

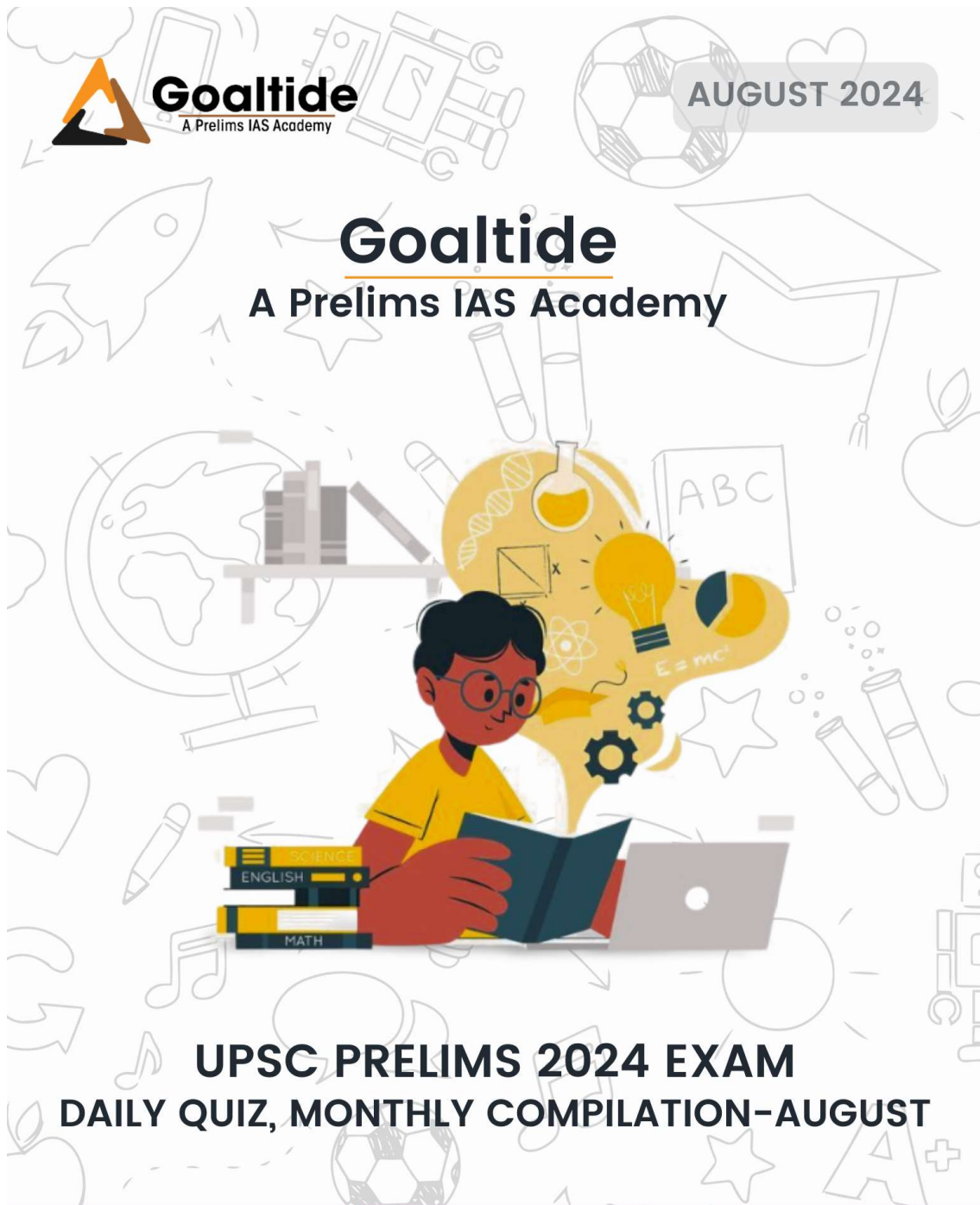


**Goaltide**  
A Prelims IAS Academy

AUGUST 2024

# **Goaltide**

## **A Prelims IAS Academy**



**UPSC PRELIMS 2024 EXAM**  
**DAILY QUIZ, MONTHLY COMPILATION-AUGUST**

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Q1. In reference to **long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (LT-LEDS)**, consider the following statements.

1. LT-LEDS are crucial frameworks that guide countries in aligning their developmental goals with the Paris Agreement's objective.
2. India has yet not formulated and submitted LT-LEDS to UNFCCC.

How many 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:

**The term was mentioned in the recent news in PIB:**

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

## Climate action and carbon neutrality

Posted On: 01 AUG 2024 1:04PM by PIB Delhi

Parties agreed, under Article 4.19 of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC **“to strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (LT-LEDS).**

Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) are crucial frameworks that guide countries in **aligning their developmental goals with the Paris Agreement's objective to limit global warming to well below 2°C.**

**Till now, 73 countries have submitted. India has already submitted.**

## Number of current submissions\*: 73

Recent submissions:

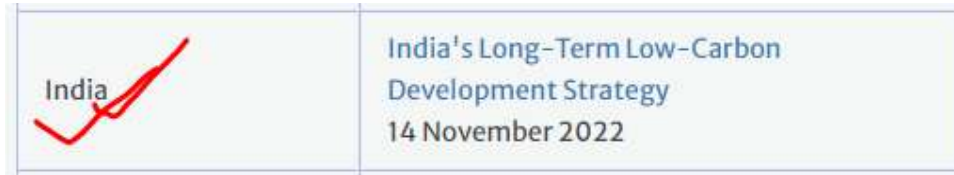
Ireland (update), 23 July 2024

Panama, 18 June 2024

Nigeria, 25 April 2024

Equatorial Guinea, 18 April 2024

Armenia, 16 February 2024



Q2. Consider the following statements.

1. Dead zones occur when a body of water gets too many nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen.
2. Dead zones are often located near inhabited coastlines.
3. The largest dead zone in the world lies in the Arabian Sea.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

## Gulf of Mexico 'dead zone' larger than average, scientists find

Focus areas: Ocean & Coasts Topics: hypoxia, Gulf of Mexico

Share:   

August 1, 2024

~~Dead zones~~ are low-oxygen, or hypoxic, areas in the world's oceans and lakes. Because most organisms need oxygen to live, few organisms can survive in hypoxic conditions. That is why these areas are called dead zones.

Dead zones occur because of a process called eutrophication, which happens when a body of water gets too many nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen. At normal levels, these nutrients feed the growth of an organism called cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae. With too many nutrients, however, cyanobacteria grows out of control, which can be harmful. Human activities are the main cause of these excess nutrients being washed into the ocean. For this reason, dead zones are often located near inhabited coastlines.

**The largest dead zone in the world lies in the Arabian Sea**, covering almost the entire 63,700-square mile Gulf of Oman.

**The second largest sits in the Gulf of Mexico** in the United States, averaging almost 6,000 square miles in size.

Around the world, dead zones have developed in continental seas, such as the **Baltic Sea, Kattegat, Black Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and East China Sea**.

Q3. **How Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)** scheme can benefit small and marginal farmers?

1. A subsidy is provided to start a solar power plant and sell the electricity generated to the grid.
2. To incentivize farmers to shift from electric/ diesel pumps to solar pumps.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**The PM-KUSUM scheme is divided into three components:**



1. Component A: Installation of mini-grids on barren lands.
2. Component B: Replacement of diesel water pumps with off-grid solar water pumps.
3. Component C: Replacement of electric water pumps with on-grid solar water pumps and installation of mini-grids for agriculture feeder solarization.

**Statement one is incorrect: Question is: “how it will help small farmers”?** *Small farmers ke paas itni zameen kha h ki wo plant start kr ske and there is no subsidy also.*

The three components of the scheme have been planned in such a way as to offer benefits to farmers of all categories—marginal, small, medium and large—divided on the basis of landholdings. Component A benefits farmers by giving them access to an extra source of income from their barren land. Farmers can start a solar power plant between capacities 500 kW and 2 MW and sell the electricity generated to the grid. However, with no subsidy, this component would mostly benefit large farmers who have the capability to acquire large loans from banks (see Table 1).

**Second statement is correct.**

**The State Government will give at-least subsidy of 30%; and the remaining at-most 40% will be provided by the farmer.**

Component B targets small farmers who are currently dependent on the erratic main grid agricultural supply. The farmers can opt for standalone solar water pumps replacing their electric/diesel pumps, which would lead to savings in terms of operational costs such as amount spent on purchasing diesel or paying electricity bills.

**NOTE: These all questions are very important for exams. Do register for any Prelims course to get PDFs of all these questions.**

Q4. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the notification, a minimum 250 population is required to declare any region as a Elephant reserves.
2. Presently, there are 56 notified Elephant Reserves (ERs) in the country.
3. No elephant reserves currently in Maharashtra.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

Wildlife &amp; Biodiversity

## Maharashtra's first elephant reserve in Gondia & Gadchiroli districts awaits central nod, year after being proposed

There is no such defined number to declare an elephant reserve.

There are 33 notified Elephant Reserves (ERs) in the country spread over 14 states.

Presently, no elephant reserves in Maharashtra.

Some experts, however, told *Down To Earth (DTE)* that the two dozen elephants in the region at the moment are not a viable population for it to be declared a reserve. Others countered this, stating that the move would help conserve the species, which is expanding and recolonising its range.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding **Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)**.

1. The scheme is only for current account transactions.
2. The total outward remittances under LRS have been increasing consistently except COVID months.
3. Remittances for education accounted for than half of the total remittances under LRS.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**First and third are incorrect.**

The Liberalised Remittance Scheme or LRS is a regulatory framework introduced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that allows resident individuals to remit a certain amount of money in a financial year **for various capital account and current account transactions**. That is, under the scheme, resident Indians are allowed to transfer funds abroad up to a specified limit, without the prior approval of RBI.

**The scheme was first introduced in 2004 and has undergone several revisions since then, based on the prevailing macro and micro economic conditions.**

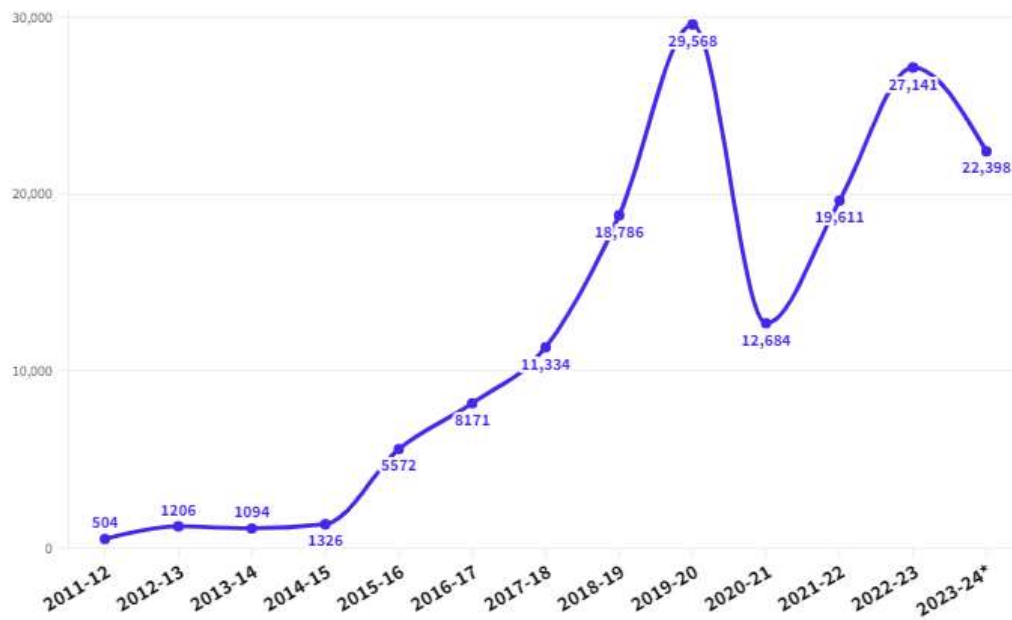
The Scheme was originally introduced with a limit of USD 25,000. As of the last revision in 2015, the prescribed limit is USD 2,50,000 per financial year (April to March). This is roughly equivalent to a tad more than two crore Indian rupees.

**While there is no limit on the frequency of remittances under the scheme, the resident individual will not be eligible to make any further remittances under the scheme if the remittance limit is reached.**

According to RBI data, **the total outward remittances under LRS have been increasing consistently.** The growth is considerably higher in 2015-16 and 2016-17. In 2019-20, the total outward remittances under the scheme touched an all-time high of nearly 29,568 million USD. However, it dropped to less than half in 2020-21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the value has been improving.

### Total Outward Remittances under Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS)

(2011-12 to 2023-24\*, in million USD)



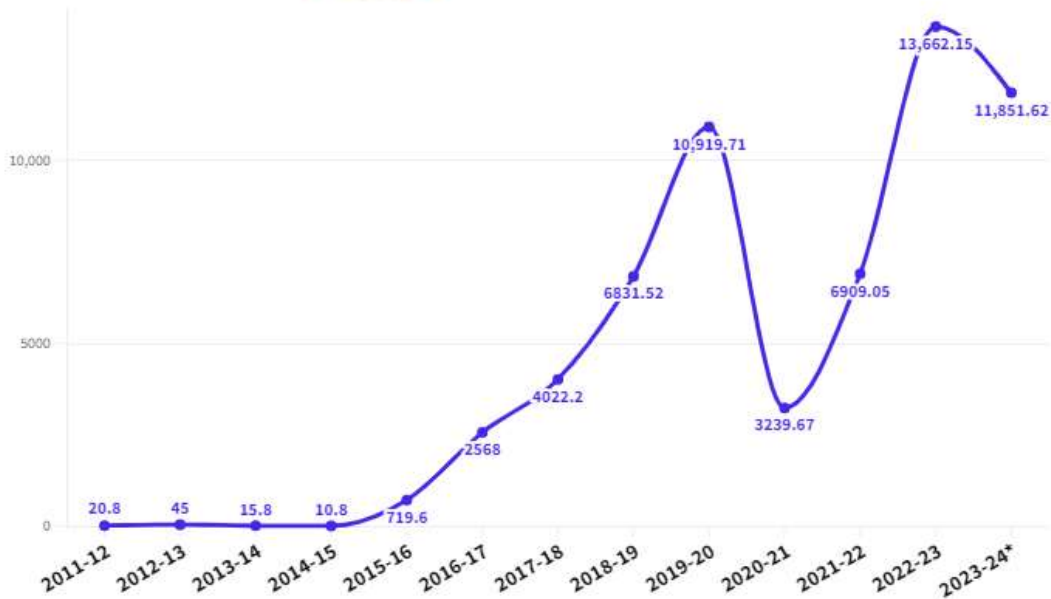
Remittances for travel alone accounted for more than 50% of the total remittances under LRS in 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Though education (studies abroad) and maintenance of close relatives accounted for more than 20% each of the total until 2021-22, their share has dropped significantly in 2022-23 and 2023-24.

### Outward Remittances under LRS - by Purpose

(2011-12 to 2023-24\*, in million USD)

Travel



### Outward Remittances under LRS - by Purpose

(2011-12 to 2023-24\*, in million USD)

Studies Abroad



Q6. Consider the following pairs.

Regions	location
---------	----------

a. Kamchatka peninsula	Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea
b. Dead Sea	Israel and Syria

Which of the above locations is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Regions	location
Kamchatka peninsula	Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea
Dead Sea	Israel and Jordan



Q7. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Currently, India does not have law to punish for any loss or damage to public property by a person.

2. One of the provisions of DPSP talks about the 'safeguarding the public property'.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

First is incorrect:

Recognising this and with a view to curb such violent forms of protests that cause damage to public property, the Parliament enacted the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984<sup>17</sup> (hereinafter, referred to as the "PDPP Act"). The PDPP Act aims to prevent damage to public property by curbing acts of vandalism, including destruction and damage resulting from riots and other public commotion.

Section 2(a) of the PDPP Act defines 'mischief' as having the same meaning as in Section 425 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 ("IPC"). Section 2(b) defines 'public property'. Section 3 of the PDPP Act provides that whoever commits mischief by doing any act in respect of any public property shall be punished for a term which may extend to five years and with fine<sup>18</sup> and with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months, but which may extend to five years and with fine<sup>19</sup> in different contingencies. Section 4 of the Act further provides that whoever

**Also, recently The Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 added:**



The relevant provisions of the BNS have been mentioned below:

~~270.~~ **Public nuisance.**—A person is guilty of a public nuisance who does any act or is guilty of an illegal omission which causes any common injury, danger or annoyance to the public or to the people in general who dwell or occupy property in the vicinity, or which must necessarily cause injury, obstruction, danger or annoyance to persons who may have occasion to use any public right but a common nuisance is not excused on the ground that it causes some convenience or advantage.

Second statement is also incorrect:

~~Article 51 A~~ which enshrines the “Fundamental Duties” of the citizens of India also becomes pertinent to be noted in the context of protests. One of the eleven fundamental duties imposed upon the citizens of India under the framework of the Constitution is “to safeguard public property and to abjure violence”. Article 51A(i) reads:

“51A. It shall be the duty of every citizen of India—

.....  
(i) to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;”

Q8. Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Not Correct, so be careful.**

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

**Oath of President is not in third schedule.**

**Article 60.**

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

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

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

Q9. In the context of Early Vedic Period, **Brahmavadinis and Sadyodvahas** refers to:

- a) Educated women groups
- b) Saints in early Vedic period
- c) Sacred texts to be read by women
- d) Sacred placed to read sacred texts

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Read:**

marriage did not exist.”<sup>5</sup> So women got an opportunity to acquire education. If they wanted to pursue knowledge without getting married, they were allowed to do so, without any constraints. The educators wisely divided women into two groups namely

32

**Brahmavadinis and Sadyodvahas.** “The former were life-long students of theology and philosophy, the latter used to prosecute their studies till their marriage at the age of 15 or 16.”<sup>6</sup> Many educated women became teachers or Upadhyayinis. No wonder the age

Q10. Consider the following pairs.

items	Contains plastics
a. Chewing gum	polyethylene and polyvinyl acetate
b. cigarettes	cellulose acetate

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: c

Explanation:

Very important questions.

**Chewing gum is probably one of the most surprising products that contains plastic.** Although traditional chewing gum bases were made of natural tree resins such as chicle, today, most gum bases contain **petroleum-based plastics such as polyethylene and polyvinyl acetate** which are FSSAI-approved (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India; sub-regulations 2.7.3 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards & Food Additives) Regulations, 2011).

Another unlikely place where plastics turn up are in **cigarettes. The filters in cigarettes are made of a non-biodegradable plastic called cellulose acetate**, that ends up in cigarette butts. In 2019, cigarette butts were one of the most littered plastic items along with plastic food wrappers, bottles, and bottle caps found on beaches and in the oceans.

Q11. The Reserve Bank of India issued a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs). The provisions of the PCA Framework will be effective from April 1, 2025. We will solve one question.

**The indicators based on which the PCA framework will be invoked are:**

1. Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)
2. Net NPA (Non-Performing Assets) Ratio
3. Incurred loss in the very first financial year.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

See below:

**Capital, Asset Quality and Profitability will be the key areas for monitoring in the revised PCA Framework.**

Breach of any risk threshold (as detailed under) may result in invocation of PCA.

PCA matrix – Parameters, Indicators and Risk Thresholds				
Parameter (1)	Indicator (2)	Risk Threshold 1 (3)	Risk Threshold 2 (4)	Risk Threshold 3 (5)
Capital (Breach of CRAR)	CRAR – Minimum Regulatory Requirement, as applicable*	Up to 250 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)	More than 250 bps but not exceeding 400 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)	In excess of 400 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)
Asset Quality	Net Non-Performing Advances (NNPA) Ratio	>=6.0% but <9.0%	>=9.0% but < 12.0%	>=12.0%
Profitability	Net profit	Incurred losses during consecutive years	two	--

The three parameters based on which the PCA framework will be invoked are:

- a) Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)
- b) NPA level
- c) **Two consecutive years loss. Third option is incorrect.**

Q12. Consider the following statements regarding **monkeypox virus (Mpox)**.

1. It is caused by the virus, a species of the genus Orthopoxvirus.
2. It cannot be transmitted to humans through physical contact with someone who is infectious.
3. According to WHO, the South Asian region accounts the highest number (90 per cent) of the reported cases.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

8 August 2024 | Health

The UN World Health Organization (WHO) on Thursday raised the response to the **mpox outbreak** in over a dozen African countries to the highest level, mobilizing efforts across the agency.

**Mpox is a viral illness caused by the monkeypox virus (commonly abbreviated as MPXV), a species of the genus Orthopoxvirus.**

Common symptoms include a skin rash or mucosal lesions that can last for two to four weeks accompanied by fever, headache, muscle aches, back pain, low energy and swollen lymph nodes.

**It can be transmitted to humans through physical contact with someone who is infectious, with contaminated materials, or with infected animals.**

## Interrupting transmission the priority

According to [WHO](#), the Democratic Republic of the Congo accounts the highest number (90 per cent) of the reported cases, including a new variant that emerged last September. Cases from that variant have also been reported in neighbouring Rwanda and Uganda, as well as Kenya, while analysis of cases is ongoing in Burundi.

