

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

---

*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

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

**Q1. With reference to the Khelo India Tribal Games, consider the following statements:**

1. The Games are being hosted by Odisha.
2. Mallakhamb and Kabaddi are included among the seven medal sports featured in the event.

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:** The Khelo India Tribal Games are hosted by Chhattisgarh, not Odisha. The medal sports include athletics, football, hockey, weightlifting, archery, swimming, and wrestling, while Mallakhamb and Kabaddi are demonstration sports.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q2. Qeshm Island, recently seen in the news, is located in which of the following regions?**

- (a) Red Sea
- (b) Persian Gulf
- (c) Mediterranean Sea
- (d) Black Sea

**Answer: (b) Persian Gulf**

**Explanation:** Qeshm Island belongs to Iran and is located in the Persian Gulf near the Strait of Hormuz. It is the largest island in the Persian Gulf and lies off the southern coast of Iran in Hormozgan Province. The island is strategically important due to its proximity to the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most significant maritime chokepoints for global oil trade.

Source- [NDTV](#)

**Q3. With reference to the office of the Speaker in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The office of the Speaker in India can be traced back to the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and the Government of India Act, 1919.
2. The Lok Sabha Speaker is the constitutional and ceremonial head of the Lower House of Parliament.
3. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha can be removed from office by a resolution passed by a simple majority of members present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** The office of the Speaker in India traces its origin to the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and the Government of India Act, 1919, which created the position in the Central Legislative Assembly.

The Lok Sabha Speaker presides over the Lower House and acts as its constitutional and ceremonial head. However, the Speaker can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the House (effective majority) under Article 94, not by a simple majority of members present and voting

**Q4. The terms *Acidoxantha paratoflava* and *Hemilea suneriae*, recently seen in the news, refer to:**

- (a) Newly discovered species of medicinal plants
- (b) Newly identified marine algae
- (c) New species of fruit flies
- (d) Newly discovered species of butterflies

**Answer: (c) Two new species of fruit flies**

**Explanation:** Acidoxantha paratotoflava and Hemilea suneriae are two newly identified species of fruit flies belonging to the family Tephritidae. These species were recently reported by researchers, contributing to the documentation of insect biodiversity.

Source- [RM](#)

**Q5. With reference to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a part of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
2. India is currently a member of the Commission on the Status of Women.

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:** It is a functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), not a part of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). India was elected to the CSW for a four-year term from 2021 to 2025. As the current date is in 2026, the 2021–2025 term has expired.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q6. The Kordofan region, seen in the news recently, is located in?**

- a) Sudan
- b) Iran
- c) Ukraine
- d) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The Kordofan Region is a region constituting the central and southern area of Sudan. It lies between the Darfur region on the west and the valley of the White Nile River on the east.

Source: [UN News](#)

**Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU):**

1. It ensures that the law of the European Union is interpreted and applied uniformly across all member states.
2. It consists of two main courts: the Court of Justice and the General Court.
3. The headquarters of the CJEU is located in Brussels.

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**

- The Court of Justice of the European Union ensures uniform interpretation and application of EU law among member states. It is composed mainly of the Court of Justice and the General Court. Its headquarters are located in Luxembourg City, not Brussels.

Source: [DTE](#)

**Q8. With reference to the ASMITA initiative, consider the following statements:**

1. The initiative is aimed at boosting women's participation in sports across India.
2. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal ministry of the initiative.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] March 2026

- 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 ASMITA initiative (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action) is a Khelo India program aimed at boosting women's participation in sports across India, launched in 2021.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is the nodal ministry of the initiative.

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

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding Tung tree:

1. Tung oil extracted from its seeds is widely used in paints, varnishes and waterproofing materials.
2. In India, tung plantations are mainly found in the northeastern states due to suitable climatic conditions.
3. Tung oil is edible oil commonly used for cooking in India.

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:** Tung oil is drying industrial oil used in paints, varnishes, wood finishing and waterproof coatings.

**Statement 2 is correct:** In India, cultivation has been attempted mainly in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and other northeastern regions.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is not edible.

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

**Q10.** Consider the following statements regarding Exercise LAMITIYE, 2026:

1. It is a joint military exercise conducted between the armed forces of India and Seychelles.
2. The word "LAMITIYE" means "friendship" in the Creole language.
3. The exercise is primarily a naval drill conducted in the Arabian Sea.

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**

- Exercise LAMITIYE is a joint military training exercise between the Indian Army and the Seychelles Defence Forces aimed at enhancing interoperability and cooperation. The word Lamitiye means "friendship" in Seychellois Creole. It is mainly a land-based joint exercise, not a naval drill in the Arabian Sea.

