



Goaltide
A Prelims IAS Academy

Goaltide

Daily Quiz

(consolidation)

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Part - II

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Q1. Consider the following statements with reference to the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006:

1. It defines the Community Forest resource Rights and empowers the Gram Sabhas to govern community forests.
2. It lays down the guidelines directing how to implement Community Forest Rights.
3. Critical Wildlife Habitats have been defined under the above given Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, also called the FRA Act **defines the Community Forest resource Rights**. So, **Statement (1) is correct**.

CHAPTER IV	
✓ AUTHORITIES AND PROCEDURE FOR VESTING OF FOREST RIGHTS	
Authorities to vest forest rights in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers and procedure thereof.	6. (1) ✓ The Gram Sabha shall be the authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of individual or <u>community forest rights</u> or both that may be given to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers within the local limits of its jurisdiction under this Act by receiving claims, consolidating and verifying them and preparing a map delineating the area of each recommended claim in such manner as may be prescribed for exercise of such rights and the Gram Sabha shall, then, pass a resolution to that effect and thereafter forward a copy of the same to the Sub-Divisional Level Committee.

FRA Act, 2006 and the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution empowers the Gram Sabhas to govern community forests. However, there are no guidelines to implement Community Forest Rights. So, **Statement (2) is not correct**.

Statement 3 is also correct.

Short title and commencement	1.	(1) This Act may be called the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006
		(2) It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
		(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.
Definitions	2.	In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, -
		(a) "community forest resource" means customary common forest land within the traditional or customary boundaries of the village or seasonal use of landscape in the case of pastoral communities, including reserved forests, protected forests and protected areas such as Sanctuaries and National Parks to which the community had traditional access;
		(b) "critical wildlife habitat" means such areas of National Parks and Sanctuaries where it has been specifically and clearly established, case by case, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria, that such areas are required to be kept as inviolate for the purposes of wildlife conservation as may be determined and notified by the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests after open process of consultation by an Expert Committee, which includes experts from the locality appointed by that Government wherein a representative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall also be included, in determining such areas according to the procedural requirements arising from sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 4;

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs recently commissioned a study about Community Forest resource Rights. According to the study, broad guidelines are needed to implement Community Forest Rights. The State Governments should create guidelines according to the locals and their traditions. It should also focus on capacity building of Gram Sabha members. Micro-plans should be prepared so that the Gram Sabhas shall facilitate sustainable forest management.

Link: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/forests/community-forest-resources-sustainable-use-state-norms-must-70078>

Q2. Commodity Markets Outlook Report is published by:

- a. World Bank
- b. International Monetary Fund
- c. SEBI
- d. UNCTAD

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Commodity Markets Outlook is published by the World Bank in April and October.

According to the **World Bank's April 2020 Commodity Markets Outlook**, Covid-19 is expected to bring most commodity prices down substantially in 2020. It provides market analysis for major commodity groups - energy, metals, agriculture, precious metals, and fertilizers. The report forecasts prices for 46 key commodities, including oil.

Q3. Kumbhabhishegam, the enormously significant event was held after 23 years in this temple recently after the Madras High Court had settled an old argument over the ritual purification process. The temple is:

- a. Sri Brahadeeswarar Temple
- b. The Airavatesvara temple
- c. The Temple of Gangaikonda Cholapuram
- d. Vijayala-Cholesvaram Temple

Solution: a

Explanation:

Kumbhabhishegam row: How the old Aryan-Dravidian tussle played out in an iconic Tamil Nadu temple

Kumbhabhishegam at Sri Brihadeeswarar Temple in Thanjavur: This enormously significant event was held after 23 years — and after the Madras High Court had settled an old argument over the ritual purification process only five days previously.



Written by **Arun Janardhanan** | Chennai | Updated: February 6, 2020 10:48:45 am

MORE EXPLAINED



What is NASA's Gateway lunar orbiting

According to Brahmanical tradition, every temple must be consecrated every 12 years, including repairs and renovation. But, this enormously significant event of consecration was held in **Brahadeeswarar temple after 23 years only after the Madras High Court settled an old argument over the ritual purification process.** The court, in a dispute over which language should be used in the slokas at the kumbhabhishegam, agreed with the State Government's affidavit that the ceremony should be in **both Sanskrit and Tamil.**

The temple, one of the world's largest and grandest, was built between 1003 AD and 1010 AD **by the great Chola emperor Raja Raja I** (c. 985-1014 AD).

Link: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/how-the-old-aryan-dravidian-tussle-played-out-in-an-iconic-tn-temple-6253168/>

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to the Forest Conservation Act, 1980:

1. It put restriction on state government for de-reservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose.

2. Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), the central body to give clearances for diverting forest land was formed under this Act.
3. FAC is chaired by Union Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 an Act of the Parliament of India to provide for the conservation of forests and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto. This law extends to the whole of India. It was enacted by the Parliament of India to control further deforestation of Forest Areas in India and to regulate diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes.

Section 2 of the Act is about the restriction on the State Government for de-reservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose. As per the Act, prior permission/approval of the Central Government is essential for De-reservation/ Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**

2. Restriction on the de-reservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose: Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing-

- (i) that any reserved forest (within the meaning of the expression "reserved forest" in any law for the time being in force in that State) or any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved;
- (ii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purposes;

2. Definitions - In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires: -

- (a) "Act" means the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (69 of 1980);
- (b) "Committee" means the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under section 3 of the Act;

3. Composition of the Committee

(1) The Committee shall be composed of the following members: -

(i) Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests -	Chairperson
(ii) Additional Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests-	Member
(iii) Additional Commissioner (Soil Conservation), Ministry of Agriculture-	Member
(iv) Three non-official members who shall be experts one each in Mining, Civil Engineering, and Development Economics -	Members
(v) Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment and Forests -	Member Secretary

Q5. The Industrial Relations Code Bill 2019 seeks to replace which of the following labour laws?

1. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
2. The Trade Unions Act, 1926
3. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
4. The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Very simple one, if you have read carefully, or else definitely you will stuck here.

The Industrial Relations Code, 2019 was introduced in the Lok Sabha. It seeks to replace three labour laws:

- The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
- The Trade Unions Act, 1926
- The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

Recently, the Parliamentary Committee on Labour submitted its report on the Industrial Relations Code, 2019. **Therefore, the correct answer is (a).**

Q6. Ice Stupas are a characteristic feature of which of the following Indian States/UTs?

- a. Himachal Pradesh
- b. Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
- c. Union Territory of Ladakh
- d. Arunachal Pradesh

Solution: c

Explanation:

News is of March 2019, but stupas word attached to it make it important. A small learning.

Special Stamp on Ice Stupa released

19-03-2019 | 1:33 pm [Share Now](#)  

Ice Stupas are artificially created glaciers which freeze and hold the water that keeps flowing and wasting away down the streams and into the rivers throughout the winter. India Post released a special stamp cover on Ice Stupa in Leh at an event in the presence of Himalayan Institute of Alternatives Ladakh founder Sonam Wangchuk who spearheaded the Ice Stupa initiative. **Therefore, the correct answer is (c).**

Q7. Which of the following Bills require the prior recommendation of the President of India for its introduction in the Parliament?

- 1. Bill imposing surcharge on taxes
- 2. Bill for establishing a Central University
- 3. Bill concluding the passing of the Budget

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Following Bills can be introduced in the Parliament only with prior recommendation of the President: -

- Money Bills. The Finance Bill concludes the passing of the Budget. It is subjected to all the conditions applicable to a Money Bill. So, **Bill 3 requires the prior recommendation of the President.**
- Bills affecting taxation in which States are interested

- Bill for the alteration of boundaries of States or creation of a new State.
- A Bill which varies the meaning of the expression 'agricultural income' as defined for the enactments relating to Indian Income-tax; So, Bill 1 requires the prior recommendation of the President.
- A Bill which **imposes any surcharge on any specified tax** or duty for the Centre. So, **Bill 1 requires the prior recommendation of the President.**
- A Bill for establishing a Central University is an Ordinary Bill which doesn't require the prior recommendation of the President. **So, Bill 3 does not require the previous recommendation of the President.**

Q8. Razmnama was the Persian version of which of the following Indian book?

- Ramayana
- Buddhacharita
- Mahabharata
- Bhagavad Gita

Solution: c

Explanation:

Translations of Sanskrit texts such as the Mahabharata and the Ramayana into Persian were commissioned by the Mughal emperors. The Mahabharata was translated as the Razmnama (Book of Wars). **Therefore, the correct answer is (c).**

Q9. Consider the following statements.

1. The status Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioners in terms of salaries and allowances etc. is equivalent to President.
2. The conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners is provided by RPA Act, 1951.

Select the correct code.

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Select the correct code.

Solution: d

Explanation:

²[THE ELECTION COMMISSION (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS AND TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS)] ACT, 1991

ACT No. 11 OF 1991

[25th January, 1991.]

An Act to determine the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners ¹[and to provide for the procedure for transaction of business by the Election Commission and for matters] connected therewith or incidental thereto.

CHAPTER II

SALARY AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

3. Salary.—⁵***There shall be paid to the Chief Election Commissioner ⁶[and other Election Commissioners] a salary which is equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court:

⁷* * * *

Link: http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1991-11_0.pdf

Q10. Consider the following provisions.

1. One State in India is not bound to accord faith and credit to the legislations of another state.
2. Legislature of the State may make laws for the whole or a part of the State.

Which of the above provisions is/are mentioned in the Indian Constitution?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

We will refer to two articles here:

Central Government Act

Article 261 in The Constitution Of India 1949

261. Public acts, records and judicial proceedings Full faith and credit shall be given throughout the territory of India to public acts, records and judicial proceedings of the Union and of every State

Therefore, first statement is incorrect. They are bound to recognize.

Central Government Act

Article 245 in The Constitution Of India 1949

245. Extent of laws made by Parliament and by the Legislatures of States

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Parliament may make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India, and the Legislature of a State may make laws for the whole or any part of the State

Therefore, **statement 2 is correct.**

Q11. The nationalization of coal mines took under the priministership of:

- a. Jawahar Lal Nehru
- b. Indira Gandhi
- c. Sanjay Gandhi
- d. P. V Narsimha Rao

Solution: b

Explanation:

Once we go through history, we will never forget this. Prime Minister is not difficult if you know date of nationalization. Ok read now.

NATIONALISATION OF COAL MINES

Right from its genesis, the commercial coal mining in modern times in India has been dictated by the needs of the domestic consumption. On account of the growing needs of the steel industry, a thrust had to be given on systematic exploitation of coking coal reserves in Jharia Coalfield. Adequate capital investment to meet the burgeoning energy needs of the country was not forthcoming from the private coal mine owners. Unscientific mining practices adopted by some of them and poor working conditions of labour in some of the private coal mines became matters of concern for the Government. On account of these reasons, the Central Government took a decision to nationalise the private coal mines. The nationalisation was done in two phases, the first with the coking coal mines in 1971-72 and then with the non-coking coal mines in 1973. In October, 1971, the Coking Coal Mines (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1971 provided for taking over in public interest of the management of coking coal mines and coke oven plants pending nationalisation. This was followed by the Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 under which the coking coal mines and the coke oven plants other than those with the Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited and Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited, were nationalised on 1.5.1972 and brought under the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), a new Central Government Undertaking. Another enactment, namely the Coal Mines (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1973, extended the right of the Government of India to take over the management of the coking and non-coking coal mines in seven States including the coking coal mines taken over in 1971. This was followed by the nationalisation of all these mines on 1.5.1973 with the enactment of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 which now is the piece of Central legislation determining the eligibility of coal mining in India.

Q12. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The oath of the Speaker of Lok Sabha is provided in the Third Schedule to the Constitution.
- 2. The oath of the President of India is provided in the third Schedule to the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c

Explanation:

Not Correct, so be careful.

The Lok Sabha Speaker is one of the Members of the Parliament. He/she takes the oath along with the other Members in the presence of the pro-tem Speaker. No separate oath of affirmation is administered to him. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**

Oath of President is not in third schedule.

~~60~~ **Oath or affirmation by the President.**—Every President and every person acting as President or discharging the functions of the President shall, before entering upon his office, make and subscribe in the presence of the Chief Justice of India or, in his absence, the senior-most Judge of the Supreme Court available, an oath or affirmation in the following form, that is to say—

“I, A.B., do swear in the name of God that I will faithfully execute the office
solemnly affirm

of President (or discharge the functions of the President) of India and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of India.”.

Link: <https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/S3.pdf>

Q13. In the context of the powers of Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. Rules with respect to disqualification of Members elected to both the Houses of State Legislature is made by the Parliament.
2. The Law for the constitution of the High Court for any State is made by the President of India.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

A person cannot be a member of both the Houses of the State Legislature at the same time. If a person is elected to both the Houses, his seat in one of the Houses falls vacant **as per the provisions of a law made by the State Legislature. So, statement 1 is not correct.**

The Constitution of India provides for a High Court for each State, but **the Seventh Amendment Act of 1956** authorized the Parliament to establish a common High Court for two

or more States or for two or more States and a Union territory. Laws for the constitution of the High Court for any State are made by the Parliament. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**

³[230. Extension of jurisdiction of High Courts to Union territories.—(1) Parliament may by law extend the jurisdiction of a High Court to, or exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from, any Union territory.

(2) Where the High Court of a State exercises jurisdiction in relation to a Union territory,—

(a) nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as empowering the Legislature of the State to increase, restrict or abolish that jurisdiction; and

(b) the reference in article 227 to the Governor shall, in relation to any rules, forms or tables for subordinate courts in that territory, be construed as a reference to the President.

Q14. Consider the following Pairs.

Art forms	Belongs to
1. Talamaddale	Odisha
2. Thang-Ta	Manipur
3. Krishnattam	Kerala

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 2 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

[KARNATAKA](#)

Amid pandemic, traditional art of 'talamaddale' goes digital



Raviprasad Kamila

MANGALURU, JUNE 15, 2020 22:54 IST

UPDATED: JUNE 16, 2020 11:57 IST

Art forms	Belongs to
Talamaddale	Karnataka
Thang-Ta	Manipur
Krishnattam	Kerala

Q15. Which of the following agencies has recently launched the ICON Mission to study Earth's Ionosphere?

- a. Roscosmos
- b. National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- c. European Space Agency
- d. Indian Space Research Organisation

Solution: b

Explanation:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched a satellite Ionosphere Connection Explorer (ICON) to detect dynamic zones of Earth's Ionosphere. The ICON satellite will study the Earth's Ionosphere. It includes various layers of the uppermost atmosphere where free electrons flow freely. It affects Earth's magnetic field and radio communications.

Link: <https://blogs.nasa.gov/icon/2019/10/10/icon-begins-study-of-earths-ionosphere/>

Q16. Himalayan Yew, sometimes seen in news is helpful in:

- a. Providing nutrients to the soil
- b. An anti -cancer drug
- c. Source of pulp in paper industry
- d. Textile fibre

Solution: b

Explanation:

Remember it as medicinal plant.

A Taxol -a potent drug used to treat ovarian and breast cancers -- from the leaves of the Himalayan yew.

Q17. Satellites used for telecommunication relay are kept in a geostationary orbit. A satellite is said to be in such an orbit when:

- 1. The orbit is geosynchronous.
- 2. The orbit is circular
- 3. The orbit lies in the plane of the Earth's equator.
- 4. The orbit is at an altitude of 22,236 km.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

A satellite is in a geostationary orbit when it appears stationary when viewed from Earth. This can only occur when:

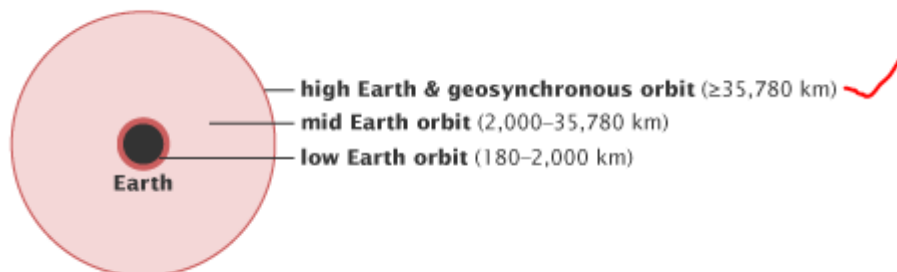
- a. **The orbit is geosynchronous**. A geosynchronous orbit has an orbital period matching the rotation rate of the Earth. This is a sidereal day, which is 23h 56m 4s in length, and represents the time taken for the Earth to rotate once about its polar axis relative to a distant fixed point. This is about four minutes shorter than the civil day length, which is relative to the Sun.

A geostationary orbit is a special case of a geosynchronous orbit. The distance of a satellite in geosynchronous orbit is calculated from Kepler's third law, which states that the average orbit radius cubed, divided by the orbital period squared, is constant.

- b. **The orbit is a circle.** If the orbit is not a circle, the satellite does not move at constant velocity, it appears to oscillate east-and-west at a rate of two cycles per sidereal day.
- c. **The orbit lies in the plane of the Earth's equator.** If the orbit does not lie in the equatorial plane, the satellite does not remain at a fixed point in the sky, it appears to oscillate north-and-south at a rate of one cycle per sidereal day.

A geosynchronous orbit is a high Earth orbit that allows satellites to match Earth's rotation.

Located at 35,786 kilometers above Earth's equator, this position is a valuable spot for monitoring weather, communications and surveillance.



Q18. Consider the following statements.

1. Right to form Co-operative society is a fundamental Right.
2. Lord Curzon Passed Co-operative Society Act in British India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2011 gave constitutional status and protection to co-operative societies.

