ForumIAS

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

Oct, 2026 3rd Week

10 PM MCQs (16 October)

Q1. Consider the following description:
It is an annual leguminous crop cultivated mainly during the Kharif season in India. It grows well at temperatures of around 26.5–30°C and is sensitive to water stress during flowering, pod development and seed filling. Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are among its major producing states.
Which of the following crops is being described?
(a) Pigeon pea
(b) Chickpea
(c) Green gram
(d) Soybean

Answer: (d) Soybean
Source- PIB

Q2. With reference to Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders, consider the following statements:
1. An OCI cardholder is a foreign national holding a passport of another country and is not entitled to dual citizenship in India.
2. OCI cardholders enjoy the same rights as Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in all matters, including the acquisition of agricultural land and participation in elections.
3. OCI cardholders are required to obtain prior permission from the competent authority before undertaking activities such as research, missionary work and journalistic activities in India.

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**: OCI status does not confer Indian citizenship. OCI cardholders remain foreign nationals holding foreign passports.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: OCI cardholders do not enjoy all the rights available to NRIs. They cannot vote in Indian elections and are generally prohibited from acquiring agricultural land, plantation property or farmhouses.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: Under the Government of India's 2021 notification, prior permission is required for specified activities, including research, missionary work and journalistic activities.

Source- IE

Q3. Consider the following applications:
1. Refrigeration and air-conditioning
2. Foam blowing
3. Fire suppression
4. Aerosol propellants

In how many of the above are hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) used?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Answer: (d) All four
Explanation: Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are used in refrigeration and air-conditioning, foam blowing, fire suppression and aerosol propellants. They were widely adopted as alternatives to ozone-depleting substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
Source- IE

Q4. Exercise Cambrian Patrol 2026, recently seen in the news, is associated with which of the following?

(a) Joint naval exercise between India and the USA
(b) International military patrolling exercise hosted by the United Kingdom
(c) Multilateral air combat exercise conducted by NATO
(d) Joint counter-terrorism exercise between India and France

Answer: (b) International military patrolling exercise hosted by the United Kingdom
Explanation: Exercise Cambrian Patrol is an annual international military patrolling exercise conducted in the mountainous terrain of Wales, United Kingdom, under the aegis of the British Army's 160th (Welsh) Brigade.
Source- TOI

Q5. Consider the following pairs:
1. Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary — Tripura
2. Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary — Mizoram
3. Rowa Wildlife Sanctuary — Meghalaya

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (a) Only one
Explanation: Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Tripura. Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary and Rowa Wildlife Sanctuary are also located in Tripura, not Mizoram and Meghalaya, respectively.
Source- TI

Q6. Consider the following statements about Dal Lake:
1. It is situated in Srinagar at the foothills of the Zabarwan Mountain range.
2. It is a freshwater lake.
3. It receives its inflows primarily from the Jhelum River.

How many of the statements given above are correct?
A. Only one
B. Only two
C. All three
D. None

Answer: B
Explanation: 1 and 2
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Dal Lake lies in Srinagar, with the Zabarwan Mountains forming its backdrop.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is a freshwater urban lake, often called the "Jewel of Srinagar."
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Dal Lake does not receive inflows from the Jhelum River. Instead, it is mainly fed by Telbal Nallah (from Dachigam) and natural springs. Its outflow drains into a tributary of the Jhelum via Tsoont Kol channel.

Source: IE

Q7. With reference to the Jeypore Ground Gecko (Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis), consider the following statements:
1. It is endemic to India and is found in the high-elevation forests of the Eastern Ghats in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.
2. It is classified as 'Endangered' on 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: C
Explanation: Both 1 and 2
Statement 1 is correct: The Jeypore Ground Gecko is an Indian endemic reptile found in the northern Eastern Ghats, particularly in southern Odisha and northern Andhra Pradesh. It inhabits high-elevation, semi-evergreen forests and rocky habitats.
Statement 2 is correct: The species is classified as Endangered (EN) on the IUCN Red List.
Source: TH