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

### 10 PM MCQs (10 March)

**Q1.** Consider the following statements regarding the ICC Men's T20 World Cup:

1. It is generally conducted every three years.
2. Australia holds the record for winning the most number of titles in the tournament.

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.  
Visit [academy.forumias.com](https://academy.forumias.com) for our mentor based courses.

3. England won the first edition of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (d) None**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The ICC Men's T20 World Cup is generally conducted every two years, not three years.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India and West Indies hold the record for the most titles (three each), not Australia.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The first edition (2007) of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup was won by India, not England.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q2. Consider the following:**

1. Open Market Operations (OMO)
2. Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)
3. Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)

How many of the above are considered quantitative instruments of monetary policy?

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

**Answer: (c) All three**

**Explanation:**

- **Open Market Operations (OMO):** Refers to the buying and selling of government securities by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to regulate liquidity in the economy.
- **Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR):** The percentage of deposits that commercial banks must maintain in the form of liquid assets such as government securities.
- **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** The proportion of deposits that banks must keep as cash reserves with the RBI.

Source- [ET](#)

**Q3. With reference to Cold Response 2026, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a major military exercise conducted under the framework of the European Union.
2. The exercise aims to strengthen Arctic defence cooperation.

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) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Cold Response is a biennial military exercise led by Norway under the framework of NATO, not the European Union.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The exercise focuses on Arctic defence preparedness, cold-weather warfare training, and improving interoperability among allied forces in the Arctic region.

Source- [Reuters](#)

**Q4. With reference to Malawi, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a landlocked country located in southeastern Africa.
2. It shares its land borders with Zambia and Tanzania.

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) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Malawi is a landlocked country in southeastern Africa, bordered by Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique. Despite being landlocked, it contains Lake Malawi, one of Africa's largest freshwater lakes.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Malawi shares northern borders with Tanzania and western borders with Zambia, while Mozambique surrounds it to the east, south, and southwest.

Source- [DDnews](#)

**Q5. Proba-3 Mission, recently seen in news, has been launched by which of the following organisations?**

- (a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- (b) China National Space Administration (CNSA)
- (c) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- (d) European Space Agency (ESA)

**Answer: (d) European Space Agency (ESA)**

**Explanation:**

- Proba-3 is a mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) aimed at demonstrating precision formation flying between two satellites.
- The two spacecraft fly in extremely precise formation to create an artificial solar eclipse, enabling scientists to observe the Sun's corona (outer atmosphere) in greater detail

Source- [IT](#)

**Q6. Consider the following statements about the 'Three Seas Initiative':**

1. The initiative represents a political and economic forum uniting various countries situated between the Baltic, Adriatic, and Black Seas.
2. All its core members are also the members of the European Union (EU).

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:**

- The Three Seas Initiative (3SI) represents a political and economic forum uniting thirteen European Union (EU) countries situated between the Baltic, Adriatic, and Black Seas.
- 3SI includes associated participating states (Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, Montenegro) and strategic partners (US, Germany, EC, Japan, Spain, Türkiye) that are not EU members.

Source: [AIR](#)

**Q7. The Dulhasti Hydro Electric Project (HEP) is located on**

- a) Chenab River
- b) Beas River
- c) Manas River
- d) Kameng River

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: Chenab River**

- The Dulhasti Hydro Electric Project is located on the Chenab River in the Kishtwar district.

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

**Q8.** Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN):

1. The scheme aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) across India.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3. The scheme covers all Scheduled Tribes in India irrespective of their vulnerability status.

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**

- PM JANMAN was launched in 2023 to focus specifically on the development of PVTGs, the most marginalized tribal communities. It aims to ensure last-mile delivery of basic services such as housing, roads, drinking water, healthcare, and education in PVTG habitations. The scheme does not cover all Scheduled Tribes, only PVTGs.

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

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner of India:

1. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office in a manner similar to that of a judge of the Supreme Court of India.
2. The removal requires a special majority of both Houses of the Parliament of India on the grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
3. Other Election Commissioners can be removed by the President only on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation: 1, 2 and 3**

- Under Article 324 of the Constitution of India, the Chief Election Commissioner enjoys strong security of tenure. The removal procedure is similar to that of a Supreme Court judge, requiring a special majority of Parliament on the grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. Other Election Commissioners can be removed by the President, but only on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner, ensuring independence of the election body.

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

**Q10.** Consider the following statements regarding White Phosphorus:

1. It is a highly reactive allotrope of phosphorus that ignites spontaneously when exposed to oxygen in air.
2. It is widely used in smoke shells, illumination rounds, and incendiary weapons in military operations.