In this context, it made three changes in the constitution:

- a. It made **Right to form co-operatives a Fundamental Right** (article 19)
- b. It introduced a **new DPSP on promotion of co-operatives (Article 43-B)**
- c. It added a new part **IX-B in the Constitution which is entitled "The Co-operatives Societies" (Article 243ZH TO 243ZT)**.

Taking cognizance of developments and to **provide a legal basis for cooperative societies**, Government of India under leadership of **Lord Curzon** appointed Sir Edward Law Committee with Mr. Nicholson as one of the members in 1901 to examine and recommend a course of action. **The Cooperative Societies Bill, based on the recommendations of this Committee, was enacted on 25th March 1904.**

Even before formal cooperative structures came into being through the passing of first cooperative law in 1904, the practice of the concept of cooperation and cooperative activities were prevalent in several parts of India. Village communities collectively creating permanent assets like village tanks or village forests called *Devarai* or *Vararai* was fairly common. Similarly, instances of pooling of resources by groups, like food grains after harvest to lend to needy members of the group before the next harvest, or collecting small contributions in cash at regular intervals to lend to members of the group viz., '*Chit Funds*', in the erstwhile Madras Presidency, '*Kuries*' in Kerala, '*Bhishie*;' in Maharashtra, '*Vishi*' in Gujarat & Rajasthan are the examples of informal cooperatives prevailing in the local regions. The '*Phads*' of Kolhapur where farmers impounded water by putting up bunds and agreed to ensure equitable distribution of water, as well as harvesting and transporting of produce of members to the market, and the '*Lana*' which were yearly partnerships of peasants to cultivate jointly, and distribute the harvested produce in proportion to the labour and bullock power contributed by their partners, were similar instances of cooperation without any state legislation support.

Taking cognizance of these developments and to provide a legal basis for cooperative societies, Government of India under leadership of Lord Curzon appointed Sir Edward Law Committee with Mr. Nicholson as one of the members in 1901 to examine and recommend a course of action. The Cooperative Societies Bill, based on the recommendations of this Committee, was enacted on 25th March, 1904. As its name suggests, the Cooperative Credit Societies Act was

Q19. Consider the following statements about **Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) in India**

1. Environmental clearance is compulsory for mining of minor minerals in areas less than or equal to five hectares.
2. The amendments to EIA exempt environmental clearance process the biomass based-power plants up to 15 MW.
3. The Environment Impact Assessment in India is statutorily backed by the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanations:

Now, at this stage if you don't know how to correctly solve this question, then please solve our previous quizzes. You should only need to know that it is backed by Environment Protection Act, 1986, **NOT Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.**

Explanations to first two statements also provided below, just read once for information.

The amendments to EIA Notification of 1st December 2009 **exempts environmental clearance process the biomass- based power plants up to 15 MW, power plants based on non- hazardous municipal solid waste and power plants based on waste heat recovery boilers without using auxiliary fuel.**

Note:

- (i) Power plants up to 15 MW, based on biomass and using auxiliary fuel such as coal / lignite / petroleum products up to 15% are exempt.
- (ii) Power plants up to 15 MW, based on non-hazardous municipal waste and using auxiliary fuel such as coal / lignite / petroleum products up to 15% are exempt.
- (iii) Power plants using waste heat boiler without any auxiliary fuel are exempt.”;

2016 Amendment to Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, [2006 also brought small-scale mining projects under its ambit.](#) **The amendment will make environmental clearance (EC) compulsory for mining of minor minerals in areas less than or equal to five hectares. Till the 2009 amendment, all mining projects with lease area between 5 and 50 ha were covered.**

- (c) in paragraph 4, after sub-paragraph (iii), the following sub-paragraph shall be inserted, namely:-
“(iv) The ‘B2’ Category projects pertaining to mining of minor mineral of lease area less than or equal to five hectare shall require prior environmental clearance from DEIAA. The DEIAA shall base its decision on the recommendations of DEAC, as constituted for this notification.” ;

Q20. Consider the following statements.

1. The Parliament has the power to formulate rules for the convenient transactions of business of the government of India.
2. Allocation and Transactions of Business rule 1961 is administered by Speaker and Chairman of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha respectively.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

According to article 77(3), the **President** has the power to formulate rules for the convenient transactions of business of the government of India. **Therefore, statement 1 is correct.**

Central Government Act

Article 77(3) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(3) The President shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business

Accordingly, the president has formulated government of India (Allocation of Business) rule 1961 and GOI (Transactions of Business) Rule 1961 as amended from time to time.

The Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 and the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, facilitating smooth transaction of business in Ministries/Departments of the Government by ensuring adherence to these rules. **Therefore, statement 2 is incorrect.**

Q21. Consider the following pairs.

Temples	Situated On the banks of
1. Srirangam Ranganathaswamy Temple	Kaveri River
2. Kashi Vishwanath Temple	Yamuna River
3. Omkareshwar Temple	Narmada

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 and 3 only

- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1 and 2 only

Solution: a

Explanation:

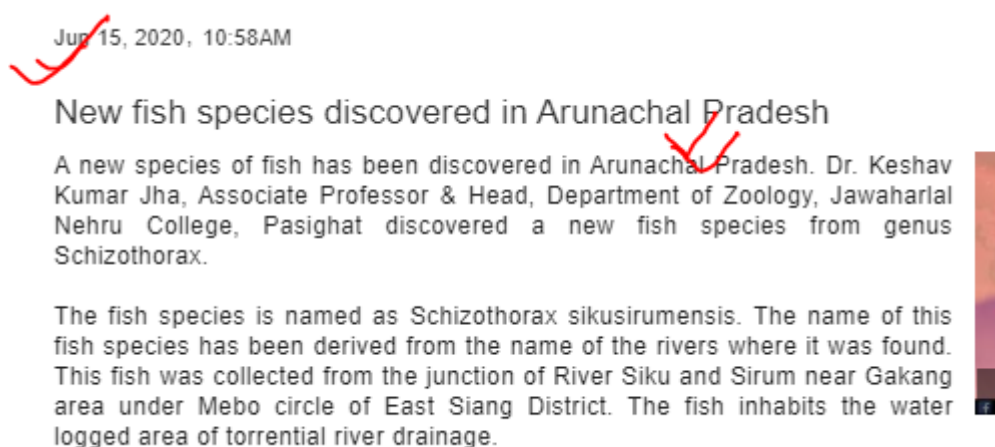
Temples	Situated On the banks of
1. Srirangam Ranganathaswamy Temple	Kaveri River
2. Kashi Vishwanath Temple	GANGA River
3. Omkareshwar Temple	Narmada

Q22. The new fish species, *Schizothorax sikusirumensis* was recently discovered in:

- a. Kerala
- b. Arunachal Pradesh
- c. Tamil Nadu
- d. Odisha

Solution: b

Explanation:



Link: <http://newsonair.com/News?title=New-fish-species-discovered-in-Arunachal-Pradesh&id=391345>

Q23. Which of the following groups is most likely to benefit from an appreciation of the Rupee?

- 1. Importers in India
- 2. Exporters in India
- 3. Borrowers through ECB
- 4. Exporters to India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Currency appreciation is an **increase in the value of one currency** in relation to another currency.

Currencies appreciate against each other for a variety of reasons, including the government policy, interest rates, trade balances and business cycles. A Rupee appreciation takes place when its value increases in relation to other currency, say US Dollar. **For instance, there would be an appreciation in the Rupee if the dollar/rupee exchange rate moves from ₹70/\$ to ₹65/\$.**

Importers in India would be benefitted as they would have to pay less in Rupee terms for the same amount of (say dollar) imports in case of Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 1 is correct.**

Exporters in India would stand to lose as they would receive less in Rupee terms for the same amount of (say dollar) exports in case of Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**

In the case of Rupee appreciation, entities in India borrowing under the ECB route would have their borrowing costs reduced as they would have to pay less in Rupee terms. They would benefit from the Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

Exporters to India would gain in case of the Rupee appreciation. For instance, a person exporting Rs. 10,000 worth of goods to India from, say, the US will receive more in terms of the US dollar if the Rupee appreciates from Rs. 70/\$ to Rs. 65/\$. **So, statement 4 is correct.**

Q24. Emperor Harsha was the contemporary of which of the following kings?

- 1. Pulkeshin II
- 2. Rajaraja Chola
- 3. Amoghavarsha

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

Pulakeshin II was the most famous ruler of the Chalukya dynasty of Vatapi. During his reign, the Chalukya kingdom expanded to cover most of the Deccan region in peninsular India. He defeated Harsha on the banks of Narmada and thwarted his southward march.

Rajaraja Chola I was a renowned king who ruled over the Chola kingdom of southern India between 985 and 1014 CE. During his reign, the Cholas expanded beyond South India with their domains stretching from Sri Lanka in the south to Kalinga in the north. Raja Raja Chola also launched several naval campaigns that resulted in the capture of the Malabar Coast as well as the Maldives and Sri Lanka. Raja Raja built the Brihadeeswarar Temple in Thanjavur, one of the largest Hindu temples. **He was not a contemporary of Harsha.**

Amoghavarsha I was a Rashtrakuta emperor, the greatest ruler of the Rashtrakuta dynasty, and one of the great emperors of India. His reign of 64 years is one of the longest precisely dated monarchical reigns on record. He reigned in the 9th century Deccan and **was not a contemporary of Harsha.**

Q25. With reference to the Election Commission, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications of its members.
2. The Constitution has not specified the term of its members.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Election Commission is a permanent and an independent body established by the Constitution of India directly to ensure free and fair elections in the country. Article 324 of the Constitution provides that the power of superintendence, direction and control of elections to the Parliament, State legislatures, the office of President of India and the office of Vice-President of India shall be vested in the Election Commission.

Though the Constitution has sought to safeguard and ensure the independence and impartiality of the Election Commission, some flaws can be noted, viz.,

1. The Constitution **has not prescribed the qualifications** (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
2. The Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission. So, statement 2 is correct. But sir, we have studied, his term is 6 years. Yes, its term is 6 years but it's not in Constitution. **Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business)] Act, 1991 provides that.**

4 Term of office.—The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner shall hold office for a term of six years from the date on which he assumes his office:

¹[Provided that where the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner attains the age of sixty-five years before the expiry of the said term of six years, he shall vacate his office on the date on which he attains the said age:]

Provided further that the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner may, at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.

Q26. Which of the following is not a part of the Tripitakas?

- a. Therigatha
- b. Dhammapada
- c. Suttavibhaga
- d. Acharanga Sutra

Solution: d

Explanation:

From where we should prepare such questions. Don't prepare from anywhere. Just skip if you don't know.

Tripitaka is the Buddhist canon written in Pali. It contains three parts - Vinaya Pitaka, Sutta Pitaka and Abhidhamma Pitaka. It contains various books.

Therigatha, a part of Sutta Pitaka, consists of 73 poems — in which the early nuns (bhikkhunis) recount their struggles and accomplishments along the road to arahantship.

Dhammapada is a collection of sayings of the Buddha in verse form. It is also a part of Sutta Pitaka.

Suttavibhaga is the book in Vinaya Pitaka and contains rules for the behaviour of monks. They are called as Patimokkha rules. It is divided into two parts, covering the rules for monks and nuns, respectively.

Acharanga Sutra is the first of the twelve Angas, part of the agamas (religious texts) which were compiled based on the teachings of **Mahavira**. **Thus, it belongs to Jainism.**

Therefore, the correct answer is (d).

Q27. Consider the following statements with reference to a **Fugitive Economic Offender**:

1. A fugitive economic offender is an individual who has committed some specified offence(s) involving an amount of one hundred crore rupees or more.
2. S/he is a person declared so by a 'Special Court' set up under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

A fugitive economic offender is an individual who has committed some specified offence(s) involving an amount of **one hundred crore rupees or more** and has fled from India or refused to come back to India to avoid or face criminal prosecution in India. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**

A Fugitive Economic Offender is a person declared so by a '**Special Court**' set up under the **Prevention of Money-laundering Act (PMLA), 2002**, against whom an arrest warrant has been issued in respect of any of the economic offences provided in the schedule to Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018 and who has left India to avoid criminal prosecution or being abroad, refuses to return to India to face criminal prosecution. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

Highlights of the Bill and Ordinance

- The Bill allows for a person to be declared as a fugitive economic offender (FEO) if: (i) an arrest warrant has been issued against him for any specified offences where the value involved is over Rs 100 crore, and (ii) he has left the country and refuses to return to face prosecution.
- To declare a person an FEO, an application will be filed in a Special Court (designated under the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002) containing details of the properties to be confiscated, and any

Q28. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were sentenced to death in which of the following trials?

- a. The Kanpur Conspiracy Case
- b. The Meerut Conspiracy Case
- c. The Lahore Conspiracy Case
- d. The Alipore Bomb Case

Solution: c

Explanation:

Just when the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) revolutionaries had begun to move away from individual heroic action, the death of Sher-i-Punjab, Lala Lajpat Rai, due to lathi blows received during a lathi-charge on an anti-Simon Commission procession (October 1928) led them once again to take to individual assassination.

Bhagat Singh, Azad and Rajguru shot dead Saunders, the police official responsible for the lathi charge in Lahore. **Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were tried in the Lahore Conspiracy Case.**

Q29. Consider the following statements.

1. The Indian Constitution has prescribed the maximum age to be eligible to become judge of both Supreme Court and High Court.
2. The ground for the removal of a Supreme Court Judge, in the Indian Constitution, is 'incapacity' and 'proved misbehavior' only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

For SC judge:

Article 124 (2): Every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with such of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the States as the President may deem necessary for the purpose and shall hold office until he attains the age of **sixty-five years**.

Central Government Act

Article 124(2) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(2) Every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with such of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the States as the President may deem necessary for the purpose and shall hold office until he attains the age of sixty five years: Provided that in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the chief Justice, the chief Justice of India shall always be consulted:

(a) a Judge may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;

(b) a Judge may be removed from his office in the manner provided in clause (4)

For High Court:

Through a constitutional amendment. Section 4 of the Constitution (*Fifteenth Amendment*) Act, 1963, **amended the retirement age of a high court judge from the earlier 60 years to 62 years.**

As of now, Article 217 of the Constitution reads as:

Every Judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, and in any other case, until he attains the age of **sixty-two years**.

✓ 217. Appointment and conditions of the office of a Judge of a High Court

(1) Every Judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, the Governor of the State, and, in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the chief Justice, the chief Justice of the High court, and shall hold office, in the case of an additional or acting Judge, as provided in Article 224, and in any other case, until he attains the age of **sixty two years** Provided that

Article 124 (4) states that: A Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal **on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity**.

✓ (4) A Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and

Ins. by the Constitution (Fifteenth Amendment) Act, 1963, s. 2.

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(Part V.—The Union.—Arts. 124—126.)

voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

Q30. Consider the following.

1. Bab-el-Mandeb
2. Gulf of Aqaba
3. Riyadh

Arrange the above from **North to South**.

- a. 2-3-1
- b. 1-2-3
- c. 2-1-3
- d. 1-3-2

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q31. In 18th century of Ancient India, **Moamoria Rebellion** led to the fall of which of the following state:

- Gandhara Kingdom of Taxila
- Anga Kingdom of Patliputra
- Vriji Kingdom of Vaishali
- Ahom Kingdom of Assam

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Revolt of the Moamarias in 1769 was a potent challenge to the authority of Ahom kings of Assam. The Moamarias were low-caste peasants who followed the teachings of Aniruddhadeva (1553-1624). It began as a power struggle between the Moamarias, the adherents of the Moamara Sattrā, and the Ahom kings. This uprising spread widely to other sections of Ahom kingdom including disgruntled elements of the Ahom aristocracy. Their revolts weakened the Ahoms and opened the doors for others to attack the region, for instance, in 1792, the King of Darrang (Krishnanarayan), assisted by his band of burkandazes (the demobilised soldiers of the Muslim armies and zamindars) revolted. To crush these revolts, the Ahom ruler had to request for British help.

Q32. The terms "Vatteluttu, Bhattiprolu, Sharada" in ancient India are related to which of the following?

- a. Languages
- b. Inscriptions
- c. Scripts
- d. Land grants

Solution: c

Explanation:

Vatteluttu was the syllabic alphabet of South India used for writing Tamil and Malayalam languages. The earliest forms of Vatteluttu, probably in the process of evolving from Tamil Brahmi, are traceable on memorial stone inscriptions of the 4th-century AD.

Bhattiprolu script is a variant of the Brahmi script which has been found in old inscriptions at Bhattiprolu, a small village in Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh.

Sharada script was widespread between the 8th and 12th centuries in the northwestern parts of India, for writing Sanskrit and Kashmiri. It belonged to Brahmic family of scripts. **Therefore, the correct option is (c)**

Q33. Consider the following statements.

1. Question hour is the first hour of a sitting of Lok Sabha.
2. The Members can ask questions only from Ministers of the government during a Question Hour.

SELECT THE CORRECT CODE.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

✓ Generally, the first hour of a sitting of Lok Sabha is devoted to the Questions and this hour is called the Question Hour. It has a special significance in the proceedings of the Parliament. Asking of questions is an inherent and unfettered parliamentary right of members. It is during the Question Hour that the members can ask questions on every aspect of administration and Governmental activity. Government policies in national as well as international spheres come into sharp focus as the members try to elicit pertinent information during the Question Hour.

