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A Prelims IAS Academy

JUNE 2023

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UPSC PRELIMS 2023 EXAM DAILY QUIZ COMPILATION-JUNE

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Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. Ordinance promulgated by President does not have same effect as an Act of Parliament till it is passed in Parliament.
2. If a Court has struck down a decision taken by an authority on the ground of lack of statutory power, the legislature can later amend the law to confer the requisite power on such authority and validate the decision retrospectively.

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. It has same effect as Act of Parliament.

✓ CHAPTER III.—LEGISLATIVE POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

✓ **123. Power of President to promulgate Ordinances during recess of Parliament.**—(1) If at any time, except when both Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such Ordinances as the circumstances appear to him to require.

(2) ✓ An Ordinance promulgated under this article shall have the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament, but every such Ordinance—

✓ (a) shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament and shall cease to operate at the expiration of six weeks from the reassembly of Parliament, or, if before the expiration of that period resolutions disapproving it are passed by both Houses, upon the passing of the second of those resolutions; and

✓ (b) may be withdrawn at any time by the President.

Second statement is correct:

Can the legislature overrule judgments?

Before delving into the debate, some concepts need to be made clear. Legislative overriding of judgments is permissible in certain circumstances. The legislature can neutralize the effect of a judgment by altering the legal basis of the judgment (Madan Mohan Pathak vs. Union of India AIR 1978 SC 803). For example, **if a Court has struck down a decision taken by an authority on the ground of lack of statutory power, the legislature can later amend the law to confer the requisite power on such authority and validate the decision retrospectively.**

Q2. In reference to India's export to other countries, consider the following statements.

1. United States remains the largest export destination for last two fiscal years.
2. In 2022-23, export to Netherland is more than that of China.

3. India's total export in 2022-23 shows a decline of more than 10 percent as compared to 2021-2022.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

All information is taken from original source.

Today I was surprised to see Netherland has replaced China. These facts you should know.

Ten countries account for almost half of India's total exports. The top export destinations for India include the United States, the United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, China, Bangladesh, Singapore, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Germany, and Indonesia. **Among them, the United States remains the largest export destination**

The Netherlands is increasingly becoming another important export destination. The share of the Netherlands in 2012-13 was 3.5%, which fell to 2.2% during 2020-21. It increased to 4.8% in 2022-23, registering its highest share in the last decade. It **jumped to 3rd position replacing China in 2022-23.**

Department of Commerce
Export Import Data Bank
Export :: Country-wise

Dated: 1/6/2023
Values in Rs. Lacs

S.No.	Country / Region	2021-2022	% Share	2022-2023	% Share	% Growth
44.	CHINA P RP	15,821,547.51	5.0275	12,277,398.94	3.3910	-22.40
148	NETHERLAND	9,372,473.48	2.9782	17,440,918.30	4.8171	86.09
221.	U S A	56,796,119.26	18.0476	63,015,254.43	17.4045	10.95
	India's Total Export	314,702,149.28		362,063,094.86		15.05

Q3. Which of the following is/are characteristics of Graphene?

- It conducts electricity better than copper.
- It is almost perfectly transparent as it absorbs only 2% of light.
- It is impermeable to gases, even those as light as hydrogen and helium.
- Graphene has the potential to absorb and dissipate electromagnetic waves.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 3 only

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

This question is taken from the Hindu:

Is India missing the graphene bus?

India needs to catch up in the research and production of graphene, which is the defining material of this age

June 01, 2023 12:15 am | Updated 01:49 am IST

Graphene is the world's thinnest, strongest, and most conductive material of both electricity and heat. Other features:

- a. It **conducts electricity better than copper**.
- b. It is **200 times stronger than steel** but six times lighter.
- c. It is almost perfectly **transparent as it absorbs only 2% of light**.
- d. It is **impermeable to gases**, even those as light as hydrogen and helium. It has the potential to revolutionize electricity, conductivity, energy generation, batteries, sensors and more.
- e. Also, when added to other materials, graphene even in small quantities **produces composite materials** with dramatically transformed qualities.

Applications:

- a. Its exceptional strength makes it promising material for armour and ballistic protection.
- b. Graphene has the **potential to absorb and dissipate electromagnetic waves**, making it valuable for developing stealth coatings and materials that reduce radar signatures and electromagnetic interference.
- c. Graphene is **highly sensitive to environmental changes**, which makes it an excellent candidate for sensing chemical and biological agents, explosives, radiation, and other hazardous substances.
- d. Besides, **graphene-based materials can also protect us against chemical and biological attacks**.
- e. **Better energy storage and electronics properties make graphene** attractive in defence and aerospace as well as in civil and commercial applications.
- f. Graphene composites are used in **aerospace, automotive, sports** equipment and construction.
- g. It is used for **high-performance batteries and super-capacitors**, touchscreens, and conductive inks. Graphene-based sensors are used for environmental monitoring, healthcare and wearable devices.