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

Visit [academy.forumias.com](https://academy.forumias.com) for our mentor based courses.

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] March 2026

3. Its use in armed conflicts is completely banned under the Chemical Weapons Convention. 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**

- White phosphorus is a highly reactive and toxic allotrope that ignites on contact with oxygen. It is used in military applications such as smoke screens, illumination rounds, and incendiary munitions. However, its use is not completely banned under the Chemical Weapons Convention, though its use against civilians is restricted under international humanitarian law.

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

## 10 PM MCQs (11 March 2026)

**Q1. Consider the following pairs:**

**Lakes in News      State (Located)**

1. Gurudongmar Lake — Sikkim
2. Chandratol Lake — Himachal Pradesh
3. Ashtamudi Lake — Andhra Pradesh

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:**

- **Gurudongmar Lake - Sikkim is Correct.** It is a high-altitude glacial lake located in the Mangan district of Sikkim, near the India-China border.
- **Chandratol Lake - Himachal Pradesh is Correct.** It is a crescent-shaped lake situated in the Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh, in the upper Chandra Valley.
- **Ashtamudi Lake - Andhra Pradesh is Incorrect.** Ashtamudi Lake is located in Kerala, mainly in the Kollam district, and is known for its unique eight-armed (Ashta-mudi) shape and backwater ecosystem.

Source- [EM](#)

**Q2. Anavaran Portal, recently in the news, has been launched by which of the following?**

- (a) India Meteorological Department (IMD)
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)
- (d) Forest Survey of India (FSI)

**Answer: (d) Forest Survey of India (FSI)**

**Explanation:** Anavaran is an AI-enabled deforestation monitoring platform developed by the Forest Survey of India (FSI) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). It uses satellite imagery and machine learning algorithms to detect forest cover loss and sends alerts to state forest departments every 15 days.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q3. Consider the following pairs:**

**Air defence system in news      Country**

1. Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) — Israel

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.  
Visit [academy.forumias.com](https://academy.forumias.com) for our mentor based courses.

2. HQ-9 — USA
3. Barak-8 — Iran

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer: (d) None**

**Explanation:**

- THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) - Developed by the United States, not Israel.
- HQ-9 - A long-range surface-to-air missile system developed by China, not the USA.
- Barak-8 - A jointly developed air defence system by India and Israel, not Iran

Source- [TH](#)

**Q4. With reference to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Report on International Arms Transfers (2021–25), consider the following statements:**

1. India was the second largest importer of major arms globally during 2021–25.
2. USA was the top supplier of arms to India followed by Russia during this period.

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.** According to the SIPRI Report on International Arms Transfers (2021–25), India was the second-largest importer of major arms globally, after Ukraine.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Russia remained India's largest arms supplier (about 40%), followed by France (around 29%), not the USA.

Source- [LM](#)

**Q5. Nirbhaya Nisha Initiative, recently seen in news, has been launched by which of the following?**

- (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (b) National Commission for Women
- (c) Kerala Police
- (d) Delhi Police

**Answer: (c) Kerala Police**

**Explanation:** The Nirbhaya Nisha initiative is a women's safety programme launched by the Kerala Police to enhance security for women travelling during night hours through measures such as emergency response systems, SOS features, and increased patrolling

Source- [TH](#)

**Q6. With reference to the office of the Speaker in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The office of the Speaker in India can be traced back to the Montagu–Chelmsford Reforms and the Government of India Act, 1919.
2. The Lok Sabha Speaker is the constitutional and ceremonial head of the Lower House of Parliament.
3. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha can be removed from office by a resolution passed by a simple majority of members present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: The office of the Speaker in India traces its origin to the Montagu–Chelmsford Reforms and the Government of India Act, 1919, which created the position in the Central Legislative Assembly.

The Lok Sabha Speaker presides over the Lower House and acts as its constitutional and ceremonial head. However, the Speaker can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the House (effective majority) under Article 94, not by a simple majority of members present and voting.

Source - [AIR](#)

**Q7.** Consider the following statements regarding the Bio-Pharma SHAKTI Scheme:

1. It is an initiative of the Department of Biotechnology.
2. The scheme focuses on supporting research, innovation, and indigenous manufacturing of vaccines, biosimilars, and other biopharmaceutical products.
3. It is implemented under the umbrella of the Atal Innovation Mission.

