



Goaltide
A Prelims IAS Academy

Goaltide Daily Quiz (consolidation)

**October
2020
Part - I**

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Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).

1. India imports more than 50 percent of APIs from China.
2. The pharmaceutical industry in India is the largest in the world in terms of value and volume.
3. "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks" recently announced to reduce import dependence in APIs will be developed by private agencies in SEZs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First see what Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) is.

Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, abbreviated as API, **are chemical compounds which are used to manufacture medicinal drugs** and cause pharmacological activity or give direct effect in diagnosis, cure, or treatment of disease. **Acetaminophen or paracetamol is the API in Panadol, Dolo, and Crocin.** APIs are therefore required for the production of drugs for many kinds of illnesses like flu, aches, diabetes, cancer, AIDS, malaria, infections.

Now, for all above statements, we will go with original documents. No tension at all.

First statement is correct.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 251
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15th September, 2020

(a) & (b): Bulk drugs accounted for 63% of the total pharmaceutical imports in the country during 2019-20. India imports bulk drugs largely for economic considerations. The following are major countries from which India imported APIs during 2019-20.

S. No.	Country	Percentage share of import
1	CHINA P RP ✓	68.04 ✓
2	U S A	3.53
3	ITALY	3.02
4	SINGAPORE	2.88
5	SPAIN	2.17
6	GERMANY	1.85
7	FRANCE	1.56
8	JAPAN	1.53
9	DENMARK	1.26
10	HONG KONG	1.25

Source: DGCIS, Kolkata

Second statement is wrong.

The pharmaceutical industry in India is [third largest in the world](#), in terms of volume, behind China and Italy, and **fourteenth largest in terms of value**. It has a strong network of 3,000 drug companies and about 10,500 manufacturing units with a domestic turnover of Rs 1.4 lakh crore (USD 20.03 billion) in 2019, with exports to more than 200 countries in the world.

Third statement is wrong:

The Indian government is currently advocating for Atmanirbhar Bharat or self-sufficient India to revive the economy post the economic slowdown caused by COVID-19. A package to revive the API industry in the country has been announced as a part of the scheme.

Two schemes- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/ Drug Intermediates (DIs) & Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and **Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks were rolled out by the government in July this year.**

(d) & (e): Under the scheme 'Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks' financial assistance will be provided to the State implementing agencies for creation of common infrastructure facilities in Bulk Drug Parks to be developed by State Governments. Three Bulk Drug parks will be financed under the scheme. States will be selected on the basis of scores obtained by the proposals submitted by the states on a predefined selection criteria (given in the scheme guidelines available on the website of the department under the tab titled 'schemes'). A State Implementing Agency has to be a legal entity set up for the purpose of developing the Bulk Drug Park and having minimum 51% equity of the State government. No proposal has been submitted by the state government of Tamil Nadu. States can submit proposals under this scheme within a period of 60 days from the date of issuance of the scheme guidelines (guidelines were issued on 27th July, 2020).

Q2. Data recently provided by the government in Lok Sabha indicates that the number of fluorides affected habitations have decreased by almost 80% in the last 10 years. So, we will learn here basics of Fluoride. Consider the following statements.

1. Fluorosis is a disease which affects majorly our digestive system.
2. Rajasthan is the state in India which has highest number of Fluoride-affected habitations.
3. India has national programme for the prevention and control of fluorosis.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

Fluoride is beneficial to humans when consumed at optimum levels as it helps prevent dental caries. However, exposure to fluoride in high concentrations frequently results in damage to the bones and teeth of humans apart from the other ill effects, such as crippling, staining and pitting of teeth. **The disease caused by excess exposure is known as Fluorosis and is mainly of two types-** Dental Fluorosis and Skeletal Fluorosis. As the names suggest, Dental Fluorosis is when the **tooth enamel is damaged and Skeletal Fluorosis is when the bones are affected.**

Second statement is correct.

As per the latest data presented in the Lok Sabha in September 2020, a total of 5,485 habitations across 17 states are affected by fluoride contamination in drinking water across India. According to the Bureau of Indian Standards, the desirable limit of fluoride is **1 part per million or 1 milligram per litre.** Nearly 54% of these affected habitations are **in Rajasthan (2,956).**

State-wise details of Fluoride-affected habitations

(As on 13.09.2020)

S. No.	State	Number of Fluoride-affected habitations
1.	Andhra Pradesh	111
2.	Assam	33
3.	Bihar	861
4.	Chhattisgarh	154
5.	Haryana	33
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
7.	Jharkhand	81
8.	Karnataka	177
9.	Kerala	15
10.	Madhya Pradesh	276
11.	Maharashtra	29
12.	Odisha	69
13.	Punjab	211
14.	Rajasthan	2,956
15.	Tamil Nadu	236
16.	Uttar Pradesh	72
17.	West Bengal	169

Source: IMIS, DDWS

Third statement is correct.

National Programme for Prevention and Control of Fluorosis was launched in 2009

In the year 2009, **Government of India rolled out a national programme for the prevention and control of fluorosis (NPPCF)**. The plan has targeted around 200 districts across 17 states by focusing on diagnostic activities, treatment, and rehabilitation at village and district level. **Under the programme, the central government extends financial and technical support to States** to strengthen their healthcare systems based on the requirements submitted by the States in their Programme Implementation Plans.

Apart from this, the program also **aims to educate and create awareness about fluorosis and build capacity for prevention, diagnosis, and management of the cases**. Projects at the community level such as ensuring safe drinking water have also been rolled out in different parts of the country. Provision of safe drinking water coupled with nutrition supplements helps children fight fluorosis. Effective measures under the existing program are necessary since thousands of people in the country are still susceptible to the disease.

(b) to (d) Government is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission – Har Ghar Jal in partnership with States to provide every rural household in the country to have potable water supply through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024. While planning for potable water supply to households, priority is to be given to quality-affected habitations. Under Jal Jeevan Mission, State Governments have prepared Annual Action Plan *inter-alia* which includes potable water supply in Fluoride-affected habitations. Regular follow-up is done by the Ministry with State Governments to expedite the implementation including joint review meetings by Union Minister with Chief Minister of States.

Link: <http://164.100.24.220/loksabhaquestions/annex/174/AU895.pdf>

Q3. “Green Strategic Partnership” is recently seen in news with respect to:

- a. India and Finland
- b. India and Sweden
- c. India and Norway
- d. India and Denmark

Solution: d

Explanation:

NATIONAL

India, Denmark launch Green Strategic Partnership



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 23:16 IST

UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 23:16 IST

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A crucial milestone in the ever closer cooperation, says Mette Frederiksen

India and Denmark have begun a new era in the form of a “far reaching Green Strategic Partnership” that will give the country a special place in delivering sustainable solutions to India.

“It is a crucial milestone in the ever closer cooperation, especially in Green Tech, Danish solutions within, among other things, wind power, water technology and energy efficiency are in great demand in India, and on Monday’s agreement can therefore pave the way for increased Danish exports and investments,” Denmark said.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-denmark-launch-green-strategic-partnership/article32726691.ece>

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

1. Monetary Policy Committee is constituted under Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
2. It determines the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index.
3. The decision of the Committee would be binding on the RBI.
4. Union Finance Minister is the chairman of the committee.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is correct. Fourth statement is incorrect.

Monetary Policy Committee is defined in Section 2(iii)(cc) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 and **is constituted under Sub-section (1) of Section 45ZB of the same Act.**

45ZB. Constitution of Monetary Policy Committee.

- (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Committee to be called the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank.
- (2) The Monetary Policy Committee shall consist of the following Members, namely: —
 - (a) the Governor of the Bank—Chairperson, *ex officio*;
 - (b) Deputy Governor of the Bank, in charge of Monetary Policy—Member, *ex officio*;
 - (c) one officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board—Member, *ex officio*; and
 - (d) three persons to be appointed by the Central Government—Members.

Second statement is incorrect. Determining inflation Targeting and maintain Inflation Targeting are two different things.

45ZA. Inflation target.

- (1) The Central Government shall, in consultation with the Bank, determine the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index, once in every five years.
- (2) The Central Government shall, upon such determination, notify the inflation target in the Official Gazette.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a committee of the Central Bank in India (Reserve Bank of India), headed by its Governor, which is entrusted with the **task of fixing the benchmark policy interest rate (repo rate) to contain inflation within the specified target level.**

Third statement is correct.

The proceedings of MPC are confidential and the quorum for a meeting shall be four Members, at least one of whom shall be the Governor and, in his absence, the Deputy Governor who is the Member of the MPC.

The MPC takes decisions based on majority vote (by those who are present and voting). In case of a tie, the RBI governor will have the second or casting vote. **The decision of the Committee would be binding on the RBI.**

(3) The Monetary Policy Committee shall determine the Policy Rate required to achieve the inflation target.

(4) The decision of the Monetary Policy Committee shall be binding on the Bank.

Q5. Consider the following pairs.

Disputed Regions in news	Between
1. Kuril Island	Russia and China
2. Nagorno-Karabakh region	Syria and Iraq

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: D

Explanation:

Disputed Regions	Between
Kuril Island	Russia and Japan
Nagorno-Karabakh region	Armenia and Azerbaijan



Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Agriculture Investment Fund.

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme to mobilize a short-term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects.
2. The Scheme will be operational from 2020-21 to 2029-30.

3. Refinance support will be provided by SIDBI under this scheme.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Always try to read introduction part of any policy or scheme. It will give you basic idea which will help you to remember the scheme.

If you don't start this now, one month before exam, you will ask me, *sir do options main se eliminate ni ho paa rhe h. negative jada ho jaa rhe h* (English version: Sir, I am not able to reach answer after eliminating two options. Negative marking too much)

So, start with introduction now.

1. Introduction

The role of infrastructure is crucial for agriculture development and for taking the production dynamics to the next level. It is only through the development of infrastructure, especially at the post harvest stage that the produce can be optimally utilized with opportunity for value addition and fair deal for the farmers. Development of such infrastructure shall also address the vagaries of nature, the regional disparities, development of human resource and realization of full potential of our limited land resource.

In view of above, the Hon'ble Finance Minister announced on 15.05.2020 Rs 1 lakh crore Agri Infrastructure Fund for farm-gate infrastructure for farmers. Financing facility of Rs. 1,00,000 crore will be provided for funding Agriculture Infrastructure Projects at farm-gate & aggregation points (Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, Farmers Producer Organizations, Agriculture entrepreneurs, Start-ups, etc.). Impetus for development of farm-gate & aggregation point, affordable and financially viable Post Harvest Management infrastructure.

Accordingly, DAC&FW has formulated the Central Sector Scheme to mobilize a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects relating to post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets through incentives and financial support.

4 **Implementation Period of Scheme**

The Scheme will be operational from 2020-21 to 2029-30. Disbursement in four years starting with sanction of Rs. 10,000 crore in the first year and Rs. 30,000 crore each in next three financial years. Moratorium for repayment under this financing facility may vary subject to minimum of 6 months and maximum of 2 years.

9 **Refinance**

If required, need based refinance support will be made available by NABARD to all eligible lending entities including cooperative banks and RRBs as per its policy.

Q7. The easternmost Harappan site amongst the following is:

- a. Harappa
- b. Sutkagendor
- c. Mohenjo-Daro
- d. Chanhudaro

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q8. The first member of the Buddhist Monastic Sangha to gain 'Arhatship' was

- Ananda
- Sariputta
- Kondanna
- Mahakassapa

Solution: c

Explanation:

In Buddhism, an Arhat or arahant is one who has gained insight into the true nature of existence and has achieved nirvana.

The five ascetics who received the Buddha's first teaching after his enlightenment, and who requested permission to "go forth" as ordained followers, became the first members of the Sangha. Thus, the nucleus of the Buddhist monastic community was initially comprised of men who had already withdrawn from society and had been living for years as wandering mendicants.

After Kondanna was ordained, thus becoming the first member of the monastic Sangha, the Buddha gave more extensive explanations of his teachings to the Other four ascetics, so that, one by one, they attained the Dhamma-eye and were then ordained. Kondanna was also the first one to attain Arhatship.

Later the Buddha gave his second sermon, at which his disciples all attained the full experience of Nirvana — as he himself had done at his awakening — so as to become Arhat.

Other disciples, monastic and lay, followed, so that soon there were sixty-one Arahats, including the Buddha. Having such a body of awakened monk-disciples, the Buddha sent them out on a mission to spread the Dhamma.

Q9. Consider the following pairs.

Temples	Situated on river
Virupaksha Temple	Tungabhadra
Meenakshi Temple	Vaigai
Markandeshwar temple	Narmada

Which of the following pairs are matched correctly?

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

Solution: c

Explanations:

Temples	Situated on river
Virupaksha Temple	Tungabhadra
Meenakshi Temple	Vaigai
Markandeshwar temple	Wainganga

Situated on the banks of the beautiful river, **Tungabhadra**, **Virupaksha temple** is a magnificent marvel of Vijayanagar Empire. Dedicated to Lord Shiva (Virupaksha), the temple is extensively famous for its tall gopuram, grand architecture and intricate carvings. This South Indian Temple is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Located on the southern banks of river **Vaigai**, **Meenakshi Temple** is dedicated to Parvati and her consort, Lord Shiva. Also called Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple, this architectural marvel is a throbbing center of culture and art.

The temple of Markandadeo is known as the “Khajuraho of Vidarbha”. It is situated on the bank of River Wainganga in Maharashtra.

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding **Law Commission of India**.

1. The first Law Commission was established by the Charter Act of 1813 presided by Lord Macaulay.
 2. After independence, the first law commission was constituted from 1955-1958 under the Chairmanship of Mr. M. C. Setalvad.
 3. Law Commission is neither Statutory nor Constitutional Body.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

It doesn't matter you know second statement or not. You have to pay attention to first and second third statement. Third statement is correct. Now left with option a and b. If you don't know statement 1 also, then problem.

The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India from time to time. The Commission was originally constituted in 1955 and is re-constituted every three years. Constitution of India does not provide for creation of Law Commission of India and hence, **it is not a constitutional body.**

It is constituted through a government order and hence, it is created through an executive order.

The first Law Commission was established during the British Raj era in 1834 by the **Charter Act of 1833**. It was presided by Lord Macaulay After that, three more Commissions were established in pre-independent India. **The first Law Commission of independent India was established in 1955 for a three-year term.**

After independence, the first law commission was constituted for **a period of three years from 1955-1958 under the Chairmanship of Mr. M. C. Setalvad.**

The Ministry of Law and Justice has initiated the process to set up the 22nd Law Commission of India after the tenure of 21st Law Commission ended on 31st August 2018. 22nd is yet to be constituted.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding Phone tapings law in India.

1. Phone tapping is regulated under the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 in India.
2. Both Central and State government have been empowered to intercept phone communication in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India.

3. If a telephone has to be tapped, then the PMO is the authority who can issue an order to this effect.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Yes, it is correct that UPSC Prelims 2020 Paper was mostly based on analysis. But it doesn't mean this is the benchmark. We should not rule out questions based on facts too. So, we will now try to include both facts and analysis thing in our daily questions.

First and second statements is/are correct.

The Central and the State government can intercept communication. Letters, telephone (mobiles and landlines) and internet communication (e mails, chats etc.) can be intercepted by the government. Interception of:

- postal articles are governed by the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 [Section 26]
- **telephone is governed by the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 [Section 5(2)]**
- e -mails/chats etc. is governed by the Information Technology Act, 2000 [Section 69].

✓ Section 5 (2) of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 states "On the occurrence of any public emergency, or in the interest of the public safety, the Central Government or a State Government or any officer specially authorized in this behalf by the Central Government or a State Government may, if satisfied that it is necessary or expedient so to do in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of an offence, for reasons to be recorded in writing, by order, direct that any message or class of messages to or from any person or class of persons, or relating to any particular subject, brought for transmission by or transmitted or received by any telegraph, shall not be transmitted, or shall be intercepted or detained, or shall be disclosed to the Government making the order or an officer thereof mentioned in the order: Provided that press messages intended to be published in India of correspondents accredited to the Central Government or a State Government shall not be intercepted or detained, unless their transmission has been prohibited under this subsection."

The Supreme Court in *People's Union of Civil Liberties (PUCL) vs Union of India (UOI)*, laid down various guidelines regarding phone tapping which are as follows:

- If a telephone has to be tapped, **then the home secretary of the Union government** or the respective state government can issue an order to this effect.
- Strong reasons have to be specified in order to issue such a directive.
- Such an order shall be in force only for two months unless there is another, which will give the home secretary the right to extend it by another six months only.

The **Court, however, does not give the home secretary the absolute power** and states that such an order shall be subjected to review by the Cabinet, law and telecommunication secretary who would have to review the same in 2 months' time of the date the order has been passed. Additionally, the court held that records relating to phone tapping **should be used and destroyed within two months.**

PMO has no role. Third statement is not correct.

Q12. Consider the following statements regarding '**Golden mahseer**'.

1. Characterized by striking golden hues, small-bodied fish that have reached weights less than 5 kg and lengths of over 200 centimetres.
2. Golden mahseer is "naturally distributed" throughout the rivers of the south Himalayan drainage- the Indus, Ganges-Yamuna and Brahmaputra.
3. The golden mahseer is listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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: B

Explanation:

Its habitat, characteristics all we have asked in this question.

Now in UPSC, they will simply put, we can naturally find Golden Mahseer in:

- a. Western Ghats
- b. Himalayas
- c. North East
- d. Eastern Ghats

So, you know answer it is Himalayas. *Abhi asie hi question puchenge. Sikhna toh yhi se padega aapko* (They will ask such questions only. You can learn such things from this platform only). Don't follow any coaching thinking questions will come directly from it. **It's a 'pattern' and 'how to study' we teach, and that is important.**

First statement is incorrect

The golden mahseer (Tor putitora), known for their **striking golden hues, are large-bodied fish that have reached weights greater than 50 kg and lengths of over 200 centimetres.** Consequently, they are popular as sport fish. **Found in cold-water habitats of the Himalayan region, the presence of the endangered golden mahseer, a flagship**

species, indicates healthy freshwater ecosystems. The fish is very sensitive to change in water temperature; therefore, small climatic fluctuation may lead to a change in its genetic structure.

