



Goaltide
A Prelims IAS Academy

JANUARY 2023

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UPSC PRELIMS 2023 EXAM DAILY QUIZ COMPILATION-JANUARY

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Q1. Which of the following countries does Tropic of Capricorn doesn't pass?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

It passes through these countries or overseas territories:

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



Q2. Which of the following is very near to Tropic of Cancer?

- a. Gulf of Aden
- b. Gulf of Khambhat
- c. Gulf of Kachchh
- d. Andaman Sea

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q3. Sea of Japan (East Sea) is located in:

- a. East of Korean Peninsula
- b. South of Korea Peninsula
- c. South of Japan
- d. East of Japan

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q4. A horizontal line to Black Sea (at any point) will never cross:

- a. Adriatic Sea
- b. Caspian Sea
- c. Aegean Sea
- d. Mediterranean Sea

Solution: c

Explanation:





Q5. Consider the following countries.

1. Malawi
2. Zimbabwe
3. Mozambique
4. South Sudan
5. Niger

Which of the above countries are land-locked?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q6. Consider following statements related to geography of India:

1. Except China, all countries with which India shares land border are member of SAARC.
2. India shares land boundary with 6 countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

SAARC has eight member countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. **Myanmar with which India shares 1643 KM of land boundary is not a member of SAARC.**

India shares the largest land boundary with Bangladesh (4096.7 KM), followed by China (3488 KM) and Pakistan (3323 KM).

India shares its border with seven countries- **Afghanistan and Pakistan** to the North-West, **China, Bhutan and Nepal** to the north, **Myanmar** to the far East and **Bangladesh** to the east.



Q7. A horizontal line drawn across Delhi will cross which of the following states?

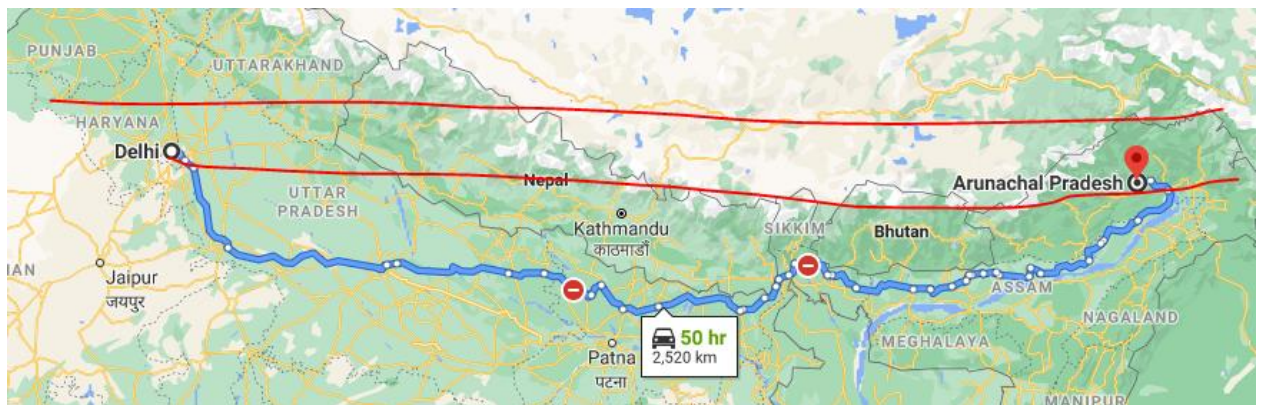
1. Punjab
2. Haryana
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Bihar
5. Arunachal Pradesh

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q8 Consider the following pairs.

Places in news	location
1. Kolleru Lake	freshwater lake located in Andhra Pradesh
2. Galapagos Island	Pacific Islands

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:

News in brief:

Places in news	location
Kolleru Lake	freshwater lake located in Andhra Pradesh
Galapagos Island	Pacific Islands



Q9. Consider the following:

1. Monte Desert: Europe
2. Mojave Desert: South America
3. Gobi Desert: Asia

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q10. Which of the following places does Equator passes?

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

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

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

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



Q11. With respect to the **global stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST)**, consider the following statements.

1. It is an annual process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement.
2. The Conference of the Parties shall undertake its first global stocktake in 2023.
3. The GST is designed to complete its work before beginning of each new cycle of Nationally Determined Contribution so that they assess well before they submit next NDCs.

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:

The global stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST) is a process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement with the aim to assess the world's collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the agreement and its long-term goals (Article 14).

Article 14

1. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to this Agreement shall periodically take stock of the implementation of this Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals (referred to as the "global stocktake"). It shall do so in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science.
2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to this Agreement shall undertake its first global stocktake in 2023 and every five years thereafter unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to this Agreement.
3. The outcome of the global stocktake shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

Background

The first GST will run from 2021 to 2023 and will be repeated every 5 years thereafter.

The GST facilitates the assessment of global collective progress on three thematic areas:

Mitigation

Adaptation

Means of implementation and support

The GST also considers the social and economic consequences of response measures and efforts to address loss and damage. The collective assessment takes inputs on equity into consideration and makes use of the best available science in a cross-cutting manner.

The outcomes of the GST will inform countries on updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their climate actions and support, as well as on enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

The GST is intended to increase the ambition of actions and support for collectively addressing climate change without focusing on individual countries or groups of countries. GST outputs will consist of key political messages and recommendations, best practices, new opportunities and lessons learned for all thematic areas without being policy-prescriptive.

The GST is designed to complete its work before the beginning of each new cycle of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This allows Parties to take into consideration the outputs of the collective assessment when formulating and submitting subsequent NDCs.

Q12. Consider the following pairs.

Recently seen in news	Launched by/led by
1. Net-Zero Banking Alliance	UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative
2. Supply Chain Due Diligence Act(SCDDA)	US

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

17.01.2023

Environment

Improving human rights and the environment along global supply chains

Germany's Supply Chain Due Diligence Act enters into force on the 1st January 2023, the Federal Government announced at the beginning of this year. It will see the first comprehensive, world-wide regulation of corporate due diligence obligations with regard to the respect of human rights and the protection of environmental interests.

With the entering into force of the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (LkSG) on the 1st January, companies are now obliged to set up effective risk management to identify, avoid and minimise the risk of human rights violations and specific types of environmental degradation.

Q13. With respect to **Network Planning Group (NPG)** formed under PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, consider the following statements.

- It constituted for monitoring the Master Plan and for approving any changes in the Master Plan to meet any emerging requirements.
- It is chaired by Cabinet Secretary.
- It will guide all the Departments/ Ministries responsible for creation of economic zones and connectivity infrastructure during the planning phase itself.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

41st session of the Network Planning Group (NPG) held in New Delhi

NPG evaluates three projects; recommends all three for implementation with suggestions to address last mile connectivity and achieving the right multimodal logistics share

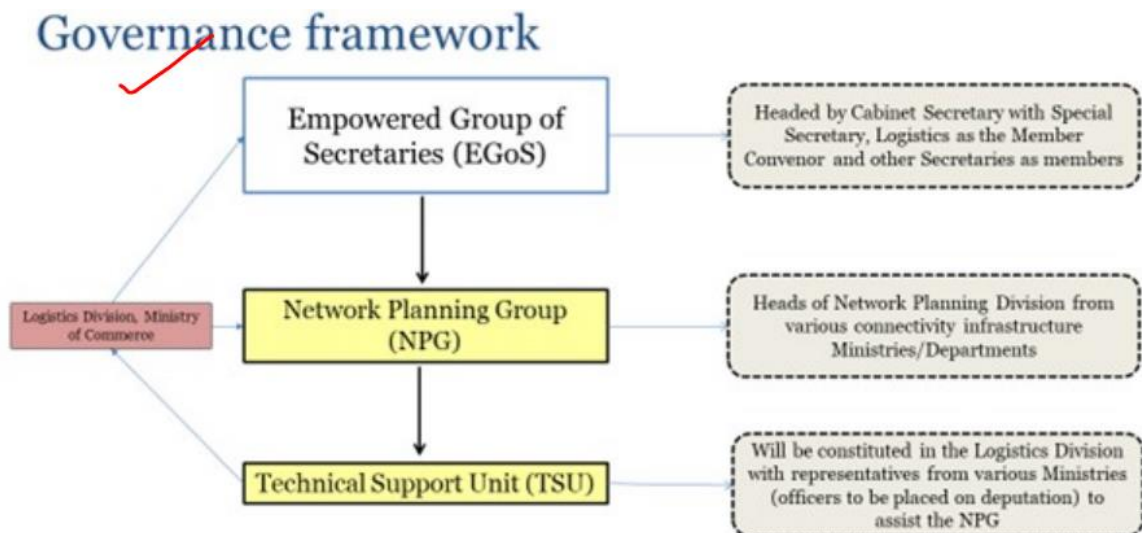
Posted On: 18 JAN 2023 7:45PM by PIB Delhi

It's a difficult question. UPSC will ask such question. Its not good question if I put answer 1, 2 and 3 as correct. So, I gave wrong options.

What is the institutional structure of PM GatiShakti National Master Plan?

The institutional framework for rolling out, implementation, monitoring and support mechanism is designed to have a three-tier system –

1. Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGOs)
2. Network Planning Group (NPG)
3. Technical Support Unit (TSU)



12. What is Empowered Group of Secretaries?

Ans. An Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary has been constituted for monitoring the Master Plan and for approving any changes in the Master Plan to meet any emerging requirements. The EGoS will also look at the interventions required to meet the demand side, in efficiently transporting bulk goods based on the requirements of various Ministries like Steel, Coal, Fertilizer etc.

13. What is the Network Planning Group?

Ans. An Integrated Multimodal Network Planning Group (NPG) with heads of Network Planning Division of all connectivity infrastructure Ministries & Departments is responsible for unified planning and integration of the proposals and assist the EGOS in respect of its mandate.

NPG will facilitate regular interactions between the stakeholders. It will guide all the Departments/ Ministries responsible for creation of economic zones and connectivity infrastructure during the planning phase itself. The parameters/prescribed norms of the overall National Master Plan will

Don't expect *aise questions ki* practice anywhere else. Practice here. Solve every question of our Test Series too.

Q14. A radio signal originating from atomic hydrogen in an extremely distant galaxy was detected by the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT). This is the largest astronomical distance over which such a signal has been picked up. The telescope is located in:

- a. US, California
- b. Pune
- c. Thiruvananthapuram
- d. Canada

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope in Pune helps detect atomic hydrogen from far-away galaxy

Finding opens up exciting new possibilities for probing the cosmic evolution of neutral gas with low-frequency radio telescopes



NEXT NEWS

By DTE Staff

Published: Tuesday 17 January 2023

A radio signal originating from atomic hydrogen in an extremely distant galaxy was detected by the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) located in Pune. This is the largest astronomical distance over which such a signal has been picked up.

GMRT is a low-frequency radio telescope that helps investigate various radio astrophysical problems ranging from nearby solar systems to the edge of the observable universe.

Atomic hydrogen is the basic fuel required for star formation in a galaxy. When hot ionized gas from the surrounding medium of a galaxy falls onto the universe, the gas cools and forms atomic hydrogen. This then becomes molecular hydrogen and eventually leads to the formation of stars.

Q15. Consider the following statements.

1. Central Pollution Control Board was constituted under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. CPCB monitors the water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme.
3. CPCB is also responsible for the enforcement of noise pollution control measures.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect:

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

Second statement is correct.

CPCB, in association with Pollution Control Boards / committees in different states / Union territories, have been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country through a network of **monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme.**

Third statement is also correct.

Noise pollution and its sources are regulated under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. Under this:

Responsibility as to enforcement of noise pollution control measures.-

- (1) The noise levels in any area / zone shall not exceed the ambient air quality standards in respect of noise as specified in the Schedule.
- (2) The authority shall be responsible for the enforcement of noise pollution control measures and the due compliance of the ambient air quality standards in respect of noise.

This authority is authorized by Central Government.

Q16. The Panchayati Raj Institutions in India strengthen

- a. procedural democracy
- b. representative democracy
- c. participative democracy
- d. consensus democracy

Solution: c

Explanation:

Procedural democracy is a democracy that emphasizes the minimal standards of democracy. It is the opposite of substantive democracy and gives a narrow perspective to democracy. Ensuring freedom of the press, competitive party system, independent judiciary etc. can be procedural democracy. **Hence option (a) is not correct.**

In an indirect democracy, the representatives elected by the people exercise the supreme power and thus carry on the government and make the laws. **This type of democracy is also known as representative democracy.**

The 73rd Constitution Amendment Act is a significant landmark in the evolution of grass root democratic institutions in the country. **It transforms the representative democracy into participatory democracy.** The objective of the Act is to have village governance with participatory democracy as is visible through the gram Sabha. **Hence option (b) is not correct and option (c) is correct.**

Consensus democracy is one in which decision making occurs through consensus thus taking into full consideration the opinion of the minorities, it is quite the opposite of majoritarian democracy. **Hence option (d) is not correct.**

Q17. Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution has given discretion to Parliament to modify the composition of a legislative council in the state legislature.
2. Number of members of Legislative Councils vary from state to state.
3. One-third of the members of the Legislative Council are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

First statement: Yes, Parliament can modify.

Second Statement: When Constitution says, the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council shall not exceed one third of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State, **it means, seats will vary from state to state.**

Third statement:

Everything will be cleared once you go through few articles below.

171. Composition of the Legislative Councils.—(1) The total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council shall not exceed ⁴[one third] of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State:

Provided that the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State shall in no case be less than forty.

(2) Until Parliament by law otherwise provides, the composition of the Legislative Council of a State shall be as provided in clause (3).

(3) Of the total number of members of the Legislative Council of a State—

(a) as nearly as may be, one-third shall be elected by electorates consisting of members of municipalities, district boards and such other local authorities in the State as Parliament may by law specify;

(b) as nearly as may be, one-twelfth shall be elected by electorates consisting of persons residing in the State who have been for at least three years graduates of any university in the territory of India or have been for at least three years in possession of qualifications prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament as equivalent to that of a graduate of any such university;

(c) as nearly as may be, one-twelfth shall be elected by electorates consisting of persons who have been for at least three years engaged in teaching in such educational institutions within the State, not lower in standard than that of a secondary school, as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament;

(d) as nearly as may be, one-third shall be elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly;

(e) the remainder shall be nominated by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of clause (5).

Q18. Which of following National Park has the highest tiger density in India?

- Jim Corbett
- Kaziranga
- Nagarhole
- Orang

Solution: a

Explanation:

Uttarakhand's **Jim Corbett National Park** has reported the highest tiger density among India's 50 tiger's reserves with 14 tigers per 100 square kilometers, followed by **Kaziranga National Park in Assam, Nagarhole and Orang Tigers reserves.**

Q19. In context of Art and Architecture, "**Kulhadar Group**" is associated with:

- a. Paintings
- b. Dance
- c. Puppetry
- d. Regional song of Rajasthan

Solution: a

Explanation:

Kulhadar group belongs to miniature paintings.