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

- The Bio-Pharma SHAKTI scheme is a Department of Biotechnology initiative aimed at promoting innovation, R&D, and domestic manufacturing capacity in the biopharmaceutical sector. It is not implemented under the Atal Innovation Mission

Source: [PIB](#)

**Q8.** The Lake Chilwa, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Chile
- b) Malawi
- c) Uzbekistan
- d) Indonesia

Answer: B

Explanation: Malawi

- India has dispatched a consignment of 1,000 metric tons of rice to Malawi following the drought caused by the El Nino effect. The crisis is driven by the El Niño weather pattern, causing erratic rainfall, and has led to the drying up of major water bodies like Lake Chilwa. The Malawi government has declared a state of disaster.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the Periyar Tiger Reserve:

1. It is located in the Kerala within the Western Ghats.
2. It was the first reserves to be included under Project Tiger in 1973.
3. The reserve surrounds the Periyar Lake, which was formed after the construction of the Mullaperiyar Dam.

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 3

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] March 2026

- Periyar Tiger Reserve is located in the Western Ghats of Kerala and is known for its rich biodiversity. The central feature of the reserve is Periyar Lake, which was created after the construction of the Mullaperiyar Dam. The reserve was also among the early areas brought under Project Tiger in 1978. Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand was the first reserve to be included under Project Tiger when it was launched on April 1, 1973.

Source: [DTE](#)

**Q10.** Consider the following statements regarding the National Internet Exchange of India:

1. It was set up to facilitate the exchange of domestic internet traffic between Internet Service Providers (ISPs) within India.
2. It operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
3. It is responsible for managing India's country code top-level domain .in.

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation: 1, 2 and 3**

- The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) was established in 2003 to improve internet efficiency by enabling ISPs to exchange domestic traffic locally rather than routing it internationally. It functions under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and manages the .in domain registry through the INRegistry.

Source: [PIB](#)

## 10 PM MCQs (12 March)

**Q1. Consider the following pairs:**

- | Provision   | Article       |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Uniform Civil Code                                       | — Article 40  |
| 2. Participation of workers in the management of industries | — Article 42  |
| 3. Promote equal justice and free legal aid to the poor     | — Article 39A |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- Uniform Civil Code is provided under Article 44, not Article 40.
- Participation of workers in the management of industries is under Article 43A, not Article 42.
- Equal justice and free legal aid is correctly mentioned under Article 39A.

Source- [IT](#)

**Q2. With reference to the Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) scheme, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a Centrally Sector Scheme aimed at promoting adult education and lifelong learning.
2. Chandigarh recently got the 'fully literate U.T.' tag and has become the first Union Territory to achieve this feat.

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:** ULLAS is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, not a Centrally Sector Scheme.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Ladakh was the first Union Territory to achieve this feat, while Chandigarh became the second UT with 99.93% literacy.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q3. With reference to the Fiscal Health Index (FHI), consider the following statements:**

1. It was introduced by NITI Aayog.
2. It provides a framework to evaluate the fiscal performance of all Indian States and Union Territories.
3. In the 2026 Fiscal Health Index, among the North-Eastern and Himalayan states, Meghalaya topped the index.

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

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

**Answer: (a) Only one**

**Explanation:** The Fiscal Health Index (FHI) was introduced by NITI Aayog, hence statement 1 is correct. The index evaluates 18 major states and 10 North-Eastern and Himalayan states, not all States and Union Territories; therefore statement 2 is incorrect. In the 2026 Fiscal Health Index, Arunachal Pradesh, not Meghalaya, topped among the North-Eastern and Himalayan states, making statement 3 incorrect.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q4. Devon Island, the world's largest uninhabited island, is located in:**

- (a) Canada
- (b) Greenland
- (c) Russia
- (d) Norway

**Answer: (a) Canada**

**Explanation:** Devon Island is located in Nunavut, Canada, in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. It is known as the largest uninhabited island in the world and is often used for Mars simulation research due to its harsh, Mars-like environment.

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the European Free Trade Association (EFTA):**

1. All European Union nations are currently members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).
2. The EFTA Secretariat is located in Geneva.

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) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** EFTA has only four members-Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland; EU countries are not all members of EFTA.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The EFTA Secretariat is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q6.** Consider the following statements regarding the Jhelum River:

1. It was known as Vitasta in Rigveda.
2. It originates from the Verinag Spring located at the foot of the Pir Panjal Range.
3. It passes through Wular Lake at Srinagar.

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 Jhelum River is a river of northwestern India and northern and eastern Pakistan and is a major tributary of the Indus River.

- Ancient names: Known as Vitasta in Sanskrit (Rigveda), Vyeth in Kashmiri, and Hydaspes in Greek.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The river originates from the Verinag Spring at Anantnag, located at the foot of the Pir Panjal Range in the Kashmir Valley.

