

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

July, 2026 3rd Week

10 PM MCQs (16 July)

Q1. The terms Elaphropoda triangulata and Habropoda adi, recently seen in the news, refer to species of:

- (a) Butterflies
- (b) Orchids
- (c) Solitary bees
- (d) Freshwater fishes

Answer: (c) Solitary bees.

Explanation: Elaphropoda triangulata and Habropoda adi are two newly discovered species of rare solitary bees (family Apidae) identified from Arunachal Pradesh.

Source- [TH](#)

Q2. With reference to a river in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is India's fourth-largest river in terms of water inflows and basin area.
- 2. Its major tributaries include the Ghataprabha, Malaprabha, and Musi rivers.
- 3. Waterfalls such as Gokak Falls, Kalhati Falls, Theertham Falls are associated with its basin.

Which one of the following rivers is referred to in the above statements?

- (a) Godavari River
- (b) Mahanadi River
- (c) Kaveri River
- (d) Krishna River

Answer: (d) Krishna River

Explanation: The Krishna River is India's fourth-largest river by water inflows and basin area. Important tributaries of the river include the Ghataprabha, Malaprabha, Bhima, Tungabhadra, and Musi rivers. Several notable waterfalls, including Gokak Falls, Kalhati Falls, Theertham Falls, and Manikyadhara Falls, are associated with the Krishna River basin.

Source- [DH](#)

Q3. With reference to the provision of 'Trial in Absentia' under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It applies only to an accused declared as a proclaimed offender under the BNSS.
- 2. It can be invoked for any cognizable offence irrespective of the punishment prescribed.

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: Trial in absentia under Section 356 of the BNSS, 2023 applies only to a proclaimed offender and only in cases involving offences punishable with imprisonment of 10 years or more, life imprisonment, or death, not for all cognizable offences.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. With reference to the Abathsahayeswarar Temple at Thukkachi, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a 12th-century temple associated with the later Chola period.
- 2. It is located in the Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu.
- 3. It has recently received the UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription.

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: Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect because the temple received the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award of Distinction (2024) for heritage conservation and was not newly inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. With reference to the Index of Services Production (ISP), consider the following services:

1. Public administration and defence
2. Gambling and betting activities
3. Government-provided health and education services
4. Banking and insurance services

Which of the above services are currently excluded from the coverage of the ISP?

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

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation: The ISP currently excludes sectors such as public administration and defence, gambling and betting activities, and government-provided health and education services due to their non-market or government-dominated nature. However, banking and insurance services are included in the index; only certain financial services other than banking and insurance are excluded.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q6. With reference to the Korku community, consider the following statements:

1. The Korku are a tribe predominantly inhabiting the Aravalli hills of Rajasthan.
2. The Korku community is classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).

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: Neither 1 nor 2

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Korku are a Scheduled Tribe mainly found in the Satpura Hills of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra (especially Khandwa, Burhanpur, Betul, Harda, Amravati and Melghat regions). Their language, Korku, belongs to the Munda branch of the Austroasiatic language family.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Korku are not a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). They are settled agricultural and forest-dependent communities of central India.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding Cicadas (Cicadoidea):

1. Cicadas are insects belonging to the order Hemiptera.
2. The most defining feature of cicadas lies in the sound they make, produced exclusively by females, who sing to attract male partners.
3. They are listed as a Schedule 1 species under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

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: Cicadas belong to the order Hemiptera (true bugs) and the superfamily Cicadoidea.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The most defining feature of cicadas lies in the sound they make, produced exclusively by males, who sing to attract female partners. Their calls, produced by repetitive vibrations in the tymbal membrane on their abdomen result in their characteristic sound, which can reach over 100 decibels.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In India, the cicadas are not listed under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, lacking formal legal protection.

Source: [Mongabay](#)

Q8. The recently launched e-VSP Portal is an initiative of:

- (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (b) Ministry of Law and Justice
- (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- (d) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Answer: B

Explanation: Ministry of Law and Justice

- The e-VSP (Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan) Portal has been launched by the Ministry of Law and Justice to provide digital access to legal literature and Hindi translations of judicial decisions.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. With reference to the Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS), consider the following statements:

1. The Scheme provides financial assistance to Indian shipyards for shipbuilding contracts secured against international competition.
 2. The Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: The SbDS provides financial assistance/subsidy to Indian shipyards for shipbuilding contracts, helping them compete with foreign shipbuilders.