~~The finest examples of painting belonging to the first half of the 16th century are, however, represented by a group of miniatures generally designated as the "Kulhadar Group". This group includes illustrations of the 'Chaurapanchasika' - "Fifty Verses of the Thief by Bilhan, the *Gita Govinda*, the *Bhagavata Purana* and *Ragamala*. The style of these miniatures is marked by the use of brilliant contrasting colours, vigorous and angular drawing, transparent drapery and the appearance of conical caps 'Kulha' on which turbans are worn by the male figures.~~

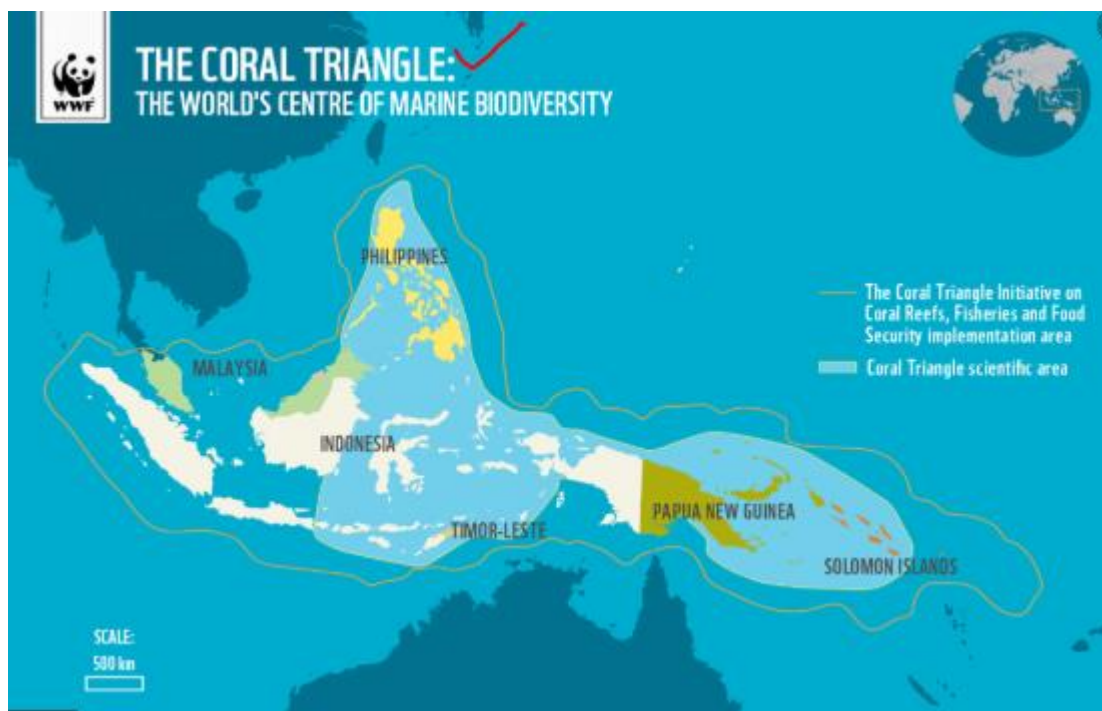
Link: <http://ccrtindia.gov.in/miniaturepainting.php>

Q20. In which of the following regions '**Coral triangle**' lies?

- a. Indian Ocean
- b. Caribbean Sea
- c. Equatorial West Pacific Ocean
- d. Atlantic Ocean

Solution: c

Explanation:



What is the Coral Triangle?

The Coral Triangle is one of the most important reef systems in the world. It covers 132,636 km across six countries; Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.

It occupies just 1.5% of the world's total ocean area, but represents 30% of the world's coral reefs.

It has the highest coral diversity in the world - 76% of the world's coral species are found here. Fifteen of are endemic to the region, which means they aren't found anywhere else.

It is also home to the highest diversity of coral reef fishes in the world. Thirty-seven percent of the world's coral reef fish species, and 56% of the coral reef fishes in the Indo-Pacific region live here.

Q21. Which Potential Conservation Initiatives are eligible To Be **Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)** defined under CBD?

1. Area must be recognized as a protected area.
2. Area should be effectively governed and managed, and it should be geographically defined.
3. Area should achieve sustained and effective in situ conservation of biodiversity.
4. Area should deliver associated ecosystem functions and services and cultural, spiritual, socio-economic and other locally relevant values

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

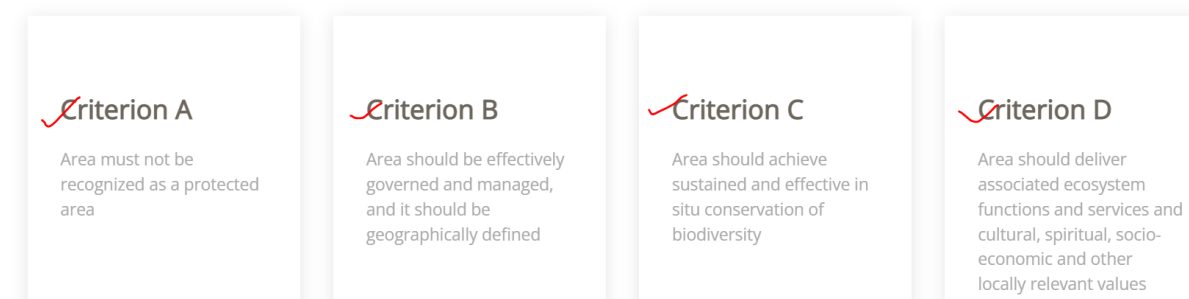
Explanation:

Idhar 1, 2, 3 and 4 options (ALL CORRECT) hamesha ni milenge...Learn here.

OECM, term, officially recognised under the CBD in 2018.

An OECM is defined as “a **geographically defined area other than a Protected Area**, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values (Convention on Biological Diversity, 2018)”.

Further, an OECM should qualify under the following criteria:



In June 2022, the Indian environment ministry and United Nations Development Programme released a report to identify potential OECMs in the country, which included traditional agriculture systems practiced by the Apatani tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, Chakhesang tribe in Nagaland and saffron farmers in Kashmir, as well as several areas that are privately owned.

Map of OECMs in India

1. The Gadoli and Manda Khal Fee Simple Estates
2. The Jabarkhet Nature Reserve, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
3. Kadwa Kosi Floodplains, Bihar
4. Jagatpur Lake, Bihar
5. Aravalli Biodiversity Park, Haryana
6. Godrej's Pirojshanagar Mangroves, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited, Maharashtra
7. Coromandel Bird Paradise, Coromandel International Limited, Andhra Pradesh
8. TVS Motor Company Nature Conservation Reserve, Tamil Nadu
9. Anandwan Biodiversity Park, Maharashtra
10. Chadva Rakhal, Gujarat
11. SAI (Save Animals Initiative), Karnataka
12. Apatani Landscape, Arunachal Pradesh
13. Zabo Farming System, Nagaland
14. Saffron Heritage System, Kashmir



Q22. Consider the following statements.

1. Under the Act, Forest Rights Committee will be set by state government to initiate the process of determining the nature and extent of forest rights.
2. While land and access rights of forest-dwelling communities in terrestrial protected areas are legally protected under the Forest Rights Act of 2006, no equivalent statute exists to safeguard the rights of fishing communities.
3. Under the Act, there is no need of providing any evidence for recognition and vesting of forest rights such as public documents, Government records.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First is incorrect.

Forest Rights Committee” means a committee constituted by the Gram Sabha.

3. Gram Sabha.-

- (1) The Gram Sabhas shall be convened by the Gram Panchayat and in its first meeting it shall elect from amongst its members, a committee of not less than ten but not exceeding fifteen persons as members of the Forest Rights Committee, wherein at least two-third members shall be the Scheduled Tribes.⁷

Provided that not less than one-third of such members shall be women:

Provided further that where there are no Scheduled Tribes, at least one-third of such members shall be women.

12. Process of verifying claims by Forest Rights Committee.-

- (1) The Forest Rights Committee shall, after due intimation to the concerned claimant and the Forest Department:-
- (a) visit the site and physically verify the nature and extent of the claim and evidence on the site;
 - (b) receive any further evidence or record from the claimant and witnesses;
 - (c) ensure that the claim from pastoralists and nomadic tribes for determination of their rights, which may either be through individual members, the community or traditional community institution, are verified at a time when such individuals, communities or their representatives are present;

Second is correct.

While land and access rights of forest-dwelling communities in terrestrial protected areas are legally protected under the Forest Rights Act of 2006, no equivalent statute exists to safeguard the rights of fishing communities.

Third is incorrect.

13. Evidence for determination of forest rights.-

- (1) The evidence for recognition and vesting of forest rights shall, inter alia, include -
- (a) public documents, Government records such as Gazetteers, Census, survey and settlement reports, maps, satellite imagery, working plans, management plans, micro-plans, forest enquiry reports, other forest records, record of rights by whatever name called, pattas or leases, reports of committees and commissions constituted by the Government, Government orders, notifications, circulars, resolutions;
 - (b) Government authorised documents such as voter identity card, ration card, passport, house tax receipts, domicile certificates;
 - (c) physical attributes such as house, huts and permanent improvements made to land including levelling, bunds, check dams and the like;
 - (d) quasi-judicial and judicial records including court orders and judgments;

Q23. **Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA) initiative** was launched recently by:

- a. UNEP Secretariat
- b. World Economic Forum
- c. WTO
- d. UNFCCC Secretariat

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

New Initiative to Help Unlock \$3 Trillion Needed a Year for Climate and Nature

Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, 17 January 2023 – The World Economic Forum, supported by more than 45 partners today launched the Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA), a global initiative to fund and grow new and existing public, private and philanthropic partnerships (PPPPs) to help unlock the \$3 trillion of financing needed each year to reach net zero, reverse nature loss and restore biodiversity by 2050.

Q24. Consider the following pairs.

Recently in news for	state
1. India's First Constitution Literate District	Ahmedabad
2. India's first School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication	Agartala

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: b

Explanation:

Recently in news for	state
India's First Constitution Literate District	Kollam
India's first School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication	Agartala

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

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

Solution: D

Explanation:



Q26. Lok Sabha has more power than Rajya Sabha in:

- 1. Join session of Parliament
- 2. Making cut motions
- 3. Amending the Constitution
- 4. The matter of creating new All India Services

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: C

Explanation:

If any problem comes, it will come with Join session. Rest you can solve easily.

Joint Session indicates the significance of co-equality in the powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha despite the fact that the Lok Sabha has more numerical strength. Why there would be concept of Join Sitting if LS has been given more power than Rajya Sabha in Joint session? Make sense? Yes.

Rajya Sabha has equal powers with Lok Sabha in the amendment of the constitutional bill. Unlike money bill, the constitutional amendment bill has to be approved by both the houses of Parliament with special majority

Rajya Sabha has less powers in the matters of finance like making cut motions, passing money bill, etc. vis-a-vis Lok Sabha.

The **Rajya Sabha has been given some special powers which it enjoys exclusively**. This includes **power to authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services** common to both the Centre and states (Article 312) by passing a resolution.

Q27. Which of the following statement is/are correct regarding basic structure of the Constitution?

1. The concept of Basic Structure ultimately established supremacy of the Parliament.
2. Basic Structure indicates the implicit aspects of the Constitution which is considered to be the essence or spirit of the Constitution.

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.

Basic Structure has established the supremacy of the Judiciary, not Parliament. Judiciary can strike any laws, notices, etc. **which is against the basic structure. These are basic fundamental questions.**

Second statement is correct:

There may be understanding problem in this statement. Implicit means, which is hidden. If it is explicit (openly written), **then there would be no concept of Basic Structure. It is correct statement.**

Q28. Consider the following statements.

1. Constitution has provided protection from removal to Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioner.
2. Election Commission and State Election Commission is responsible for conducting elections for Parliament and State legislature respectively.

Select The correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

The Constitution provides protection from removal only to Chief Election Commission. Election Commission can be removed on mere recommendation of CEC.

✓ Provided that the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment:

Provided further that any other Election Commissioner or a Regional Commissioner shall not be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

Second statement too is incorrect.

Both Parliament and State Election under control of CEC. Stat Election Commission role is in election of Panchayats and Municipalities.

Q29. Which of the following explains the term **Apabhramsa**?

- A stage where the use of Sanskrit language was shunned as it was difficult for common people to understand.
- A rigid set of rules Jain monks has to follow
- A stage when People have to sacrifice their family to attain salvation and moksha and follow rigid rules
- A text of Himyana which prescribed procedures to follow path of Buddhism.

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct. Just remember this.

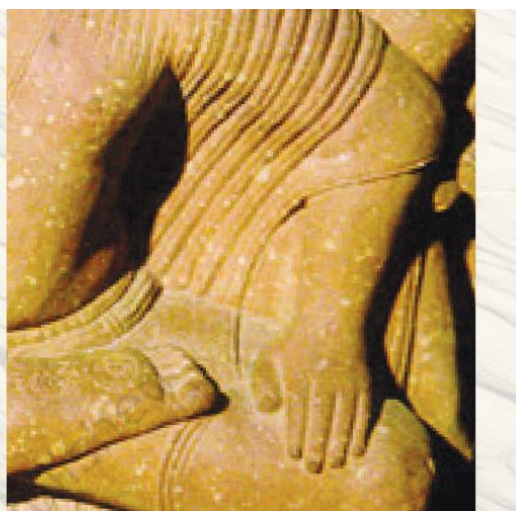
Q30. The image represents the Buddha with two Boddhisattva attendants. The Buddha is seated in *padmasana* (cross-folded legs) and the right hand is in the *abhaya mudra*, raised a little above the shoulder level whereas the left hand is placed on the left thigh. The *ushanisha*, i.e., hair knot, is shown with a vertically raised projection. The image is found in:

- Sarnath
- Mathura
- Gaya
- Kushinagar

Solution: b

Explanation:

centres in the country. The image of the Buddha from the Katra mound belongs to the second century CE. It represents the Buddha with two Bodhisattva attendants. The Buddha is seated in *padmasana* (cross-folded legs) and the right hand is in the *abhaya mudra*, raised a little above the shoulder level whereas the left hand is placed on the left thigh. The *ushanisha*, i.e., hair knot, is shown with a vertically raised projection. Mathura sculptures from this period are made with light volume having fleshy body. The shoulders are broad. The *sanghati* (garment) covers only one shoulder and has been made prominently visible covering the left hand whereas while covering the torso, the independent volume of the garment is reduced to the body torso. The Buddha is seated on a lion throne. The attendant figures are identified as the images of the Padmapani and Vajrapani



Q31. “Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC)” functions as a security block of which regional organization?

- a. BIMSTEC
- b. ASEAN
- c. G-20
- d. European Union

Solution: a

Explanation:

In news:

10th meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC)

January 12, 2023

The 10th meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC), hosted by Government of India, began on 12 January 2023 in New Delhi. Delegation from all the BIMSTEC Members States i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the meeting.



BIMSTEC
Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral
Technical and Economic Cooperation

ABOUT BIMSTEC ▾

BIMSTEC CENTRES ▾

Security

Sub-sectors:

- (i) Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC)
- (ii) Disaster Management
- (iii) Energy

India is the Lead Country of the Security Sector.

Q32. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Plea Bargaining' recent seen in news in India.

1. The concept of Plea bargaining currently has no legal representation in India, its not permitted by judiciary.
2. Plea bargaining helps to reduce the workload of the courts and the prosecution, as it allows for the resolution of cases without the need for a trial.
3. It violates Article 20(3), which prohibits self-incrimination.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

The Supreme court recently issued guidelines on disposing of cases through Plea Bargaining.

