

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

March, 2026 3rd Week

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (17 March)

Q1. Consider the following pairs:

Treaty/Convention Objective

1. Nagoya Protocol – Regulation of hazardous waste movement across borders
2. Stockholm Convention – Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
3. Cartagena Protocol – Conservation of migratory species

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is incorrect:** Hazardous waste movement is governed by the Basel Convention.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** Stockholm Convention deals with POPs.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Migratory species are covered under the Bonn Convention; Cartagena Protocol deals with biosafety of LMOs.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

1. Fujairah Port – United Arab Emirates
2. Khalifa Bin Salman Port – Bahrain
3. Port of Salalah – Oman

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation: All three pairs are correctly matched.

Source- [CNBC](#)

Q3. Consider the following description:

It is a classical music tradition of India, and is devotional in nature. It uses instruments such as veena, violin, mridangam and flute. Its compositions include kriti, varnam, padam and keertanam, with kriti being the most important melodic form. Renowned composers like Muthuswami Dikshitar and Shyama Shastri are associated with it.

Which of the following does the above description best refer to?

- (a) Hindustani Music
- (b) Carnatic Music
- (c) Dhrupad Tradition
- (d) Ghazal Music

Answer: (b) Carnatic Music

Explanation: The description corresponds to Carnatic music, the classical music system of South India, known for devotional compositions and the Trinity of composers.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following pairs:

1. Srikanta Glacier – Uttarakhand
2. Bara Shigri Glacier – Jammu & Kashmir
3. Drang-Drung Glacier – Himachal Pradesh

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** Srikanta Glacier lies in Uttarakhand.
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** Bara Shigri Glacier is in Himachal Pradesh, not Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Drang-Drung Glacier is in Ladakh, not Himachal Pradesh.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. With reference to the Kopili River, consider the following statements:

1. It is an interstate river flowing through Meghalaya and Assam.
2. It is the largest north bank tributary of the Brahmaputra in Assam.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct-** It is an interstate river flowing through Meghalaya and Assam
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Kopili is a south bank tributary, not a north bank tributary.

Source- [SA](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Silent Valley National Park:

1. It is located in the Kerala and forms part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
2. The park is traversed by the Kunthipuzha River, which is a tributary of the Bharathapuzha River.
3. It is characterized mainly by tropical dry deciduous forests and savanna vegetation.

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

- Silent Valley National Park is a tropical evergreen rainforest located in Kerala and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. The Kunthipuzha River flows through it. The park is known for its undisturbed evergreen forests, not dry deciduous or savanna vegetation.

Source: [TH](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Aras River:

1. It originates in eastern Turkey and flows along the borders of Armenia, Iran, and Azerbaijan.
2. It is a major tributary of the Tigris River.
3. The river ultimately drains into the Caspian Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 3 only

- The Aras River originates in eastern Turkey and flows along the borders of Armenia, Iran, and Azerbaijan. It joins the Kura River, which drains into the Caspian Sea. It is not a tributary of the Tigris River.

Source: [IE](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Jaldapara National Park:

1. It is located in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas in West Bengal.
2. The Manas river drains the core area of this Park.
3. The park holds the largest rhino population in India after Kaziranga National Park.

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: Jaldapara National Park is a national park situated at the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas in Alipurduar District of northern West Bengal, India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is located on the banks of the Torsa River.

Statement 3 is correct: The park holds the largest rhino population in India after Kaziranga National Park in Assam.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q9. Consider the following:

1. Smallpox
2. Polio
3. Maternal & neonatal tetanus

How many of the above diseases have been officially eliminated in India?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two

- c) All three
- d) None

Answer: C

Explanation: All

- India has successfully eliminated major diseases such as smallpox, polio and maternal & neonatal tetanus through sustained vaccination efforts. The last case of polio in the country was reported in 2011, a milestone achieved under the Pulse Polio Programme launched in 1995.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q10. The Crop Prospects and Food Situation Report, is released by:

- (a) Food and Agriculture Organization
- (b) World Food Programme
- (c) International Fund for Agricultural Development
- (d) World Bank

Answer: A

Explanation: Food and Agriculture Organization

- The Crop Prospects and Food Situation Report is published by the FAO to provide global assessments of food supply, demand, and food security conditions, especially in vulnerable regions.

