

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

Oct, 2026 2nd Week

10 PM MCQs (9 October)

Q1. The JOSH (Joint Squad for Health) Teams, recently seen in the news, are associated with which of the following?

- (a) Promoting mental health awareness among adolescents
- (b) Strengthening youth-led community participation in tuberculosis elimination
- (c) Improving maternal and child healthcare in rural areas
- (d) Promoting digital healthcare services in remote areas

Answer: (b) Strengthening youth-led community participation in tuberculosis elimination

Explanation: JOSH (Joint Squad for Health) Teams aim to mobilise youth for community-based action towards tuberculosis (TB) elimination. The initiative will be launched across 55 districts in 11 states to strengthen community participation in TB elimination efforts.

Source- [NDTV](#)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the International Air Transport Association (IATA):

- 1. It is a global trade association representing both passenger and cargo airlines.
- 2. Its headquarters is located in Montreal, Canada.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** IATA is a global trade association representing airlines engaged in passenger and cargo transport. It develops industry standards, procedures and practices to facilitate safe and efficient air transport.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** IATA is headquartered in Montreal, Canada.

Source- [TH](#)

Q3. With reference to Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSCs), consider the following statements:

- 1. A Minister can be nominated as a member of a DRSC if the concerned Ministry is under their charge.
- 2. Each DRSC consists of 31 members, including 21 from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha.
- 3. The recommendations of DRSCs are binding on the government.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation: Only Statement 2 is correct. Ministers cannot be members of DRSCs, and their recommendations are advisory, not binding.

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following countries:

- 1. Côte d'Ivoire
- 2. Burkina Faso
- 3. Togo

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation: Ghana shares land borders with Côte d'Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, and Togo to the east.

Source- [ddnews](#)

Q5. Ms. Y, a Canadian poet, essayist and classicist, has recently been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2026 for her innovative literary works inspired by classical traditions. Who is she?

- (a) Anne Carson
- (b) Can Xue
- (c) Cristina Rivera Garza
- (d) Margaret Atwood

Answer: (a) Anne Carson

Explanation: Anne Carson was awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature for her bold and inventive literary works engaging with the classical tradition.

Source- [IE](#)

Q6. The Living Planet Report 2026 is released by which of the following organisations?

- (a) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- (b) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- (c) World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- (d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Answer: C

Explanation: World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

- The Living Planet Report is WWF's flagship, biennial publication assessing global biodiversity and the status of monitored wildlife populations. The 2026 edition, published on 7 October 2026, reports an average 73% decline in the size of monitored vertebrate wildlife populations between 1970 and 2022.

Source: [DTE](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the SAREX-2026:

1. It is a multinational maritime Search and Rescue exercise conducted by the Indian Coast Guard.
2. The 2026 edition was conducted off the coast of Paradip, Odisha.

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: SAREX-2026 was conducted by the Indian Coast Guard under the National Maritime Search and Rescue Board. It aimed to validate operational preparedness, strengthen coordination among agencies and improve international interoperability in maritime rescue operations.

Statement 2 is correct: The 12th edition was conducted off Paradip, Odisha, on 8 October 2026. Its theme emphasised the use of technology to improve search-and-rescue preparedness and maritime safety.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. The Nameri Tiger Reserve is located in which of the following states?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Meghalaya

(d) Nagaland

Answer: B

Explanation: Assam

- Nameri Tiger Reserve is located in Sonitpur district of Assam, in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas. It lies along the Jia-Bhoroli River, a tributary of the Brahmaputra, and is known for its rich biodiversity, including tigers, elephants and the endangered white-winged wood duck.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. The PRASHAST Platform is primarily associated with which of the following?

- (a) Providing digital learning content to students in government schools
- (b) Monitoring nutritional status and anaemia among schoolchildren
- (c) Providing scholarships to students from economically weaker sections
- (d) Screening schoolchildren for disabilities and facilitating their early identification and referral for further assessment

Answer: D

Explanation: Screening schoolchildren for disabilities and facilitating their early identification and referral for further assessment.