Plea Bargaining can be defined as the system of negotiating an agreement between the prosecution and defence wherein the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offence or one or more offences charged in return for a lesser sentence or dismissal of other charges. It is based on the principle of 'Nolo Contendere', literally meaning 'I do not wish to contend'.

India did not feel the need for Plea Bargaining due to the presence of the Jury system until the 1960s when legal representation was permitted.

✓ The question of Plea Bargaining's legitimacy and constitutionality was then settled in State Of Gujarat vs Natwar Harchandji Thakor^[1] in 2005, the court recognized the value of plea bargaining and that each "Plea of guilt", which is considered to be part of the process of a criminal trial, should not be assessed factually but rather evaluated on case to case basis. It is a legal issue that must be resolved on a case-by-case basis. The court stated that the entire purpose of the law is to give an easy, inexpensive, and quick justice by resolving conflicts, taking into account the dynamic character of law and society.

Second statement is correct.

There are several advantages to plea bargaining in India:

1. Faster resolution of cases: Plea bargaining allows for the resolution of criminal cases more quickly and efficiently, as it allows the accused to avoid the time and cost of a trial.
2. Reduced burden on the justice system: Plea bargaining helps to reduce the workload of the courts and the prosecution, as it allows for the resolution of cases without the need for a trial. This can help to free up resources and allow the justice system to focus on more severe cases.
3. Leniency for the accused: Plea bargaining allows the accused to receive a lesser sentence or have other charges dismissed in exchange for a guilty plea. This can benefit those willing to accept responsibility for their actions and avoid the risk of a harsher sentence at trial.
4. Victim satisfaction: Plea bargaining can provide closure for victims, as it allows for a resolution to the case without needing a lengthy and emotionally complicated trial.

Third statement is correct:

While plea bargaining can have certain advantages, it also has some potential disadvantages in the Indian legal system.

Some of the main drawbacks of plea bargaining include the following:

1. Loss of the right to a fair trial: By pleading guilty to a lesser charge, the accused person is giving up their right to a fair trial. This can be problematic if the accused is innocent and is pressured into pleading guilty to avoid the risk of a harsher sentence at trial.
2. Incentive for prosecutors to overcharge: If a prosecutor knows that the accused is likely to accept a plea bargain, they may be more likely to bring more severe charges in the hope of negotiating a plea bargain for a lesser charge. This can result in accused persons being charged with more serious crimes than they actually committed.
3. Lack of accountability for the accused: Plea bargaining can result in the accused person avoiding accountability for their actions, as they are able to plead guilty to a lesser charge without having to go through a trial. This is a form of leniency that may not be justified in some instances.
4. Lack of closure for victims: While plea bargaining can provide closure for some victims, it may not be sufficient for others who want to see the accused held fully accountable for their actions.
5. Its critics also claim it violates Article 20(3) which prohibits self-incrimination.

Q33. With respect to 'First Movers Coalition (FMC) Leadership Meeting', consider the following statements.

1. The FMC led by World Trade Organization is a coalition of companies creating markets for innovative clean technologies across sectors.
2. India participated in the First Movers Coalition Leadership Meeting held recently by parent body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

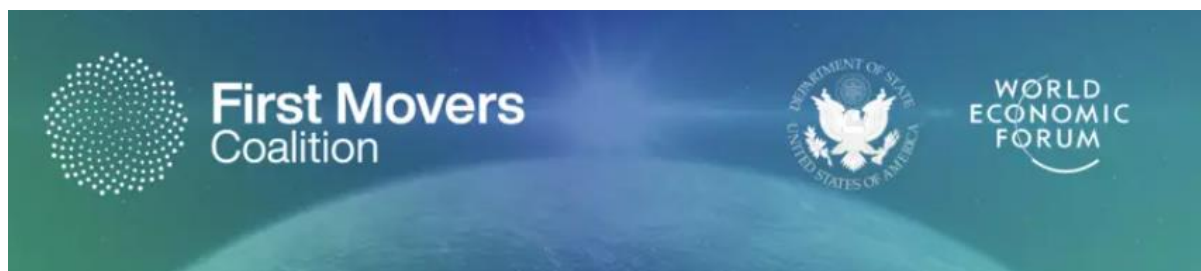
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

The **FMC is a coalition of companies using their purchasing power to create early markets for innovative clean technologies across sectors**. These in-scope sectors are responsible for 30% of global emissions—a proportion expected to rise to over 50% by mid-century without urgent progress on clean technology innovation.



India participates in the First Movers Coalition (FMC) Leadership Meeting of the World Economic Forum

India Lounges at World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos very well received; experience high footfall of visitors

Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Shri Anurag Jain highlights India's role in democratizing the digital ecosystem at the CII-EY Session at the WEF

Posted On: 19 JAN 2023 9:05PM by PIB Delhi

Q34. '**Expected Loss (EL)-based Approach**' introduced by RBI was recently seen in news in India related to:

- a. Increasing FDI in India
- b. for loanloss provisioning by banks
- c. Increasing funding to NBFCs
- d. Reduce fiscal deficit

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

January 16, 2023

RBI releases Discussion Paper on Expected Loss (EL)-based Approach for loan loss provisioning by banks

As part of the [Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies released on September 30, 2022](#), RBI had proposed to adopt an expected loss-based approach for loss allowances required to be maintained by banks in respect of their loan exposures. It was announced that a discussion paper on the various aspects of the transition will be issued shortly.

Accordingly, RBI has today released the [Discussion Paper \(DP\)](#) that comprehensively examines various issues and proposes a framework for adoption of an expected loss-based approach for provisioning by banks in India.

Q35. Consider the following statements regarding Prorogation of Lok Sabha:

1. Lok Sabha is prorogued by the Speaker.
2. House cannot be prorogued while it is in session.
3. Only Lok Sabha can be prorogued.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The presiding officer (Speaker or Chairman) declares the House adjourned sine die, when the business of a session is completed. Within the next few days, the **President issues a notification for prorogation of the session**. However, the **President can also prorogue the House while in session**.

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

(2) The President may from time to time—

- (a) prorogue the Houses or either House;
- (b) dissolve the House of the People.]

Q36. With reference to the Election Commission, consider the following statements:

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

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

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

1. The Constitution **has not prescribed the qualifications** (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
2. The Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission. So, statement 2 is correct.

But sir, we have studied, his term is 6 years. Yes, it's term is 6 years but it's not in Constitution.

Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991 provides that.

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

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

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

Q37 Maktubat, in the context of Medieval History means:

- a. conversations of Sufi saints
- b. biographical accounts of saints
- c. Letters written by Sufi masters, addressed to their disciples and associates
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

Varieties of sources used to reconstruct the history of sufi traditions

A wide range of texts were produced in and around sufi *khanqahs*. These included:

1. Treatises or manuals dealing with sufi thought and practices – The *Kashf-ul-Mahjub* of Ali bin Usman Hujwiri (died c. 1071) is an example of this genre. It enables historians to see how traditions outside the subcontinent influenced sufi thought in India.

2. *Malfuzat* (literally, "uttered"; conversations of sufi saints) – An early text on *malfuzat* is the *Fawa'id-al-Fu'ad*, a collection of conversations of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya, compiled by Amir Hasan Sijzi Dehlavi, a noted Persian poet. Source 9 contains an excerpt from this text. *Malfuzats* were compiled by different sufi *silsilas* with the permission of the *shaikhs*; these had obvious didactic purposes. Several examples have been found from different parts of the subcontinent, including the Deccan. They were compiled over several centuries.

3. *Maktubat* (literally, "written" collections of letters); letters written by sufi masters, addressed to their disciples and associates – While these tell us about the *shaikh's* experience of religious truth that he wanted to share with others, they also reflect the life conditions of the recipients and are responses to their aspirations and difficulties, both spiritual and mundane. The letters, known as *Maktubat-i Imam Rabbani*, of the noted seventeenth-century Naqshbandi Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi (d.1624), whose ideology is often contrasted with the liberal and non-sectarian views of Akbar, are amongst those most frequently discussed by scholars.

4. *Tazkiras* (literally, "to mention and memorialise"; biographical accounts of saints) – The fourteenth-century *Siyar-ul-Auliya* of Mir Khwurd Kirmani was the first sufi *tazkira* written in India. It dealt principally with the Chishti saints. The most famous *tazkira* is the *Akhbar-ul-Akhyar* of Abdul Haqq Muhaddis Dehlavi

Q38. Consider the following countries.

1. West Bank
2. Jordan
3. Gaza Strip
4. Lebanon

Which of the above share/s boundary with **Mediterranean Sea**?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

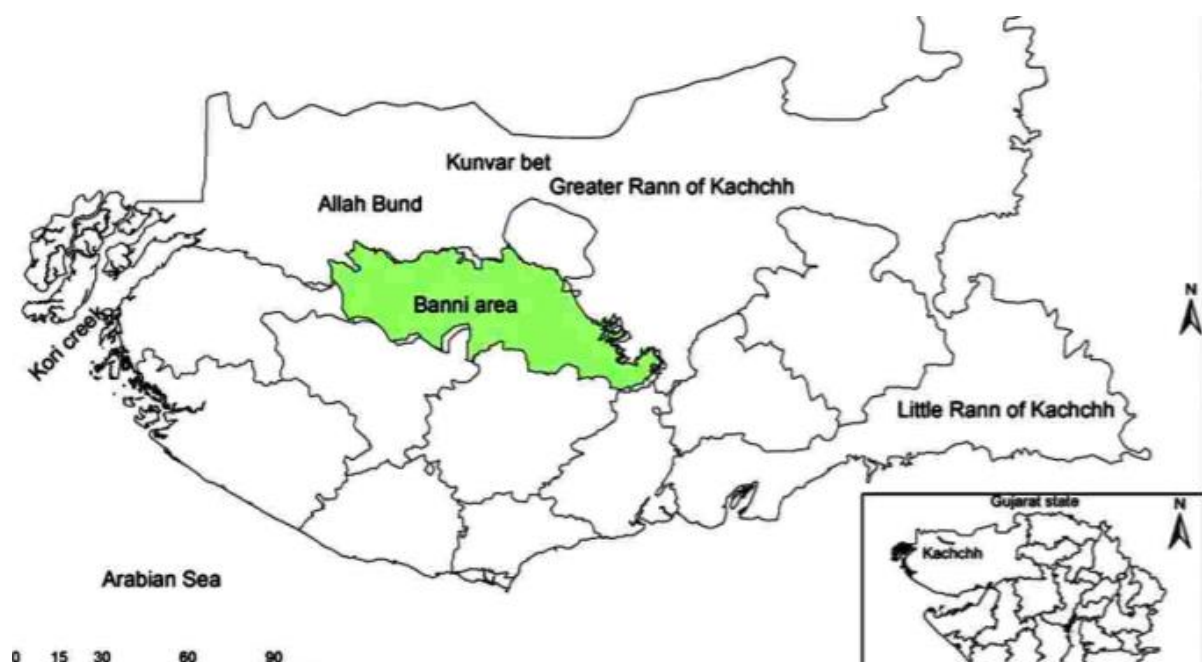


Q39. Banni Grasslands mostly observed in:

- Gujarat
- Western Ghats
- North East Region
- Eastern Coastal Plains

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q40. Which of the following is/are important sources of Carbon Sequestration?

1. Ocean and Forests as sinks
2. Unmineable Coal Seams
3. Depleted oil and gas reservoirs
4. Deep Saline Formations

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

ABSTRACT

✓ *Carbon sequestration is the process of removing carbon from the atmosphere and depositing it in reservoirs. Basically it is the process of capturing of atmospheric carbon dioxide and storing it to mitigate global warming and climate change. This storage is also known as carbon pools. Carbon pool refers to a system or mechanism which has the capacity to accumulate or release. It can be natural or human induced. Examples are forest biomass, wood products, soils, and the atmosphere. Carbon pools in a forest are a complex mix of live and dead organic matter and minerals. Human induced carbon pools are geological storages of carbon dioxide.*

IMPORTANT SOURCES AND METHODS OF CARBON

- a. **Forests as sink** - Afforestation / Reforestation / Plantation / Agro forestry

Above mentioned all the practices works as carbon carbon, they take carbon from atmosphere, utilize it in the process of photosynthesis as well as they store it in the form of biomass or wood. For this

process of carbon sequestration to be succeed it is essential that carbon must not return to the atmosphere from burning.

b. Wetland restoration

Wetland soil is an important natural carbon pool or sink. Wetlands conserves 14.5 % of the soil carbon found in world. But only 6 % of the world's land is composed of wetlands.

c. Oceans as sink

Oceans absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere because the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere is greater than that in the oceans. This difference in partial pressure of CO₂ results in the gas being absorbed into the world's oceans.

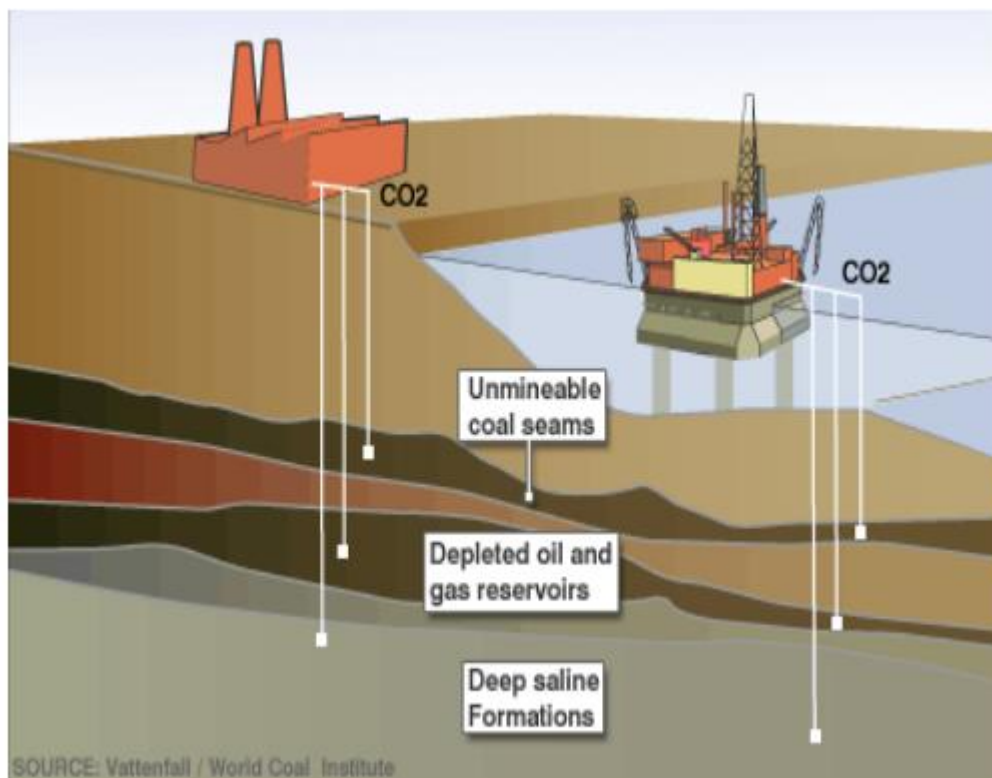


Figure 2. Geological Options for CO₂ Storage

Q41. With respect to International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), consider the following statements.