Source: [DTE](#)

10 PM MCQs (18 March)

Q1. The term “Washington Consensus”, recently seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) A set of economic policy prescriptions promoting market-oriented reforms
- (b) A global military alliance for collective security
- (c) An international environmental agreement on climate change
- (d) A diplomatic framework for resolving trade disputes

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The Washington Consensus refers to a set of economic reforms—such as liberalisation, privatisation, and fiscal discipline—advocated for developing countries by institutions like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

Source- [TH](#)

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

1. Sejil Missile — Iran
2. K-4 Missile — USA
3. Standard Missile-3 — Israel

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1:** Sejil Missile — Iran is correct (developed by Iran)
- **Pair 2:** K-4 Missile — USA is incorrect (it is an Indian submarine-launched ballistic missile)
- **Pair 3:** Standard Missile-3 — Israel is incorrect (it is primarily developed and used by the United States)

Source- [ET](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements about Afghanistan:

1. Afghanistan shares its largest land border with Iran.
2. The highest point of Afghanistan is Mt. Nowshak.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** — Afghanistan shares its largest land border with Pakistan, not Iran.
- **Statement 2 is correct** — Mt. Noshak (Nowshak) is the highest peak of Afghanistan (7,492 m) in the Hindu Kush range.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about Operation Sankalp:

1. It aims to conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) operations.
2. It is conducted in the Bay of Bengal to monitor cyclone activity.

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:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** — Operation Sankalp is not a HADR mission; it is focused on maritime security.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** — It operates in the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf region to ensure safe passage of Indian vessels.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. The term “Vela carli”, recently seen in the news, refers to:

- (a) A freshwater crab species endemic to the Central Western Ghats
- (b) A newly discovered Himalayan medicinal plant
- (c) A species of migratory bird found in Central Asia
- (d) A rare coral species found in the Andaman Sea

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Vela carli is an endemic freshwater crab species found in the forests and streams of the Central Western Ghats.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. With reference to the PAIMANA Portal, consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. It is launched for the mandated monitoring of central sector infrastructure projects worth ₹150 crore and above.

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 Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has operationalised a new web-based portal, PAIMANA (Project Assessment, Infrastructure Monitoring & Analytics for Nation-building).

Statement 2 is correct: It is for the mandated monitoring of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects worth ₹150 crore and above, replacing the erstwhile OCMS-2006 (Online Computerized Monitoring system).

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. With reference to the coconut production in India, consider the following statements:

1. India accounts for around one third of global coconut production.
2. The Coconut Promotion Scheme aims to increase production and improve productivity through measures such as replacing old and non-productive trees with high-yielding varieties.
3. Almost 90 percent of coconut production in India is done in states of Kerala, Karnataka, Tami Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

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: India continues to lead global coconut production, contributing over 30 per cent to the world's total output.

Statement 2 is correct: To further strengthen the sector, the government has announced a Coconut Promotion Scheme in the Union Budget 2026-27. The scheme aims to increase production and improve productivity through measures such as replacing old and non-productive trees with high-yielding varieties.

Statement 3 is correct: India's coconut production is majorly situated in Kerala, Karnataka, Tami Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, accounting for 89.13% of the coconut area and 90.77% of the coconut production in the country.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Japanese chum salmon:

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Third Week] March 2026

1. It is an anadromous fish species that migrates from the ocean to freshwater rivers for spawning.
2. It is native to the North Pacific Ocean.
3. It is primarily a freshwater fish that spends its entire life cycle in inland rivers and lakes.

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

- Japanese chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) is an anadromous species, meaning it lives most of its life in the ocean and migrates to freshwater rivers to spawn. It is widely distributed across the North Pacific region, including Japan. It is not exclusively a freshwater fish.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q9. The *Dasosaurus tocontinensis*, seen in the news recently, is a:

- (a) Dinosaur species
- (b) Marine reptile
- (c) Early amphibian
- (d) Prehistoric bird

Answer: B

Explanation: Dinosaur species

- Paleontologists in Brazil have identified a previously unknown species of somphospondylan sauropod dinosaur with European affinities, hinting at ancient migration routes that once linked two continents now separated by the Atlantic Ocean. Dubbed *Dasosaurus tocontinensis*, the animal measured approximately 20 m (66 feet) in length.

Source: [NDTV](#)

Q10. With reference to the "e-CHARAK" mobile application, consider the following statements:

1. It is a platform to provide an online market portal for trade of medicinal plants.
2. It has been jointly developed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), and Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N).

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 "e-CHARAK" - e-Channel for Herbs, Aromatic, Raw material And Knowledge is a platform to enable information exchange between various stakeholder involved in the medicinal plants sector.