- PRASHAST stands for Pre-Assessment Holistic Screening Tool. It was developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) under the Ministry of Education. It is a school-based digital tool designed to help identify children with possible disabilities covered under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

Source: [ET](#)

Q10. With reference to the Slaty Egret (*Egretta vinaceigula*), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a bird species native to sub-Saharan Africa, particularly the south-central and southern parts of the continent.
- 2. It prefers shallow freshwater wetlands, marshes and seasonally flooded grasslands, where it feeds mainly on small fish and other aquatic organisms.
- 3. It is classified as a Critically Endangered species on the IUCN Red List.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Slaty Egret is native to southern Africa, with its main population concentrated in Botswana's Okavango Delta and the Linyanti-Chobe river system. It also occurs in countries such as Zambia, Namibia and South Africa.

Statement 2 is correct: It inhabits inland freshwater wetlands, including river floodplains, marshes and seasonally flooded shallow wetlands. Its survival depends on suitable feeding and nesting habitats.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The IUCN classifies the Slaty Egret as Vulnerable (VU), not Critically Endangered.

Source: [DTE](#)

10 PM MCQs (10 October)

Q1. Lopamudra, Ghosha, Apala and Vishvavara are traditionally associated with which of the following?

- (a) Buddhist nuns of the Mauryan period
- (b) Female sages (Rishikas) associated with the Rig Veda
- (c) Women philosophers of the Gupta period
- (d) Female rulers of ancient India

Answer: (b) Female sages (Rishikas) associated with the Rig Veda

Explanation: Lopamudra, Ghosha, Apala and Vishvavara are traditionally regarded as female seers (Rishikas) associated with the Rig Veda and its hymns.

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. With reference to the National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
2. It is implemented by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
3. Under the Scheme Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS) component, eligible SC/ST-owned Micro and Small Enterprises can avail a capital subsidy of 25% of the investment in plant, machinery and equipment, subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakh.

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: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** NSSH is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of MSME.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The scheme is implemented by the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), not SIDBI.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Under SCLCSS, eligible SC/ST-owned MSEs can receive a 25% capital subsidy, capped at Rs. 25 lakh, for eligible investments in plant, machinery and equipment financed through institutional credit.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q3. Consider the following countries with reference to the Arctic Council:

1. Canada
2. Denmark (Greenland)
3. Norway
4. Russia
5. United States
6. Finland
7. Sweden

How many of the above are members of the Arctic Council?

- (a) Only four
- (b) Only five
- (c) Only six
- (d) All seven

Answer: (d) All seven

Explanation: All seven listed countries are members of the Arctic Council, which comprises eight Arctic States. Iceland is the eighth member. Denmark's membership includes Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

Source- [NASA](#)

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Gomti River:

1. It flows entirely through Uttar Pradesh.
2. It originates in the Himalayan region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Gomti River flows entirely through Uttar Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Gomti originates from the Gomat Taal (Fulhar Jheel) near Madhotanda in Pilibhit district of Uttar Pradesh, not from the Himalayan region.

Source- [NDTV](#)

Q5. With reference to the first-ever World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on child and adolescent obesity, consider the following statements:

1. The guidelines strongly advise against the use of anti-obesity medicines in children aged 0–9 years.
2. Bariatric surgery may be considered for adolescents with severe obesity under strict conditions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The WHO guidelines advise against anti-obesity medicines, including GLP-1 receptor agonists, for children aged 0–9 years, emphasising lifestyle-based interventions.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Bariatric surgery may be considered for adolescents with severe obesity under strict conditions and appropriate clinical supervision

Source- [IE](#)

Q6. With reference to ASW-SWC Mangrol, consider the following statements:

1. ASW-SWC Mangrol is an Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft named after Mangrol, a coastal town and prominent fishing harbour in Karnataka.
2. The vessel is designed primarily for deep-sea anti-submarine operations.