Q13. In reference to **Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS)**, consider the following statements.

1. Rules and regulations, governing the operation of AePS, issued by National Payment Corporation of India.

2. Users are not required to share their bank account details during the transaction under AePS.
3. Cash deposits is not allowed under AePS.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Only third is incorrect.**

**AePS, or Aadhaar-enabled payment system, is a service developed by the National Payments Corporation of India.**

It allows users to conduct transactions on a micro-ATM by providing their Aadhaar number and biometric information. Here are the key features of AePS:

- Aadhaar-linked transactions: AePS enables Aadhaar card holders to make transactions through their Aadhaar-linked bank accounts, similar to debit/credit card transactions.
- Biometric authentication: Transactions are completed by submitting the Aadhaar number and biometric details (iris or fingerprint scan) at Points of Sale (PoS) or micro ATMs, using Aadhaar authentication.
- Bank account privacy: Users are not required to share their bank account details during the transaction, enhancing privacy and security.
- Fund transfers: AePS allows users to transfer funds between bank accounts, providing a convenient way to send and receive money.
- Secure transactions: AePS transactions are considered safe and secure as they require biometric authentication, ensuring the identity of the user.

The AePS facility exhibits the following primary characteristics:

- **Account deduction:** The transaction amount is deducted directly from the Aadhaar-linked bank account of the user, ensuring a seamless and straightforward transaction process.
- **Basic banking transactions:** AePS allows Aadhaar card holders to perform various basic banking transactions, including cash deposits, interbank and intrabank fund transfers, cash withdrawals, balance inquiries, and obtaining mini bank statements. These transactions can be conducted through a banking correspondent.



**All System Participants are required to adhere to the rules and regulations, governing the operation of AePS, issued by NPCI (System Provider of AePS).**

Q14. Consider the following statements regarding **World Health Organization**.

1. The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO which is attended by the delegation of all member states of WHO annually.
2. Every member country must pay some amount based mainly on the country's GDP, to be a member of the Organization.
3. All countries which are Members of the United Nations can only become members of WHO.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Founded in 1948, WHO is the United Nations agency.**

The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO.

**It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States.**

The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget. **The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.**

WHO gets its funding from two main sources: Member States paying their assessed contributions (countries' membership dues), and voluntary contributions from Member States and other partners.

**Assessed contributions (AC)** are a percentage of a country's gross domestic product (the percentage is agreed by the United Nations General Assembly). Member States approve them every two years at the World Health Assembly. They cover less than 20% of the total budget.

The remainder of WHO's financing is in the form of **voluntary contributions (VC)**, largely from Member States as well as from other United Nations organizations, intergovernmental organizations, philanthropic foundations, the private sector, and other sources.

**Assessed contributions are the dues countries pay in order to be a member of the Organization.**

The amount each Member State must pay is calculated relative to the country's wealth and population.

**All countries which are Members of the United Nations may become members of WHO by accepting its Constitution.** Other countries **may be admitted as members** when their application has been approved by a simple majority vote of the World Health Assembly.

Q15. **Peoples' Climate Vote 2024** was recently conducted by:

- a) UNDP



- b) UNEP
- c) UNFCCC Secretariat
- d) Amnesty International

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read:

News:

## ~~80~~ percent of people globally want stronger climate action by governments according to UN Development Programme survey

Landmark public opinion research reveals overwhelming majority around the world support more ambitious efforts and want to overcome geopolitical differences to fight climate crisis

The Peoples' Climate Vote 2024 is the second edition of the Peoples' Climate Vote survey, carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the University of Oxford.

The 2024 survey is bigger in terms of countries: people in 77 countries, representing 87% of the world's population, were asked their views on climate change.

**Why I took this news?**

### COUNTRIES SURVEYED

Afghanistan

Algeria

Argentina

Australia

Banladesh



India

Indonesia

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Iraq

Italy

Saudi Arabia

Solomon Islands

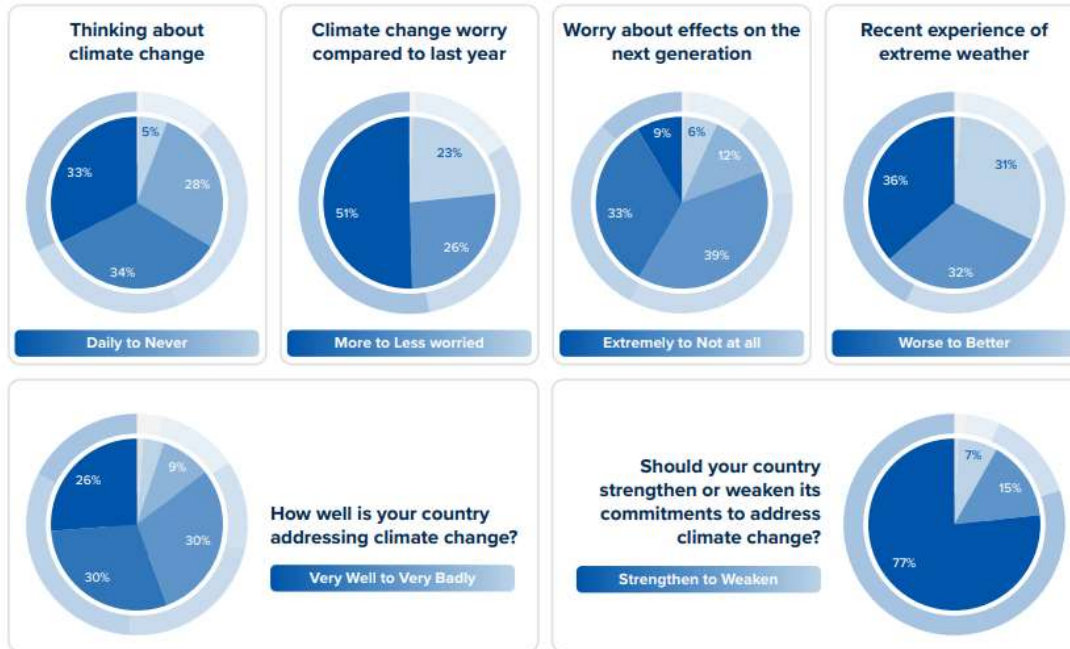
South Africa

Spain

Sri Lanka

**Just see the results of new survey:**

Country report  
**INDIA**



Q16. Consider the following pairs.

1. Soon after Independence, the University Education Commission was set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. S Radhakrishnan to report on Indian university education.
2. University Grants Commission (UGC) is a statutory body.
3. Lord Macaulay in his minutes of 1835 advocated to encourage indigenous education and regional language.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

These statements are taken directly from UGC website. *Padhna aur practice ache se sikh lo idhar. Abhi waqt h.* Every single day counts.

**Note:** You won't be able to do every such topic on your own. **This is sole reason I insists every single day do Join Goaltide practice Platform, solve quizzes, Test Series.** Its on you how you take this.

**First and second are correct statements:**

Soon after Independence, the University Education Commission was set up in 1948 under the Chairmanship of Dr. S Radhakrishnan "to report on Indian university education and suggest improvements and extensions that might be desirable to suit the present and future needs and aspirations of the country". It recommended that the University Grants Committee

Commission. Consequently, the University Grants Commission (UGC) was formally inaugurated by late Shri Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the then Minister of Education, Natural Resources and Scientific Research on 28 December 1953.

The UGC, however, was formally established only in November 1956 as a statutory body of the Government of India through an Act of Parliament for the coordination, determination, and maintenance of standards of university education in

**Third statement is incorrect:**

The present system of higher education dates back to Mountstuart Elphinstone's minutes of 1823, which stressed on the need for establishing schools for teaching English and the European sciences. Later Lord Macaulay, in his minutes of 1835, advocated "efforts to make natives of the country thoroughly good English scholars". Sir Charles Wood's Dispatch of 1854, famously known as the Magna Carta of English Education in India, recommended creating a properly articulated scheme of education from the primary school to the university. It sought to encourage indigenous education and planned the formulation of a coherent policy of education. Subsequently, the universities of Calcutta, Bombay (now Mumbai) and Madras were set up in 1857, followed by the university of Allahabad in 1887.

Q17. Consider the following statements.

1. CBI to obtain the consent of the state government before conducting investigation in a particular state thereby limiting its jurisdiction.
2. CBI is a statutory body.
3. Prime Minister, Speaker of Lok Sabha and CJI are the members of appointment committee to appoint a director of CBI.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act 1946 requires the CBI to obtain the consent of the state government** before conducting investigation in a particular state thereby limiting its jurisdiction.

**16. Consent of State Government to exercise of powers and jurisdiction.**—Nothing contained in section 5 shall be deemed to enable any member of the Delhi Special Police Establishment to exercise powers and jurisdiction in any area in <sup>2</sup>[a State, not being a Union territory or railway area], without the consent of the Government of that State.]

What is the concept of "General Consent"?

In case of 'general consent' **the CBI does not have to obtain the prior permission of the state government before investigation. When a state withdraws general consent**, CBI officers lose the powers to conduct investigation in the concerned state. In order to register a new case, the agency has to seek specific consent from the State government. As a result, it stalls registration of new

cases. And over the years, **general consent has been used as a tool of political rivalry between the centre and state.**

**Second Statement is incorrect:**

Origins of CBI can be traced back to the **Special Police Establishment (SPE) set up in 1941** in order to cases of bribery and corruption in War & Supply Department of India during World War II.

The need of a Central Government agency to investigate cases of bribery and corruption was felt even after the end of World War II. So, DSPE (Delhi Special Police Establishment) Act, 1946 was brought that gave legal power of investigating cases to CBI.

**CBI is not a statutory body as it is not established by an Act of the Parliament.**

Third Statement is incorrect:

**Members are:**

1. **Prime Minister of India**
2. **Leader of Opposition**
3. **CJI.**

Q18. Consider the following rivers.

1. Chenab
2. Jhelum
3. Indus
4. Satluj

How many of the above rivers flow through newly formed Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir?

- a Only two
- b Only three
- c Only one
- d All four

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Only Chenab and Jhelum pass through Jammu and Kashmir UT.**



Satluj, you can see in above maps, flows below Ravi, so it far away from Jammu and Kashmir. Satluj river doesn't cross Jammu and Kashmir. It enters India in Himachal Pradesh.

Satluj rises from beyond Indian borders in the Southern slopes of the Kailash mountain near Mansarover lake from Rakas lake, as Longchen Khabab river (in Tibet).



Flowing northwestward and then west southwestward through Himalayan gorges, **it enters and crosses the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh** before beginning its flow through the Punjab plain near Nangal, Punjab state. Continuing southwestward in a broad channel, it receives the Beas River and forms 65 miles (105 km) of the India-Pakistan border before entering Pakistan.

**Hope, now you are clear with rivers now. These are small things but great learning.**

Q19. Consider the following statements regarding Deputy Chairman of India.

1. Deputy Speaker finds itself mentioned in the second schedule of Indian Constitution.
2. There is no Constitutional provision to remove Deputy Speaker from the office.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Second statement is also wrong.** As you can see below, **there is a provision mentioned to remove Deputy Speaker.**

**Removal of Deputy Chairman:**

**90. Vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the office of Deputy Chairman.**—A member holding office as Deputy Chairman of the Council of States—

- (a) shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the Council;
- (b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign his office; and
- (c) may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council:

Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

**First statement is correct.**

#### **SECOND SCHEDULE**

PART A— Provisions as to the President and the Governors of States.

PART B— [*Omitted.*]

PART C— Provisions as to the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council of a State.

PART D— Provisions as to the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts.

PART E— Provisions as to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Q20. Consider the following statements regarding Biomining.



1. It is the process of using microorganisms (microbes) to extract metals of economic interest from rock ores or mine waste.
2. The use of this technique is limited to metals which can be oxidized by the microbes.
3. This technique is not suitable for metals like iron and copper, which are dissolved easily in water, for such minerals other techniques are used.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Only first statement is correct.**

Biomining is the process of using microorganisms (microbes) to extract metals of economic interest from rock ores or mine waste. Biomining techniques may also be used to clean up sites that have been polluted with metals.

Valuable metals are commonly bound up in solid minerals. Some microbes can oxidize those metals, allowing them to dissolve in water. This is the basic process behind most biomining, which is used for metals that can be more easily recovered when dissolved than from the solid rocks. A different biomining technique, for metals which are not dissolved by the microbes, uses microbes to break down the surrounding minerals, making it easier to recover the metal of interest directly from the remaining rock.

What metals are currently biominerally?

Most current biominerally operations target valuable metals like copper, uranium, nickel, and gold that are commonly found in sulfidic (sulfur-bearing) minerals. Microbes are especially good at oxidizing sulfidic minerals, converting metals like iron and copper into forms that can dissolve more easily. Other metals, like gold, are not directly dissolved by this microbial process, but are made more accessible to traditional mining techniques because the minerals surrounding these metals are dissolved and removed by microbial processes. When the metal of interest is directly dissolved, the biominerally process is called "bioleaching," and when the metal of interest is made more accessible or "enriched" in the material left behind, it is called "biooxidation." Both processes involve microbial reactions that can happen anywhere the microbes, rocks, and necessary nutrients, like oxygen, occur together.

Q21. Consider the following statements.

1. Statement-I: India imposed its first emergency under Article 352 under priministership of Indira Gandhi in 1975.
2. Statement II: June 25 to be observed as "Samvidhan Hatya Divas" in India in remembrance of 1975 Emergency.

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

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

***All registered Prelims 2025 students who attended Abhyaas session-3 will not do wrong here. Dimag khol ke questions padhiye.***

**Statement one is incorrect as it is not the first emergency.**

### How many times has an emergency been imposed in India?

- » Till now, three times an emergency has been imposed in India.
- » The first time the emergency was imposed was on October 26, 1962, on the grounds of war.
- » The second time emergency was imposed on December 3, 1971, on the grounds of war.
- » The third-time emergency was proclaimed on June 25, 1975, due to an “internal disturbance.” (Note: This ground of “internal disturbance” was removed by the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978, by the Janata government that came to power after the emergency.)

Q22. Consider the following pairs (migration prone areas: location)

1. Zinder: Nigeria
2. Renk: South Sudan

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Zinder: Algeria.**

See map:





Q23. In reference to 'Agrivoltaics' (APV) in India, consider the following statements.

1. Agrivoltaics describes the co-location of crop cultivation and solar power generation on the same area.
2. There is no currently APV projects operational in India.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

## Agrivoltaics in India get a fresh boost from tech and design innovations

by Pallavi Ghosh on 5 August 2024

**Agrivoltaics, also known as agrisolar, dual-use solar, or low impact solar, is a technology that combines agriculture and solar energy production on the same land**

## Need to factor in crop yield

While APV has dual benefits of energy and food production, it is yet to achieve scale in India. The first APV project was established in Gujarat in 2012, and the country is still experimenting with pilot projects. By July 2023, there were at least 22 operational APV projects in different parts of the country, according to a report published by the National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI), an advocacy body.

## What are the benefits of agrivoltaics?

1. It maximizes the potential of solar energy. According to a recently potential are croplands, grasslands and wetlands. The same study also **less than 1% of cropland were converted to an agrivoltaic system.**

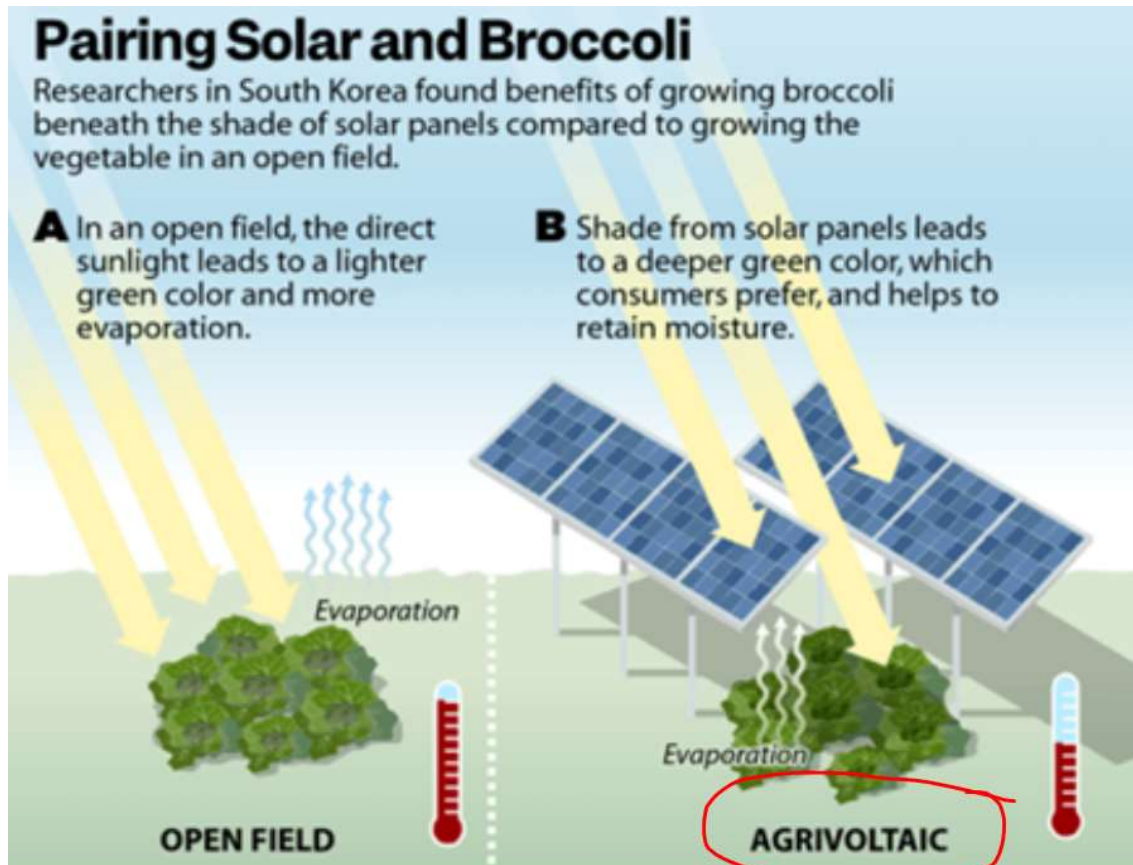
2. It improves certain crops. Although not all crops have the same climate radiation, heat, drought or heavy rainfall. This provides much-needed protection to grow unaffected by seasonal changes. In addition, the shade the panels provide water supply.

3. Solar farms have higher yields. Photovoltaic solar panels produce electricity. The performance of a solar farm and significantly reduce its efficiency. Cooling panels, preventing a decrease in their performance.

4. It increases land productivity. Growing crops and producing renewable energy is an increasingly crucial factor in view of the worldwide growth of photovoltaics. Agency (IRENA), in 2021 global PV generation capacity increased by 19% worldwide.

5. It has a positive impact on the environment. Agrivoltaics makes it easier to maintain agricultural areas. Not only that, but this increasingly widespread trend helps to encourage (e.g. construction, repair, etc.) while helping to conserve and improve the environment.





Q24. India has joined forces with which country to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) in Lothal, Gujarat?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Malaysia
- c) Vietnam
- d) Japan

Solution: c

Explanation:

**News:**

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

India and Vietnam Team Up to Preserve Maritime History with NMHC in Lothal, Gujarat

MoU signed between India and Vietnam at Hyderabad House in New Delhi

**India and Vietnam, two nations with a rich and intertwined maritime history, are joining forces to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) in Lothal, Gujarat.**



This partnership, rooted in centuries-old maritime connections, highlights the enduring bond between the two countries and their commitment to preserving and celebrating their shared heritage.

Q25. Which of the following state has **northernmost tip**?

- a) Manipur
- b) Tripura
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Nagaland

Solution: D

Explanation:



Q26. Which of the following measures can help in tackling rupee appreciation?

- a) Purchase of Government securities from the public by the Central Bank.
- b) Lowering interest rates in commercial banks.
- c) Buying of foreign currency by the Central Bank.
- d) Sale of government securities to the public by the Central Bank.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 4. 1 and 3 only
- 5. 1, 2 and 3 only
- 6. 2 and 3 only
- 7. 2, 3 and 4 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

Currency appreciation is an increase in the value of one currency in relation to another currency. A strong currency makes imports cheaper and can improve living standards. However, it can also make exports less competitive and lead to lower economic growth.

So, to stabilise the currency, various measures are adopted to increase the quantum of domestic currency and reduce the volume of foreign currency.

**Statements (1), (2) and (3) lead to an infusion of domestic currency among the public and reduces the foreign currency in the market; thus, it helps in tackling rupee appreciation** (a feature of managed floating currency). However, the sale of Government securities to the public reduces the amount of currency held by the public.

So, it cannot tackle rupee appreciation. **So, statement (4) is incorrect.** Hence, option b is the correct answer.

Q27. As per the rules, Compensatory Afforestation Fund set up under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 can be used for:

1. pest and disease control in forest
2. soil and moisture conservation work in the forest
3. Compensatory afforestation
4. assisted natural regeneration
5. artificial regeneration
6. forest fire prevention and control operations

Select the correct code.