Statement 2 is correct: It has been jointly developed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India and Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N).

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (19 March)

Q1. Consider the following statements about Armenia:

1. It is a landlocked country.
2. Armenia shares its longest land border with Georgia.

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:** Armenia is a landlocked country located in the South Caucasus region, with no direct access to seas or oceans.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Armenia's longest land border is with Azerbaijan, not Georgia. Although Armenia does share a border with Georgia to the north, it is not the longest.

Source- [ET](#)

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

Major Oil/Gas Field – Country

1. Shurtan Field – Uzbekistan
2. Shah Gas Field – UAE
3. Khuff Formation – Saudi Arabia

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation:

- Shurtan Field is a major natural gas field located in Uzbekistan.
- Shah Gas Field is a significant sour gas field in the United Arab Emirates.
- Khuff Formation is a major gas-bearing geological formation primarily in Saudi Arabia (also extends to other Gulf countries).

Source- [The Hindu](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements about the Hindon River:

1. It is a tributary of the Yamuna River.
2. It originates in the state of Uttarakhand.
3. It flows across the industrial belt of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

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 Hindon River is a tributary of the Yamuna River.
- It originates from the Shivalik Hills in Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh, not Uttarakhand.
- It flows mainly through the industrial belt of western Uttar Pradesh, not Uttarakhand or Haryana.

Source- [ET](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Appropriation Bill:

1. It authorizes the government to withdraw funds from the Contingency Fund of India for a financial year.
2. No amendment can be proposed to the Bill in either House of Parliament that would vary the amount or alter the destination of any grant already voted upon.

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:** The Appropriation Bill authorizes withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund of India, not the Contingency Fund.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Bill cannot be amended to change the amount or destination of grants already voted by the Parliament.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q5. Consider the following cases:

1. M.C. Mehta Case
2. T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Case (1995)
3. S.P. Muthuraman Case (2025)

Which of the following best describes the common theme underlying all the above cases?

- (a) Strengthening of electoral democracy
- (b) Centre–State financial relations
- (c) Evolution of environmental jurisprudence through judicial intervention
- (d) Administrative reforms in civil services

Answer: (c) Evolution of environmental jurisprudence through judicial intervention

Explanation:

- M.C. Mehta cases: Landmark PILs that evolved doctrines like absolute liability, polluter pays, and expanded Article 21 to include environmental rights.
- T.N. Godavarman (1995): Enabled continuous judicial monitoring of forests and broadened the definition of “forest.”

Source- [HT](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Exercise Sea Dragon 2026:

1. It is a multinational anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise conducted annually to strengthen maritime security and cooperation among allied nations in the Indo-Pacific region.
2. It is hosted by U.S.A Navy.
3. All the QUAD group members are part of this exercise.

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: Exercise Sea Dragon 2026 is a multinational anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise conducted annually to strengthen maritime security and cooperation among allied nations in the Indo-Pacific region.

Statement 2 is correct: It is hosted by U.S.A Navy's 7th Fleet. The exercise is being conducted at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam.

Statement 3 is correct: The participating nation includes U.S.A, India, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

Source: [TH](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna (BHAVYA):

1. It aims to promote industrial development by supporting manufacturing clusters and enhancing infrastructure across India.
2. Under the scheme, industrial parks ranging from 100 to 1000 acres will be taken up for development.
3. It is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

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

- BHAVYA is aimed at promoting industrial growth, particularly by strengthening manufacturing ecosystems and MSMEs. Under the scheme, industrial parks ranging from 100 to 1000 acres will be taken up for development. However, it is not implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, it falls under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR Initiative:

1. It is an initiative of the Indian Navy aimed at strengthening maritime cooperation and regional security in the Indian Ocean Region.
2. It includes participation from Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) member nations across the Indian Ocean Region.
3. The term SAGAR stands for "Security and Growth for Asia Region".

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 IOS SAGAR initiative reflects India's maritime outreach under the SAGAR vision. It involves deployment of Indian naval ships for HADR operations, training, and cooperation with Indian Ocean countries. It includes participation from 16 Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) member nations across the Indian Ocean Region. SAGAR actually stands for "Security and Growth for All in the Region".

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding Panini:

1. He is regarded as one of the earliest scholars to systematically analyze Sanskrit grammar using a scientific approach.
2. The Ashtadhyayi was composed by him during the Gupta period and primarily deals with Buddhist philosophical doctrines.