Second statement is correct

Golden mahseer is “[naturally distributed](#)” throughout the rivers (and associated reservoirs) of the south Himalayan drainage (the Indus, Ganges-Yamuna and Brahmaputra) from Pakistan (also unverified reports from Afghanistan) in the west to Myanmar in the east.



Third statement is correct:

Tor putitora

Assessment by: Jha, B.R., Rayamajhi, A., Dahanukar, N., Harrison, A. & Pinder, A.



Q13. Consider the following statements regarding **Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)**.

1. GPAI will bring together leading experts from industry, civil society and government to guide the responsible development and use of AI.
2. India is a founding member of GPAI.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

India joined the league of leading economies including USA, UK, EU, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore **to launch the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay).**

GPAI is an international and multi-stakeholder initiative **to guide the responsible development and use of AI, grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation, and economic growth.** This is also a **first initiative of its type for evolving better understanding of the challenges and opportunities around AI** using the experience and diversity of participating countries. In order to achieve this goal, the initiative will look to bridge the gap between theory and practice on AI by supporting cutting-edge research and applied activities on AI-related priorities.



In collaboration with partners and international organizations, **GPAI will bring together leading experts from industry, civil society, governments, and academia** to collaborate to promote responsible evolution of AI and will also evolve methodologies **to show how AI** can be leveraged to better respond to the present global crisis around COVID-19.

By joining **GPAI as a founding member**, India will actively participate in the global development of Artificial Intelligence, leveraging upon its experience around use of digital technologies for inclusive growth.

GPAI will be supported by a Secretariat, to be hosted by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, as well as by two Centers of Expertise—one each in Montreal and Paris.

Q14. The famous '**Doha Amendment**' of 2012, is associated with which one of the following?


- a. Montreal Protocol
- b. Paris climate change agreement
- c. Kyoto Protocol
- d. Kigali Agreement

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Doha Amendment refers to the changes made to the **Kyoto Protocol in 2012**, after the First Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol concluded. The Amendment adds new emission reduction targets for Second Commitment Period (**2012-2020**) for participating countries.

~~Parties to the Kyoto Protocol~~ adopted an amendment to the Kyoto Protocol by decision 1/CMP.8 in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Kyoto Protocol, at the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) held in Doha, Qatar, on 8 December 2012.

On 21 December 2012, this 'Doha Amendment' was circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations acting in his capacity as Depositary to all Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Protocol. The Depositary notification can be found  [here](#).

Pursuant to Article 21, paragraph 7 and Article 20, paragraph 4, the amendment is subject to acceptance by Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. In accordance with Article 20, paragraph 4, the amendment **will enter into force** for those Parties having accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the Depositary of an instrument of acceptance by at least three fourths of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. This means that a total of 144 instruments of acceptance (excluding the European Union) are required for the entry into force of the amendment.

As of 2 October 2020, 145 Parties have deposited their instrument of acceptance, therefore the threshold for entry into force of the Doha Amendment has been met.

Link: <https://unfccc.int/process/the-kyoto-protocol/the-doha-amendment>

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding Atal Tunnel.

1. The tunnel is built in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 1,000 metres from the Mean Sea Level.
2. It has been described as longest highway tunnel in the world.
3. The elevation of Rohtang Pass is more than the Rohtang (Atal) Tunnel.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

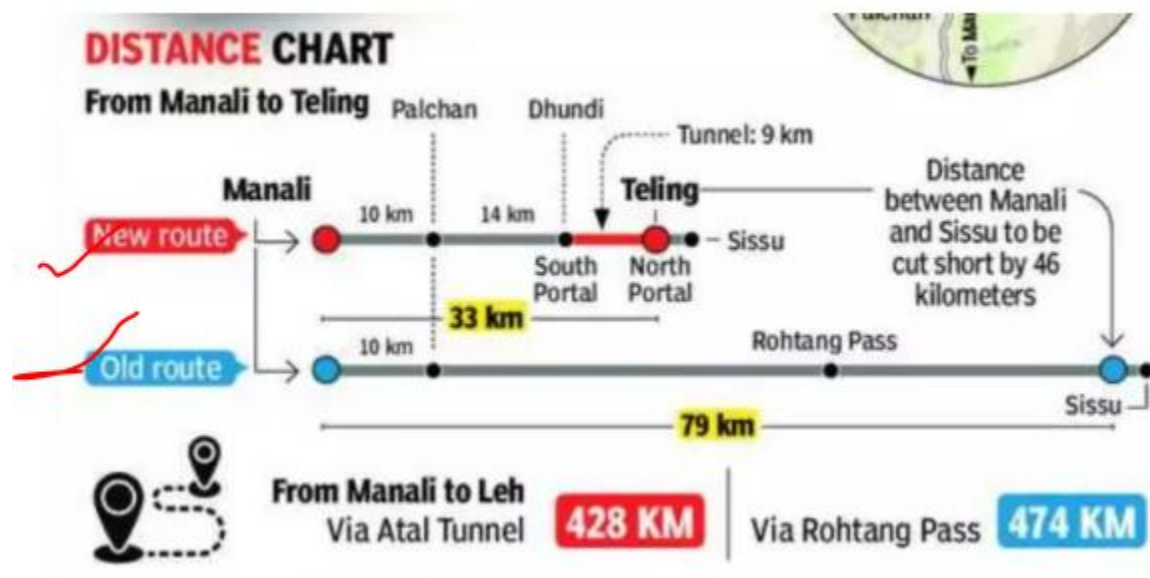
First statement is wrong. NOT 1,000.

Atal Tunnel (also known as Rohtang Tunnel) is a highway tunnel built **under the Rohtang Pass** in the eastern **Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas** on the Leh-Manali Highway in Himachal Pradesh, India at an altitude of **3,000 metres from the Mean Sea Level.**

Second statement is correct.

This **9.02 km long tunnel connects Manali to Lahaul & Spiti Valley throughout the year**. It has been named after former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. **It has been described as longest highway tunnel in the world.**

There are passes on the Manali-Leh highway like **Rohtang, Baralacha, Lungalacha La and Tallang La** and it is impossible to reach here in winter due to heavy snowfall. Earlier it used to take 5 to 6 hours to reach Sisu from Manali, now this distance can be completed in just one hour.



The tunnel is at an elevation of 3,100 metres (10,171 ft) whereas the Rohtang Pass is at an elevation of 3,978 metres (13,051 ft). **Third statement is wrong. You should know that is constructed under Rohtang Pass.**

Q16. **Data Governance Quality Index** was released recently by:

- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation
- NITI Aayog
- Ministry of Electronics and Communication

Solution: c

Explanation:

Niti Aayog released the Data Governance Quality Index on the performance of Ministries in implementing Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored schemes.

Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments and 3rd out of the 65 Ministries / Departments with a score 4.11 on a scale of 5 on Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI),

A Survey conducted by Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), Niti Aayog to assess different Ministries /Departments' performance on the implementation of Central Sector Schemes (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).

In this survey, an online questionnaire was prepared under six major themes of DGQI: **Data Generation; Data Quality; Use of Technology; Data Analysis, Use and Dissemination; Data Security and HR Capacity and Case Studies.**

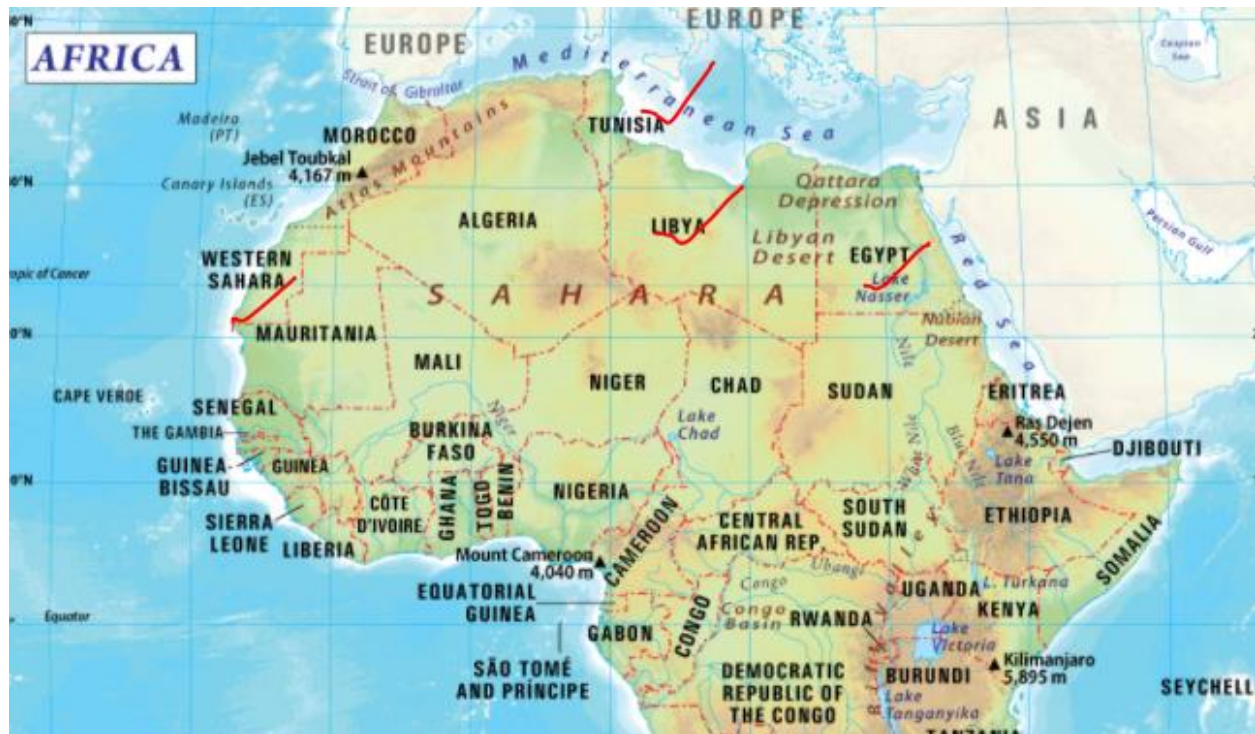
Q17. Which is the northernmost African Nation?

- a. Egypt
- b. Libya
- c. Tunisia
- d. Western Sahara

Solution: c

Explanation:

Gradually, till exam, we will learn each map. Go through other places also in map.



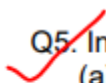

Q18. In India, separation of judiciary from the Legislature is enjoined by

- a. the Preamble of the Constitution
- b. a Directive Principle of State Policy
- c. the Seventh Schedule
- d. None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

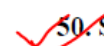
Similar question was asked in UPSC Prelims 2020, see below.

 Q5. In India, separation of judiciary from the executive is enjoined by
 (a) the Preamble of the Constitution
 (b) a Directive Principle of State Policy 
 (c) the Seventh Schedule
 (d) the conventional practice

Do mention in comment, who have done mistake in this question.

Article 50 of the Indian Constitution recommends state to take efforts to separate the **judiciary from the executive** in the public services of the State. **NOT LEGISLATIVE.**

Therefore, the correct answer is (d).

 **50. Separation of judiciary from executive.**—The State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State.

Q19. Consider the following statements.

1. The composition and qualifications of the Finance Commission is mentioned in the Constitution.
2. The Constitution provides for setting up of State Finance Commission for the audit of State Governments.

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:

So, to find correct explanations, let's first see below what is mentioned in Constitution.

Article 280 talks about Finance Commission

280. Finance Commission.—(1) The President shall, within two years from the commencement of this Constitution and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year or at such earlier time as the President considers necessary, by order constitute a Finance Commission which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President.

(2) Parliament may by law determine the qualifications which shall be requisite for appointment as members of the Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected.

As per the provisions, we can see that Constitution only talks about Composition. The Qualifications of Finance Commission is provided by the law enacted by the Parliament, i.e., THE FINANCE COMMISSION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1951. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission

3. Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission. The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs, and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who--

- (a) are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
- (b) have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
- (c) have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
- (d) have special knowledge of economics.

Article 243-I talks about State Finance Commission: It is for Panchayats, not for state government.

A State Finance Commission reviews the financial position of the panchayats in a state and makes recommendations to the Governor about the principles that should govern the distribution of tax proceeds – taxes, duties, levies, toll fee collected by the state between the state and its Panchayati Raj Institutions at all three levels – village level, block level and district level.

243-I. Constitution of Finance Commission to review financial position.—(1) The Governor of a State shall, as soon as may be within one year from the commencement of the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992, and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year, constitute a Finance Commission to review the financial position of the Panchayats and to make recommendations to the Governor as to—

(a) the principles which should govern—

(i) the distribution between the State and the Panchayats 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 Panchayats 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 Panchayats;

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

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

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

Therefore, statement 2 is incorrect.

Q20. If the RBI decides to adopt an expansionist monetary policy, which of the following would it not do?

1. Cut and optimize the Statutory Liquidity Ratio
2. Increase the Marginal Standing Facility Rate
3. Cut the Bank Rate and Repo Rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Expansionary monetary policy involves cutting interest rates or increasing the money supply to boost economic activity. An increase in the SLR constricts the ability of the bank to inject money into the economy which affects growth. **Thus, statement (1) is not correct.**

The MSF or Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate is the rate at which RBI lends funds overnight to scheduled banks, against government securities. RBI has introduced this borrowing scheme to regulate short-term asset liability mismatch in a more effective manner. MSF basically provides a greater liquidity cushion. Higher the MSF rate, more

expensive is borrowing for banks, as well as corporate borrowers and individuals. It is used by RBI to control the money supply in the country's financial system. **Thus, statement (2) is correct.**

The repo rate is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India lends money to commercial banks in order to help these lenders meet their short-term liquidity needs. If the repo rate is low, banks are required to pay lower interest amount towards loans. This impacts the loans taken by customers, who can also avail loans at lower interest rates. This boosts economic activity. The rate of interest charged by the central bank on the loans they have extended to commercial banks and other financial institutions is called "Bank Rate". When Bank Rate is increased by RBI, bank's borrowing costs increases which in return, reduces the supply of money in the market. **Thus, statement (3) is not correct. Therefore, the correct answer is (b).**

Q21. Currently, which of the following crops receives highest Minimum Support Price (MSP)?

- Rice
- Wheat
- Ragi
- Jowar

Solution: c

Explanation:

Very very important questions for Prelims exam. Please follow regularly. *50 percent students of Goaltide are getting more than 100 marks in UPSC Prelims 2020 exam. Rest 30 percent in the range 90-100. Those who have not cleared is because of anxiety and Time Management. No lack of knowledge.*

Ok, we will see here solution: Latest data we will paste below from government website:

Currently, **Ragi is the crop which receives the highest MSP**. For the Marketing year 2020-21, the **MSP for Ragi is Rs. 3295 per quintal**. It also has the highest increment during the 10-year period, the MSP has more than tripled from Rs. 1050 in 2011-12 to Rs. **3295 in 2020-21**.

Dated: 21.09.2020

Minimum Support Prices Recommended by CACP and Fixed by Government (Crop Year)

Commodity	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed
Jowar-Hybrid ✓	1500	1500	1500	1500	1530	1530	1570	1570	1625	1625	1700	1700	2430	2430	2550	2550	2620	2620
Jowar-Maldandi ✓	1520	1520	1520	1520	1550	1550	1590	1590	1650	1650	1725	1725	2450	2450	2570	2570	2640	2640
Bajra ✓	1175	1175	1175	1250	1250	1250	1275	1275	1330	1330	1425	1425	1950	1950	2000	2000	2150	2150
Ragi ✓	1500	1500	1500	1500	1550	1550	1650	1650	1725	1725	1900	1900	2895	2897	3150	3150	3295	3295

For the Marketing year of 2020-21, the MSP for the two variants of Paddy is Rs. **1868 and Rs. 1888** respectively i.e. an increase by 73% and 70% respectively in these 10 years.

QUIZ COMPILATIONS- OCTOBER ,PART ONE, 2020

Dated: 21.09.2020

Minimum Support Prices Recommended by CACP and Fixed by Government (Crop Year)

Commodity	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed
Paddy Common #	1250	1250	1310	1310	1360	1360	1410	1410	1470	1470	1550	1550	1745	1750	1815	1815	1868	1868
Paddy (F)/Grade'A'		1280	1345	1345	1400	1400	1450	1450	1510	1510	1590	1590	1770	1770	1835	1835	1888	1888

During the same period, the MSP of Wheat increased by 64.5% i.e. from Rs. 1350 in 2012-13 to Rs. 1975 in 2020-21.

Dated: 21.09.2020

Minimum Support Prices Recommended by CACP and Fixed by Government (Crop Year)

Commodity	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed
Wheat	1285	1350	1400	1400	1450	1450	1525	1525	1625	1625	1735	1735	1840	1840	1925	1925	1975	1975

Now, if question comes about wheat and Rice, which is greater, which is our second question today, you will remember. Don't forget.

Q22. Consider the following statements.

1. MSP for rice is always greater than MSP for wheat.
2. Production of wheat is greater than production of rice for last three years.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

MSP for wheat is greater than MSP for Rice.

Dated: 21.09.2020

Minimum Support Prices Recommended by CACP and Fixed by Government (Crop Year)

Commodity	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed
Paddy Common #	1250	1250	1310	1310	1360	1360	1410	1410	1470	1470	1550	1550	1745	1750	1815	1815	1868	1868
Paddy (F)/Grade'A'		1280	1345	1345	1400	1400	1450	1450	1510	1510	1590	1590	1770	1770	1835	1835	1888	1888

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Dated: 21.09.2020

Minimum Support Prices Recommended by CACP and Fixed by Government (Crop Year)

Commodity	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed	Reco	Fixed
Wheat	1285	1350	1400	1400	1450	1450	1525	1525	1625	1625	1735	1735	1840	1840	1925	1925	1975	1975

Production of Rice is greater than Production of wheat.