- a) 2, 3 and 6 only
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

Solution: d

Explanation:

**As per the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018.**

- ✓ (a) assisted natural regeneration;
- ✓ (b) artificial regeneration ;
- (c) silvicultural operations in forests;
- (d) protection of plantations and forests;
- ✓ (e) pest and disease control in forest;
- ✓ (f) forest fire prevention and control operations;
- ✓ (g) soil and moisture conservation works in the forest;
- (h) voluntary relocation of villages from protected areas;
- (i) improvement of wildlife habitat as provided in the approved wildlife management plan or working plan;
- (j) planting and rejuvenation of forest cover on non-forest land falling in wildlife corridors;
- (k) establishment, operation and maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animals;
- (l) supply of wood-saving cooking appliances and other forest produce saving devices in forest fringe villages as specified by the National Authority from time to time;
- (m) management of biological diversity and biological resource.

Q28. Consider the following statements.

1. The creation up of a Legislative Council is not exclusively in the hands of the state government.
2. Like Rajya Sabha, Legislative Council cannot be abolished.
3. Creation of Legislative Council needs an amendment to Constitution under Article 368.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is correct:**

**The setting up of a second chamber is not exclusively in the hands of the state government.**

**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.

**Second statement is incorrect: You can clear see in above mentioned Article, we can abolish Legislative Council.**

**Third statement is incorrect:**

**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.

Q29. In reference to **definition of child in India**, consider the following statements.

1. POCSO defines a child as anyone under the age of 18.
2. The child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) ACT, 1986 protects only those under age 14 as a child.
3. As per Fundamental Duties, it is the duty of parent to provide opportunities for education to child between six and fourteen years.
4. As per the DPSP, State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education till six years.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Indian law doesn't have a clear definition of childhood. The definition and age specificity of who is a child changes according to convenience, cultural thinking and confusion across different laws and principles of the Indian Constitution.

For example, **POCSO defines a child as anyone under the age of 18, THE CHILD LABOUR (PROHIBITION AND REGULATION) ACT, 1986 protects only those under age 14 as a child.**

DPSP:

✓<sup>3</sup>[45. Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.—The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.]

FD:

<sup>1</sup>[(k) who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.]

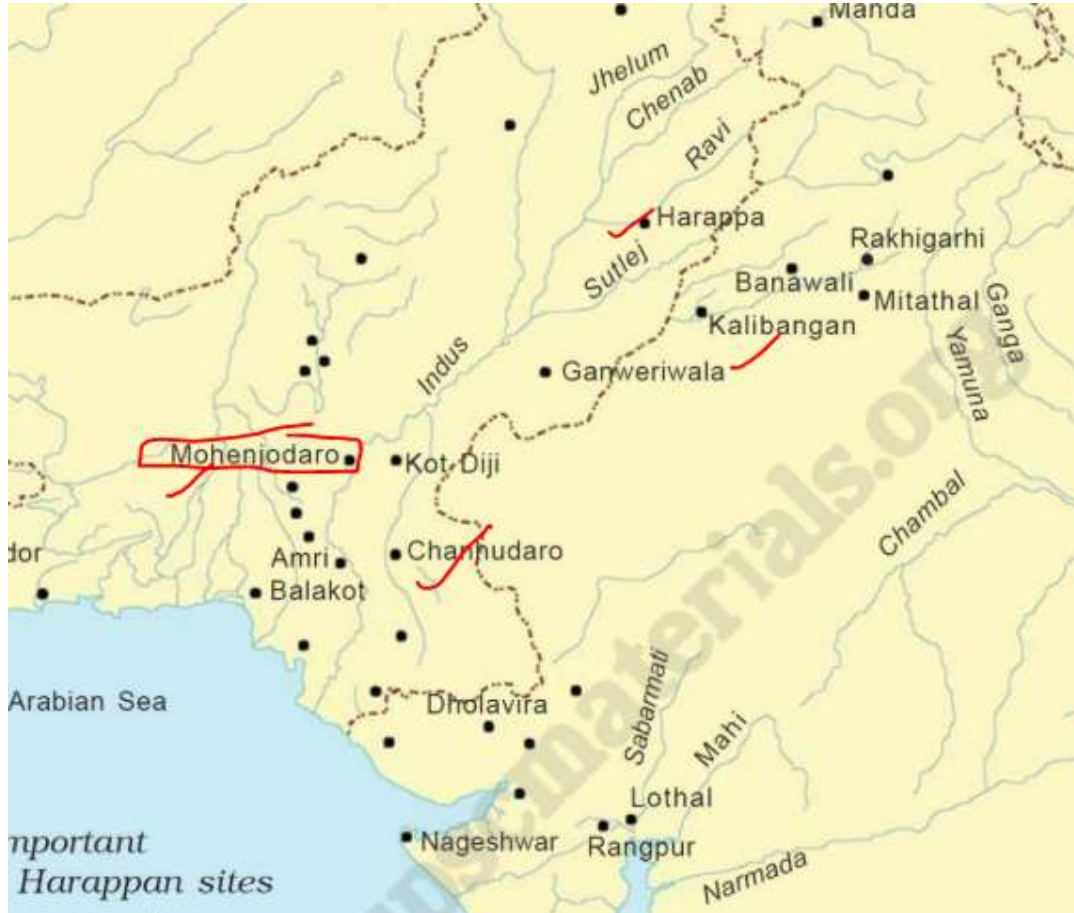
Q30. The western most Harappan site amongst the following is:

- a) Chanhudaro
- b) Kalibangan

- c) Mohenjo-Daro
- d) Harappa

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q31. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the WHO, breastfeeding needs to be started withing one hour of the birth and can be continue till 6 months of the age.
2. Average milk production is around 700-800ml/24hr hours for a normal mother.
3. Malnutrition is one the major reason for insufficient milk production in women.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

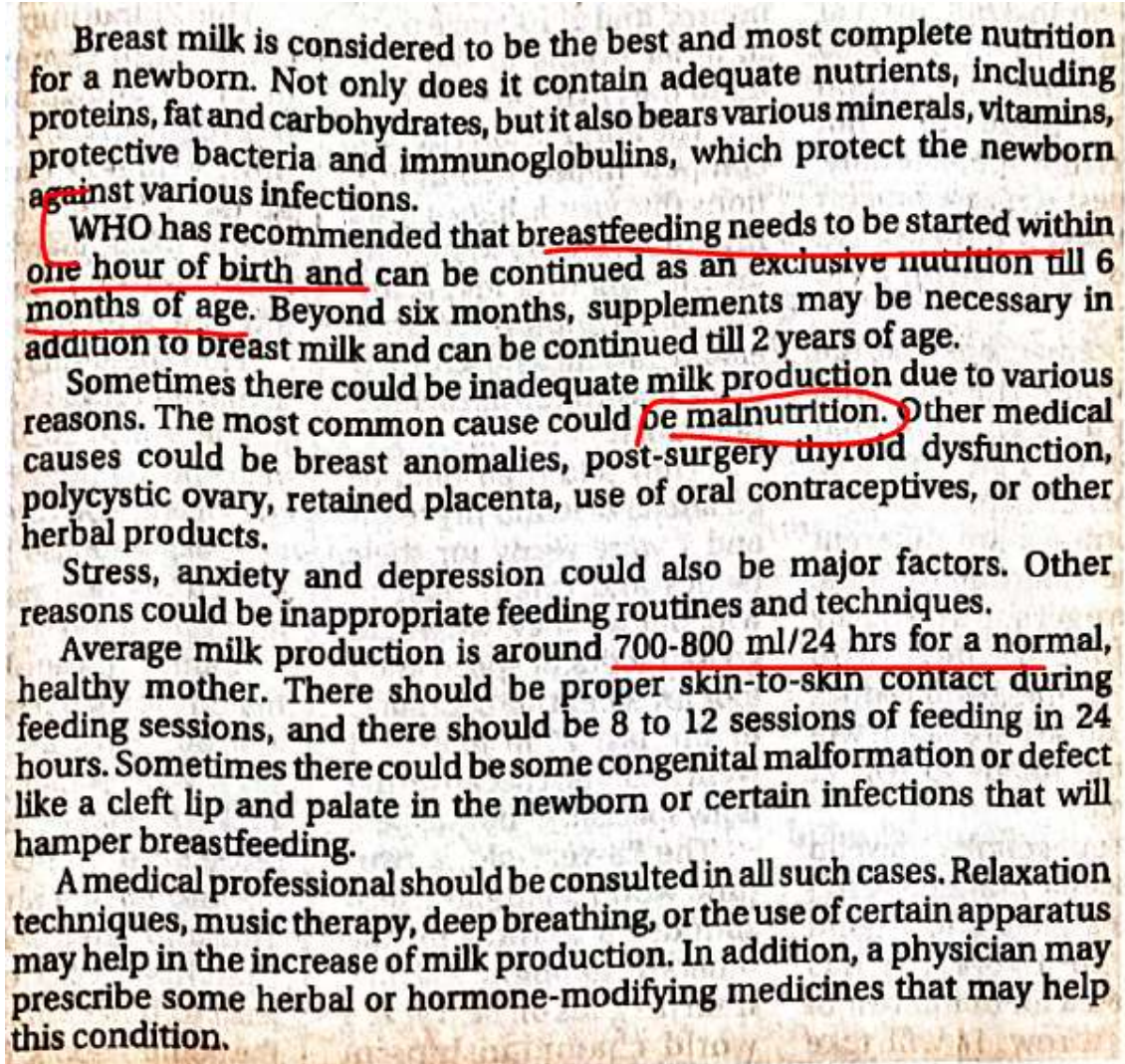
Explanation:

It was taken from the recent article from The Statesman:



## Boosting breast milk production: Hope for mothers with low milk output

Breast milk is considered to be the best and most complete nutrition for a newborn. Not only does it contain adequate nutrients, including proteins, fat and carbohydrates, but it also bears various minerals, vitamins, protective bacteria and immunoglobulins, which protect the newborn against various infections.



Q32. Consider the following pairs. (places in news: location)

1. Sudzha: Lebanon
2. Bureij & Nuseirat: GAZA

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Read:

## *Kyiv's unprecedented fightback*

Ukraine's incursion into Russia, which entered a fifth day on Saturday, appears to be an unprecedented assault which experts say could aim to draw Russian resources away from other areas or to undermine morale

**DEEP INCURSION**

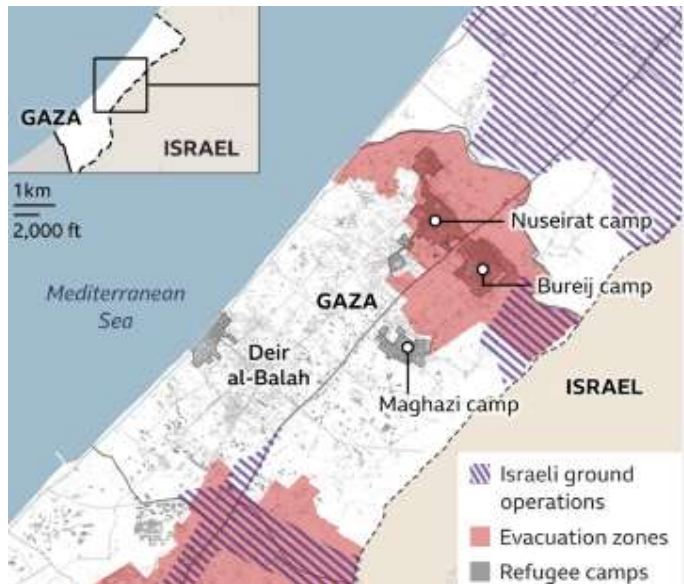
The Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based think-tank, said Ukrainian forces have managed to push up to 35 kilometers deep into the region. The advance has centred on the logistical hub of Sudzha, a town of around 5,000 inhabitants about eight kilometres from the Ukraine border



RUSSIA  
Sudzha  
UKRAINE

**WHAT'S ZELENSKY THINKING**

- Some said the incursion may seek to draw Russian reserves away from the nearby Kharkiv front in Ukraine, where Russia launched an offensive three months ago
- Some argue that if Ukraine could hold the territory, it would gain leverage against Russia in peace negotiations
- The assault could also have a psychological effect — boosting the morale of Ukrainians



Q33. Consider the following statements regarding removal of Chairman of Rajya Sabha in India.

1. The chairman shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the Council.
2. The resolution must be passed by 50 per cent of the present members, plus one member, of those present in the House on that day to remove Chirperson.
3. The is no role of Lok Sabha in the removal procedure of Vice President.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?



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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Only second statement is correct.**

**Just read Article 67(B) of the Indian Constitution:**

1. The resolution must be passed by 50 per cent of the present members, plus one member, of those present in the House on that day.
2. The Lok Sabha must also agree to the resolution with a simple majority. **Third statement is incorrect.**
3. No resolution can be moved unless at least 14 days advance notice has been given.

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

Provided that—

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

(b) a Vice-President may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council of States passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council and agreed to by the House of the People; but no resolution for the purpose of this clause shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution;

(c) a Vice-President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.

**First statement is true for Deputy Chairman.**

**90. Vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the office of Deputy Chairman.**—A member holding office as Deputy Chairman of the Council of States—

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

(b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign his office; and

(c) may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council:

Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

Q34. Consider the following statements regarding **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)**.

1. BIMSTEC came into being through the Bangkok Declaration.
2. It constitutes seven Member States.
3. Since its inception, only 5 ministerial level summits being held.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: C

Explanation:

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal.

This sub-regional organization came into being on **6 June 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration.**

It constitutes **seven Member States: five deriving from South Asia, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and two from Southeast Asia, including Myanmar and Thailand.**

**BIMSTEC Summit: Only five BIMSTEC Summits till now**

This is the highest policy making body in the BIMSTEC process.

No.	Date	Host country	Host city
1st	31 July 2004	 Thailand	Bangkok
2nd	13 November 2008	 India	New Delhi
3rd	4 March 2014	 Myanmar	Naypyidaw <sup>[23]</sup>
4th	30–31 August 2018	 Nepal	Kathmandu <sup>[24][2][25]</sup>
5th	30 March 2022	 Sri Lanka	Colombo (Virtual meeting) <sup>[26]</sup>

Q35. With respect to **North Eastern Council (NEC)**, consider the following statements.

1. It was constituted as a statutory advisory body under the State Reorganization Act, 1956.
2. Governor and Chief Ministers of states are the members of the Council.
3. The union home minister is ex-officio Chairman of the NEC.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: B

Explanation:

North Eastern Council (NEC) was constituted as a **statutory advisory body under the NEC Act 1971** (84 of 1971) and came into being on the 7th November, 1972 at Shillong.

NEC was mandated to function as a **statutory Regional Planning Body for the North Eastern Region**.

The Council comprises of **Governors and Chief Ministers of constituent States and three members to be nominated by the President as per Clause (iii) of Section 3 of the North Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 1971**.

### 3. Setting up and composition of the North Eastern Council.

(1) There shall be a Council to be called the North Eastern Council which shall consist of the following members, namely:

- a. The person or persons for the time being holding the office of the Governor of States or the office of Administrator of the Union Territories in the North-eastern areas;
- b. The Chief Ministers of the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura and of the Union Territory of Mizoram; and

**The union home minister is ex-officio Chairman and the MoS(IC) DoNER is the ex-officio Vice-Chairman of the NEC.**

Q36. Who as per the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 can add or reduce the numbers of standing Committees or modify the functions assigned to them?

- a. President
- b. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- c. Prime minister
- d. Speaker/Chairman of House

Solution: c

Explanation:

Read:



**6. Committees of the Cabinet.-**

- (1) There shall be Standing Committees of the Cabinet as set out in the First Schedule to these Rules with the functions specified therein. The Prime Minister may from time to time amend the Schedule by adding to or reducing the numbers of such Committees or by modifying the functions assigned to them.
- (2) Each Standing Committee shall consist of such Ministers as the Prime Minister may from time to time specify.

Q37. With reference to Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected as well as the nominated members of state legislative assemblies.
2. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories.

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 **representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies**. The election is held in accordance with the **system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote**. The seats are **allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population**. Hence, the number of representatives varies from state to state. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.**

The **Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha** to the states and union territories. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

**[FOURTH SCHEDULE**

**[Articles 4(1) and 80(2)]**

**Allocation of seats in the Council of States**

To each State or Union territory specified in the first column of the following table, there shall be allotted the number of seats specified in the second column thereof opposite to that State or that Union territory, as the case may be:

Q38. Consider the following statements regarding World Trade Organization (WTO).

1. In the WTO, power is not delegated to a board of directors or the organization's head.
2. When WTO rules impose disciplines on countries' policies, that is the outcome of negotiations among WTO members.

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:

Read:

The WTO is run by its member governments. All major decisions are made by the membership as a whole, either by ministers (who meet at least once every two years) or by their ambassadors or delegates (who meet regularly in Geneva). Decisions are normally taken by consensus.

In this respect, the WTO is different from some other international organizations such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. In the WTO, power is not delegated to a board of directors or the organization's head.

When WTO rules impose disciplines on countries' policies, that is the outcome of negotiations among WTO members. The rules are enforced by the members themselves under agreed procedures that they negotiated, including the possibility of trade sanctions. But those sanctions are imposed by member countries, and authorized by the membership as a whole. This is quite different from other agencies whose bureaucracies can, for example, influence a country's policy by threatening to withhold credit.

Q39. As per the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, diversion of forest land for any non-forest purpose require approval of:

- a. Central Government
- b. Gram Sabhas
- c. State Government
- d. A or c

Solution: a

Explanation:

## THE FOREST (CONSERVATION) ACT, 1980

ACT NO. 69 OF 1980

[27th December, 1980.]

An Act to provide for the conservation of forests and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Thirty-first Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(2) It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 25th day of October, 1980.

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

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

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

Q40. Which of the following countries does Tropic of Capricorn doesn't pass?

- a. Australia
- b. New Zealand
- c. Madagascar
- d. Chile

Solution: b

Explanation:

It passes through these countries or overseas territories:

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



Q41. The **parameters used in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** to rank educational institutions across the country are:

1. Teaching, Learning and Resources
2. Research and Professional Practices
3. Outreach and Inclusivity
4. Gender Equality
5. Perception

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) has been accepted by the MoE and launched by Honourable **Minister for Education** on 29th September 2015. This framework outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country.



Q42. In reference to **Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT)**, consider the following statements.

1. The Treaty entered into force in 1970.
2. The Treaty establishes a safeguards system under the responsibility of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to verify compliance with the Treaty.
3. All nuclear-weapon States are part of this treaty.
4. All UN members are the part of this treaty.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Opened for signature in 1968, the Treaty entered into force in 1970.** On 11 May 1995, the Treaty was extended indefinitely.

The NPT is a multilateral treaty aimed at limiting the spread of nuclear weapons including three elements: (1) non-proliferation, (2) disarmament, and (3) peaceful use of nuclear energy.

***'Proliferation' is the term used to describe a condition in which countries that aren't recognised as 'Nuclear Weapon States' by the treaty acquire nuclear weapons.***

Adopted at: London, Moscow and Washington

Date of adoption: 1 July 1968

Depositaries: Government of the United Kingdom, Government of the Russian Federation, Government of the United States of America

Signed at: London, Moscow and Washington

Opened for signature: 1 July 1968

Entered into force: 5 March 1970

Signatories: 93

Parties: 191

**A total of 191 States have joined the Treaty, including the five nuclear-weapon States.**

There are a total of nine nations that possess nuclear weapons. Five of the nation's namely – US, UK, France, Russia and China have signed the treaty. The remaining four nations namely – **India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea have not signed the treaty and thus not a party to the treaty.**

Q43. Consider the following pairs.

1. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary: Karnataka.
2. Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary: Tamil Nadu
3. Tawa Reservoir: Madhya Pradesh

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Read:

India is one of the Contracting Parties to Ramsar Convention, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. India became a signatory to the convention on 1st February 1982. During 1982 to 2013, a total of 26 sites were added to the list of Ramsar sites, **however, during 2014 to 2024, the country has added 59 new wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites.**

Currently, Tamil Nadu harbours maximum number of Ramsar Sites (18 sites) followed by Uttar Pradesh (10 sites).

**Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav said on the eve of Independence Day 2024 that India has increased its tally of Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) to 85 from existing 82 by designating three more wetlands as Ramsar Sites.**

✓ List of newly designated Ramsar Sites

Sl. No.	Name of Ramsar Site	Date of designation	State
1	Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary	16.01.2024	Tamil Nadu
2	Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary	16.01.2024	Tamil Nadu
3	Tawa Reservoir	08.01.2024	Madhya Pradesh

Q44. Consider the following statements.