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

- Panini (c. 5th–4th century BCE) is a pioneering linguist whose work, the Ashtadhyayi, is a highly structured and scientific treatise on Sanskrit grammar consisting of eight chapters. It predates the Gupta period and is focused on grammar, not Buddhist philosophy.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding Methane:

1. It is a potent greenhouse gas with a higher global warming potential than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period.
2. Major sources of methane emissions include agriculture (especially livestock), wetlands, and fossil fuel extraction.
3. It remains in the atmosphere for a longer duration than carbon dioxide and is therefore the primary long-term driver of climate change.

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

- Methane (CH₄) is a highly potent greenhouse gas with significantly greater warming potential than CO₂ in the short term (about 20 years). It is emitted from natural sources like wetlands and human activities such as agriculture (enteric fermentation), waste, and fossil fuel extraction. However,

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methane has a shorter atmospheric lifetime (~12 years) compared to carbon dioxide, which persists for centuries

Source: [DTE](#)

10 PM MCQs (20 March)

Q1. Consider the following description:

A tiger reserve located at the junction of two major hill systems of peninsular India forms a key wildlife corridor connecting reserves across two states. Rivers such as Bhavani, Moyar and Noyyal flow through it, and it has a subtropical dry climate with elevation ranging from about 750 m to 1,649 m.

This tiger reserve is:

- (a) Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu
- (b) Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu
- (c) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu
- (d) Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu

Answer: (c) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve

Explanation: It lies at the junction of the Eastern and Western Ghats and acts as a crucial corridor linking Mudumalai, Bandipur and BRT Tiger Reserves, along with the presence of Bhavani, Moyar and Noyyal rivers.

Source- [NIE](#)

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Khobar Paintings — Jharkhand
- 2. Saura Paintings — Gujarat
- 3. Pithora Paintings — Maharashtra

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: Only Pair 1 is correct. Saura paintings belong to Odisha (not Gujarat), and Pithora paintings are mainly associated with Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh (not Maharashtra).

Source- [PIB](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding women's representation in Indian politics:

- 1. The 18th Lok Sabha has a lower percentage of women MPs compared to the 17th Lok Sabha.
- 2. The 105th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2021 provides for 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

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:

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Third Week] March 2026

- **Statement 1 is correct** as women's representation declined in the 18th Lok Sabha.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** because the 105th Amendment deals with restoring the power of States to identify OBCs, while women's reservation is provided under the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements about the Stockholm Water Prize:

1. It has been awarded annually.
2. Kaveh Madani has been named the recipient of the Stockholm Water Prize for 2026.

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: The Stockholm Water Prize has been awarded every year since 1991, and Kaveh Madani has been selected as the 2026 laureate.

Source- [DTE](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the World Happiness Report 2026:

1. It is published by the Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford.
2. Denmark ranked as the happiest country in the world in 2026.
3. India's ranking in 2026 declined compared to the previous year 2025.

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: Statement 1 is correct. Statement 2 is incorrect as Finland (not Denmark) is the happiest country. Statement 3 is incorrect because India's ranking improved in 2026 compared to 2025.

Source- [BBC](#)

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. Consider the following statements regarding Sajibu Cheiraoba:

1. It is the traditional New Year festival celebrated by the Meitei community in Manipur.
2. It is observed during the winter solstice and is primarily associated with harvest celebrations.

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

- Sajibu Cheiraoba marks the traditional New Year of the Meitei people of Manipur, usually celebrated in March–April (Sajibu month). It is not linked to the winter solstice or a harvest festival

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Defence India Start-up Challenge:

1. It is an initiative under the Innovations for Defence Excellence aimed at promoting innovation and technology development by startups for defence applications.
2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

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:

- The Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC), including DISC-14, is conducted under the iDEX framework to encourage startups, MSMEs, and innovators to develop cutting-edge defence technologies. It is implemented under the Ministry of Defence, not the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding Rani Avantibai Lodhi:

1. She was a queen of Ramgarh in present-day Madhya Pradesh and played a significant role in the Revolt of 1857.
2. She led armed resistance against the British and later accepted British rule after the suppression of the revolt.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Third Week] March 2026

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 only

- Rani Avantibai Lodhi was a courageous leader from Ramgarh (Madhya Pradesh) who actively participated in the Revolt of 1857 and resisted British forces. She did not surrender or accept British rule; instead, she chose martyrdom.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to the 'RELIEF' Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a measure to support Indian exporters facing disruptions due to the evolving geopolitical situation.
2. The Ministry of Finance is the nodal ministry.
3. The scheme will cover shipments destined for countries including United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Israel and Yemen.