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 correct: Mangrol is an Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) built for the Indian Navy. These vessels are designed to detect, track and engage submarines in shallow coastal waters, strengthening India's littoral anti-submarine warfare capabilities.

Statement 2 is incorrect: ASW-SWCs are intended primarily for shallow-water and coastal operations, not exclusively deep-sea warfare.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the Sarus Crane (Antigone antigone):

1. Unlike most crane species, the Sarus Crane is exclusively migratory and leaves India during the winter season to breed in Central Asia.
2. The Sarus Crane is classified as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
3. A nationwide All-India Sarus Crane Survey is going to be organized by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: 2 and 3 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Sarus Crane is largely resident and non-migratory in India. It does not migrate exclusively to Central Asia for breeding.

Statement 2 is correct: The Sarus Crane is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.

Statement 3 is correct: The All-India Sarus Crane Survey is a nationwide initiative to establish a scientific baseline for the Sarus Crane population in India. It is organized by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).

Source: [DTE](#)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM):

1. It aims to secure India's supply chain of critical minerals through measures such as domestic exploration, acquisition of assets abroad, and creating strategic reserves.
2. The Ministry of Power is the administrative ministry for the implementation of the Mission.
3. Only the domestic mineral exploration is covered under the Mission while acquisition of mineral assets abroad is excluded.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only 1

Statement 1 is correct: The mission focuses on securing critical minerals via comprehensive measures, including exploration, overseas acquisition, stockpiling, and developing processing infrastructure.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The administrative ministry for the NCMM is the Ministry of Mines, not the Ministry of Power.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It also encourages acquisition of assets abroad with global partnerships.

Source: [IE](#)

Q9. Project Seabird is launched by which of the following?

- (a) Indian Coast Guard
- (b) Indian Navy
- (c) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- (d) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Answer: B

Explanation: Indian Navy

- Project Seabird is a major Indian Navy infrastructure development project at Karwar, Karnataka, aimed at developing and expanding the naval base to accommodate warships and submarines, along with associated dockyard, air station and logistics facilities. It is being implemented under the Ministry of Defence.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding the Laver Cup:

1. The Laver Cup is an annual tennis competition in which Team Europe competes against Team Asia, comprising players from outside Europe.
2. The tournament was inspired by golf's Ryder Cup and is named in honour of Australian tennis legend Rod Laver.

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 Laver Cup is a three-day men's team tennis competition featuring six players representing Europe against six players representing the rest of the world. It has been held annually since its inaugural edition in 2017.

Statement 2 is correct: The competition was inspired by the Ryder Cup in golf and conceived by former tennis player Roger Federer to honour Rod Laver, the Australian tennis legend who achieved the Grand Slam twice.

Source: [TH](#)

10 PM MCQs (12 October)

Q1. A group of citizens gathered peacefully without arms to protest against a government policy. The authorities imposed restrictions on the gathering, citing concerns about public order. The citizens argued that their right to peaceful assembly is protected by the Constitution.

Which of the following provisions of Article 19 is most directly relevant to this situation?

- (a) Article 19(1)(a)
- (b) Article 19(1)(b)
- (c) Article 19(1)(c)
- (d) Article 19(1)(d)

Answer: (b) Article 19(1)(b)

Explanation: Article 19(1)(b) guarantees citizens the right to assemble peacefully and without arms, subject to reasonable restrictions under Article 19(3).

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. With reference to the Election Commission of India (ECI), consider the following statements:

1. Article 324 of the Constitution explicitly specifies the number of Election Commissioners to be appointed.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
3. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners have equal decision-making powers, and decisions are taken by a majority in case of disagreement.
4. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed in the same manner and on the same grounds as a High Court judge.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Article 324 does not specify a fixed number of Election Commissioners. The President determines their number.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The CEC and other Election Commissioners hold office for six years or until they attain 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The CEC and other Election Commissioners have equal decision-making powers, and the majority view prevails in case of disagreement.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The CEC can be removed in the same manner and on the same grounds as a Supreme Court judge, not a High Court judge.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. Consider the following:

A District Magistrate finds that a government welfare scheme has excluded some deserving people because they face difficulties in providing the required documents. Although officials have followed the prescribed rules, the District Magistrate wants to ensure that eligible people receive the benefits without violating the law. Which of the following ethical principles is best reflected in the District Magistrate's approach?