1. Bangladesh stands as India's largest trading partner in South Asia.
2. India maintains trade surplus with Bangladesh.
3. India largely imports different types of apparel from Bangladesh.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Bangladesh stands as India's largest trading partner in South Asia, and India is one of Bangladesh's major trade partners in Asia.**

**If you see data below:**

Dated: 14/08/2024  
Values in US \$ Millions

Country / Region: BANGLADESH PR

S.No.	Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
1.	<b>EXPORT</b>	8,200.75	9,691.56	16,156.37	12,215.85	11,065.87
2.	%Growth		18.18	66.71	-24.39	-9.41
3.	India's Total Export	313,361.04	291,808.48	422,004.40	451,070.00	437,072.03
4.	%Growth		-6.88	44.62	6.89	-3.10
5.	%Share	2.62	3.32	3.83	2.71	2.53
6.	<b>IMPORT</b>	1,264.74	1,091.66	1,977.93	2,021.24	1,844.76
7.	%Growth		-13.69	81.19	2.19	-8.73
8.	India's Total Import	474,709.28	394,435.88	613,052.05	715,968.90	678,214.77
9.	%Growth		-16.91	55.43	16.79	-5.27
10.	%Share	0.27	0.28	0.32	0.28	0.27
11.	<b>TOTAL TRADE</b>	9,465.49	10,783.22	18,134.30	14,237.09	12,910.63
12.	%Growth		13.92	66.17	-21.49	-9.32
13.	India's Total Trade	788,070.32	686,244.36	1,035,056.45	1,167,038.89	1,115,286.81
14.	%Growth		-12.92	50.83	12.75	-4.43
15.	%Share	1.20	1.57	1.75	1.22	1.16
16.	<b>TRADE BALANCE</b>	6,936.00	8,599.90	14,178.44	10,194.61	9,221.11
17.	India's Trade Balance	-161,348.24	-102,627.40	-191,047.65	-264,898.90	-241,142.74

After peaking in 2021-22, there is a noticeable decline in exports in the following two years, with exports reducing to 11.07 billion USD in 2023-24, down by nearly 42% compared to the peak in 2021-22. **One reason could be the restrictions imposed by India on exports of rice, wheat, and sugar as part of measures to control rising domestic prices.**

India exports a diverse range of products to Bangladesh, including cotton yarn, petroleum products, oils, spices, and auto components.

**On the other hand, India imports essential commodities from Bangladesh, such as ready-made garments made of cotton, aircraft and spacecraft parts, jute, leather footwear, and marine products.**

**India's import of different types of apparel from Bangladesh has increased.**

Q45. Consider the following pairs.

1. Nusantara: Indonesia
2. Belgorod region: Russia

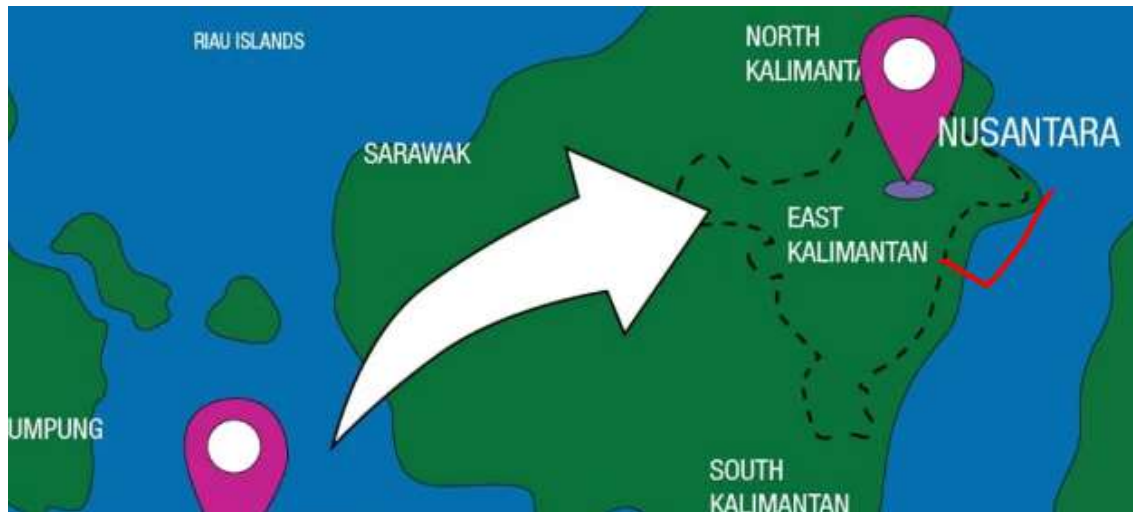
Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Check now:



Q46. Ladakh shares boundary with:

1. Pakistan
2. Afghanistan
3. China
4. Turkmenistan

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Ladakh shares boundary with Pakistan, China and Afghanistan.**



Q47. With respect to **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)**, consider the following statements.

1. It is a statutory body of Ministry of Women & Child Development.
2. It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions.
3. CARA is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

### Central Adoption Resource Authority

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

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

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

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

Q48. 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:

Read with full concentration. *Abhi se adat ni daaloge* (if you don't do this now), you will suffer in end. No worries. Learn today.

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.**

**80. Composition of the Council of States.**—(1) <sup>2</sup>[<sup>3\*\*\*</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup>[and of the Union territories.]

~~(2)~~ The allocation of seats in the Council of States to be filled by representatives of the States <sup>4</sup>[and of the Union territories] shall be in accordance with the provisions in that behalf contained in the Fourth Schedule.



Q49. Which of the following factors goes as an input in determination of MSP in India?

1. demand and supply
2. cost of production
3. price trends in the market, both domestic and international
4. inter-crop price parity

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

### Determinants Of MSP

While recommending price policy of various commodities under its mandate, the Commission keeps in mind the various Terms of Reference (ToR) given to CACP in 2009. Accordingly, it analyzes

- 1) demand and supply;
- 2) cost of production;
- 3) price trends in the market, both domestic and international;
- 4) inter-crop price parity;
- 5) terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture;
- 6) a minimum of 50 percent as the margin over cost of production; and
- 7) likely implications of MSP on consumers of that product.

It may be noted that cost of production is an important factor that goes as an input in determination of MSP, but it is certainly not the only factor that determines MSP.

Q50. Who established Swadeshi Vastu Pracharini Sabha to carry the message of Swadeshi among masses?

- a. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b. Surendranath Banerjee
- c. Bipin Chandra Pal
- d. Lala Lajpat Rai

Solution: a

Explanation:

The individual initiative for organising the *Swadeshi* movement and pursuing Gokhale to join the agitation was going on simultaneously. Tilak visited Bombay requested Dinshaw Wacha to influence the mill owners to supply goods at reasonable prices. From the business point of view it was a loss-making project and most of them declined to help Tilak.<sup>201</sup> Tilak returned to Poona without addressing any meeting there. Poona remained the heart of the *Swadeshi* movement as Shivram Mahadev Paranjape, the editor of *Kal*, an enthusiastic *Swadeshi* supporter organised a bonfire of foreign cloths and articles. Tilak attended the meeting and urged the people about 5000 persons mostly Brahmins who had assembled to resolve to buy only *Swadeshi* goods.<sup>202</sup> *Swadeshi* exhibitions were held at Bombay, Pandharapur, Swantwadi, Dharwar, and Ahmadabad. *Mahratta* Published supplements containing information about the manufacture of household articles. School children at Amraoti, Gokak and Kolhapur refused to use foreign article.<sup>203</sup> Tilak established *Swadeshi Vastu Pracharini Sabha*, society to promote the use of *Swadeshi* goods and *Swadeshi* co-operative

Q51. In reference to 'United Nations Charter,' consider the following statements.

1. India signed UN Charter in 1951.
2. The charter has been amended 11 times since it came to force in 1945.
3. Amendments to UN charter has to be ratified by two thirds of the Members of the United Nations, including all the permanent members of the Security Council.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**First and second are incorrect statements.**

**The UN Charter was signed on 26 June 1945** by representatives of the 50 countries attending the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco.

Since the UN's founding in 1945, **the mission and work of the Organization have been guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter.**

**On 26 June 1945, India became a founder of the United Nations along with 50 other member-states. India signed this day itself.**

**The UN Charter has been amended five times since 1945.**

**Article 108 of UN charter:**

Amendments to the present Charter shall come into force for all Members of the United Nations when they have been adopted by a vote of two thirds of the members of the General Assembly and **ratified in accordance with their respective constitutional processes by two thirds of the Members of the United Nations, including all the permanent members of the Security Council.**

Q52. Rahul Navin appointed Director of ED. We will solve one question on appointment of ED.

Central Government shall appoint a **Director of Enforcement** on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of:

1. Union Home Minister
2. Prime Minister
3. Central Vigilance Commissioner
4. Speaker, Lok Sabha

How many of the above options is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Currently, the ED Director is appointed under Section 25 of the CVC Act, 2003.**

The Central Government appoints a Director of Enforcement in the Directorate of Enforcement in the Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of a selection committee.

The committee is consisting of:

- (i) the Central Vigilance Commissioner — Chairperson;
- (ii) Vigilance Commissioners — Members;
- (iii) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Central Government — Member;
- (iv) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Personnel in the Central Government — Member;
- (v) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance in the Central Government — Member;

Q53. Consider the following statements.

1. The State Government shall, on the recommendation of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) notify an area as a tiger reserve.
2. NTCA will prepare a prepare a Tiger Conservation Plan to ensure protection of tiger reserve.

3. As per the Act, regions declared as tiger reserves shall not affect the rights of the Scheduled Tribes or such other forest dwellers notified by the State Government.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Only second statement is incorrect.**

Tiger Reserves are notified by State Governments as per provisions of Section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 on advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

**38V. Tiger Conservation Plan.**—(1) The State Government shall, on the recommendation of the Tiger Conservation Authority, notify an area as a tiger reserve.

(2) The provisions of sub-section (2) of section 18, sub-sections (2), (3) and (4) of section 27, sections 30,32 and clauses (b) and (c) of section 33 of this Act shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to a tiger reserve as they apply in relation to a sanctuary.

(3) The State Government shall prepare a Tiger Conservation Plan including staff development and deployment plan for the proper management of each area referred to in sub-section (1), so as to ensure—

(a) protection of tiger reserve and providing site specific habitat inputs for a viable population of tigers, co-predators and prey animals without distorting the natural prey-predator ecological cycle in the habitat;

(b) ecologically compatible land uses in the tiger reserves and areas linking one protected area or tiger reserve with another for addressing the livelihood concerns of local people, so as to provide dispersal habitats and corridor for spill over population of wild animals from the designated core areas of tiger reserves or from tiger breeding habitats within other protected areas;

*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;

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding **Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO)**.

1. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation organize Cossu every year.
2. This Conference provides a platform for improved coordination between the Central and State Statistical organizations for enhancing the efficiency of the Indian Statistical System.

Select the correct code.

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



Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

## Inaugural session of 28th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (CoCSSO) held on 12th August 2024 in New Delhi

Theme: Use of Data for Decision Making- Strengthening State Statistical Systems

Posted On: 12 AUG 2024 1:26PM by PIB Delhi

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) organized 28th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (CoCSSO) during 12th-13th August, 2024 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi.

**It is being attended by the representatives of Central Ministries/Departments, State/UT Governments, World Bank, UN agencies and other stakeholders.**

This Conference provides an institutional platform for **discussion and improved coordination between the Central and State Statistical organizations** for enhancing the efficiency of the Indian Statistical System in a collaborative approach.

The theme of discussion of the conference, "**Use of Data for Decision Making: Strengthening State Statistical Systems,**" aims to facilitate exchange of ideas, best practices, discussion on issues of common interest and the way forward.

In order to strengthen the coordination of statistical activities among the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**, other Central Ministries and State Statistical Organisations, the Conference of Central and State Statistical Organisations (COCSSO) was organized for the first time in the year 1971.

Earlier it was supposed to be organized once in every two years. keeping in view the usefulness of the Conference, **it has now been decided to have it every year.**

The objectives of the conference are:

- To provide a platform for discussion on the statistical issues of common interest to the Central and the State Statistical Organisations;
- To provide an overall perspective to the development of statistical system and to make recommendations/suggestions on issues having bearing on the development of the statistical system;
- To solve the technical issues relating to statistics;
- To set up Working Groups on specific issues/tasks relating to official statistics;
- To provide guidelines in the collection of statistics and maintenance of statistical standards and quality, besides uniformity in statistical standards;
- To consider the Action Taken Report of the follow up action on the recommendations of the previous meetings(s) of COCSSO; and
- To review the role of the Statistical Advisers in the Central and States/UT Governments.



## Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO)

Constitution & Mandate of Standing Committee

The Standing Committee for COCSSO, to be constituted every year, would have the following constitution:

- |    |   |          |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Secretary, MOS&PI and the Chief Statistician of India | Chairman |
|----|---|----------|

Q55. Consider the following statements.

1. The Supreme Court should mandatorily report to President if President has asked for an opinion related to public importance.
2. The Constitution has given power to Parliament to increase the number of judges of High Court.

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:

It is **not mandatory for Supreme Court** to respond for such opinion. See article 143 below. The Constitution has given power to **President** to increase the number of judges of High Court. Refer article 216 below.

### Central Government Act

#### Article 143 in The Constitution Of India 1949

143. Power of President to consult Supreme Court ( 1 ) If at any time it appears to the President that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to that Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon

### 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

Q56. As per the Constitution, 'Unsound mind' is one the way for the disqualification from membership of which of the following?

1. Member of Legislative Council.

2. Finance Commission
3. Member of Parliament
4. A Judge of the Supreme Court

How many of the above bodies is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: b

Explanation:

**102. Disqualifications for membership.**—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament—

<sup>1</sup>[(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State, other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder;]

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

**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—

<sup>2</sup>[(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;]

**Finance Commission:**

**The term 'unsound mind' is mentioned not in Constitution, but Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.**

**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.

**For SC judge, the criteria is not "unsound mind".**

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

Q57. According to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, currently, which of the following animals **cannot** be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law?

1. Ganges river dolphins
2. Tiger
3. Great Indian Bustard

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Under WPA, 1972, it is mentioned:**

### CHAPTER III

#### HUNTING OF WILD ANIMALS

§19. **Prohibition of hunting.**—No person shall hunt any wild animal specified in Schedules I, II, III and IV except as provided under section 11 and section 12.]

**Now, from above given three examples, it is very much clear, three species do not belong to Schedule 5 (where you can hunt animals, so all are correct).**

**There are six schedules under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. You should have basic idea of such schedules.**

Q58. In the context of Parole (release of prisoner) in India, consider the following statements.

1. As per the Act, only Central Government (Home Ministry) can make rules regarding the release of prisoners on parole.
2. When a prisoner is on parole his period of release does not count towards the total period of the sentence.

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:

**First statement is incorrect:**

‘Prisons’ is a State subject under the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

The **management and administration of prisons fall exclusively in the domain of state governments and are governed by the Prisons Act, 1894, and the Prison Manuals of the respective state governments.**

The Prisons Act further says that **only states can make rules regarding the release of prisoners on furlough, parole and remission, as part of the correctional process in jail reforms.** However, the Centre too can put out non-binding guidelines.

**Second statement is correct:**

Also, as laid down by the Supreme Court in the State of Haryana vs Mohinder Singh (2000), **“when a prisoner is on parole his period of release does not count towards the total period of the sentence,** while when he is on furlough, he is eligible to have the period of release counted towards the total period of his sentence undergone by him”.

Section 432 of Cr.P.C deals with Power to Suspend or Remit Sentences. However, Supreme Court, in Sunil Fulchand Shah v. Union of India, reported in AIR 2000 SC 1023, has categorically observed that **"parole does not amount to suspension of sentence".**

**There is no uniform legislation to deal with furlough or parole. Different states have their own acts governing the two forms of release.**

Q59. Arrange the following from west to east.

1. Sea of Azov
2. Black Sea
3. Caspian Sea

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q60. Dasa saints, **Purandaradasa and Kanakadasa** propagated bhakti movement in:

- Karnataka
- Odisha
- Gujarat
- Uttar Pradesh

Solution: a

Explanation:

See below:

In Karnataka, the Dasa saints propagated the *bhakti* movement. They could reject the social and caste distinctions and included all sections of people in their movement. The earliest *Dasa bhakti* poets were Sripadaraja, Purandaradasa and Kanakadasa. Kanakadasa was of low birth and considered *bhakti* as the supreme. The greatest gift of the Karnataka *bhakti* movement was the development of the Carnatic classical music. Purandaradasa is considered as the father of it. The Dasa saints expressed their love

Q61. In recent experiment, it was found that **prokaryotes are remarkably resilient to climate change – and as a result, could increasingly dominate marine environments.**

What are the consequences?

- This could reduce the availability of fish humans rely on for food.
- It will hamper the ocean's ability to absorb carbon emissions.

Select the correct code.

- 1 only
- 2 only



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

Solution: c

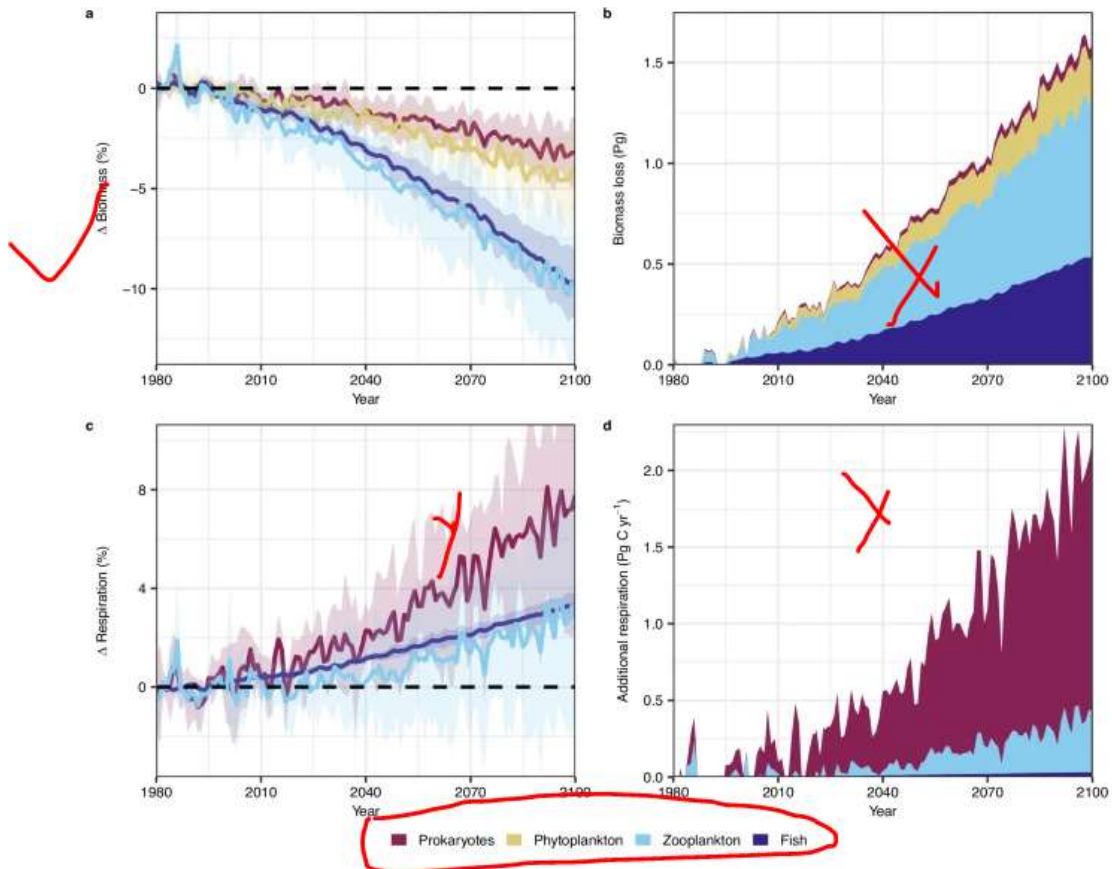
Explanation:

Across the global ocean, prokaryotes have been estimated to comprise ~30% of the biomass in the water column and respire over 50% of net primary production in surface waters. As a result, they represent an important pathway by which dissolved organic matter can be passed to higher trophic levels or sequestered in the deep ocean.

Prokaryotes are abundant and metabolically active across the world’s oceans, from the tropics to the poles and from surface waters to under the seabed.

If you see graph below, you see the impact of climate change is very less on prokaryotes:

**Fig. 4: Impacts of projected climate change on global marine biomass and heterotrophic respiration in epipelagic (<200 m) waters.**



Prokaryotes include both bacteria and “archaea”, another type of single-celled organism.

Marine prokaryotes grow extremely fast – a process that emits a lot of carbon. In fact, prokaryotes to an ocean depth of 200 metres produce about 20 billion tonnes of carbon a year: double that of humans.

This could reduce the availability of fish humans rely on for food, and hamper the ocean's ability to absorb carbon emissions.

Q62. What is the reason for the fall in passage of ships through Panama Canal recently?

- a. Houthis in Yemen attacking commercial vessels in the Red Sea
- b. Heavy oil spills in the route have led to development of blocks in the sea which obstructing movements of vessels.
- c. Drying of the Gatun Lake due to less rainfall.
- d. Heavy pollution affecting marine biodiversity led to re-routing.

Solution: c

Explanation:

The reason is drying up of Gatun Lake.