Q8. Consider the following ramsar sites:

	Ramsar sites	Location
1.	Sukhna Lake	Chandigarh
2.	Sauj Jheel	Madhya Pradesh
3.	Saman Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh

How many of the above pairs are matched correctly
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

Answer: B
Explanation: 1 and 3

- Sukhna Lake Chandigarh
- Sauj Jheel Uttar Pradesh
- Saman Bird Sanctuary Uttar Pradesh

Source: DD News

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Computed Tomography (CT) scanners:
1. CT scanners use X-rays and computer-based image reconstruction to produce detailed cross-sectional images of internal organs, tissues and bones.
2. Unlike conventional X-ray imaging, CT scanning does not use ionising radiation and therefore poses no radiation-related risk to patients.
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: CT scanners rotate an X-ray source and detectors around the patient. A computer processes the measurements to generate cross-sectional images, which can also be combined to create three-dimensional views.
Statement 2 is incorrect: CT scanners use ionising radiation, just like conventional X-ray imaging.
Source: PIB

Q10. With reference to the GSAT-7C satellite, consider the following statements:
1. It is a dedicated communication satellite intended to enhance secure and resilient communication capabilities of the Indian Air Force.
2. It is built by the NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), and the project is intended to be indigenously designed, developed and manufactured.
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: GSAT-7C is intended to provide dedicated communication capabilities for the Indian Air Force, improving secure, resilient and seamless connectivity among its operational assets. It will also support beyond-line-of-sight communication through Software Defined Radios (SDRs).
Statement 2 is correct: On 15 October 2026, the Ministry of Defence signed a contract worth ₹2,563 crore with NewSpace India Limited, Bengaluru, for GSAT-7C.
Source: PIB

10 PM MCQs (17 October)

Q1. Consider the following description:
You are standing on the Ganga floodplains in Uttar Pradesh, surrounded by agricultural fields. Before you lies a perennial, shallow lake supporting over 30,000 waterbirds, including the vulnerable Sarus Crane and Greater Spotted Eagle. Its vegetation includes sacred lotus and wild sugarcane. Recently added to the Ramsar List, it is also recognised as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA).
Which of the following wetlands are you most likely visiting?
(a) Sur Sarovar
(b) Sandi Bird Sanctuary
(c) Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary
(d) Sauj Jheel

Answer: (d) Sauj Jheel
Explanation: Sauj Jheel is a perennial, shallow floodplain lake near Kishni in Mainpuri district, Uttar Pradesh. It supports over 30,000 waterbirds and provides habitat for the vulnerable Sarus Crane and Greater Spotted Eagle. It was added to the Ramsar List in October 2026.
Source- PIB

Q2. With reference to the Balance of Payments, consider the following transactions:
1. An Indian company imports machinery from Germany.
2. An Indian resident receives remittances from a relative working in the United States.
3. A foreign company makes an investment in an Indian manufacturing unit.
4. An Indian tourist pays for hotel accommodation in Thailand.

Which of the transactions given above are recorded in the Current Account of India's Balance of Payments?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
Explanation: The Current Account includes trade in goods and services, income, and transfers such as remittances, whereas FDI is recorded in the Financial Account.
Source- IE

Q3. Consider the following pairs:
1. Lankamalleswara Wildlife Sanctuary — Telangana
2. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary — Meghalaya
3. Buxa Tiger Reserve — Assam

How many of the pairs given above are ***incorrectly*** matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (c) All three
Explanation: Lankamalleswara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam, and Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal.
Source- DC

Q4. With reference to the World Health Summit (WHS), consider the following statements:
1. It is an international forum on global health held annually in Berlin, Germany.
2. The theme of the World Health Summit 2026 is "From Crisis to Resilience: Innovating for Health".
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 World Health Summit is an annual international, multi-stakeholder forum that brings together stakeholders from science, politics, healthcare, industry and civil society to discuss global health challenges. It is held in Berlin, Germany.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The theme of the World Health Summit 2026 is "From Crisis to Resilience: Innovating for Health".