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: Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation (RELIEF) scheme is time-bound and targeted measure to support Indian exporters facing disruptions due to the evolving geopolitical situation in West Asia.

Statement 2 is correct: Launched by: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Statement 3 is correct: The scheme will cover shipments destined for countries including United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Israel and Yemen.

Source: [DD News](#)

10 PM MCQs (23 March)

Q1. Consider the following industries with reference to the Index of Core Industries (ICI):

1. Coal
2. Crude Oil
3. Natural Gas
4. Steel
5. Textiles

How many of the above are part of the Index of Core Industries (ICI)?

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

Answer: (c) Only four

Explanation: ICI includes Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Steel, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Cement, and Electricity. Textiles is not part of ICI.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding mangroves in India:

1. Mangrove forests in India are distributed across ten states and five Union Territories.
2. Gujarat has the largest share of mangrove cover in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: Mangroves are actually distributed across nine states and four Union Territories. Further, West Bengal has the largest share (~42.45%), not Gujarat.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding INS Taragiri:

1. It is a Shivalik-class stealth frigate.
2. It was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilding Limited (MDL).

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:** INS Taragiri belongs to the Nilgiri-class, not the Shivalik-class (Project 17).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is being built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).

Source- [PIB](#)

Q4. Consider the following description:

It is a landlocked country located in East-Central Africa, characterized by extensive grasslands, wooded and grassy savannahs, floodplains, and wetlands. The Al Sudd region, one of the world's largest wetlands, lies in its central part.

Which of the following refers to the above description?

- (a) Sudan
- (b) South Sudan
- (c) Uganda
- (d) Ethiopia

Answer: (b) South Sudan

Explanation: The description clearly points to South Sudan, known for its vast Sudd wetlands and savannah-dominated landscape.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Model Code of Conduct (MCC):

1. The MCC is a legally enforceable statute enacted by Parliament.
2. The Election Commission of India enforces the MCC under Article 324 of the Constitution.
3. The concept of MCC originated immediately after Independence in 1947.

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:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** MCC is not a legally enforceable statute.
- **Statement 2 is correct.**
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** MCC originated in the 1960 Kerala Assembly elections, not immediately after Independence.

Source- [DDnews](#)

Q6. The Darfur region, seen in the news recently, is located in

- a) Democratic Republic of Congo
- b) South Sudan
- c) Nigeria
- d) Sudan

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Darfur region is a region of western Sudan bordering Chad, Libya, and the Central African Republic. It lay between Kordofan to the east and Wadai to the west and extended southward to the Al-Ghazāl (Gazelle) River and northward to the Libyan Desert.

Source: [BBC](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs:

1. The scheme is implemented by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC).
2. The service sector MSMEs are not included in the Scheme.
3. The scheme provides direct interest subsidies to MSMEs instead of credit guarantees.

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: The Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs is implemented by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Service sector MSMEs are also included in the Scheme.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It is implemented by the Ministry of MSME with support from credit guarantee mechanisms. The scheme does not provide direct interest subsidies.

Source: [AIR](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Microfinance Institutions-2.0:

1. It is a credit guarantee scheme that provides cover to banks against losses on loans given to MFIs for small borrowers.
2. The scheme is implemented under the Department of Financial Services.
3. It provides direct cash transfers to beneficiaries instead of facilitating institutional credit.

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

- CGSMFI-2.0 is designed to support microfinance institutions by providing credit guarantee cover, enabling them to extend loans to low-income and vulnerable sections. It is overseen by the Ministry of Finance. The scheme does not involve direct cash transfers.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the proposed National Dental Commission:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. The commission aims to regulate dental education, professionals, and institutions in India.
3. The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Dental Education Board has been constituted under it, to oversee dental education in country.

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: D

Explanation: All are correct

- The National Dental Commission is proposed to replace the Dental Council of India and improve regulation, transparency, and quality in dental education and practice.
- Three autonomous bodies have been constituted to support the functioning of the Commission:
 - Undergraduate and Postgraduate Dental Education Board to oversee dental education.
 - Dental Assessment and Rating Board to regulate accreditation and institutional assessment.
 - Ethics and Dental Registration Board to govern professional conduct and registration of dentists.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding Guru Hargobind:

1. He was the sixth Guru of Sikhism and the son of Guru Arjan Dev.
2. He founded the Golden Temple at Amritsar.
3. He introduced the concept of Miri-Piri, symbolizing the combination of spiritual and temporal power.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Third Week] March 2026

- (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

- Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji was the sixth Sikh Guru and son of Guru Arjan Dev. He introduced the concept of Miri-Piri, emphasizing both spiritual and temporal authority. The Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib) was founded earlier by Guru Arjan Dev.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (24 March)

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil.
2. India, being a full member of the International Energy Agency (IEA), is obligated to maintain oil stocks equivalent to at least 90 days of net imports.
3. India currently has three functional Strategic Petroleum Reserves located at Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, and Padur.