RICE PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT IN FIVE CROP YEARS

(In Lakh Tons/लाख टन में)

2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
Prod.	Proc.	Prod.	Proc.	Prod.	Proc.	Prod.	Proc.	\$Prod.	Proc.(As on 31.8.2020
1044.08	342.18	1096.98	381.06	1127.58	381.85	1164.78	443.99	1179.39	510.12

WHEAT PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMT IN FIVES CROP YEARS

(In Lakh Tons/लाख टन में)

Sates/Uts/ राज्यसंघ राज्य क्षेत्र /	Prod. Crop Year 2015-16	Proc. RMS 2016-17	Prod. Crop Year 2016-17	Proc. RMS 2017-18	Prod. Crop Year 2017-18	Proc. 2018-19 RMS	Prod. Crop Year 2018-19	Proc. RMS 2019-20	\$ Prod. Crop Year 2019-20	Proc. RMS 2020-21 31.8.2020
ALL INDIA TOTAL	922.88	229.62	985.11	308.25	998.70	357.95	1035.96	341.33	1071.79	389.83

Q23. Which one among the following nations border both Red Sea and the Persian Gulf?

- Yemen
- Oman
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates

Solution: c

Explanation:

If you don't remember map, you can never solve this. Very easy map. Look at other places too.



Q24. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Shaurya' is an indigenously developed nuclear capable hypersonic missile, with a strike range of around 1,000 km.
2. It is a land variant of India's K-15 missile.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

“DRDO officials rate Shaurya as one of the top 10 missiles in the world.”

India on Saturday successfully test fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable hypersonic missile ‘Shaurya’ with a strike range of around 1,000 km from a test range in Odisha, defence sources said.

‘Shaurya’, which is the land variant of Indias K-15 missile, has a strike range of 700 km to 1000 km and is capable of carrying payloads of 200 kg to 1000 kg, the sources said.

The surface-to-surface tactical missile was blasted off from a canister strapped to the ground launcher from launch complex 4 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in the APJ Abdul Kalam Island around 12.10 pm and covered the desired range, they said.

It is 10 metres long, 74 cm in diameter and weighs 6.2 tonnes. Its two stages use solid propellants.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/shaurya-successfully-test-fired/article32759394.ece>

Q25. Consider the following statements **Ambedkar Social Innovation & Incubation Mission (ASIIM)**.

1. The Objective of this mission is to promote entrepreneurship among the SC Youth with special preference to Divyangs.
2. It has been launched under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read Introduction:

1.1. With a view to developing entrepreneurship amongst the SC/Divyang youth and to enable them to become 'job-givers', Ministry of Social Justice, Government of India had launched the Venture Capital Fund for SCs (VCF-SC) in 2014-15. The Objective of this fund is to provide concessional finance to the entities of the SC entrepreneurs. Under this fund, 117 companies promoted by SC entrepreneurs have been sanctioned financial assistance to set up business ventures.

1.2. In order to promote innovation and entrepreneurship amongst SC students in the higher education campuses, there is a need to identify innovative ideas and provide focussed support to young entrepreneurs who are engaged in working on innovative and technology-oriented business ideas either in educational campuses or Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) to help them setup successful commercial enterprises. Such an action will not only allow the SC students to pursue with innovation and entrepreneurship, but will give a further boost to the Stand Up India programme of the Government.

1.3. In accordance with the above, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India has decided to launch an initiative named "**Ambedkar Social Innovation Incubation Mission (ASIIIM)**" through the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes(VCFSC).

Objectives:

- The main objectives of ASIIIM are:
- To promote entrepreneurship among the SC Youth with special preference to Divyangs.
 - To support (1,000) innovative ideas till 2024 through a synergetic work with the Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) set up by Department of Science and Technology.
 - To support, promote, hand-hold the start-up ideas till they reach commercial stage by providing liberal equity support.
 - To incentivise students with innovative mindset to take to entrepreneurship with confidence.

Benefits:

- 1,000 SC youth would be identified in the next 4 years with start-up ideas through the Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) in various higher educational institutions.
- They will be funded @ Rs. 30 lakhs in 3 years as equity funding so that they can translate their start-up ideas into commercial ventures.
- Successful ventures would further qualify for venture funding of up to Rs. 5 Crore from the Venture Capital Fund for SCs.

Who is eligible for support under ASIIM?

3.2. Eligibility: The following SC/Divyang youth would be eligible for support under ASIIM:

- a) Youth who have been identified by the TBIs being promoted by Department of Science & Technology.
- b) Youth who are identified for incubation by reputed private TBIs.
- c) Students who have been awarded under the Smart India Hackathon or Smart India Hardware Hackathon being conducted by Ministry of Education.
- d) Innovative ideas focusing on the socio-economic development of the society identified in the TBIs.
- e) Start-ups nominated and supported by corporates through CSR funds.

Q26. Which of the following organization does India is a member of:

1. Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF)
2. Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is an informal strategic forum between the **United States, Japan, Australia and India** that is maintained by semi-regular summits, information exchanges and military drills between member countries.

The Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) is an **international forum** of 29 countries and the European Union **with an overarching mission of reducing the vulnerability of people worldwide to terrorism by preventing, combating, and prosecuting terrorist acts and countering incitement and recruitment to terrorism.**

Members and Partners:

The 30 founding Members of the GCTF are:

Algeria	France	The Netherlands	Spain
Australia	Germany	New Zealand	Switzerland
Canada	India	Nigeria	Turkey
China	Indonesia	Pakistan	United Arab Emirates (UAE)
Colombia	Italy	Qatar	United Kingdom (UK)
Denmark	Japan	Russian Federation	United States (US)
Egypt	Jordan	Saudi Arabia	
European Union (EU)	Morocco	South Africa	

Q27. Consider the following statements regarding Amnesty International.

1. It is a non-governmental organization with its headquarters in the United Kingdom focused on human rights.
2. One of the aims of Amnesty is to campaign to stop the unregulated flow of all weapons.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News was:

Amnesty International India halts its work on upholding human rights in India due to reprisal from Government of India

29 September 2020, 21:45 UTC

Know the basics about this body.

Amnesty International (AI), international nongovernmental organization (NGO) founded in London on May 28, 1961, that seeks to publicize violations by governments and other entities of rights recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), especially freedom of speech and of conscience and the right against torture. It also

works with intergovernmental human rights bodies to expand and enforce human rights protections in international law. In 1977 **AI was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace.**

Now, it is important to know, it is not only for protecting human rights, it is involved in other campaigns too. One of these is Arms control. Click [this link](#) to see its activities once.

Q28. Consider the following statements

1. The Legislative Councils in a State in India can be created or abolished by the President after the State Assembly passes a resolution to that effect.
2. Currently in India, only six States have their own Legislative Council.

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: b

Explanation:

The Legislative Councils in a State in India can be created or abolished by **the Parliament.**

169. Abolition or creation of Legislative Councils in States.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in article 168, Parliament may by law provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council or for the creation of such a Council in a State having no such Council, if the Legislative Assembly of the State passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present and voting.

(2) Any law referred to in clause (1) shall contain such provisions for the amendment of this Constitution as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of the law and may also contain such supplemental, incidental and consequential provisions as Parliament may deem necessary.

(3) No such law as aforesaid shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of article 368.

Currently only 6 states **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka have legislative council.** So, statement 2 is correct.

Q29. Consider the following statements:

1. The first election for Rajya Sabha held in 1952.
2. Uttar Pradesh has the largest number of seats in Rajya Sabha followed by Maharashtra.
3. Member less than 35 Years is not qualified to be member of Rajya Sabha.

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: a

Explanation:

First elections for Rajya Sabha was held in 1952.

Most of the students know that the maximum number of seats in Rajya Sabha is from Uttar Pradesh (31 seats). Go one step ahead. UPSC may ask to create pressure on you.

UP-31, Maharashtra-19, Tamil Nadu-18, West Bengal-16. All north-Eastern states have one seat.

Second important thing is if you even don't know about second statement, you can correct this question if you are sure about statement 3. **Third statement is wrong. So, you are left with only one option.**

Eligibility

Qualifications

Article 84 of the Constitution lays down the qualifications for membership of Parliament. A person to be qualified for the membership of the Rajya Sabha should possess the following qualifications:

1. he must be a citizen of India and make and subscribe before some person authorized in that behalf by the Election Commission an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule to the Constitution;
2. he must be not less than **30** years of age;
3. he must possess such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by Parliament.

Q30. Intanki National Park is in:

- a. Nagaland
- b. Manipur
- c. Arunachal Pradesh
- d. Mizoram

Solution: a

Explanation:

This National Park is in Nagaland.

Q31. Consider the following statements.

1. Hepatitis C, unlike Hepatitis B, does not have a vaccine.
2. Hepatitis C vaccine is not included in the immunization Programme in India.
3. Unlike Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C virus is not spread through blood transfusion or sexual transmission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Three scientists who discovered the virus Hepatitis C have won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology. The winners are British scientist Michael Houghton and US researchers Harvey Alter and Charles Rice.

Nobel Prize for Medicine goes to Hepatitis C discovery

By James Gallagher
Health and science correspondent

🕒 3 days ago

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV): the virus can cause both acute and chronic hepatitis, ranging in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness. **Hepatitis C is a major cause of liver cancer.**

First statement is correct.

Hepatitis A, B, C, and D are types of viral illness that can affect the liver. **While vaccines exist for hepatitis A and B, there is currently no vaccine for hepatitis C.**

- WHO estimated that in 2016, approximately 399 000 people died from hepatitis C, mostly from cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (primary liver cancer).
- Antiviral medicines can cure more than 95% of persons with hepatitis C infection, thereby reducing the risk of death from cirrhosis and liver cancer, but access to diagnosis and treatment is low.
- There is currently no effective vaccine against hepatitis C; however, research in this area is ongoing.

Second statement is correct. Hepatitis B is included.

The immunization program consists of vaccination for 12 diseases- tuberculosis, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, **hepatitis B**, diarrhoea, Japanese encephalitis, rubella, pneumonia (haemophilus influenzae type B) and Pneumococcal diseases (pneumococcal pneumonia and meningitis)

Statement 3 is wrong.

Transmission

The hepatitis C virus is a bloodborne virus. It is most commonly transmitted through:

- injecting drug use through the sharing of injection equipment;
- the reuse or inadequate sterilization of medical equipment, especially syringes and needles in healthcare settings;
- the transfusion of unscreened blood and blood products;
- sexual practices that lead to exposure to blood (for example, among men who have sex with men, particularly those with HIV infection or those taking pre-exposure prophylaxis against HIV infection).

HCV can also be transmitted sexually and can be passed from an infected mother to her baby; however, these modes of transmission are less common.

Hepatitis C is not spread through breast milk, food, water or casual contact such as hugging, kissing and sharing food or drinks with an infected person.

WHO estimates that in 2015, there were 1.75 million new HCV infections in the world (23.7 new HCV infections per 100 000 people).

Link: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54418463>

Q32. Which of the following places does Equator passes?

1. Velds grassland
2. Sahara Desert
3. Amazon forest
4. Alps mountain

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

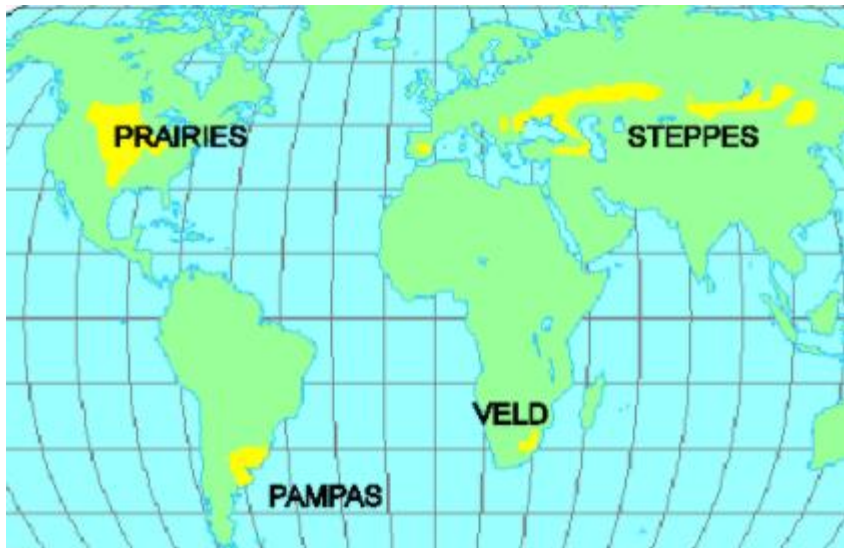
Explanation:

Now, they won't ask which country, my country, your country, does equator passes. Enough of such questions. So, we will move step ahead in every such questions. ***But, at the same time remember, we will learn basics too. UPSC can ask now anything from anywhere. Don't just sit and start doing analysis now for every question. Be prepare for everything.***

The equator passes through 13 countries: **Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Maldives, Indonesia and Kiribati.**

Now, Amazon Forest clearly visible, equator will pass (see countries). See all maps below. Equator doesn't pass through any.





Q33. With reference to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), consider the following statements:

1. CEPI is an UN led innovative global partnership between public, private and civil society organizations aim to accelerate the development of vaccines against emerging infectious diseases
2. India is a member of this coalition.

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: b

Explanation:

News:

3 min read . Updated: 05 Oct 2020, 09:43 PM IST

Neetu Chandra Sharma

The CEPI network will initially involve six labs, one each in Canada, Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Bangladesh and India



Topics

CEPI | THSTI

The global Initiative of Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness for Innovation (CEPI) has identified an Indian laboratory for centralised assessment of Covid-19 vaccines.

CEPI is an innovative global partnership between public, private, philanthropic, and civil society organizations launched in Davos in 2017 to develop vaccines to stop future epidemics. **NO ROLE OF UN.**

Our mission is to accelerate the development of vaccines against emerging infectious diseases and enable equitable access to these vaccines for people during outbreaks.

Investors & Partners

CEPI was founded in Davos by the governments of Norway and India, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and the World Economic Forum.

Q34. DRDO has recently tested a new weapon system called the **SMART**. What is it?

- a. A short-range ballistic missile
- b. A system meant to conduct anti-submarine warfare operations "far beyond" torpedo range.
- c. Anti-tank guided missile
- d. A system meant to destroy missiles beyond visual range

Solution: b

Explanation:

The **ministry of defence announced that the DRDO has tested a new weapon system called the Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART)** from its test facility at Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.

Plaudits aside, what exactly is SMART?

SMART has been a seemingly 'mysterious' project for the DRDO with few details available on what the system was, unlike the programme to build ballistic missiles or a stealth fighter.

One of the first details of what SMART is came from the ministry of defence's annual report for 2018 to 2019. In the report, the ministry of defence noted, "DRDO has taken up a project to develop and demonstrate a missile-assisted release of light weight anti-submarine torpedo system for ASW operations far beyond torpedo range (50-650 km)." The ministry of defence also noted that ejection trials had been conducted with a Torpedo Advanced Light (TAL), an indigenously developed torpedo, which is also called the Shyena.

From the available information, it is clear the SMART is a rocket system that carries an anti-submarine torpedo as its payload. Such rocket systems fly to a designated point over water, before releasing their torpedoes.

Why rocket-assisted torpedoes matter

Surface warships, particularly in western navies, have typically carried light-weight torpedoes as their primary weapon for anti-submarine warfare as heavy-weight torpedoes are significantly larger in diameter, meaning fewer can be carried.

However, light-weight torpedoes also have shorter range. For example, the Shyena is estimated to have a range of around 20km. The short range of light-weight torpedoes makes them, effectively, defensive weapons against enemy submarines.

This would pose a significant disadvantage particularly if an enemy has a large number of submarines, in particular, nuclear-powered vessels that have much higher submerged speed than conventional diesel-electric submarines.

Rocket-assisted torpedoes, effectively, extend a torpedo's range and also help it cover a larger distance in a shorter period of time.

Q35. Which one among the following crop is covered by Minimum Support Price (MSP)?

1. Sesamum
2. Sugarcane
3. Nigerseed
4. Bajra
5. Ragi
6. Bamboo
7. Tamarind

Select the correct code.

- a. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 only
- b. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 only
- c. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d. 2, 4, and 7 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

See the list:

Dated: 21.09.2020

Commodity
Paddy Common #
Paddy (F)/Grade'A'
Jowar-Hybrid
Jowar-Maldandi
Bajra
Ragi
Maize
Tur (Arhar)
Moong
Urad
Groundnut
Sunflower Seed
Soyabean Black
Soyabean Yellow
Sesamum
Nigerseed
Medium Staple Cotton
Long Staple Cotton ^^
Wheat
Barley
Gram
Lentil (Masur)
Rapeseed/ mustard
Safflower
Jute (TD5)
Sugarcane
Copra (Milling)
Copra (Ball)

Link: <https://cacp.dacnet.nic.in/ViewContents.aspx?Input=1&PageId=36&KeyId=0>

Q36. Which of the following agencies issues flood forecasts at various river points?

- India Meteorological Department
- Central Water Commission
- Central Pollution Control Board
- Central River Water Authority

Solution: b

Explanation:

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issues meteorological or weather forecasts while the **Central Water Commission (CWC) issues flood forecasts at various river points.**

✓ A case of multiple agencies

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issues meteorological or weather forecasts while the Central Water Commission (CWC) issues flood forecasts at various river points. The end-user agencies are disaster management authorities and local administrations. ✓

Therefore, the advancement of flood forecasting depends on how quickly rainfall is estimated and forecast by the IMD and how quickly the CWC integrates the rainfall forecast (also known as Quantitative Precipitation Forecast or QPF) with flood forecast. It also is linked to how fast the CWC disseminates this data to end user agencies. ✓

Thus, the length of time from issuance of the forecast and occurrence of a flood event termed as “lead time” is the most crucial aspect of any flood forecast to enable risk-based decision-making and undertake cost-effective rescue missions by end user agencies.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/playing-catch-up-in-flood-forecasting-technology/article32797281.ece>

Q37. Consider the following statements regarding Stockholm convention.

1. It is a global treaty to protect human health as exposure to Persistent Organic Pollutants can lead to serious health effects including certain cancers, dysfunctional immune and many more.
2. India has ratified this treaty.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Overview

The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants was adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on 22 May 2001 in Stockholm, Sweden. The Convention entered into force on 17 May 2004.

Introduction

The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of humans and wildlife, and have harmful impacts on human health or on the environment.

Exposure to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) can lead to serious health effects including certain cancers, birth defects, dysfunctional immune and reproductive systems, greater susceptibility to disease and damages to the central and peripheral nervous systems.