Statement 2 is correct: The Scheme is administered by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to Semicon 2.0, consider the following statements:

1. Semicon 2.0 seeks to expand India's semiconductor ecosystem by supporting investments across semiconductor fabrication, assembly, testing, marking and packaging (ATMP), and the design ecosystem.
2. The initiative is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
3. Under Semicon 2.0, financial support is limited only to silicon wafer fabrication units, excluding the semiconductor design and ATMP.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: Semicon 2.0 aims to deepen India's semiconductor value chain by supporting fabrication, ATMP/OSAT facilities, compound semiconductors, and semiconductor design capabilities.

Statement 2 is correct: The programme is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) under the India Semiconductor Mission.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Incentives are not confined to wafer fabrication; they also extend to ATMP/OSAT facilities, compound semiconductors, and semiconductor design, reflecting a holistic approach to ecosystem development.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (17 July)

Q1. The rivers Daraudi, Seti, Madi and Marsyangdi are major tributaries of which one of the following rivers?

- (a) Koshi
- (b) Karnali
- (c) Gandaki
- (d) Mahakali

Answer: (c) Gandaki

Explanation: Daraudi, Seti, Madi and Marsyangdi are important tributaries of the Gandaki river system in Nepal.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q2. With reference to the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS), consider the following statements:

1. The scheme will be implemented for a period of five years from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
2. The scheme provides incentives only for mobile phone assembly and excludes support for research, design and engineering activities.
3. The scheme aims to generate more than 10 lakh direct employment opportunities during its tenure.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The MPMS will be implemented over a five-year period from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The scheme also provides additional incentives for design, engineering and R&D activities.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The scheme is expected to generate around 60,000 direct employment opportunities, not more than 10 lakh.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q3. With reference to the NIPUN Bharat Mission, consider the following statements:

1. It primarily covers children aged 3–9 years, from pre- school to Grade 3.
2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development under the Poshan Abhiyaan.

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.** NIPUN Bharat focuses on children in the 3–9 years age group, covering pre-school/Balvatika to Grade 3.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Mission is implemented by the Department of School Education and Literacy under the Ministry of Education through the Samagra Shiksha scheme, and not under Poshan Abhiyaan or the Ministry of Women and Child Development

Source- [HT](#)

Q4. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India have a bearing on Education?

1. Directive Principles of State Policy
2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies
3. Fifth Schedule
4. Sixth Schedule
5. Seventh Schedule

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: All the above provisions have a bearing on education in India:

- **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):** Articles 41, 45 and 46 direct the State to promote education and educational interests of weaker sections.
- **Rural and Urban Local Bodies:** The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (Eleventh and Twelfth Schedules) entrust local bodies with functions relating to education.
- **Fifth Schedule:** It deals with the administration and welfare of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes, including educational development measures.
- **Sixth Schedule:** Autonomous District Councils are empowered to establish and manage primary schools and prescribe the language of instruction.
- **Seventh Schedule:** Education is placed in the Concurrent List (Entry 25), enabling both Parliament and State Legislatures to legislate on the subject. Hence, all five provisions have a bearing on education.

Source- MISC

Q5. Consider the following pairs:

1. Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary – West Bengal
2. Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary – Jharkhand
3. Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary – Maharashtra

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary is correctly matched with West Bengal.
- Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh, not Jharkhand.
- Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary is correctly matched with Maharashtra.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) fuel cells:

1. Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) fuel cells convert hydrogen and oxygen into electricity and water.
2. They operate under a very high temperature.
3. They use a solid polymer electrolyte membrane that conducts protons from the cathode to the anode.

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: Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) fuel cells convert hydrogen and oxygen into electricity and water.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Operating at relatively low temperatures ($(60\text{--}80^\circ\text{C})$), they offer high power density and efficiency.

Statement 3 is incorrect: PEM fuel cells use a solid polymer (proton-conducting) electrolyte membrane. Hydrogen supplied at the anode is split into protons and electrons; the membrane allows only the protons to pass to the cathode, while the electrons flow through an external circuit to generate electricity.

Source: [TH](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding melatonin:

- 1. It is a hormone primarily secreted by the pineal gland.
- 2. It plays an important role in regulating circadian rhythm.
- 3. Exposure to bright light, especially blue light, during the night generally increases the secretion of melatonin.