News:

**Why scarce rainfall restricted the passage of ships through Panama Canal**

**Water elevators**  
The canal is not a simple channel between two larger water bodies – it is a highly-engineered system that employs a sophisticated system of locks and elevators to carry ships across.  
The systems are needed because the Pacific at the canal's southern end is slightly higher than the Atlantic on the other end. This means that a ship that enters the canal from the north must gain elevation during its journey. This is achieved using a lock system which lifts and drops vessels to the required sea level at each end of the canal.

**EXPLAINED CLIMATE**  
The locks act as water elevators that are flooded or drained to help ships gain or lose elevation respectively. The three sets of locks – 12 locks in all – are serviced using artificial lakes and channels. Here's how a set of locks works.  
■ A ship approaches the first, lowest chamber of a lock, which lies at sea level.  
■ The gate is opened to allow the ship into the chamber, and shut behind it.  
■ The valve between the first and second chamber (at a higher elevation) is opened to raise the level of water in the first chamber.  
■ Once the water level is equalised, the gate between the chambers is opened, and the ship enters the next chamber.  
The process is repeated to gain elevation, and the opposite process is used to lower the vessel. Ships entering from the Atlantic side gain 26 m in elevation at Lake Gatun, before losing some elevation closer to the Pacific side. (See illustration)

**A PANAMA CANAL TRANSIT**  
Colon  
Boyd-Roosevelt Highway  
Caribbean Sea (Atlantic Ocean)  
**GATUN LAKE:** Ship travels 34 km through lake  
**GATUN LOCKS:** Ship is raised 26 m to level of Gatun Lake  
**PEDRO MIGUEL LOCKS:** Ship is lowered one step, to the level of Miraflores Lake  
**CULEBRA CUT:** Ship travels 13.7 km to Pedro Miguel Locks  
**MIRAFLORES LOCKS:** Ship is lowered two steps to level of Pacific Ocean  
Pacific Ocean  
Panama City

almost 200 million litres of water. Every day, the canal uses two and a half times the volume of water consumed by the 8 million residents of New York City.  
Last year, less water in Lake Gatun meant fewer ships could pass through the canal every day, and many that did make the passage had to do so only after cutting their cargo load. While water from the oceans can be used to work the system of locks, this increases the salinity of Lake Gatun, which is also the source of drinking water for more than half of Panama's 4.4 million people.  
Better rainfall has led to the situation improving this year. However, experts caution that the problem remains. "Rain not only washes the streets, it washes our minds and we think the problem is gone," Carlos Uribeola, president of SSA International, which operates shipping terminals around the world, including at the Panama Canal, told *The NYT*. "The problem of water is a permanent one."  
The threat derives from, and is exacerbated by, climate change. While extreme rainfall deficits are not unheard of in Panama, they have become increasingly frequent – and could become even more so in the future.

"Historically there has been a [rainfall] shortage on average once every 20 years due to major El Niño events. In the last 26 years this is the third major rainfall deficit. So it seems that something is changing our rainfall patterns," Steven Paton, climate change expert at the Panama-based Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, told *The Guardian* in 2023. What happened last year statistically "has no analogue in the previous 100 years of data", he said.

**A contentious solution**  
The Panama Canal authorities have proposed to create a second source of water for the canal by damming the Rio Indio river. Last month, Panama's Supreme Court struck down a law that made the river unshippable, opening the doors for the construction of a \$1.6 billion dam that is projected to fix the problem for at least the next 20 years.  
But the dam's reservoir will also flood the homes of about 2,000 predominantly poor people. "They want to relocate us, but we don't think that way," Olegario Hernandez, one of the many people who will be displaced by the Rio Indio dam, told *The NYT*. "There's no place better."

paper.indianexpress.com



Q63. "Global Development Compact Initiative" was recently launched by:

- a. European Union



- b. India
- c. World Economic Forum
- d. UNESCO

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

## The 3rd Voice of Global South Summit 2024

📅 August 14, 2024

**India hosted the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit on 17 August 2024.**

India had hosted the 1st Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS) on 12-13 January 2023, and the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit on 17 November 2023, both in virtual format. Both the previous editions of the Summit saw participation of over 100 countries from the Global South.

# PM plan to spur growth of Global South

India's 'Global Development Compact' initiative will focus on trade, technology sharing and concessional financing

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

THE world leaders, who took part in the third Voice of Global South Summit on Saturday expressed concerns over the prevailing tensions and conflicts around the globe and their impact on the developing countries. They called for unity among the Global South partners to meet the aspirations of the member countries, comprising two-third of the humanity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi anchored the summit virtually on Saturday.

Global South is a socio-economic-and-politics based grouping of countries, which includes Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia (excluding Israel, Japan and South Korea) and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand).

Speaking at the summit, Prime Minister Modi said that solutions to concerns over global uncertainties depend on a just and inclusive global governance, "such institutions whose priorities give preference to the Global South, where developed countries also fulfill their responsibilities and commitments, take steps to reduce the gap between the Global North and the Global South." The Summit of the Future at the UN in September could be an important milestone towards this, the PM added.



PM Modi addresses the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit virtually on Saturday | PTI

The PM also proposed the creation of a human-centric 'Global Development Compact' for the member countries to facilitate trade, technology sharing and concessional financing based on India's growth journey and in line with the priorities of the developing nations.

The needy countries will not be burdened with debt in the name of development finance, Modi assured amid concerns over many countries falling into the Chinese 'debt trap' under Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative.

"I would like to propose a comprehensive 'Global Development Compact' on behalf of India. The foundation of this Compact will be based on India's development journey and experiences of development partnership," Modi said at the closing session.

"It will be human-centric and multi-dimensional for development and will promote a multi-sectoral approach. It will not burden the needy countries with debt in the name of development finance," he added.

Discussions were also held on the contribution of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI). "DPI's contribution to inclusive growth is not short of a

### India commits \$2.5 mn fund for trade promotion

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday proposed the creation of a human-centric 'Global Development Compact' for the Global South to facilitate trade, technology sharing and concessional financing based on India's growth journey and in line with priorities of the developing countries. He said the 'Compact' will help in the balanced and sustainable development of partner countries. "To strengthen trade promotion activities, India will start a special fund of \$2.5 million. Training will be provided in trade policy and trade negotiation for capacity building," he said, adding that a fund of \$1 million will be provided for this.

"This gathering takes place as the world grapples with multiple conflicts, tensions and stresses. We, the nations of the Global South, are particularly impacted. The purpose of this exchange of views is to define our interests through that process. Hence, the theme of this session — Charting a Unique Paradigm for the Global South," said Jaishankar.

He spoke about four themes — strengthening economic resilience, revitalising multilateralism, climate change and energy transitions, and democratisation of digital transformations.

The leaders who attended the Global South Summit included Bangladesh's chief adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, and Fiji acting Prime Minister Manoa Kamikamica, as well as leaders from El Salvador and Belarus.

Speaking at the summit, Yunus said that the caretaker government in Bangladesh is committed to ensuring a transition to inclusive and pluralistic democracy and creating an environment for holding "free, fair and participatory elections".

Leaders of the Global South exchanged perspectives on priorities and concerns of the Global South. Modi reaffirmed India's commitment to sharing its experiences and expertise with the member nations.

Q64. 'Surfactants' are used in food industry as:

- 1. lubricants and foamers to emulsify fats in batters
- 2. improve shelf life
- 3. as dispersing agents, and retain moisture.

Select the correct code.


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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

Ministry of Science & Technology

Safe microbial substitute can  replace synthetic surfactants in the food industry

Posted On: 14 AUG 2024 4:49PM by PIB Delhi

**Cost-effective biosurfactants, a healthier substitute for synthetic surfactants** useful for the food industry, can be produced using green substrates from agro-industrial waste.

#### About:

Surfactants are molecules **that slither (to move by sliding from side to side along the ground like a snake) across surfaces** of oil and water, water and oil, or air and water to form an emulsion.

Surfactants are **very useful in the food industry** as

- a. lubricants and foamers to emulsify fats in batters,
- b. improve shelf life
- c. as dispersing agents, and retain moisture.

Q65. Consider the following pair.

1. Darfur: Syria
2. Hudaydah region: Yemen

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

See map:



Q66. Consider the following statements.

1. Blood is considered a 'drug' under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
2. The regulation of blood banks falls under the domain of the Drug Controller-General of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Some factual statements from the article:**



✓ Blood is considered a 'drug' under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 (D&C Act)<sup>[2]</sup> and thus, by default, the regulation of blood banks falls under the domain of the Drug Controller-General of India (DCGI) just like any other manufacturer or storer of drugs. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), at the apex of which is the DCGI, primarily comprises officers and staff with technical expertise in pharmaceuticals, rather than blood and blood products. Further, the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 (D&C Rules) lay down the requirements for the collection, storage, processing and distribution of whole human blood, human blood components by blood banks and manufacture of blood products<sup>[3]</sup> as well as the requirements for the functioning and operation of a blood bank and for preparation of blood components<sup>[4]</sup>.

Q67. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on the Grounds of Defection) Rules, 1985, a time limit has been imposed on Speaker to decide the defection case of the House.
2. An independent member of Parliament is not disqualified if she/he joins any political party after her/his election.
3. A member who is disqualified for being a member of the House under Tenth Schedule shall also be disqualified to hold any post where the salary or remuneration for such office is paid out of the public revenue of the Government of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

***Get used to such long and boring questions, you are going to face such in exam.***

**First statement is incorrect:**

According to the "Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on the Grounds of Defection) Rules, 1985" and "The Members of Rajya Sabha (Disqualification on the Ground of Defection) Rules, 1985", **a time limit has been imposed on the Leaders to bring the defecting members to the notice of the Speaker** whereas **no such rules as to the time limit for deciding the said matter has been mentioned.**

This creates a situation where Speakers often use this discretionary power as a species of 'Pocket veto' and often lead to unwarranted delays in deciding matters of defection.

**Second statement is incorrect:**

**An independent member of Parliament or a State Legislature will also be disqualified if she/he joins any political party after her/his election.**

**Third statement is correct:**

**Article 361B of the Constitution inter alia provides—** “A member of a House belonging to any political party who is disqualified for being a member of the House under paragraph 2 of the Tenth Schedule shall also be disqualified to hold any remunerative political post for duration of the period commencing from the date of her/his disqualification till the date on which the term of her/his office as such member would expire or till the date on which she/he contests an election to a House and is declared elected, whichever is earlier.”

The expression “remunerative political post” means any office under the Government of India or the Government of a State where the salary or remuneration for such office is paid out of the public revenue of the Government of India or the Government of the State, as the case may be.

Q68. Citizens can claim fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution only if they perform their fundamental duties under Article 51A.

- a. The statement is correct because only those who perform their duties can make a moral claim for rights.
- b. The statement is correct because only lazy and irresponsible persons think only of their rights without considering their duties.
- c. The statement is correct because for the development of the country, citizens must be concerned more about their duties than their rights.
- d. The statement is wrong because the Constitutionally guaranteed rights are not conditional on the individuals performing their fundamental duties.

Solution: d

Explanation:

Explanation is given in statement 4.

Q69. What is the significance of the term "**reasonable classification**" in the context of Article 14?

- a. It allows for differential treatment without a rational basis
- b. It prohibits any form of classification
- c. It permits classification for a legitimate purpose
- d. It only applies to economic legislation

Solution: c

Explanation:

Doctrine of reasonable classification has been originated from Article 14 of Indian Constitution. Article 14 is a fundamental right to equality to every citizen in the country. It is one of the most important provisions of the constitution as it provides equality to all the people within the territory of India.

The Rule of Law cannot prevent a certain class of persons from being subject to special laws, hence, the State has the power to make laws operating differently on different classes of people, in a way that the principle of equality of civil rights and equal protection of law is followed. **This is being known as the 'Doctrine of Reasonable Classification'.**

Article 14 permits Reasonable Classification and not Class Legislation. Class Legislation means making of improper discrimination by conferring certain privileges upon a class of persons arbitrarily

selected from a huge number of people. Thus, Class legislation violates equal protection whereas, Reasonable Classification is always based on real and substantial distinction.

Q70. With reference to the medieval history of India, the terms **Dahsala**, **Batai** and **Nasaq** are related to:

- a. Administrative posts during rule of Mughal dynasty.
- b. Land revenue system during Akbar reign
- c. Merchant guilds during Guptas reign
- d. Irrigation taxes during Harshvardhan reign

Solution: b

Explanation:

All three terms are related to land revenue system during the Akbar Reign.

In 1580, **Akbar instituted a new system called Dahsala**. Under this the average produce of different crops and their average prices prevailing over the last 10 years were calculated and 1/3rd the average produce fixed in rupees per bigha was demanded as the state's share.

**Galla bakhshi** means crop-division and in Hindi it is known as **batai** or bhaoli. It is, according to Abu-1-Fazl, a **mode of assessment by which the state's demand used to be assessed on the basis of the division of crop by agreement in presence of the parties**. According to the Galla-Bakshi system the produce of the farmers was divided between the Government and the farmers in the ratio settled between them. After cutting the crops, they were bound in bundles and then these bundles were divided between the farmers and the Government.

Third system used under Akbar's reign was **nasaq**. It means a rough calculation of the amount of the payable by the peasant on the basis of what he has been paying in the past.

Q71. In reference to '**Lateral entry into bureaucracy in India**'. Consider the following statements.

1. There is no quota for OBC, SCs, STs in such recruitment.
2. As per the 13-pointer roster formula, if there are 6 vacancies (same post) in any department, then 3 seats should go to General, 1 for OBC, STs, SCs each.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read below:

### How have lateral entries been kept out of the ambit of reservation?

Reservation in public jobs and universities is implemented via what is known as the "13-point roster". According to this policy, a candidate's position on a roster of openings is determined by dividing the quota percentage of their group by hundred.

For example, the OBC quota is 27%. Therefore, OBC candidates are recruited to every 4th post for which a vacancy arises in a department/cadre ( $100/27=3.7$ ). Likewise, SC candidates, with 15% reservation, are supposed to fill every 7th vacancy ( $100/15=6.66$ ), ST candidates, with 7.5% reservation, are supposed to fill every 14th vacancy ( $100/7.5=13.33$ ), and EWS candidates, with 10% reservation, are supposed to fill every 10th vacancy ( $100/10=10$ ).

According to this formula, however, there is no reservation for up to three vacancies. Files obtained from the DoPT by *The Indian Express* under the RTI Act state that "In a single post cadre, reservation does not apply. Since each post to be filled under this scheme [lateral entry] is a Single Post, reservation is not applicable" (reported on June 14, 2019).

In the current round of recruitment, the UPSC has advertised 45 openings. If these were to be considered as a single group, according to the 13-point roster, six vacancies would be reserved for SC candidates, three for ST candidates, 12 for OBC candidates, and four for the EWS category. But since these vacancies have been advertised separately for each department, all of them are effectively single-post vacancies, and hence bypass the policy of reservations.

### Why has it been criticised?

Lateral entries have been criticised on the ground that there are no quotas for Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC) candidates in such recruitment.

Reacting to the latest advertisement,

Q72. The **Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion (RISE) Accelerator**, launched in 2023 has been instrumental in supporting start-ups and MSMEs in validating, adapting, and piloting their technologies for new markets.

Which two countries has launched this?

- a. India- Sweden
- b. India- Norway
- c. India- Australia
- d. India-US

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

NITI Aayog

### India Australia RISE Accelerator calls for Start-ups and MSMEs in Climate Smart Agritech

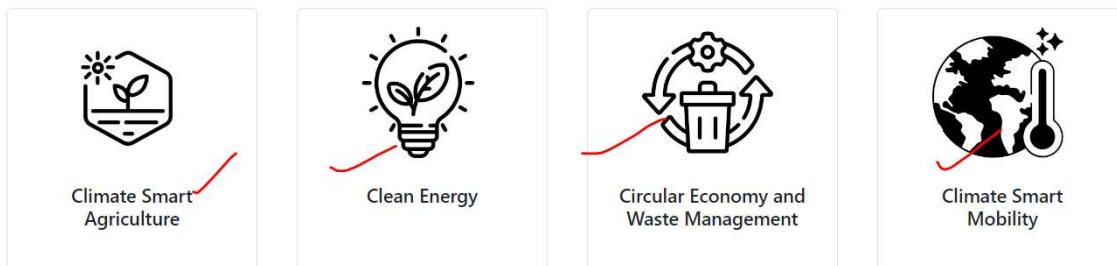
Posted On: 19 AUG 2024 10:07AM by PIB Delhi

**The India Australia Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion (RISE) Accelerator**, is a purpose-built program to support and accelerate Indian and Australian start-ups.

RISE Accelerator targets to enable start-ups with mature tech-based innovations to fast-track their cross-border social, economic and environmental impact through cross-border innovation ecosystem.

#### Focus Themes

With a focus on **Environment** and **Climate Technology**, the program will be tailored to accelerate start-ups working on a range of areas:



Q73. Consider the following statements regarding **International Earth Sciences Olympiad (IESO)**.

1. IESO is an annual competition for secondary school students from across the globe.
2. The students have to test their skills in all major areas of Earth sciences, including geology, geophysics, meteorology, and environmental sciences.
3. This year, India participated for the first time in 2024 IESO.

How many 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:

News:

Ministry of Earth Sciences

## India shines at the 17th International Earth Sciences Olympiad

Posted On: 17 AUG 2024 11:02AM by PIB Delhi

The Indian student team has bagged multiple prestigious medals at the 17th edition of the International Earth Sciences Olympiad (IESO) held in Beijing, China, from August 08-16, 2024.

IESO, established in 2003 at the International Geoscience Education Organization Council Meeting in Calgary, Canada, is an annual competition for secondary school students from across the globe.

The IESO is an annual competition for secondary school students (students not older than 18 years old on July the 1st of the year of the Olympiad). The students have to test their skills in all major areas of Earth sciences, including geology, geophysics, meteorology, oceanography, terrestrial astronomy and environmental sciences. The theoretical exam-

**India has participated in the IESO since 2007 and hosted its 10th edition in Mysore.**

To encourage the participation of Indian students (of grades 9 to 12), the MoES supports the Indian National Earth Science Olympiad (INESO) held in various schools across India.

The MoES supports the INESO and IESO as part of the REACHOUT scheme under the PRITHVI (PRITHvi Vigyan) scheme approved by the Union Cabinet in January 2024.

Q74. The North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) has successfully obtained the prestigious **Oeko-Tex certification** for its Eri Silk.

We will solve one question on this.

1. The Oeko-Tex certification ensures textiles are tested for harmful substances and produced in environment friendly conditions.
2. Eri Silk is renowned as the world's only vegan silk, where, unlike other silks, the moth inside the cocoon is not killed.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

Ministry of Development of North-East Region

## NEHHDC achieves Oeko-Tex Certification for Eri Silk, marking a milestone for Northeast's unique vegan silk

Posted On: 16 AUG 2024 8:31PM by PIB Delhi

**The prestigious Zurich-based International Oeko-Tex Association has been around since 1992. It now operates in over 40 countries.**

**It's valid for three years, after which it needs to be renewed.**

**Eri Silk is renowned as the world's only vegan silk, where, unlike other silks, the moth inside the cocoon is not killed. Instead, the moth naturally exits the cocoon, leaving it behind for us to use. This ethical and eco-friendly process sets Eri Silk apart, making it a symbol of compassion and sustainability in the textile industry.**

**The Oeko-Tex certification, a rigorous standard that ensures textiles are tested for harmful substances and produced in environment friendly conditions, is a significant endorsement for Eri Silk.**

This certification marks a pivotal step in bringing Eri Silk closer to penetrating the global export market, expanding its reach, and establishing a strong international presence.

Q75. In reference to International Criminal Court (ICC), consider the following statements.

1. ICC does not have its own police force or enforcement body.
2. ICC is not a United Nations organization.
3. Both the Prosecutor and the Defence have the right to appeal on the verdict of ICC.
4. India is signatory to the treaty that established the International Criminal Court.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Only fourth is incorrect.**

**The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court is the treaty that established the International Criminal Court.** It was adopted at a diplomatic conference in Rome, Italy on 17 July 1998 and it **entered into force on 1 July 2002.**

Governed by an international treaty called the Rome Statute, the ICC is the world's first permanent international criminal court.

**As a judicial institution, the ICC does not have its own police force or enforcement body;** thus, it relies on cooperation with countries worldwide for support.

**While not a United Nations organization,** the Court has a cooperation agreement with the United Nations. When a situation is not within the Court's jurisdiction, the United Nations Security Council can refer the situation to the ICC granting it jurisdiction.

The ICC is intended to complement, **not to replace, national criminal systems;** it prosecutes cases only when States do not are unwilling or unable to do so genuinely.

As an international court, **the ICC's legal process may function differently from that in your national jurisdiction.**

Both the Prosecutor and the Defence **have the right to appeal** on the verdict (decision on guilt or innocence of the accused) and the sentence.

**India is not a member of ICC.**

Q76. Consider the following nations.

1. Bhutan
2. Nepal
3. Bangladesh

Which of the above nations shares **same number of boundaries with India states?**

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

The Indian states that touch the border with **Nepal** are **Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Sikkim.**

**Bangladesh** shares border with five Indian states: **West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Assam.**

**Bhutan** boundaries Indian states of **Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, and Sikkim.**



Q77. In the context of provisions of Indian 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:**

**124. Establishment and constitution of Supreme Court.**—(1) There shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven<sup>2</sup> other Judges.