Source- WHS

Q5. The Red List Assessment of Ecosystems (RLE) Project, recently seen in the news, was launched by which of the following states?
(a) Kerala
(b) Tamil Nadu
(c) Karnataka
(d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (a) Kerala
Explanation: The Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) launched India's first state-level RLE Project to assess ecosystem vulnerability across all 14 districts using the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems framework. It is being implemented by KFRI in collaboration with MES Asmabi College.
Source- TH

Q6. With reference to the Data Centre Evaluation Framework, consider the following statements:
1. The framework was released by NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub.
2. The framework introduces a new mandatory statutory clearance mechanism for data centres and focuses exclusively on electricity availability, excluding water resources and economic benefits.
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: NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub released the Data Centre Evaluation Framework to Help States Plan for Sustainable Growth on 14 October 2026. It aims to help States assess infrastructure readiness, environmental sustainability and the long-term value of data-centre investments.
Statement 2 is incorrect: The framework is a decision-support tool, not a new statutory clearance mechanism. It covers five pillars: Power and Energy; Water and Cooling; Siting and Environmental Sustainability; Economic and Strategic Value; and Policy, Governance and Implementation.
Source: NOA

Q7. Consider the following statements about the Atacama Desert:
1. The Atacama Desert is located in northern Chile.
2. Its extreme aridity is mainly caused by the cold Humboldt Current and the rain-shadow effect of the Andes Mountains.
3. The Atacama Desert contains the Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flat.
How many of the above statements are correct?
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

Answer: B
Explanation: 1 and 2
Statement 1 is correct: The Atacama Desert lies in northern Chile, along the Pacific coast of South America.
Statement 2 is correct: The cold Humboldt Current suppresses atmospheric convection, while the Andes restrict moisture-bearing air from the Amazon Basin, contributing to its extreme aridity.
Statement 3 is incorrect: The Salar de Uyuni is located in southwestern Bolivia, on the Altiplano, and not within the Atacama Desert.
Source: DD News

Q8. With reference to the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), consider the following statements:
1. The initiative to establish CICA was proposed by Kazakhstan in 1992 to promote peace, security and stability in Asia.
2. The CICA Secretariat is headquartered in Astana, Kazakhstan.
3. CICA is a military alliance whose member states are legally obligated to provide collective military assistance in the event of an attack on any member.
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 idea of CICA was proposed by Kazakhstan's first President, Nursultan Nazarbayev, on 5 October 1992, during the 47th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Its objective is to promote peace, security and stability in Asia through dialogue and cooperation.
Statement 2 is correct: CICA's Secretariat is located in Astana, Kazakhstan. Decisions within the CICA framework are taken by consensus among its member states.
Statement 3 is incorrect: CICA is a multilateral forum for dialogue and confidence-building, not a collective-defence military alliance. Its cooperation covers five broad dimensions: economic, environmental, human, military-political, and new challenges and threats.
Source: NOA

Q9. Melanterite, recently seen in the news, is a:
(a) Hydrous iron sulphate mineral
(b) Rare-earth phosphate mineral
(c) Volcanic silicate mineral
(d) Hydrous copper carbonate mineral

Answer: A
Explanation: Hydrous iron sulphate mineral

- Melanterite is a hydrated iron(II) sulphate mineral with the chemical formula $FeSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$. It forms through the weathering and oxidation of iron-bearing sulphide minerals in the presence of water and oxygen. Recently, Indian researchers identified Melanterite at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu.

Source: DD News

Q10. The Vidya Vahini Scheme, recently seen in the news, was launched by which of the following?
(a) Government of Haryana
(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh
(c) Government of NCT of Delhi
(d) Ministry of Education, Government of India

Answer: C
Explanation: Government of NCT of Delhi

- The Vidya Vahini Scheme was launched by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on 31 July 2026. Under the scheme, free bicycles are being distributed to Class 9 girl students studying in Delhi government schools to facilitate their commute, improve school attendance and reduce dropout rates.