During this time, the Members ask questions and the Ministers usually give answers. In addition to the Ministers, **the questions can also be asked to the private Members**. Thus, a question may be addressed to a private Member if the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that

member is responsible. **The procedure in regard to such a question is the same as that followed in the case of questions addressed to a Minister.**

Type of Questions

Members have a right to ask questions to elicit information on matters of public importance within the special cognizance of the Ministers concerned. The questions are of four types:—

- ✓ (i) **Starred Questions**- A Starred Question is one to which a member desires an oral answer from the Minister in the House and is required to be distinguished by him/her with an asterisk. Answer to such a question may be followed by supplementary questions by members.
- ✓ (ii) **Unstarred Questions**- An Unstarred Question is one to which written answer is desired by the member and is deemed to be laid on the Table of the House by Minister. Thus it is not called for oral answer in the House and no supplementary question can be asked thereon.
- ✓ (iii) **Short Notice Questions**- A member may give a notice of question on a matter of public importance and of urgent character for oral answer at a notice less than 10 days prescribed as the minimum period of notice for asking a question in ordinary course. Such a question is known as 'Short Notice Question'.
- ✓ (iv) **Questions to Private Members**- A Question may also be addressed to a Private Member (Under Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha), provided that the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, Resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that Member is responsible. The procedure in regard to such questions is same as that followed in the case of questions addressed to a Minister with such variations as the Speaker may consider necessary.

Q34. Which of the following are the characteristic features of a desert biome?

- a. High diurnal range of temperature
- b. Violent thunderstorms
- c. Waxy, leathery, hairy or needle-shaped foliage
- d. Humus deficient soils

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution:

The desert biome is an ecosystem that forms due to the low level of rainfall it receives each year. Intense insolation by day in a region of dry air and no clouds causes the temperature to rise with the sun. But as soon as the Sun sets, the land loses heat very quickly by radiation and the mercury levels drop. **High diurnal temperature range** is a typical feature of hot deserts. Average diurnal range varies from 14 to 25° Celsius. **So, statement 1 is correct.**

Deserts, whether hot or mid-latitude, have annual precipitation of less than 25 cm. Rain normally occurs as **violent thunderstorms of the convective type**. It 'bursts' suddenly and pours continuously for a few hours over small areas. **So, statement 2 is correct.**



Summer is the time of storms in the deserts of much of the Southwest, just as it is the time of intense heat. Except for its mountainous areas, the Southwest receives most of its meager precipitation in this way. The weather systems that form the **thunder**storms of summer are thus vital to the cycle of desert life, and were they ever to fail, so, too, would most

of what lives in these dry regions.

There are two essential elements to the weather system that produces these storms. The first is the uneven heating of the desert surface by the sun, which creates variable updrafts that can rise high into the sky. And the second is a summer wind pattern that regularly carries moist air from the Gulf of Mexico into the Southwest – the technically accurate, but rather misleading name given to this element is the "Southwest Monsoon."

Most desert shrubs have long roots and are well spaced out to gather moisture, and search for groundwater. Plants have few or no leaves and the foliage is either, **waxy, leathery, hairy or needle shaped** to reduce the loss of water through transpiration. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

Intense evaporation increases the salinity of the soil so that the dissolved salts tend to accumulate on the surface, forming hardpans. Absence of moisture retards the rate of decomposition and desert soils are very **deficient in humus**. **So, statement 4 is correct. See hardpan image below.**



Q35. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of membership to the Lok Sabha.
2. The territorial representation ensures due representation to minorities in the membership to Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Though the Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of Rajya Sabha, **it has not preferred the same system in the case of Lok Sabha**. Instead, it has adopted the system of **territorial representation** for the election of members to the Lok Sabha. **So, statement 1 is not correct**. Under territorial representation, every member of the legislature represents a geographical area known as a constituency. From each constituency, only one representative is elected. Hence such a constituency is known as a single-member constituency.

In this system, a candidate **who secures the majority of votes is declared elected**. This simple majority system of representation does not represent the whole electorate. In other words, **it does not secure due representation to minorities** (small groups). **So, statement 2 is not correct**.

Q36. Which of the following are the necessary conditions for the formation of a delta?

1. Suitable place in the form of a shallow sea
2. The long course of a river
3. Strong ocean current running at a right angle to the river

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

The following are the necessary conditions for the formation of river deltas:

1. The river must have a large load. This will be possible if there is active erosion in the upper and middle stages. Such possibilities increase with a longer course of a river. **So, statement 2 is correct.**
2. There should not be extensive deposition in the middle stage e.g. presence of a lake in between or high evaporation rate (first).
3. The river's load must be deposited faster than the action of currents and tides can remove it. 4. Presence of shallow adjoining sea or continental shelf. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
4. The velocity of a river must be sufficiently low to allow most of its load to be deposited in the river's mouth.
5. The tidal currents running at a right angle to the mouth cannot be too strong, as sediment would wash out into the water body faster than the river deposits it. **So, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q37. Consider the following.

1. The Contempt of Court has been defined in the Constitution.
2. High Court has been given power by the Constitution to punish contempt of subordinate courts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The expression '**contempt of court**' **has not been defined by the Constitution**. *Only three articles are mentioned in the Constitution regarding Contempt of Court. See below:*

Central Government Act

Article 129 in The Constitution Of India 1949

129. Supreme Court to be a court of record The Supreme Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself

Central Government Act

Article 142(2) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(2) Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the Supreme Court shall, as respects the whole of the territory of India, have all and every power to make any order for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person, the discovery or production of any documents, or the investigation or punishment of any contempt of itself

Central Government Act

Article 215 in The Constitution Of India 1949

215. High Courts to be courts of record Every High Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself

It has been defined under Contempt of Courts Act 1971.

2. Definitions.—In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) “contempt of court” means civil contempt or criminal contempt;
- (b) “civil contempt” means wilful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other process of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court;
- (c) “criminal contempt” means the publication (whether by words, spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any other act whatsoever which—
 - (i) scandalises or tends to scandalise, or lowers or tends to lower the authority of, any court; or
 - (ii) prejudices, or interferes or tends to interfere with, the due course of any judicial proceeding; or
 - (iii) interferes or tends to interfere with, or obstructs or tends to obstruct, the administration of justice in any other manner;

The

Constitution has not given power to High Court to punish contempt of subordinate courts. It has been mentioned in the Act:

10. Power of High Court to punish contempts of subordinate courts.—Every High Court shall have and exercise the same jurisdiction, powers and authority, in accordance with the same procedure and practice, in respect of contempts of courts subordinate to it as it has and exercises in respect of contempts of itself:

Q38. Consider the followings.

1. The increasing rate of interest on borrowings for commercial banks.
2. Central Bank selling government Securities under Open Market Operations.
3. Increasing indirect tax.

Which of the following steps can be taken to check inflation in economy?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 2 and 3 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

Increasing rate of interest on borrowing for commercial banks **will decrease the lending capacity of banks**. Hence, will help in controlling inflation.

Open Market Operations refer to sale and purchase of government securities and bonds by the central bank. To control inflation, central bank sells the government securities to the public through banks. **This results in transfer of a part of bank deposit to central bank account and reduces credit creation capacity of commercial banks.**

Increase in indirect tax will increase the prices of goods and services and therefore, will increase inflation. **Third option is incorrect.**

Q39. Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution has given power to Parliament to appoint commission to investigate the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes.
2. One Hundred and twenty- three Constitution Amendment (123rd CAA) Act has given constitutional status to National Commission for Backward Classes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The President, NOT PARLIAMENT may by order appoint a Commission consisting of such persons as he thinks fit to investigate the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes within the territory of India.

Central Government Act

Article 340 in The Constitution Of India 1949

340. Appointment of a Commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes

(1) The President may by order appoint a Commission consisting of such persons as he thinks fit to investigate the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes within the territory of India and the difficulties under which they labour and to make recommendations as to the steps that should be taken by the Union or any State to remove such difficulties and to improve their condition and as to the grants that should be made for the purpose by the Union or any State the conditions subject to which such grants should be made, and the order appointing such Commission shall define the procedure to be followed by the Commission

About Us

Back Print

National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was initially constituted by the Central Govt by The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 (27 of 1993) dated 2.4.1993 and so far the Commission had been reconstituted 7 times up to 2016. The Central Govt has repealed The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 (27 of 1993) w.e.f 15.8.2018.

2. The present Commission (8th) has been accorded Constitutional Status and constituted through "The Constitution (One Hundred and Second Amendment) Act, 2018" Act dated 11.8.2018, whereby Article 338B has been inserted, forming a Commission for the socially and educationally backward classes to be known as NCBC. The Commission consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other Members in the rank & pay of Secretary to the Govt of India and their condition of service and tenure of office has been notified vide MSJE Notification dated 23.08.2018.

3. The Chairman (Dr. Bhagwan Lal Sahni) and the 3 Members (Shri Achary Thalloju, Dr. Sudha Yadav and Shri Kaushlendra Singh Patel) have assumed their charge in the Commission on 28th February, 2019. Vice-Chairman (Dr. Lokesh Kumar Prajapati) has assumed his charge on 08th March, 2019. Shri Ajoy Kumar (IAS) has assumed charge as Secretary, NCBC on 9th July, 2018.

As of January 2020, there have been 104 amendments to the Constitution of India since it was first enacted in 1950. So, from where 123 Amendments Act came? From neighbour?? Please be careful. See below last four CAA,

101st	Addition of articles 246A, 269A, 279A. Deletion of Article 268A. Amendment of articles 248, 249, 250, 268, 269, 270, 271, 286, 366, 368, Sixth Schedule, Seventh Schedule. ^[108]	1 July 2017	Introduced the Goods and Services Tax.
102nd	Addition of articles 338B, 342A, and Added Clause 26C. Omitted Article 340. Modification of articles 338, 366. ^[109]	11 August 2018	Constitutional status to National Commission for Backward Classes
103rd	Amendment to Article 15, added Clause [6]. Amendment to Article 16, added Clause [6]. ^[110]	12 January 2019	A maximum of 10% Reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs) of citizens of classes other than the classes mentioned in clauses (4) and (5) of Article 15, i.e. Classes other than socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Inserted Clause [6] under Article 15 as well as Inserted Clause [6] under Article 16.
104th	Amend article 334. ^[111]	25 January 2020	To extend the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and states assemblies from Seventy years to Eighty years. Removed the reserved seats for the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. ^[112]

India's National Commission for Backward Classes is a constitutional body (123rd constitutional amendment bill 2018 and 102nd amendment in constitution to make it constitutional body) (Article 338B of the Indian Constitution) under India's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Q40. Which of the following products recently got Geographical Indication (GI) tag?

- Dindigul Turmeric
- Kolhapuri Chappal
- Chunar sandstone

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1 only
- d. 2 and 3 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

UPSC love this type of question. Don't know why but if he is loving thEN you have to give respect to it. Please click the below link and read all GI Tags for 2019. It is important.

Two products from Tamil Nadu — the **Dindigul lock** and the Kandangi saree — were given the Geographical Indication tag by the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai.

Kolhapuri Chappal and Chunar Sandstone are correct.

Link:

http://www.ipindia.nic.in/writereaddata/Portal/Images/pdf/GI_Application_Register_10-09-2019.pdf

Q41. Water Framework Directive (WFD) recently in news is an important legislation of:

- a. United Nation Development Programme
- b. United Nation Environment Programme
- c. Food and Agricultural Organizations
- d. European Union

Solution: d

Explanation:



The WFD is one of the EU's most ambitious and holistic pieces of environmental legislation, setting the target of having 100 per cent of the EU's freshwater ecosystems in good health by 2027 at the very latest, up from just 40 per cent currently.

Link: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/water/eu-water-law-won-t-be-changed-says-european-commission-71921>

Q42. Consider the following Pairs.

Communities	Present in
1. Madhesi	Bangladesh
2. Kurds	Syria
3. Ahmadis	Pakistan

Which of the above pair is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 2 and 3 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

Communities	Present in
Madhesi	Nepal
Kurds	Syria
Ahmadis	Pakistan

Q43. Consider the following Harrapan sites.

- 1. Mehrgarh
- 2. Kot Diji
- 3. Chanhudaro
- 4. Dholavira
- 5. Surkotada
- 6. Harappa

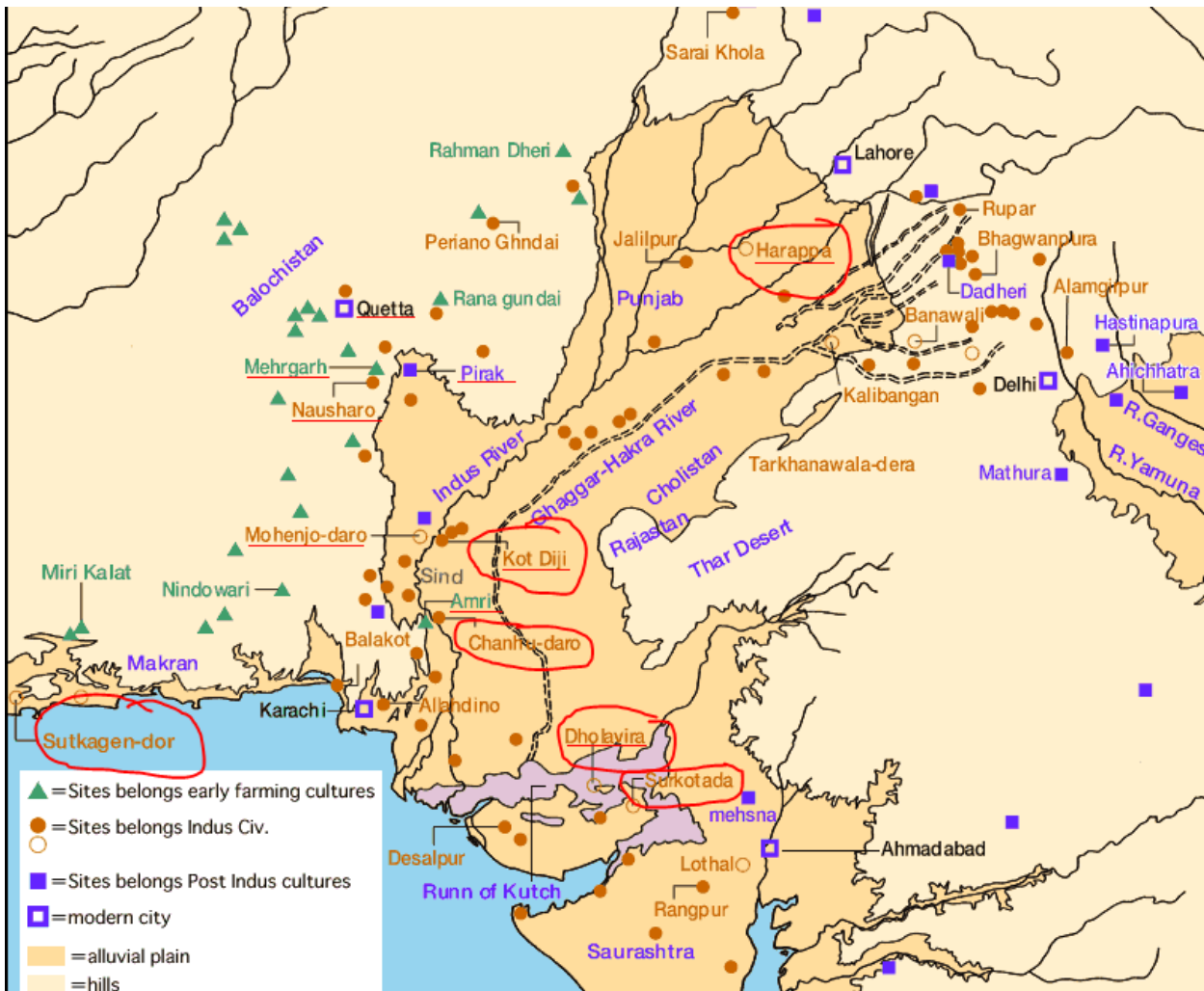
Which of the above sites are located in today's India?

- a. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- b. 3 and 5 only
- c. 4 and 5 only
- d. 3, 4 and 5 only

Solution: c

Below is the list of all sites. Please look at all sites at once carefully. Just have a look. You will remember in exam.

From the below given image, we can say only **Dholavira and Surkotada are located in India.**



Q44. In the context of **Oath and Affirmation mentioned in Indian Constitution**, consider the following statements.

1. Every Governor before entering upon his office, subscribe in the presence of the President.
2. Every person appointed to be a Judge of a High Court shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the Governor of the State.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

If you are new to our platform, please make a habit of reading polity from Constitution of India book for articles. Here, we mention for every question, you people also make it a habit. It takes time in beginning, but later Polity will become crystal clear to you.

159. Oath or affirmation by the Governor.—Every Governor and every person discharging the functions of the Governor shall, before entering upon his office, make and subscribe in the presence of the Chief Justice of the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to the State, or, in his absence, the senior most Judge of that Court available, an oath or affirmation in the following form, that is to say—

“I, A. B., do swear in the name of God that I will faithfully execute the
solemnly affirm

office of Governor (or discharge the functions of the Governor) of(*name of the State*) and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of(*name of the State*).”.

219. Oath or affirmation by Judges of High Courts.—Every person appointed to be a Judge of a High Court ^{7***} shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the Governor of the State, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

Q45. Which is/are the constitutionally mandated bodies under the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992?

1. State Finance Commission.
2. State Election Commission.
3. Gram Sabhas
4. Metropolitan Planning Committee

Choose the correct code from the below.