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

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Melatonin is a hormone produced naturally by your brain's pineal gland that regulates your internal circadian clock and sleep-wake cycle.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Exposure to bright light, particularly blue light, suppresses melatonin secretion. Melatonin levels typically rise in darkness and decline with light exposure, which is why excessive screen use before bedtime can interfere with sleep.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q8. With reference to the PARIVARTAN Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Scheme aims to facilitate the replacement of old and highly polluting trucks and buses in the National Capital Region (NCR) with Bharat Stage-VI compliant or electric vehicles.
- 2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Housing & 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: A

Explanation: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: The PARIVARTAN (Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions) Scheme is aimed at facilitating the replacement of older, highly polluting trucks and buses operating in the National Capital Region (NCR) with cleaner Bharat Stage (BS)-VI compliant or electric vehicles.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) would be the implementing Ministry under the scheme and will be funded through the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB).

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. With reference to the REWARD Programme (Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development), consider the following statements:

1. It is a World Bank-assisted programme to promote scientific watershed management and enhance farmers' resilience to climate change.
2. The programme is being implemented nationwide under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with a primary focus on expanding irrigated agriculture in river basins.

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 REWARD Programme is a World Bank-assisted watershed development initiative implemented by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Ministry of Rural Development. It aims to strengthen watershed management, improve rainfed agriculture, enhance climate resilience, and support value chains in selected watersheds.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The programme is not implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, nor is its primary objective the expansion of irrigated agriculture. It focuses on watershed management, soil and water conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods, particularly in rainfed areas.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about the Operation Southern Readiness 26-2:

1. It is being hosted by the Indian Navy's Eastern Naval Command in collaboration with the Combined Maritime Forces which is a multinational maritime partnership.
2. The initiative is aimed at strengthening regional capacity building and enhancing collective maritime security through closer cooperation among participating countries.

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 Indian Navy will host Operation Southern Readiness 26-2, a four-day multinational maritime training engagement, at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi from July 20 to 23 in partnership with the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF). The Combined Maritime Forces is a multinational maritime partnership comprising more than 40 nations, with the Indian Navy playing an active role in advancing collaborative maritime security efforts.

Statement 2 is correct: The initiative is aimed at strengthening regional capacity building and enhancing collective maritime security through closer cooperation among participating countries.

Source: [DD News](#)

0 PM MCQs (18 July)

Q1. Consider the following countries:

1. Nepal
2. Maldives
3. Myanmar
4. Thailand

5. Pakistan

Which of the countries given above are members of BIMSTEC?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation: BIMSTEC comprises seven member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Maldives and Pakistan are not members of BIMSTEC.

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Classical Sanskrit drama generally avoided tragic endings and sought to restore harmony and social order at the end of a play.

Statement II: According to the Natyashastra, the primary objective of Indian theatre was the attainment of rasa (aesthetic experience) rather than catharsis through tragedy.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II correctly explains Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not correctly explain Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Indian classical theatre, as described in the Natyashastra, emphasized the experience of rasa- aesthetic enjoyment and emotional insight. Consequently, Sanskrit dramas generally avoided tragic conclusions and instead restored harmony, dharma, and social balance, unlike Greek theatre which emphasized catharsis through tragedy.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. With reference to the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the SARFAESI Act, banks can enforce security interests without prior intervention of courts or tribunals.
- 2. The Act applies only to immovable properties pledged as security and excludes movable assets.
- 3. A secured creditor may take possession of the secured assets if the borrower fails to repay dues within 60 days of notice after the account becomes a non-performing asset.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect. The SARFAESI Act covers both movable and immovable assets pledged as security. Banks can enforce security interests without court intervention after following the prescribed procedure.

Source- [IE](#)

Q4. The Falkland Islands, recently seen in the news, are located in:

- (a) Arctic Ocean
- (b) Pacific Ocean
- (c) Indian Ocean
- (d) Atlantic Ocean

Answer: (d) Atlantic Ocean.

Explanation: The Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) are an archipelago located in the South Atlantic Ocean, about 500 km east of the coast of Argentina. They are a self-governing British Overseas Territory, though their sovereignty is also claimed by Argentina.

Source- [IE](#)

Q5. With reference to the draft Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE)- norms consider the following statements:

1. The CAFE norms apply to passenger vehicles, including electric and hybrid vehicles, with a gross vehicle weight of less than 3,500 kg.
2. The draft CAFE-III norms propose annual compliance assessment for automobile manufacturers.