Source: DD News

10 PM MCQs (19 October)

Q1. Consider the following temples:
1. Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur
2. Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikonda Cholapuram
3. Airavatesvara Temple, Darasuram
4. Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram

How many of the above temples are part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the Great Living Chola Temples?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Answer: (c) Only three
Explanation: The Great Living Chola Temples comprise the Brihadisvara Temple at Thanjavur, the Brihadisvara Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram and the Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram; the Shore Temple belongs to a separate UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Source- TH

Q2. Consider the following description:
1. It is located in Rajasthan and serves as a northern extension of the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.
2. It is characterised by rugged hills, deep gorges locally known as khos, and dry deciduous forests.
3. The Banas River forms its western boundary, while the Chambal River lies to its southeast.

Which one of the following wildlife sanctuaries is described above?
(a) Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary
(b) Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary
(c) National Chambal Sanctuary
(d) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer: (b) Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary
Explanation: Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Karauli district of Rajasthan and forms part of the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve landscape, serving as a wildlife corridor towards the Chambal region.
Source- WWF

Q3. The PUFFINS Telescope Mission, recently in the news, is associated with the study of:

(a) Interstellar dust using ultraviolet polarimetry
(b) Exoplanets using gravitational microlensing
(c) Black holes through X-ray observations
(d) Solar flares and coronal mass ejections

Answer: (a) Interstellar dust using ultraviolet polarimetry
Explanation: PUFFINS is a NASA-funded SmallSat mission designed to study the composition, structure and magnetic alignment of interstellar dust grains by measuring the polarization of ultraviolet starlight
Source- TH

Q4. With reference to the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), consider the following statements:
1. It is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament.
2. It is headed by the Finance Secretary of the Union Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2
Explanation: FSIB is an autonomous, non-statutory body headed by a Chairman nominated by the Central Government.
Source- BL

Q5. With reference to INS Samarthak, consider the following statements:
1. It is a destroyer of the Indian Navy.
2. It was designed and constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2
Explanation: INS Samarthak is an indigenously designed Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) built by L&T Shipyard at Kattupalli.
Source- TOI

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Gypsum:
1. Gypsum is a hydrated calcium sulphate mineral with the chemical formula $CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$.
2. Gypsum is primarily formed through the cooling and solidification of magma and is therefore classified as an igneous mineral.

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: Gypsum is a hydrated calcium sulphate mineral with the chemical formula $CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$. It is widely used in the manufacture of plaster of Paris, cement and wallboards.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Gypsum is commonly an evaporite mineral, formed by the precipitation of dissolved minerals as saline water evaporates. It is generally associated with chemical sedimentary deposits, not the cooling and solidification of magma.
Source: DD News

Q7. The Kufri Jamunia, Kufri Neelkanth and Kufri Manik, seen in the news recently, are:
(a) High-yielding varieties of wheat
(b) Nutrient-rich coloured potato varieties
(c) Biofortified varieties of sweet potato
(d) Disease-resistant varieties of maize

Answer: B
Explanation: Nutrient-rich coloured potato varieties developed by ICAR–Central Potato Research Institute (ICAR-CPRI).

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research–Central Potato Research Institute (ICAR-CPRI) has developed three coloured potato varieties through biofortification- Kufri Neelkanth (2018), Kufri Manik (2021) and Kufri Jamunia (2024).

Source: PIB

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Martian Moons eXploration (MMX) Mission:
1. It is a space mission to be conducted by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
2. The mission aims to study both Phobos and Deimos moons of Mars.
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 MMX mission is led by Japan's JAXA. It aims to collect at least 10 grams of material from Phobos and return it to Earth, helping scientists investigate the origin of Mars's moons and the evolution of the Martian system.
Statement 2 is correct: Although Phobos is the primary target for sample collection, MMX will also observe Deimos, Mars's second moon.
Source: DD News

Q9. With reference to the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, consider the following statements:
1. It is conferred by the Sangeet Natak Akademi to encourage young practitioners in the fields of music, dance, and theatre.
2. Artists below 40 years of age are eligible for this award.
3. The award includes a cash prize of ₹25,000, a plaque, and an angavastram.