- (a) Ethical discretion guided by empathy and public service values.
- (b) Ethical relativism based on personal beliefs and preferences.
- (c) Consequentialism, which allows the violation of rules for better results.
- (d) Bureaucratic neutrality, which requires following rules without considering their impact.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Ethical discretion involves using sound judgement within the limits of the law. By understanding citizens' difficulties and seeking lawful solutions, the District Magistrate demonstrates empathy, practical wisdom and public service orientation.

Source- [IE](#)

Q4. With reference to the Living Planet Report 2026, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Living Planet Report is published biennially by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- 2. Freshwater ecosystems recorded the highest decline in monitored vertebrate populations.
- 3. Latin America and the Caribbean recorded the steepest regional decline in monitored vertebrate populations, followed by Africa.

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) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Living Planet Report is published biennially by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Freshwater ecosystems recorded the steepest decline, with monitored vertebrate population sizes declining by 85% between 1970 and 2022.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Latin America and the Caribbean recorded the steepest regional decline, at 95%, followed by Africa (80%) and Asia and the Pacific (49%).

Source- [DTE](#)

Q5. With reference to INS Shreyas, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an offshore patrol vessel.
- 2. It is being built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) for the Indian Navy.

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: INS Shreyas is the third of four next-generation offshore patrol vessels being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd for the Indian Navy.

Source- [TOI](#)

Q6. With reference to Exercise KONKAN-26, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a bilateral maritime exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of the Indonesia.
- 2. The 2026 edition of this exercise is being conducted off Goa, 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: Neither 1 nor 2

Statement 1 is incorrect: Exercise KONKAN-26 is an annual bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the United Kingdom's Royal Navy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The exercise is being conducted off Plymouth, UK from 08-15 Oct 26.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about the INS Trishul:

1. It is a Talwar-class guided-missile stealth frigate of the Indian Navy.
2. It is the first ship to launch the supersonic BrahMos PJ-10 anti-ship and land-attack cruise missile.

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: Indian Naval Ship Trishul is a Talwar-class guided missile stealth frigate of the Indian Navy.

Statement 2 is correct: It was also the first to launch the supersonic BrahMos PJ-10 anti-ship and land-attack cruise missile, jointly designed by India and Russia.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q8. With reference to the Aldabra Giant Tortoise, consider the following statements:

1. It is native to the Aldabra Atoll in the Seychelles, in the western Indian Ocean.
2. It is a herbivore that plays an important role in seed dispersal and vegetation dynamics in its island ecosystem.
3. It has been categorized as endangered by the IUCN.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Aldabra Giant Tortoise (*Aldabrachelys gigantea*) is native to Aldabra Atoll in the Seychelles, located in the western Indian Ocean.

Statement 2 is correct: It feeds mainly on grasses and other vegetation and contributes to seed dispersal. Its grazing also shapes the vegetation structure of the atoll.

Statement 3 is incorrect: IUCN- Vulnerable

Source: [POPSCI](#)

Q9. The Katchatheevu Island is located in which of the following water bodies?

- (a) Gulf of Mannar
- (b) Palk Strait
- (c) Bay of Bengal
- (d) Arabian Sea

Answer: B

Explanation: Palk Strait

- Katchatheevu is a small, uninhabited island in the Palk Strait, between India and Sri Lanka. It lies northeast of Rameswaram (Tamil Nadu, India) and southwest of the Jaffna Peninsula (Sri Lanka).