- h. Graphene oxide membranes are **used for water purification and desalination**.
Graphene-based masks were made during COVID.

Q4. Which of the following has recently rolled out its '**2023-27 country partnership strategy for India**'?

- a. Asian Development Bank
- b. SCO Secretariat
- c. IMF
- d. World Bank

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:



The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** recently rolled out its **2023-27 country partnership strategy for India**. This new strategy focuses on key areas to accelerate the country's development and promote inclusive growth.

This Country Partnership Strategy (CPS), 2023-2027 **for India is well aligned with India's national development priorities to be achieved by 2047**, when **the country marks 100 years** of independence. Economic and sector reforms and national flagship programs embody the national priorities.

Q5. If interest rate in market decreases:

1. price of bond increases
2. return (yield) on that bond increases.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Suppose Rs. 100 bond (this is called issue price or Face Value) is issued @ interest rate 10% (which means that interest in the market is around 10%). Now if interest rate in the market decreases (the interest rate is decreasing in the market but the bond which has been issued @10% interest rate. This interest rate is fixed and it will never change) then the new bonds which will be issued will be issued at less interest rate (say 8%).

Now if you want to purchase previously issued bond of Rs. 100 face value, the holder of the bond will not give you in Rs. 100, rather he will ask for more rupees, i.e., the price of the previously issued bond will increase and suppose you purchase this bond in Rs. 125 then for your annual RETURN will be = $(Rs. 10/Rs. 125)*100 = 8\%$. This 8% is yield.

So, to conclude, if interest rate in market decreases, **price of bond increases and return (yield) on that bond decreases.**

Q6. Consider the following statements:

1. Buddha did not believe in the existence of soul.
2. The first human statues worshiped in India were those of the Buddha.
3. He opened the gates of his sangha to both men and women.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Buddha was a rationalist, who tried to explain things in the light of reason and not on the basis of blind faith. In this sense, he was against any social distinctions.

Also, he did not make a direct attack on the caste system, rather he threw open his order to all people of any caste.

The first human statues worshiped in India were those of the Buddha. The devotees of the religion portrayed the various events in the life of Buddha in stone.

When Buddha started Sangha, the Buddhists predominantly consisted of men. Women did not participate in the early beginnings of Sangha, therefore, many women wanted to join the Sangha and yearned for equality. However, they could not get easy access as there was no tradition of assimilation. But later it happened...Don't get misguided by nay notes. Women were part of it.

Example: In the Therigātha (The Songs of the Women Elders)

For example, **Sumangala, Bhikkhuni** says:

*"O Woman well set free! How free I am,
How wonderful free from kitchen drudgery,
Free from empty harsh grip of hunger,
And from empty cooking pots,
Free too of that unscrupulous man,
The weaver of sunshades.
Calm now and serene I am,
All lust and hatred purged.
To the shades of the spreading trees, I go
And contemplate my happiness."*

Sumangala makes it clear that though she lives under a tree, she feels freed from drudgery and from the brutal husband who respected her less than the shade of a tree. This shows after joining a Sangha, women were free from all such bondage.

The Buddhist community comprised monks and nuns known as the Bhikkus and the Bhikkunnis.

Q7. Consider the following statements.

1. The president has power to pardon the punishment or sentence of an individual by a Court Martial.
2. If election of a President is declared void by Supreme Court, all acts of President before this decision of Supreme Court is declared as invalidated.

Which of the above statements is correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

We will see here article 71 and 72.

¹[71. **Matters relating to, or connected with, the election of a President or Vice-President.**—(1) All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final.

(2) If the election of a person as President or Vice-President is declared *void* by the Supreme Court, acts done by him in the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of the office of President or Vice-President, as the case may be, on or before the date of the decision of the Supreme Court shall not be invalidated by reason of that declaration.

72. Power of President to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.—(1) The President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence—

(a) in all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial;

Q8. Consider the following rivers.

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

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

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Only Chenab and Jhelum pass through Jammu and Kashmir UT.



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

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

Q9. In the context Preamble of India, arrange the following in chronological order of their occurrence in Preamble.

1. EQUALITY of status and of opportunity
2. LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship
3. FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation
4. JUSTICE, social, economic and political

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Start the test just to check if you know Preamble or not.