How many of the above statements are correct?
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

Answer: C
Explanation: 1, 2 and 3
Statement 1 is correct: The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar is awarded by the Sangeet Natak Akademi to recognize and encourage outstanding young artists in the fields of music, dance, theatre, folk, traditional, and puppet arts.
Statement 2 is correct: The award is named after Ustad Bismillah Khan, one of India's most celebrated musicians, who was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 2001.

Statement 3 is correct: The award is not limited to Hindustani classical music. It covers a broad range of performing arts, including dance, theatre, folk and tribal arts, traditional arts, and puppetry.
Source: NOA

Q10. The famous archaeological site of Pattanam, associated with ancient maritime trade, is located in which Indian state?
(a) Tamil Nadu
(b) Kerala
(c) Karnataka
(d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: B
Explanation: Kerala

- The Pattanam archaeological site is located in Ernakulam district, Kerala, near North Paravur.

Source: TH

10 PM MCQs (21 October)

Q1. With reference to the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), consider the following statements:
1. It is a specialised agency of the United Nations.
2. Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
3. India is a member of the organisation.

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 3 is correct. The OIML is an intergovernmental organisation established in 1955 and headquartered in Paris, France, to promote the global harmonisation of legal metrology procedures.
Source- PIB

Q2. Consider the following description:
1. He was a prominent painter in the imperial Mughal atelier during the reign of Emperor Akbar.
2. He was known for his expressive human and animal figures and the synthesis of Indian and Persian artistic traditions.
3. His painting A Family of Cheetahs in a Rocky Landscape was sold at Christie's in London for £10.245 million.

Which of the following personalities is referred to in the description?
(a) Daswanth
(b) Basawan
(c) Ustad Mansur
(d) Abu'l Hasan

Answer: (b) Basawan
Explanation: Basawan was a renowned Mughal painter under Akbar, noted for his naturalistic depictions, expressive figures and innovative artistic techniques.
Source- TOI

Q3. With reference to Exercise AUSTRAHIND, consider the following statements:
1. It is a biennial joint military exercise conducted between India and Australia.
2. Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026 commenced at Pune, Maharashtra.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2
Explanation: Exercise AUSTRAHIND is an annual joint military exercise between India and Australia, and its 5th edition commenced at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
Source- PIB

Q4. Consider the following description:
1. It is a transboundary river flowing through India and Bangladesh.
2. It is the second-largest river in Northeast India after the Brahmaputra.
3. It originates in the Naga Hills of Nagaland.

The description given above refers to which one of the following rivers?
(a) Teesta River
(b) Subansiri River
(c) Barak River
(d) Dhansiri River

Answer: (c) Barak River
Explanation: The Barak River originates in the Manipur Hills, south of Mao in Senapati district of Manipur, and flows into Bangladesh.
Source- IT

Q5. Consider the following pairs:
1. Barda Wildlife Sanctuary — Gujarat
2. Gomarda Wildlife Sanctuary — Chhattisgarh
3. Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary — Maharashtra

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) 1 and 2 only
Explanation: Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Gujarat, Gomarda Wildlife Sanctuary in Chhattisgarh, and Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka.
Source- TOI

Q6. The Abyei region, seen in the news recently, is a disputed territory between which of the following countries?
(a) Sudan and South Sudan
(b) Ethiopia and Eritrea
(c) Chad and Sudan
(d) South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Answer: A
Explanation: Sudan and South Sudan
- The Abyei region lies along the border between Sudan and South Sudan.