Which one of the following is correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Statement 2 is incorrect because the draft CAFE-III norms propose compliance assessment in blocks—a three-year period followed by a two-year period—instead of annual compliance.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. The VISHWAS, 2026, seen in the news recently, is:

- a) A one-time dispute resolution scheme for employers to settle disputes relating to damages levied under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
- b) A financial assistance scheme to support unorganised workers enrolled under the e-Shram portal.
- c) A social security scheme to provide unemployment allowance to workers covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.
- d) A digital platform for online settlement of industrial disputes under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- VISHWAS, 2026 is a one-time dispute resolution scheme launched by the EPFO under the Ministry of Labour and Employment to enable eligible employers to settle disputes relating to damages levied for defaults in EPF contributions, thereby reducing litigation and encouraging compliance.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. With reference to Manasbal Lake, consider the following statements:

1. Manasbal Lake is a freshwater lake located in Jammu and Kashmir.
2. The lake has been designated as a Ramsar Site under the Ramsar Convention.

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: Manasbal Lake, situated in the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir, is a freshwater lake renowned for its clear waters. It is fed mainly by subterranean (underground) springs and drains through the Jhelum River via a connecting channel.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Manasbal Lake is not a Ramsar Site. Although it is an ecologically significant wetland, it has not been designated under the Ramsar Convention.

Source: [TH](#)

Q8. The SAMADHAN Portal 2.0 has been launched by which one of the following?

- (a) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (c) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- (d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Answer: B

Explanation: Ministry of Labour and Employment

- SAMADHAN Portal 2.0 is an upgraded digital platform of the Ministry of Labour and Employment for online filing, conciliation, arbitration, and adjudication of industrial disputes in alignment with the Labour Codes. It facilitates dispute resolution for workers, employers, and trade unions.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. With reference to the Prime Minister's National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS), consider the following statements:

1. PM-NAPS aims to promote apprenticeship training by providing financial support to establishments engaging apprentices under the Apprentices Act, 1961.
2. Under the Scheme, the Government shares a part of the stipend payable to apprentices with the employers, subject to prescribed limits.
3. The Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: PM-NAPS is designed to promote apprenticeship training by encouraging establishments to engage apprentices under the Apprentices Act, 1961, thereby improving employability and industry-ready skills.

Statement 2 is correct: The Scheme provides partial reimbursement of the stipend paid by employers to apprentices, along with support towards basic training costs for eligible apprentices, as per the prescribed norms.

Statement 3 is incorrect: PM-NAPS is implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through the Directorate General of Training (DGT), not by the Ministry of Labour and Employment or EPFO.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to the Investment Friendliness Index (IFI), consider the following statements:

The Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) is released by NITI Aayog to assess the investment ecosystem of States and Union Territories.

The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows received by the states during the financial year makes the highest weightage in Index.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) is released by NITI Aayog to benchmark the investment attractiveness of States and Union Territories and encourage competitive and cooperative federalism.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The FDI inflows do not have the highest weightage in the index. It uses a multi-dimensional framework covering Infrastructure, Business Climate, Resources, Government Policy, Regulatory Ease, Institutional Environment, Financial Health, and Environmental Resilience, among other indicators, to comprehensively assess investment friendliness.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (20 July)

Q1. Consider the following description:

1. It is a landlocked country in Central Europe.
 2. The Danube River divides the country almost into two halves.
 3. Its highest point is Mount Kékes located in the Mátra Hills.
- The above description refers to which one of the following countries?

- (a) Slovakia
- (b) Hungary
- (c) Austria
- (d) Czech Republic

Answer: (b) Hungary.

Source- [TH](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Low Earth Orbit (LEO):

1. Low Earth Orbit extends roughly from 160 km to 2,000 km above the Earth's surface and is widely used for communication and Earth observation satellites.
 2. Under the Outer Space Treaty, countries can claim sovereign ownership over specific orbital shells in LEO.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Statement 2 is incorrect because the 1967 Outer Space Treaty prohibits national appropriation or ownership of outer space and orbital regions.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the National Commission for Minorities (NCM):

1. It is a constitutional body.
 2. The Chairperson and Members of the Commission are appointed by the President of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The National Commission for Minorities is a statutory body established under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. Further, the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members are nominated by the Central Government, not appointed by the President.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following description:

1. It is located in Tamil Nadu and lies at the junction of the Eastern and Western Ghats within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
2. It is contiguous with the Mudumalai, Bandipur and BRT Tiger Reserves.

3. Important rivers in the region include the Bhavani, Moyar and Noyyal rivers, and it is home to the Irula and Kurumba tribes.

The above description refers to which one of the following protected areas?

- (a) Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- (b) Anamalai Tiger Reserve
- (c) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve
- (d) Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve

Answer: (c) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q5. Manasbal Lake, recently seen in the news, is located in which of the following States/Union Territories?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Ladakh

Answer: (c) Jammu and Kashmir.