Participant	Signature, Succession to Signature (d)	Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)	Entry into force
India	14/05/2002	13/01/2006	13/04/2006

Q38. The correct representation of Net National Product (NNP) at factor cost will be

- GDP + Net Factor Income from abroad (NFIA) – Indirect Taxes + Subsidies
- GDP + Net Factor Income from abroad (NFIA) + Indirect Taxes – Subsidies
- GDP - Net Factor Income from abroad (NFIA) - Indirect Taxes + Subsidies
- None of the above

Solution: d

Explanation:

None of the options take depreciation into account, so all are wrong.

The correct answer will be **GDP + Net Factor Income from abroad (NFIA) – Depreciation – Indirect Taxes + Subsidies.**

Gross National Product (GNP) is defined as $GNP \equiv GDP + \text{Factor income earned by the domestic factors of production employed in the rest of the world} - \text{Factor income earned by the factors of production of the rest of the world employed in the domestic economy}$. In short, the component after GDP in the equation is NFIA.

We have already noted that a part of the capital gets consumed during the year due to wear and tear. This wear and tear is called depreciation. Naturally, depreciation does not become part of anybody's income. If we deduct depreciation from GNP the measure of aggregate income that we obtain is called Net National Product (NNP). **Thus $NNP \equiv GNP - \text{Depreciation}$**

It is to be noted that all these variables are evaluated at market prices. When indirect taxes are imposed on goods and services, their prices go up. Indirect taxes accrue to the government. We have to deduct them from NNP evaluated at market prices in order to

calculate that part of NNP which actually accrues to the factors of production. Similarly, there may be subsidies granted by the government on the prices. When we adjust all that, we get NNP at FC.

Q39. Consider the following states.

1. Chhattisgarh
2. Nagaland
3. Haryana
4. Sikkim

Arrange the above states in order of their formation (early to last) in India.

- a. 2-3-4-1
- b. 3-2-4-1
- c. 2-4-3-1
- d. 2-3-1-4

Solution: a

Explanation:

The **State of Nagaland** was formally inaugurated on December 1st, **1963**, as the 16th State of the Indian Union.

On November 1, **1966**, **Haryana** was separated from Punjab and given the status of state.

In **1975**, **Sikkim** merged with India as its 22nd state.

On November 1, 9 and 15, **2000**, three new states, India's 26th, 27th and 28th, came into being. **Chhattisgarh** which came first was carved out of Madhya Pradesh. Uttarakhand was separated from Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand, the last one, was carved out of Bihar.

Q40. The distribution of powers between the Centre and the States in the Indian Constitution is based on the scheme provided in the

- a. Morley-Minto Reforms, 1909
- b. Montagu-Chelmsford Act, 1919
- c. Government of India Act, 1935
- d. Indian Independence Act, 1947

Solution: c

Explanation:

Government of India Act of 1935

The Act marked a second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India. It was a lengthy and detailed document having 321 Sections and 10 Schedules.

Features of the Act

1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. The Act divided the powers between the Centre and units in terms of three lists—Federal List (for Centre, with 59 items), Provincial List (for provinces, with 54 items) and the Concurrent List (for both, with 36 items). Residuary powers were given to the Viceroy. However, the federation never came into being as the princely states did not join it.
2. It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place. The provinces were allowed to act as autonomous units of administration in their defined spheres. Moreover, the Act introduced responsible governments in provinces, that is, the governor was required to act with the advice of ministers responsible to the provincial legislature. This came into effect in 1937 and was discontinued in 1939.
3. It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre. Consequently, the federal subjects were divided into reserved subjects and transferred subjects. However, this provision of the Act did not come into operation at all.
4. It introduced bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces. Thus, the legislatures of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Assam and the United Provinces were made bicameral consisting of a legislative council (upper house) and a legislative assembly (lower house). However, many restrictions were placed on them.
5. It further extended the principle of communal representation by providing separate electorates for depressed classes (scheduled castes), women and labour (workers).
6. It abolished the Council of India, established by the Government of India Act of 1858. The secretary of state for India was provided with a team of advisors.
7. It extended franchise. About 10 per cent of the total population got the voting right.
8. It provided for the establishment of a Reserve Bank of India to control the currency and credit of the country.
9. It provided for the establishment of not only a Federal Public Service Commission but also a Provincial Public Service Commission and Joint Public Service Commission for two or more

Q41. Which one among the following pollutants is covered in India's National Air Quality Index?

1. PM 10
2. PM 2.5
3. Carbon Monoxide
4. Carbon Dioxide
5. SO₂
6. NO₂
7. Lead

Select the correct code.

- a. 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 only
- b. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 only
- c. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
- d. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

The revised CPCB air quality standards necessitate that the concept of AQI in India is examined afresh. The revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards (CPCB 2009) are notified for 12 parameters – **PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, O3, NH3, Pb, Ni, As, Benzo(a)pyrene, and Benzene.**

3.1 Indian Air Quality Index (IND-AQI): Proposed System

Air quality standards are the basic foundation that provides a legal framework for air pollution control. An air quality standard is a description of a level of air quality that is adopted by a regulatory authority as enforceable. The basis of development of standards is to provide a rational for protecting public health from adverse effects of air pollutants, to eliminate or reduce exposure to hazardous air pollutants, and to guide national/ local authorities for pollution control decisions. With these objectives, CPCB notified (<http://www.cpcb.nic.in>) a new set of Indian National Air Quality Standards (INAQS) for 12 parameters [carbon monoxide (CO) nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), particulate matter (PM) of less than 2.5 microns size (PM_{2.5}), PM of less than 10 microns size (PM₁₀), Ozone (O₃), Lead (Pb), Ammonia (NH₃), Benzo(a)Pyrene (BaP), Benzene (C₆H₆), Arsenic (As), and Nickel (Ni)]. The first eight parameters (Table 3.1) have short-term (1/8/24 hrs) and annual standards (except for CO and O₃) and rest four parameters have only annual standards.

Who has developed this Index?

Air quality has been a matter of concern, particularly in urban areas. Our Government is determined to make every effort to ensure clean air for people in the urban areas of our country.

I am pleased to know that Central Pollution Control Board has taken initiative for developing and operationalizing a National Air Quality Index in association with all State Pollution Control Boards, which would inform people about the quality of air they breathe in simple terms as well as its likely health impact. This would certainly make people more aware and enhance their involvement in improving air quality. I urge all to join hand in ensuring better air quality for ourselves and for our future generations.


(Prakash Javadekar)

Q42. Consider the following statements:

1. The Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) is an initiative of NITI Aayog and World Bank.
2. It aims to source and support startups having solutions to fight pandemic COVID-19 by way of funding.

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: b

Explanation:

The Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) is an initiative by National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

Given the impact of COVID-19 globally and in India, **the need of the hour is to support innovations in this direction and end any further damage to the economy.**

Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India is supporting innovations offering comprehensive solutions through the startup-ecosystem.

DST has nominated Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE)-IITB to implement Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) to source and support startups having solutions to fight pandemic COVID-19 by way of funding. SINE will be supported by Indian STEPs and Business Incubator Association (ISBA) in implementation of the program.

CAWACH supports innovations in the following areas:

- High thrust products and solutions: Ventilators and PPE, Sterilizers and Disinfectants, Diagnostic (kits)
- Any solution that addresses/mitigates various challenges faced by country/society due to severe impact of COVID-19
- Product/solution near-ready, ready for deployment or manufacturing scaleup or repurposing of existing products and services that can be quickly deployed.

Q43. Which one of the following countries recently opposed India's application to European Union, for an exclusive Geographical Indications (GI) tag to Basmati rice?

- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- Bangladesh
- Pakistan

Solution: d

Explanation:

Pakistan has decided to file its opposition in the European Union in response to India's application for an exclusive Geographical Indications (GI) tag to Basmati rice in the 27-member bloc.

~~Pakistan~~ to challenge India's application for exclusive GI tag to Basmati rice in European Union

During a meeting, REAP representatives were of the view that Pakistan was a major grower and producer of Basmati rice and India's application for exclusivity is unjustified.



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Link: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2020/oct/06/pakistan-to-challenge-indias-application-for-exclusive-gi-tag-to-basmati-rice-in-european-union-2206727.html>

Q44. Consider the following statements regarding **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**.

1. In response to mounting concern over money laundering, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) was established by the G-20 Summit.
2. FATF does not involve in monitoring countries' progress in implementing its Recommendations.
3. India and China both are members of this group.

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

In response to mounting concern over money laundering, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) **was established by the G-7 Summit** that was held in Paris in 1989.

Second statement is incorrect.

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.

Starting with its own members, the FATF monitors countries' progress in implementing the FATF Recommendations; reviews money laundering and terrorist financing techniques and countermeasures; and promotes the adoption and implementation of the FATF Recommendations globally.

Third statement is correct. India and China are members of FATF. Pakistan is not a member.

The 39 Members of the FATF

The FATF currently comprises 37 member jurisdictions and 2 regional organisations, representing most major financial centres in all parts of the globe.

Argentina	France	Japan	Russian Federation
Australia	Germany	Republic of Korea	Saudi Arabia
Austria	Greece	Luxembourg	Singapore
Belgium	<i>Gulf Co-operation Council</i>	Malaysia	South Africa
Brazil	Hong Kong, China	Mexico	Spain
Canada	Iceland	Netherlands, Kingdom of	Sweden
China	India	New Zealand	Switzerland
Denmark	Ireland	Norway	Turkey
<i>European Commission</i>	Israel	Portugal	United Kingdom
Finland	Italy		United States

The Secretariat is located at the OECD Headquarters in Paris.

Q45. Consider the following statements regarding International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

1. It is an intergovernmental treaty aiming to protecting the world's plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests.
2. The IPPC is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).
3. India is a party to the Convention.

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:

Just for learning FACTS.

The **International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)** is an intergovernmental treaty signed by over 180 countries, aiming to protecting the world's plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests, and promoting safe trade.

The **IPPC is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)**, which was established under Article XII of the New Revised Text of the IPPC, approved in 1997, and serves as the Convention's governing body.

The CPM meets during March or April each year at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, to promote cooperation to help implement the objectives of the IPPC. In particular, the Commission:

- reviews the state of plant protection around the world
- identifies action to control the spread of pests into new areas
- develops and adopts international standards
- establishes rules and procedures for resolving disputes
- adopts guidelines for the recognition of regional plant protection organizations; and
- cooperates with international organizations on matters covered by the Convention

The members of the Commission are the contracting parties to the Convention and are responsible for implementing the work programme of standards development, information exchange and capacity building.

India has ratified the Convention.

Participant	Signature	Definitive Signature	Ratification
India	30 Apr 1952		9 Jun 1952

The IPPC is one of the "Three Sisters" recognized by the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement, along with the Codex Alimentarius Commission for food safety standards and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) for animal health standards.

The **IPPC Secretariat**, established in 1992 and hosted at FAO headquarters in Rome, coordinates the work of IPPC contracting parties to achieve the Convention's goals. It develops a variety of resources to provide technical guidelines, it implements plant health related projects and organizes the CPM and other major committee meetings and is responsible for the communication and external cooperation programmes.

IPPC Secretariat

The IPPC Secretariat coordinates the core activities of, and provides operational support to, the IPPC work programme. It is hosted at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

Q46. Consider the following places.

1. Sahara Desert.
2. Andaman Sea
3. Red Sea
4. Persian Gulf

Which of the above places does Tropic of Cancer passes?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:





There are 16 countries, 3 continents and 6 water bodies lies on Tropic of Cancer passes.

North America

Mexico, Bahamas(Archipelago)

Africa

Niger, Algeria, Mauritania, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Western Sahara

Asia

Myanmar, Omen, Bangladesh, India, Saudi Arabia, China, United Arab Emirates, Taiwan

Water Bodies

Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Taiwan Strait, Red Sea, Gulf of Mexico

Q47. In the context of provisions of India Constitution, Consider the following statements.

1. Parliament by law decides about the number of Judges in Supreme Court and High Court.
2. Both Supreme Court and High Court Judges resigns from office by writing under his/her hand addressed to President

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:

Number of SC Judges are decided by Parliament by law and HC Judges are decided by President. See below both the cases:

Central Government Act

Article 124 in The Constitution Of India 1949

124. Establishment and constitution of Supreme Court

(1) There shall be a Supreme Court of India constituting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other Judges

(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;

Central Government Act

Article 216 in The Constitution Of India 1949

216. Constitution of High Courts Every High Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may from time to time deem it necessary to appoint

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

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

From above images, first statement is wrong, and second statement is correct.

In Supreme Court, Parliament by law decides about number of Judges but in High Court President decides.

Q48. Which one of the following objectives is not embodied in the Preamble to the Constitution of India?

- a. Liberty of thought
- b. Economic liberty
- c. Liberty of expression
- d. Liberty of belief

Solution: b

Explanation:

“We, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a 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 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”.

Q49. Which one among the following international organisation releases “Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report”?

- a. International Monetary Fund
- b. World Bank

- c. UNDP
- d. FAO

Solution: b

Explanation:



Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020

Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020

Reversals of Fortune

Q50. Consider the following statements with reference to taxation.

1. Higher direct taxes help in controlling Inflation in the economy
2. Higher indirect taxes help in controlling the Inflation in the economy

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 a

Explanation:

Higher direct taxes will mean that the people will be left with smaller disposable incomes, lower disposable incomes do not generate higher demand. This causes the inflation to be controlled.

Whereas higher indirect taxes will increase the prices of the commodities because the cost of production will increase. **This will lead to Cost-push inflation.**

Q51. Consider the following statements regarding 'New Urban Agenda'.

1. It was adopted at the World Economic Forum's World Sustainable Summit.
2. It sets global standards of achievement in sustainable urban development by including cooperation of government as well as private sector.
3. Sustainable Development Goal 8 aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

There are three United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (UN-Habitat) till now.

Read complete paragraphs. We have just pasted it from original [website](#).

The **first international UN conference** to fully recognize the challenge of urbanization was held in 1976 in Vancouver, Canada. This conference – **Habitat I** – resulted in the creation, on 19 December 1977, of the precursors of UN-Habitat: the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements – an intergovernmental body – and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (commonly referred to as “Habitat”), which served as the executive secretariat of the Commission.

In 1996, the United Nations held a second conference on cities – **Habitat II** – in Istanbul, Turkey to assess two decades of progress since Habitat I in Vancouver and to set fresh goals for the new millennium.

On 1 January 2002, through General Assembly Resolution A/56/206, Habitat’s mandate was strengthened, and **its status elevated to a fully-fledged programme in the UN system, giving birth to UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.**

In 2015, member states approved the Sustainable Development Goals including a dedicated goal for urban development, **SDG11 which calls to “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.”**

In October 2016, at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III – member states signed the New Urban Agenda. This is an action-oriented document which sets global standards of achievement in sustainable urban development, rethinking the way we build, manage, and live in cities. Through drawing together cooperation with committed partners, relevant stakeholders, and urban actors, **including at all levels of government as well as the private sector, UN-Habitat is trying to implement the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 11 – to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

First statement is incorrect. It was adopted at **United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat-III).**

Second statement is correct.

Third statement is incorrect. It is very important to learn all 17 goals in sequence. Important for Prelims and Mains both.

Q52. Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

1. It is a statutory body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. Its mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies and Programmes are in consonance with UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
3. The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group as per NCPCR.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Second statement is confusing. No issues. You learn today.

Welcome to National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, an Act of Parliament (December 2005). National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory body under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India. The Commission's Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

In order to touch every child, it seeks a deeper penetration to communities and households and expects that the ground experiences gathered at the field are taken into consideration by all the authorities at the higher level. Thus, the **Commission sees an indispensable role for the State, sound institution-building processes, respect for decentralization** at the local bodies and community level and larger societal concern for children and their well-being.

Q53. Consider the following statements regarding Long Term Repo Operations (LTRO).

1. It aims to finance the banks at lower interest rates if it has fulfilled its Priority Sector Lending (PSL) targets.

2. Funds through LTRO will be provided at the repo rate.
3. It offer banks money for their immediate needs ranging from 1-28 days.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

If the term is Long Term, how can third statement be right? So, you have to be very active and quick to recognize such things.

RBI has announced a new liquidity facility under Long Term Repo Operations (LTRO) to inject liquidity in the banking system. The new policy tool comes in the context of the RBI's limitations in cutting its policy rate as well as its desire to enhance liquidity of the banking system and promote lending activities of banks.

Funds through **LTRO will be provided at the repo rate**. This means that banks can avail one year and three-year loans at the same interest rate of one day repo. Usually, loans with higher maturity period (here like 1 year and 3 year) will have higher interest rate compared to short term (repo) loans.

If the RBI is ready to give one-year and three-year loans at the low repo rate, then there will be a clear pressure on banks to reduce their lending rates. Hence, the most important effect of the LTRO in the system will be a decline in short term lending rates of banks. There are two clear effects of LTROs:

- a. it will enhance liquidity in the banking system by Rs 1 lakh crore
- b. since the interest rate is comparatively low, **there will be a downward pressure on short term lending rates.**

These two will bring the effect of a slightly easy monetary policy.

According to the RBI, the LTRO scheme will be in addition to the existing LAF and MSF (Marginal Standing Facility) operations. The LAF and MSF are the two sets of liquidity operations by the RBI with the LAF having a number of tools like repo, reverse repo, term repo etc.

How is it different from LAF and MSF?

While the RBI's current windows of liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) and marginal standing facility (MSF) offer banks money for their immediate needs ranging from 1-28 days, the LTRO supplies them with liquidity for their 1- to 3-year needs. LTRO operations

are intended to prevent short-term interest rates in the market from drifting a long way away from the policy rate, which is the repo rate.

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding **World Food Programme**.

1. World Food Programme is the UN agency focused on hunger alleviation and food security.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal Ministry to co-ordinate with World Food Programme in implementing its policies.

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: a

Explanation:

News was:

This year's (2020) Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), commending its efforts to combat world hunger.

World Food Programme is the **UN agency** focused on hunger alleviation and food security. Globally, it responds to emergencies making sure food reaches where it is needed, especially in times of civil strife and natural disasters.

~~How, why and when was it created?~~

Founded in 1961, ~~the~~ WFP delivers food assistance to vulnerable communities, particularly those affected by war.

It was created at the behest of the administration of US President Dwight D Eisenhower to provide food aid through the UN system, which was still in its infancy.