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

Solution: B

Explanation:

Gram Sabhas mandated by 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

243Y. Finance Commission.—(1) The Finance Commission constituted under article 243-I shall also review the financial position of the Municipalities and make recommendations to the Governor as to—

(a) the principles which should govern—

(i) the distribution between the State and the Municipalities of the net proceeds of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the State, which may be divided between them under this Part and the allocation between the Municipalities at all levels of their respective shares of such proceeds;

(ii) the determination of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees which may be assigned to, or appropriated by, the Municipalities;

(iii) the grants-in-aid to the Municipalities from the Consolidated Fund of the State;

(b) the measures needed to improve the financial position of the Municipalities;

(c) any other matter referred to the Finance Commission by the Governor in the interests of sound finance of the Municipalities.

243ZA. Elections to the Municipalities.—(1) The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Municipalities shall be vested in the State Election Commission referred to in article 243K.

243ZD. Committee for district planning.—(1) There shall be constituted in every State at the district level a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole.

243ZE. Committee for Metropolitan planning.—(1) There shall be constituted in every Metropolitan area a Metropolitan Planning Committee to prepare a draft development plan for the Metropolitan area as a whole.

Q46. Consider the following.

1. Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)
2. Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG)
3. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

India is a member of which of the above groups/bodies?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:



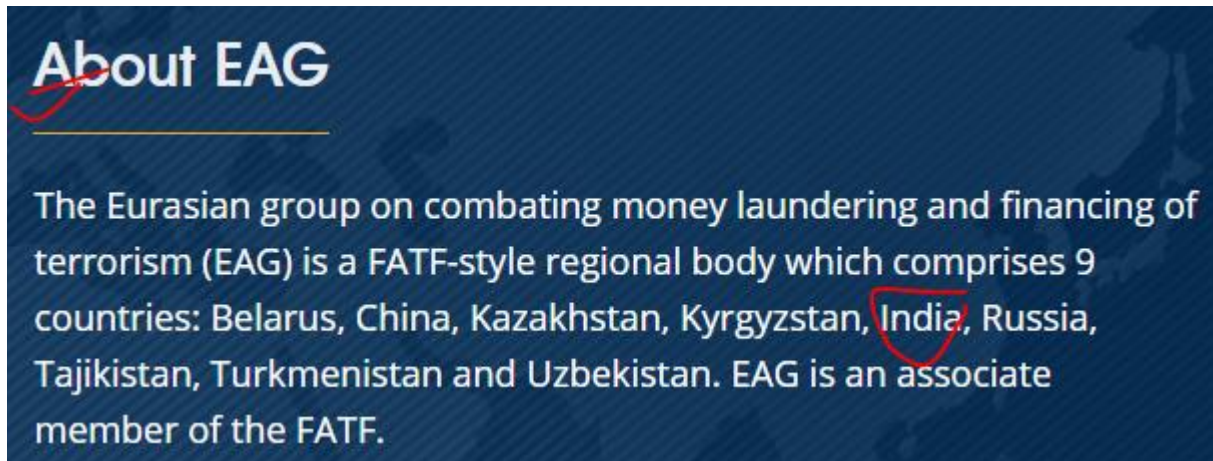
Total Membership: 171 (as of 5 February 2019)

Eighteen ratifications were required to bring the IAEA's Statute into force.

In the list below, the year denotes year of membership. The names of States are in alphabetical order. Historical designations.

- **1957:** Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, **India**, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Realizing the full potential of artificial intelligence (AI) that benefits all citizens requires international collaboration, Canada and France are launching with Australia, Germany, **India**, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the European Union the **Global Partnership on Artificial (GPAI)** *to support and guide the responsible development of artificial intelligence that is grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation, and economic growth.*



Q47. Micius, recently seen in news, is the world's first quantum communications satellite. It belongs to:

- a. China
- b. Japan
- c. Korea
- d. Russia

Solution: a

Explanation:

In the middle of the night, invisible to anyone but special telescopes in two Chinese observatories, **satellite Micius** sends **particles of light to Earth to establish the world's most secure communication link.**



Named after the ancient Chinese philosopher also known as Mozi, **Micius is the world's first quantum communications satellite and has, for several years, been at the forefront of quantum encryption**

Link: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/science-technology/china-s-quantum-satellite-enables-first-totally-secure-long-range-messages-71831>

Q48. Consider the following historical places.

1. Ajanta Caves
2. Lepakshi temple
3. Sanchi Stupa

Which of the above places is/are also known for mural paintings?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

A mural is any piece of artwork painted or applied directly on a wall, ceiling or other permanent surface. A distinguishing characteristic of mural painting is that the architectural elements of the given space are harmoniously incorporated into the picture.

Mural Paintings of Ajanta caves.



*Painting : Cave I, Ajanta cave,
Maharashtra*

Mural paintings of Meenakshi temple



In Sanchi stupa we don't find mural paintings.

Q49. Consider the following countries.

1. Croatia
2. Serbia
3. Luxembourg
4. Macedonia

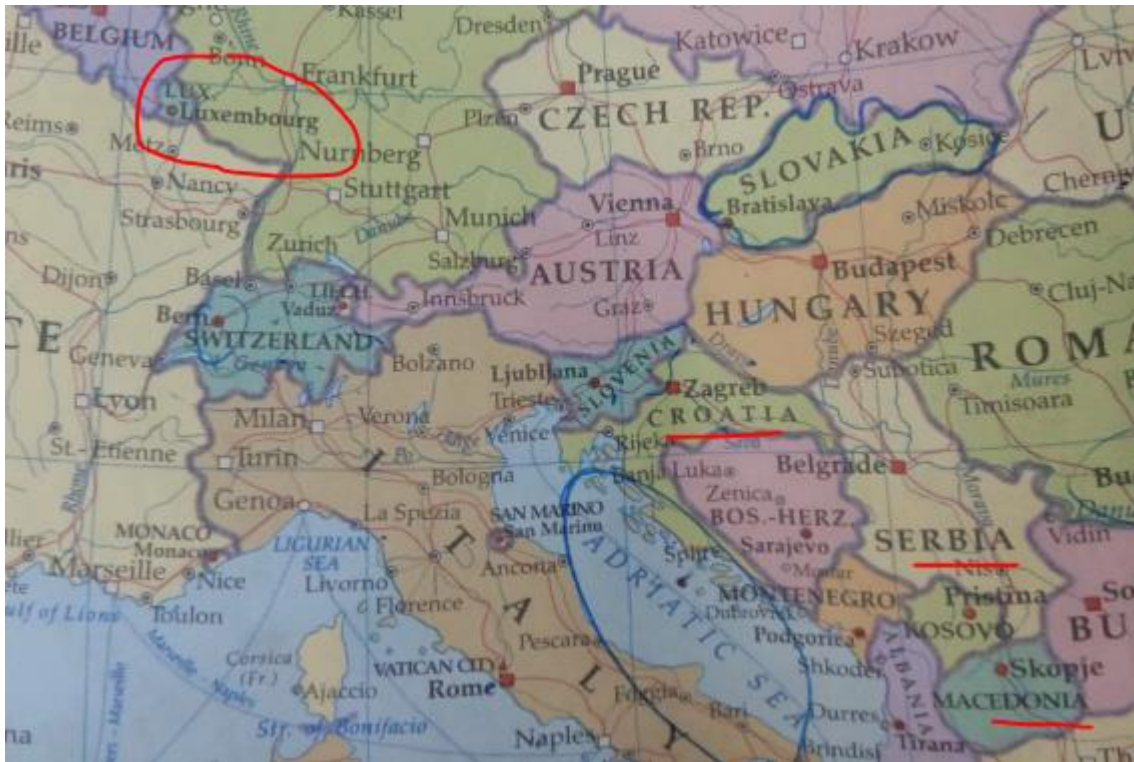
Which of the above countries of **Europe** is/are land locked?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Croatia is not a land-locked nation.



Q50. Consider the following pairs.

Traditions	Belongs to
1. Lai Haraoba Festival	Sikkim
2. Thang-Ta Martial Art	Manipur
3. Putul Nautch Puppet	West Bengal

Which of the above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1 and 2 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

Traditions	Belongs to
Lai Haraoba Festival	Manipur
Thang-Ta Martial Art	Manipur

Q51. Consider the following.

1. Blood donation camps
2. Vaccination camps
3. Solid Waste under Municipal Solid Waste Rules, 2000
4. First Aid rooms of Schools

Which of the above fall/s under Biomedical Waste Rules, 2016?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First Biomedical Waste Management Rules came in 1998, then in 2011 and finally 2016.

Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016.

While in 2011, the 1998 rules were amended to include all persons who generate, collect, receive, store and transport biomedical waste, **the 2016 rules bring more clarity by specifying that vaccination camps, blood donation camps, surgical camps and all other HCFs have been included.**

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) these rules may be called the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Application.-

(1) These rules shall apply to all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose, or handle bio medical waste in any form including hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, dispensaries, veterinary institutions, animal houses, pathological laboratories, blood banks, ayush

hospitals, clinical establishments, research or educational institutions, health camps, medical or surgical camps, vaccination camps, blood donation camps, first aid rooms of schools, forensic laboratories and research labs.

a. These Rules shall not apply to:

(2). These rules shall not apply to,- *Remember*

- (a) radioactive wastes as covered under the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962(33 of 1962) and the rules made there under;
- (b) hazardous chemicals covered under the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 made under the Act;
- (c) solid wastes covered under the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 made under the Act;
- (d) the lead acid batteries covered under the Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001 made under the Act;
- (e) hazardous wastes covered under the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 made under the Act;
- (f) waste covered under the e-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 made under the Act; and
- (g) hazardous micro organisms, genetically engineered micro organisms and cells covered under the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms, Genetically Engineered Micro organisms or Cells Rules, 1989 made under the Act.

If you want to read Rules in more details clearly, go to our current affairs section. [Click here.](#)

Q52. The High Court of which state for the first time pronounced the deforestation and human invasion in forest domain as he major cause of COVID outbreak?

- a. Uttarakhand
- b. Mizoram
- c. Manipur
- d. Delhi

Solution: c

Explanation:

 NATIONAL


Deforestation leading to diseases including COVID-19, says Manipur HC

 SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI, JUNE 15, 2020 02:23 IST
UPDATED: JUNE 15, 2020 02:38 IST

In a recent order, the High Court of Manipur directed the state authorities to take relevant steps for protection of environment, especially the forest cover of the state, to avoid the threat of animal borne diseases in the future.

The court observed that destruction of forests and invasion/intrusion of human beings in the forest domain displacing forest species appears to be a major factor for the series of diseases like the present COVID-19.

 In this backdrop the bench has ordered the state authorities:

- to take immediate measures to arrest wild fires which appear to be man made in many cases;
- to arrest the illegal encroachment of forest areas for human habitations;
- to protect wild animals, birds, flora and fauna as provided under the Acts and Rules;
- to take up afforestation of lands which have been subjected to deforestation by various means including forest fires;
- boundary marking of forest areas by warning signs and monitoring in such manner as to avoid human contact with the wild animals, birds, flora and fauna other than for scientific research and studies.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/deforestation-leading-to-diseases-including-covid-19-says-manipur-hc/article31829270.ece>

Q53. Consider the following statements.

1. It is mandatory under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 that an equivalent area of non-forest land has to be taken up for compensatory afforestation, whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes.
2. According to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, 33 percent of the geographical area should be under Forest cover.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes, it is mandatory under the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980** that an equivalent area of non-forest land has to be taken up for compensatory afforestation.

✓ 2. **Restriction on the dereservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose.**— Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing—

(i) that any reserved forest (within the meaning of the expression “reserved forest” in any law for the time being in force in that State) or any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved;

(ii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose.

✓ **According to National Forest Policy 1952, the mandate was set to preserve 33 per cent of forest cover in the total geographical area.**

India has set a target of bringing 33 per cent of its geographical area under forest cover. The total forest cover (TFC) of India in 2019 is 21.67 per cent of the total geographical area (TGA) of the country as against 21.54 per cent (of TGA) in 2017.

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016

1. It aims to set up National Compensatory Afforestation Fund under the Public Account of India.
2. Union Minister is the chairman of the governing body of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) constituted under this Act.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 came into force from 30 September 2018. The Act established a **National Compensatory Afforestation Fund** under the Public Account of India and **State Compensatory Afforestation Fund** under the Public Account of each state. The payments made for compensatory afforestation, net present value and others related to the project will be deposited in the fund. The State Funds will receive 90% of the payments while National Fund will receive remaining 10%.

CHAPTER II

ESTABLISHMENT, MANAGEMENT AND UTILISATION OF NATIONAL COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND AND STATE COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUNDS

3. Establishment of National Fund.—(1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint in this behalf, there shall be established for the purposes of this Act, a special Fund to be called the “National Compensatory Afforestation Fund” under the public account of India.

(2) The National Fund shall be under the control of the Central Government and managed by the National Authority in such manner as may be prescribed.

4. Establishment of State Fund.—(1) With effect from such date as each State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint in this behalf, there shall be established for the purposes of this Act, a special Fund to be called the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund-..... (name of State)” under public accounts of such State:

Provided that in case of Union territory having no legislature, such fund shall be established under the public account of Union of India with effect from such date as the Union territory Administration may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint in this behalf.

It also established Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

CHAPTER III

CONSTITUTION OF NATIONAL AUTHORITY AND STATE AUTHORITIES

5. Constitution of National Authority.—(1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint in this behalf, there shall be constituted a National Authority to be called the “National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority”.

(2) The National Authority shall manage and utilise the National Fund for the purposes of this Act.

(3) The National Authority shall consist of a governing body and shall be assisted by an executive committee, monitoring group and administrative support mechanism.

(4) The governing body of the National Authority shall consist of the following, namely:—

(i) Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India—
Chairperson, *ex officio*;

For states: Chief Minister of the State and in case of a Union territory having no legislature, the Lieutenant Governor or the Administrator, as the case may be—**Chairperson, ex officio.**

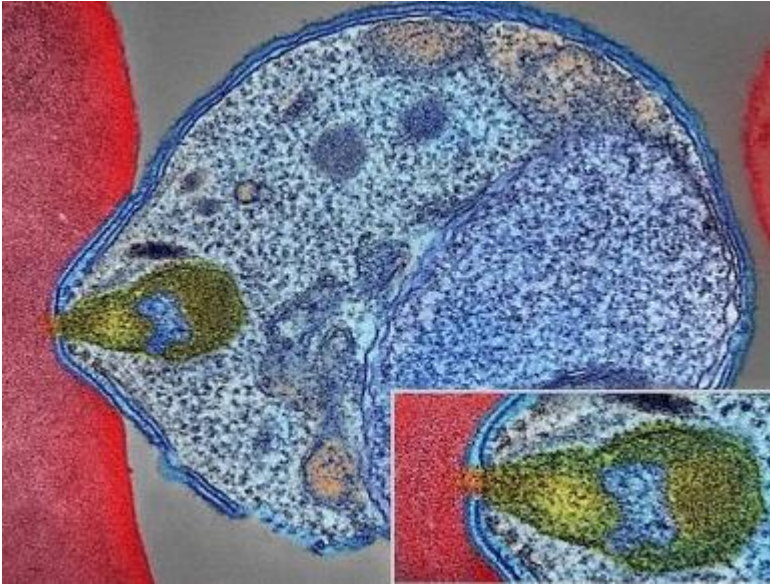
Q55. Recently, microsporidian – a tiny parasitic fungus has been discovered for the treatment of:

- a. TB
- b. Malaria
- c. Typhoid
- d. COVID-19

Solution: b

Explanation:

Recently, scientists discovered that a **microsporidian** – a tiny parasitic fungus – called **Microsporidia MB** can block the transmission of malaria – Plasmodium falciparum – to the mosquito.



Link: <https://science.thewire.in/the-sciences/malaria-parasite-wolbachia-microsporidia-mb/>

Q56. Consider the following statements regarding recently launched Indian Gas Exchange.

1. Imported and domestically produced natural gas will be sold on this exchange.
2. This is the first trading gas launched in India.
3. It will help fertilizers industry by reducing price and subsidy burden.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First of all, what is this IGX?

Indian Gas Exchange (IGX)

OUR VISION

To lead India's transition towards a gas-based economy by architecting next generation solutions for natural gas trading and access.