Source: [TH](#)

Q10. With reference to the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), consider the following statements:

1. It is the first scheme focused solely on agriculture and allied sectors, inspired by NITI Aayog's Aspirational Districts Programme.
2. The scheme aims to cover all districts of India with low cropping intensity and high productivity.
3. It will be implemented for six years starting from 2025–26.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B.

Explanation: 1 and 3 only

Statement 1 is correct: PMDDKY is indeed inspired by the Aspirational Districts Programme and is the first of its kind focusing solely on agriculture and allied sectors.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The scheme targets 100 low-performing districts, not all districts, and specifically focuses on low productivity, low cropping intensity, and poor credit access.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme has a budget of Rs. 24,000 crore per year for six years starting from 2025–26.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (13 October)

Q1. With reference to Exercise INDRA 2026, consider the following statements:

1. It is a bilateral naval exercise between the Indian Navy and the Russian Federation Navy.
2. The 2026 edition is being conducted at Visakhapatnam, India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation: Exercise INDRA is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Russia. The 2026 edition is being conducted at Vladivostok, Russia, not Visakhapatnam.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q2. With reference to the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2026, consider the following statements:

1. It is published annually by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
2. Sweden is the most innovative economy in 2026, followed by Switzerland.
3. India retained its 38th rank in the Global Innovation Index in 2026, the same as in 2025.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (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 1 is correct:** The Global Innovation Index is published annually by WIPO.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Switzerland ranked first, followed by Sweden and the United States in GII 2026.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** India retained its 38th position in both GII 2025 and GII 2026.

Source- [IE](#)

Q3. With reference to cotton production in India, consider the following statements:

1. India is the only country that cultivates all four recognised species of cotton.
2. India ranks first globally in cotton cultivation area.
3. India ranks second globally in both cotton production and consumption.

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) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India is the only country cultivating all four recognised cotton species.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** India ranks first globally in cotton cultivation area.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** India ranks second globally in cotton production and consumption.

Source- [HT](#)

Q4. The Ong, Tel and Jonk rivers are tributaries of which of the following rivers?

- (a) Godavari
- (b) Krishna
- (c) Brahmani
- (d) Mahanadi

Answer: (d) Mahanadi

Explanation: The Ong, Tel and Jonk rivers are tributaries of the Mahanadi River system in eastern India

Source- [IE](#)

Q5. With reference to Saudi Arabia, consider the following statements:

1. Saudi Arabia shares its longest land border with Yemen.
2. Saudi Arabia has no perennial rivers.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Saudi Arabia shares its longest land border with Yemen.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Saudi Arabia has no perennial rivers. Its drainage system mainly consists of seasonal watercourses known as wadis.

Source- [HT](#)

Q6. Consider the following statements about the Bharat Rice, launched recently:

1. It has been launched by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
2. This rice is fortified with iron and calcium in order to be distributed to marginalized children in the country.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (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 Indian Army launched the Bharat Rice initiative in New Delhi.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It aims to improve ration quality based on sustained feedback from Army personnel.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q7. The Mount Mukut is located in which of the following states of India?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Uttarakhand

- Mount Mukut, also known as Mukut Parbat, is a high Himalayan peak in the Garhwal Himalayas of Uttarakhand, in the Chamoli district near the India–China border. It is associated with the Kamet mountain group.

Source: [PIB](#)

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

1. It flows through Mongolia and Russia and drains into the Arctic Ocean.
2. It is one of the major river systems of the Arctic basin and flows northward into the Kara Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: The main course of the Yenisei River flows entirely within Russia. However, some of its headwaters originate in Mongolia, and its wider drainage basin extends across both countries.

Statement 2 is correct: The Yenisei is one of the major rivers draining into the Arctic Ocean. It flows generally northward through Siberia and empties into the Kara Sea, which is part of the Arctic Ocean.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q9. With reference to the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime (IBSAMAR) Exercise 2026, consider the following statements:

1. IBSAMAR is a trilateral maritime exercise involving the navies of India, Brazil and South Africa, conducted biennially under the IBSA framework since 2008.
2. The ninth edition of IBSAMAR is being hosted by Brazil, with the Indian Navy participating through INS Tarkash.