Source: Reuters

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Agri Welfare Portal, recently seen in the news:
1. It is launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

2. The portal integrates access to initiatives such as PM-KISAN, AgriStack and the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and promotes digital access to agricultural services.
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 upgraded Agri Welfare Portal was launched on 19 October 2026 by Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. It aims to simplify access to government schemes, financial assistance and reliable agricultural information.
Statement 2 is correct: The portal provides a common interface for major initiatives, including PM-KISAN, AgriStack and PMFBY. Its features include online eligibility checks, application facilities, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and information on weather, seeds, fertilisers and market prices.
Source: TH

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Exercise Akhand Prahar-II, recently seen in the news:
1. It is a tri-service exercise involving Indian Army, INdian Air Force and Indian Navy counducted annually.
2. The 2026 edition of the exercise took place in Keral along the coast of Arabian 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: D
Explanation: Neither 1 nor 2

- Exercise Akhand Prahar-II was conducted by the **Indian Army** in **Jaisalmer's** desert sector in Rajasthan. The participating formations were the Black Mace Brigade and the Battle Axe Division.

Source: ETV

Q9. With reference to the Prime Minister Internship Scheme, consider the following statements:
1. It is aimed towards youth aged 12-18 who are currently enrolled full-time academic program in central Indian universities.
2. The Ministry of Education is the nodal ministry of the scheme.
3. Duration of the Internship shall be 12 months under the scheme.

How many of the above statements are correct?
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

Answer: A
Explanation: 3 only
Statement 1 is incorrect: PMIS is aimed towards youth aged 21-24 who are currently not enrolled in any full-time academic program or employment. MCA has recently expanded the eligibility criteria of the Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) to include final-year graduate and post graduate students.
Statement 2 is incorrect: The scheme "Prime Minister's Internship Scheme" was launched by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.
Statement 3 is correct: Duration of the Internship shall be 12 months. At least half of the internship period must be spent in the actual working experience/ job environment, and not in the classroom.
Source: IE

Q10. The Emissions Gap Report 2026, titled "The Point of Return," is released by which of the following?
(a) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
(b) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
(c) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
(d) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Answer: B
Explanation: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- The Emissions Gap Report 2026 is the 17th edition of UNEP's annual assessment of the gap between projected global greenhouse gas emissions and the levels needed to meet international climate goals.

Source: DTE

10 PM MCQs (22 October)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the geographical features of France:
1. The Seine is the longest river in France.
2. The Alps are located in southwestern France.
3. Luxembourg shares a land border with France.

How many of the statements given above are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Only one
Explanation: Only statement 3 is correct. The Loire is the longest river in France, the Alps lie in southeastern France, and Luxembourg shares a land border with France.
Source- TH

Q2. Consider the following countries:
1. Iran
2. Belarus
3. Mongolia
4. Türkiye

How many of the above countries are members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) None of the above

Answer: (b) Only two
Explanation: Iran and Belarus are members of the SCO, Mongolia is an observer state, and Türkiye is a dialogue partner.
Source- TH

Q3. Consider the following pairs of lakes and their associated states:
1. Puzhal Lake — Tamil Nadu
2. Sukhna Lake — Punjab
3. Nanjarayan Lake — Kerala

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 only
Explanation: Puzhal Lake is in Tamil Nadu, Sukhna Lake is in Chandigarh, and Nanjarayan Lake is in Tamil Nadu.
Source- TH

Q4. With reference to Venezuela, consider the following statements:
1. Venezuela shares its longest international land border with Colombia.
2. The Orinoco is the largest river in Venezuela.

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: Venezuela shares its longest land border with Colombia, and the Orinoco is its largest river.
Source- HT

Q5. With reference to the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, consider the following statements:
1. Inclusion in a country's Tentative List is a prerequisite for nomination to the World Heritage List.
2. The Karst-mud-volcano Complex of Baratang is located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
3. The Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape is located on the banks of the Mahanadi River in Chhattisgarh.

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: Inclusion in a country's Tentative List is a prerequisite for nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List. The Karst-mud-volcano Complex of Baratang is located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, while the Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape lies on the eastern bank of the Mahanadi River in Chhattisgarh.
Source- TOI

Q6. The Rhysida quadrispinosa, Rhysida coorgensis and Rhysida neyyarensis, seen in the news recently, are:
(a) Newly discovered species of frogs
(b) Newly identified species of freshwater crabs
(c) Endemic species of medicinal plants
(d) Newly described species of centipedes

Answer: D
Explanation: Newly described species of centipedes
- Researchers in Kerala and Karnataka have discovered three new centipede species in the Western Ghats. The three species have been named – Rhysida quadrispinosa, Rhysida coorgensis and Rhysida neyyarensis.

