developing economies.

Source- [ET](#)

**Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding Walker and Hadley circulations:

1. Walker circulation is an east–west (zonal) atmospheric circulation operating mainly over the tropical Pacific Ocean.
2. Hadley circulation involves rising air near the equator and subsidence around 30° latitude in both hemispheres.
3. Strengthening of both Walker and Hadley circulations during La Niña conditions can influence winter weather anomalies over India.

**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: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Walker circulation refers to the zonal (east–west) atmospheric circulation over the tropical Pacific, driven by temperature and pressure differences between the western and eastern Pacific.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Hadley circulation is a meridional (north–south) circulation where air rises near the equator, moves poleward aloft, sinks around 30° latitude, and returns equatorward near the surface.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** During La Niña, the intensification of Walker and Hadley circulations alters global atmospheric circulation patterns, which can lead to winter temperature anomalies over India, including episodes of unusual cold.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q4.** M.S. Sahoo Committee, recently seen in news, is related to:

- (a) Reform of labour laws and wage codes
- (b) Regulation of insurance companies in India
- (c) Designing a framework for assured pension payouts under the National Pension Scheme
- (d) Review of banking sector NPAs

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:** The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) constituted an expert committee chaired by M.S. Sahoo to design a framework for assured pension payouts under the National Pension Scheme (NPS).

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q5.** Consider the following constitutional provisions:

1. Article 21A

2. Article 51A(k)
3. Article 45

**How many of the above provisions are related to the Right to Education?**

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

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Article 21A** provides for free and compulsory education to children aged 6–14 years as a Fundamental Right.
- **Article 51A(k)** imposes a Fundamental Duty on parents or guardians to provide opportunities for education to children in the same age group.
- **Article 45**, a Directive Principle of State Policy, directs the State to ensure early childhood care and education for children below 6 years, strengthening the overall Right to Education framework.

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q6.** Consider the following statements regarding the recently launched National Campaign on Entrepreneurship:

1. It is being launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
  2. The campaign is being implemented under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
  3. The campaign aims to strengthen non-farm livelihoods and accelerate income growth among rural women.
- 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**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Campaign on Entrepreneurship is being launched by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).

**Statement 2 is correct:** The campaign is being implemented under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

**Statement 3 is correct:** The campaign is to strengthen non-farm livelihoods and accelerate income growth among rural women.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q7.** The Global Risks Perception Survey (GRPS) – 2026 is released by:

- (a) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (c) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- (d) World Bank

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- Economic confrontation between nations and its consequences topped the World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual risks perception survey - 2026, replacing armed conflict as the number one concern of 1,300-plus experts surveyed worldwide.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q8.** Consider the following statements about the SVASTIK initiative/portal:

1. It is a national initiative to preserve and popularize India's traditional knowledge through scientific validation and dissemination.
  2. It is coordinated by CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR).
- 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:** SVASTIK stands for Scientifically Validated Societal Traditional Knowledge and is a national initiative to preserve and popularize India's traditional knowledge through scientific validation and dissemination.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is coordinated by CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) to bring together research organisations, academic institutions, experts and NGOs for documentation and communication of traditional knowledge.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q9.** With reference to the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024, consider the following statements:

1. It is being released by the Ministry of Commerce.
  2. It is aligned with India's target of USD 1 trillion in merchandise exports by 2030.
  3. Uttar Pradesh has taken the top spot among landlocked states.
- 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**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024 is being released by the NITI Aayog.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is aligned with India's target of USD 1 trillion in merchandise exports by 2030 and supports the long-term national vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Uttar Pradesh has climbed to 4th place in the NITI Aayog Export Preparedness Index 2024, behind Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat, while securing the top spot among landlocked states.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q10.** The Kondagai inland lake, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Odisha
- d) Tamil Nadu

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- A team of scientists has unearthed one of the most detailed climate records from peninsular India through sediment analysis of the Kondagai inland lake in Tamil Nadu's Sivaganga district, offering new insights into monsoon patterns, ancient ecosystems and human settlement over nearly 4,500 years.

**Source:** [DD News](#)

### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (16 January)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Henley Passport Index 2026:**

1. Singapore ranked first in the Henley Passport Index 2026.

2. India's passport slipped in ranking compared to the previous edition of the index.

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) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Singapore topped the Henley Passport Index 2026.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India's passport improved its ranking, climbing five places, rather than slipping in the index.