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: IBSAMAR is a trilateral maritime exercise involving the Indian, Brazilian and South African navies. It has been conducted biennially since 2008 under the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) framework.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The ninth edition, IBSAMAR IX, is being hosted by South Africa, not Brazil. The Indian Navy is participating with INS Tarkash, accompanied by an integral Chetak helicopter. The theme is "Stronger Together Towards a Shared Future in the Maritime Domain."

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding PM-SETU (Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs):

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. The scheme includes upgradation of 1,000 ITIs under a Hub-and-Spoke model and capacity augmentation of National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs).
3. The scheme is entirely financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank, with no Central Government share.

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Only one

Statement 1 is incorrect: PM-SETU is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, not a Central Sector Scheme.

Statement 2 is correct: It provides for upgradation of 1,000 ITIs in a Hub-and-Spoke model and capacity augmentation of NSTIs.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The scheme involves co-financing up to 50% of the Central share by ADB and the World Bank, not full external financing.

Source: [DD India](#)

10 PM MCQs (14 October)

Q1. With reference to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. A person who has been a Judge of a High Court is eligible to be appointed as the Chairperson of the NHRC.
3. The Commission can inquire into human rights violations only upon receiving a complaint and cannot take suo motu cognisance.
4. Its recommendations are binding on the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (d) None of the above

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The NHRC is a statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Chairperson must be a person who has been the Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The NHRC can take suo motu cognisance of alleged human rights violations.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The NHRC's recommendations are not binding on the government; they are recommendatory in nature.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q2. With reference to the Governor of an Indian State, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution provides for a separate Governor for each State, but the same person may be appointed as Governor of two or more States.
2. The Governor holds office for a fixed term of five years and cannot be removed before the completion of this term.
3. A person must be a citizen of India and have completed 45 years of age to be eligible for appointment as Governor.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 153 provides for a Governor for each State. The same person may be appointed as Governor of two or more States.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Under Article 156, the Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President. The normal term is five years, but the Governor may be removed before its completion.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Under Article 157, a person must be a citizen of India and have completed 35 years of age, not 45 years, to be eligible for appointment as Governor.

Source- [TOI](#)

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

1. It is a bilateral maritime exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the British Royal Navy.
2. The 2026 edition is being hosted by India in Kochi, Kerala.

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:** Exercise KONKAN is a bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the British Royal Navy, institutionalised in 2004.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The 2026 edition is being hosted by the United Kingdom off the coast of Plymouth, England.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q4. With reference to the TRISHNA satellite, consider the following statements:

1. It is a collaborative mission between ISRO and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
2. It aims to monitor terrestrial water stress and assess water quality in coastal and inland waters.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** TRISHNA is a collaborative mission between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the French space agency CNES.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The satellite aims to monitor the energy and water budgets of the continental biosphere, quantify terrestrial water stress and observe water quality and dynamics in coastal and inland waters.

Source- [TH](#)

Q5. The World Economic Outlook (WEO) report, recently in the news, is published by which of the following organisations?

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

Answer: (c) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Explanation: The World Economic Outlook is a comprehensive report published by the IMF twice a year. It analyses global economic growth, inflation, employment and macroeconomic trends, and presents economic forecasts for countries and regions.

Source- [TH](#)

Q6. Consider the following countries:

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

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Not Belarus

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

Source: [NDTV](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Samarthak vessel:

- 1. It is the first of four Multi-Purpose Vessels being inducted into Indian Navy's fleet.
- 2. It is built by the Cochin Shipyard under the Make in India initiative.
- 3. Its crest depicts an Indian elephant emerging from the waves, symbolising strength, intelligence and agility.

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: Samarthak is the first of four Multi-Purpose Vessels being inducted into Navy's fleet, at Naval Base Karwar on October 16.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is built by Larsen & Toubro under the Make in India initiative.