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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

~~✓~~ JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

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

~~✓~~ EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

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

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

Q10. Consider the following statements.

1. Seagrasses convert organic carbon into large amounts of sugar during photosynthesis, mainly sucrose.
2. In India, Seagrasses are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.
3. Seagrasses reproduce through both sexual and asexual methods.

Which of the above statement sis/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:

First statement is correct.

The research shows that **seagrasses convert organic carbon into large amounts of sugar during photosynthesis, mainly sucrose**. Globally, seagrasses have produced between 0.6 and 1.3 million tonnes of these sugars.

Like terrestrial plants, seagrass also photosynthesize and manufacture their own food and release oxygen.

Third statement is correct.

Seagrasses reproduce through both sexual and asexual methods. The pollen from the flower of the male plant is transferred to the ovary of the female flower through the sexual reproduction method. **This is known as submarine pollination.** Most species undergo this process and complete their life cycle underwater.

Seagrasses can also reproduce asexually by branching off at their rhizomes (modified subterranean plant stem that sends out roots and shoots from its nodes). **Because of this character, they can recover after being cut by grazers like dugongs or disturbed by storms.**

Second statement is correct.

Seagrasses occur all along the coastal areas of India. They are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.

Though seagrasses inhabit all types of substratas (layers) from mud to rock, the lush green seagrass beds are found extensively in muddy and sandy substratas.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding **Law Commission of India**.

1. Central Government established the First Law Commission in 1955.
2. Since then, twenty-two Law Commissions have been appointed, each with a five-year term.
3. The Commission works on projects based on the references received from the Central Government or from the Supreme Court and High Courts.

4. Enactments of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 were recommended by Law Commission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

These are difficult statements, but yes, we have to prepare in this way only. I have to be tough.

All statements are taken from Law Commission website. So without any doubt, learn all statements.

Law Commission of India is a **non-statutory body and is constituted by a notification of the Government of India**, Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Legal Affairs with a definite term of reference to carry out research in the field of law and the Commission makes recommendations to the Government (in the form of Reports) as per its terms of reference.

The Central Government **established the First Law Commission in 1955** with the then Attorney-General of India, Mr. M. C. Setalvad, as its chairman. Since then, twenty-two Law Commissions have been appointed, each with a **three-year term** and with a definite term of reference.

Function of Department

How does the Law Commission Function

The Commission works on projects based on the references received from the Central Government and/or from the Supreme Court and High Courts. At times, keeping in view the importance of the subject matter, the Commission initiates study on specific subjects, suo moto.

Also remember, Law Commission of India submits final report to Central Government and its not binding. It was in news today.

Will Hold Consultations On Sedition Law, Law Commission's Report Not Binding : Union Law Minister

LIVELAW NEWS NETWORK

2 June 2023 4:25 PM

Q12. Consider the following statements.

- 1. The Government of India provides Minimum Support Price for Sal seeds (*Shorea robusta*).
- 2. Odisha has a rich depository of sal seeds accounting largest percent of the country's production.

3. The sal oil can be used for manufacture food and non-food industries.

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:

It was in news:

~~Odisha~~ to procure sal seeds from 9 districts; tribals say it's too late

Several tribal people, mainly seed collectors, will be deprived of the procurement scheme, as the corporation will not collect from other districts



NEXT NEWS >

By Hrusikesh Mohanty
Published: Thursday 01 June 2023

Odisha has a rich depository of sal seeds accounting for 25 per cent of the country's production, which played a significant role in the economics of the tribal people in the state.

Around 40 per cent of the total tribal populations here are engaged in collecting and processing the seeds to eke out a living. Other major sal seeds producing states include Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Jharkhand.

The sal oil can be used for manufacture food and non-food industries. The sal oil can be used as cooking oil and substitute for cocoa butter in chocolate industry after refining process. The sal seed and its oil are in underutilized stage because of its low price and lack of technology for its processing activities.

~~Odisha~~ has no major solvent extraction plant that produces oil from sal seeds, due to which the intermediaries procure the seeds from the state at a lower rate and sell them at a higher rate to the oil companies of other states, according to sources.

Q13. National Mission for Mentoring aims to:

- a. to provide mentoring to school teachers and ensure their continuous professional development.
- b. creation of a large pool of outstanding professionals willing to provide mentoring to students who lacks development skills by providing infrastructure.
- c. To create pool of professional to provide science education.
- d. To help children at primary level to help in improvement of skills.