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** (India ranks 3rd globally).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** (India is an associate member, hence not bound by the 90-day obligation).
- **Statement 3 is correct** (three operational SPR sites-Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, and Padur).

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Lokpal:

1. It consists of a Chairperson and up to eight Members, of whom four are Judicial Members.
2. The term of the Chairperson and Members is 6 years or until 65 years of age.
3. The Lokpal cannot inquire into allegations against the Prime Minister in matters related to national security and international relations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) I and II only
- (b) II and III only
- (c) I and III only
- (d) I, II and III

Answer: (c) I and III only

Explanation: Statement II is incorrect; the term is 5 years or until 70 years of age.

Source- [TH](#)

Q3. With reference to Exercise Lamitiye 2026, consider the following statements:

1. It is a biennial military exercise between India and Seychelles.
2. The 2026 edition is being held in Pune.

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.**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** (the exercise is held in Seychelles, not Pune).

Source- [PIB](#)

Q4. Trincomalee, a natural harbour recently seen in news, is located in:

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) India
- (c) Maldives
- (d) Indonesia

Answer: (a) Sri Lanka

Explanation: Trincomalee is a major natural harbour situated on the north-eastern coast of Sri Lanka.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES):

1. It is a legally binding international agreement.
2. It completely bans all international trade in endangered species listed under its Appendices.
3. The Conference of Parties (CoP) is the highest decision-making body under CITES.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because CITES regulates trade through permits and does not impose a complete ban in all cases.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Switch Auctions conducted by the Reserve Bank of India:

1. Switch auctions involve the simultaneous purchase and sale of government securities to manage the maturity profile of public debt.
2. These auctions are conducted to raise fresh resources for financing the fiscal deficit of the government.

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

- Switch auctions are used by RBI to exchange short-term government securities for longer-term ones (or vice versa), thereby smoothing the redemption profile and managing public debt efficiently. They do not raise fresh funds

Source: [BS](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Sperm Whale:

1. It is the largest toothed whale and possesses the largest brain of any living animal.
2. It is commonly found only in freshwater river systems of South America.
3. It is categorized as critically endangered by the IUCN.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer:

Explanation: 1 only

- The sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) is the largest toothed predator and has the largest brain among animals. It feeds mainly on squid and is known for deep-sea diving. It is a marine species found in oceans worldwide, not in freshwater systems. IUCN Red List: Vulnerable.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Smog-Eating Photocatalytic Coatings:

1. These coatings use materials like Titanium dioxide.
2. They function effectively only in the absence of sunlight and rely on high-temperature reactions to remove pollutants.

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

- Smog-eating coatings use photocatalysis, where materials like titanium dioxide react under UV light (sunlight) to degrade pollutants such as NO_x and VOCs into harmless compounds. They require light activation, not absence of sunlight or high temperatures.

Source: [IE](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding arecanut cultivation in India:

1. It is primarily a rabi crop grown in dry and arid regions of India.
2. India is the world's largest producer of areca nuts.

3. It is mainly affected by the Mahali disease.
How many of the above statements are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

Answer: B

Explanation: 2 and 3

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is not a rabi crop and is not suited to dry/arid regions. Cropping season ranges from June to December.

Statement 2 is correct: India is the world's largest producer of areca nuts. It accounts for about 63% of total global production.

Statement 3 is correct: Diseases

- Bud rot or Mahali disease
- Yellow Leaf Disease
- Foot rot or Anabe

Source: [Mongabay](#)

Q10. Consider the following countries:

- Russia
- Ukraine
- Czech Republic
- Bulgaria
- Romania

How many of the above countries have a land boundary with Moldova?

- Only two
- Only three
- Only four
- All five

Answer: A

Explanation: Ukraine and Romania

- Moldova is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe, and is bordered by **Romania** to the west and **Ukraine** to the north, east, and south.

Source: [DD News](#)