WFP has been working in India since 1963, with work transitioning from food distribution to technical assistance since the country achieved self-sufficiency in cereal production.

With the Government now providing its own food distribution systems, IT focuses on supporting the strengthening of these systems to ensure they become more efficient and reach the people who need them most.

WFP is working to improve the efficiency, accountability and transparency of India's own subsidized food distribution system, which brings supplies of wheat, rice, sugar and

kerosene oil to around 800 million poor people across the country. **WFP ensures that food reaches those who need it most**, working with the Government to reform and strengthen the system, which is one of the world's largest.

Ministry of Agriculture is the nodal Ministry.

Q55. Krishna Peacock, Indian Jezebel and Orange Oakleaf are species of

- a. Butterflies
- b. Frogs
- c. Birds
- d. Mammals

Solution: a

Explanation:

3 contenders for national butterfly status



Sarath Babu George

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 09, 2020 23:24 IST
UPDATED: OCTOBER 09, 2020 23:47 IST

Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change to choose one among them

A citizen poll to identify the national butterfly concluded with three species garnering the highest number of votes.

Krishna Peacock (*Papilio krishna*), Indian Jezebel (*Delias eucharis*), and Orange Oakleaf (*Kallima inachus*), the frontrunners, have unique features such as ability to camouflage as a dead leaf, exhibit iridescence to stave off predators, and aid farmers in getting rid of pests.

Link: [https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/3-contenders-for-national-butterfly-status/article32816575.ece#:~:text=Krishna%20Peacock%20\(Papilio%20krishna\)%2C,in%20getting%20rid%20of%20pests.](https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/3-contenders-for-national-butterfly-status/article32816575.ece#:~:text=Krishna%20Peacock%20(Papilio%20krishna)%2C,in%20getting%20rid%20of%20pests.)

Q56. Consider the following statements regarding Cotton in India.

1. A light well-drained soil capable of retaining moisture is ideally suited for the cultivation of the cotton.

2. More than 50 percent of cotton are grown on rain-fed areas in India.
3. Cotton productivity in India is highest in the world.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

The data we have taken from Ministry of Textile website. So, can follow without thinking too much. Read our [Current Affairs section](#) for more detail on cotton.

First statement is taken from UPSC PRELIMS 2020 QUESTION.

The crop is subtropical in nature. A hard frost is injurious to it. It requires at least 210 frost-free days and 50 to 100 centimeters of rainfall for its growth. **A light well-drained soil capable of retaining moisture is ideally suited for the cultivation of the crop."**

Which one of the following is that crop?

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

Cotton is one of the most important cash crops and accounts for around 25% of the total global fibre production.

1.2 **✓ Production & Consumption:** India is the country to grow all four species of cultivated cotton *Gossypium arboreum* and *herbaceum* (Asian cotton), *G. barbadense* (Egyptian cotton) and *G. hirsutum* (American Upland cotton). *Gossypium hirsutum* represents 88% of the hybrid cotton production in India and all the current Bt cotton hybrids are *G. hirsutum*. In India, majority of the cotton production comes from nine major cotton growing states, which are grouped into three diverse agro-ecological zones, as under:-

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| i) ✓ Northern Zone | - | Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan |
| ii) ✓ Central Zone | - | Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh |
| iii) ✓ Southern Zone | - | Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. |

1.3 **✓ Acreage/Productivity:** India got 1st place in the world in cotton acreage with around 126.07 lakh hectares under cotton cultivation i.e. around 37% of the World area of 336.3 lakh hectares. Approximately 62% of India's Cotton is produced on rain-fed areas and 38% on irrigated lands. In terms of productivity, India ranks poorly compared to USA (955 kgs/ha) & China (1764 Kgs/ha). During 2018-19, India's Productivity is estimated at 454.43 kg/ha. The productivity of cotton for the last 10 years is as follows:-

Year	Acreage (In lakh hectare)	Yield (In Kg /hectare)
2009-10	103.10	502.91
2010-11	112.35	512.95
2011-12	121.78	512.32
2012-13	119.78	525.13
2013-14	119.60	565.72
2014-15	130.83	493.77
2015-16	122.92	459.16
2016-17	108.26	541.75
2017-18	125.86	499.76
2018-19 (P)	126.07	454.43

Source: Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) P-Provisional as estimated by CAB on 18.6.2019

Q57. 'iBOL mission', often seen in the news, is associated with

- Sending human to the space
- Reducing the pollution level
- Technological development
- Barcoding of life

Solution: d

Explanation:

Zoological Survey of India and iBOL have come together for further efforts in DNA barcoding, a methodology for rapidly and accurately identifying species by sequencing a short segment of standardized gene regions and comparing individual sequences to a reference database.

The mission of the International Barcode of Life (iBOL) is to unite DNA barcoding research as a global science.

Link: <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/union-cabinet-approves-mou-between-zsi--ibol/1950934>

Q58. With reference to '**key functions of a Constitution**', consider the following statements.

- It decides on how the government is to be constituted.
- The Constitution limits the powers of government by empowering citizens with fundamental rights.

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

Explanations:

One of the most important function of a Constitution is to specify who has the power to make decisions in a society. It decides how the government will be constituted. **Example, Indian Constitution provisions for the formation of a Parliamentary form of government.**

Other function of a Constitution is to set some limits to what a government can impose on its citizens. These limits are fundamental in the sense that the government may never trespass them. e.g. **Fundamental Rights.**

Q59. In the context of Indian Constitution, consider the following statements.

- 1. The maximum number of representatives of the States in the Rajya Sabha has been fixed at 250.
- 2. The allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha is done in accordance with a Statutory law enacted by the Parliament of India.

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

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha is fixed at 250, out of which, **only 238 are to be the representatives of the States and Union Territories (elected indirectly)** and 12 are nominated by the President. Question asked is about representatives of States and UTs. So, read carefully.

The fourth schedule of the Constitution deals with allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the States and Union Territories. It is not in the accordance with the law made by the Parliament.

So, both are incorrect. Option c is right answer.

Central Government Act

Article 80 in The Constitution Of India 1949

80. Composition of the Council of States

(1) The Council of States shall consist of

(a) twelve members to be nominated by the President in accordance with the provisions of clause (3); and

(b) not more than two hundred and thirty eight representatives of the States and of the Union territories

(2) The allocation of seats in the Council of States to be filled by representatives of the States and of the Union territories shall be in accordance with the provisions in that behalf contained in the fourth Schedule

Q60. Which of the following countries does Tropic of Capricorn doesn't pass?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Madagascar
- Chile

Solution: b

Explanation:

It passes through these countries or overseas territories:

- Chile
- Argentina
- Paraguay
- Brazil
- Namibia
- Botswana
- South Africa
- Mozambique
- Madagascar
- Australia



Q61. Recently, Union road transport and highways ministry has notified hydrogen-enriched compressed natural gas (CNG) as an automobile fuel. Let us solve a question on this. Consider the following statements.

1. The Ministry has allowed use of H-CNG (50% mix of hydrogen) in CNG engines.
2. This fuel is not viable for use in heavy vehicle engines as there is possibility of a rise in combustion temperature.
3. HCNG reduces the engines unburned hydrocarbon emissions and speed up the process of combustion.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

In a major step toward adopting alternative clean fuel for transportation, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has allowed use of H-CNG (**18% mix of hydrogen**) in CNG engines.

Third statement is correct.

2.1 ADVANTAGES OF HCNG:

- It requires only a small hydrogen storage and a column for the mixing of hydrogen with natural gas at existing CNG stations.
- Safety components are similar to the CNG. HCNG is easy and safe to use than hydrogen as it contains very low energy content from hydrogen i.e., up to 30% by volume.
- HCNG reduces the engines unburned hydrocarbon emissions and speed up the process of combustion.
- The engines fuel efficiency is improved by blending the CNG from hydrogen which lowers the fuel consumption of vehicle.
- The thermal efficiency and fuel economy is also increased by HCNG.

2.2 DISADVANTAGES

- HCNG storage and supply infrastructure is a big challenge.
- System performance and material compatibility needs to be taken in account.
- Emission testing of HCNG blends needs to be done with various ranges of hydrogen.

The most promising aspect of this technology is that it will allow for the utilization of the existing infrastructure of CNG buses as well as the piping network and dispensing stations. Therefore, it can be seen as the next-gen CNG for cleaner air.

The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** has also developed specifications of Hydrogen enriched Compressed Natural Gas (H-CNG) for automotive purposes, as a fuel.

Second statement is incorrect: H-CNG is also viable in the use of heavy vehicles.

"Arai (Automotive Research Association of India) and IOCL (Indian Oil Corp. Ltd) have carried out tests on 6 CNG heavy duty engines using H-CNG (18% mixture) and has found that the engine has passed the endurance tests; had improvement in performance and that no visible issue was found in the workings of the engine," it said.

Q62. Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol was recently seen in news. Consider the following statements.

1. The Doha Amendment establishes the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period from 2013-2020.
2. Unlike Paris Agreement which entered into force in 2017, Doha Agreement has still not entered into force.
3. India has ratified Doha Agreement.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

The **Doha Amendment establishes the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period from 2013-2020**. It was adopted at the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 8), in Doha, Qatar, in 2012. During this second commitment period, Parties committed to **reduce GHG emissions by at least 18 percent below 1990 levels** in the eight-year period from 2013 to 2020.

The amendment includes:

- a. New commitments for Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol who agreed to take on commitments in a second commitment period from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2020
- b. A revised list of GHG to be reported on by Parties in the second commitment period; and
- c. Amendments to several articles of the Kyoto Protocol which specifically referenced issues pertaining to the first commitment period and which needed to be updated for the second commitment period.

Has India ratified it?

CLIMATE CHANGE

Cabinet gives nod to ratify Doha amendment of Kyoto Protocol

The second commitment period of the Doha amendment will determine the course of climate action till 2020

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By Vijeta Rattani
Last Updated: Wednesday 25 January 2017


 The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval to ratify the Second Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol (the Doha amendment). The second commitment is for enhancing pre-2020 actions till the Paris Agreement comes into operation.

The second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol was adopted in 2012 and the ratification period began in the beginning of year 2013.

Now, compare ratification status of both agreements for statement 2.

Doha Agreement:

Of the total 192 parties to Kyoto Protocol, **144 ratifications are needed for the amendment to come into force. Recently, Nigeria became the 144th country to ratify the amendment. It will enter into force on 31 December 2020.**

By Urmi Goswami, ET Bureau • Last Updated: Oct 03, 2020, 2:39 PM IST

Synopsis

The entry into force of the Doha Amendment is important as it underscores the importance of multilateralism, provides a strong foundation for next phase of global climate action under the Paris Agreement and serves as a reminder of the cost that low ambition to tackle climate change can exact.



With the Doha Amendments coming into force, there will be a formal review of efforts under the second period of the Kyoto Protocol, under its transparency and compliance framework.

On Friday, a few hours to deadline Nigeria submitted its formal adoption the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the UN; becoming the 144th country to so thereby ensuring its entry into force. With this emission reduction targets for 37 developed countries agreed to in 2012 will have legal validity. The Doha Amendment will enter into force on December 31, that is also when its mandate comes to

an end.

For Paris Agreement:

The Paris Agreement **entered into force on 4 November 2016**, thirty days after the date on which at least **55 Parties to the Convention accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 %** of the total global greenhouse gas emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depositary. **India had ratified the agreement on October 2, 2016.**

So, second statement is correct.

Third statement is also correct: India has ratified Doha in 2017.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Cabinet gives nod to ratify Doha amendment of Kyoto Protocol

The second commitment period or the Doha amendment will determine the course of climate action till 2020



NEXT NEWS >

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Last Updated: Wednesday 25 January 2017

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Q63. **Next Generation Treasury Application (NGTA)** was seen in news recently. It is related to:

- Effective management of country's foreign exchange and gold reserves
- Sustainable utilization of resources
- Blockchain Technology
- Easy access to credit to MSMEs

Solution: a

Explanation:

In a bid to improve its functioning, the Reserve Bank has decided to move to the Next Generation Treasury Application (NGTA) for managing the country's foreign exchange and gold reserves. The NGTA, according to the RBI, would be a web-based application providing scalability, maneuverability and flexibility to introduce new products and securities, besides supporting multi-currency transactions and settlements.

Link: <https://www.news18.com/news/business/rbi-to-move-to-next-generation-treasury-application-for-managing-forex-gold-reserves-2951525.html>

Q64. Consider the following statements regarding Critical 'tiger' habitats (CTHs).

- Critical 'tiger' habitats are identified under the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), 1972.
- Uttarakhand's Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) has the highest tiger density in India.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

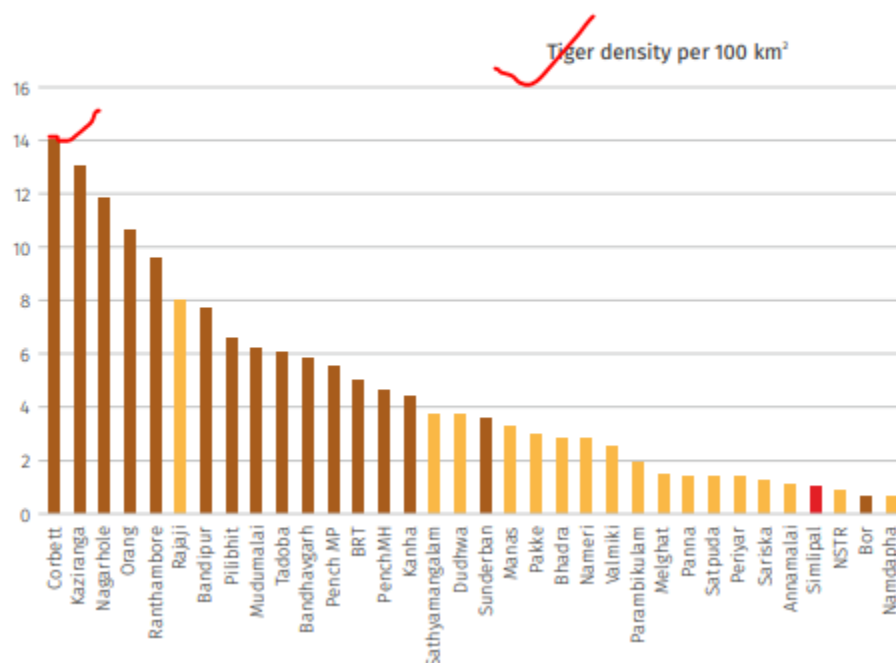
Critical 'tiger' habitats (CTHs), also known as core areas of tiger reserves—are identified under the Wild Life Protection Act (WLPA), 1972 based on scientific evidence that "such areas are required to be kept as inviolate for the purpose of tiger conservation, without affecting the rights of the Scheduled Tribes or such other forest dwellers". The **notification of CTH is done by the state government** in consultation with the expert committee constituted for the purpose.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, the expression “tiger reserve” includes—

(i) core or critical tiger habitat areas of National Parks and sanctuaries, where it has been established, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria, that such areas are required to be kept as inviolate for the purposes of tiger conservation, without affecting the rights of the Scheduled Tribes or such other forest dwellers, and, notified as such by the State Government in consultation with an Expert Committee constituted for the purpose;

Uttarakhand's Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) has reported the highest tiger density among India's 50 reserves with 14 tigers per 100 sq km, followed by Kaziranga, Nagarhole and Orang tiger reserves.

Tiger density (per 100 km²) estimated in Tiger Reserves of India using Spatially Explicit Capture-Recapture. Reserves shown in red require restorative investments.



Q65. Which of the following country shares boundary with both Persian Gilf and Gulf of Oman?

- a. Oman
- b. Yemen
- c. Saudi Arabia
- d. Iran

Solution: d

Explanation:





Q66. There are total 7 targets of Sendai Framework (2016-2022). The target for the current year (2020) is:

- To substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies
- Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030
- Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems
- Substantially reduce the number of people affected globally by 2030

Solution: a

Explanation:



The Seven Global Targets

2016 - Target (a): Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015;

2017 - Target (b): Substantially reduce the number of people affected globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015;

2018 - Target (c): Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030;

2019 – Target (d): Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;

2020 – Target (e): Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;

2021 – Target (f): Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;

2022 – Target (g): Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

Q67. Consider the following statements regarding **state Legislature**.

1. The Governor can prorogue and dissolve both houses of State Legislature.
2. The Constitution provides for the maximum and minimum number of members in the Legislative Assemblies.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Governor can't dissolve Legislative Council. It is permanent body.

(2) The Governor may from time to time—

(a) prorogue the House or either House;

(b) dissolve the Legislative Assembly.]

Second statement is correct.

The Legislative Assembly of each State shall consist of **not more than five hundred, and not less than sixty**, members chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the State.

¹²[170. **Composition of the Legislative Assemblies.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of article 333, the Legislative Assembly of each State shall consist of not more than five hundred, and not less than sixty, members chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the State.

Q68. Consider the following statements.

1. The Indian Constitution has prescribed the maximum age to be a 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:

First Statement is correct.

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

Second statement is correct.

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 voting.

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

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

6

(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.

Q69. Consider the following macro-economic tools:

1. Capital Expenditure
2. Monetary Policy
3. Fiscal Policy
4. Revenue Expenditure

An **income guarantee scheme** for the citizens through a **direct transfer of money** to their bank accounts is an example of which of the above macroeconomic measures?

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

Solution: a

Explanations:

Any income guarantee scheme like, **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (giving 6000 Rs every year to farmers)** or **Universal Basic Income** is an example of the **fiscal policy**.

This is because it is a subsidy (a transfer payment from the government to its people) and **such government expenditures are part of fiscal policy**.

Revenue expenditure is an expenditure incurred by the Government on its departments, various services, interest on debt, subsidies, etc. Broadly speaking, expenditure that does not result in creation of assets is treated as revenue expenditure. **As it is a form of subsidy it forms part of revenue expenditures.**

The income guarantee scheme does not come under capital expenditure as it does not create any assets immediately.

Monetary policy refers to **control and regulation of money supply. It is primarily the job of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**

Q70. Consider the following statements regarding **Treasury Bills**.

1. They are the short- term debt instruments issued by the Government of India.
2. Interest rate is decided by the government 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: a

Explanation:

Treasury bills or T-bills, which are **money market instruments, are short term debt instruments issued by the Government of India** and are presently issued in three tenors, namely, 91-day, 182 day and 364 day.