Source: DTE

Q7. Which of the following countries are parts of the Badr Pact?
1. Pakistan
2. Malaysia
3. Turkey
4. Saudi Arab
5. Indonesia

6. Qatar

Choose the correct option given below:

a) 1, 3, 4 and 6
b) 2, 4, 5 and 6
c) 1, 3, 5 and 6
d) 1, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: C

Explanation: Pakistan, Turkey, Pakistan and Qatar

- The Badr deal signed between Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia and Qatar seeks to strengthen military capabilities and expand cooperation in defence manufacturing, training and research between the four countries.

Source: FP

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA):

1. The CCPA was established under Section 10 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, and is responsible for enforcing consumer rights, preventing unfair trade practices, and curbing false advertisements.
2. The CCPA is headed by a Chief Commissioner and is composed of two additional commissioners, one dealing with goods-related issues and the other with service-related complaints.
3. The CCPA can only initiate class-action suits in cases involving monetary disputes and cannot conduct investigations through its Investigation Wing.

How many of the above statements are correct?

a) Only One
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

Answer: B

Explanation: 1 and 2

- **Statement 1** is correct. The CCPA was indeed established under Section 10 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, to protect and enforce consumer rights, prevent unfair trade practices, and curb misleading advertisements.
- **Statement 2** is correct: The CCPA is headed by a Chief Commissioner, and there are two other commissioners: one dealing with goods-related issues and the other with service-related complaints.
- **Statement 3** is **incorrect**. The CCPA has the authority to initiate class-action suits in various cases, including but not limited to recalls, refunds, and cancellation of licenses. Moreover, it is empowered to conduct investigations through its Investigation Wing, headed by a Director-General.

Source: DD News

Q9. The Gitchak nakana, seen in the news recently, is a:

(a) Newly discovered species of blind, groundwater-dwelling fish
(b) Newly discovered species of cave-dwelling amphibian
(c) Rare species of subterranean crab
(d) New species of freshwater eel

Answer: A

Explanation: Newly discovered species of blind, groundwater-dwelling fish

- Researchers have found two new subterranean fish species, Gitchak nakana and Rakthamichthys anchi, from wells in Assam.

Source: Mongabay

Q10. The SUVIKALP Initiative, recently seen in the news, was developed by which of the following?
(a) NITI Aayog
(b) Ministry of Coal
(c) Ministry of Mines
(d) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

Answer: B
Explanation: Coal Controller Organisation (CCO), under the Ministry of Coal

- SUVIKALP is an in-house digital tool developed by the CCO to help identify and rank suitable projects for the sustainable repurposing of closed coal mines and post-mining land. It uses technical, environmental, social and economic criteria to support data-driven decision-making.

Source: PIB

10 PM MCQs (23 October)

Q1. Consider the following industries:
1. Coal
2. Textiles
3. Fertilizers
4. Steel
5. Automobiles
6. Electricity

Which of the above are **not included** in the Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)?
(a) 2 and 5 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2, 4 and 6 only
(d) 3, 5 and 6 only

Answer: (a) 2 and 5 only
Explanation- The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) measures the performance of eight major infrastructure industries: Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity; Textiles and Automobiles are not included in the ICI.
Source- TH

Q2. With reference to the Khajuraho Group of Monuments, consider the following statements:
1. The temples were primarily built under the Chandela dynasty.
2. The temples represent the Nagara style of temple architecture.
3. The Khajuraho temples include monuments associated with both Hindu and Jain traditions.

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: (d) 1, 2 and 3
Explanation: The Khajuraho temples were built mainly between the 10th and 11th centuries under the Chandela dynasty. They are renowned examples of the Nagara style of temple architecture and include monuments dedicated to both Hindu and Jain traditions.
Source- IE

Q3. With reference to SIMBEX-2026, consider the following statements:
1. It is an annual bilateral maritime exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the Sri Lankan Navy.
2. The 2026 edition was hosted by India at Kochi, Kerala.