1. It is a global intergovernmental agency that drives the widespread adoption and sustainable use of only solar and wind as renewable energy.
2. The proposal to set up an international agency dedicated to renewable energy was made in 2015 at Paris Climate Conference and was officially set up in 2016.
3. The Agency shall act in accordance with the principles of the United Nations furthering sustainable development.
4. India is a member of the IRENA.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

d. 3 and 4 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect:

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is a lead global **intergovernmental agency** for energy transformation that serves as the principal platform for international cooperation, drives the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, including bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, ocean, solar and wind energy.

Article II

Objectives

✓ The Agency shall promote the widespread and increased adoption and the sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, taking into account:

a.) national and domestic priorities and benefits derived from a combined approach of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures, and

b.) the contribution of renewable energy to environmental preservation, through limiting pressure on natural resources and reducing deforestation, particularly tropical deforestation, desertification and biodiversity loss; to climate protection; to

Second statement is incorrect.

The proposal for an international agency dedicated to renewable energy was made in 1981 at the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held in Nairobi, Kenya. IRENA was officially founded in Bonn, Germany, on 26 January 2009.

Third statement is correct:

✓ B. In the performance of its activities, the Agency shall:

[1. act in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations to promote peace and international cooperation, and in conformity with policies of the United Nations furthering sustainable development;]

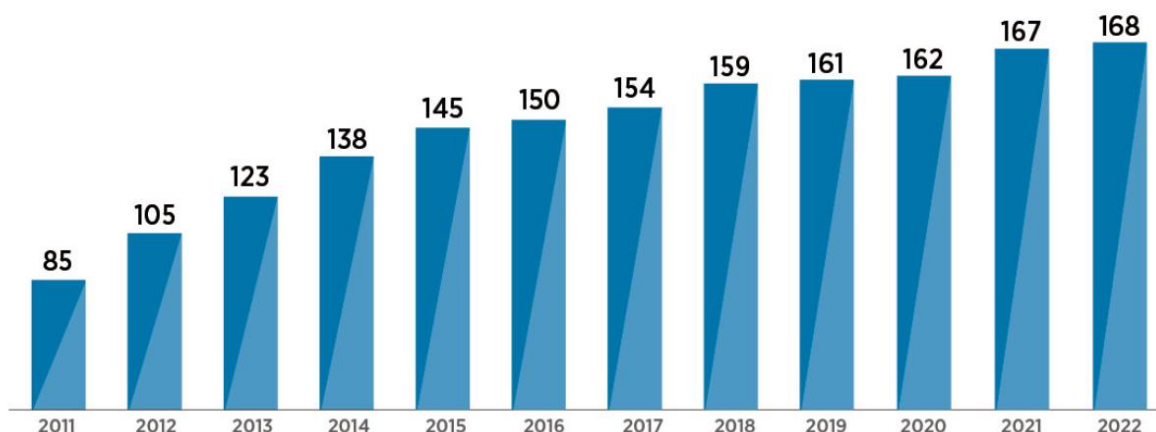
Fourth statement is correct.

India is a member.



The IRENA Statute stipulates that membership in the agency is open to those states that are members of the United Nations, and to regional intergovernmental economic-integration organisations. Members must be willing and able to act in accordance with the objectives and activities laid down in the statute.

How to become a Member



It takes efforts to prepare such questions. So, aap bhi ache se practice kijye (you too practice well). Don't take questions published on Goaltide lightly.

Q42. These wetlands are located in Kerala. The Asian Water Bird Census recently reported that the number of birds in the wetland has reduced significantly. These wetlands lie between the Chalakudy river in Thrissur district and Bharathapuzha river in Malappuram district. It gives 40 per cent of the Kerala's rice requirement. Identify the wetland.

- Vembannur Wetland Complex
- Sasthamkotta Lake
- Kole Wetlands
- Ashtamudi Wetland

Solution: C

Explanation:

News:



India World Opinion Entertainment Today's Paper

HOME / NEWS / INDIA / KERALA

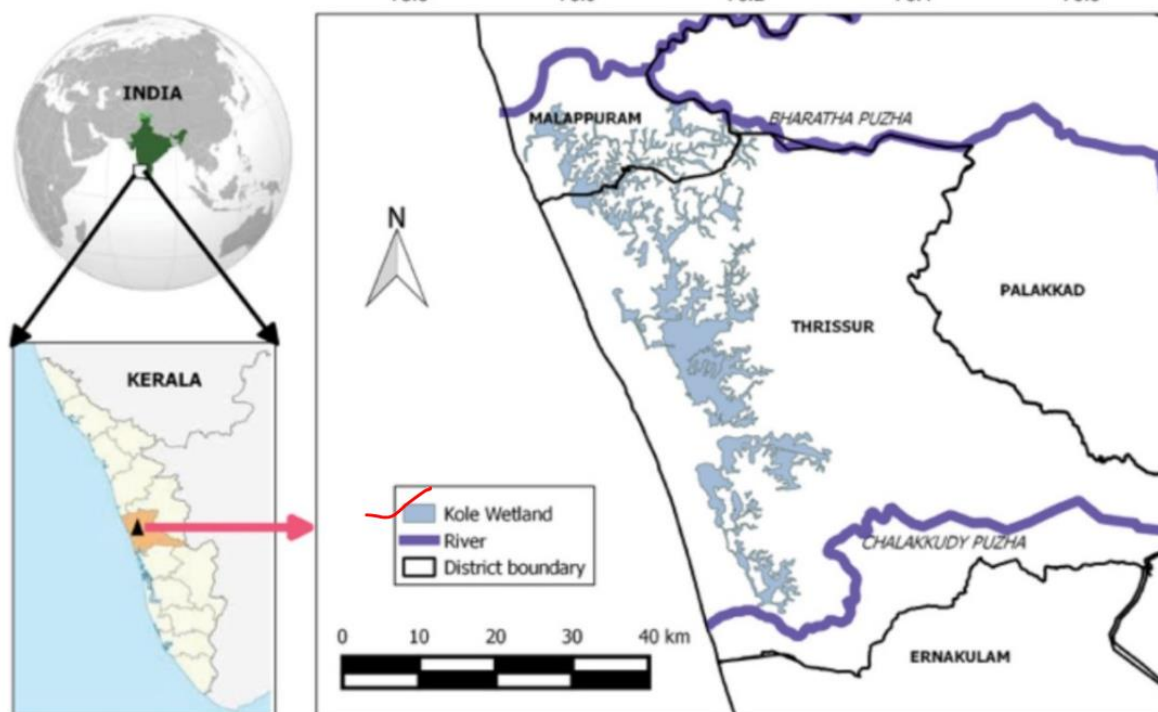
Falling bird count at kole fields rings in alarm

PREMIUM

A sharp decline in the number of birds in the kole wetlands, as brought to light by the Asian Waterbird Census, doesn't augur well for the ecosystem since it could be an indication of a loss in biodiversity. Farming-related human interventions such as heavy use of pesticides, dredging, and disinfecting fields for fish farming could have played a crucial role in avian population decline. Farmers, on their part, blame the dumping of waste on wetlands.

January 20, 2023 06:10 am | Updated 06:10 am IST - THRISSUR

Kole wetlands are located in Kerala. The Asian Water Bird Census recently reported that the number of birds in the wetland has reduced significantly. The number of water birds in the wetland has decreased from 15,959 in 2022 to 9,904.



Q43. The recently released RBI's Annual Report on Ombudsman schemes for 2021-22, provides data regarding the trends in the complaints. We will see one question.

Consider the following statements.

1. 51% of the complaints received are related to Public Sector banks.
2. This is the first such report after a new RBI-India Ombudsman schemes was formed in 2021.

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:

Provision of an Ombudsman helps understand customer grievances in relation to services provide by the respective entities and work towards resolution. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Integrated Ombudsman Scheme 2021 (RB-IOS) aims to achieve the same. This scheme integrated the following three existing three Ombudsman schemes of RBI:

1. The Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 (BOS)
2. The Ombudsman Scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), 2018 and (OSNBFC)
3. The Ombudsman Scheme for Digital Transactions (ODT).

Foreword



The Annual Report of Ombudsman Schemes, 2021-22 marks an important juncture in the history of the Alternate Grievance Redress (AGR) framework of RBI. The year witnessed launch of Reserve Bank - Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS), 2021 which integrated the erstwhile three Ombudsman Schemes of RBI and brought the Non-Scheduled Urban Cooperative Banks with deposit size above ₹50 crore under its ambit. As an outcome of Centralization in the form of a CRPC,

51% of the complaints received are related to Public Sector banks

Complaints Received - by Entity group

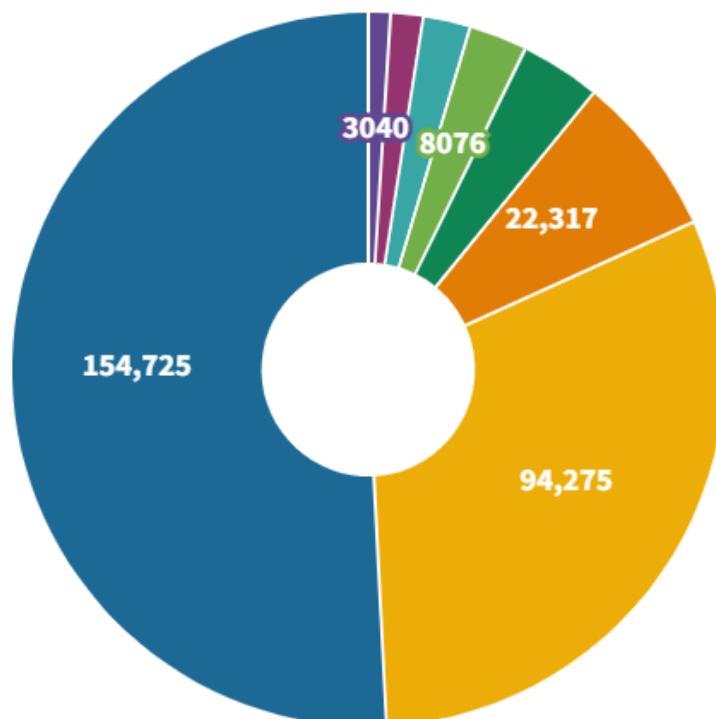
(2021-22, April-March)

Overall

All 3 Ombudsman Schemes

RBIOS

Public Sector Banks Private Sector Banks Payments & Small Finance Banks Foreign
RRBs/Urban Co.op Banks NBFCs PPI/BBPOU Others



Source: [RBI's Annual Report on Ombudsman Schemes](#)

This Annual Report is the first under the RB-IOS and thus, sets a new benchmark and creates a new legacy.

Q44. Consider the following statements.

1. Sammed Shikharji Parvat Kshetra is the sacred teertha sthan of Jain dharma.
2. It is located in Jharkhand.

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:

Dated: 5th January 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Protecting the sanctity of the Wildlife Sanctuary and Eco Sensitive Zone in and around Sammed Shikharji Parvat Kshetra in Girdih district of Jharkhand state

Please refer to the Notification S.O.2795(E) dated 2nd August, 2019 regarding Eco Sensitive Zone notification of Parasnath Wildlife Sanctuary.

2. Sammed Shikharji Parvat Kshetra is the world's most sacred and revered Teerth Sthan of Jain dharma. The Government recognizes its sanctity and significance for the Jain community as well as the Nation at large; and reiterates its commitment towards maintaining the same.

Q45. Consider the following statements.

1. India is the world's second-largest sugar producer after Brazil.
2. Since 2010-11, India has consistently produced surplus sugar, comfortably exceeding the domestic requirements.
3. India's export of sugar has consistently declined due to anti-farmers policies in last three years.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

All below information is taken from PIB, so just remember them.

India is the world's second-largest sugar producer after Brazil.

Since 2010-11, India has **consistently produced surplus sugar, comfortably exceeding the domestic requirements**. The record exports would enable the sugar producers to reduce their stocks and would also benefit the sugarcane farmers, as **the increased demand for Indian sugar is likely to improve their realizations**. The significant rise in agri-exports is also seen as a testimony of the government's commitment to increase farmers' income by boosting exports of agricultural and processed food products of the country.

Table: Sugar Export

Unit: USD Million

Products	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Sugar	1965	2791	4600

Q46. Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First elections for Rajya Sabha was held in 1952.

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

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

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

Eligibility

Qualifications

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

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

Q47. Which of the following is the nearest island (Lakshadweep) to the mainland India?

- a. Andrott
- b. Kadmat
- c. Kalpeni
- d. Kavaratti

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q48. Consider the following statements regarding **Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)**.

1. Union Finance Minister shall be the Chairperson of the council.
2. The Council deals with issues relating to financial inclusion.
3. The Council shall have a Sub-committee headed by the Governor, RBI.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All three statements are correct.

Subject : Creation of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)

F. No. 14/33/2010-EM.— With a view to establishing a body to institutionalise and strengthen the mechanism for maintaining financial stability, financial sector development and inter-regulatory coodination, the Government in consultation with the financial sector regulators has decided to set up the Financial Stability and Development Council.

2. **Composition** : The Council shall have the following composition :

a. The Union Finance Minister shall be the Chairperson.

3. **Responsibility of the Council**: The Council shall deal with issues relating to :

a Financial stability

b Financial sector development

c. Inter-regulatory coordination

d. Financial literacy

e. Financial inclusion

f. Macro prudential supervision of the economy including the functioning of large financial conglomerates.

4. The Council would meet as and when deemed necessary by the Chairperson.

5. The Council shall have a Sub-committee headed by the Governor, RBI. The Sub-committee will replace the existing High Level Coordination Committee on Financial Markets (HLCCFM).

Q49. Which of the following correctly defines Molecular ecology?

- a. Reducing the environmental impact of formulas and packaging and using more and more renewable raw materials that are sustainably sourced

- b. Use of natural substances that include enzymes from biological sources or whole cells to speed up chemical reactions.
- c. Biocultural approach to human health that integrates perspectives from anthropological political economy, ecology, and human adaptability.
- d. It is a hybrid field that combines molecular biology techniques with ecological data to make sense of natural processes such as the growth or decline of populations, formation of new species, extinctions.

Solution: d

Explanation:

As urbanisation, deforestation, loss of wildlife, and human-wildlife conflicts continue to spiral up, there is a need to use every available tool available, to help protect what is left of the natural world.

Molecular ecology is one such tool for conservation and can help in wildlife disease management and forensics in illegal trade.

What is molecular ecology?

Molecular ecology is a hybrid field that combines molecular biology techniques with ecological data to make sense of natural processes such as the growth or decline of populations, formation of new species, extinctions and invasiveness.

Molecular ecology is used to estimate population genetic diversities to aid wildlife breeding and conservation efforts, define species for conservation policy, track diseases, and combat poaching.

Q50. The **Abhinaya Darpana by Nandikesvara** is one of the main sources of textual material, for the study of the technique and grammar of body movement of which dance form?