Source- [ET](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Employment and Social Trends 2026 Report by the ILO:**

1. The report states that India accounts for nearly one-tenth of the world's manufacturing output.
2. The report highlights that India has a surplus of green-skilled workers, resulting in lower demand in the renewable energy 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:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The report indicates that India's share in global manufacturing is about 3%, not nearly one-tenth.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The ILO report points to a shortage of green-skilled workers in India, where demand exceeds supply, especially in the renewable energy sector.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Nipah virus:**

1. Nipah virus is a non-zoonotic virus that spreads only through environmental exposure.
2. Domestic poultry birds are the natural reservoir host of the Nipah virus.
3. Effective antiviral drugs and licensed vaccines are widely available for the treatment and prevention of Nipah virus infection.

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

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

**Correct Answer: (d) None**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Nipah virus is a zoonotic virus, transmitted from animals (especially fruit bats) to humans, and can also spread through human-to-human contact.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The natural reservoir of Nipah virus is fruit bats (*Pteropus* species), not domestic poultry birds.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** There are no approved antiviral drugs or licensed vaccines specifically available for the treatment or prevention of Nipah virus infection.



Source- [TOI](#)

**Q: The term Karan Fries and Vrindavani, recently seen in the news, refers to:**

- (a) Cattle breeds
- (b) Sheep breeds
- (c) Poultry varieties
- (d) Indigenous buffalo breeds

**Correct Answer: (a) Cattle breeds**

**Explanation-** Karan Fries and Vrindavani are high-yielding synthetic cattle breeds developed in India and recently registered by the Government of India to improve milk productivity.

Source- [ET](#)

**Q. Consider the following description:**

It is a National Park, Tiger Reserve and Biosphere Reserve, forming part of a larger elephant reserve and recognised under the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves. Located in northern Odisha, it lies in the Eastern Ghats and is among India's largest tiger reserves. Recent conservation efforts have led to an increase in the mugger crocodile population in its river systems.

Which of the following is described above?

- (a) Satkosia Tiger Reserve
- (b) Similipal Tiger Reserve
- (c) Bhitarkanika National Park
- (d) Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary

**Correct Answer: (b) Similipal Tiger Reserve**

Source- [NOA](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements:**

1. As of January 2026, India is the world's second-largest producer of milk.
2. According to the Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2025, Rajasthan is the largest milk-producing state in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** India has remained the world's largest producer of milk since 1998, not the second largest.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** As per Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2025, Uttar Pradesh, not Rajasthan, is the largest milk-producing state in India.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Zaskar River:**

1. Zaskar River is a major left-bank tributary of the Indus River, flowing entirely within the Union Territory of Ladakh.
2. The Zaskar valley is V-shaped and formed primarily due to fluvial erosion, with no significant glacial influence.

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) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Zaskar is a left-bank tributary of the Indus and lies completely within Ladakh.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Zaskar valley is U-shaped with hanging valleys, which are characteristic features of glacial erosion, not fluvial erosion.

Source- [TRI](#)

**Q. Consider the following:**

**Assertion (A):** La Niña conditions are generally favourable for the Indian southwest monsoon, often resulting in normal to above-normal rainfall.

**Reason (R):** During La Niña, strengthened trade winds push warm surface waters towards the western Pacific, enhancing convection over the Indian Ocean region.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A  
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A  
(c) A is true, but R is false  
(d) A is false, but R is true

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Assertion is correct:** La Niña is typically associated with a stronger monsoon and higher rainfall over India.
- **Reason is correct:** Stronger trade winds during La Niña shift warm waters westward, enhancing convection and monsoon circulation over the Indian region, thereby explaining the assertion.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q. The Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, also known as the “Nobel for the Environment”, was recently awarded to an American biologist for her work on:**

- A. Climate change modelling  
B. Coral reef conservation  
C. Mycorrhizal networks  
D. Wildlife population genetics

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement is one of the world’s most prestigious environmental awards, often called the “Nobel Prize for the Environment.” It was recently awarded to an American biologist in recognition of her pioneering research on mycorrhizal networks—underground fungal networks that connect plant roots and facilitate the transfer of nutrients, water, and chemical signals

Source- [TH](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Freshwater Pufferfish:**

1. They are exclusively found in Himalayan cold-water river systems and are absent from the Western Ghats.
2. They are strictly herbivorous and primarily occupy surface (pelagic) waters.

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:** Freshwater pufferfish are not confined to Himalayan cold-water rivers; they occur in peninsular India, including the Western Ghats and major river basins. Further, they are omnivorous rather than strictly herbivorous and are generally benthic, not pelagic. Hence, both statements are incorrect

Source- [DTE](#)