Treasury bills are **zero coupon securities and pay no interest**. Instead, they are issued at a discount and redeemed at the face value at maturity. For example, a 91-day Treasury bill of ₹100/- (face value) may be issued at say ₹ 98.20, that is, at a discount of say, ₹1.80 and would be redeemed at the face value of ₹100/-. **Interest rates are not used here.**

Therefore, second statement is wrong.

Q71. Consider the following statements.

1. A registered political party is accorded the status of a recognized state or national party as per the criteria listed in Representation of People Act, 1951.
2. Currently, there are more than 10 Political Parties in India.
3. The party is recognized as National Party if it is recognized as a State Party in at least four states.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First Statement is incorrect:

A registered political party can attain recognition as a State party or a National party provided it fulfills the criteria listed in '**The Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968**'.

1. **Short title, extent, application and commencement** – (1) This Order may be called the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.

¹ {6. **Classification of political parties** – (1) For the purposes of this Order and for such other purposes as the Commission may specify as and when necessity therefore arises, political parties are either recognised political parties or unrecognised political parties.

(2) A recognised political party shall either be a National party or a State party.

Second statement is correct:

Recognition as a National Party

For any political party to be eligible for recognition as a National Party, it has to satisfy any of the three conditions listed below.

- 6B. **Conditions for recognition as a National Party** – A political party shall be eligible to be recognized as National party, if, and only if, any of the following conditions is fulfilled:
- (i) The candidates set up by the party, in any four or more States, at the last general election to the House of the People, or to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned, have secured not less than six percent of the total valid votes polled in each of those States at that general election; and, in addition, it has returned at least four members to the House of the People at the aforesaid last general election from any State or States; or
 - (ii) At the last general election to the House of the People, the party has won at least two percent of the total number of seats in the House of the People, any fraction exceeding half being counted as one; and the party's candidates have been elected to that House from not less than three States; or
 - (iii) The party is recognized as State party in at least four States.]

Wait, I will do easier for you.

In brief, the three conditions are:

S. No	Condition
1.	Secure at least 6% of the valid vote in an Assembly or a Lok Sabha General Election in any four or more states and won at least 4 seats in a Lok Sabha General Election from any State or States
2.	Win at least 2% of the total Lok Sabha seats in a Lok Sabha General Election and these seats have to be won from at least 3 states

3. The party is recognized as a State Party in at least four states

Trinamool Congress is now recognized as a National Party as it has satisfied the eligibility criteria for a State Party in the four states of West Bengal, Tripura, Manipur & Arunachal Pradesh.

You learn today for states also, later you won't we know. I will make state waala also simpler for you.

In brief, the five conditions are:

²	6A. Conditions for recognition as a State Party – A political party shall be eligible for recognition as a State party in a State, if, and only if, <u>any</u> of the following conditions is fulfilled:
(i)	At the last general election to the Legislative Assembly of the State, the candidates set up by the party have secured not less than six percent of the total valid votes polled in the State; and, in addition, the party has returned at least two members to the Legislative Assembly of that State at such general election; or
(ii)	At the last general election to the House of the People from that State, the candidates set up by the party have secured not less than six percent of the total valid votes polled in the State; and, in addition, the party has returned at least one member to the House of the People from that State at such general election; or
(iii)	At the last general election to the Legislative Assembly of the State, the party has won at least three percent of the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly, (any fraction exceeding half being counted as one), or at least three seats in the Assembly, whichever is more; or
(iv)	At the last general election to the House of the People from the State, the party has returned at least one member to the House of the People for every 25 members or any fraction thereof allotted to that State; or
³ {(v)	At the last general election to the House of the People from the State, or at the last general election to the Legislative Assembly of the State, the candidates set up by the Party have secured not less than eight percent of the total valid votes polled in the State.}

Again, consolidate all 5 points:

S.No.	Condition
1	Secure at least 6% of the valid vote & win at least 2 seats in an Assembly General Election
2	Secure at least 6% of the valid vote & win at least 1 seats in a Lok Sabha General Election
3	Win at least 3% of the seats or at least 3 seats , whichever is more, in an Assembly General Election
4	Win at least 1 out of every 25 seats from a state in a Lok Sabha General Election
5	Secure at least 8% of the total valid vote in an Assembly or a Lok Sabha General Election

Second statement is also incorrect.

As per latest publication from Election Commission of India, the total number of parties registered was 2598, **with 8 national parties**, 52 state parties and 2538 unrecognized parties. Eight national parties in India are BSP, BJP, Congress, CPI, CPI-M, TMC, NCP and recently added National peoples' Party (NPP). NPP is the first national party from the North-East region.

Q72. Consider the following statements regarding Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO),

1. This is the intergovernmental organization formed after Financial Crisis of 2007-08 to strengthen multilateral co-operation in Asia Pacific region
2. This the only organization where India and Pakistan, both are members of it.
3. SCO Secretariat is based in Beijing.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Evolution and History of any organization is very important. **First statement is incorrect.**

~~The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation~~

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai (China) by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan. It was preceded by the Shanghai Five mechanism.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Charter was signed during the St.Petersburg SCO Heads of State meeting in June 2002, and entered into force on 19 September 2003. This is the fundamental statutory document which outlines the organisation's goals and principles, as well as its structure and core activities.

The SCO comprises eight member states, namely the **Republic of India**, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, **the Islamic Republic of Pakistan**, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan;

Second Statement is not correct:

There are other organizations too. For example, SAARC.

Third statement is correct:

The organisation has two permanent bodies — **the SCO Secretariat based in Beijing** and the Executive Committee of the **Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS)** based in Tashkent.

Q73. Consider the following statements regarding Agroecology.

1. It is an integrated approach that applies both ecological and social concepts to the design and management agricultural systems.
2. One successful example is the zero-budget natural farming project in the state of Andhra Pradesh supported by UNEP.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Agroecology is an ecological approach to agriculture, often described as low-external-input farming. Other terms such as regenerative agriculture or eco-agriculture are also used. Agroecology is not just a set of agricultural practices – it focuses on changing social relations, empowering farmers, adding value locally and privileging short value chains. It allows farmers to adapt to climate change, sustainably use and conserve natural resources and biodiversity.

WHAT ARE THE 10 ELEMENTS OF AGROECOLOGY?

In guiding countries to transform their food and agricultural systems, to mainstream sustainable agriculture on a large scale³, and to achieve Zero Hunger and multiple other SDGs, the following 10 Elements emanated from the FAO regional seminars on agroecology⁴:

Diversity; synergies; efficiency; resilience; recycling; co-creation and sharing of knowledge (describing common characteristics of agroecological systems, foundational practices and innovation approaches)

Human and social values; culture and food traditions (context features)

Responsible governance; circular and solidarity economy (enabling environment)

The 10 Elements of Agroecology are interlinked and interdependent.

One successful example is the zero-budget natural farming project in the state of **Andhra Pradesh, India, supported by UNEP.**

✓ **Vijayawada, India, 2 June 2018** – The Government of Andhra Pradesh has today launched a scale-out plan to transition 6 million farms/farmers cultivating 8 million hectares of land from conventional synthetic chemical agriculture to Zero-Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) by 2024, making Andhra Pradesh India's first 100 per cent natural farming state. ✓

✓ The programme is a contribution towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on 'No Poverty', 'Clean Water and Sanitation', 'Responsible Consumption and Production', and 'Life on Land'. It is led by Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) – a not-for-profit established by the Government to implement the ZBNF programme - and supported by the Sustainable India Finance Facility (SIFF) – an innovative partnership between UN Environment, BNP Paribas, and the World Agroforestry Centre. ✓

Q74. Consider the following statements regarding Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

1. It is UN led inter-governmental forum for Pacific Rim member economies that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region.
2. After exit from RCEP, this is only forum India is a member along with ASEAN nations.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

It is not UN led Organization.

Read Evolution.

The idea of APEC was firstly publicly broached by former Prime Minister of Australia Bob Hawke during a speech in Seoul, Korea, on 31 January 1989. **Ten months later, 12 Asia-Pacific economies met in Canberra, Australia, to establish APEC.** The founding members were Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; the Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; and the United States.

Between 1989 and 1992, **APEC met as an informal senior official- and ministerial-level dialogue.** In 1993, former US President Bill Clinton established the practice of an **annual APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting to provide greater strategic vision and direction for cooperation in the region.**

India is not a member of APEC. See the entire list. You won't find.

APEC has 21 members. The word 'economies' is used to describe APEC members because the APEC cooperative process is predominantly concerned with trade and economic issues, with members engaging with one another as economic entities.

APEC Members	Date of Joining
Australia	6-7 Nov 1989
Brunei Darussalam	6-7 Nov 1989
Canada	6-7 Nov 1989
Chile	11-12 Nov 1994
People's Republic of China	12-14 Nov 1991
Hong Kong, China	12-14 Nov 1991
Indonesia	6-7 Nov 1989
Japan	6-7 Nov 1989
Republic of Korea	6-7 Nov 1989
Malaysia	6-7 Nov 1989
Mexico	17-19 Nov 1993

New Zealand	6-7 Nov 1989
Papua New Guinea	17-19 Nov 1993
Peru	14-15 Nov 1998
The Philippines	6-7 Nov 1989
Russia	14-15 Nov 1998
Singapore	6-7 Nov 1989
Chinese Taipei	12-14 Nov 1991
Thailand	6-7 Nov 1989
The United States	6-7 Nov 1989
Viet Nam	14-15 Nov 1998

What Does APEC Do?

APEC ensures that goods, services, investment and people move easily across borders. Members facilitate this trade through faster customs procedures at borders; more favorable business climates behind the border; and aligning regulations and standards across the region. For example, APEC's initiatives to synchronize regulatory systems is a key step to integrating the Asia-Pacific economy.

Q75. Consider the following statements.

1. In case of depreciation of the Rupee, the borrower under the ECB benefits the most.
2. Government borrowings under External Commercial Borrowings has consistently increased for last three years.

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:

Simple question just needs your attention. Don't be in hurry.

An external commercial borrowing (ECB) is an instrument used in India to facilitate Indian companies to raise money outside the country in foreign currency. The government of India permits Indian corporates to raise money via ECB for expansion of existing capacity as well as for fresh investments.

It's a commercial borrowing. *Government has nothing to do with Commercial entity.* **Second statement is incorrect. No need to know anything more.**

Under ECB, Indian entities borrow in dollar and pay in dollar. Suppose an entity borrowed 100 dollars at $1\$ = 60$. Now, as per the question, rupee depreciates.

Suppose rupee depreciates to $1\$ = 70$ Rs. Now, borrower has to give 7000 Rs instead of 6000 (when it borrowed at $1\$ = 60$ Rs). So, borrower doesn't benefit when rupee depreciates.

Q76. Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

1. It provides for the qualification and disqualification of the Finance Commission.
2. Along with composition of Finance Commission, it also provides for the term of office of the Finance Commission.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Judicial Enquiry Act, 1968 already a part of UPSC in 2019. So, this is important to know.

280. Finance Commission.—(1) The President shall, within two years from the commencement of this Constitution and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year or at such earlier time as the President considers necessary, by order constitute a Finance Commission which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President.

(2) Parliament may by law determine the qualifications which shall be requisite for appointment as members of the Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected.

As per the provisions (see above), we can see that Constitution only talks about Composition. The **Qualifications of Finance Commission** is provided by the law enacted by the Parliament, i.e., THE FINANCE COMMISSION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1951. **It also provides for Disqualification. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.**

Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission

3. Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission. The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs, and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who--

- (a) are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
- (b) have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
- (c) have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
- (d) have special knowledge of economics.

5. **Disqualifications for being a member of the Commission.**—A person shall be disqualified for being appointed as, or for being, a member of the Commission,—

- (a) if he is of unsound mind;
- (b) if he is an undischarged insolvent;
- (c) if he has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (d) if he has such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as a member of the Commission.

Second statement is incorrect:

As it doesn't provide Composition. It provides term of Office.

6. **Term of office of members and eligibility for reappointment.**—Every member of the Commission shall hold office for such period as may be specified in the order of the President appointing him, but shall be eligible for reappointment:

Provided that he may, by letter addressed to the President, resign his office.

Q77. Consider the following statements regarding **The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**.

1. It is a statutory authority established under the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) Act, 2016.
2. Appeals against the decisions of UIDAI go before the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal

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:

About UIDAI

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the **Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016")** on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The Aadhaar Act 2016 has been amended by the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019 (14 of 2019) w.e.f. 25.07.2019.

Prior to its establishment as a statutory authority, UIDAI was functioning as an attached office of the then Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) vide its **Gazette Notification No.-A-43011/02/2009-Admn.I)** dated 28th January, 2009. Later, on 12 September 2015, the Government revised the Allocation of Business Rules to attach the UIDAI to the Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY) of the then Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

Section 11. Establishment of Authority.

[Previous](#) | [Next](#)

Show Related Subordinates

(1) The Central Government shall, by notification, establish an Authority to be known as the Unique Identification Authority of India to be responsible for the processes of enrolment and authentication and perform such other functions assigned to it under this Act.

(2) The Authority shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.

(3) The head office of the Authority shall be in New Delhi.

(4) The Authority may, with the prior approval of the Central Government, establish its offices at other places in India.

Section 33C. Appeals to Appellate Tribunal.[Previous](#) | [Next](#)

¹[33C. Appeals to Appellate Tribunal.-- (1) The Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal established under section 14 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997), shall be Appellate Tribunal for the purposes of hearing appeals against the decision of the Adjudicating Officer under this Act.

(2) A person or entity in the Aadhaar ecosystem aggrieved by an order of the Adjudicating Officer under section 33B, may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal within a period of forty-five days from the date of receipt of the order appealed against, in such form and manner and accompanied with such fee as may be prescribed:

Provided that the Appellate Tribunal may entertain an appeal after the expiry of the said period of forty-five days if it is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within that period.

Q78. Consider the following statements.

1. Jammu and Kashmir
2. Beijing
3. Hongkong

Arrange the above places from North to South.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

If you don't start MAP from today itself, in the end you need crash course and then also you won't get any benefit. Everyday we try to put one map question.



Q79. Consider the following statements.

1. Aquaponics is a technique in which aquatic animals share a symbiotic relationship with plants grown without the help of the soil.
2. It aims for sustainable organic crop production, aquaculture and water consumption.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

~~Aquaponics~~ unit gets off the ground in Ludhiana vet varsity

Was inaugurated by Sanjay Dhotre, Union minister of state for education, communication and electronics and IT

CHANDIGARH Updated: Oct 14, 2020, 23:35 IST

Aquaponics is a combination of aquaculture, which is growing fish and other aquatic animals, and hydroponics which is growing plants without soil.

Aquaponics uses these two in a symbiotic combination in which plants are fed the aquatic animals' discharge or waste. In return, the vegetables clean the water that goes back to the fish. Along with the fish and their waste, microbes play an important role to the nutrition of the plants.

These beneficial bacteria gather in the spaces between the roots of the plant and converts the fish waste and the solids into substances the plants can use to grow. The result is a perfect collaboration between aquaculture and gardening.

Aquaponics is a big hope for sustainable organic crop production, aquaculture and water consumption. The fish waste is recycled and used for plant growth instead of throwing it in the ocean. The water is recirculated in a closed system lowering the consumption of this resource.

Importance of pH control in aquaponics: Just read

pH is an important part of aquaculture. Setting it to a perfect level can be a bit confusing since there are three living organisms to care for: your plants, your fish, and the bacteria inside the water and each of them has a different pH need. A neutral pH from 6.8 to 7.2 is good for the aquaponic garden. Because of the fish waste, the pH will become acidic and you will need to use aquaponic compatible pH adjusters. If the pH level is not beneficial for the system that is too low or too high, the plants will not be able to absorb nutrients optimally and your fish will die eventually. It's very important to monitor the pH level each day and to keep it within the neutral range.

Link: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/chandigarh/aquaponics-unit-gets-off-the-ground-in-ludhiana-vet-varsity/story-HsRSYmA5tQpZU9FqcTkD8O.html>

Q80. Great Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros can be seen in:

- a. Kaziranga National Park
- b. Mudumalai National Park
- c. Nilgiri National Park
- d. Pench National Park

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Great one horned rhino is commonly found in Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan and in Assam, India. It is confined to the tall grasslands and forests in the foothills of the Himalayas.

The Indian state of Assam is home to the largest population of greater-one horned rhinos, with more than 90% in Kaziranga National Park.

Q81. Biofortification is a process of improvement of nutritional profile of plant-based foods through:

1. Genetic Engineering
2. Plant Breeding
3. Foliar Fertilization
4. By applying Mineral fertilizers to soil
5. Plant Growth Promoting Microorganisms

Select the correct code.