(2) Every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal<sup>3</sup> [on the recommendation of the National Judicial Appointments Commission referred to in article 124A] and shall hold office until he attains the age of sixty-five years:

<sup>4</sup>[\* \* \* \* \*]

<sup>5</sup>[Provided that]—

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

**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.

<sup>4</sup>[\* \* \* \* \*]

**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 <sup>5</sup>[on the recommendation of the National Judicial Appointments Commission referred to in article 124A], and <sup>6</sup>[shall hold office, in the the case of an additional or acting Judge, as provided in article 224, and in any other case, until he attains the age of <sup>7</sup>[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.***

Q78. Lead is a highly toxic metal and a very strong poison. Which of the following are the sources of lead poisoning?

1. Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipes
2. Paints
3. Toys and Jewelry
4. Pencils

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Centre to submit a report on standards of lead and to phase out lead as a stabilizer in Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipes** that are commonly used in most buildings. The NGT was earlier informed that water passing through PVC pipes commonly used in most buildings may contain toxic materials like lead, which has a hazardous effect on human health. While most of the organized manufacturers have started using alternative stabilizers such as zinc in PVC pipe-making, some of the small units still rely on lead due to the cost factor. The replacement of lead with zinc for stabilizing heat in PVC pipe manufacturing is likely to push up costs by 3-5 per cent.

**Lead is used in paint to add color**, improve the ability of the paint to hide the surface it covers, and to make it last longer. Second

**Lead has been found in inexpensive children's jewelry** sold in vending machines and large volume discount stores across the country. It also has been found in inexpensive metal amulets worn for good luck or protection.



**Point (4) is not correct: There is no lead in pencils. Rather, the core is made up of a non-toxic mineral called graphite.**

Q79. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Mission is administered by:

- Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
- Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- NITI Aayog
- Cabinet Secretariat headed by Cabinet Secretary

Solution: d

Explanation:

DBT Mission was created in the Planning Commission to act as the nodal point for the implementation of the DBT programmes. The Mission was transferred to the Department of Expenditure in July 2013 and continued to function till 14.9.2015.

To give more impetus, **DBT Mission and matters related thereto has been placed in Cabinet Secretariat under Secretary w.e.f. 14.9.2015.**

Q80. Which of the following texts contains the Sanskrit phrase “*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*”?

- Manusmriti
- Vishnu Puran
- Maha Upanishad
- Bhagavat Puran

Solution: c

Explanation:

“*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*” is a Sanskrit Phrase which means that the whole world is one single family. **The concept originates in Vedic Scripture Maha Upanishads.**

Q81. Which of the following countries borders Poland (recent visit of Prime Minister)?

- Germany
- Hungary
- Baltic Sea
- Ukraine

Select the correct code.

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2 and 3 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

Check the map:



Q82. In reference to 'horse shoe crabs', consider the following statements.

1. Horse shoe crab species are found in the eastern coasts of India.
2. Because blood of horseshoe crabs can clot in the presence of bacteria, medical researchers use it to test intravenous drugs, vaccines, and medical devices.
3. Horseshoe crabs are more closely related to spiders than they are to crabs.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: D

Explanation:

**All are correct.**

**Despite their name, they are not true crabs or crustaceans. Rather, they are chelicerates. This makes them more closely related to arachnids like spiders, ticks, and scorpions.**

“India is home to two species of horseshoe crabs — *Tachypleus gigas* and *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda* (mangrove) — and both the species are found along the northeastern coast of India, especially along the Odisha and West Bengal coast. This is an extremely important species. We need to come up with a conservation plan,” Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI, said.

While Odisha has both *Tachypleus gigas* and *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda*, the *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda* are seen in the Sundarbans mangroves of West Bengal.

ZSI senior scientist Basudev Tripathy said the plan involved tagging hundreds of crab to determine their population pattern, and threats to them. Destructive fishing practices are major threats to horseshoe crabs, and there are reports of illegal smuggling of the species from the Odisha and West Bengal coasts. Horseshoe crabs are a Schedule 2 species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.” Dr. Tripathy said, adding that illegal trade in horseshoe crabs has to be curbed.

Because their blue, copper-based blood **quickly clots in the presence of bacterial toxins**, medical researchers use it to test intravenous drugs, vaccines, and medical devices, ensuring that they are free of bacterial contamination.

Q83. Consider the following statements.

1. Recently in 2024, India had their first 2+2 dialogue with Japan.
2. Presently, India is having 2+2 dialogue only with Japan and United States.
3. India’s first 2+2 dialogue was held with United States in 2018.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First and second are incorrect.**

News:

## India-Japan 2+2: What Jaishankar, Rajnath focused on during 3rd edition of bilateral dialogue

Jaishankar said foreign, defence ministers of India and Japan also discussed ‘unfolding new avenues for technology, research & industrial cooperation’ in this edition of 2+2 dialogue.

PIA KRISHNANKUTTY 21 August, 2024 10:58 am IST

The '2+2' dialogue with Japan was initiated to further deepen bilateral security and defence cooperation and bring greater depth to the special strategic and global partnership between the two countries.

On November 30, **2019, India and Japan** held their first 2+2 meeting in New Delhi.

**India has the '2+2' ministerial format of dialogue with very few countries including the US, Australia, and Russia.**

**India's first 2+2 dialogue was held between with United States in 2018.**

A 'two plus two dialogue' is a term — adopted in foreign parleys — used for installation of a dialogue mechanism between two countries' defence and external affairs ministries. To put it simply, 'two plus two dialogue' is an expression used to indicate that two appointed ministers from each country, the ministers of defence and external affairs in this case, will meet up to discuss the two countries' strategic and security interests. The goal is to establish a diplomatic, yet fruitful, conversation between the two countries' respective heads of defence and external affairs.

Q84. Consider the following statements.

1. Currently, there is no law in India to regulate the export trade in antiquities and art treasures and to prevent smuggling and fraudulent dealings in antiquities.
2. India has ratified UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.
3. As per the Act, no person other than the Central Government can export any antiquity or art treasure.

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:

#### **What do Indian laws say?**

Before Independence, an Antiquities (Export Control) Act had been passed in April 1947 to ensure that "no antiquity could be exported without license." In 1958, The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act was enacted. Then in 1971, Parliament saw an uproar over the theft of a bronze idol from Chamba and some important sandstone idols from other places.

**This, along with the UNESCO convention (mentioned below), prompted the government to enact The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (AATA), implemented from April 1, 1976.**

An Act to regulate the export trade in antiquities and art treasures, to provide for the prevention of smuggling of, and fraudulent dealings in, antiquities, to provide for the compulsory acquisition of antiquities and art treasures for preservation in public places and to provide for certain other matters connected therewith or incidental or ancillary thereto.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Twenty-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972.

**The 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property** urges States Parties to take measures to prohibit and prevent the illicit trafficking of cultural property. It provides a common framework for the States Parties on the measures to be taken to prohibit and prevent the import, export and transfer of cultural property.

Last update: 9 November 2022

Country	Date of deposit of the instrument	Type of instrument
27.India	24/01/1977	Ratification

The AATA states, "it shall not be lawful for any person, other than the Central Government or any authority or agency authorised by the Central Government in this behalf, to export any antiquity or art treasure...

**3 Regulation of export trade in antiquities and art treasures.**—(1) On and from the commencement of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any person, other than the Central Government or any authority or agency authorized by the Central Government in this behalf, to export any antiquity or art treasure.

Q85. The quorum to constitute a meeting of a House of the Legislature of a State is:

- one-tenth of the total number of members of the House
- One- fourth of the total number of members of the House
- Ten members
- 10 members or one-tenth of the total number of members of the House, whichever is greater.

Solution: d

Explanation:

See Article:

(3) Until the Legislature of the State by law otherwise provides, the quorum to constitute a meeting of a House of the Legislature of a State shall be ten members or one-tenth of the total number of members of the House, whichever is greater.

(4) If at any time during a meeting of the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council of a State there is no quorum, it shall be the duty of the Speaker or Chairman, or person acting as such, either to adjourn the House or to suspend the meeting until there is a quorum.

Q86. Which of the following can be notified under **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017**?



1. Wetlands designated by the Government of India to the List of Wetlands of International Importance.
  2. Paddy fields
  3. Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for aquaculture purposes
  4. Wetlands falling within areas covered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

## II. Wetlands to be regulated

3. The provisions of Wetlands Rules apply to:
  - a) Wetlands designated by the Government of India to the List of Wetlands of International Importance under the provisions of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention). [Ref. Rule 3 (a) of Wetlands Rule]
  - b) Wetlands notified under the rules by the Central Government, State Government and UT Administration. [Ref. Rule 3 (b) of Wetlands Rule]
4. All wetlands, irrespective of their location, size, ownership, biodiversity, or ecosystem services values, can be notified under the Wetlands Rules, except:
  - a) River channels;
  - b) Paddy fields;
  - c) Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for drinking water purposes;
  - d) Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for aquaculture purposes;
  - e) Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for salt production purposes;
  - f) Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for recreation purposes;
  - g) Human-made waterbodies specifically constructed for irrigation purposes;
  - h) Wetlands falling within areas covered under the Indian Forest Act, 1927; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; State Forest Acts and amendments thereof;
  - i) Wetlands falling within areas covered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and amendments thereof;
  - j) Wetlands falling within areas covered under the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011 and amendments thereof.

Q87. Consider the following statements.

1. The most important objective of Contempt of Court powers given to the judiciary is to protect the status of individual judges.
2. As per the law, both High Courts and the Supreme Court of India have the power to try and punish the offence of contempt.

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:

The Contempt of Courts Act 1971 categorizes the offence of contempt into civil and criminal contempt. **The Act specifies that High Courts and the Supreme Court of India** have the power to try and punish the offence of contempt, and High Courts have the power to punish acts of contempt against courts subordinate to them.

**The Contempt of Court powers is given to the judiciary to prevent obstacles in the administration of justice.** However, what we are seeing is that this power is often misused by the courts to protect the status of individual judges.

Q88. As per the provisions mentioned in the Constitution, consider the following statements.

1. An election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.
2. The person elected to fill the vacancy of the President shall be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

~~67.~~ **Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of President and the term of office of person elected to fill casual vacancy.**—(1) An election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.

(2) An election to fill a vacancy in the office of President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after, and in no case later than six months from, the date of occurrence of the vacancy; and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of article 56, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he

Q89. Which of the layers of the Earth is solid?

- a. Outer core
- b. Inner core
- c. Both outer and inner cores are liquid. Only the mantle is solid
- d. Except for the crust, it's all liquid below

Solution: b

Explanation:

Although the inner core is very hot, it is solid because it is experiencing very high pressure. The pressure in the outer core is not high enough to make it solid.

Q90. The nationalization of coal mines took under the priministership of:

- Jawahar Lal Nehru
- Indira Gandhi
- Sanjay Gandhi
- P. V Narsimha Rao

Solution: b

Explanation:

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

### ✓ NATIONALISATION OF COAL MINES ✓

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

Q91. Which **Central American country** recent passed a historic judgment **to defend their right to a healthy environment by Guapinol communities?**

- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- Panama

Solution: b

Explanation:

Read:

# Honduras passes historic law to protect the environment

14 August 2024

The community of **Guapinol** in northern Honduras, with a population of 3,000, depends on agriculture, livestock, and remittances from the United States. Surrounded by African palm plantations, the Guapinol River is slowly returning to being a source of shade and clean water, as it always had been until 2018 when people realized that the water became heavily polluted. Juana Zúniga, an environmentalist, and her partner José Cedillo have fought for the human right to a healthy environment. Their advocacy led to the passing of an important law, Executive Decree 18-2024, which safeguards protected areas in Honduras and prohibits mining in these areas.

Central America, southernmost region of North America, lying between Mexico and South America and comprising **Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Belize.**





Q92. In reference to **Padma Awards**, consider the following statements.

1. Government servants are eligible for these Awards.
2. The Padma Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee headed by Prime Minister.
3. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.
4. Padma Awards, which were instituted in the year 1954, were suspended only once.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:



Ministry of Home Affairs

## Nominations for Padma Awards-2025 open till 15th September, 2024

Posted On: 22 AUG 2024 12:38PM by PIB Delhi

**First, second and fourth are incorrect.**

The Government of India instituted two civilian awards-Bharat Ratna & Padma Vibhushan in 1954. The latter had three classes namely Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg.

These were subsequently renamed as **Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.**

All nominations received for Padma Awards are placed before the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year. **The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary** and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members. **The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.**

**The nomination process is open to the public. Even self-nomination can be made.**

Third and fourth statement are part of UPSC prelims 2021 question.

Both are difficult statements. It's a challenge that no one will read these statements on their own. **Statements are framed from original site of Padma Awards. See below:**



Home About Awards Ceremony Dashboard Media

### HISTORY AND RELEVANCE

The Government of India instituted two civilian awards-Bharat Ratna & Padma Vibhushan in 1954. The latter had three classes namely Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg. These were subsequently renamed as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.

#### BHARAT RATNA

Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour. It is treated on a different footing from Padma Award. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India. No formal recommendations for Bharat Ratna are necessary. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year. Government has conferred Bharat Ratna Award on 45 persons till date.

#### PADMA AWARDS

Padma Awards, which were instituted in the year 1954, is announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day except for brief interruption(s) during the years 1978 and 1979 and 1993 to 1997.

The award is given in three categories, namely,

- [Padma Vibhushan](#) for exceptional and distinguished service;
- [Padma Bhushan](#) for distinguished service of a high order; and
- [Padma Shri](#) for distinguished service.

Q93. Consider the following statements.

**Statement 1:** If the allegations of the prosecution is serious, courts can deny hearing the case for grant of bail in accordance with the law.

**Statement 2:** Denying bails is considered as a violation of the rights guaranteed under Article 21 of our Constitution.

Select the correct code.

- Statement -1 is true, statement -2 is true; statement -2 is the correct explanation for statement -1.
- Statement -1 is true, statement -2 is true; statement -2 is NOT the correct explanation for statement
- Statement -1 is true, statement -2 is false.
- Statement -1 is false; Statement -2 is true.

Solution: d

Explanation:

The question is framed from:

## 'Bail Is the Rule, Jail Exception, Even in Special Statutes Like UAPA': Supreme Court



The Wire Staff  
14/Aug/2024 · 5 min read



"When a case is made out for a grant of bail, the courts should not have any hesitation in granting bail. The allegations of the prosecution may be very serious. But, the duty of the courts is to consider the case for grant of bail in accordance with the law. 'Bail is the rule and jail is an exception' is a settled law. Even in a case like the present case, where there are stringent conditions for the grant of bail in the relevant statutes, the same rule holds good with only modification that the bail can be granted if the conditions in the statute are satisfied," the apex court said.

More significantly, the court said, "...Once a case is made out for the grant of bail, the court cannot decline to grant bail. If the courts start denying bail in deserving cases, it will be a violation of the rights guaranteed under Article 21 of our Constitution."

Q94. With reference to the **cyanobacterial engineered living material (C-ELM)**, consider the following statements:

- The material developed by an Indian student to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- It incorporates living cyanobacteria within translucent panels that can be mounted on the interior walls of buildings.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Both statements are correct.**

## Indian student develops revolutionary carbon-extracting biomaterial in UK

### LONDON

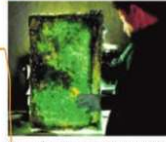
AN Indian student at University College London (UCL) is working on a new construction biomaterial that uses living microorganisms to extract carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, which has the potential to dramatically reduce carbon footprint if mass-produced and widely adopted by the building industry.

Prantar Tamuli, a Master's degree student in the Biochemical Engineering Department at UCL, recently unveiled the material as part of an art in-

stallation at St Andrews Botanic Garden in Scotland. It incorporates living cyanobacteria into translucent panels that can be mounted on to the interior walls of buildings and as the microorganisms embedded within the panels grow using photosynthesis, they pull carbon dioxide out of the air.

"My aim by developing the C-ELM material is to transform the act of constructing our future human habitats from the biggest carbon-emitting activity to the largest carbon-sequestering one," said Tamuli.

Through a biomineralisation process, the captured CO2 is affixed to calcium to create calcium carbonate, locking away the carbon. A kilogram of the biomaterial, known as a cyanobacterial engineered living material or C-ELM, can capture and sequester up to 350g of carbon dioxide. Comparatively, the same amount of traditional concrete would emit as much as 500g of carbon dioxide. Therefore, a 150 square metre wall clad with such C-ELM panels could lock away approximately one tonne of carbon dioxide.



Prantar Tamuli with the biomaterial he developed | PRANTAR TAMULI/INSTAGRAM

"The promise of this kind of biomaterial is tremendous. If mass produced and widely adopted, it could dramatically

reduce the carbon footprint of the construction industry. We hope that to scale up the manufacture of this C-ELM and further optimise its performance to be better suited for use in construction," said Professor Marcos Cruz of UCL Bartlett School of Architecture and co-director of the Bio-Integrated Design Programme.

Tamuli developed C-ELM under the guidance of research supervisors during his earlier MSc degree in Bio-Integrated Design. Over the Covid-19 lockdown in London, he developed a new process for culturing the

cyanobacteria at his home without access to his lab or conventional equipment.

Dr Brenda Parker of UCL Biochemical Engineering and co-director of the Bio-Integrated Design Programme added: "By breaking down traditional disciplinary silos we can enable discoveries such as these. It is an exciting moment where biotechnology has the potential to transform how we design and build more sustainably." A patent for the C-ELM technology has been filed by UCL's commercialisation company UCL Business. *PTT*

Q95. Consider the following pairs (places in news: location)

1. Mount Kanlaon on Negros Island: Philippines
2. Odessa: Ukraine

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

See map below:





Q96. With reference to **70th National Film Awards 2024**, consider the following pairs:

1. Best Feature Film award –Aattam
2. Best Actor – Rishab Shetty, Kantara
3. Best Director – Sooraj Barjatya, Uunchai

Which of the above pairs are not correctly matched?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

All are correct.

**These questions have become favourite of UPSC these days. As this is National Film Awards, it is important.**

**Learn that once from google.**

Q97. As per the Solid Waste Management Rules (SWMR), which of the following is/are '**Sold Wastes**'?

1. A plant and animal waste such as vegetables, fruit peel.
2. Waste from mining refining
3. Medicines
4. E-waste

Select the correct code.

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

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Actually, *aap confuse ho gye hoge, Medicines and E waste ko dekhke*. You might be thinking we have E-waste Rules, we have Biomedical Waste Rules, **but if you see the definition of Solid waste:**

46. **"solid waste"** means and includes solid or semi-solid domestic waste, sanitary waste, commercial waste, institutional waste, catering and market waste and other non residential wastes, street sweepings, silt removed or collected from the surface drains, horticulture waste, agriculture and dairy waste, treated bio-medical waste excluding industrial waste, bio-medical waste and e-waste, battery waste, radio-active waste generated in the area under the local authorities and other entities mentioned in rule 2;

All above are covered under this. *Thoda dhyan rakhiyega*. UPSC mushkil ni, just right practice of questions will give you good learning and confidence.

Q98. Consider the following statements.

1. Countries that have achieved at least 5 consecutive years of zero indigenous cases are eligible to apply for a WHO certification of malaria-free status.
2. Once certifies, country reports annually to WHO to maintain its malaria free status.

How many 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:

**First is incorrect.**

Countries that have achieved at least **3 consecutive years** of zero indigenous cases are eligible to apply for a WHO certification of malaria-free status.

5. An evaluation team, established by WHO, conducts field visits to verify findings in the national elimination report and develops an evaluation report.
6. The TAG-MEC reviews the report of the independent evaluation mission and reaches a consensus on whether certification should be recommended or postponed.
7. The MPAG ensures that the certification process has followed the standard operating procedures as published by WHO.
8. The WHO Director-General makes the final decision and officially informs the national government of the national certification.
9. When granted, WHO publishes the certification in the Weekly Epidemiological Record. The country is listed in the WHO official register of areas where malaria elimination has been achieved.
10. The country continues its efforts to prevent the re-establishment of malaria transmission and reports annually to WHO in order to maintain its malaria free status.

Q99. Consider the following bodies.

1. President



2. Vice- President
3. Speaker of Lok Sabha
4. Deputy Chairman of Legislative Council
5. Governor

Second schedule of Indian Constitution lists the emoluments of which of the following Bodies?

- a. 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- b. 1, 3 and 4 only
- c. 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d. All of the above

Solution: c

Explanation:

This question needs your bit attention. If you look at second schedule. **It lists emoluments for the:**

**President, Governors of States, Speaker** and the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Chairman and the **Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council** of a State, the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts and the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

**It doesn't contain for Vice President. This body is already covered under Chairman of Rajya Sabha (Vice-President is ex-officio chairman of Rajya Sabha).**

Q100. Which of the following aspects can lead to appreciation in the exchange rate of the Rupee?