01

1st natural gas trading exchange

02

Automated platform with cutting edge technology

03

Efficient & transparent market driven price discovery mechanism

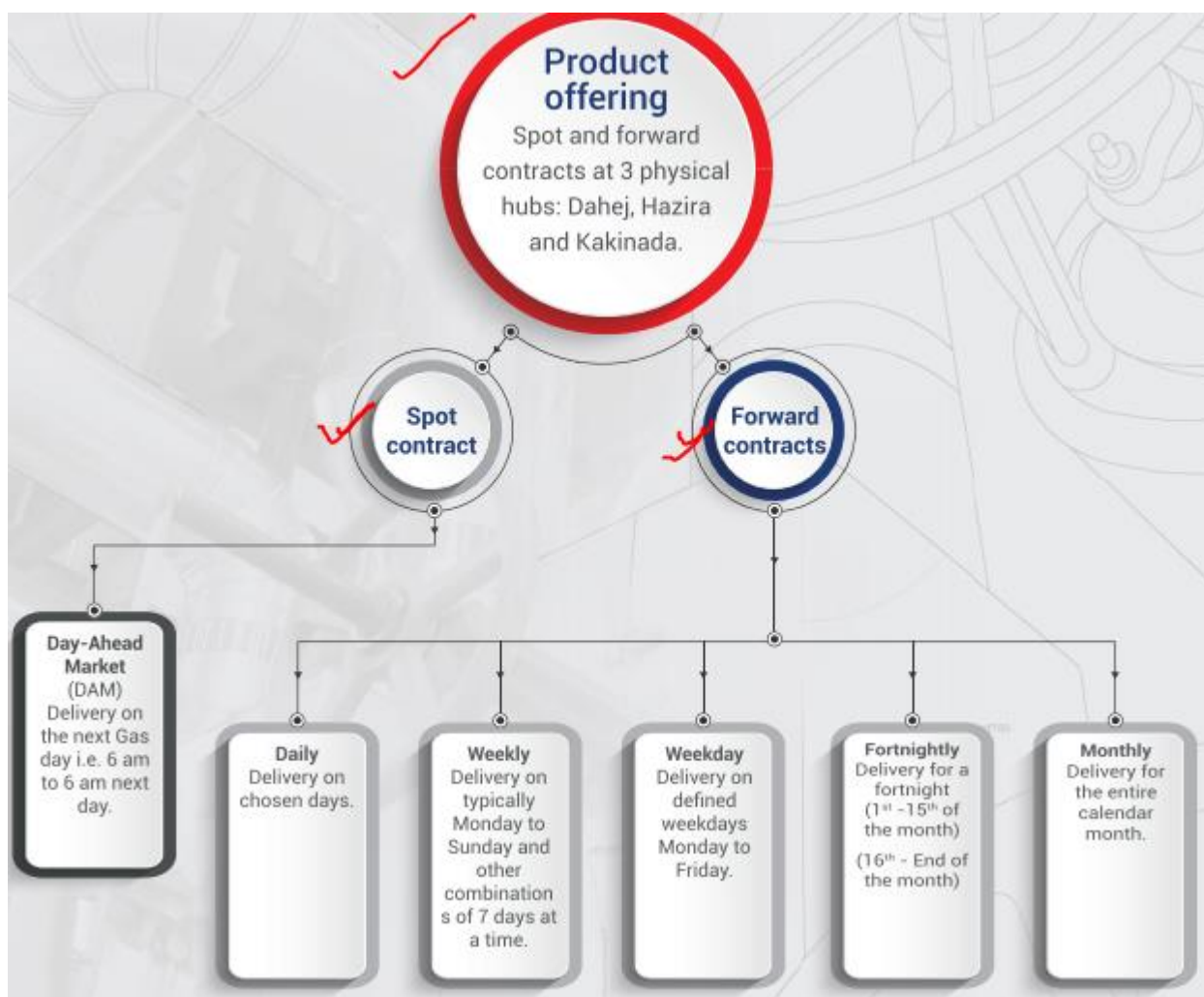
04

Indigenous price discovery

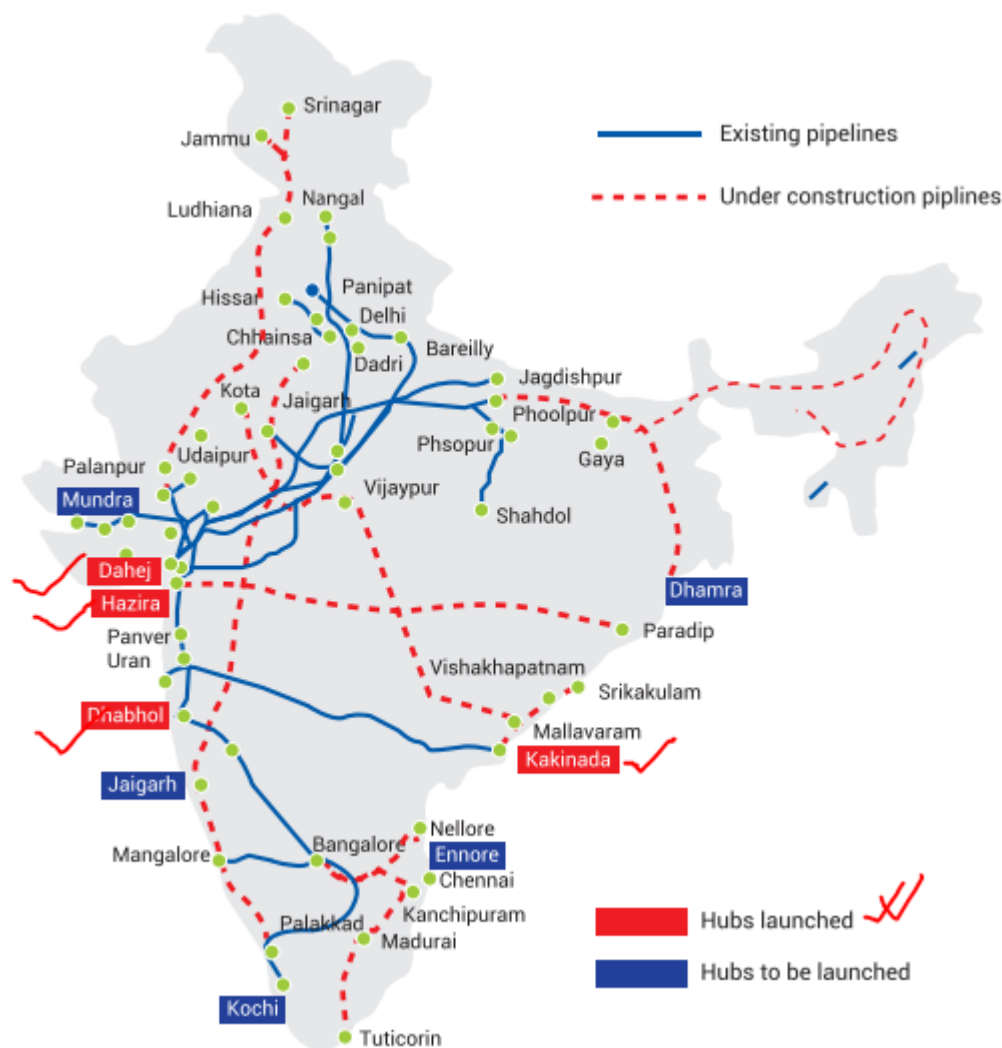
Auction Mechanism

Prices are governed by the economic principle of demand & supply.

The IGX is a digital trading platform that will allow buyers and sellers of natural gas to trade both in the spot market and in the forward market **for imported (remember this) natural gas** across three hubs — **Dahej and Hazira in Gujarat, and Kakinada** in Andhra Pradesh. See below two diagrams.



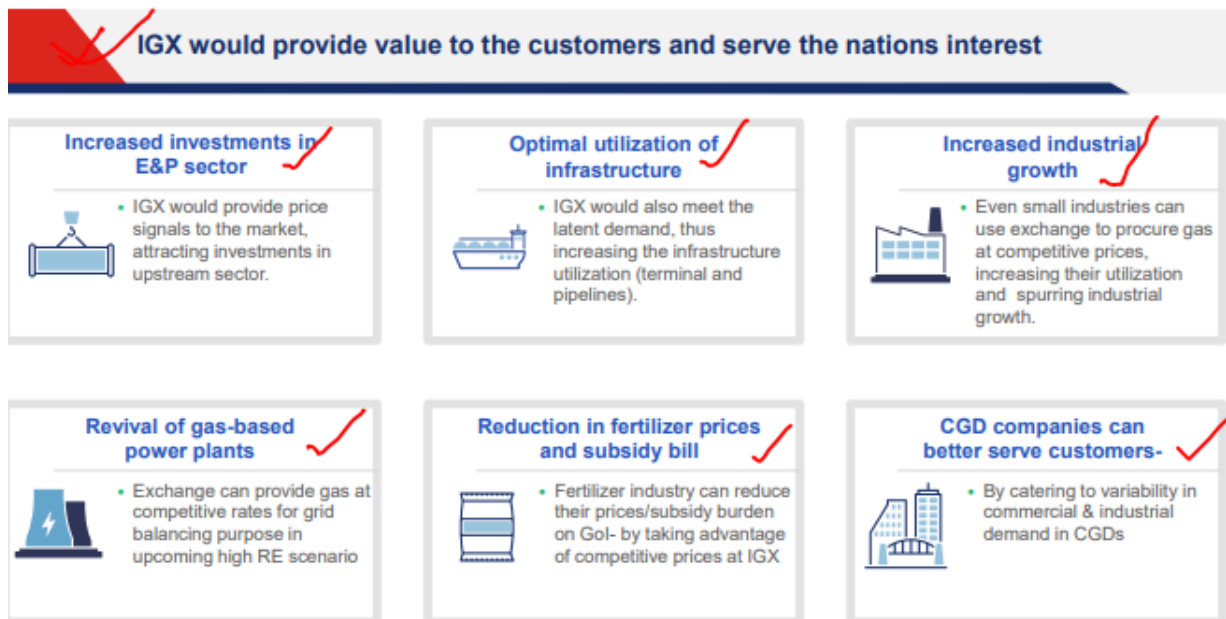
Hub	Delivery point	Planned launch date
Dahej	Ex terminal, after regas	Immediate
Hazira	Mora interconnection point	Immediate
Kakinada	Gas land fall point (Kakinada/ Oduru)	Immediate
Dabhol/Jaigarh	Interconnection point of 'Jaigarh-Dabhol tie-in connectivity pipeline' & 'DBPL' pipeline	Q2 2020
Kochi	Ex terminal, after regas	Q3 2020
Ennore	Ex terminal, after regas	Q3 2020
Mundra	Ex terminal, after regas	Q3 2020



✓ Will domestically produced natural gas also be bought and sold on the exchange?

☐ No. The price of domestically produced natural gas is decided by the government. It will not be sold on the gas exchange.

However, following appeals by domestic producers that the prices set by the government are not viable given the cost of exploration and production in India, Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has indicated that a new gas policy will include reforms in domestic gas pricing, and will move towards more market-oriented pricing.



Q57. Consider the following statements regarding **Electoral Bond Scheme**.

- Only the political parties registered under Representation of the People Act, 1951 and secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly shall be eligible to receive the bond.
- All payments for the issuance of the bond shall be accepted in Indian rupees.
- The bonds shall not be eligible for trading.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

Only the political parties registered under section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 **and** secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, shall be eligible to receive the bond.

3. Eligibility for purchase and encashment of electoral bond.-(1) The Bond under this Scheme may be purchased by a person, who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India.

(2) A person being an individual can buy bonds, either singly or jointly with other individuals.

(3) Only the political parties registered under section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, shall be eligible to receive the bond.

All payments for the issuance of the bond shall be accepted in Indian rupees, through demand draft or cheque or through Electronic Clearing System or direct debit to the buyer's account. **The bonds shall not be eligible for trading.**

11. Payment options.-(1) All payments for the issuance of the bond shall be accepted in Indian rupees, through demand draft or cheque or through Electronic Clearing System or direct debit to the buyer's account.

(2) Where payment is made through cheque or demand draft, the same shall be drawn in favour of the issuing bank at the place of issue such bond.

Q58. Global Fund for Ecosystem-based Adaptation (2020-2024) was recently launched jointly by:

- a. The UN Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature
- b. World Economic Forum and United Nation Development Programme
- c. The UN Environment Programme and World Bank
- d. Food and Agricultural Organizations and IUCN

Solution: a

Explanation:

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) are jointly launching the Global Fund for Ecosystem-based Adaptation [2020-2024], which aims to provide targeted and rapid support mechanisms through seed capital for innovative approaches to ecosystem-based adaptation.



Q59. 'Chihil sutun' or 'forty-pillared halls' was a piece of architecture during **which Mughal Ruler?**

- a. Akbar
- b. Shah Jahan
- c. Jahangir
- d. Aurangzeb

Solution: b

Explanation:

It belongs to Shah Jahan's rule. We have taken this question from Class 7th, Our Past-Chapter 5 (Rulers and Buildings).

Q60. What would happen to the "money multiplier" in an economy, if the cash reserve ratio (CRR) is reduced?

- a. The money multiplier would decrease.
- b. The money multiplier would remain constant.
- c. There is no relationship between the money multiplier and the cash reserve ratio (CRR).
- d. The money multiplier would increase.

Solution: D

Explanation:

The money multiplier describes how an initial deposit leads to a greater final increase in the total money supply.

When an initial deposit is made in the banks, the banks can further lend loans by keeping a certain percentage as Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR). For instance, if a deposit of Rs. 100 is made into the banks, then the banks would have to keep Rs. 10 as reserve (considering CRR as 10%) and they may lend Rs. 90 in the form of loans.

Now, when this Rs. 90 is deposited into the bank again, the bank would keep Rs. 9 as reserves and lend remaining Rs. 81 in the form of loans.

Thus, the initial deposit of Rs. 100 with the banks has led to the creation of money by the banks in the form of new loans. This is referred to as "Money Multiplier".

It is calculated as $(1/R)$ where R is the "Reserve" requirement. Hence, the money multiplier is inversely proportional to the reserve requirement, i.e., as the CRR is reduced, the money multiplier would increase.

Q61. Consider the following Pairs.

Recently launched schemes/Portal	Objective.
1. Distressed Assets Funds-Subordinate Debt	Credit guarantee scheme for MSME
2. PM SVANIDHI	a special micro-credit facility scheme for providing affordable loan to distressed farmers during COVID-19
3. SATYABHAMA Portal	To encourage researchers in the Mining and Mineral Sector to undertake qualitative and innovative research and development work for Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 and 2 only

- b. 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: c

Explanation:

PM SVANIDHI: Second Pair is wrong.

Union Government launched **PM SVANIDHI - Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi** - a special micro-credit facility scheme **for providing affordable loan to street vendors**.

Distressed Assets Funds-Subordinate Debt for MSMEs

Distressed Assets Funds-Subordinate Debt for MSMEs', the credit guarantee scheme for sub-ordinate debts, providing relief to about 2 lakh Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). This scheme will support the promoters of the operational MSMEs which are financially stressed under banking rules.



The guarantee cover worth Rs 20,000 crore will be provided to the promoters who can take debt from the banks to further invest in their stressed MSMEs as equity, hence maintaining liquidity and debt-equity ratio.

90% guarantee coverage for this sub-debt will be given under the Scheme and 10% would come from the concerned promoters.

SATYABHAMA Portal

Union Minister for Coal launched **SATYABHAMA (Science and Technology Yojana for Atmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement) Portal** for Science and Technology Programme Scheme of Ministry of Mines on 15th June 2020. It focusses in the **role of Digital Technologies in promoting research and development in the mining and mineral sector** in the country. Minister appealed to the scientists and researchers in the Mining and Mineral Sector to *undertake qualitative and innovative research and development work for AatmaNirbhar Bharat*.

Q62. Consider the following statements regarding **International Comparison Program (ICP)**.

1. It is managed by the World Bank under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

2. Its work is to produce purchasing power parities for participating economies on annual basis.
3. As per the recent report of ICP (2017), India has been the third largest country in the terms of Purchasing Power Parity.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution:c

The ICP is one of the largest statistical initiatives in the world. **It is managed by the World Bank** under the auspices of the **United Nations Statistical Commission**, and relies on a partnership of international, regional, sub-regional, and national agencies working under a robust governance framework and following an established statistical methodology. The main objectives of the ICP are to:

- a. produce purchasing power parities (PPPs) and comparable price level indexes (PLIs) for participating economies
- b. convert volume and per capita measures of gross domestic product (GDP) and its expenditure components into a common currency using PPPs.

India has participated in almost all ICP rounds since its inception in 1970. **The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is National Implementing Agency (NIA) for India**, which has the responsibility of planning, coordinating and implementing national ICP activities.

China's GDP stood at \$19,617 billion in **PPP terms** in 2017, while the United States' GDP was \$19,519 billion. Together they accounted for one-third of global GDP. **India, at \$8,051 billion**, was the **third-largest economy**, followed by Japan, Germany, and the Russian Federation.

Figure 1.2 PPP-based GDP and share of global PPP-based GDP, by economy, 2017
 2017 PPP \$ (billions), and global share (%)



To learn report in bit detail, see out current affairs section. [Click here.](#)

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/india-retains-its-position-as-3rd-largest-economy-on-ppp-basis-for-2017/articleshow/76532722.cms>

Q63. Consider the following Pairs.

National parks/Tiger Reserve	Situated on
1. Namdapha National Park	Mishmi Hills
2. Melghat Tiger Reserve	Satpura Hills
3. Sariska Tiger Reserve	Aravalli Hills

Select the correct Pairs.

- 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only

- d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: d

Explanation:

Such questions are very important for exam. Either it is temple located on Hills, National Parks on Hills, monasteries on hills, anything similar to this is important. We have covered and will try to cover every such topic.

National parks/Tiger Reserve	Situated on
1. Namdapha National Park	Mishmi Hills
2. Melghat Tiger Reserve	Satpura Hills
3. Sariska Tiger Reserve	Aravalli Hills

Q64. Consider the following statements regarding Ahom dynasty.

1. Ahom Dynasty was established after the rule Akbar of Mughal Empire.
2. Treaty of Yandabo led to the control of the Ahom kingdom passed into British hands.
3. Nagabhata I was the most important rules of Ahom Kingdom.
4. Due to internal conflicts, the Ahom Kingdom lasted for less than 10 years.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Two days before you have read this news, Assam Chief Minister has ordered the arrest of a Kolkata-based political commentator who had described **Chaolung Sukapha as a “Chinese invader”**. Now, what you have learned from this. Sukapha was the leader of Ahom Dynasty and???? Have you tried reading Ahom Dynasty, at least in brief? No, why??

into power. It was in the year 1228 A.D., the Ahoms, a branch of the Tai Shans under the leadership of Sukapha migrated to Assam from upper Burma and laid the foundation of the Ahom kingdom. The Ahoms during their long reign of six hundred years subjugated all the petty chiefs and tribes like the Morans, the Barahis, the Kacharis, the Chutiyas and the Koches and the chiefs of the tribal frontier and thus they brought not only political unity to the valley but also social integration. Therefore to define the Assamese society during the days of the Ahoms we should include the people living in the Brahmaputra valley, people who lived on the fringes of the hills encircling the valley and the people who lived in Kamata and Koch Behar.