**Statement 3 is correct:** It passes through Wular Lake at Srinagar, which helps regulate its flow.

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

**Q7.** With reference to the Bug Bounty Programme, consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).
2. It aims to enhance the security of the Aadhaar ecosystem by inviting cybersecurity experts to identify potential vulnerabilities in its digital platforms.

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:** Launched by: Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)

**Statement 2 is correct:** Bug Bounty Programme is the first structured programme to enhance the security of the Aadhaar ecosystem by inviting cybersecurity experts to identify potential vulnerabilities in its digital platforms.

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

**Q8.** Consider the following statements about the spotted hyenas:

1. It is categorized as endangered by the IUCN.
2. It can be found in central regions of India.
3. The species is commonly known as the "laughing hyena".

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:** IUCN Status: Least Concern

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The spotted hyena is not found in India. Instead the striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*), a related species, occurs in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The species is commonly known as the “laughing hyena” because of its distinctive vocal sounds.

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

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding the PM RAHAT Scheme:

1. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. Under the scheme, the victims of road accidents involving motor vehicles will be eligible for treatment coverage of up to ₹1.5 lakh, irrespective of the category of road on which the accident occurs.
3. The scheme is notified under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

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 scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, not the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Under the scheme, victims of road accidents involving motor vehicles will be eligible for treatment coverage of up to ₹1.5 lakh for a maximum of seven days from the date of the accident, irrespective of the category of road on which the accident occurs.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme is notified under Section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

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

**Q10.** Consider the following statements regarding the Dandi March:

1. It was launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930 as a protest against the British salt tax.
2. The march started from Sabarmati Ashram and ended at Dandi on the Arabian Sea coast.
3. The event marked the beginning of the Quit India Movement.

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**

- The Dandi March (Salt March) began on 12 March 1930 when Mahatma Gandhi marched from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi to break the British salt law, marking the launch of the Civil Disobedience Movement. The Quit India Movement began later in 1942, so statement 3 is incorrect.

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

### 10 PM MCQs (13 March)

**Q.** Consider the following description:

This is a prehistoric tribal art form estimated to be over 3000 years old. It is traditionally associated with the high hills of the Nilgiris. The paintings use natural colours such as green from leaves, red and white from soil, and black from tree bark. These colours are applied with cloth on cow dung-coated walls, and the art was historically drawn on rocks and in caves.

Which of the following refers to the above description?

- (a) Warli Painting
- (b) Saura Painting
- (c) Kurumba Painting
- (d) Gond Painting

**Answer:** (c) Kurumba Painting

**Explanation:** Kurumba painting is a traditional tribal art of the Kurumba community from the Nilgiri hills of Tamil Nadu. It uses natural pigments and was historically created on rocks, caves, and mud walls coated with cow dung.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q. With reference to Nevado Ojos del Salado, consider the following statements:**

1. It is the world's highest active stratovolcano.
2. It is located in Iceland.

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:** Nevado Ojos del Salado is the world's highest active stratovolcano, located on the Chile–Argentina border in the Andes Mountains, not in Iceland.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q. The terms Caulocera hollowayi and Asura buxa, recently in news, are species of:**

- (a) Lichen moth
- (b) Frog
- (c) Butterfly
- (d) Beetle

**Answer:** (a) Lichen moth

**Explanation:** Caulocera hollowayi and Asura buxa are two newly discovered lichen moth species identified by scientists of the Zoological Survey of India from the Eastern Himalayas (Sikkim and West Bengal). These moths belong to the order Lepidoptera, which includes butterflies and moths.

Source- [Print](#)

**Q. Consider the following countries:**

1. Israel
2. Syria
3. Jordan

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

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

**Answer:** (b) Only two

**Explanation:** Lebanon shares land borders with Syria to the north and east, and Israel to the south. Jordan does not share a direct border with Lebanon, as it is separated by Syria and Israel.

Source- [DC](#)

**Q. Under the Kisan Credit Card scheme, short-term credit support is given to farmers for which of the following purposes?**

1. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets
2. Purchase of combine harvesters, tractors and mini trucks
3. Consumption requirements of farm households
4. Post-harvest expenses

5. Construction of family house and setting up of village cold storage facility

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Ans:** (b)

**Explanation:** The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme provides short-term credit to farmers mainly for crop production and related needs. It covers working capital for maintenance of farm assets (1), consumption requirements of farm households (3), and post-harvest expenses (4).