Explanation: Manasbal Lake is a freshwater lake situated in the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir. It is regarded as one of the deepest lakes in the Kashmir Valley.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. With reference to Exercise Pitch Black 2026, consider the following statements:

- 1. Exercise Pitch Black is a multinational air combat exercise hosted by the Royal British Air Force (RBAF).
- 2. India participated in Exercise Pitch Black 2026 with Indian Navy's aircraft carrier for the first time.

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: Neither 1 nor 2

Statement 1 is incorrect: Exercise Pitch Black is a biennial multinational air warfare exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) in Australia. It focuses on enhancing interoperability and operational cooperation among participating air forces.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India participated in Exercise Pitch Black 2026 through the Indian Air Force (IAF), deploying combat aircraft and support assets. It is not a naval exercise, and participation did not involve aircraft carriers or maritime patrol aircraft of the Indian Navy.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. 'He was an Indian revolutionary, a close associate of Bhagat Singh, and a founding member of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA). He is best known for throwing two non-lethal bombs inside the Central Legislative Assembly in Delhi on 8 April 1929, along with Bhagat Singh, as a protest against two repressive bills. After independence, his life was marked by poverty, illness and neglect.'

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

- (a) Batukeshwar Dutt
- (b) Shivaram Rajguru
- (c) Sukhdev Thapar
- (d) Chandrashekhar Azad

Answer: A

Explanation: Batukeshwar Dutt

Source: [NOA](#)

Q8. Consider the following countries:

1. Brazil
2. Ecuador
3. Colombia
4. Bolivia
5. Chile

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

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

Answer: D

Explanation: All five

- Peru is bordered to the north by Ecuador and Colombia, to the east by Brazil, to the southeast by Bolivia, to the south by Chile, and to the south and west by the Pacific Ocean.

Source: [TBS](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs):

1. EGRs are securities representing physical gold deposited with SEBI-accredited vault managers and are traded on recognised stock exchanges.
2. EGRs are available in a single purity standard of 999 (99.9% pure gold).
3. EGRs are issued and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

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: Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) are SEBI-regulated securities backed by physical gold deposited with SEBI-accredited vault managers. They are traded on recognised stock exchanges, similar to other securities.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The EGRs are available in two purity standards: 999 (99.9% pure gold) and 995 (99.5% pure gold).

Statement 3 is incorrect: EGRs are not issued or regulated by the RBI and are not part of the Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) Scheme. They are regulated by SEBI under the framework for trading electronic gold receipts.

Source: [TH](#)

Q10. With reference to the Ken River, consider the following statements:

1. The Ken River is a right-bank tributary of the Yamuna River.
2. The river flows through the Panna Tiger Reserve.

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

Statement 1 is correct: The Ken River originates near Ahirgawan village in the Katni district of Madhya Pradesh. It flows through Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh before joining the Yamuna River near Chilla (Banda district, Uttar Pradesh). Since it joins the Yamuna from the right bank, it is a right-bank tributary.

Statement 2 is correct: The river flows through the Panna Tiger Reserve and is central to the Ken–Betwa Link Project, India's first river interlinking project under the National Perspective Plan.

Source: [TNIE](#)

10 PM MCQs (21 July)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the International Biology Olympiad (IBO):

1. It is the world's leading biology competition for high school students and is held annually.
2. The 37th International Biology Olympiad (2026) was held in Lithuania.
3. India secured only Silver medals at the event.

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: (a)

Explanation: Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect because India won one Gold medal in addition to three Silver medals at the 37th International Biology Olympiad 2026.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the E-Commerce Council of India (ECCI):

1. It is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament to regulate e-commerce activities in India.
2. It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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: The E-Commerce Council of India (ECCI) is neither a statutory body nor a government agency under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It is an industry-led council launched under the aegis of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) to represent and advance the interests of India's digital commerce ecosystem

Source- [TH](#)

Q3. Consider the following pairs:

1. Bagmati — Nepal
2. Burhi Gandak — Bihar
3. Mahanadi — Madhya Pradesh

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The Bagmati River originates in Nepal and the Burhi Gandak River originates in Bihar. However, the Mahanadi River originates in Chhattisgarh, not Madhya Pradesh.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the FIFA World Cup 2026:

1. It was the first FIFA World Cup to feature 48 participating teams.
2. It was the first FIFA World Cup to be jointly hosted by three countries.