Five dynasties ruled over the Delhi Sultanate sequentially: the Mamluk dynasty (1206–1290), the Khilji dynasty (1290–1320), the Tughlaq dynasty (1320–1414), the Sayyid dynasty (1414–1451), and the Lodi dynasty (1451–1526). **So, Ahom Dynasty** (established in 1228, as mentioned above in image) **was established during Delhi Sultanate only. First statement is incorrect.**

They ruled for more than 500 years as you can read that in image given above. **Fourth statement is wrong.**

How they handled Mughals?

The kingdom came under repeated Mughal attacks in the 17th century, and on one occasion in 1662, the Mughals under Mir Jumla occupied the capital, Garhgaon. The Mughals were unable to keep it, and in at the end of the **Battle of Saraighat, the Ahoms not only fended off a major Mughal invasion, but extended their boundaries west, up to the Manas river.** Following a period of confusion, the kingdom got itself the last set of kings, the **Tungkhungia kings**, established by Gadadhar Singha.

End of Dynasty:

The rule of Tungkhungia kings was marked by peace and achievements in the Arts and engineering constructions. The later phase of the rule was also marked **by increasing social conflicts, leading to the Moamoria rebellion.** The rebels were able to capture and maintain power at the capital Rangpur for some years but were finally removed with the help of the British under Captain Welsh. The following repression led to a large depopulation due to emigration as well as execution, **but the conflicts were never resolved. A much-weakened kingdom fell to repeated Burmese attacks and finally after the Treaty of Yandabo in 1826, the control of the kingdom passed into British hands. Second statement is correct.**

Third statement is incorrect.

✓ Pratihara Kings

Nagabhata I ✓✓

He was the first significant king of the dynasty and because of his achievements that included the defeat of the Arabs, his line came to overshadow other Gurjara-Pratihara families. He fought against the Rashtrakutas, though unsuccessfully. He was succeeded by his nephew Kakustha, who in turn was followed by his brother Devaraja. These two ruled in the period c. 760-775 CE.

Link: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/the-legacy-of-sukapha-founder-of-ahom-kingdom-6468320/>

Q65. Consider the following Funds.

1. Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund
2. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)
3. Long Term Irrigation Fund

Which of the above funds is/are administered by NABARD?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

✓ Long Term Irrigation Fund

LTIF was operationalized in NABARD during 2016-17 for fast tracking the completion of the 99 identified Medium and Major Irrigation projects, spread across 18 states, in mission mode by December 2019. Subsequently, GoI approved the funding for Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh, North Koel project in Bihar and Jharkhand, Relining of Sirhind & Rajasthan Feeders in Punjab and Shahpur kandi Dam in Punjab under the ambit of LTIF.

Further, GoI has since approved the continuation of the arrangement for funding of the 99 prioritised projects under PMKSY-AIBP and CADWM beyond December 2019. ✓

Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

Government of India created the RIDF in NABARD in 1995-96, with an initial corpus of Rs.2,000 crore. With the allocation of Rs.28,000 crore for 2018-19 under RIDF XXIV, the cumulative allocation has reached Rs.3,20,500 crore, including Rs. 18,500 crore under Bharat Nirman.

Eligible Activities

At present, there are 37 eligible activities under RIDF as approved by Gov. (Annexure I). The eligible activities are classified under three broad categories i.e.

- Agriculture and related sector
- Social sector
- Rural connectivity

And yesterday, Government has approved establishment of **Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund**.

Size of the fund is 15000 crores. This Fund will incentivize infrastructure investments in dairy, meat processing and animal feed plants.

Who is eligible? *Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies, Private Companies and individual entrepreneur with only 10% margin money contribution by them.*

Rest of the Funds: The balance 90% would be the loan component to be made available to them by scheduled banks. GOI will provide **3% interest subvention** to eligible beneficiaries. There will be **2 years moratorium** period for repayment of the loan with 6 years repayment period thereafter.

Link: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1633918>

Q66. Consider the following.

1. Development of Shwe oil & gas project
2. construction of Sittwe Port
3. Kosti Power Plant

Which of the above signifies India-Myanmar relations?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Recently, CCEA has approved additional investment of US\$ 121.27 million by ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) towards further development of **Shwe oil & gas project in Myanmar**.

Sittwe is the part of Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project.



Some of the big-ticket projects completed by India recently in Africa include the construction of the presidential office in Ghana, the National Assembly building in Gambia, and the Kosti power plant in Sudan. Africa is a key development partner of India, garnering a sizeable portion of India's lines of credit assistance.

Q67. The Vice President of India can be removed by a resolution passed in Rajya Sabha by an absolute majority. According to constitution on what grounds can he be removed.

- Violation of Constitution
- Discharged insolvent and misbehavior
- If he loses majority in Rajya Sabha
- None of the above

Solution: d

Explanations:

Notably, no ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal.

Central Government Act

Article 67 in The Constitution Of India 1949

67. Term of office of Vice President The Vice President shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office: Provided that

- a Vice President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;
- a Vice President may be removed from his office by a resolution of the council of States passed by a majority of all the then members of the council and agreed to by the House of the People; but no resolution for the purpose of this clause shall be moved unless at least fourteen days notice has been given of the intention to move the reso
- a Vice President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office

The Vice-President holds office **for a term of five years** from the date on which he enters upon his office.

However, he can **resign** from his office at any time **by addressing the resignation letter to the President.**

He can also be removed **by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by an absolute majority** (i.e., a majority of the total members of the House) and agreed to by the Lok Sabha. But no such resolution can be moved unless at least 14 days' advance notice has been given.

Q68. In the context of Vijayanagar Empire, the terms ***amara, bhandaravada and nianya***, are related to:

- a. Distribution of village income
- b. Temple Structures
- c. Secular and ritual groups of Vijayanagar Empire
- d. Urban local structures where different grains were stored

Solution: a

Explanation:

These indicate the way in which the **village income was distributed.**

The **bhandarvada** was a crown village comprising the smallest category. Some part of its income was utilized to maintain the Vijayanagar forts.

Income from the **manya** (tax-free) villages was used to maintain the Brahmans, temples, and mathas.

The largest category was of the **amara** villages given by the Vijayanagar rulers to the amaranayakas. Their holders did not possess proprietary rights in land but enjoyed privileges. The amara tenure was primarily residual in the sense that its income was distributed after deductions had been made for support of the Brahmans and forts. Three quarters of all the villages came under this category.

Q69. Consider the following statements regarding **Preamble of India**.

- 1. In the Berubari Union case (1960), it was decided that Preamble is a part of the Constitution.
- 2. The Preamble of India reveals the date of adoption of the Constitution.
- 3. So far, it has been amended once by 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only

d. 1 and 3 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

In the Berubari Union case (1960), the Supreme Court said that the Preamble shows the general purposes behind the several provisions in the Constitution and is thus a key to the minds of the makers of the Constitution.

Further, where the terms used in any article are ambiguous or capable of more than one meaning, some assistance at interpretation may be taken from the objectives enshrined in the Preamble. Despite this recognition of the significance of the Preamble, **the Supreme Court specifically opined that Preamble is not a part of the Constitution**. Supreme Court held that the Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution.

But, In the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Supreme court rejected the earlier opinion and held that Preamble is a part of the Constitution.

So, when Supreme court of India held that preamble is an integral part of the Constitution of India it automatically classified as amendable. It has been amended only once so far, in 1976, by **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act**, which has added three new words- **Socialist, Secular and Integrity to the preamble**.

It stipulates 26th November 1949, as the date for the adoption of the Constitution. **See below.**

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a 1[SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC] and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the 2[unity and integrity of the Nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

Q70. The 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report is a publication of:

- a. UNICEF
- b. UNESCO
- c. European Union
- d. Amnesty International

Solution: b

Explanation:

School closures also interrupted support mechanisms from which many disadvantaged learners benefit

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in education systems across the world. According to a UNESCO report released on Tuesday, about 40% of low- and lower-middle-income countries have not supported learners at risk of exclusion during this crisis, such as the poor, linguistic minorities and learners with disabilities.

~~The~~ 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report noted that efforts to maintain learning continuity during the pandemic may have actually worsened exclusion trends. During the height of school closures in April 2020, almost 91% of students around the world were out of school.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/education/coronavirus-lockdown-covid-19-widened-educational-divide-unesco-report/article31907857.ece>

Q71. Consider the following statements regarding **Financial Action Task Force**.

1. It is an intergovernmental organization founded on the initiative of the G7 to develop policies to combat money laundering.
2. It is mandated to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing and counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction both.
3. Recently, FATF has published its first report on Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT).

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Somehow, these statements will confuse you. They might be simple statements but as you have not read before, you will get confused in exam. So, from first day make it a habit, for any Body/organization, you come across, refer to original website. We are trying to guide you for the same through our quizzes and Current Affairs. See what is written in the website of FATF Below.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established in July 1989 by a Group of Seven (G-7) Summit in Paris, initially to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.

In October 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate **to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing**, in addition to money laundering. **In April 2012**, it added efforts **to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction**. *Zoom and see below image. It is taken from website.*

~~What~~ do we do

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established in July 1989 by a Group of Seven (G-7) Summit in Paris, initially to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering. [Click here](#) to see the Economic Declaration from that G-7 Summit.

In October 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing, in addition to money laundering. In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Therefore, first and second statement are correct.

Now, third statement:

✓ The FATF is concerned about
the lack of financial focus on
the illegal wildlife trade.

3. This is the FATF's first global report on IWT. It builds on previous studies by two of the FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRBs), work by other international bodies and recent initiatives by the private sector. This study by the FATF makes a unique contribution by assessing the money laundering (ML) aspects of wildlife crimes, and by demonstrating how jurisdictions should apply the FATF standards to combat IWT. The findings in this report are based on inputs from around 50 jurisdictions across the FATF Global Network⁴, as well as expertise from the private sector and civil society. ✓

We will cover the above wildlife report in detail in our Monday's Current Affairs section. No worries. So, third statement is also correct.

Recently, FATF has announced that Pakistan will remain in Grey List. Let FATF do whatever it wants to do. As an aspirant for now, our concern is, **what is this FATF??**

- a. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an **inter-governmental body** established in 1989 (discussed above only).
- b. The objectives of the FATF are *to set standards and promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.*
- c. The FATF's decision making body, the '**FATF Plenary**', **meets three times per year.**
- d. The FATF **Secretariat supports the substantive work of the FATF membership and global network. The Secretariat is located at the OECD Headquarters in Paris.**

To achieve global implementation of the FATF recommendations, **the FATF relies on a strong global network of 9 FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRBs)**, in addition to its own 38 members. Among these 9 FSRBs, **India is a member of two: Asian Pacific Group and Eurasian Group.**

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India

Member of:

- Member of the FATF since 2010
- Member of the Asia Pacific Group (APG)
- Member of the Eurasian Group (EAG)

Pakistan is not a member of FATF. It is member of only Asia Pacific Group

[Home](#) / [Countries](#) / Pakistan

Pakistan

Member of:

- Member of APG.

Link: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/pakistan-to-remain-on-fatf-grey-list-6475030/>

Q72. 'Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies' (DTEE) project was recently launched by:

- UNEP and UN Transport Association
- UNDP and FAO
- UNEP and OECD
- NITI Aayog and the International Transport Forum of OECD

Solution: d

Explanation:

Jan 24, 2020, 9:05PM

NITI Aayog & ITF launch Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies project

NITI Aayog and the International Transport Forum of OECD jointly launched the Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies project, in India today.

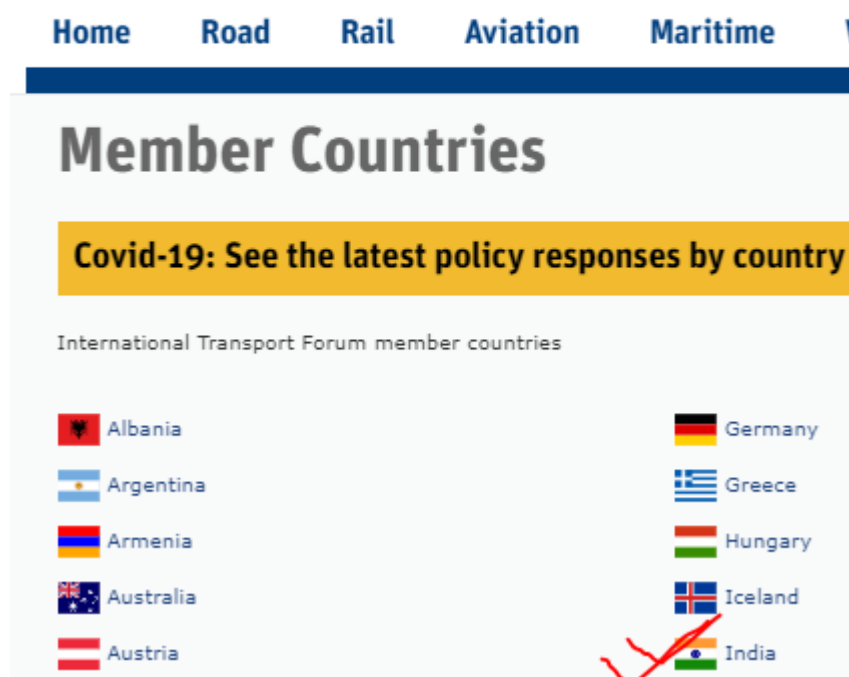
The launch was held via a webinar and was inaugurated by ITF Secretary General Young Tae Kim and NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant.

The ambitious five-year project will help India develop a pathway towards a low-carbon transport system through the development of modelling tools and policy scenarios.



International Transport Forum: Just for information

The International Transport Forum at the OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 60 member countries. ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes. The ITF is administratively integrated with the OECD. **And India is a member of this Forum.**



Link: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1634052>

Q73. Consider the following statements regarding CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)

1. Also known as Washington Convention, it aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

2. It is a legally binding Convention which takes over the place of national laws.
3. COP 19, 2019 of CITES was held in India.

Select the correct code.

- a. 2 and 3 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 1 only
- d. 1 and 2 only

Solution: c


Explanation:

Here again we will go to website and learn. No other sources.

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. **Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.**

 CITES is an international agreement to which States and regional economic integration organizations adhere voluntarily. States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties. Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties – in other words they have to implement the Convention – it does not take the place of national laws. Rather it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in **1963** at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union). **It is also called Washington Convention** as it was signed here.

 Signed at Washington, D.C., on 3 March 1973

Amended at Bonn, on 22 June 1979

Amended at Gaborone, on 30 April 1983

COP meeting is held after **every three years**.

Conference of the Parties

☒ Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Geneva (Switzerland), 17-28 August 2019

(Venue: Palexpo, Geneva, Switzerland)

☒ Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September-04 October 2016

(Venue: Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg)

☒ Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Bangkok (Thailand), 03-14 March 2013

(Venue: Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre)

Any COP in India?? Yes.

☒ Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties

New Delhi (India), 25 February-08 March 1981

Once you all Appendix of it:

Article II

☒ Fundamental Principles

☒ 1. Appendix I shall include all species threatened with extinction which are or may be affected by trade. Trade in specimens of these species must be subject to particularly strict regulation in order not to endanger further their survival and must only be authorized in exceptional circumstances.

☒ 2. Appendix II shall include:

(a) all species which although not necessarily now threatened with extinction may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival; and

(b) other species which must be subject to regulation in order that trade in specimens of certain species referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph may be brought under effective control.

☒ 3. Appendix III shall include all species which any Party identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing or restricting exploitation, and as needing the co-operation of other Parties in the control of trade.

☒ 4. The Parties shall not allow trade in specimens of species included in Appendices I, II and III except in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention.

During 2019 COP, Asian small-clawed and smooth-coated otters were included in **Appendix I** (earlier in appendix 1) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) at the ongoing 18th Conference of Parties (CoP) in Geneva on August 26, 2019.

CITES CoP 2019: Otters given highest protection from trade

Asian small-clawed as well as smooth-coated otters have been included in Appendix I of CITES



NEXT NEW

By DTE Staff

Last Updated: Tuesday 27 August 2019

Q74. Consider the following bodies.

1. Central Water Commission
2. Central Pollution Control Board
3. Animal Welfare Board

Which of the above is/are statutory bodies established under Environment Protection Act, 1986?

- a. 1 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. None

Solution: d

Explanation:

The **Central Pollution Control Board** of India is a statutory organisation under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was established in 1974 under the **Water Act, 1974**.

The **Animal Welfare Board of India** was established in 1962 under Section 4 of **The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**.

Central Water Commission is not a statutory body.

Q75. Consider the following statements regarding Solid Waste Management Rules (SWM), 2016.

1. It has replaced previously enacted replace the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000.
2. Waste generators now have to segregate into three streams- Biodegradable, Dry and Domestic hazardous waste.
3. The new rules mention the integration of ragpickers waste-pickers from informal sector to formal sector by state government.
4. Central Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Union mInister will be set up to monitor the implementation of rues.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Please read these Rules in complete in our Current Affairs section. [Click here](#).

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified the new Solid Waste Management Rules (SWM), 2016. These will replace the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000, which have been in place for the past 16 years.

The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000

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01/09/2000 | Ministry Of Environment And Forests

The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 shall apply to every municipal authority responsible for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes.