- a. Bharatanatyam
- b. Kuchipudi
- c. Sattriya Dance
- d. Kathak

Solution: a

Explanation:



Araimandi, Basic standing position

Bharatnatyam Dance

Bharatnatyam Dance is considered to be over 2000 years old. Several texts beginning with Bharata Muni's Natya Shastra (200 B.C.E. to 200 C.E.) provide information on this dance form. The **Abhinaya Darpana by Nandikesvara** is one of the main sources of textual material, for the study of the technique and grammar of body movement in Bharatnatyam Dance. There is also a great deal of visual evidence of this dance form in paintings and stone and metal sculptures of ancient times. On the gopurams of the Chidambaram temple, one can see a series of Bharatnatyam poses, frozen in stone as it were, by the sculptor. In many other temples, the *charis* and *karanas* of the dance are represented in sculpture and one can make a study of the dance form.

Q51. The site is a human-made reservoir within the Madhav National Park. The Site features a mosaic of landforms including open water and surrounding marshes, plantations. It is a Ramsar site. More than six months since the declaration of the lake as a Ramsar site, it is now covered in water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes*), an invasive species native to South Africa. The site is:

- a. Bhoj Wetland
- b. Haiderpur Wetland
- c. Sakhya Sagar
- d. Ropar

Solution: c

Explanation:

All Ramsar sites are important. But you can't cover all sites in detail. So, such question here at least will help you to eliminate options and reach answers. So, few I am covering here, few covered under Test Series section.

News:

WILDLIFE & BIODIVERSITY

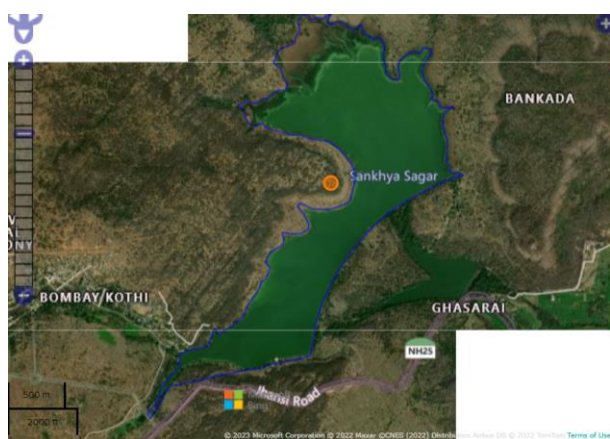
Madhya Pradesh's newest Ramsar wetland covered in invasive water hyacinth, threatening biodiversity

No migratory birds visited Sankhya Sagar this winter; connecting lakes Jadhav Sagar and Madhav Sagar also covered in green layer



NEXT NEWS >

By Shuchita Jha
Published: Tuesday 24 January 2023



Sakhya Sagar is a human-made reservoir on the outskirts of Shivpuri town within the Madhav National Park. The Site features a mosaic of landforms including open water and surrounding marshes, plantations and a small patch of agricultural land. The north-eastern part maintains open water and marsh areas almost year-round, whereas the north-western part is often dried out. The reservoir is shallow, alkaline, and nutrient-rich. This wetland not only adds to the natural beauty of the area, but also provides a permanent source of water for wildlife, and habitat for animals including thousands of migratory waterfowl and also mugger crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*), whose presence attracts tourists. In total, the wetland supports 19 species of fish, nine reptiles and 19 mammals, and is an important staging ground for 73 bird species. The wetland also plays a vital role in nutrient cycling, groundwater recharge, and regulating the micro-climate of the area. The Site is one of the "three lakes of Shivpuri" and as such, it benefits from the Shivpuri Management and Conservation Plan implemented by the Local Urban Municipality.

Q52. With respect to 'hijol' tree found in India, consider the following statements.

1. This tree is majorly grown in western ghats of India.
2. It is a tree species adapted to floodplains.

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:

Shielding **hijol**, a floodplain tree, from climate impacts

by Roopak Goswami on 24 January 2023

The water-loving evergreen tree, *hijol*, adapted to floodplains, has been traditionally managed over millennia as family and community forest in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna basin. A new study that works out the impact of climate change notes that the species distribution will be hit by erratic rainfall and temperature changes.

The suitable habitat for *hijol* (*Barringtonia acutangula*) to grow in the India-Bangladesh landscape (IBL) may shrink by 50.57 percent due to rainfall and temperature changes, the study, which models current and future climate scenarios, predicts. The authors recommend that the IUCN assess the species vulnerability and list it in its assessment.

The tree is widely distributed throughout Southeast Asia, Australia and Africa. The species is found in the floodplains of the Indo-Bangladesh landscape (IBL) which is cradled by the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna basin.

Q53. What is BharOS software and how different is it from Google's Android OS?

1. BharOS comes with the No Default Apps (NDA) setting, meaning that users do not have to keep or use pre-installed apps in this mobile operating system.
2. It is an indigenous operating system (OS), like Android or iOS recently developed by IIT Delhi.
3. BharOS would offer Native Over the Air (NOTA) updates, meaning that security updates and bug fixes will be automatically installed rather than users having to check for updates and implementing them on their own.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

It has been developed by IIT Madras.

✓ What is BharOS?

It is an indigenous, or homegrown, mobile operating system (OS), like Android or iOS. These systems help smartphone users interact with their device and access its features, while ensuring safety. BharOS, in particular, is meant to be a contribution towards the idea of a **self-reliant India** or '**Atmanirbhar Bharat**' by creating a secure OS environment for India-based users.

The OS can be installed on commercial off-the-shelf handsets, stated the IIT Madras press release.

✓ How is it different from Google's OS?

BharOS is being viewed as an Android rival with greater focus on app customisation. While Android and iOS serve more commercial and consumer-oriented use cases, BharOS appears to be more specialised and is still in limited use at the moment.

A slide from the presentation during which BharOS was launched showed screenshots of the OS. These featured a minimalistic home screen with the Indian flag, a list of app categories, and selected apps such as DuckDuckGo and Signal, which had passed the OS' trust and security standards.

BharOS would offer Native Over The Air (NOTA) updates, meaning that security updates and bug fixes will be automatically installed rather than users having to check for updates and implementing them on their own, confirmed Karthik Ayyar, Director, JandK Operations Pvt Ltd.

✓ Are Google's apps included?

BharOS comes with the No Default Apps (NDA) setting, meaning that users do not have to keep or use pre-installed apps in this mobile operating system, according to **IIT Madras**.

Q54. With respect to **RAMP initiative in India**, consider the following statements.

1. It is a World Bank assisted project.
2. The programme aims to improve the educational facilities in back regions of the country.

Which of the above statements is/re correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

“Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance” (RAMP) is a **World Bank assisted Central Sector Scheme**, supporting various Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID) Resilience and Recovery Interventions **of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME)**.

The programme aims at **improving access to market and credit, strengthening institutions and governance at the Centre and State, improving Centre-State linkages and partnerships, addressing issues of delayed payments and greening of MSMEs**.

In addition to building the MoMSME’s capacity at the national level, the RAMP program will seek to scale up implementation capacity and MSME coverage in States.

Q55. Consider the following.

1. Sweden
2. Norway
3. Estonia
4. Finland

Which of the above countries form border with Baltic Sea?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

See the Map and relax. No need to worry. Just from now, print this map in mind.



Q56. Consider the following statements regarding **Monetary Policy Committee**.

1. It is a statutory body under RBI Act, 1934.
2. It determines the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index, once in every five years.
3. The decision of the Committee would be binding on the RBI.

Which 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: c

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (RBI Act) has been amended by the Finance Act, 2016, to provide for a **statutory** and institutionalized framework for a Monetary Policy Committee, for maintaining price stability, while keeping in mind the objective of growth. The Monetary Policy Committee would be entrusted with the task of fixing the benchmark policy rate (repo rate) required to contain inflation within the specified target level.

Open and Transparent Monetary Policy Making

Under the amended RBI Act, the monetary policy making is as under:

The MPC is required to meet at least four times in a year.

The quorum for the meeting of the MPC is four members.

Each member of the MPC has one vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Governor has a second or casting vote.

Under the Monetary Policy Framework Agreement, the RBI will be responsible for containing inflation targets at 4% (with a standard deviation of 2%) in the medium term (For more details see here). **Under Section 45ZA (1) of the RBI Act, 1934**, the Central Government determines the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index, once in every five years in consultation with the RBI. See below:

45ZA. Inflation target.

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

45ZB. Constitution of Monetary Policy Committee.

- (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Committee to be called the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank.

¹ Inserted by Finance Act, 2016 (w.e.f. 27.06.2016)

- (2) The Monetary Policy Committee shall consist of the following Members, namely: —
 - (a) the Governor of the Bank—Chairperson, *ex officio*;
 - (b) Deputy Governor of the Bank, in charge of Monetary Policy—Member, *ex officio*;
 - (c) one officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board—Member, *ex officio*; and
 - (d) three persons to be appointed by the Central Government—Members.
- (3) The Monetary Policy Committee shall determine the Policy Rate required to achieve the inflation target.
- (4) The decision of the Monetary Policy Committee shall be binding on the Bank.

Q57. With reference to cultural history of India, the term *Sangharamas* refers to?

- a. Village headmen
- b. Religious sect
- c. Administrative functionary
- d. Rock cut monasteries

Solution: d

Explanation:

Rock cut monasteries in ancient India were called as Sangharamas. Sangharama is a Sanskrit word meaning "temple" or "monastery", the place, including its garden or grove, where dwells the Sangha, the Buddhist monastic community.

A famous Sangharama was that of Kukkutarama in Pataliputra. The Kukkutara Sangharama was later destroyed and its monks killed by Pushyamitra Shunga, according to the second century Ashokavadana.

They represent a form of architecture prevalent in Buddhism and Jainism.

Q58. Consider the following statements regarding **North Eastern Council (NEC)**.

- 1. The North Eastern Council (NEC) was established during priministership of Indira Gandhi.
- 2. Governors and Chief Ministers of constituent States, both are the members of the Council.
- 3. The union home minister is ex-officio Chairman of NEC.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The North Eastern Council (NEC) was established by **North Eastern Council Act, 1971** for securing balanced and coordinated development and facilitating effective co-ordination amongst seven States of North Eastern Region.

NEC Act 1971

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. During its inauguration, the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi had announced, "I should like to assure you that the suggestions made by the Council and the projects drawn up by it will be considered with particular attention by the Planning commission and also the various Ministries of the Government of India. I can assure you that any worthwhile idea that it might propose as being of tangible benefit to the region will not suffer for want of funds."

Subsequent to the amendment of NEC Act in December 2002 (Notified on 23rd June 2003) **Sikkim was added as 8th Member State**, and NEC was mandated to function as a statutory Regional Planning Body for the North Eastern Region.

Union Home Minister as ex-officio Chairman of North Eastern Council (NEC)

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

(i) the person or persons for the time being holding the office of the Governor of the States;

(ii) the Chief Ministers of the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura:

Provided that, if there is no Council of Ministers in any State referred to in clause (b), the President may nominate not more than one person to represent such State in the Council for so long as there is no Council of Ministers in such State;

(iii) ~~three~~ members to be nominated by the President.]

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), the President may, if he deems it necessary so to do, nominate a Union Minister to be a member of the Council.

Q59. Investment in a country is measured as :

1. It is money put in a business or any economic activity
2. It is portion of the final output (GDP) which consists of capital goods.
3. Depreciation has no effect on total investment in a country.

Select the correct code.

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

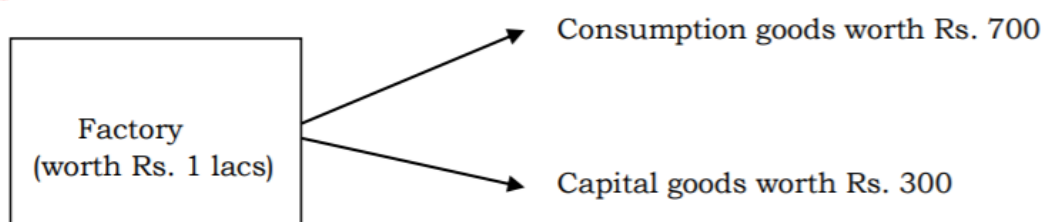
Solution: b

Explanation:

This is first question of economics of Goaltide Prelims Test Series 2023.

That part of the final output which comprises of physical capital goods is called gross investment. **So, investment in a country is not measured as money put in a business or any economic activity but it is basically that portion of the final output (GDP) which consists of capital goods.**

Consider the following diagram:



Suppose there is only one factory (capital good) in a country, which is worth Rs. one lakhs and is producing consumption goods worth Rs. 700 and capital goods worth Rs. 300 in a particular year (say 2019-20) in an economy. This means that the GDP in 2019-20 will be Rs. 1000 (which is the total production of both consumption and capital goods) and the gross investment in the economy will be Rs. 300 or $(Rs\ 300 / Rs\ 1000)$ 30%, **as investment is measured as the percentage of output which consists of capital goods.**

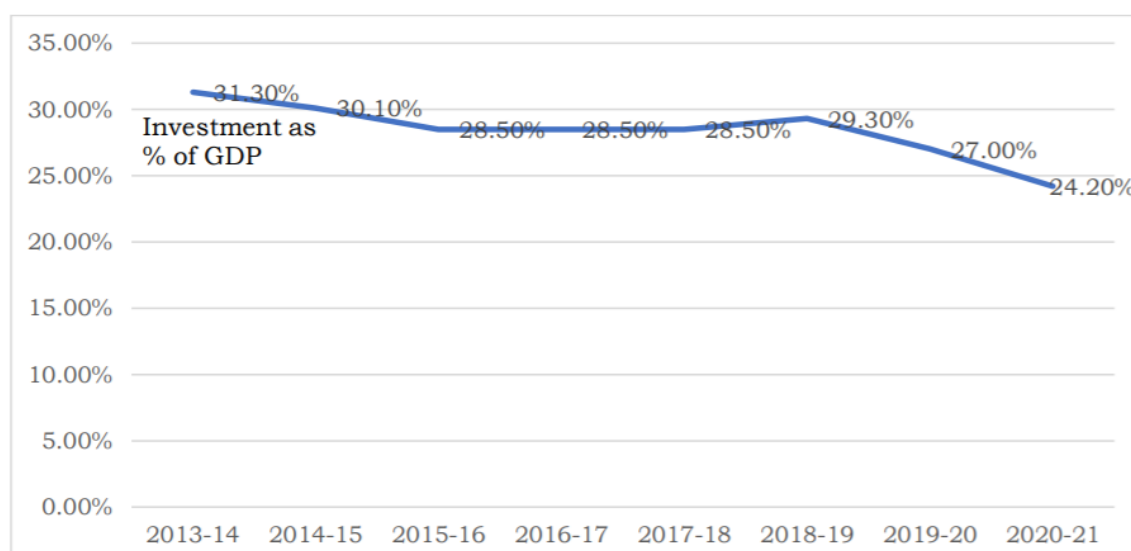
Third statement is incorrect.

Now when the factory runs for a year then wear and tear happens in the factory which is called depreciation.

Depreciation is also defined as consumption of physical capital. In the above example Rupees one lakh worth of capital goods produce Rs. 700 consumption goods and Rs. 300 capital goods, but during this production process suppose there is wear and tear of Rs. 50 in the factory. This implies that to produce Rs. 700 of consumption goods and Rs. 300 of capital goods there is a loss of Rs. 50 of capital goods in the economy i.e. net production of capital goods (investment) in the economy is Rs. 300 minus Rs. 50. **Net Investment = Gross Investment - Depreciation = Rs. 300 - Rs. 50 = Rs. 250**

The following chart represents gross fixed capital formation (investment) of India in the last few years.