Statement 3 is correct: Samarthak's crest depicts an Indian elephant emerging from the waves, symbolising strength, intelligence and agility. Its motto, "विजयार्थम् एकनिष्ठता", means "Victory is Our Sole Aim".

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. The improved varieties *NRC 268* and *NRC 270*, recently seen in the news, belong to which of the following crops?

- (a) Rice
- (b) Soybean
- (c) Mustard
- (d) Chickpea

Answer: B

Explanation: Soybean

- NRC 268 and NRC 270 are improved soybean varieties developed by the ICAR–National Soybean Research Institute (ICAR-NSRI), Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. With reference to Bekal Fort, consider the following statements:

1. Bekal Fort is located in the Kasaragod district of Kerala along the Malabar Coast.
2. The fort was constructed by the Portuguese in the 16th century and served primarily as a centre for their spice trade.

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: Bekal Fort is situated in Kasaragod district, Kerala, overlooking the Arabian Sea. It is one of the largest and best-preserved forts in the state.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Bekal Fort is generally associated with Shivappa Nayaka of the Keladi Nayaka dynasty, who is credited with constructing it in the mid-17th century.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC), consider the following statements:

1. The MSDC was constituted under the Ports, Shipping and Waterways to promote coordinated development of India's maritime sector and strengthen Centre–State cooperation.
2. It has been recognised as a statutory consultative body under the Indian Ports Act, 2025.

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 Maritime State Development Council was originally constituted in 1997 to facilitate coordination between the Central Government, maritime states and Union Territories for the integrated development of ports and maritime infrastructure.

Statement 2 is correct: The Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways chairs the Council. Following the notification of the Indian Ports Act, 2025, on 15 May 2026, the MSDC acquired statutory recognition as a consultative body.

Source: [PIB](#)

10 PM MCQs (15 October)

Q1. Consider the following activities:

1. Restoration of historically significant monuments and sites.

2. Training programmes to promote rural and Olympic sports.
3. Contribution to a political party for its social welfare initiatives.
4. Environmental conservation projects undertaken exclusively for the benefit of a company's employees.
5. Disaster management activities, including relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

How many of the above activities qualify as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities under the Companies Act, 2013?

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

Answer: (b) Only three

Explanation:

- **Statements 1, 2 and 5 are correct:** Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013, includes protection of national heritage, training to promote specified sports, and disaster management activities.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Contributions to political parties, directly or indirectly, are excluded from eligible CSR activities.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Activities designed exclusively to benefit a company's employees do not qualify as CSR expenditure, even if the activity falls within a category listed in Schedule VII.

Source- [IE](#)

Q2. Consider the following situation:

A State government prohibits a religious practice, citing concerns about public order, morality and health. A group of citizens challenges the decision, arguing that the Constitution guarantees them the freedom to practise their religion.

Which of the following Article guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to practise and propagate religion?

- (a) Article 25
- (b) Article 26
- (c) Article 27
- (d) Article 28

Answer: (a) Article 25

Explanation:

- **Article 25:** Guarantees freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practise and propagate religion, subject to public order, morality, health and other provisions of Part III.
- **Article 26:** Grants religious denominations the right to manage their religious affairs, subject to public order, morality and health.
- **Article 27:** Prohibits compelling a person to pay taxes specifically appropriated for promoting or maintaining a particular religion.
- **Article 28:** Deals with religious instruction in educational institutions.

Source- [asianews](#)

Q3. With reference to preventive detention in India, consider the following statements:

1. A person detained under a preventive detention law is exempt from the constitutional safeguard requiring production before a magistrate within 24 hours of arrest.
2. Every person detained under a preventive detention law has a constitutional right to consult and be defended by a lawyer of their choice.

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:** Article 22(3) excludes persons detained under preventive detention laws from the safeguards under Article 22(1) and Article 22(2), including production before a magistrate within 24 hours of arrest.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Article 22(1) guarantees the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of one's choice to persons arrested under ordinary law. However, this safeguard does not apply to persons detained under preventive detention laws, as provided under Article 22(3).