1. Increase in foreign tourists coming to India.
2. Indian citizens investing abroad.
3. A decrease in crude oil prices.
4. Increase in exports by Indian pharmaceutical companies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Increase in foreign tourists coming to India **would increase the demand for Rupee**. This would lead to an appreciation in the rupee value. **So, Statement (1) is correct.**

Indian citizens investing abroad **would demand foreign currency** in exchange for Rupee. This would lead to the **price of the foreign currency increasing relative to the rupee**, leading to a **depreciation in the value of the rupee**. **So, Statement (2) is not correct.**

A decrease in crude oil prices would **reduce the import bill** of India as India imports about 70 per cent of its crude requirements. This would **reduce the demand for foreign currency**, which in turn would lead to **an increase in the value of the rupee**. So, **Statement (3) is correct**.

Increase in exports by Indian pharmaceutical **companies would bring foreign exchange in India**. The price of foreign currency would reduce in terms of the rupee. This would lead to a depreciation in the value of the foreign currency and **an appreciation in the value of the rupee**. So, **Statement (4) is correct**.

**Therefore, the correct answer is (b).**

Q101. Consider the following statements.

1. India proposed the formation of an Indian Carbon Market at the Kyoto Protocol in 1997.
2. Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) is the only national level market-based mechanism currently operating in India.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**The formation of carbon markets comes at a crucial time with India's commitment to the updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) submitted to the UNFCCC in August 2022.**

## 4.1 Overview

In October 2021, BEE had released a draft blueprint of the Nation Carbon Market for stakeholder consultation. Based on some critical inputs provided by stakeholders, this draft blueprint was further worked upon and another policy paper on Indian carbon markets was released in October, 2022. Following this the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act was passed in the Indian Parliament in December, 2022, which proposed the formation of an Indian Carbon Market. Additionally, a Carbon Credit and Trading Scheme (CCTS) was notified by the Ministry of Power in June, 2023. The notification highlighted the regulatory

Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) was set up in 2012 as a competitive mechanism for reducing energy use in large industries. It was introduced as a market-based mechanism to increase energy efficiency in the industrial sector. In 2023, the Ministry of Power, Government of India, notified the Carbon Credit and Trading Scheme (CCTS) for India. The newly proposed CCTS (which will be discussed in detail in the next chapter) in India is being built upon the experience and framework of the ongoing PAT scheme as PAT is the only national level market-based mechanism currently operating in India.

**To clear your confusion:**

The Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) scheme is an energy efficiency-based market mechanism in India that is being transitioned to the Carbon Credit and Trading Scheme (CCTS) to create a carbon market.

The PAT scheme was developed in 2012 to reduce energy use in large industries, and the CCTS was introduced in June 2023 to meet India's Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. The PAT scheme is expected to play a key role in the new carbon market, and some say that lessons learned from the PAT scheme can help the carbon market succeed.

Q102. In reference to '**granting sanction to prosecute a public servant in India**', consider the following statements.

1. As per the Act, the State and Central governments had the authority to sanction prosecution of their respective employees.
2. Presently, provision of granting sanction applied only to public servants who are currently in office, no sanction needed if the person no more held that office.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Under both the CrPC and the Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), the **State and Central governments had the authority to sanction prosecution of their respective employees.**

Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), the procedure code that has replaced the CrPC, **retains the same provisions.**

## What are the latest provisions on granting sanction?

Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), the procedure code that has replaced the CrPC, retains the sanction provisions. When the PCA was amended in 2018, a new provision was introduced under which the government's approval is required, even to begin an investigation. While under Section 17A, the appropriate authority's approval is necessary to begin an investigation, the provision for sanction under Section 19 is a pre-requisite for any court to take cognisance of a charge sheet or complaint of corruption. Another feature of the 2018 amendment is that it applies to those who are and were public servants.

Q103. Zoonotic diseases are caused by:

1. Bacteria
2. Virus
3. Fungi
4. Protozoa

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Not very tough. Just took from the article below. All know about examples of zoonotic diseases.**



# Punjab, Kerala, Gujarat reported most of the H1N1 deaths, says NCDC

With over 9,000 cases, India registered 178 deaths from the infection, also known as swine flu, till the end of July; the highest number of cases was recorded in Delhi, Gujarat, and Kerala

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**  
NEW DELHI

**P**unjab with 41 deaths, Kerala with 34, and Gujarat with 28 top the list of States that have recorded fatalities from influenza A (H1N1), show the latest figures released by National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

With over 9,000 cases of H1N1, also known as swine flu, India registered 178 deaths till July-end.

The highest number of cases have been recorded in Delhi, Gujarat, and Kerala.

#### 410 deaths in 2022

In 2022, there were 13,202 cases and 410 deaths.

Swine flu is a respiratory infection that can affect pigs and humans.

A subtype of the influenza A virus causes the infection in the upper and sometimes lower respiratory tract.

The virus spreads



Influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, is a respiratory infection that can affect both pigs and humans. FILE PHOTO

through the air from an infected person through coughing, sneezing, talking and merely exhaling. It can also enter the body from contaminated surfaces.

The infection becomes contagious from about a day before symptoms ap-

pear until about four days after they start showing. Children and people with weakened immune systems may spread the virus for a slightly longer period of time.

The first confirmed case of swine flu in India was documented in May 2009,

but huge numbers of cases have been reported thereafter.

India reported 778 cases in 2021 with 12 deaths; 13,202 cases and 410 deaths in 2022; and 8,125 and 129 in 2023.

#### Zoonotic diseases

The Union government has been keeping a strict vigil on zoonotic diseases across India.

Zoonoses are infectious diseases, such as rabies, anthrax, influenza (H1N1 and H5N1), Nipah, COVID-19, brucellosis, and tuberculosis, that can transfer between animals and humans.

These diseases are caused by pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi.

A senior Health Ministry official noted that the prevention and control of zoonotic diseases is achieved by vaccination, good hygiene and animal husbandry practices, and vector control.

Q104. Consider the following statements.

1. India and Bangladesh have yet not signed extradition treaty.
2. In the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs acts as the Central Authority for extradition matters.

Select the correct code.

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



Solution: D

Explanation:

Read:

and Bangladesh have an extradition treaty?



In the Government of India, the Ministry of External Affairs acts as the Central Authority for extradition matters.

Q105. As per the recent report, in which of the following sectors women dominated men in urban and rural areas both?

1. Agriculture
2. Manufacturing
3. Construction
4. Transport

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read the data from report.

**GENDER GAP**  
Distribution of workers (%)

	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Agriculture	49.1	76.2	4.7	11.7
Construction	19.0	4.2	12.6	3.1
Trade, hotels, restaurants	10.5	4.1	26.5	15.2
Transport, storage, communications	5.3	0.2	13.2	5.5
Manufacturing	8.2	8.3	20.5	23.9
Other services	7.9	7.0	22.5	40.6

Source: Women and Men In India, 2023 report

Q106. Hampi is located on the south bank somewhere in the middle of this river's path. The river joins the Krishna River in the Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh. Name the river.

- Koyna
- Tungabhadra
- Indravati
- Malaprabha.

Solution: b

Explanation:

It's a fact. Yaad kar liyir. *Idhar udhar dekhne se koi faayda ni..*

Q107. A State action, which has no discriminatory intention, results in disadvantage to a particular group, infringing their rights.

- The action is not unconstitutional because there is no discriminatory intent.
- The action is unconstitutional because it has the effect of discrimination.
- The State action cannot be challenged on the sole ground that it affects the right of only a particular group.
- The State Action is not unconstitutional because only direct discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution.

Solution: b

Explanation:

In *Lt Col Nitisha vs. Union of India (2021)*, the **Supreme Court explained the concept of "indirect discrimination" and held that an action will be unconstitutional if it has a discriminatory effect on a particular section, though it was facially neutral and lacked discriminatory intent.**

Q108. Consider the following statements regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

- Under the Act, priority be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries be women.
- Currently, wage rates are notified based on Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) by the State Government.

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:

**First statement is correct.**

6. The Programme Officer shall ensure that every applicant referred to in paragraph 5 shall be provided unskilled manual work in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme within fifteen days of receipt of an application or from the date he seeks work in case of advance application, whichever is later:

Provided that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under this Act.

**Second statement is incorrect:**

A brief review of the history of how wages are determined is important.

The employment guarantee act gives the central government two options for determining the MNREGA wage rate. The **first is that MNREGA workers are paid the state** minimum wage for agricultural labourers. The **second is that the central government** notifies separate wage rates for MNREGA. Till 2008, MNREGA wages were fixed as per the first option. From 1 January 2009, the central government switched to the second option.

**Now, wage rates for workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 are notified and revised annually based on Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) by the Central Government** in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

**6. Wage rate.**—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (11 of 1948), the Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for the purposes of this Act:

Provided that different rates of wages may be specified for different areas:

Provided further that the wage rate specified from time to time under any such notification shall not be at a rate less than sixty rupees per day.

(2) Until such time as a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government in respect of any area in a State, the minimum wage fixed by the State Government under section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (11 of 1948) for agricultural labourers, shall be considered as the wage rate applicable to that area.

Q109. Consider the following countries.

- 1. Eritrea
- 2. Yemen
- 3. Djibouti
- 4. Somalia

Which of the above countries share/s boundary with Red Sea?

- a. 2 only
- b. 3 and 4 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

There are six countries (Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, and Djibouti) bordering the Red Sea.



Q110. Consider the following bodies.

1. Co-operative societies
2. Election Commissioners
3. Solicitor General

Which of the above is/are Constitutional bodies?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Right to form Co-operative societies is Constitutional Right. Co-operative societies are not Constitutional bodies.**

**Election Commissioner is also Constitutional.**

**Solicitor General is not a Constitutional Body.**

Q111. Consider the following statements regarding **Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances**.

1. It is the first universally binding treaty that defines enforced disappearance as a human rights violation and prohibits it.
2. The Convention has not yet entered into force.
3. India has signed the Convention.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**News:**

## **B'desh signs convention against disappearance**

Dhaka: Bangladesh on Thursday signed the UN convention against forced disappearance, two days after it formed a commission to trace and identify "each and every" case of forced disappearance during deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's nearly 16-year regime. "It is a historic occasion," Muhammad Yunus said.

As early as 1980 the United Nations Commission on Human Rights constituted a working group to address the problems arising from missing and disappeared persons.



Twenty-six years later, the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 December 2006.

It is the first universally binding treaty that defines enforced disappearance as a human rights violation and prohibits it.

The convention entered into force on 23 December 2010.

HUMAN RIGHTS

**16. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**  
New York, 20 December 2006

**Entry into force** : 23 December 2010, in accordance with article 39(1) which reads as follows: "This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession."

Participant	Signature	Accession(a), Ratification
India	6 Feb 2007	

Q112. Which of the following are categorized as “**Hard-to-abate sectors**” (that are difficult to decarbonize and require approaches that address energy and process emissions)?

1. Fertilizers
2. Cement
3. Aviation
4. Agriculture
5. Textiles.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**All the above are correct.**

News:

India's hard-to-abate sectors are not walking the talk on their renewable energy goals, report finds

by Simrin Sirur on 26 August 2024

f in 

Q113. Consider the following statements.

1. Statement-I: Unlike conventional diesel-electric submarines, which require periodic surfacing to recharge their batteries, nuclear-powered submarines can remain submerged for extended periods.
2. Statement II: INS Arihant and the INS Arighat are powered by pressurized light-water nuclear reactors.

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

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

Solution: A

Explanation:

**India recently commissioned INS Arighat (S-3), a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, in Visakhapatnam. This 6,000-tonne vessel, equipped with K-15 nuclear ballistic missiles boasting a range of 750 km, marks a significant step in India's maritime capabilities.**

**INS Arighat is said to be similar to INS Arihant, but has more refined capabilities. It is about 112-metre long and weighs around 6,000 tonnes.**

The third nuclear-powered INS Aridhaman, which is said to be bigger and more sophisticated and can weigh around 7,000 tonnes, is also under construction.

**Both the INS Arihant and the INS Arighat are powered by 83 MW pressurized light-water nuclear reactors, enabling them to remain submerged for longer durations compared to conventional diesel-electric submarines, which need to surface regularly to charge their batteries.**

Q114. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the Act, if any water dispute arises with other state, state will pass resolution to establish tribunal to solve the dispute.
2. Once the request to form tribunal is received by central government from the state, the central government shall form tribunal within one year of receiving such request.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

The Interstate River Water Disputes Act, 1956 (IRWD Act) is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted under Article 262 of Constitution of India.

*Disputes relating to Waters*

**262. Adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers or river valleys.**—(1) Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution or control of the waters of, or in, any inter-State river or river valley.

**As per the Act,**

**3. Complaints by State Governments as to water disputes.**—If it appears to the Government of any State that a water dispute with the Government of another State has arisen or is likely to arise by reason of the fact that the interests of the State, or of any of the inhabitants thereof, in the waters of an inter-State river or river valley have been, or are likely to be, affected prejudicially by—

(a) any executive action or legislation taken or passed, or proposed to be taken or passed, by the other State; or

(b) the failure of the other State or any authority therein to exercise any of their powers with respect to the use, distribution or control of such waters; or

(c) the failure of the other State to implement the terms of any agreement relating to the use, distribution or control of such waters,

the State Government may, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, request the Central Government to refer the water dispute to a Tribunal for adjudication.

**4. Constitution of Tribunal.**—<sup>3</sup>[(1) When any request under section 3 is received from any State Government in respect of any water dispute and the Central Government is of opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations, the Central Government shall, within a period not exceeding one year from the date of receipt of such request, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of the water dispute:

Q115. Consider the following Nations.

1. Turkmenistan
2. Syria
3. Armenia
4. Azerbaijan

Which of the above nations share boundaries with Iran?

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

Solution: b

**Explanation:**

There are seven countries that Iran shares this long land border with. **These countries are Iraq, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.** Of these countries, Turkmenistan shares the longest border with Iran.



Q116. Which principle among the following was added to the Directive Principles of State Policy by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution?

- Equal pay for equal work for both men and women
- Participation of workers in the management of industries
- Right to work, education and public assistance
- Securing living wage and human conditions of work to workers

Solution: B

Examination:

#### 2017 UPSC PRELIMS QUESTION.

The 42nd Amendment added new Directive Principles, viz **Article 39A, Article 43A and Article 48A.**

Article 43A deals with 'Participation of workers in management of industries'.

Equal justice and free legal aid

~~<sup>2</sup>[39A.~~ The State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.]

~~<sup>1</sup>[43A.~~ The State shall take steps, by suitable legislation or in any other way, to secure the participation of workers in the management of undertakings, establishments or other organisations engaged in any industry.]

Participation of workers in management of industries.

Protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and wild life.

~~<sup>1</sup>[48A.~~ The State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wild life of the country.]

Q117. Consider the following statements.

1. Speaker, who is not a member of House, can preside the house of 6 months after which she ceases to be Speaker of House.
2. A minister who is not a member of House, for 6 months, he can participate and vote in Parliament.
3. A Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of the Legislature of the State shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a Minister.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**First Statement is incorrect. It is mandatory to be member of House.**



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

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

(b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed, if such member is the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, and if such member is the Deputy Speaker, to the Speaker, resign his office; and

(c) may be removed from his office by a resolution of the House of the People passed by a majority of all the then members of the House:

Second statement is incorrect: **He cannot vote.**

**88. Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General as respects Houses.—**Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote.

Two conditions exist for any minister.

1. He is a serving MP of any house, Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.
2. He is not a member of house although he has been appointed as a minister.

In both cases, the minister takes part in the proceedings of both houses. It's his right as a member of the council of ministers.

Now coming to the voting part. In above two cases,

In first case, the minister is allowed to vote in the house whose membership he holds. If he's a member of Lok Sabha, he cannot vote in Rajya Sabha but in Lok Sabha only. That's his right as a member of the respective house. His ministership doesn't bar him from voting.

**In second case, as he is not a member of any house. He cannot vote in either of the houses.** The minister has been given a time period of 6 months to become member of any one house. After he attains membership, he will be treated as in first case mentioned above.

**Third statement is correct: long statement but simple. It takes time to read. So you need to increase speed but don't lose focus.**

(3) Before a Minister enters upon his office, the Governor shall administer to him the oaths of office and of secrecy according to the forms set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

(4) A Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of the Legislature of the State shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a Minister.

(5) The salaries and allowances of Ministers shall be such as the Legislature of the State may from time to time by law determine and, until the Legislature of the State so determines, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule.

Q118. Consider the following statements:

1. A high foreign exchange rate may decrease the export of a country.
2. A Trade surplus in an economy may help to appreciate its currency.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Simple concepts.**

**Statement 1 is incorrect.**

A rise in price of foreign exchange will reduce the foreigner's cost (in terms of USD) while purchasing products from a country. This increases the export of country.

Suppose exchange rate is 1 dollar = 60 Rs and now it increased to 1 dollar = 70 Rs. For foreigners, Indian goods will become cheaper and **export of Indian goods will increase.**

**Statement 2 is correct.**

A Trade surplus means that the export of a country is greater than its imports. The export of a country helps in bringing foreign currency. So surplus trade will bring more foreign currency. As a result of which the domestic currency will appreciate.

Q119. Which of the following officer has the power to disqualify a Member of the Legislature for occupying an 'Office of Profit'?

- a. The Chief Election Commissioner
- b. The President
- c. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
- d. The Leader of the House concerned whose Member is to be disqualified

Solution: b

Explanation:

Article 102(1)(a) of the Constitution of India recognizes “holding any Office of Profit under the government” a ground for disqualification from being a Member of Parliament (MP) as well as contesting parliamentary elections to be chosen as an MP.

**102. Disqualifications for membership.**—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament—

<sup>1</sup>~~(a)~~ if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State, other than an office declared by Parliament 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.

<sup>4</sup>[103. **Decision on questions as to disqualifications of members.**—(1) If any question arises as to whether a member of either House of Parliament has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1) of article 102, the question shall be referred for the decision of the President and his decision shall be final.

Q120. In the context of the location of industries, the supply of raw material is the most important factor for which of the following industries?

- a. Automobile Industry
- b. Electronic Goods Industry
- c. Sugar Industry
- d. Cotton Textile Industry

Solution: c

Explanation:

Industries using weight-losing raw materials are located in the regions, where raw materials are located. Thus, sugar mills in India are located in sugarcane growing areas. Sugarcane needs to be supplied to mills within 24 hours of cutting to ensure better recovery of sugar. Hence, the location of Sugar mills is near the sugarcane producing areas. Similarly, the pulp industry, copper smelting and pig iron industries are located near their raw materials. **Options (a) and (b) are examples of weight gaining industry**, and they require more diverse ancillary material. **Hence, these are generally located near the market.** Cotton textile is not a weight losing industry. The raw material is not the most dominant factor, but a humid climate, cheap labour and transport and most importantly, a market for trade determine the location of the cotton textile industry. **Therefore, the correct answer is (c).**

Q121. Consider the following statements regarding **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)**.

1. PMJDY account holders were given RuPay debit cards.

2. There was no requirement to maintain any minimum balance in PMJDY accounts.
3. No interest is earned on the deposits in the PMJDY accounts.
4. More than 50 percent of the account holders are women.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Third statement is incorrect.**

The PMJDY was announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on 15th August 2014.

### Benefits under PMJDY

- a. One basic savings bank account is opened for unbanked person.
- b. There is no requirement to maintain any minimum balance in PMJDY accounts.
- c. Interest is earned on the deposit in PMJDY accounts.
- d. RuPay Debit card is provided to PMJDY account holder.
- e. Accident Insurance Cover of Rs.1 lakh (enhanced to Rs. 2 lakh to new PMJDY accounts opened after 28.8.2018) is available with RuPay card issued to the PMJDY account holders.
- f. An overdraft (OD) facility up to Rs. 10,000 to eligible account holders is available.
- g. PMJDY accounts are eligible for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Bank (MUDRA) scheme.

Notably, the number of beneficiaries of the Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has crossed the 53-crore mark since its inception on August 28, 2014, **out of which 55.6 per cent account holders are women.**

### Pradhan Mantri Jan - Dhan Yojana (All figures in Crore)

Beneficiaries as on 21/08/2024

Bank Name / Type	Number of Beneficiaries at rural/semiurban centre bank branches	Number of Beneficiaries at urban metro centre bank branches	No Of Rural-Urban Female Beneficiaries	Number of Total Beneficiaries	Deposits in Accounts(In Crore)	Number of Rupay Debit Cards issued to beneficiaries
Public Sector Banks	26.01	15.46	22.86	41.47	178293.83	31.36
Regional Rural Banks	8.48	1.42	5.76	9.90	44928.14	3.50
Private Sector Banks	0.74	0.90	0.89	1.64	6766.85	1.35
Rural Cooperative Banks	0.19	0.00	0.10	0.19	0.01	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>35.42</b>	<b>17.78</b>	<b>29.60</b>	<b>53.20</b>	<b>229988.84</b>	<b>36.21</b>

Q122. Consider the following statements.

1. World Water Week has been organized every year by UN Water Forum.
2. World Water Week conference has representatives of all types of economies, low-income countries and from high income countries.

3. India has participated in World Water Week in the past, and has also hosted its own international water resources event called India Water Week (IWW).