3. Rodri of Spain won the Golden Ball award for being adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The FIFA World Cup 2026 marked the first expansion to 48 teams and was jointly hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States, making it the first three-nation FIFA World Cup. Rodri of Spain won the Golden Ball award as the tournament's best player.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding thorium as a nuclear fuel:

- 1. Thorium is far more abundant in nature than uranium.
- 2. On the basis of unit mass of mined mineral, thorium can generate more energy compared to natural uranium.
- 3. Thorium-based nuclear fuel cycle produces less long-lived radioactive waste compared to the uranium fuel cycle.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Thorium is estimated to be about three to four times more abundant in the Earth's crust than uranium.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Thorium has the potential to yield more usable energy per unit mass of mined material because a larger proportion of natural thorium can be converted into fissile material (U-233).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The thorium fuel cycle generally produces smaller quantities of long-lived transuranic radioactive waste than the conventional uranium-plutonium cycle.

Source- [IE](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements about the SMILE scheme:

- 1. The Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
- 2. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
- 3. It is dedicated to the cause of tracking missing children.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Statement 2 is correct: The Support for Marginalized Individual for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) scheme is a Central Sector Scheme.

Statement 3 is incorrect: This umbrella scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for both transgender persons and persons who are engaged in the act of begging.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. With reference to the RajmargYatra Mobile App, consider the following statements:

Created with love ❤ by ForumIAS- the knowledge network for civil services.
Visit academy.forumias.com for our mentor based courses.

1. RajmargYatra is a mobile application developed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
2. The app enables highway users to report road-related issues and emergencies by uploading geo-tagged photographs and location details.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: RajmargYatra is an official mobile application of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) that offers real-time information on national highways, including traffic updates, toll plazas, FASTag services, weather alerts, and wayside amenities.

Statement 2 is correct: The application allows users to report accidents, road damage, and other highway-related issues by submitting geo-tagged photographs and location information, facilitating prompt response by the concerned authorities.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Coal Gasification:

1. Synthesis gas (syngas) produced in this process is primarily composed of carbon monoxide and hydrogen.
2. Syngas produced through coal gasification can be used for producing fertilizers or synthetic fuels.
3. The Government of India has launched the National Coal Gasification Mission to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by 2030.

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: 1, 2 and 3

- **Statement 1 is correct** - Syngas mainly consists of CO and H₂.
- **Statement 2 is correct** - It is used for fertilizers, methanol, and synthetic fuels.
- **Statement 3 is correct** - India aims to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by 2030 under the mission.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. Consider the following statements about the Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana (KSVY):

1. Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana (KSVY) is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. The Scheme provides financial assistance to artists, cultural organizations, museums, libraries, and institutions for activities related to the preservation and promotion of art and culture.
3. The Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Education under the Samagra Shiksha programme.

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 only

Statement 1 is correct: Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana (KSVY) is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Culture, designed to preserve, protect, promote, and disseminate India's rich cultural heritage.

Statement 2 is correct: The Scheme encompasses several sub-schemes that provide financial assistance to artists, cultural groups, museums, libraries, archives, and other cultural institutions for activities such as cultural preservation, promotion, research, exhibitions, and capacity building.

Statement 3 is incorrect: KSVY is not implemented by the Ministry of Education under Samagra Shiksha. It is administered by the Ministry of Culture.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following countries:

1. Russia
2. Ukraine
3. Czech Republic
4. Bulgaria
5. Romania

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

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) 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: [TH](#)

10 PM MCQs (22 July)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the revised series of the Index of Core Industries (ICI) with Base Year 2022–23:

1. Iron Ore has been included as the ninth core industry in the revised ICI series.
2. The combined weight of core industries in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) has increased under the new series.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct** as Iron Ore has been added as the ninth core industry in the revised ICI series.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** because the combined weight of core industries in IIP has decreased from 40.27% to 32.88% under the new series.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q2. Consider the following description:

1. It is primarily a Kharif crop and a semi-xerophyte.
2. It grows best under tropical and subtropical climatic conditions.
3. It requires a temperature of about 21°–27°C, at least 210 frost-free days, and 50–100 cm of rainfall.

Which one of the following crops is best described above?

- (a) Jute
- (b) Cotton
- (c) Sugarcane
- (d) Tobacco

Answer: (b) Cotton.

Source- [ddnews](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Qdenga, recently approved by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO):

1. Qdenga is a live, attenuated tetravalent vaccine developed for dengue.
2. It has been developed using recombinant DNA 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: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: Qdenga is India's first approved dengue vaccine. It is a live, attenuated tetravalent dengue vaccine developed by Takeda and has been produced using recombinant DNA technology.