Source- [TH](#)

Q4. Consider the following countries:

1. Poland
2. Slovakia
3. Austria
4. Germany
5. Hungary

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

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

Answer: (c) Only four

Explanation: The Czech Republic shares its land borders with Germany, Poland, Slovakia and Austria. It does not share a land border with Hungary.

Source- [PIB](#)

Q5. With reference to the ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It aims to provide literacy and life skills to non-literate persons aged 15 years and above.
3. It focuses exclusively on foundational literacy and numeracy, excluding vocational skills and continuing education.

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:** ULLAS, also known as the New India Literacy Programme (NILP), is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It aims to provide functional literacy and life skills to non-literate persons aged 15 years and above.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** ULLAS covers five pillars: foundational literacy and numeracy, critical life skills, basic education, vocational skills and continuing education.

Source- [NOA](#)

Q6. With reference to African wild dogs, consider the following statements:

1. African wild dogs are native to sub-Saharan Africa and are known for their cooperative pack-based hunting behaviour.
2. The species is classified as 'Vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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: African wild dogs, also known as painted dogs or Cape hunting dogs, are native to sub-Saharan Africa. They live in social packs and cooperatively hunt prey, particularly medium-sized antelopes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The African wild dog is classified as Endangered (EN) on the IUCN Red List

Source: [DTE](#)

Q7. Consider the following statements about Albania:

1. It is located in the Balkan Peninsula of Southeastern Europe and shares maritime boundary with the Adriatic Sea.
 2. It is a member of the European Union but is not a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- 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: Albania is situated in Southeastern Europe, in the western part of the Balkan Peninsula. Its coastline borders the Adriatic Sea to the north and the Ionian Sea to the south. It shares land borders with Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Greece.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Albania is a member of NATO, having joined the alliance on 1 April 2009. However, it is not yet a member of the European Union; it holds EU candidate-country status and is pursuing accession.

Source: [DD News](#)

Q8. With reference to the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), consider the following statements:

1. The NSAP has been renamed as the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana.
2. Under the revised disability pension scheme, the benchmark disability eligibility threshold has been reduced from 80% to 40%.
3. The revised programme provides monthly disability pension assistance of ₹625 for beneficiaries aged 0–79 years and ₹375 for those aged 80 years and above.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of NSAP for five years, from 2026–27 to 2030–31, with a total financial outlay of ₹53,428 crore. The programme has been renamed Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana.

Statement 2 is correct: The benchmark disability threshold for disability pension eligibility has been reduced from 80% to 40%. The minimum age criterion has also been removed, allowing eligibility from birth, subject to the scheme's applicable conditions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The revised monthly assistance is ₹375 for beneficiaries aged 0–79 years and ₹625 for those aged 80 years and above—the statement reverses the amounts.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q9. The SPARK 5.0, recently seen in the news, is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Promotion of scientific research among school students by NCERT
- (b) Short-term research studentships for undergraduate Ayurveda students
- (c) Financial assistance to startups working in traditional medicine
- (d) Training of healthcare professionals in modern medical technologies

Answer: B

Explanation: Short-term research studentships for undergraduate Ayurveda students

- SPARK 5.0 stands for the Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken (SPARK), an initiative of the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) under the Ministry of Ayush.

Source: [PIB](#)

Q10. With reference to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), consider the following statements:

1. SIOFA is a legally binding international agreement.
2. It is aimed at the long-term conservation and sustainable use of non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Southern Indian Ocean.
3. The agreement extends to waters under the national jurisdiction of coastal states.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: SIOFA is a legally binding multilateral agreement signed in Rome on 7 July 2006 and entered into force on 21 June 2012.

Statement 2 is correct: Its objective is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources through international cooperation.

Statement 3 is incorrect: SIOFA excludes highly migratory species, such as tuna, and does not apply to waters under the national jurisdiction of coastal states.

Source: [PIB](#)