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
31.30%	30.10%	28.50%	28.50%	28.50%	29.30%	27.00%	24.20%



Q60. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Attorney General (AG) of India?

1. AG can take part in the proceedings of Joint Sitting of Parliament.
2. AG can take part in the proceedings of all committee of the Parliaments.
3. Attorney-General shall have right of audience in only Supreme Court of India.
4. AG can vote in Lok Sabha.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

Second and Fourth statements are wrong.

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.

Third is also incorrect:

(3) In the performance of his duties the Attorney-General shall have right of audience in all courts in the territory of India.

Q61. Consider the following statements.

1. Before the passing of the Legal Practitioners (Women) Act in 1923, women in India, though permitted to study law, were not allowed to be enrolled as advocates.
2. Currently, women judges make 23 percent of the total sittings in Supreme Court.
3. The Constitution has fixed the tenure of a judge of the Supreme Court.

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 only

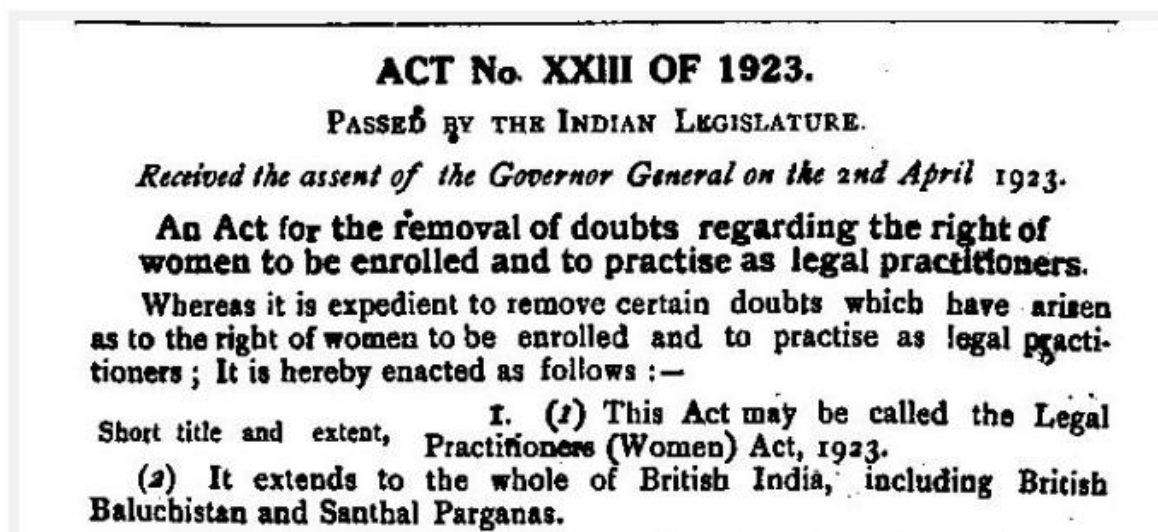
Solution: d

Explanation:

Important Question. These statements taken from Daily news section whichever paper you follow. Such statements.

First statement is correct.

The Legal Practitioners (Women) Act was finally passed in 1923, removing the disqualification affirming that “no woman shall, by reason only of her sex, be disqualified from being admitted or enrolled as a legal practitioner or from practicing as such”.



Currently, we have four women judges out of sitting 33. It constitutes less than 15 percent. Second statement is incorrect.

Third statement is incorrect.

The Constitution has not fixed the tenure of a judge of the Supreme Court. However, it makes the following three provisions in this regard:

- He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years. Any question regarding his age is to be determined by such authority and in such manner as provided by Parliament.
- He can resign his office by writing to the President.
- He can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament.

Q62. Which of the following provisions regarding Finance Commission is/are correct?

1. The President shall lay down recommendation made by the Finance Commission before each House of Parliament.
2. The Commission shall have all the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.
3. Members of Finance Commission are eligible for reappointment.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All statements are correct.

First statement is a part of Indian Constitution.

~~281.~~ **Recommendations of the Finance Commission.**—The President shall cause every recommendation made by the Finance Commission under the provisions of this Constitution together with an explanatory memorandum as to the action taken thereon to be laid before each House of Parliament.

Third statement is correct. But it is part of below mentioned Act. Not Constitution.

THE FINANCE COMMISSION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1951

✓ ACT No. 33 OF 1951

[16th May, 1951.]

An Act to determine the qualifications requisite for appointment as members of the Finance Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected, and to prescribe their powers.

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

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

Second statement is correct. It is mentioned in Act, not Constitution. Remember this.

~~8.~~ **Procedure and powers of the Commission.**—(1) The Commission shall determine their procedure and in the performance of their functions shall have all the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), while trying a suit in respect of the following matters, namely:—

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of witnesses;
- (b) requiring the production of any document;
- (c) requisitioning any public record from any court or office.

Q63. Consider the following statements regarding Indian **Coast Guard**.

1. It is a statutory body under Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The preservation and protection of marine environment and control of marine pollution is the function of the Indian Coast Guard.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

We did not make question tough, but you will read below Paragraph.

✓ The Government, therefore, appointed a Committee in Sep 1974, under the chairmanship of Shri KF Rustamji, IPS (Ex DG BSF) to examine the shortcomings in the existing mechanism for combating smuggling and other illegal maritime activities, and suggest measures to protect India's marine resources. This Committee submitted its report in 1975, strongly recommending the setting up of a 'Coast Guard' type organisation for general superintendence and policing of our sea areas in

✓ In 1977, Union Cabinet approved the setting up of a 'Coast Guard' with two frigates and five patrol boats transferred from the Indian Navy. The Indian Coast Guard thus came into being on 01 Feb 1977, with a fleet strength of just seven ships for surveillance in the Indian waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone.

✓ The Indian Coast Guard was formally inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai on 19 Aug 1978.

The Indian Coast Guard was formally established on 18 August 1978 by the **Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India** as an independent Armed force of India.

It operates under the **Ministry of Defence**.

Marine Environment

INTRODUCTION

India has been endowed with a vast marine ecosystem and bio-diversity, which sustains a large number of species and the coastal populace is dependent on the resources from this marine eco-system. The need for protection of this eco-system has been acknowledged worldwide and UNCLOS 1982 prescribes the responsibility on the Coastal States in preserving and protecting the marine environment and associated resources. The Maritime Zones of India Act 1976, enables the Government to take measures for protection of the marine environment. The Coast Guard Act 1978 states that the preservation and protection of marine environment and control of marine pollution is the function of the Indian Coast Guard. The ICG has been accordingly nominated in 1986 as the Central Coordinating Authority for oil-spill response in the Maritime Zones of India and Coast Guard officers have been empowered under the Merchant Shipping Act 1958, for taking necessary actions against polluters.

Q64. Consider the following statements regarding **National Food Security Act, 2013**.

1. Pregnant woman and lactating mother are entitled to get free meal shall be entitled during pregnancy and six months after the childbirth.
2. State Food Commission is set up for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of this Act.
3. Both rural and urban population are considered to be eligible households under this Act.

Select the correct code.

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

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

4. Subject to such schemes as may be framed by the Central Government, every pregnant woman and lactating mother shall be entitled to—

(a) meal, free of charge, during pregnancy and six months after the child birth, through the local *anganwadi*, so as to meet the nutritional standards specified in Schedule II; and

(b) maternity benefit of not less than rupees six thousand, in such instalments as may be prescribed by the Central Government:

Nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers.

State Food Commission.

16. (1) Every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a State Food Commission for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of this Act.

(2) The State Commission shall consist of—

(a) a Chairperson;

(b) five other Members; and

(c) a Member-Secretary, who shall be an officer of the State Government not below the rank of Joint Secretary to that Government:

(2) The entitlements of the persons belonging to the eligible households referred to in sub-section (1) at subsidised prices shall extend up to seventy-five per cent. of the rural population and up to fifty per cent. of the urban population.

Q65. Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure belongs to:

- a. BRICS
- b. Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- c. G-20
- d. G-7

Solution: b

Explanation:

A three-day meeting is held under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).

Q66. 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.

Q67. 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:

62. 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

Q68. Consider the following statements regarding **Precision Agriculture** in India.

1. Precision farming is an approach where inputs are utilized in precise amounts to get increased average yields, depends heavily on traditional cultivation techniques.
2. Pooling of farmlands through contract farming, proposed under the farm bills 2020, can expand the scope of precision agriculture in India.
3. Precision agriculture becomes more relevant in farms of big sizes, mostly more than 4-5 hectares per holding.

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: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

Precision farming is an approach where inputs are utilized in precise amounts to get increased average yields, compared to traditional cultivation techniques. Sustainable PA is this century's most valuable innovation in farm management that is based on using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). This is the most recent innovation technology based on sustainable agriculture and healthy food production and it consists of profitability and increasing production, economic efficiency and the reduction of side effects on the environment.

Second statement is correct.

Pooling of farmlands through contract farming, proposed under the farm bills 2020, can expand the scope of precision agriculture in India, suggest experts.

ISRO's Kumar said, "Pooling of farmlands under contract farming will help us tap better the benefits of the precision technique. It will also solve the affordability constraint, which is another major challenge to the adoption of precision farming in India, next to fragmented farming and poor awareness."

Third statement is Incorrect.

In India, one major problem is the small field size. More than 58 per cent of operational holdings in the country have size less than one hectare (ha). **That's the reason Precision agriculture becomes important in India.**

Q69. Consider the following statements.

1. The Sufi doctrines are mainly based on the Quranic teachings and the life of the Prophet Muhammad.
2. Women were completely prohibited to become Sufi saints.
3. Sufism got influenced by Christianity, Hindu and Buddhist mythical ideas.

Which 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: c

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

The Sufi doctrines are mainly based on the Qur'anic teachings and the life of the Prophet Muhammad. As such there is no 'Sufism' without Islam. The metaphysical terminology of the Sufis is also deduced from the Qur'an.¹⁵ And as al-Junaïd has said "Sufism is firmly bounded up with the doctrinal faith of the Qur'an and the Traditions and that which is rejected by the Qur'an and the Traditions, is nothing but heresy".¹⁶

Second statement is incorrect.

Sufis like Ḥasan al-Baṣari (d.728 A.D.), Ibrahim b. Adham (d.777 A.D.), Abu 'Ali Shāfiq of Bulkh (d.810 A.D.) and the renowned woman mystic Rabi'a al-'Adawīyya (d. 801 A.D.) belong to this period. She was the first Sufi to enunciate in Sufism the doctrine of Divine Love, which later became a dominant feature of the Sufi movement.²¹

Third statement is correct:

From 9th to 12th century Sufism was influenced by the ideas of Christianity, Neo-platonism, Gnosticism. It seems to have come into contact with Buddhist and Hindu mystical ideas about the same time in the central Asian region, although most of its principle features had evolved from the Qur'anic and prophetic traditions and under the influences of Neo-platonic and Christian elements. Though interesting, the scope of our work does

Q70. Silpihs, Sthapati, Suiragrahin and Vardhakin in ancient India were:

- Maintains finance of Mughal Empire at different stages of administration
- Builders of temples
- Priests assigned for different task under Krishnadeva Raya.
- Officers at local administration under Gupta Empire

Solution: b

Explanation:

Among the persons responsible for the construction of a temple, the most important is the architect - Priest (*Sthāpaka*). It was expected of him that he should be a *Brāhmaṇa* of high born family and well versed in sacred texts and rituals i.e *Vedas* and *Āgamas*. Observers of a code of conduct according to his *varṇa* (caste) and stage of *āśrama* (life), he exerts himself in his *tapasvīn* (work), a profound *āsthika* (believer) in the sacred tradition³². The architect-priest prepares the plan of the temple and his injunctions were carried out by four classes of *Śilpīns* (craftsmen) - *Sthāpati* (designing architect), *Sutrāgrahīn* (surveyor), *Takṣaka* (sculptor) and *Vardhakin* (builder-plasterer-painter). There is a reference to *Sutrādhara* or *Sutrāgrahīn* in the copper plate of early Ganga rulers³³.

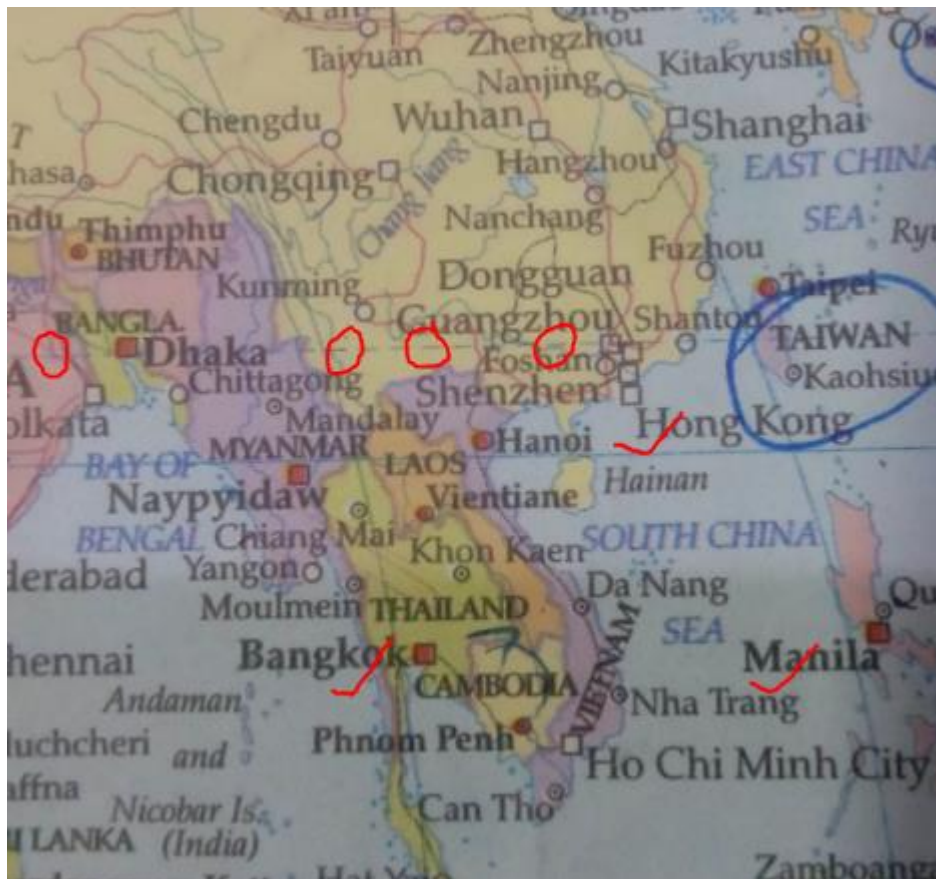
Q71. Which of the following is very closest to Tropic of Cancer?

- Hanoi
- Dhaka
- Manila
- Bangkok

Solution: b

Explanation:

See the map below. Didn't find any good map on website, so used my Atlas Book.



Q72. Consider the following places.