However, purchase of combine harvesters, tractors and mini trucks (2) involves capital investment, which is generally financed through term loans rather than short-term KCC credit. Similarly, construction of a family house and setting up of village cold storage facility (5) is not covered under the short-term credit component of the KCC scheme.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q. Bain, Banganga, Luni, and Uhal are major tributaries of which of the following rivers?**

- (a) Ravi
- (b) Chenab
- (c) Sutlej
- (d) Beas

**Answer:** (d) Beas

**Explanation:** Bain, Banganga, Luni, and Uhal are important tributaries of the Beas River, mainly flowing through Himachal Pradesh before the river enters Punjab.

Source- [News](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding freedom of speech in Parliament under Article 105 of the Indian Constitution:**

1. An MP's freedom of speech in Parliament is absolute and cannot be restricted by any parliamentary rule or procedure.
2. Time allocated for speaking in Parliament is determined solely by the seniority of the member concerned.
3. The Speaker has the authority to expunge remarks made by a member during parliamentary proceedings.

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

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

**Answer:** (A) 3 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is Incorrect-** Article 105 guarantees freedom of speech in Parliament, but this freedom is explicitly subject to parliamentary rules and procedures. MPs must address the Chair, avoid unparliamentary language, and speak only on the subject under discussion. It is a qualified freedom, not an absolute one.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect-** Time allocated for speaking is not based on seniority. It is determined by three factors - party strength in the House, the nature of business being conducted, and the discretion of the Speaker. A first-term MP from a larger party may get more time than a senior MP from a smaller party.
- **Statement 3 is Correct-** The Speaker holds the authority to expunge remarks that are unparliamentary, offensive, or inappropriate from the official record of proceedings. The Speaker can

also suspend members for disorderly conduct — a well-established constitutional and procedural power.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q. With reference to the phenomenon of “Black Rain”, recently reported over Tehran, consider the following statements:**

1. It occurs when rainfall absorbs large quantities of pollutants such as hydrocarbons, sulfur oxides, and nitrogen compounds present in the atmosphere.
2. It is primarily caused by volcanic eruptions releasing ash and gases into the atmosphere.

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:** Black rain occurs when rainwater mixes with high concentrations of pollutants and particulate matter in the atmosphere, giving the precipitation a dark or oily appearance. In the Tehran incident, Israeli strikes on oil storage facilities released toxic hydrocarbons, sulfur oxides, and nitrogen compounds, which mixed with rainfall and resulted in blackened precipitation.

However, it is not primarily caused by volcanic eruptions; volcanic activity may produce ash-laden rain but is not the main cause of the phenomenon described here

Source- [IE](#)

**Q. Consider the following pairs:**

GI Tag — State

1. Joha Rice — Manipur
2. Muga Silk — Meghalaya
3. Aranmula Kannadi — Kerala

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- Joha rice is a fragrant rice variety from Assam, not Manipur.
- Muga silk is traditionally produced in Assam, which holds the GI tag.
- It is a traditional handmade metal mirror from Aranmula village in Kerala and has a GI tag.

Source- [Tribune](#)

**Q. NASA’s Van Allen Probe A mission, recently in news, was launched to:**

- (a) Study Earth’s radiation belts
- (b) Explore the surface of Mars
- (c) Study the Sun’s outer atmosphere
- (d) Observe distant galaxies

**Answer:** (a) Study Earth’s radiation belts

**Explanation:** The Van Allen Probes mission was launched by NASA in 2012 to study the Van Allen radiation belts, which are zones of charged particles trapped by Earth’s magnetic field.

Source- [NDTV](#)

10 PM MCQ (14 March)

**Q1. With reference to potato cultivation in India, consider the following statements:**

1. India is the largest producer of potatoes in the world.
2. Maharashtra and Karnataka are the leading potato-producing states in India.
3. Kufri Jamunia is a variety of purple potato developed in India.

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:** China is the largest producer; India is second.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are leading producers, not Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Kufri Jamunia is a purple potato variety developed in India.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q2. Operation "White Hammer", recently in the news, was launched by which of the following agencies?**

- (a) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- (b) Enforcement Directorate (ED)
- (c) National Investigation Agency (NIA)
- (d) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)

**Answer:** (d) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)

**Explanation:** Operation "White Hammer" was launched by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) to crack down on illegal drug manufacturing and trafficking

Source- [TH](#)

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Operation Sagar Bandhu:**

1. It was launched by India in 2025 following Cyclone Ditwah.
2. The operation aimed to provide Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to Sri Lanka.

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) Both 1 and 2

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India launched Operation Sagar Bandhu in November 2025 as a first responder following the devastation caused by Cyclone Ditwah in the Indian Ocean region.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The operation was undertaken to provide Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) support to Sri Lanka, including relief materials, medical aid, and logistical assistance.