Segregation at source

The new rules have mandated the source segregation of waste in order to channelise the waste to wealth by recovery, reuse and recycle. Waste generators would now have to now segregate waste into three streams- Biodegradables, Dry (Plastic, Paper, metal, Wood, etc.) and Domestic Hazardous waste (diapers, napkins, mosquito repellants, cleaning agents etc.) before handing it over to the collector.

Institutional generators, market associations, event organisers and hotels and restaurants have been directly made responsible for segregation and sorting the waste and manage in partnership with local bodies. In case of an event, or gathering of more than 100 persons at any licensed/ unlicensed place, the organiser will have to ensure segregation of waste at source and handing over of segregated waste to waste collector or agency, as specified by the local authority.

User fees for collection

The new rules have given power to the local bodies across India to decide the user fees. Municipal authorities will levy user fees for collection, disposal and processing from bulk generators. As per the rules, the generator will have to pay "User Fee" to the waste collector and a "Spot Fine" for littering and non-segregation, the quantum of which will be decided by the local bodies.

Also, the new rules have mentioned about the integration of rag pickers, waste pickers and kabadiwalas from the informal sector to the formal sector by the state government.

The rules also stipulate zero tolerance for throwing, burning, or burying the solid waste generated on streets, open public spaces outside the generator's premises, or in the drain, or water bodies.

Fourth statement is wrong.

Constitution of a Central Monitoring Committee

The government has also constituted a Central Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, MoEF&CC to monitor the overall implementation of the rules. The Committee comprising of various stakeholders from the Central and state governments will meet once a year to monitor the implementation of these rules.

Q76. Consider the following statements.

1. Parliament can impose restrictions on the freedom of trade and commerce between states in public interest.
2. State can introduce bill for reasonable restrictions on trade and commerce within state only after previous sanction of the President.

Which of the following statement is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanations:

So, let's see the article. Best way to go for solutions in Polity is go through required article.

Article 302

302. Power of Parliament to impose restrictions on trade, commerce and intercourse.—Parliament may by law impose such restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse between one State and another or within any part of the territory of India as may be required in the public interest.

Power of Parliament to impose restrictions on trade, commerce and intercourse:

Parliament may by law impose such restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse between one State and another or within any part of the territory of India as may be required in the public interest. **Therefore, statement 1 is correct.**

Article 304:

State Legislature impose such reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse with or within that State as may be required in the public interest, **Provided, that no Bill or amendment for the purposes of clause shall be introduced or moved in the Legislature of a State without the previous sanction of the President. Therefore, statement 2 is also correct.**

~~304.~~ **Restrictions on trade, commerce and intercourse among States.**—Notwithstanding anything in article 301 or article 303, the Legislature of a State may by law—

(a) impose on goods imported from other States¹[or the Union territories] any tax to which similar goods manufactured or produced in that State are subject, so, however, as not to discriminate between goods so imported and goods so manufactured or produced; and

(b) impose such reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse with or within that State as may be required in the public interest:

Provided that no Bill or amendment for the purposes of clause (b) shall be introduced or moved in the Legislature of a State without the previous sanction of the President.

Q77. Consider the following statements.

1. The chairman or Speaker shall not accept resignation if he/she thinks resignation is not voluntary or genuine.
2. If a member of Parliament is absent from meetings for a period of 60 days without permission of the House, his seat becomes vacant.

Which of the above statement **is/are correct and part of Indian Constitution?**

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

Solution: C

Explanation:

Please refer to Constitution of India (P.M Bakshi or any other) for any polity related question. Try to read complete article from Constitution. It will give an idea about what provisions are part of original constitution or what has been added after amendment.

Coming back to question. Here we have two tasks.

- a. Whether statements given are correct or not.
- b. Whether correct statement is part of Constitution or not. Let's see now.

The element of acceptance of resignation was introduced by the Constitution (33rd Amendment) Act, 1974 to place a check on any forced resignation.

Central Government Act

Article 101(3) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(3) If a member of either House of Parliament

(a) becomes subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1) or clause (2) of Article 102, or

(b) resigns his seat by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, and his resignation is accepted by the chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, his seat shall thereupon become vacant: Provided that in the case of any resignation referred to in sub clause (b), if from information received or otherwise and after making such inquiry as he thinks fit, the chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, is satisfied that such resignation is not voluntary or genuine, he shall not accept such resignation

Therefore, statement 1 is right and is part of Indian Constitution.

Article 101(4) states:

Central Government Act

Article 101(4) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(4) If for a period of sixty days a member of either House of Parliament is without permission of the House absent from all meetings thereof, the House may declare his seat vacant: Provided that in computing the said period of sixty days no account shall be taken of any period during which the House is prorogued or is adjourned for more than four consecutive days

Therefore, statement two is incorrect as it is period of 60 days.

Q78. Which of the following is very near to the Equator?

- a. Manila
- b. Kuala Lumpur
- c. Singapore
- d. Jakarta

Solution: c

Explanation:

Singapore is located very close to Equator. Have a look at map below.



Q79. The person who first introduced Buddhism to China in the 1st century CE:

- a. Kumarjiva
- b. Kasyapa Matanga
- c. Vimalakirti
- d. Dhanmantri

Solution: b

Explanation:

Kasyapa Matanga was an Indian Buddhist monk who is traditionally believed to have first introduced Buddhism to China in the 1st century CE.

dream vision about the Buddha who established Buddhism in India, two of Ming's emissaries departed to search for Buddhist scriptures. Two Indian monks named *Kasyapa Matanga* and *Dharmaratna* came to the capital Luo-Yang by invitation of mission of Emperor Ming of Han in 65 CE.

They translated the Buddhist classics at the White Horse Temple (白馬寺) at LuoYang. They translated many scriptures; the first translation from *Sanskrit* to Chinese is the *Sūtra* of Forty-two Chapters (四十二章經), which was translated by Kasyapa Matanga. This was the first Buddhist Sūtra in Chinese language and has the pride of place in the history of Chinese Buddhism. *Dharmaratna* translated the '*Dasa Bhūmi*', apart from five others.

T

Q80. Tamasha Paintings are related to:

- a. Mewar School of Paintings
- b. Kishangarh School of Paintings
- c. Marwar school of Paintings
- d. Kangra Paintings

Solution: a

Explanation:

Tamasha Paintings are related to Mewar School of Paintings.

Mewar is a region in the south-central part of Rajasthan state of India. It includes the present-day districts of Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, **Udaipur**, Pirawa Tehsil of Jhalawar District of Rajasthan, Neemuch and Mandsaur of Madhya Pradesh and some parts of Gujarat.

In the ~~eighteenth~~ sixteenth century, Udaipur court artists began to produce, alongside the traditional smaller genealogical and poetic paintings, large-scale paintings of rulers partaking in pleasurable activities in their palaces and gardens, going on processions, participating in festivals, and watching animal fights or musical performances. Khera explains that these paintings that situate royal portraits within architectural and urban settings have often been referred to as tamasha, or "spectacle" paintings by scholars, and have been interpreted as little more than documentation of the hedonistic excesses of the featured ruler. This

Q81. Consider the following features of Indo-Islamic architecture:

- 1. Sloping walls
- 2. Combination of arch, lintel and beam
- 3. A profusion of red sandstones

Which of the features given above are the characteristics of Tughlaq era buildings?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

The Tughlaq period had seen great building activity which marked the climax of the Delhi Sultanate. The striking feature of the Tughlaq architecture was sloping wall, also known as salami/bater. It gives the effect of strength and solidity to the building. **So, the statement (1) is correct.**

Tughlaqs deliberately attempted to combine the principles of the arch, lintel and beam in their buildings. This can be found in the buildings of Firoz Shah Tughlaq. Hauz Khas, which was a pleasure resort and had a huge lake around it, alternate stories have arches and the lintel and beam. **So, the statement (2) is also correct.**

The **Tughlaqs did not generally use the red sandstone** in their buildings but the cheaper and more easily available *Greystone*. Since it was not easy to carve this type of stone, the Tughlaq buildings have minimum decoration. **So, the statement (3) is not correct.**

Q82. In the context of Ancient History, '*Mulk-i-Tilang*' was:

- a. Punishment offered during reign of Mohammad Bin Tughlaq for non-payment of taxes
- b. A spy system during Tughlaq rule
- c. Coins issued during Tughlaq period
- d. Title given to Feroz Shah Tughlaq

Solution: c

Explanation:

1.1 Coinage

[The gold copper, billon and silver *tankas* of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq issued from his capital *dar-al-islam Delhi* followed the coin types of Khaljis. After the conquest of Tilangana, *tankas* in both metals i.e. gold and silver with the mint-name *mulk-i-Tilang* was issued by him. These coins are unusually well, struck carefully and met with in good condition. Ghiyasuddin issued gold (Cat No.35&36, Pl. No. XIV, Fig. No.104ABC)) and silver (Cat No.365&37, Pl.No.XIV, Fig. No.105ABC) coins with the legend as *sultan al ghazi ghiyasuddiniya waldin abul muzaffar* on one side and *tughlaq shah al-sultan nasir amir-ul-mominin* with the date and mint on the other. A very rare type of coins made of silver was jointly issued by local ruler of Bengal, Nasir al-din Ibrahim with the name of Ghiyasuddin Tuglaq.²

Q83. Consider the following.

1. The Khurasan and Karachil expeditions.
2. The introduction of token currency
3. Capital Transfer from Delhi to Deogiri.

Which of the above reforms does Mohammad Bin Tughlaq is associated with?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

2. MUHAMMAD BIN TUGHLAQ (AH 725-752/AD 1325-1351)

Uugh Khan ascended the throne in AH 725/AD 1325, under the name of Muhammad, and was usually referred to as Muhammad bin Tughluq. His tenure as Sultan proved to be the most remarkable of all Delhi Sultans but the precise sequence of events is difficult to ascertain. According to Habib and Nizami that "perhaps no other Sultan of medieval India has excited so much curiosity about himself and provoked so much criticism of his policies as Muhammad bin Tughlaq." Muhammad was a man of great contrasts. He was an energetic and innovative administrator, a fine military leader, had a keen sense of justice and morality, and was very generous. He was also learned in a variety of subjects and literature.

died. His three main experiments which failed are as follows for which he is known by some modern historians as a mad king.

- (i) Capital Transfer from Delhi to Deogiri.
- (ii) The Khurasan and Karachil expeditions.
- (iii) The introduction of token currency.

Muhammad Bin Tughlaq dreamt of conquering **Persia (Khurasan Expedition) and China (Quarachi Expedition)**. When he tried to execute these two projects, it met disastrous results.

Q84. Which of the following measures will promote wealth creation in India, as suggested by the Economic Survey 2019-20?

1. Pro-business policies to provide equal opportunities for new entrants to spur fair competition in the market.
2. Integrate 'Assemble in India for the world' into the flagship scheme of Make in India
3. More emphasis on the labor-intensive exports to reap comparative advantage.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

When a corporate willfully defaults on its loans, it harms its bank and creates negative externality to all other corporates as they get a lesser supply of credit because of lack of trust.

For instance, a market failure of trust happened around 2011-13 due to a few large unscrupulous promoters. This created large Non-performing assets in the banking system. Therefore, *Economic Survey* cites the ancient treatises on wealth creation such as *Thirukural* and *Arthashastra* to lend credence over the hand of trust and calls for need of hand of trust to complement invisible hand.

The Survey recommends pro-business policies to augment wealth creation as it would bring creative destruction led innovation and competition in the economy. It also revealed that by integrating the 'Assemble in India for the world' into Make in India can raise our market share to about 3.5% and would create 4 crore well paid jobs by 2025. **So, statements 1 and 2 are correct.**

As India has abundant labour so its comparative advantage lies in the export of labor-intensive products such as textiles, leather, footwear, etc. Currently, countries like Vietnam and Bangladesh are giving tough competition to India in such products. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

Link: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1601271>

Q85. The '**Head on Generation Technology in the railways**', sometimes in the news, is related to

- a. bringing energy efficiency in passenger trains through the environment-friendly innovative solution.
- b. powering the railway engines through solar cells, fitted on the roof of the train.
- c. introducing hydrogen trains for freight to further reduce the freight cost.
- d. anti-collision technology to reduce rail accidents especially during the winter season.

Solution: a

Explanation:

Indian Railways have come up with an energy-efficient and environment-friendly innovative solution to address the issues of air & noise pollution and energy efficiency in running of passenger trains. An improvised converter has been developed, which is fitted in Electric locomotives which can replace these diesel generators. It uses power from overhead catenary to feed auxiliaries in the coaches hauled by Electric locomotives. This requires locomotives as well as coaches to be modified for making them suitable for **Head On Generation (HOG)**.

Currently, premium passenger trains fitted with Air-Conditioned coaches and running traditionally on the End-on-Generation (EOG) system are contributing much towards air and noise pollution. Whereas the major advantages of the HOG system include a reduction in noise from 100dB noise to noiseless, reduced diesel consumption leading to huge savings in operational costs. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Head on Generation (HOG) - A step towards energy efficiency

1. Preamble

Indian Railway is manufacturing 3-phase electric locomotives at Chittaranjan locomotive works (CLW) i.e. WAP5, WAP7 and WAG9 locomotives. These locomotives take power from OHE through pantograph to traction transformer. Traction transformer of WAP5 and WAP7 is provided with a hotel load winding to cater for the power supply to coaches (also referred to as Hotel Load).

With the technological up-gradation and continuous advancements in the field of power electronics, control system and power supply systems, Indian Railways has decided to adopt an energy efficient power supply system for power supply to the coaches referred to as Head On Generation (HOG) for Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains, presently having "End on Generation" (EOG) system. LHB type of coaches are best suited for adoption of "Head on Generation" (HOG) scheme as the rake integrity with these coaches is expected to be maintained due to the specific design of their inter vehicle mechanical coupling.

Q86. Which of the following offices are appointed by the President of India?

1. Chief Minister of Delhi
2. Chief Justice of a High Court
3. Speaker Pro tem of the Lok Sabha
4. Chief Secretary of a State

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Under the Constitution, the Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Delhi shall be **appointed by the President** and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Chief Minister and the Ministers shall hold office during the **pleasure of the President**. So, **statement 1 is correct**.

The Chief Justice of a High Court is **appointed by the President** with the consultation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Governor of the State. The other Judges are appointed by the will of President, Governor and the Chief Justice of High Court. So, **statement 2 is correct**.

As per the second proviso to Article 94 of the Constitution, the office of the Speaker becomes vacant immediately before the first meeting of the new Lok Sabha. In that case, the **duties of**

the Speaker are to be performed by a Member of the House appointed for this purpose by the President as Speaker pro tem. So, statement 3 is correct.

The post of Chief Secretary is the senior-most position held in the civil services of the States and union territories of India. The position is a cadre post for the Indian Administrative Service. The Chief Secretary of the state is selected by the Chief Minister, though the Government Order of his **appointment is issued in the name of the Governor**. In Union Territories of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir and Puducherry, the Chief Minister chooses the Chief Secretary and is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. **So, statement 4 is not correct.**

Q87. Consider the following statements.

1. When the office of Speaker and Deputy Speaker is vacant, the duty is performed by the person as Lok Sabha appoints unanimously.
2. Non-member cannot be appointed as a speaker.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

While the office of Speaker is vacant, the duties of the office shall be performed by the Deputy Speaker or, if the office of Deputy Speaker is also vacant, by such member of the House of the People as the **President may appoint for the purpose**. *Therefore, first statement is wrong.*

To be appointed as a speaker, he/she must be a member of the house. *Therefore, second statement is correct.*

Central Government Act

Article 95 in The Constitution Of India 1949

95. Power of the Deputy Speaker or other person to perform the duties of the office of, or to act as, Speaker

(1) While the office of Speaker is vacant, the duties of the office shall be performed by the Deputy Speaker or, if the office of Deputy Speaker is also vacant, by such member of the House of the People as the President may appoint for the purpose

Central Government Act

Article 94 in The Constitution Of India 1949

94. Vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the offices of Speaker and Deputy Speaker A member holding office as Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the House of the People

(a) shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the House of the People;

Q88. The person who first introduced Buddhism to China in the 1st century CE:

- e. Kumarjiva
- f. Kasyapa Matanga
- g. Vimalakirti
- h. Dhanmantri

Solution: b

Explanation:

Kasyapa Matanga was an Indian Buddhist monk who is traditionally believed to have first introduced Buddhism to China in the 1st century CE.

dream vision about the Buddha who established Buddhism in India, two of Ming's emissaries departed to search for Buddhist scriptures. Two Indian monks named *Kasyapa Matanga* and *Dharmaratna* came to the capital Luo-Yang by invitation of mission of Emperor Ming of Han in 65 CE.

They translated the Buddhist classics at the White Horse Temple (白馬寺) at LuoYang. They translated many scriptures; the first translation from *Sanskrit* to Chinese is the *Sūtra* of Forty-two Chapters (四十二章經), which was translated by Kasyapa Matanga. This was the first Buddhist Sūtra in Chinese language and has the pride of place in the history of Chinese Buddhism. *Dharmaratna* translated the '*Dasa Bhūmi*' anant from five others

Q89. **Tamasha Paintings** are related to:

- e. Mewar School of Paintings
- f. Kishangarh School of Paintings
- g. Marwar school of Paintings
- h. Kangra Paintings

Solution: a

Explanation:

Tamasha Paintings are related to Mewar School of Paintings.

Mewar is a region in the south-central part of Rajasthan state of India. It includes the present-day districts of Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, **Udaipur**, Pirawa Tehsil of Jhalawar District of Rajasthan, Neemuch and Mandsaur of Madhya Pradesh and some parts of Gujarat.