1. Taipei (Taiwan)
2. Tokyo (Japan)
3. Manila (Philippines)
4. Seoul (S. Korea)

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

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

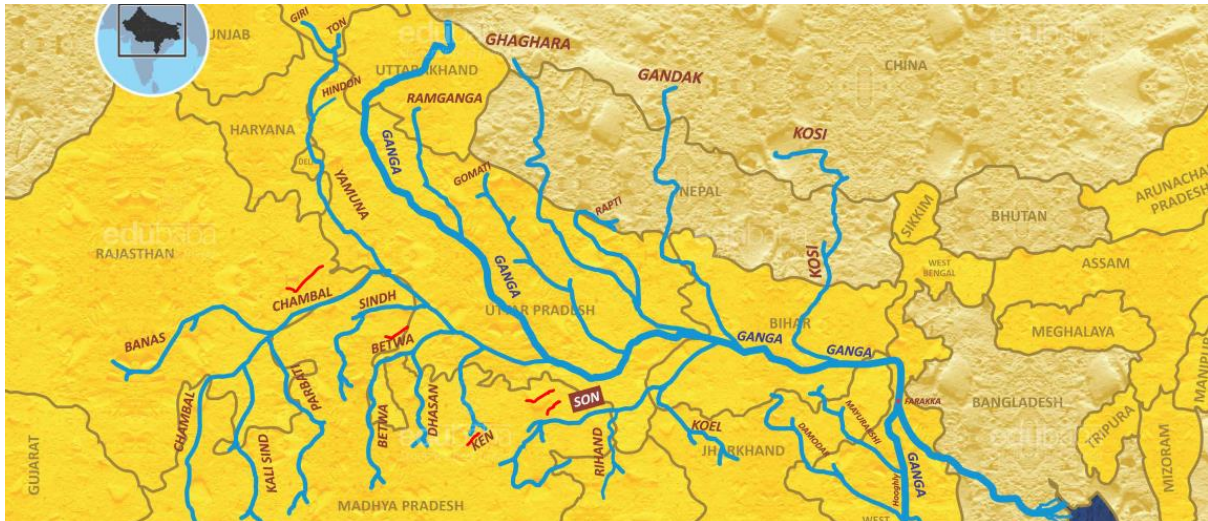


Q73. Which of the following river meets Ganga directly, not via the Yamuna River?

- a. Son River
- b. Betwa
- c. Chambal
- d. Ken

Solution: a

Explanation:



Q74. Which water body can be found to the north of the United Arab Emirates (UAE)?

- a. The Atlantic Ocean
- b. The Gulf of Oman
- c. The Persian Gulf
- d. The Red Sea

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q75. Saudi Arabia have coastlines on three bodies of water. Which body of water being longest?

- a. Persian Gulf
- b. Red Sea
- c. Arabian Sea

d. Gulf of Aqaba

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q76. Three Baltic nations are (identify country form capital)?

1. Riga
2. Tallinn
3. Helsinki
4. Vilnius

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Helsinki is Finland.



Q77. Which of the following are tributaries of Kaveri River?

1. Bhavani
2. Noyyal
3. Amravati
4. Hemavati
5. Shimsha

Select the correct code.

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

d. All of the above.

Solution: d

Explanation:



Q78. Consider the following.

1. Kyiv
2. Kherson
3. Donetsk
4. Luhansk

Arrange the above regions from North to South.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q79. Consider the following pairs.

Regions in news	location
1. Sumy	Ukraine
2. Donbass	Israel

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: a

Explanation:

All are in Ukraine.





Q80. Consider the following Seas.

1. Black Sea
2. Aegean Sea
3. Caspian Sea
4. Adriatic Sea

To which of the above given Seas, **does Turkey forms border with?**

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

d. 1 and 2 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

Turkey shares boundaries with **Black Sea, Aegean Sea and Mediterranean Sea.**



Q81. If the design of currency note has to change, then,

- a. Final approval is from the Central Government
- b. Final approval is given by RBI board on consideration of recommendations of central government.
- c. Monetary Policy Committee takes the final decision
- d. There is no role of central government, solely taken by RBI

Solution: a

Explanation:

Board. Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, gives RBI the "sole right" to issue banknotes in India. Section 25 states that "the design, form, and material of bank notes shall be such as may be approved by the Central Government after consideration of the recommendations made by the [RBI's] Central Board".

RBI's Department of Currency Management has the responsibility of administering the core function of currency management.

According to the RBI website, the Department addresses policy and operational issues relating to the "designing of banknotes; forecasting demand for notes and coins; ensuring smooth distribution of banknotes and coins throughout the country and retrieval of unfit notes and uncurrent coins from circulation; ensuring the integrity of bank notes", etc.

If the design of a currency note has to change, the Department works on the design and submits it to RBI, which recommends it to the central government. The government gives the final approval.

25. Form of bank notes.

The design, form and material of bank notes shall be such as may be approved by the ³[Central Government] after consideration of the recommendations made by Central Board.

Q82. With respect to Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), consider the following statements.

1. Union Minister is the chairperson of committee.
2. Clearance of Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is mandatory for the environmental release of Genetically Modified (GM) crops.
3. Any person aggrieved by a decision made by GEAC prefer an appeal to such authority as may be appointed by Ministry of Environment and Forests.
4. The GEAC shall have powers to revoke such approval If there is any new information as to the harmful effects of the genetically engineered organisms or cells.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

- d. 1, 3 and 4 only

Solution: a

Explanation:

Learn something new about GEAC. I will cover few points here; rest will cover under Test Series.

First statement is incorrect.

Composition

The composition of the GEAC has been prescribed in Rules 1989 as given below:

Chairman- Special Secretary/Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC); Co-Chairman - Representative of Department of Biotechnology.

Second, third and fourth are correct.

7. APPROVAL AND PROHIBITIONS

- (1) No person shall import, export, transport, manufacture, process, use or sell any hazardous microorganisms or genetically engineered organisms/substances or cells except with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee.

19. APPEAL

- (1) Any person aggrieved by a decision made by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee/State Biotechnology Co-ordination Committee in pursuance of these rules may within thirty days from the date on which the decision is communicated to him prefer an appeal to such authority as may be appointed by Ministry of Environment and Forests provided that the appellate authority may entertain the appeal after the expiry of the said period of thirty days if such authority is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal in time.

13. GRANT OF APPROVAL

- (1) In connection with the granting of approval under rules 8 to 11 above, terms and conditions shall be stipulated, including terms and conditions as to the control to be exercised by the applicant, supervision, restriction on use, the layout of the enterprise and as to the submission of information to the State Biotechnology Co-ordination Committee or to the District Level Committee
- (2) All approvals of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee shall be for a specified period not exceeding four years at the first instance renewable for 2 years at a time. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee shall have powers to revoke such approval in the following situations:
- (a) If there is any new information as to the harmful effects of the genetically engineered organisms or cells.
 - (b) If the genetically engineered organisms or cells cause such damage to the environment, nature or health as could not be envisaged when the approval was given, or
 - (c) Non compliance of any condition stipulated by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee.

Q83. Mission LiFE recently in news is related to:

- a. environment can be protected by making changes in our lifestyle
- b. Appropriate use Genetically modified organisms in environment

- c. Harvest ground water using solar pumps
- d. To reduce lifestyle led diseases which is on rise in India

Solution: a

Explanation:

LiFE envisions replacing the prevalent 'use-and-dispose' economy—governed by mindless and destructive consumption—with a circular economy, which would be defined by mindful and deliberate utilization. The Mission intends to nudge individuals to undertake simple acts in their daily lives that can contribute significantly to climate change when embraced across the world.

Q84. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the recent report, of the total urban sewage generated, more than 70 percent was the actual quantity of wastewater treated.
2. Higher will be the Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), less will be the pollution in the water body.

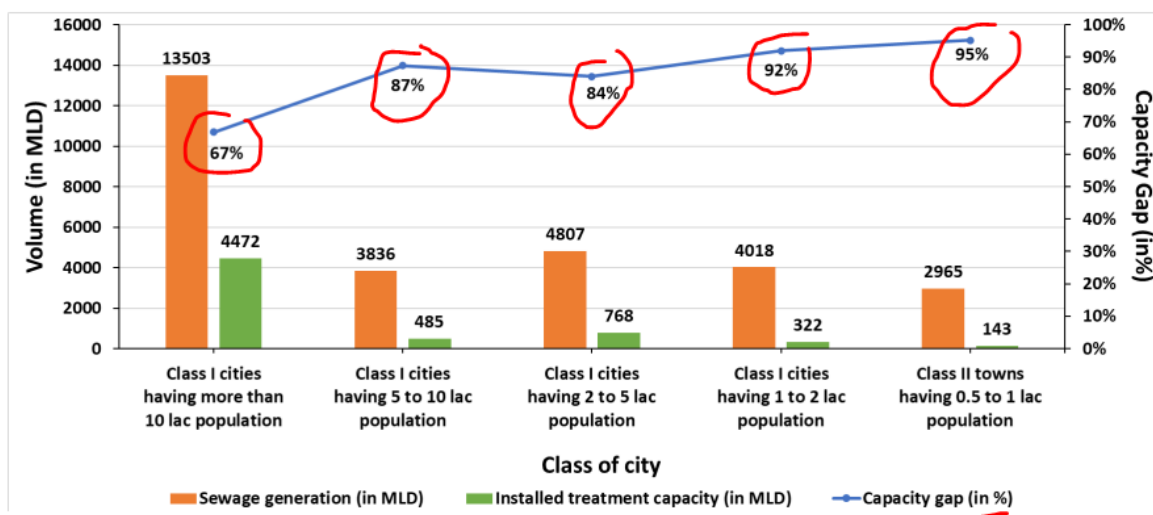
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

✓ In India, the sewage generation in the urban centres, as per the recent assessment by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), was 72,368 Million Litres per Day (MLD) for the year 2020-21. Currently, the installed sewage treatment capacity is 31,841 MLD, but the operational capacity is 26,869 MLD, which are much lower than the load generated. Of the total urban sewage generated, only 28% (20,236 MLD) was the actual quantity of wastewater treated. This implies that 72% of the wastewater remains untreated and is disposed of in rivers/lakes/groundwater. There are some increases in infrastructure e.g., another 4,827 MLD sewage treatment capacity, has been proposed. If this is added to the existing installed capacity, even then, there is a gap of 35,700 MLD (i.e., 49%) between the wastewater generated and the capacity available for treatment (CPCB, 2021b).



So, more the organic matter, **higher will be the BOD** and as a result **more will be the pollution in the water body**. This causes severe decrease in the dissolved oxygen and kills the aquatic animals.

Table 2.2.1: Priority wise number of polluted Indian river stretch

Priority Category	Health Status	BOD Value (mg/L)
1	Severely polluted	BOD > 30 mg/L
2	Moderately polluted	BOD between 20-30 mg/L
3	Moderately polluted	BOD between 10-20 mg/L
4	Mildly polluted	BOD between 6-10 mg/L
5	Clean	BOD between 3-6 mg/L
Total		
<i>Data Source: CPCB. (2018)</i>		

Q85. Consider the following statements.

- Among its all-neighbor nations, India shares maximum land boundary with Bangladesh.
- Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh share THREE international boundaries.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

From the document of Ministry of Home Affairs,

Name of the country	Length of the border (in Km)
Bangladesh ✓	4,096.7
China	3,488
Pakistan	3,323
Nepal	1,751
Myanmar	1,643
Bhutan	699
Afghanistan	106
Total	15,106.7

Sikkim shares boundary with **Nepal, Bhutan and China**

Arunachal Pradesh shares boundary with **China, Myanmar and Bhutan**



Q86. Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution fixed the maximum and minimum number of members in Legislative Councils.
2. One-third of members in Legislative Councils are nominated by Governor.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct:

~~171.~~ **Composition of the Legislative Councils.**—(1) The total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council shall not exceed ⁴[one third] of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State:

Provided that the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State shall in no case be less than forty.

Second statement is incorrect:

~~(2) Until Parliament by law otherwise provides, the composition of the Legislative Council of a State shall be as provided in clause (3)~~

(3) Of the total number of members of the Legislative council of a State

(a) as nearly as may be, one third shall be elected by electorates consisting of members of municipalities, district boards and such other local authorities in the State as Parliament may by law specify;

(b) as nearly as may be, one twelfth shall be elected by electorates consisting of persons residing in the State who have been for at least three years graduates of any university in the territory of India or have been for at least three years in possession of qualifications prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament as equivalent to that of a graduate of any such university;

(c) as nearly as may be, one twelfth shall be elected by electorates consisting of persons who have been for at least three years engaged in teaching in such educational institutions within the State, not lower in standard than that of a secondary school, as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament;

(d) as nearly as may be, one third shall be elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly;

(e) the remainder shall be nominated by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of clause (5)

3/6

Q87. Consider the following features of Indo-Islamic architecture:

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

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

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

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

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

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

Q88. 'Minor Forest Produce (MFP)' is defined by:

- Indian Forest Act 1927.
- Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006
- Forest Conservation Act, 1980
- Not defined anywhere, is defined by Central Government on need basis

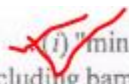
Solution: b

Explanation:

Section 2(4) of the Indian Forest Act 1927 defines only "forest-produce" and this term connotes to those products whether found in or brought from a forest.

Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is a subset of forest produce and **got a definition only in 2007 when the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006**. *Therefore, first statement is wrong.*

Section 2(i) of the said Act defines a Minor Forest Produce (MFP) as all non-timber forest produce of plant origin and includes bamboo, brushwood, stumps, canes, Tusser, cocoon, honey, waxes, Lac, tendu/kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tuber and the like.

 (i) "minor forest produce" includes all non-timber forest produce of plant origin including bamboo, brush wood, stumps, cane, tussar, cocoons, honey, wax, lac, tendu or kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tubers and the like;

Q89. Consider the following statements regarding **Mediterranean Climate**.

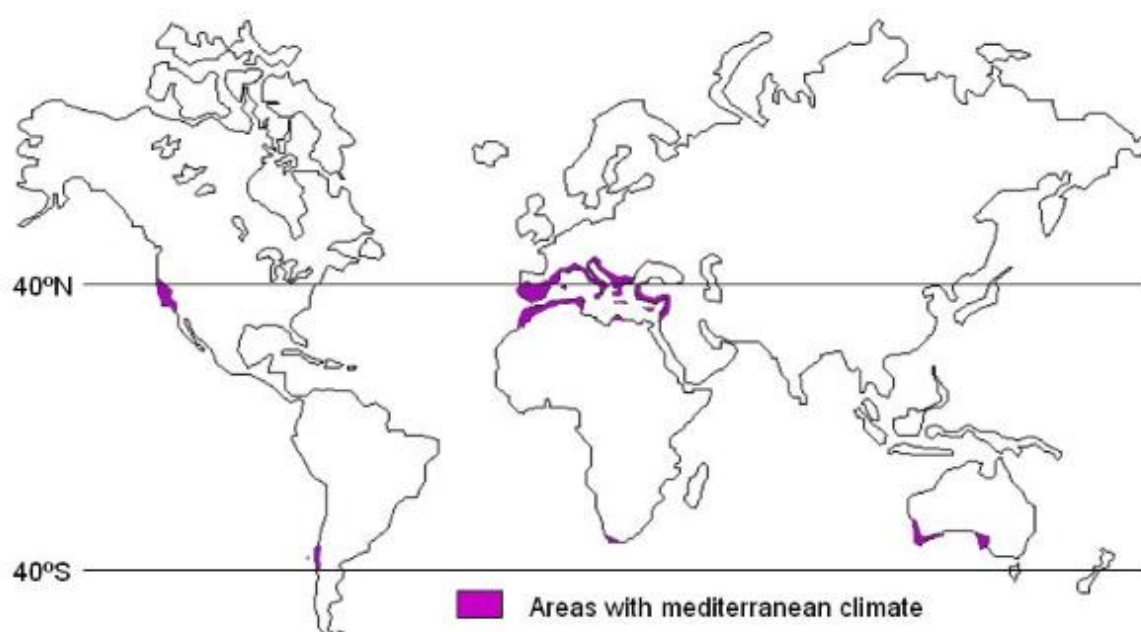
1. Hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters are the features of this climate,
2. It is found only in areas surrounding Mediterranean Sea only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:



Entirely confined to the western portion of continental masses, between 30° and 45° north and south of the equator. The basic cause of this type of climate is the shifting of the wind belts.