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) Neither 1 nor 2
Explanation: SIMBEX is an annual bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy. The 2026 edition was hosted at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, under the Eastern Naval Command.
Source- ddnews

Q4. With reference to the AgriVoltaics World Conference (AWC) 2026, consider the following statements:
1. It was hosted in India for the first time.
2. It was hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
3. The theme of the conference was Powering the Global South.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only
Explanation: The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, marking the first time the conference was hosted in India and the Global South. It was hosted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), not the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, under the theme Powering the Global South.
Source- PIB

Q5. Consider the following countries:
1. Germany
2. Hungary
3. Lithuania
4. Romania
5. Slovakia
6. Ukraine
7. Belarus
8. Russia

How many of the above countries share a land border with Poland?
(a) Only Five
(b) Only Six
(c) Only Seven
(d) All the above

Answer: (b) Only six
Explanation: Poland shares land borders with Germany, Lithuania, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia (through the Kaliningrad exclave). Hungary and Romania do not share a land border with Poland.
Source- TOI

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Andaman Subduction Volcanic system:
1. They are the only Quaternary-period subduction volcanoes in the inner volcanic arc chain of the Burma-Andaman-Java complex.
2. Barren Island is an active volcano associated with this system whereas Narcondam is an extinct volcano.

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: They are the only Quaternary-period (the last ~2.6 million years) subduction volcanoes in the inner volcanic arc chain of the Burma-Andaman-Java complex.
Statement 2 is incorrect: Barren Island is South Asia's only historically active volcano. However, Narcondam is generally described as a dormant or long-inactive volcano, rather than being definitively classified as extinct.
Source: NDTV

Q7. PHP2Shell, recently seen in the news, refers to:
(a) A ransomware attack targeting Hypertext Preprocessor-based websites
(b) A family of critical security vulnerabilities in the Hypertext Preprocessor programming language that can enable remote code execution
(c) A new open-source programming language for cloud computing
(d) A cybersecurity framework developed to protect government websites

Answer: B
Explanation: A family of critical security vulnerabilities in PHP
- PHP2Shell refers to critical vulnerabilities in the core PHP programming language.

Source: IE

Q8. The Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape, recently added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites, is located in which of the following states?
(a) Madhya Pradesh
(b) Odisha
(c) Chhattisgarh
(d) Jharkhand

Answer: C
Explanation: Chhattisgarh
- Sirpur is situated in Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh, on the eastern bank of the Mahanadi River, approximately 78 km from Raipur.

Source: IE

Q9. DZIP3, seen in the news recently, is a:
(a) Newly discovered virus responsible for respiratory infections
(b) Diagnostic technique for detecting bacterial infections
(c) Gene-editing tool used to modify viral genomes
(d) Human protein that detects viral RNA and activates immune defences

Answer: D
Explanation: Human protein that detects viral RNA and activates immune defences
- Researchers at the CSIR–Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB), Hyderabad, identified this mechanism. DZIP3 acts as an early-warning sensor by detecting viral RNA inside human cells.

Source: DD News
Q10. Consider the following statements regarding the Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI):
1. The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) coordinated the first nationwide scientific assessment, conducted between 2019 and 2023.
2. Ladakh has the highest number of snow leopard, followed by Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
3. India has more than 50% of global population of snow leopard.
How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A
Explanation: 1 only
Statement 1 is correct: The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, was the national coordinator of the first SPAI exercise, conducted from 2019 to 2023 with support from snow leopard range states and Union Territories and conservation partners.
Statement 2 is incorrect: Ladakh (477) has the highest number of snow leopard, followed by Uttarakhand (124), Himachal Pradesh (51), Arunachal Pradesh (36), Sikkim (21), and Jammu and Kashmir (nine).
Statement 3 is incorrect: India has around 10-15% of global population of snow leopard.
Source: DD News