Source- [IE](#)

Q. Consider the following statements regarding silk production in India:

1. India is the only country in the world that produces all the five major commercial varieties of natural silk.
2. Muga silk is the world's only naturally golden silk and was the first Indian silk to receive a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
3. Bihar accounts for the majority share of the world's Muga silk production.

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: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** India is the only country producing all five major natural silks—Mulberry, Tropical Tasar, Oak Tasar, Eri and Muga.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Muga silk is the world's only naturally golden silk and was the first Indian silk to receive a GI tag in 2007.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Assam, not Bihar, accounts for the overwhelming share (around 90%) of the world's Muga silk production.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies:

Statement I: The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies is the first multilateral agreement under the WTO framework to explicitly pursue an environmental sustainability objective.

Statement II: The Agreement applies to subsidies relating to marine wild capture fishing as well as aquaculture and inland fisheries.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Statement I is correct. The Agreement is the first WTO agreement having an explicit environmental sustainability objective. Statement II is incorrect because the Agreement is confined to subsidies concerning marine wild capture fisheries and fishing-related activities at sea; aquaculture and inland fisheries are outside its scope.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q6. With reference to North Macedonia, consider the following statements:

1. It is a landlocked country in the Balkan Peninsula.
2. It is a member of both the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 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: Both 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct. North Macedonia is a landlocked Balkan country bordered by Greece (south), Albania (west), Bulgaria (east), Serbia (north).

Statement 2 is correct. North Macedonia became the 30th member of NATO in 2020. Although it is an EU candidate country and has begun accession negotiations, it is not yet a member of the European Union.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Lakadong Turmeric:

1. Lakadong turmeric is a high-curcumin variety predominantly cultivated in the Abor Hills of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
3. The Union government has started a scheme named Mission Golden Spice to encourage cultivation of this turmeric.

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: Lakadong turmeric is primarily grown in the Lakadong area of West Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya.

Statement 2 is correct: It was awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2024, recognizing its unique quality and geographical origin.

Statement 3 is correct: The Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) has launched the "Mission Golden Spice – Integrated Lakadong Turmeric Value Chain Enhancement Project", a ₹175.45-crore convergence-led initiative for turmeric cultivation and value-chain development in the State of Meghalaya.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. The White Rabbit Technology is meant for:

- (a) Quantum-encrypted satellite communication between defence establishments
- (b) High-precision dissemination and synchronization of Indian Standard Time (IST) across critical infrastructure
- (c) AI-based management of national power grids through smart meters
- (d) Real-time monitoring of maritime traffic using satellite navigation

Answer: B

Explanation:

- White Rabbit Technology is meant for ultra-precise, secure, and resilient time synchronization across digital networks. In India, it is being deployed to securely disseminate Indian Standard Time (IST) under the "One Nation, One Time" initiative, reducing dependence on foreign satellite-based timing systems such as GPS.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. The Rhine River drains into which one of the following water bodies?

- (a) Baltic Sea
- (b) Mediterranean Sea
- (c) Black Sea
- (d) North Sea

Answer: D

Explanation: North Sea

- The Rhine River empties into the North Sea at Rotterdam (Netherlands).

Source: [DTE](#)

Q10. With reference to the White-bellied Heron (*Ardea insignis*), consider the following statements:

1. It is classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
2. It is found only in parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Myanmar, and Bhutan, in regions that are relatively undisturbed by development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both

Statement 1 is correct: The White-bellied Heron (*Ardea insignis*) is among the world's rarest herons and is classified as Critically Endangered by the IUCN.

Statement 2 is correct: Today, it is found only in parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Myanmar, and Bhutan, in regions that are relatively undisturbed by development. In the early 1900s, the bird was found across Nepal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.

Source: [TH](#)

10 PM MCQs (23 July)

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Santali was included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution through the 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.
2. The Ol Chiki script for Santali was developed by Birsa Munda.
3. Angen won the 72nd National Film Award for Best Feature Film and became the first Santali film to receive a National Film Award.

Which of the statements given above are *incorrect*?

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

Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Santali was added to the Eighth Schedule by the 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Ol Chiki script was developed by Pandit Raghunath Murmu in 1925, not Birsa Munda.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Angen won the 72nd National Film Award for Best Debut Film of a Director in the Non-Feature category, not Best Feature Film. It is, however, the first Santali film to receive a National Film Award.