Mediterranean Sea has the greatest extent of this type of '**winter rain climate**' and gives rise to the name Mediterranean Climate.

Clear skies and high temperatures; hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters are the features of the Climate.

You can see from the above graph; it is not only limited to Mediterranean seas. The best developed form of this climatic type is found in **central Chile**. Other Mediterranean regions include **California (around San Francisco)**, the **south-western tip of Africa (around Cape Town)**, **southern Australia**, and **south-west Australia**.

Q90. Consider the following saints.

1. Guru Nanak
2. Kabir
3. Tulsidas

Which of the above saints believed in “**Nirakar**” form of God?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Sakar is what we can see our naked eye. i.e. we need picture to believe in supreme power. **“Nirakar” is what we cannot see** with our naked eyes. There is no shape in which we can fix it. We don’t need picture to worship.

Few important saints you need to know.

- a. **Kabir, Namdev and Guru Nanak preached towards Nirakar form of God.**
- b. **Surdas, Tulsidas, Mirabai, Chaitanya, belongs to Sakar form of God.**

Q91. Consider the following statements in respect of Bharat Ratna and Padma Awards:

1. Government servants including those working with PSUs are not eligible for these Awards.
2. Padma Awards, which were instituted in the year 1954, were suspended only once.
3. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.

Which 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: c

Explanation:

Second and third 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:**

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.

THIS WAY OF PRACTICE IS ONLY COVERED UNDER GOALTIDE WHERE WE FRAME ORIGINAL QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM WEBSITE.

All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards.

All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards.

The award seeks to recognize works of distinction and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields of activities/disciplines. An illustrative list of the fields is as under:

- Art (includes Music, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Cinema, Theatre etc.)
- Social work (includes social service, charitable service, contribution in community projects etc.)

Q92. With respect to UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), consider the following statements.

1. UNIDIR is an autonomous institution within the United Nations that conducts independent research on disarmament, particularly international security issues.
2. UNIDIR is primarily funded by voluntary contributions from Member States and also partners with other UN agencies and private foundations.
3. It aims to providing the international community with more diversified and complete data on problems relating to international security.

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:

With over 40 years of experience, **UNIDIR is an autonomous institution within the United Nations that conducts independent research on disarmament and related problems; particularly international security issues.**

'Our specialized focus on disarmament and arms control sets us apart from other think tanks. Our status within the United Nations system enables us to engage with and support Member State deliberations. Our role is to provide ideas and advice and to facilitate dialogue that can advance multilateral arms control and disarmament'.

UNIDIR is primarily funded by voluntary contributions from Member States and also partners with other UN agencies and private foundations. If we go to original website and see, India too has contributed to funding.

OUR DONORS DURING 2021-2023 INCLUDE:



UNIDIR was established by the General Assembly and its mandate is found in Article II, paragraph 2, of its [Statute](#).

The work of the Institute shall aim at:

1. Providing the international community with more diversified and complete data on problems relating to international security, the armaments race and disarmament in all fields, particularly in the nuclear field, so as to facilitate progress, through negotiations, towards greater security for all States and towards the economic and social development of all peoples;
2. Promoting informed participation by all States in disarmament efforts;
3. Assisting ongoing negotiations on disarmament and continuing efforts to ensure greater international security at a progressively lower level of armaments, particularly nuclear armaments, by means of objective and factual studies and analyses;
4. Carrying out more in-depth, forward-looking and long-term research on disarmament, so as to provide a general insight into the problems involved, and stimulating new initiatives for new negotiations.

Q93. With respect to newly found species, *Soliga ecarinata*, consider the following statements.

1. It is a new species of frog.
2. The new species has been named after the Soliga community found in north eastern region 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: d

Explanation:

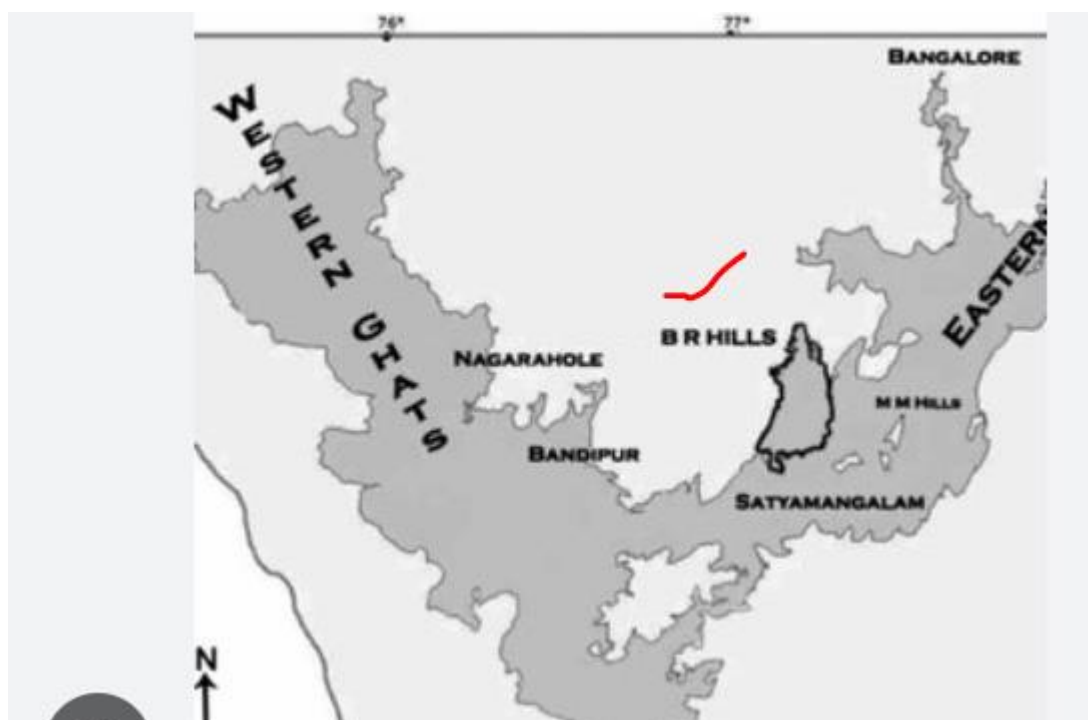
News:

New genus of wasp named after Soliga community in Karnataka

This comes in recognition of their conservation of forests and biodiversity

January 29, 2023 09:19 pm | Updated January 30, 2023 04:34 pm IST - MYSURU

The Biligiri Rangana hills are **located in the Western Ghats. That is, in the state of Karnataka**. A group of researchers found a new wasp species in the region. The new wasp species has been named after the Soliga community of the region.



Q94. Demonstration for Rocket to Agile Cislunar Operations (DRACO) spacecraft belongs to:

- a. NASA
- b. Europe Space Agency
- c. Russian Space Agency
- d. ISRO

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

Jan 25, 2023

RELEASE 23-012

NASA, DARPA Will Test Nuclear Engine for Future Mars Missions

NASA and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) announced a collaboration- **Demonstration Rocket for Agile Cislunar Operations, or DRACO, program, to demonstrate a nuclear thermal rocket engine in space, an enabling capability for NASA crewed missions to Mars.**

With the help of this new technology, astronauts could journey to and from deep space faster than ever – a major capability to prepare for crewed missions to Mars.

Using a nuclear thermal rocket allows for faster transit time, reducing risk for astronauts. Reducing transit time is a key component for human missions to Mars, as longer trips require more supplies and more robust systems. Maturing faster, more efficient transportation technology will help NASA meet its Moon to Mars Objectives.

Q95. Consider the following regarding **Special Drawing Right (SDR)**.

1. The value of the SDR is directly determined by supply and demand in the market.
2. The weightage of currencies in SDR is same for every country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an interest-bearing international reserve asset created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement other reserve assets of member countries.

The value of the SDR is not directly determined by supply and demand in the market, but is set daily by the IMF on the basis of market exchange rates between the currencies included in the SDR basket.

It can be held and used by member countries, the IMF, and certain designated official entities called “prescribed holders”—**but it cannot be held, for example, by private entities** or individuals. Its status as a reserve asset derives from the commitments of members to hold, accept, and honor obligations denominated in SDR. The SDR also serves as the unit of account of the IMF and some other international organizations.

During the last review concluded in November 2015, the Board decided that the Chinese renminbi (RMB) met the criteria for SDR basket inclusion. Following this decision, the Chinese RMB joined the US dollar, euro, Japanese yen, and British pound sterling in the SDR basket, effective October 1, 2016 and the three-month benchmark yield for China Treasury bonds was included the SDRi basket. During the 2015 review, the Board also approved a new formula—assigning equal shares to the currency issuer's exports and a composite financial indicator—to determine the weights of currencies in the SDR basket.

Currency	Weights determined in the 2015 Review	Fixed Number of Units of Currency for a 5-year period Starting Oct 1, 2016
U.S. Dollar	41.73	0.58252
Euro	30.93	0.38671
Chinese Yuan	10.92	1.0174
Japanese Yen	8.33	11.900
Pound Sterling	8.09	0.085946

Q96. Which of the places given below is **closest to Sri Lanka**?

- Puducherry
- Chennai
- Vishakhapatnam
- Bangalore

Solution: a

Explanation:

Vishakhapatnam is in Andhra Pradesh.

Among Puducherry and Chennai, **Puducherry is near to Sri Lanka**. Bangalore is between Puducherry and Chennai.



Q97. Which among the following can declare an election void if disqualified candidate is elected to the Parliament?

- a. President
- b. Election Commission of India
- c. High Court
- d. Speaker

Solution: c

Explanation:

Very important. Please remember.

If a disqualified person is elected to the Parliament, the Constitution lays down no procedure to declare the election void. **This matter is dealt with Representation of People Act 1951, which enables the High Court to declare an election void if a disqualified candidate is elected.** The aggrieved party can appeal to the Supreme Court against the order of the High Court in this regard.

Q98. Which of the following is not a part of the Tripitakas?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, the correct answer is (d).

Q99. Which of the following correctly defines the term **Social Forestry**?

- land-use systems and technologies where woody perennials (trees, shrubs, palms, bamboos, etc.) are deliberately used on the same land-management units as agricultural crops and/or animals
- Forestry outside the conventional forests which primarily aim at providing continuous flow of goods and services for the benefit of people
- It is an applied science that studies ecological processes applied to agricultural production systems.
- It is the science and technology of producing and using plants in agriculture for food, fuel, fiber, and land restoration.

Solution: b

Explanation:

Every question asked here is as per UPSC standard. Do solve all our quizzes and join Test Series for comprehensive preparation of Prelims exam. Link given in the end of this quiz. You must enroll it.

Social forestry

The National Commission on Agriculture, Government of India, first used the term 'social forestry' in 1976. It was then that India embarked upon a social forestry project with the aim of taking the pressure off the forests and making use of all unused and fallow land. Government forest areas that are close to human settlement and have been degraded over the years due to human activities needed to be afforested. Trees were to be planted in and around agricultural fields. Plantation of trees along railway lines and roadsides, and river and canal banks were carried out. They were planted in village common land, Government wasteland and Panchayat land.

Social forestry also aims at raising plantations by the common man so as to meet the growing demand for timber, fuel wood, fodder, etc, thereby reducing the pressure on the traditional forest area. This concept of village forests to meet the needs of the rural people is not new. It has existed through the centuries all over the country but it was now given a new character.

With the introduction of this scheme the government formally recognised the local communities' rights to forest resources and is now encouraging rural participation in the management of natural resources. Through the social forestry scheme, the government has involved community participation, as part of a drive towards afforestation, and rehabilitating the degraded forest and common lands.

Q100. Which the following took place under the governor-generalship of Dalhousie?

1. Doctrine of Lapse
2. Charles Wood Dispatch
3. Second Anglo-Burmese War (1852)
4. Treaty of Lahore which concluded first Anglo-Sikh War

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Solution: a

Expalantion:

He served as Governor-General of India from 1848 to 1856.

The Doctrine of Lapse

The final wave of annexations occurred under Lord Dalhousie who was the Governor-General from 1848 to 1856. He devised a policy that came to be known as the Doctrine of Lapse. The doctrine declared that if an Indian ruler died without a male heir his kingdom would "lapse", that is, become part of Company territory. One kingdom after another was annexed simply by applying this doctrine: Satara (1848), Sambalpur (1850), Udaipur (1852), Nagpur (1853) and Jhansi (1854).



Finally, in 1856, the Company also took over Awadh. This time the British had an added argument – they said they were "obliged by duty" to take over Awadh in order to free the people from the "misgovernment" of the Nawab! Enraged by the humiliating way in which the Nawab was deposed, the people of Awadh joined the great revolt that broke out in 1857.

Charles Wood Despatch

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

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

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

- The Wood's Despatch of 1854, for the first time, recommended the **creation of a Department of Public Instruction** in each of the five provinces of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, the Punjab and the North Western provinces.
- Elementary education** was considered to be the foundation of the education system.
- The Wood's Despatch of 1854 recommended the **establishment of universities at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.**
- The Wood's Despatch of 1854 recommended the sanction of a **grant-in-aid system in the Indian educational system.** To educate the large number of people of India was a difficult task and so the grant-in-aid system was adopted by the government.
- The Wood's Despatch of 1854 gave importance to teaching of English, but at the same time, it also stressed on the **teaching of Indian languages.**

- f. The Despatch clearly stated that **Indian languages as well as English should be used as media of instruction. Therefore, statement 2 is wrong.**
- g. The Wood's Despatch of 1854 stressed **on female education**. The Wood's Despatch stated, the importance of female education in India cannot be over-rated.

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

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

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

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Second Burmese War

Second Burmese War and the Annexation of Lower Burma

In 1852, commercial disputes in Rangoon prompted new hostilities between the British and the Burmese. After the end of the second Burmese War (1852), **Dalhousie annexed Lower Burma** with its capital at Pegu. Major Arthur Phayre was appointed the Commissioner of the new province. His administration also proved to be efficient. The

annexation of Lower Burma proved beneficial to Britain. Rangoon, Britain's most valuable acquisition from the war became one of the biggest ports in Asia.

Lord Hardinge (1844-48) fought the **first Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46)** and concluded the Treaty of Lahore.