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First is incorrect.**

News:



**All statements are correct.**

**World Water Week 2024, on 25 – 29 August, will focus on innovation at a time of unprecedented changes. Human activities have triggered a global water crisis where we have for the first time crossed the safe planetary boundary for water.**

**World Water Week is organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) since 1991.**

India has participated in World Water Week in the past, and has also hosted its own international water resources event called India Water Week (IWW).

**India has also hosted the IWW, an international water resources event, since 2012.**

**The 2024 IWW will focus on "Partnerships and Cooperation for Inclusive Water Development and Management". The 2024 IWW will take place in New Delhi from September 17–21, 2024.**

Q123. Consider the following statements.

1. The United Nations declared 2024 the International Year of Camelids (IYC 2024).
2. Camel population is seeing a huge decline in India of more than 30 percent in last two decades.
3. Presently, law in India prohibits the export of camels across state borders and out of the country.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?



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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All statements are correct.

The United Nations declared 2024 the International Year of Camelids (IYC 2024).

**Everywhere else in the world, be it Pakistan, the Middle East and Africa, camel populations are thriving and flourishing except India.**

**As per the Down to Earth magazine:**



According to her, several reasons can be cited for the decline. The law in India now prohibits the export of camels across state borders and out of the country. This has totally diminished the value of camels.

The law in India now prohibits the export of camels across state borders and out of the country.

Q124. Which of the following activities/projects are part of **central sector scheme of Financing facility under 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund'**?

1. Modernization of Cold Stores and Cold Chain
2. Farm residue/waste management infrastructures
3. Setting up of Compressed Biogas (CBG) Plant

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Read this:

### 3 Objectives of the Scheme

To mobilize a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets through incentives and financial support in order to improve agriculture infrastructure in the country.

The scheme will facilitate setting up and modernization of:

#### A. Post-Harvest Management Projects

- Supply chain services including e-marketing platforms
- Warehouse & Silos
- Cold Stores and Cold Chain
- Packaging Units
- Assaying Units
- Sorting and grading units
- Logistic Facilities- Reefer Van & Insulated vehicles
- Ripening Chambers
- Farm residue/waste management infrastructures
- Primary Processing activities\* (see table1)

#### B. Community Farming Assets

- Organic inputs production – Vermicomposting etc.
- Compressed Biogas (CBG) Plant
- Bio stimulant production units
- Infrastructure for smart and precision agriculture
- Purchase of drones, putting up specialized sensors on field, Blockchain and AI in agriculture etc.
- Remote sensing and Internet of Things (IOT) such as automatic weather station, Farm advisory services through GIS applications.
- Nursery
- Tissue culture

Q125. Consider the following statements.

1. The majority of reef building corals are found within tropical and subtropical waters.
2. Algal bloom on coral ridges is a sign of good coral health.
3. Corals can reproduce asexually and sexually.
4. Pacific Ocean has a greater number of coral species than Antarctic Ocean.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

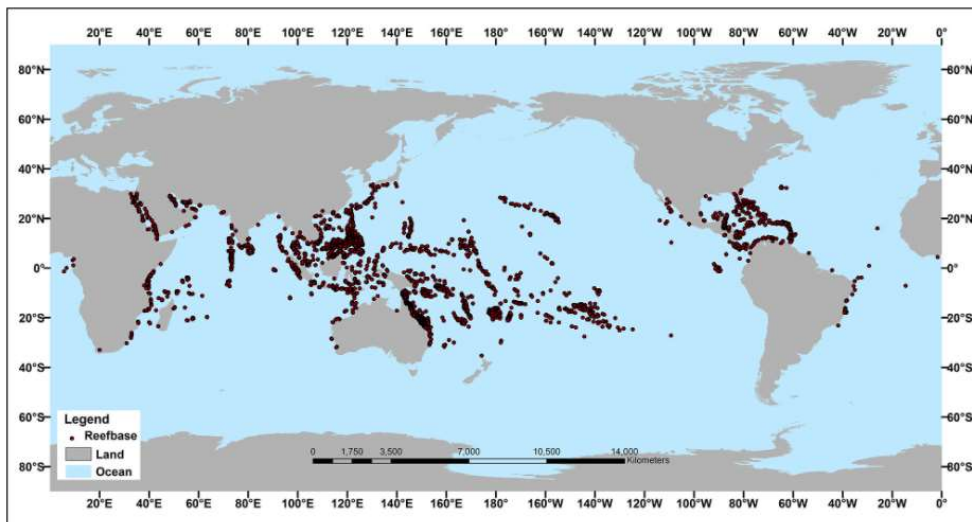
Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is correct.**

Reef-building corals are restricted in their geographic distribution by factors such as the temperature and the salinity (salt content) of the water. The water must also be clear to permit high light penetration.

**Because of these environmental restrictions, reefs generally are confined to tropical and semitropical waters.** The diversity of reef corals (the number of species), decreases in higher latitudes up to about 30° north and south, beyond which reef corals are usually not found.



**Second statement is incorrect.**

The analysis found that since 2010, the number of algae on the world's coral reefs has increased by about 20 per cent. **Algal bloom on coral ridges are a sign of stress on the structures.** This transition from live hard coral to algae-dominated reef communities impacts marine habitats, rendering them less biodiverse and also affects the ecosystem services provided by them.

**Third statement is correct.**

**Corals can reproduce asexually and sexually.** In asexual reproduction, new clonal polyps bud off from parent polyps to expand or begin new colonies. This occurs when the parent polyp reaches a certain size and divides. This process continues throughout the animal's life.

**Fourth statement is correct:**

**Generally, there are about twice as many coral species in Pacific Ocean reefs as in Atlantic Ocean reefs.**

Q126. If a straight horizontal line drawn through Caspian Sea, which of the following seas/regions it will never cut?

1. Mediterranean Sea
2. Red Sea
3. Black Sea
4. Yellow Sea

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:



Q127. Consider the following statements.

1. The G20 is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis.
2. G-7 was formed after G-20.
3. All members of G-7 are part of G-20.

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: c

Explanation:



Which of the above statement sis/are correct?

The **G20 is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis** as a forum for the finance ministers and central bank governors of 19 countries and the European Union.

G-7 was formed in 1975. **Second statement is correct.**

G-7 members: United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Japan, France and Italy.

G:20 members: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, **Canada**, China, **France**, **Germany**, India, Indonesia, **Italy**, **Japan**, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the **United Kingdom**, **the United States**, and the European Union.

Q128. Consider the following statements.

1. A Living Modified Organism (LMO) is defined in the Nagoya Protocol on Biosafety.
2. India doesn't have any rules or statute to regulate LMO.'

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:

**A Living Modified Organism (LMO) is defined in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** as any living organism that possesses a novel combination of genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology. **First statement is incorrect.**

**Second statement is also incorrect.**

## II National Regulatory Framework

GMOs/LMOs are regulated products in India. The rules and guidelines applicable for transboundary movement and release of GMOs into environment are provided in:

- The Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms, Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. The Rules came into force from 01.10.1993
- Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV & FRA), 2001
- National Biodiversity Act (NBA), 2002
- National Seeds Policy (NSP), 2002
- Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003, herein after referred to as PQ Order
- Foreign Trade Policy, 2006
- Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- Recombinant DNA Safety Guidelines, 1990

Q129. The term “**Unity and Integrity**” of India can be seen in which part of Indian Constitution?

- Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), Preamble and Fundamental Duties
- Preamble
- Preamble and Fundamental Duties
- Fundamental Rights, DPSP and Preamble

Solution: c

Explanation:

#### PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a <sup>1</sup>[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 <sup>2</sup>[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.

**Also, under Fundamental Duties.**

#### FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

**51A. Fundamental duties.**—It shall be the duty of every citizen of India—

(a) to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;

(b) to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;

(c) to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;

Q130. If interest rate in market decreases:

- price of bond increases
- return (yield) on that bond increases.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Suppose Rs. 100 bond (this is called issue price or Face Value) is issued @ interest rate 10% (which means that interest in the market is around 10%). Now if interest rate in the market decreases (the interest rate is decreasing in the market but the bond which has been issued @10% interest rate. This interest rate is fixed and it will never change) then the new bonds which will be issued will be issued at less interest rate (say 8%).

Now if you want to purchase previously issued bond of Rs. 100 face value, the holder of the bond will not give you in Rs. 100, rather he will ask for more rupees, i.e., the price of the previously issued bond will increase and suppose you purchase this bond in Rs. 125 then for your annual RETURN will be =  $(Rs. 10/Rs. 125) \times 100 = 8\%$ . This 8% is yield.

So, to conclude, if interest rate in market decreases, **price of bond increases and return (yield) on that bond decreases.**

Q131. Consider the following statements regarding **United Nations (UN)-Water**.

1. UN-Water is the architect of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework.
2. The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is UN-Water's flagship report on water and sanitation issues.
3. UN-Water coordinates the global thematic campaigns for World Water Day and World Toilet Day every year and communicate on key water-related issues.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. ALL THREE
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

When I searched UN website, I got this news:

and sanitation for all. At the World Water Week, being held in Stockholm (25-29 August), the UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 (IMI-SDG6) will launch a series of progress reports to help policy- and decision-makers identify challenges and opportunities, set priorities and generate support for further investment.

All statements are correct.

## Informing policy processes and addressing emerging issues

UN-Water helps shape global policy responses to disasters, climate change, sustainable development, and other issues, and is the architect of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework.

Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



### Delivering the UN World Water Development Report

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is UN-Water's flagship report on water and sanitation issues. Each year, the report focuses on a different theme, providing decision-makers with knowledge and tools to formulate and implement sustainable water policies. It also offers best practices and in-depth analyses to stimulate ideas and actions for better stewardship in the water sector and beyond. The report is published by UNESCO, on behalf of UN-Water, and its production is

## ~~Building~~ knowledge and inspiring people to take action

UN-Water coordinates the global thematic campaigns for World Water Day and World Toilet Day every year and creates engaging communications on key water-related issues.

**Have you seen something very similar question in 2024?? (World Toilet Organization).**

Q132. Consider the following statements regarding **Pacific Island Forum**.

1. It is an organization of Heads of Government of independent and self-governing countries of the South Pacific.
2. India is admitted as a dialogue partner of the forum, not a member.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:



### ~~'The world needs your leadership', Guterres tells Pacific Islands Forum~~

The Pacific Islands Forum, an organization of Heads of Government of independent and self-governing countries of the South Pacific was formed in 1971 as a forum to voice joint political views and promote economic development and regional security cooperation.

**It was founded in 1971 as the South Pacific Forum (SPF), and changed its name in 1999 to "Pacific Islands Forum.**



~~November 23~~1999

New Caledonia joins the Forum as an observer Leaders agreed on a new name for the Forum – 'Pacific Islands Forum'.

Originally named the South Pacific Forum, the organization was re-christened as Pacific Islands Forum in 2000. The Forum comprises of 16 countries, namely, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The Forum Secretariat is located in Suva, Fiji.



The Forum has at present 11 countries as Dialogue Partners: the US, Canada, France, the UK, China, South Korea, Japan, EU, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. India joins the Forum as its 12th Dialogue Partner.

Q133. In reference to **India-Malaysia Trade**, consider the following statements.

1. In last 5 years, India maintains trade surplus with Malaysia.
2. India imports vegetable oils from Malaysia.

Select the correct code.

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

d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: b

Explanation:

**India has a trade deficit with Malaysia, with India importing more than it exports.**

Country / Region: MALAYSIA						
S.No.	Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
1.	EXPORT	4,510,641.90	4,497,079.07	5,212,357.37	5,726,516.72	6,016,559.47
2.	%Growth		-0.30	15.91	9.86	5.06
3.	India's Total Export	221,985,418.10	215,904,322.13	314,702,149.28	362,154,987.57	361,895,227.05
4.	%Growth		-2.74	45.76	15.08	-0.07
5.	%Share	2.03	2.08	1.66	1.58	1.66
6.	IMPORT	6,916,662.95	6,179,121.70	9,263,064.76	10,218,523.43	10,557,232.39
7.	%Growth		-10.66	49.91	10.31	3.31
8.	India's Total Import	336,095,445.61	291,595,770.04	457,277,458.91	574,980,127.11	561,604,236.63
9.	%Growth		-13.24	56.82	25.74	-2.33
10.	%Share	2.06	2.12	2.03	1.78	1.88
11.	TOTAL TRADE	11,427,304.84	10,676,200.77	14,475,422.13	15,945,040.14	16,573,791.85
12.	%Growth		-6.57	35.59	10.15	3.94
13.	India's Total Trade	558,080,863.71	507,500,092.17	771,979,608.19	937,135,114.68	923,499,463.68
14.	%Growth		-9.06	52.11	21.39	-1.46
15.	%Share	2.05	2.10	1.88	1.70	1.79
16.	TRADE BALANCE	-2,406,021.05	-1,682,042.63	-4,050,707.39	-4,492,006.71	-4,540,672.92
17.	India's Trade Balance	-114,110,027.52	-75,691,447.91	-142,575,309.63	-212,825,139.54	-199,709,009.58

**Major imported items by India from Malaysia:**

Major items imported by India from Malaysia include **vegetable oils** (US\$ 1.64 billion) followed by electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof (US\$ 1.07 billion), petroleum products (US\$ 1.01 billion), nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, and mechanical appliances; parts thereof (US\$ 659 million) and organic chemicals (US\$ 341 million) from April-November 2023.

**Major exported items from India to Malaysia**

Major exported items from India to Malaysia include engineering goods (US\$ 1.23 billion), petroleum products (US\$ 1.03 billion), organic and inorganic chemicals (US\$ 371 million), meat, dairy and poultry products (US\$ 336 million) and others (US\$ 246 million), etc. during April-November 2023.

Q134. Consider the following statements respect to species in **Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972**.

1. Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) of 1972 includes exotic animals in Schedule IV.
2. As per these rules, every person who is in possession of above species is required to report the details of such animals to the Chief Wild Life Warden of the concerned State, within a period of six months from the issue of gazette notification.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

The ministry had notified the Living Animal Species (Reporting and Registration) Rules, 2024 vide Gazette Notification dated 28th February 2024

Posted On: 20 AUG 2024 9:16PM by PIB Delhi

**Many living specimens of exotic animal species listed in Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are in possession of various individuals, organizations, and zoos.**

**49M. Possession, transfer and breeding of living scheduled animal species.** — (1) Every person possessing a living specimen of an animal species listed in Schedule IV shall report the details of such specimen or specimens in his possession to the Management Authority or the authorised officer:

As per these rules, every person who is in possession of any living specimen of species listed in Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, **is required to report the details of such animals to the Chief Wild Life Warden of the concerned State, within a period of six months from the issue of gazette notification** and or within thirty days of possession of such animal species.

Q135. Consider the following statements regarding **Central Water Commission**.

1. Central Water Commission was established in 1945 by the Government on the advice of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
2. It responsible for strengthening international cooperation on matters relating to trans-boundary rivers.
3. It is headed by Union Minister.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Central Water Commission (erstwhile Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission) was established in 1945 by the Government on the advice of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Member (Labour) in Viceroy's Executive Council . Since then, CWC has evolved as a premier technical organization in the country in the field of Water Resources and is functioning as an attached office of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.**

**ORGANIZATION SET UP**

CWC, with its headquarters at New Delhi, is headed by a Chairman, an Ex-officio Secretary to the Government of India. It has three technical wings, namely:

- Designs and Research Wing
- Water Planning and Projects Wing
- River Management Wing

The CWC is responsible for **strengthening international cooperation on matters relating to trans-boundary rivers** by way of assistance in water resource development projects, hydrological observation and flood forecasting and operation of bilateral treaties and agreements.

Q136. Gaza Strip shares boundary with:

1. Egypt
2. Israel
3. West Bank
4. Syria

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q137. Who among the following has the power to request a retired Supreme Court Judge to act as a Judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period?

- President of India with the previous consent of the Chief Justice of India.
- Chief Justice of India with the previous consent of the President.
- It is the power of the collegium to suggest a name to the President.
- There is no such provision in the Constitution of India

Solution: b

Explanation:

As per provisions of the Article 128, Chief Justice of India, with the previous consent of the President, request a retired Judge of the Supreme Court High Court, who is duly qualified for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court, to sit and act as a Judge of the Supreme Court.



~~128.~~ **Attendance of retired Judges at sittings of the Supreme Court.**—Notwithstanding anything in this Chapter, <sup>3</sup>[the National Judicial Appointments Commission] may at any time, with the previous consent of the President, request any person who has held the office of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of the Federal Court <sup>4</sup>[or who has held the office of a Judge of a High Court and is duly qualified for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court] to sit and act as a Judge of the Supreme Court, and every such person so requested shall, while so sitting and acting, be entitled to such allowances as the President may by order determine and have all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges of, but shall not otherwise be deemed to be, a Judge of that Court:

Q138. With reference to the Private member's bill, consider the following statements:

1. It can only be introduced in the House by members other than members of ruling government.
2. Private Member Bills can be a Constitutional Amendment Bill.
3. No Private Member Bill has been passed till date by Parliament.

Which of the above stamen is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

A Member of Parliament (MP) who is not a Minister in the Union Cabinet is called a Private Member. Bills introduced by such members are called Private Member's Bills. **So, private member bill can be from rulling party also. First statement is incorrect.**

The scope of a Private Member Bill (PMB) is same as that of a Government Bill. **These bills can deal with any issue and can also be a Constitutional Amendment Bill. Second statement is correct.**

A PMB can be introduced in either the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.

**14 private member bills out of thousands became laws since 1952. Therefore, statement 3 is wrong. See below:**

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS PASSED BY PARLIAMENT			
Title	MP's Name	House	Date of Assent
1 The Muslim Wakfs Bill, 1952	Syed Mohammed Ahmed Kasmi	Lok Sabha	21.05.1954
2 The Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1955	S C Samanta	Lok Sabha	06.04.1956
3 The Parliamentary Proceedings (Protection of Publication) Bill, 1956	Feroze Gandhi	Lok Sabha	26.05.1956
4 The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1953	Raghunath Singh	Lok Sabha	01.09.1956
5 The Women's and Children's Institutions (Licensing) Bill, 1954	Kamledu Mati Shah	Lok Sabha	30.12.1956
6 The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1957	Subhadra Joshi	Lok Sabha	26.12.1960
7 The Salary and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1964	Raghunath Singh	Lok Sabha	29.09.1964
8 The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 1963	Diwan Chand Sharma	Lok Sabha	20.12.1964
9 The Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968	Anand Narian Mullah	Lok Sabha	09.08.1970
10 The Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Bill, 1954	Dr Raghbir Singh	Rajya Sabha	15.12.1956
11 The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 1956	Dr Seeta Parmanand	Rajya Sabha	20.12.1956
12 The Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Bill, 1960	Kailash Bihari Lall	Rajya Sabha	09.04.1960
13 The Marine Insurance Bill, 1959	MP Bhargava	Rajya Sabha	18.04.1963
14 The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1963	Diwan Chaman Lall	Rajya Sabha	07.09.1969

Q139. With respect to the **Montreux Record**, consider the following statements.

1. It aims to identify priority sites for positive national and international conservation attention.
2. Sites may be added to and removed from the Record only with the approval of the Contracting Parties on whose territory they lie.
3. It is maintained as part of the Ramsar List.
4. Loktak Lake is only site under Montreux Record after Chilka Lake was removed from Record.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First and third statements are correct:

### 4.3.5 The Montreux Record

The Montreux Record is a register of wetland sites on the List of Wetlands of International Importance where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference. It is maintained as part of the Ramsar List. The Conference of the Parties has adopted working definitions of “ecological character” and “change in ecological character” (see the glossary at Appendix 6).

The Montreux Record was established by Recommendation 4.8 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (1990). Resolution 5.4 (1993) determined that the Montreux Record should be employed to identify priority sites for positive national and international conservation attention. As they

Second statement is correct:

Resolution VI.1 (1996) established more precise procedures for the use of the Montreux Record mechanism, with guidelines on the steps to be taken for including Ramsar Sites on the Record and removing Sites from it. This guidance was updated by Resolution XII.6 (2015). Sites may be added to and removed from the Record only with the approval of the Contracting Parties on whose territory they lie. As

Fourth statement is in correct:

At present, there are two Indian sites **Loktak Lake, Manipur and Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan** on the Montreux Record

Q140. Which of the following measures can help in tackling rupee appreciation?

1. Purchase of Government securities from the public by the Central Bank.
2. Lowering interest rates in commercial banks.
3. Buying of foreign currency by the Central Bank.
4. Sale of government securities to the public by the Central Bank.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Currency appreciation is an increase in the value of one currency in relation to another currency. A strong currency makes imports cheaper and can improve living standards. However, it can also make exports less competitive and lead to lower economic growth. So, to stabilise the currency, various measures are adopted to increase the quantum of domestic currency and reduce the volume of foreign currency.

**Statements (1), (2) and (3) lead to an infusion of domestic currency among the public and reduces the foreign currency in the market; thus, it helps in tackling rupee appreciation** (a feature of managed floating currency). However, the sale of Government securities to the public reduces the amount of currency held by the public. So, it cannot tackle rupee appreciation. **So, statement (4) is incorrect.** Hence, option b is the correct answer.