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

1. Karlapat Bauxite Block — Jharkhand
2. Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit — Chhattisgarh
3. Sukinda Chromite Valley — Odisha

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Pair 1:** Incorrect. Karlapat Bauxite Block is located in Odisha (Kalahandi district), not Jharkhand.
- **Pair 2:** Correct. Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit is located in Chhattisgarh.
- **Pair 3:** Correct. Sukinda Chromite Valley is located in Odisha.

Source- [BS](#)

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Principal Purpose Test (PPT):

Statement I: Under the Principal Purpose Test, treaty benefits under a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) may be denied where obtaining such benefits is the sole purpose of an arrangement or transaction.

Statement II: The Principal Purpose Test seeks to prevent treaty shopping by ensuring that tax treaty benefits are granted only in accordance with the object and purpose of the treaty.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
- (d) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement I is incorrect.** Under the Principal Purpose Test (PPT), treaty benefits under a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) may be denied if one of the principal purposes of an arrangement or transaction is to obtain a treaty benefit, unless granting such benefit is consistent with the object and purpose of the treaty. It is not necessary that obtaining the treaty benefit be the sole purpose.
- **Statement II is correct.** The PPT is an anti-abuse rule introduced to curb treaty shopping and other forms of tax avoidance. It ensures that treaty benefits are granted only where they are consistent with the object and purpose of the DTAA and are linked to genuine economic activities.

Source- [IE](#)

Q4. With reference to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), consider the following statements:

1. They are biodegradable compounds that do not accumulate in living organisms.
2. They can be transported over long distances through air and water, even to regions where they have never been used.

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:** POPs are highly persistent, resist environmental degradation, and bioaccumulate in living organisms.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** POPs undergo long-range environmental transport through air and water, enabling them to reach regions far from where they were originally released.

Source- [UNEP](#)

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award:

1. It enjoys a status equivalent to the Arjuna Award.
2. There is no upper limit on the number of awards that may be conferred in each category in a given year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award enjoys a status equivalent to the Arjuna Award.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Ordinarily, not more than one award is conferred in each category. The Government may increase the number of awards in a particular year with the approval of the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q6. With reference to the PM-YASASVI (Prime Minister's Young Achievers' Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India), consider the following statements:

1. It provides scholarships to students belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs), and Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNTs) communities.
2. The Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Education.
3. The scholarships under PM-YASASVI are awarded to students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate courses in higher educational institutions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: PM-YASASVI Scheme provides scholarships to OBC, EBC, and DNT students studying in identified/notified schools, with the objective of reducing dropouts and promoting quality education among socially and educationally disadvantaged groups.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment through its Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Statement 3 is incorrect: PM-YASASVI primarily supports school students, particularly those studying in Class IX and Class XI (and related school-level scholarship components), rather than students in higher education.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Borophene:

1. It is an allotrope of boron.
2. Like graphene, it also consists of boron atoms in a perfect hexagonal structure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: It is an allotrope of boron.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Unlike graphene, which consists of carbon atoms in a perfect hexagonal structure, borophene is highly polymorphic — meaning its atomic structure can vary depending on the synthesis conditions, leading to multiple possible configurations.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. With reference to Panama, consider the following statements:

1. Panama is a transcontinental country located in Central America that is bounded by both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.
2. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: Panama is located on the Isthmus of Panama in Central America, forming the land bridge between North and South America. It is bordered by the Caribbean Sea (Atlantic Ocean) to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the south.

Statement 2 is correct: The Panama Canal, one of the world's most strategic waterways, connects the Atlantic Ocean (via the Caribbean Sea) with the Pacific Ocean, enabling ships to avoid the long voyage around Cape Horn and greatly reducing travel time and cost.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. The Kharchi Puja is a famous festival of?

- (a) Assam
(b) Manipur
(c) Tripura
(d) Meghalaya

Answer: C

Explanation: Tripura

- The Kharchi Puja is week- long, annual Puja held at old Agartala in Tripura. It is also called the 'Festival of 14 Gods'.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements about the Nifty 500 Ahimsa Index:

1. It seeks to provide a benchmark for investors who wish to invest in companies with ethical and animal-friendly business practices.
2. The index has a base date of 1 April 2026 and a base value of 1000.

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: Nifty 500 Ahimsa Index aims to track the performance of Nifty 500 stocks that are selected based on the principles of Ahimsa (non-violence). It seeks to provide a benchmark for investors who wish to invest in companies with ethical and animal-friendly business practices.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The index has a base date of 1 April 2016 and a base value of 1000.

Source: [IE](#)