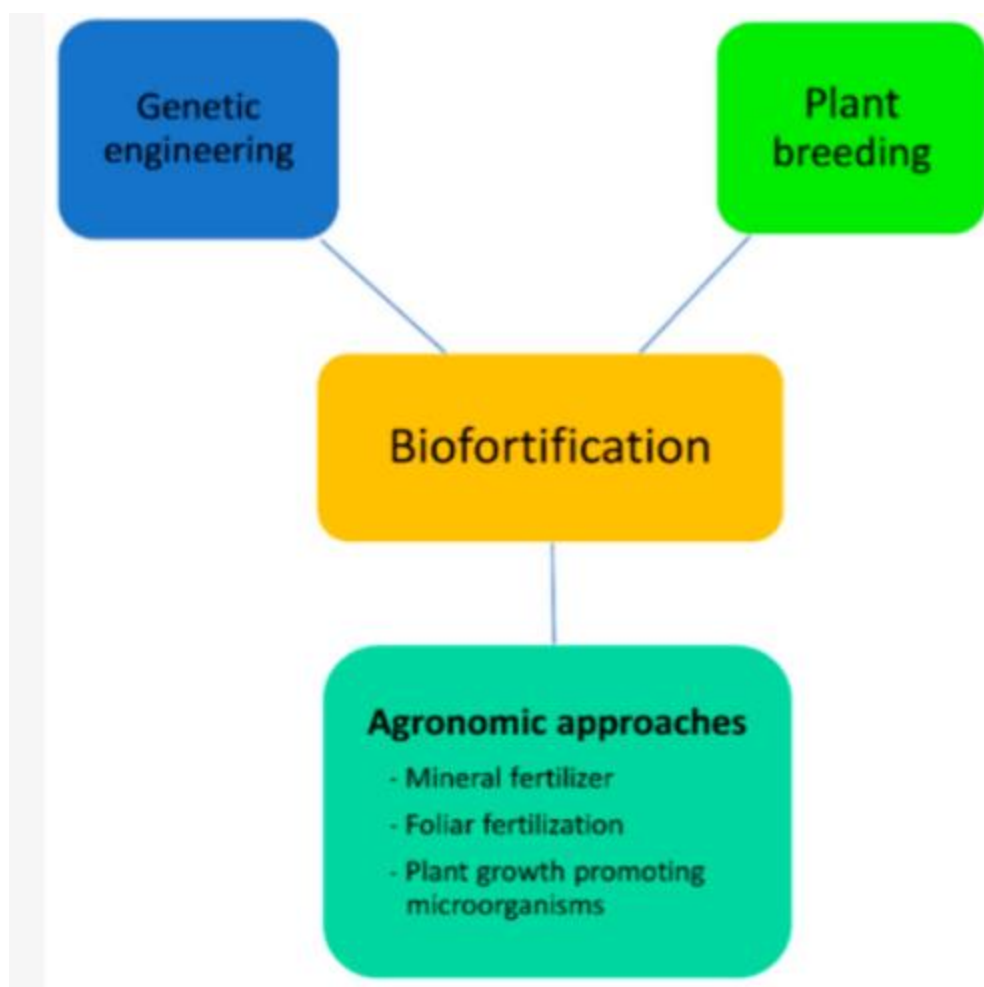
- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only
- c. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Solution: d

Explanation:

Biochar, Bioplastic, Biomeradiation, Biofertilizers has already been part of your UPSC Prelims question. Biofortification is next now.

Biofortification is a process of improvement of nutritional profile of plant-based foods through **agronomic interventions, genetic engineering, and conventional plant breeding.**



Genetic Engineering and Breeding is known to you already. Agronomical approaches we will discuss in brief.

Biofortification through agronomic approaches can be achieved by applying mineral fertilizers to the soil, foliar fertilization, and soil inoculation with beneficial microorganisms.

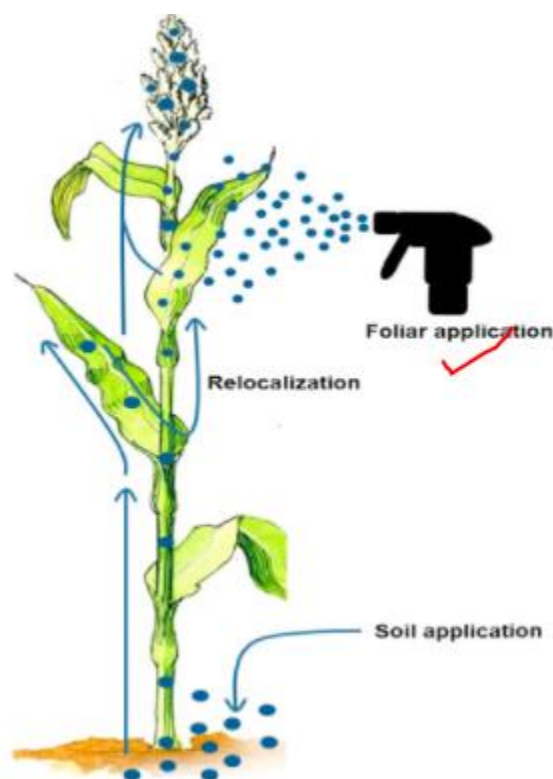
Mineral Fertilizer

Mineral fertilizers are inorganic substances containing essential minerals and can be applied to the soil to improve the micronutrient status of soil and thus plant quality. The Phyto availability of minerals in the soil is often low; thus, to improve the concentration of minerals in the edible plant tissues, the application of mineral fertilizers with improved solubility and mobility of the minerals is required.

Foliar Fertilization

Foliar fertilization is the application of fertilizers **directly to the leaves**. It could be successful when mineral elements are not available immediately in the soil or not readily translocated to edible tissues. Pulse crops were biofortified with micronutrients, Fe, Zn,

and Se, through foliar application in various studies that resulted in increased levels of these micronutrients.



Plant Growth Promoting Microorganisms

Rhizobia, mycorrhizal fungi, actinomycetes, and diazotrophic bacteria are beneficial soil microorganisms associated with plant roots by symbiotic association, and these protect plants by various methods such as promotion of nutrient mineralization and availability and production of plant growth hormones. **Though these are naturally present in the soil, their populations can be enhanced by inoculation or agricultural management practices.**

Some addition:

Nutritional targets for biofortification include elevated **mineral content, improved vitamin content, increased essential amino acid levels, better fatty acid composition, and heightened antioxidant levels in crops.** Biofortification of crop plants can provide enough calories to meet the energy needs along with providing all the essential nutrients needed for sound health.

Essential micro- and macronutrients required for good human health.

Micronutrients		Macronutrients		
Micro-minerals	Vitamins	Amino acids (essential)	Fatty acids (essential)	Macro-minerals
Fe	A (Retinol)	Histidine	Linoleic acid	K
Zn	D (Calciferol)	Isoleucine	Linolenic acid	Ca
Cu	E (α -Tocopherol)	Leucine		Mg
Mn	K (Phylloquinone)	Lysine		S
I	C (Ascorbic acid)	Methionine		P
Se	B ₁ (Thiamin)	Phenylalanine		Na
Mo	B ₂ (Riboflavin)	Threonine		Cl
Co	B ₃ (Niacin)	Tryptophan		
Ni	B ₅ (Pantothenic acid)	Valine		
	B ₆ (Pyridoxine)			
	B ₇ (Biotin)			
	B ₉ (Folic acid, folacin)			
	B ₁₂ (Cobalamin)			

Q82. “Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust” (CCRT) is an initiative of:

- World Bank
- International monetary Fund
- Food and Agricultural Organizations
- UNDP Secretariat

Solution: b

Explanation:

The IMF is responding to the coronavirus crisis with unprecedented speed and magnitude of financial assistance to help countries protect the lives and livelihoods of people, especially the most vulnerable.

1. **Emergency financing** – The IMF is responding to an unprecedented number of requests for emergency financing from over 100 countries. The Fund has doubled the access to its emergency facilities—the **Rapid Credit Facility (RCF)** and **Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI)**—allowing it to meet demand of about \$100 billion in financing. These facilities allow the Fund to provide emergency assistance without the need to have a full-fledged program in place. Financing has already been approved by the IMF's Executive Board at record speed – to 81 countries (for the most recent data, please see the IMF's **COVID-19 Financial Assistance and Debt Service Relief Tracker**). From June, the IMF has been also approving stand-by-arrangements, to provide additional support to some member countries.
2. **Grants for debt relief** – Debt relief under the **Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT)** to assist our poorest and most vulnerable members was first approved in **April 2020** and further extended for 28 countries in **early October 2020**. According to this decision, the CCRT will continue to provide grants to the eligible members to cover their IMF debt obligations through April 13, 2021, which will help them channel more of their scarce financial resources towards vital emergency medical and other relief efforts while these members combat the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund is continuing to fundraise with the goal of significantly increasing the CCRT, so that we can further extend the duration of grant-based debt relief to our most vulnerable members to up to two years.

Link: <https://www.imf.org/en/About/FAQ/imf-response-to-covid-19>

Q83. Consider the following statements about International Monetary Fund.

1. It aims to ensure the stability of the international monetary system by keeping track of the global economy and the economies of member countries.
2. India has highest quota and voting shares among BRICS Nations.
3. World Economic Outlook is a publication of IMF.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an organization of 189 countries, working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.

The IMF was conceived in July 1944 at the United Nations Bretton Woods Conference in New Hampshire, United States.

First Statement is correct.

The IMF's fundamental mission is to ensure the stability of the international monetary system. It does so in three ways: **keeping track of the global economy and the economies of member countries**; lending to countries with balance of payments difficulties; and giving practical help to members. **Read all three functions below.**

✓ Economic Surveillance

The IMF oversees the international monetary system and monitors the economic and financial policies of its 189 member countries. As part of this process, which takes place both at the global level and in individual countries, the IMF highlights possible risks to stability and advises on needed policy adjustments.

Learn how the IMF helped Vietnam.

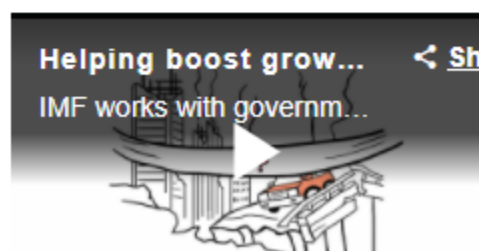
Lending

The IMF provides loans to member countries experiencing actual or potential balance of payments problems to help them rebuild their international reserves, stabilize their currencies, continue paying for imports, and restore conditions for strong economic growth, while correcting underlying problems.

Learn how the IMF helped Ireland.

Capacity Development

The IMF works with governments around the world to modernize their economic policies and institutions, and train their people. This helps countries strengthen their economy, improve growth and create jobs.



Activate W

Second statement is incorrect.

Member	QUOTA ✓	
	Millions of SDRs	Percent of Total ¹
Brazil ³	11,042.0	2.32
Russian Federation ³	12,903.7	2.71
India ³	13,114.4	2.76
China ³	30,482.9	6.41
South Africa ³	3,051.2	0.64

Voting share is also in the same sequence as Quota.

Third statement is correct. It is a publication of IMF.

World Economic Outlook, October 2020: A Long and Difficult Ascent ✓

October 7, 2020

Description: The global economy is climbing out from the depths to which it had plummeted during the Great Lockdown in April. But with the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to spread, many countries have slowed reopening and some are reinstating partial lockdowns to protect susceptible populations. While recovery in China has been faster than expected, the global economy's long ascent back to pre-pandemic levels of activity remains prone to setbacks.

Q84. Which of the following form border with **Caspian and Black Sea both?**

1. Russia
2. Iran
3. Azerbaijan
4. Georgia
5. Armenia

Select the correct code.

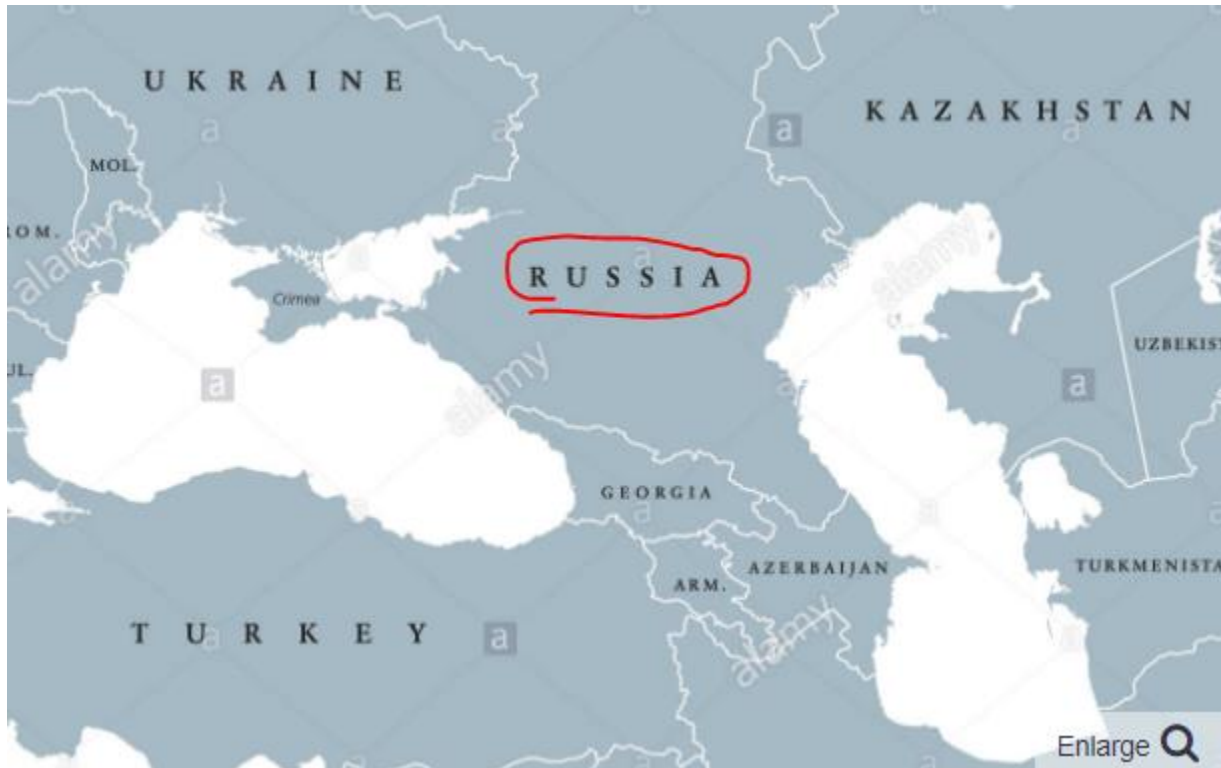
- a. 1 and 5 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 4 only
- d. 1 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

Six countries border with the **Black Sea**, including Ukraine to the north, **Russia** and Georgia to the east, Turkey to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west.

Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan - all bordering the **Caspian Sea**





Q85. Consider the following statements regarding Coalbed Methane.

1. CBM Production is highest in the state of West Bengal.
2. The Gondwana sediments of eastern India hosts almost all the current CBM producing blocks in India.
3. CBM is administered by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOP&NG).

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: D

Explanation:

Coalbed Methane (CBM), an unconventional source of natural gas is now considered as an alternative source for augmenting India's energy resource. India has the fifth largest proven coal reserves in the world and thus holds significant prospects for exploration and exploitation of CBM.

First statement is correct. West Bengal has largest Production.

CBM production in the previous five years till February 2020 is as under:

S.NO	State	CBM Production (MMSCM)
1	Jharkhand	17.11
2	West Bengal ✓	✓ 2103.24
3	Madhya Pradesh	879.42
	Total	2999.77

The Gondwana sediments of eastern India host the bulk of India's coal reserves and all the current CBM producing blocks. The vast majority of the best prospective areas for CBM development are in eastern India, situated in Damodar Koel valley and Son valley. CBM projects exist in Raniganj South, Raniganj East and Raniganj North areas in the Raniganj coalfield, the Parbatpur block in Jharia coalfield and the East and west Bokaro coalfields.

CBM is administered by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOP&NG).

Operators are required to take environment clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change before starting CBM operations in the area.

Details of CBM producing blocks and its operators are as under:

S No	Block	Operator
1.	Raniganj (South)	Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited
2.	Raniganj (East)	Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Limited
3	Sohagpur (West)	Reliance Industries Limited
4.	Jharia	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited.
5.	Bokaro	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited

Q86. Consider the following statements regarding **International Energy Agency**

1. It is an intergovernmental organization established in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis.
2. India is a member of International Energy Agency.
3. To become a member of IEA, a candidate must be a member of The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Founded in 1974, the IEA was initially designed to help countries co-ordinate a collective response to major disruptions in the supply of oil, such as the **crisis of 1973-74**.

The four main areas of IEA focus are:

- Energy Security
- Economic Development
- Environmental Awareness
- Engagement Worldwide

India is an associate member (NOT MEMBER). So, what do you mean by an associate member?



According to the Joint Declaration, **Association is "a progressive relationship** that will have an evolving nature and that will serve as a **basis for higher levels of mutual co-operation in the future"**. Association will be further **enhanced and enriched in the future through joint consultations between the IEA and Association countries**, under mutually agreed terms and conditions.

Who can become member of International Energy Agency?

IEA Membership

The IEA is made up of 30 member countries.

Before becoming a member country of the IEA, a candidate country must demonstrate that it has:

- crude oil and/or product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year's net imports, to which the government has immediate access (even if it does not own them directly) and could be used to address disruptions to global oil supply;
- a demand restraint programme to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%;
- legislation and organisation to operate the Co-ordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM) on a national basis;
- legislation and measures to ensure that all oil companies under its jurisdiction report information upon request;
- measures in place to ensure the capability of contributing its share of an IEA collective action. An IEA collective action would be initiated in response to a significant global oil supply disruption and would involve IEA Member Countries making additional volumes of crude and/or product available to the global market (either through increasing supply or reducing demand), with each country's share based on national consumption as part of the IEA total oil consumption.

The Executive Director of the IEA has to make a finding to ascertain whether the potential member country can meet these requirements, during which the IEA Secretariat advises and works with the candidate country. The IEA Governing Board makes the final decision on the country membership.

A candidate country must be a member country of the OECD. However, membership in the OECD does not automatically result in membership in the IEA.

Q87. With respect to the members of **Legislative Council**, consider the following statements.

1. If a person elected as a member of Legislative Council declared as of unsound mind, the final decision to disqualify him remains with Governor.
2. Every member of the Legislative Council of a State shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor or person appointed by him.

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:

Both statements are correct. Read three articles given below:

Conduct of Business

188. Oath or affirmation by members.—Every member of the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council of a State shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor, 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.

191. Disqualifications for membership.—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State—

²[(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State specified in the First Schedule, other than an office declared by the Legislature of the State by law not to disqualify its holder;]

(b) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;

(c) if he is an undischarged insolvent;

(d) if he is not a citizen of India, or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign State, or is under any acknowledgment of allegiance or adherence to a foreign State;

(e) if he is so disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.

192. Decision on questions as to disqualifications of members.—(1) If any question arises as to whether a member of a House of the Legislature of a State has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1) of article 191, the question shall be referred for the decision of the Governor and his decision shall be final.

(2) Before giving any decision on any such question, the Governor shall obtain the opinion of the Election Commission and shall act according to such opinion.]

Q88. Consider the following Committees of the Lok Sabha.

1. Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.
2. Rules Committee
3. General Purposes Committee

Which of the above committees does Speaker has its ex-officio chairman?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

(5) *Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.* —The Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions is constituted after each general election to Lok Sabha and thereafter from time to time under rule 293. It consists of 15 members nominated by the Speaker. The Deputy Speaker is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The term of the Committee is one year. The functions of the Committee are: (a) to allot time to Private Members' Bills and Resolutions; (b) to examine Private Members' Bills seeking to amend the Constitution before their introduction in Lok Sabha; (c) to categorise Private Members' Bills according to their nature, urgency and importance into two categories, namely, category-A and category-B, after they have been introduced in Lok Sabha; (d) to examine every Private Member's Bill which is opposed in the House on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House; and (e) to perform such other functions in respect of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions as may be assigned to it by the Speaker under Rule 294. The report of the

✓ (12) *Rules Committee.*— (i) the Rules Committee is constituted under Rule 330. It consists of 15 members including the Speaker who is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker.

✓ (13) *General Purposes Committee.*—The General Purposes Committee consists of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, Members of the Panel of Chairpersons, Chairpersons of all Standing Parliamentary Committees of Lok Sabha, Leaders of recognised parties and groups in Lok Sabha and such other Members as may be nominated by the Speaker. The Speaker is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The functions of the Committee are to consider and advise on such matters concerning the affairs of the House as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time.

Q89. Bannerghatta National Park is in:

- a. Karnataka
- b. Maharashtra
- c. Madhya Pradesh
- d. Tamil Nadu

Solution: a

Explanation:

Bannerghatta National Park is in Karnataka.

Q90. Consider the following statements.

1. Registration of political parties is governed by the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.
2. Right to form association is not a Fundamental Right under article 21.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

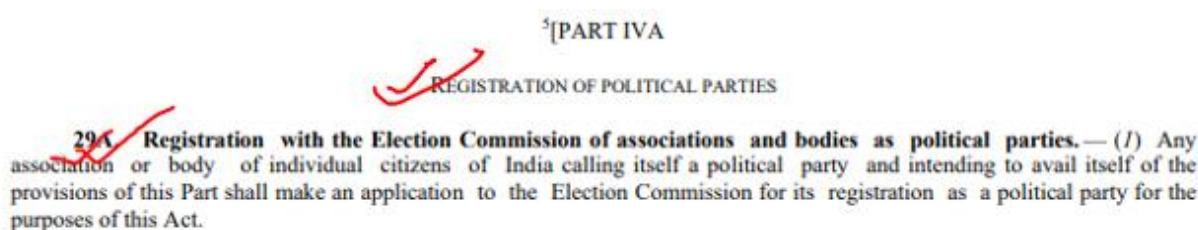
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: d

Explanation:

If mistake in this question means you guys are still not reading questions properly. Please don't run.

Registration of political parties is governed by the provisions of **Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. See below image.**



Right to Form Association is a fundamental Right given in the Constitution of India under Article 19(1)(c). It Proclaims that all citizens shall have the freedom to form associations or unions for a lawful purpose.

Q91. Consider the following statements.

1. The criterion for the inclusion of new communities is not defined by the Constitution of India.
2. President has final authority to include or exclude any tribe or tribal community from the list of Scheduled Tribes.
3. Population of Schedule Caste (SCs) is more than Schedule Tribes (STs) in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: a

Explanation:

You will clear once concept here as there may be confusion between 342 (1) and 342(2).

In 342 (1), President in consultation with governor will make the list. In 342 (2), Parliament will take final decision to include or exclude from list. See below article, you will understand.

Scheduled Tribes

The Constitution of India in Article 366 (25) prescribe that the Scheduled Tribes means such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 of the Constitution to be Scheduled Tribes.

(25) "Scheduled Tribes" means such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution;

Article 342 (1)

The **President** may - with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, by a public notification, specify the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within tribes or tribal communities **as Scheduled Tribe**.

342. Scheduled Tribes.—(1) The President^{8***} [may with respect to any State or Union territory, and where it is a State^{8***}, after consultation with the Governor^{9***} thereof,] by public notification¹⁰, specify the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be.

Article 342 (2)

Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Tribes (prepared through Presidential notification) any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community. **Second statement is not correct.**

(2) Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in a notification issued under clause (1) any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community, but save as aforesaid a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by

Based on Article 342, Parliament enacted **THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER, 1950** which contains a list of tribes or groups designated as Scheduled Tribes. This Order is amended from time to time to include more groups or communities within the ST Fold.

THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER, 1950

C.O. 22

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 342 of the Constitution of India, the President, after consultation with the Governors and Rajpramukhs of the States concerned, is pleased to make the following Order, namely:--

1. This Order may be called the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

While the Constitution is silent about the criteria for specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe. **First statement is correct.**

The words and the phrase 'tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within tribes or tribal communities' in Article 342 have to be understood in terms of their historical background of backwardness.

Proposed Criteria for inclusion of new communities in ST list-

The following criteria points are proposed for consideration and have to be looked at from a holistic perspective, rather than as isolated criterion.

- (i) **Common Community Name for Group Identity** or may have different names as sub tribes/sections, synonyms/ phonetic variations or the name / names by which they identify themselves and the names by which their neighbours call them.
- (ii) **Distinct Language/Dialect** which may or may not exist today. The community may be bilingual speaking own language among themselves and local/regional language to communicate with others.
- (iii) **Presence of a Core Culture** relating to life-cycle, songs, dances, paintings, folklore.
- (iv) **Endogamy** or marital relationship primarily within their own community & with other Scheduled Tribes.
- (v) **Autonomous Religious Beliefs and Practices** where the traditional magico-religious functionaries are from the community, though practicing Hindu 'way of life' would not be a bar.
- (vi) **Traditional Institutions of Social Control Relatively intact**
- (vii) **Low Level of Techno-Economy:** Simple, less diversified, simple exchange of goods and services, mutual interdependence.
- (viii) **Relative Socio-Economic and Educational, backwardness**

As per the Census 2001, **total population of the Scheduled Castes** in the country is 166,635,700 which constitute **16.2% of the total population.**

Total population of **Scheduled Tribes** is 84,326,240 as per the Census 2001 which accounts for **8.2% of the total population of country. Third statement is correct.**

Q92. Consider the following statements.

1. Currently, India doesn't have any specific legislations in order to govern application stores such as Google's Play Store in India.
2. Currently, there is no law in India which prohibits anti-competitive practices by a dominant player such as Google from abusing its market position.

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: a

Explanation:

Recently, the Paytm application. was taken down from the Android Play Store by Google on the ground that it featured games that were against Google's gambling policy. Google claimed that the cash back feature of the Paytm Game called 'India Cricket League' facilitated unregulated gambling. However, Paytm was restored on the Play Store after it agreed to remove its cashback feature. **With this background, this article examines how application stores such as Google's Play Store are regulated in India.**

Regulation of Application Stores in India

Currently, there are no specific legislations in order to govern application stores in India. First statement is correct.

So, how it is regulated in India? There should be something which is regulating it as it has huge market in India.

It is pertinent to understand that application stores provide customers with virtual services such as communication, food delivery, banking, medical, etc., **thereby falling under the purview of Consumer Protection Act, 2019 (CPA) and Consumer (E-commerce) Rules, 2020 (E-commerce rules).** For details visit our [CA section](#).

Second statement is incorrect.

We know very well that Google is a dominant market player in the field of technology. Thus, Google's decision to arbitrarily remove Paytm from its Play Store has raised **suspensions of anti-competitive practices by Google.** This can be considered to be in the

violation of **Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002** which clearly prohibits a dominant player from abusing its market position.

- Prohibition of abuse of dominant position**
- Abuse of dominant position**
4. ³[(1) No enterprise or group shall abuse its dominant position.]
- (2) There shall be an abuse of dominant position ⁴[under sub-section (1), if an enterprise or a group].—
- (a) directly or indirectly, imposes unfair or discriminatory—
- (i) condition in purchase or sale of goods or service; or
- (ii) price in purchase or sale (including predatory price) of goods or service.

The absence of legislative framework with respect to application stores in India has allowed Google to take undue advantage and abuse its dominant position by taking down apps such as Paytm arbitrarily.

Thus, there is an urgent need for the establishment of a legislative framework to effectively regulate application stores in India.

Q93. Consider the following pairs.

Handicrafts (GI Tag)	Belongs to
1. Chakshesang Shawl	Manipur
2. Telia Rumal	Telangana
3. Sohrai – Khovar Painting	Jharkhand

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Chakshesang Shawl was in news. Rest two were granted GI Tag in 2020 only, so learn.

The Chakshesang Women Welfare Society filed a civil suit in court against designer Ritu Beri and TRIFED over wrongful representation of Chakshesang shawls during a fashion show.

Handicrafts (GI Tag)	Belongs to
----------------------	------------

Chakshesang Shawl	Mizoram
Telia Rimal	Telangana
Sohrai – Khovar Painting	Jharkhand

Link:

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

Q94. Consider the following statements regarding NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission.

1. OSIRIS-Rex will travel to a near-Earth asteroid called Bennu and will bring a small sample back to Earth for study.
2. Shukrayaan-1 of India and Hayabusa 2 mission of Japan are working on similar missions.

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: a

Explanation:

On October 20, OSIRIS-REx circling a distant asteroid will fold back its solar panels, fire its thrusters and **descend to the surface of an alien world.**

NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission, which has been studying the asteroid 101955 Bennu for the last two years, will attempt to grab a golf ball's worth of rocky material during its brief touchdown – the largest piece of celestial real estate collected since the Apollo era. If **returned to Earth in 2023 as planned,** the space rock could give scientists important clues about our Solar System's origins.

In addition to OSIRIS-REx, **the Japanese mission Hayabusa 2 expects to deliver to Earth its own specimens from an asteroid named 162173 Ryugu before the end of 2020.**

Surprising discoveries are still coming from the European Space Agency's Rosetta orbiter, mapping its icy nucleus and dropping a small lander on its surface.

All of this effort is helping to show that, **far from being unimportant, asteroids, comets and other small bodies are key players in our history.** Through them, **we can gaze across time and space, back to the dawn of the sun and out to distant star systems still being formed.**

Second statement is incorrect.

Shukrayaan-1 is a proposed orbiter to Venus by the Indian Space Research Organisation to study the surface and atmosphere of Venus. ISRO is scheduled to launch its Venus mission in 2025 and France will participate in it.

Future such mission:

Future surprises

Scientists are also looking forward to two forthcoming NASA missions – designated Lucy and Psyche – that will provide data bookending the start and finish of planetary evolution. Lucy is set to launch next year, eventually to tour past at least six asteroids that share Jupiter's orbit around the sun. Known as Trojans, these small traveling companions are so diverse in their properties that scientists think they probably have separate origins.

NASA and ESA are also planning the Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) and Hera missions in the coming years, which will intentionally crash into the potentially hazardous 65803 Didymos to assess the feasibility of moving an asteroid that might threaten civilisation.

Our understanding of small bodies will continue to deepen in the foreseeable future, with the European Space Agency recently selecting the Comet Interceptor mission for launch in 2028. The probe will be parked near Earth as it waits to examine an ancient long-period comet – perhaps from the distant Oort cloud, a collection of the farthest and least changed icy bodies in the Solar System.

Q95. Which of the following places form border **only with China, but not India**?

1. Bangladesh
2. Myanmar
3. Thailand
4. Cambodia

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 3 and 4 only
- d. None

Solution: d

Explanation:

Thoda put stress on brain and try to recall map. If you will just see solution, nothing you can do in life. From today make it a habit to recall map, if you get map question.

Bangladesh forms border only with India.

Myanmar forms border with India and China both.

Thailand and Cambodia forms border neither with China, nor with India.



Q96. Consider the following statements.

1. There should not be a gap of more than six months between two sessions of Parliament.
2. A notice of the motion to remove SC Judge shall be accepted by Speaker after it is signed by 100 members of Lok Sabha and 50 members of Rajya Sabha.

Which of the following provisions **are mentioned in the Constitution?**

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

By convention, Parliament meets for three sessions in a year. The Constitution does not specify when or for how many days Parliament should meet.

Article 85 only requires that **there should not be a gap of more than six months between two sessions of Parliament**. This is part of Constitution.

²[85. **Sessions of Parliament, prorogation and dissolution.**—(1) The President shall from time to time summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.

(2) The President may from time to time—

(a) prorogue the Houses or either House;

(b) dissolve the House of the People.]

Parliament enacted The Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. *There it is mentioned that it should be signed by 100 members of Lok Sabha. Read below. It is not mentioned in the Constitution.*

THE JUDGES (INQUIRY) ACT, 1968

ACT No. 51 OF 1968

[5th December, 1968.]

An Act to regulate the procedure for the investigation and proof of the misbehaviour or incapacity of a judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court and for the presentation of an address by Parliament to the President and for matters connected therewith.

What does the Act say:

3. Investigation into misbehaviour or incapacity of Judge by Committee.—(1) If notice is given of a motion for presenting an address to the President praying for the removal of a Judge signed,—

(a) in the case of a notice given in the House of the People, by not less than one hundred members of that House;

(b) in the case of a notice given in the Council of States, by not less than fifty members of that Council;

then, the Speaker or, as the case may be, the Chairman may, after consulting such persons, if any, as he thinks fit and after considering such materials, if any, as may be available to him, either admit the motion or refuse to admit the same.

Q97. Consider the following pairs.

Temples	Location
---------	----------

1. Mallikarjun Temple in Andhra Pradesh	Nallamala Hills
2. Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain	On the banks of Shipra River
3. Trimbakeshwar Temple	Brahmagiri Hills

Which of the above pairs 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:

These types of questions are very important for exam. But the topic is very vast. We will try to cover as many temples we can before exam.

Temples	Location
Mallikarjun Temple in Andhra Pradesh	Nallamala Hills
Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain	On the banks of Shipra River
Trimbakeshwar Temple	Near Brahmagiri Hills

Q98. The leader of the lower House of the Parliament is:

- a. Prime Minister
- b. President
- c. Speaker
- d. Leader of opposition

Solution: a

Explanation:

Leader of the House, according to Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha means the **Prime Minister, if he is a Member of the House.**

So here, you learned two things:

- a. Prime Minister is the leader of the House

b. It is mentioned in Rules of Procedure of House, not Constitution.

2. (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“Bulletin” means the Bulletin of the House containing (a) a brief record of the proceedings of the House at each of its sittings; (b) information on any matter relating to or connected with the business of the House or other matter which in the opinion of the Speaker may be included therein; and (c) information regarding Parliamentary Committees;

“Constitution” means the Constitution of India;

“Council” means the Council of States (Rajya Sabha);

“Finance Minister” includes any Minister;

“Gazette” means the Gazette of India;

“House” means the House of the People (Lok Sabha);

“Houses” means the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha);

“Leader of the House” means the Prime Minister, if Prime Minister is a member of the House, or a Minister who is a member of the House and is nominated by the Prime Minister to function as the Leader of the House;

Q99. Consider the following statements.

1. Lord Macaulay’s Minute on Education, 1835 was seen as a victory against Orientalists.
2. English Medium was made compulsory at all levels in Wood’s Despatch of 1854.

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

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

We have asked **not correct**. So, be careful.

We will try to connect things. When you connect, it becomes easy to revise and learn.

From 1820 to his retirement in 1833, it was **English Orientalist Horace Hayman Wilson** who made key educational decisions on behalf of the Company. Wilson is credited with a much-referenced, **translation of Kalidas's Sanskrit poem, Meghaduta**, and with the first glossary of words in **Sanskrit and other Indian languages used in revenue and the judicial services**.

The Anglicists, Macaulay, while vociferous in their **advocacy of English**, stood for what **they described as the "filtration" of education**. This meant that only the upper class of society would be provided instruction in English, and they, in turn, were expected to educate the natives down the order.

Macaulay's Minute clearly stated these intentions: education was to *"form a class who may be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern; a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, in opinions, in morals, and in intellect"*.

On February 2, 1835, circulated **Minute on Education** -- a treatise that offered definitive reasons for why the East India Company and the British government should spend money on the provision of English language education, as well as the promotion of European learning, especially the sciences, in India. Just about a month after the circulation, the Minute became policy, when William Bentinck (Governor General of India) got convinced enough to sign the resolution.

So, this was **the victory against** his detractors, **especially the Orientalists** (East India Company officials, scholars, translators and collectors) **who supported study and instruction in India in traditional languages**. *Therefore, statement one is correct.*

In 1854, Charles Wood prepared a Despatch on an educational system for India. This document is considered as the "Magna Carta of English Education in India". It's main aim was to:

- a. To impart Western knowledge, information about the western culture to the Indians.
- b. To educate the natives of India so that a class of public servants could be created.
- c. To promote intellectual development and also raise the moral character of the young generation.
- d. To develop practical and vocational skills of the Indians people so that more and more articles could be produced and also to create a good market for consumption of those goods.

Other important contents of Wood's Despatch: It is important. Do read.

- a. The Wood's Despatch of 1854, for the first time, recommended the **creation of a Department of Public Instruction** in each of the five provinces of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, the Punjab and the North Western provinces.
- b. **Elementary education** was considered to be the foundation of the education system.
- c. The Wood's Despatch of 1854 recommended the **establishment of universities at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.**
- d. The Wood's Despatch of 1854 recommended the sanction of a **grant-in-aid system in the Indian educational system.** To educate the large number of people of India was a difficult task and so the grant-in-aid system was adopted by the government.
- e. The Wood's Despatch of 1854 gave importance to teaching of English, but at the same time, it also stressed on the **teaching of Indian languages.**
- f. The Despatch clearly stated that **Indian languages as well as English should be used as media of instruction. Therefore, statement 2 is wrong.**
- g. The Wood's Despatch of 1854 stressed **on female education.** The Wood s Despatch stated, the importance of female education in India cannot be over- rated.

If you remember in Prelims 2018, a question on Woods's Despatch: See if you can attempt that now.

19. Regarding Wood's Dispatch, which of the following statements are true ?

1. Grants-in-Aid system was introduced.
2. Establishment of universities was recommended.
3. English as a medium of instruction at all levels of education was recommended.

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

Q100. Rajaji National Park is in:

- a. Himachal Pradesh
- b. Uttarakhand

- c. Punjab
- d. Odisha

Solution: b

Explanation:

News is:

The Centre has declined the **Uttarakhand forest department's proposal to use a portion of the Rajaji National Park** and Narendra Nagar forest division **for the Kumbh Mela**, scheduled to happen 2021, stating that existing current laws don't permit such diversion of forest areas for non-forest purposes.