In the eighteenth century, Udaipur court artists began to produce, alongside the traditional smaller genealogical and poetic paintings, large-scale paintings of rulers partaking in pleasurable activities in their palaces and gardens, going on processions, participating in festivals, and watching animal fights or musical performances. Khera explains that these paintings that situate royal portraits within architectural and urban settings have often been referred to as tamasha, or “spectacle” paintings by scholars, and have been interpreted as little more than documentation of the hedonistic excesses of the featured ruler. This

Q90. Consider the following states.

1. Mizoram
2. Meghalaya
3. Arunachal Pradesh

Arrange the above states in the **ascending order** of the **number of boundaries they share with other states**.

- a. 1-2-3
- b. 2-3-1
- c. 3-2-1
- d. 1-3-2

Solution: b

Explanation:

Meghalaya shares boundary with **Assam**.

Arunachal Pradesh shares boundary with **Assam and Nagaland**.

Mizoram shares boundary with **Assam, Tripura and Manipur**.



Q91. *Vishnudharmottara Purana*, *Citralaksana*, *Silparatna* are the texts belongs to:

- a. Music
- b. Dances
- c. Paintings
- d. Puppetry

Solution: c

Explanation:

4a. Indian Paintings and Mythology

Chitrasutras: The traditional Indian concept of painting (A.D. 450-650)

The 'Citrasutras' refers to all the texts related to "citras". The earliest known 'Citrasutras' are:

- a) *Citralaksana*, attributed to Nagnajit (The father of Indian painting).
- b) *Vishnudharmottara Purana*.

It is deduced that both these texts belonged to the early Gupta Period, i.e. about A.D. 450-650.

- c) The third Text which is of major significance is the '*Silparatna*'. It is a text written by Sri Kumara in the later part of the 16th century.

All 'citrasutras' explain painting in their own ways. They also present the myths of its origin (Nardi, 2006).

Q92. In the context of **locust attack in India**, Consider the following statements.

1. Locust survey and control operations are the responsibility of the Locust Warning Organization (LWO) within the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. Favourable conditions for desert locusts to breed consists of moist sand and green vegetation in arid areas.
3. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations is the international agency that monitors and manages locust invasions.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:


National Locust Programme

Locust survey and control operations are the responsibility of the Locust Warning Organization (LWO) within the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage (PPQS). LWO maintains two headquarters, one in Faridabad (near New Delhi) for administrative duties and one in Jodhpur (Rajasthan) for technical operations. LWO teams actively survey Desert Locust habitats every month of the year from four circle offices (Bikaner, Barmer, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer). In the past, each office supervised a number of outposts within its area of coverage. Each team uses eLocust2 to record and transmit data via satellite to the Locust Information Office at the Jodhpur field headquarters. During the summer, a monthly meeting is held on the Indo-Pakistan border for locust officers from India and Pakistan to exchange information on the current locust situation. The LWO is the oldest national locust monitoring system in any locust-affected country, dating from the pre-partition British colonial period.

'Irregular'

According to the government of India's Locust Warning Organisation (LWO), the attack this year is highly irregular as it has come earlier than usual and reached farther. "This time the locusts have come in May. That almost never happens. Maybe they got more fertile breeding ground this season," said K.L. Gurjar, deputy director at the directorate of plant protection, quarantine and storage.



 Favourable conditions for desert locusts to breed consists of moist sand and green vegetation in arid areas. These favourable conditions were made available to the locusts in the desert region of Africa and Arabian Peninsula due to heavy rainfall that the region witnessed in 2019. They then migrated to India via Iran and Pakistan.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations is the international agency that monitors and manages locust invasions. It says a swarm of locusts, which

contains about 40 million insects, can eat the same amount of food in one day as 35,000 people, 20 camels or six elephants.

Link: <https://thewire.in/agriculture/india-locust-attack-crop-damage-worst>

Q93. 'K-12 Education Transformation Framework' to facilitate a comprehensive digital transformation of schools, was recently seen in the news. It is an initiative of

- a. Facebook
- b. Ministry of HRD
- c. NITI Aayog
- d. Microsoft

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Microsoft K-12 Education Transformation Framework provides a holistic framework to facilitate a comprehensive digital transformation of schools. It comprises of four pillars- Leadership and Policy; Modern Teaching and Learning; Intelligent Environments and Technology Blueprint.



Q94. Consider the following statements regarding **ANtarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna or ANITA**.

- 1. The ANITA instrument is a radio telescope to detect ultra-high energy cosmic-ray neutrinos
- 2. ANITA is the first NASA observatory for neutrinos of any kind.

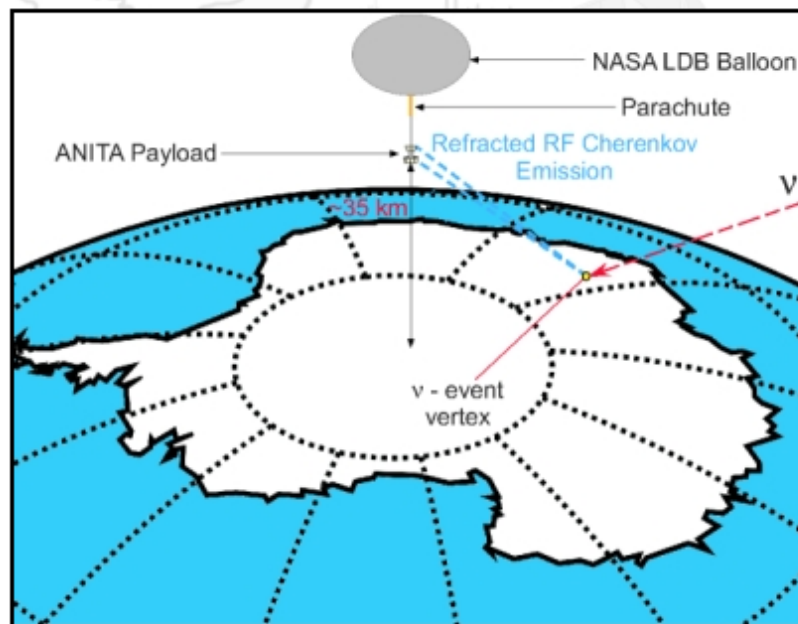
Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

✓ The ANITA instrument is a radio telescope to detect ultra-high energy cosmic-ray neutrinos from a scientific balloon flying over the continent of Antarctica. ANITA is the first NASA observatory for neutrinos of any kind.



✓ Why Study Neutrinos?

Neutrinos are of great interest to astrophysicist as they are the only particle that can reach earth unattenuated at all energies. This is particularly of interest at high energies where other particles and photons will interact with the photons of the microwave background making them unable to propagate and survive over long astrophysical distances. In other words - if you want to see the ultra-high energy universe, you should view it through the "light" of neutrinos.

Q95. Recently, India's *Khudol* has been lauded by the UN for its inclusive fight against the ongoing COVID-19 initiative. It is an initiative of which state?

- a. Mizoram
- b. Meghalaya
- c. Assam
- d. Manipur

Solution: d

Explanation:

OTHER STATES

U.N. kudos for LGBTQI initiative in Manipur



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI , MAY 22, 2020 17:18 IST

UPDATED: MAY 22, 2020 17:18 IST

State government follows NGO model, sets up quarantine centres for transgender people

The United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth has mentioned **Manipur's 'Khudol'** initiative in the top 10 global initiatives. **Khudol has been lauded by the UN for its inclusive fight against the ongoing COVID-19 initiative.**

Ya_All, an Imphal based NGO started Khudol which is a crowdfunded initiative. It ensures health, hygiene and food for LGBTQI+ community, daily wage earners, people living with HIV, adolescents, and children.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/un-kudos-for-lgbtqi-initiative-in-manipur/article31650715.ece>

Q96. Consider the following statements regarding **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)**.

1. It is a statutory body of Ministry of Women and Children Development under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
2. It is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions of Indian Children.
3. Government of India has ratified Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a **statutory body of Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India. Read below:**

CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AUTHORITY
(A Statutory Body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development)
West Block –VIII, Wing No- II, 2nd Floor, R.K Puram ,New Delhi -110066.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2005
Manual as listed in Section 4(1) (b) of the Act

1. THE PARTICULARS OF ITS ORGANIZATION, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) was set up in June 1990 by the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India to regulate, monitor and promote adoption of orphaned, abandoned or surrendered children, with the principal mandate of finding loving families for children in need of Care and Protection. Pursuant to a decision of the Union Cabinet dated 2nd July 1998, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment conferred autonomous status to CARA on 18th March 1999 by registering it as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Adoptions under the JJ Act 2000 enabled placement of children in adoption with involvement of recognised agencies and authorities for ensuring safeguards in adoption placement of institutionalised children.

Through Section 68 of the JJ Act 2015 notified by the Government of India on January 15, 2016, CARA attained the status of a Statutory Body with the mandate to regulate Inter Country Adoptions and the nodal body to implement the adoption programme in the country. CARA regulates and monitor all In-country and Inter-country adoptions through Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS). CARA aspires to place maximum children in institutional care with adoptive families. It was designated as Central Authority under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Inter-Country Adoption (1993) in 2003. Central Adoption Resource Authority is headed by Member Secretary & CEO and has a sanctioned strength of 37 officers and staff.

It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children **and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions.**

CARA is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the [Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993, ratified by Government of India in 2003.](#)

MEMBER

Party or REIO



India

Member since



13-III-2008

CARA primarily deals with adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children through its associated /recognised adoption agencies.

Q97. Recently government has amended General Financial Rules (GFRs). Consider the following statements regarding these Rules.

1. These Rules were issued for the first time in 1947 bringing together in one place all existing orders and instructions pertaining to financial matters.
2. The are administered by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Govt notifies changes in rules disallowing global tender for procurement up to Rs 200 cr

FM Sitharaman had last week announced an economic support package for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), which includes disallowing global tender for government procurement up to Rs 200 crore. The MSME package announced last week comprised Rs 3 lakh crore of collateral-free loans, which would benefit about 45 lakh small businesses.

PTI | Last Updated: May 21, 2020, 04:57 PM IST



NEW DELHI: The government has notified amendments to General Financial Rules (GFR) to ensure that goods and services valued less than Rs 200 crore are being procured from domestic firms, a move which will benefit MSMEs.

P R E F A C E

1. General Financial Rules (GFRs) are a compilation of rules and orders of Government of India to be followed by all while dealing with matters involving public finances. These rules and orders are treated as executive instructions to be observed by all Departments and Organisations under the Government and specified Bodies except otherwise provided for in these Rules.
2. General Financial Rules were issued for the first time in 1947 bringing together in one place all existing orders and instructions pertaining to financial matters. These have subsequently been modified and issued as GFRs 1963 and GFRs 2005.



Link: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-notifies-changes-in-rules-disallowing-global-tender-for-procurement-up-to-rs-200-cr/articleshow/75867265.cms>

Q98. In the context of Anglo-Indian community Political rights in India, consider the following statements.

1. They cannot vote in the Presidential election.
2. Anglo-Indian has been defined by Indian Constitution.
3. Under 10th Schedule Anglo-Indian members of Lok Sabha can take the membership of any party within six months of their nomination.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Anglo-Indian are defined in the Indian Constitution.

366. Definitions.—In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

(1) “agricultural income” means agricultural income as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian income-tax;

(2) “an Anglo-Indian” means a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only;

Election of the President: Nominated members can't vote in President's election.

54. Election of President.—The President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of—

(a) the elected members of both Houses of Parliament; and

(b) the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States.

²[*Explanation.*—In this article and in article 55, “State” includes the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union territory of *Pondicherry.]

Third statement is also correct.

According to the 10th Schedule of the Constitution, Anglo- Indian members of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies can take the membership of any party within six months of their nomination. But, once they do so, they are bound by their party whip.

Main Features of the Anti-Defection Law

Table 1: Anti-Defection provisions under the Tenth Schedule

Subject	Provision in the Tenth Schedule
Disqualification	a. If a member of a house belonging to a political party: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Voluntarily gives up the membership of his political party, or- Votes, or does not vote in the legislature, contrary to the directions of his political party. However, if the member has taken prior permission, or is condoned by the party within 15 days from such voting or abstention, the member shall not be disqualified. b. If an independent candidate joins a political party after the election.
	c. If a nominated member joins a party six months after he becomes a member of the legislature.
Power to Disqualify	a. The Chairman or the Speaker of the House takes the decision to disqualify a member.
	b. If a complaint is received with respect to the defection of the Chairman or Speaker, a member of the House elected by that House shall take the decision.
Exception	<u>Merger</u> A person shall not be disqualified if his original political party merges with another, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- He and other members of the old political party become members of the new political party, or- He and other members do not accept the merger and opt to function as a separate group. This exception shall operate only if not less than two-thirds of the members of party in the House have agreed to the merger.

Sources: Tenth Schedule of the Constitution; PRS.

Q99. Consider the following statements regarding **Competition Commission of India**.

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, Act, the Competition Commission of India has been established.
2. Chief Justice of India is the chairperson of the selection committee to appoint members of CCI.
3. Appellate against the decision of CCI go before National Company Law Appellate Tribunal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?


- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only
- d. 2 only

Solution: b


Explanation:

First Statement: It's Competition Act, 2002, NOT COMPANIES ACT.

Competition Commission Of India

-  The Competition Commission of India (CCI) was established under the Competition Act, 2002 for the administration, implementation and enforcement of the Act, and was duly constituted in March 2009. The following are the objectives of the Commission.

1. To prevent practices having adverse effect on competition.
2. To promote and sustain competition in markets.
3. To protect the interests of consumers and
4. To ensure freedom of trade

 Consequent upon a challenge to certain provisions of the Act and the observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Act was amended by the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 [MRTP Act] repealed and is replaced by the Competition Act, 2002, with effect from 01st September, 2009 [Notification Dated 28th August, 2009].

Union Minister is not the Chairman.

The Chairperson and other Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Central Government from a panel of names recommended by a Selection Committee consisting of –

¹⁷**[Selection Committee for Chairperson and Members of Commission]**

¹⁸9.(1) The Chairperson and other Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Central Government from a panel of names recommended by a Selection Committee consisting of –

- a) the Chief Justice of India or his nominee - Chairperson
- b) the Secretary in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs - Member
- c) the Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice - Member
- d) two experts of repute who have special knowledge of, and professional experience in international trade, economics, business, commerce, law, finance, accountancy, management, industry, public affairs or competition matters including competition law and policy - Member

National Company Law Tribunal is the Appellate Body.

Table 1: Tribunals proposed to be merged by amendments to the Finance Bill, 2017

Act	Tribunal being replaced	Tribunal to take over functions
Competition Act, 2002	Competition Appellate Tribunal	National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (under Companies Act, 2013)
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008	Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Appellate Tribunal	Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (under the TRAI Act, 1997)
Information Technology Act, 2000	Cyber Appellate Tribunal	
Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002	National Highways Tribunal	Airport Appellate Tribunal (under the Airport Authority of India Act, 1994)
Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952	Employees Provident Fund Appellate Tribunal	Industrial Tribunal (under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947)
Copyright Act, 1957	Copyright Board	Intellectual Property Appellate Board (under the Trade Marks Act, 1999)
Railways Act, 1989	Railways Rates Tribunal	Railway Claims Tribunal (under the Railways Claims Tribunal Act, 1987)

Q100. Consider the following statements:

1. He was elected as the president of Indian National Congress four times in 1909, 1918, 1932 and 1933.
2. He started the 'Abhyudaya' as a Hindi weekly in 1907.
3. He was appointed a member of the Indian Industrial Commission in 1916.

Above statements are about which among the following Personalities?

- a. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b. Lala Lajpat Rai

- c. Bipin Chandra Pal
- d. Madan Mohan Malaviya

Solution: d

Explanation:

December 25 was the birth anniversary of Madan Mohan Malaviya, the famed Indian educationist and freedom fighter who is also called 'Mahamana'. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (1861 – 1946) was an Indian educationist and a Freedom Fighter. **He was conferred the title of 'Mahamana' by Mahatma Gandhi.**

He was a moderate leader. He was elected as the president of Indian National Congress four times in 1909, 1918, 1932 and 1933, but owing to his arrest by the Government of India, he could not preside over the 1932 and 1933 sessions which had been banned.

✓ Malaviyaji started his own paper, a Hindi weekly, *Abhyudaya*, in 1907 and edited it till 1909. This weekly launched a relentless campaign through its columns for reforms in the Legislative Council, of which he had become a member in 1902. *Abhyudaya* was published as a daily in 1915, and again in 1926-1927 for a short time. Thereafter, it continued as a weekly under his overall supervision and guidance, but with different editors. It had a chequered career, due to clash with authorities. During its heydays, its circulation shot up from 3000 to 11000.

On 24 October 1909, Malaviyaji started *The Leader*, an English daily, by incorporating *Indian People* and He was its editor till 1911. *The Leader* was a formidable critic of government actions and plans and was popular with its readers. It came to have its own office in 1927. A companion Hindi journal, was a formidable critic of government actions and plans and remained popular and prosperous. It had its own building in 1927 and a companion Hindi journal, *Bharat*, was issued for the political enlightenment of Hindi-speaking people. Both *Abhyudaya* and *The Leader* rendered valuable service to the cause of national freedom for nearly four decades. Even after observing frugality, the paper could not overcome its financial losses. In March 1928, it was reborn as *The Hindustan Times Ltd* with the majority of the shares held by G.D. Birla. However, Malaviyaji continued as its chairman till his death.

He took a keen interest in the industrial development of the country and was therefore **appointed a member of the Indian Industrial Commission in 1916.**