Source- [NOA](#)

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):**

1. Small Modular Reactors generally have a power capacity of up to 300 MW(e) per unit.
2. SMRs primarily rely on active safety mechanisms such as externally powered cooling systems to prevent overheating.
3. The modular design of SMRs allows their systems and components to be factory-assembled and transported to the installation site.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b) 1 and 3 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** SMRs typically have a generating capacity of up to 300 MW(e) per unit.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** SMRs mainly rely on passive safety systems such as natural circulation and gravity-driven cooling rather than active, externally powered systems.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Their modular design enables factory manufacturing and transportation to the installation site, reducing construction time and costs.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q5. The term "Shadow Fleet", recently in news, refers to:**

- (a) A group of naval ships deployed secretly during wartime operations
- (b) A fleet of ships used for marine research in deep oceans
- (c) Ships that bypass international trade restrictions and conceal their cargo or operations
- (d) Commercial ships used exclusively for Arctic navigation

**Answer:** (c) Ships that bypass international trade restrictions and conceal their cargo or operations

**Explanation:** The "Shadow Fleet" refers to vessels that operate outside international regulatory frameworks. These ships often bypass sanctions, evade monitoring systems, flout environmental regulations, and conceal cargo origins to continue trading restricted commodities such as oil.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q6. The Pandu Port, seen in the news recently, is located on the banks of**

- a) Kaveri River
- b) Ganga River
- c) Brahmaputra River
- d) Sharavati River

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- Pandu Port is located on the North Bank of River Brahmaputra (NW-2) within the city of Guwahati.

Source: [PIB](#)

**Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Maritime Labour Convention:**

1. It was adopted under the aegis of the International Labour Organization (ILO).
2. It is considered as the 'bill of rights' for the seafarers.
3. The convention applies only to naval personnel serving in military vessels.

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**

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC) was adopted by the International Labour Organization to ensure decent working conditions, health protection, accommodation, and social security for seafarers. It is considered as the 'bill of rights' for the seafarers. It is considered the fourth pillar of international maritime law alongside IMO conventions like SOLAS, MARPOL, and STCW.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It applies to all commercial seagoing ships operating in international waters or between ports of different countries except fishing, naval and traditionally built vessels.

Source: [IE](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Litani River, consider the following statements:

1. It is the most important river of Lebanon.
2. It merges into Euphrates river in Iraq.

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:** Litani River is the longest river that flows entirely in Lebanon

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It falls into the Mediterranean Sea. It does not merge into other river.

Source: [TH](#)

**Q9.** Consider the following statements regarding Supplementary Demands for Grants:

1. They are presented in the Lok Sabha when the amount authorized for a particular service in the annual budget is found to be insufficient during the financial year.
2. They can be introduced only after the approval of the Rajya Sabha.

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**

- Supplementary Demands for Grants are presented in the Lok Sabha during a financial year when the allocated funds for a service are insufficient or when a new service not included in the budget requires expenditure. They are first introduced in the Lok Sabha (since it controls the purse), not after Rajya Sabha approval.

Source: [AIR](#)

**Q10.** With reference to the Joha rice, consider the following statements:

1. It originates from Assam in northeast India.
2. It is cultivated as a winter paddy.
3. It is yet to be given a G.I. tag by the government of India.

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**

**Statement 1 is correct:** Joha rice is a short-grain aromatic rice variety known for its distinctive fragrance, soft texture, and traditional cultivation practices. It originates from Assam in Northeast India, where it has been cultivated for centuries as part of traditional agricultural systems and local food culture.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The crop is generally cultivated as a short-grain winter paddy during the Sali rice season.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The rice received Geographical Indication status in 2017 for its unique origin and traditional cultivation.

Source: [PIB](#)

**10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (16 March)**

**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) established under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India:**

1. The Sixth Schedule provides for Autonomous District Councils in certain tribal areas of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya.
2. All the members of an Autonomous District Council are directly elected on the basis of adult franchise.
3. Regulations made by an Autonomous District Council to control money lending and trading by non-tribals require the assent of the President of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (d) None**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Sixth Schedule applies to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram, not Arunachal Pradesh or Manipur.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** ADCs have up to 30 members, of which 26 are elected and 4 are nominated by the Governor.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Regulations regarding money lending and trading by non-tribals require the assent of the Governor, not the President.

Source- [NDTV](#)

**Q2. With reference to the Western Tragopan, locally known as Jujurana (King of Birds), consider the following statements:**

1. It is the state bird of Himachal Pradesh.
2. It is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

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:** The Western Tragopan (*Tragopan melanocephalus*) is the state bird of Himachal Pradesh and is locally known as Jujurana, meaning "King of Birds." It is found in the temperate forests of the northwestern Himalayas, mainly in India and Pakistan.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The species is classified as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List, not Critically Endangered. Its population is declining due to habitat loss, hunting, and human disturbance.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q3. With reference to the Sujal Gaon ID, recently in news, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a digital identification system developed to map urban drinking water supply networks in India.
2. It has been launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

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:** Sujal Gaon ID is a unique digital ID created to map rural piped water supply schemes, not urban water supply networks. It is associated with villages under the Jal Jeevan Mission, which focuses on providing Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) in rural areas.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The initiative has been launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, not the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q4. El Ashmunein, an ancient town recently in the news, is located in which country?**

- (a) Egypt
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Jordan
- (d) Turkey

**Answer:** (a) Egypt

**Explanation:** El Ashmunein, known in ancient times as Hermopolis Magna, is an archaeological site in Upper Egypt located on the western bank of the Nile River. It was an important religious and cultural center in ancient Egyptian civilization.

Source- [IDR](#)

**Q5. With reference to the Gajapati Empire, consider the following statements:**

1. The Gajapati Empire emerged in the 13th century in present-day Odisha after the decline of the Eastern Ganga dynasty.
2. The empire was founded by Kapilendra Deva.
3. The decline of the Gajapati Empire was partly due to conflicts with the Vijayanagara Empire.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b) 2 and 3 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Gajapati Empire emerged in the 15th century (c. 1434 CE) in present-day Odisha, following the decline of the Eastern Ganga dynasty, not in the 13th century.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The empire was founded by Kapilendra Deva of the Suryavamsa (Solar) lineage, who established a powerful kingdom in Odisha.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The empire gradually declined due to continuous conflicts with the Vijayanagara Empire and other regional powers, which weakened its political control.

Source- [DC](#)

**Q6. With reference to the Karun river, consider the following statements:**

1. It is the only navigable river of Iran.
  2. The river merges directly into the Caspian Sea.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** A

**Explanation: 1 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Karun River is the river with the highest water flow in Iran and it is the country's only navigable river.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Karun flows into the Arvand Rud, where its water joins the Tigris and Euphrates, and finally reaches the Persian Gulf.

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

**Q7.** Consider the following statements regarding Nor'westers:

1. They are violent pre-monsoon thunderstorms that occur mainly in eastern and northeastern parts of India.
2. These storms are locally known as Kalbaisakhi in West Bengal and adjoining areas.
3. They occur mainly during the winter season due to the influence of western disturbances.

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**

- Nor'westers are severe pre-monsoon convective storms occurring mainly in April–May over eastern and northeastern India, especially West Bengal, Assam, and Bangladesh. They move from the northwest towards the southeast and are popularly called Kalbaisakhi in Bengal. They are not winter storms caused by western disturbances.

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

**Q8.** Consider the following statements regarding the Jnanpith Award:

1. It is India's highest literary honour.
2. It is bestowed upon any Indian citizen who writes in any 22 official languages (only) of India mentioned in 8th Schedule of Constitution of India.
3. The award is only given for a single work by a writer.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** Jnanpith Award is India's highest literary honour. It is given every year to an author for his/her outstanding contribution to Indian literature.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is bestowed upon any Indian citizen who writes in any 22 official languages of India mentioned in VIII Schedule of Constitution of India and English.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** Prior to 1982, the award was only given for a single work by a writer. But after 1982, the award is given for lifetime contribution to Indian literature.

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

**Q9.** Consider the following statements about the GOBARDHAN scheme:

1. The Ministry of Jal Shakti is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
2. The scheme is implemented under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and contributes to improving rural sanitation and clean energy generation.
3. The scheme provides direct income support to farmers through Minimum Support Price (MSP) for biogas produced at household level.

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**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Ministry of Jal Shakti is the nodal ministry of the scheme.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme operates under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and supports sanitation, clean energy, and rural livelihoods.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** There is no MSP or direct income support mechanism for biogas under GOBARDHAN; income is generated through sale of energy and manure.

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

**Q10.** Consider the following statements about the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA):

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.
2. It regulates only inter-country adoptions of Indian children.
3. It acts as the Central Authority for inter-country adoptions under the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption, 1993.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: 1 and 3 only**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** CARA is a statutory body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** CARA regulates both in-country and inter-country adoptions, not just inter-country adoptions.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It acts as the Central Authority for inter-country adoptions under the Hague Convention, which India ratified in 2003.

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