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

To implement National Mission for Mentoring, NCTE organises 2 day capacity building workshop for the 60 mentors on 31st May and 1st June 2023

Posted On: 01 JUN 2023 6:11PM by PIB Delhi

The National Mission for Mentoring (NMM), as envisaged in NEP 2020, is about the creation of a large pool of outstanding professionals willing to provide mentoring to school teachers and ensure their continuous professional development.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in Para 15.11 aims to flourish a knowledge system by establishing a large pool of outstanding professionals, who would be willing to provide short-and-long-term professional support to school teachers. Working towards the attainment of the goals set by NEP 2020, NCTE has been assigned to develop and design the modalities for National Mission for Mentoring (NMM).

Q14. Consider the following statements.

1. Though Kolleru Lake had been accorded the Ramsar site status, Pulicat Lake has not been considered for such status.
2. Kolleru Lake is located between Andhra and Tamil Nadu while Pulicat is in Andhra Pradesh.
3. Kolleru is brackish while Pulicat is fresh water lake.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

100 percent UPSC question.

Abhi don't get scared. This is not a new question. Even if you know only about one lake, you can correct this. So, I can expect that you know at least Ramsar site details, i.e., Kolleru Lake.

Though Kolleru Lake had been accorded the status in August 2002, Pulicat Lake has not been considered for such status.

Kolleru Lake is the largest freshwater lake and is located in Andhra Pradesh. Kolleru is located between Krishna and Godavari delta.

Pulicat Lake is the second largest brackish water lagoon in India (after Chilika Lake).



Q15. Ladakh shares boundary with:

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

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Ladakh shares boundary with Pakistan, China and Afghanistan.



Q16. Which of the following officer has the power to disqualify a Member of the Legislature for occupying an 'Office of Profit'?

- a. The Chief Election Commissioner
- b. The President
- c. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
- d. The Leader of the House concerned whose member is to be disqualified

Solution: b

Explanation:

Article 102(1)(a) of the Constitution of India recognizes "holding any Office of Profit under the government" a ground for disqualification from being a Member of Parliament (MP) as well as contesting parliamentary elections to be chosen as an MP.

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

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

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

(c) if he is an undischarged insolvent;

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

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

⁴[103. Decision on questions as to disqualifications of members.—(1) If any question arises as to whether a member of either House of Parliament has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1) of article 102, the question shall be referred for the decision of the President and his decision shall be final.

Q17. Which of the following aspects can lead to appreciation in the exchange rate of the Rupee?

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

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

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

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

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

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

Therefore, the correct answer is (b).

Q18. 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.

Q19. Consider the following

1. X-Rays
2. WIFI devices
3. Microwaves and Radio waves

Which of the above is/are **sources of ionizing radiations**?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

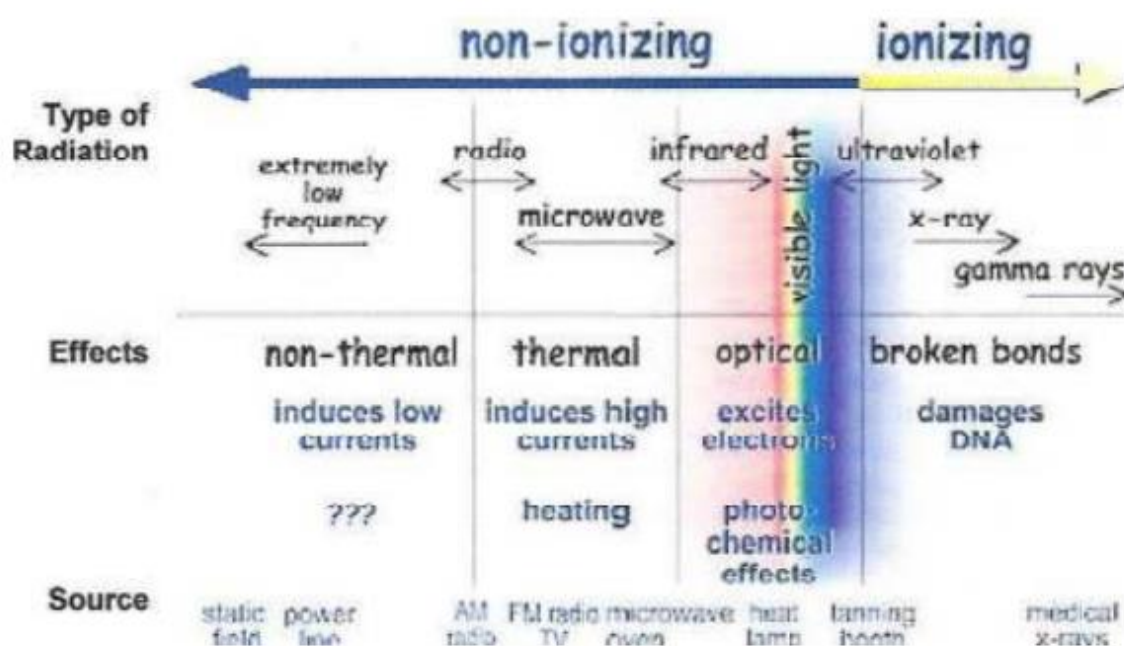
There are two types of radiations:

- a. Ionizing radiations
- b. Non-ionizing radiations

These radiations have high penetration power and breaks into macro molecules in the body. Examples: **X-Rays**, Gamma rays, Atomic Plants, etc.

Non-ionizing radiation is the term given to radiation in the part of the electromagnetic spectrum **where there is insufficient energy to cause ionization**.

It includes **electric and magnetic fields, radio waves, microwaves, infrared, ultraviolet, and visible radiation**. *WIFI devices, Telecom Towers will come under this.*



Remember this also:

Longer wavelength, lower frequency waves (heat and radio) have less energy than shorter wavelength, higher frequency waves (X and gamma rays).

Q20. In the context of the location of industries, the supply of raw material is the most important factor for which of the following industries?

- Automobile Industry
- Electronic Goods Industry
- Sugar Industry
- Cotton Textile Industry

Solution: c

Explanation:

Industries using weight-losing raw materials are located in the regions, where raw materials are located. Thus, sugar mills in India are located in sugarcane growing areas. Sugarcane needs to be supplied to mills within 24 hours of cutting to ensure better recovery of sugar. Hence, the location of Sugar mills is near the sugarcane producing areas. Similarly, the pulp industry, copper smelting and pig iron industries are located near their raw materials.

Options (a) and (b) are examples of weight gaining industry, and they require more diverse ancillary material. **Hence, these are generally located near the market.** Cotton textile is not a weight losing industry. The raw material is not the most dominant factor, but a humid climate, cheap labour and transport and most importantly, a market for trade determine the location of the cotton textile industry. **Therefore, the correct answer is (c).**

Q21. Consider the following statements with respect to **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.

1. India is a founding member of ADB.
2. Equal voting rights for all members in ADB.
3. All members of ASD are from within Asia and the Pacific region.
4. ADB was established after 1973 global oil crisis.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only 1
- b. Only 2
- c. Only 3
- d. None

Solution: a

Explanation:

First see the origin of the bank: Fourth statement is incorrect.

Origins

ADB was conceived in the early 1960s as a financial institution that would be Asian in character and foster economic growth and cooperation in one of the poorest regions in the world.

A resolution passed at the first Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Cooperation held by the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in 1963 set that vision on the way to becoming reality.

The Philippines capital of Manila was chosen to host the new institution, which opened on 19 December 1966, with 31 members that came together to serve a predominantly agricultural region. Takeshi Watanabe was ADB's first President.

A major landmark was the **establishment in 1974 of the Asian Development Fund** to provide low-interest loans to ADB's poorest members.

In 1995, ADB became the **first multilateral organization to have a Board-approved governance policy** to ensure that development assistance fully benefits the poor. Policies on involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples were also put in place.

Members

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Bank shall be open to: (i) members and associate members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East; and (ii) other regional countries and non-regional developed countries which are members of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies.

From 31 members at its establishment in 1966, ADB has grown to encompass 68 members—of which **49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside**. **Third statement is incorrect.**

India is a member since 1966. First statement is only correct.

India Facts

ADB's Work in India

India is a founding member of ADB and the bank's fourth largest shareholder. Since commencing operations in 1986, ADB has aligned its operations in the country to the government's developing priorities. This approach will be pursued through the forthcoming country partnership strategy, 2023–2027. ADB remains committed to reinvigorating India's economy to generate more formal jobs, help address climate challenges, and assist lower-income states. ADB operations also promote private

Second statement is incorrect:

VOTING

1. The total voting power of each member shall consist of the sum of its basic votes and proportional votes.

(i) The basic votes of each member shall consist of such number of votes as results from the equal distribution among all the members of twenty (20) per cent of the aggregate sum of the basic votes and proportional votes of all the members.

(ii) The number of the proportional votes of each member shall be equal to the number of shares of the capital stock of the Bank held by that member.

Q22. Consider the following pairs.

Places in news	location
1. Dodoma	Indonesia
2. Helmand river	Longest river of Pakistan

Which of the above pair is/are correct?

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

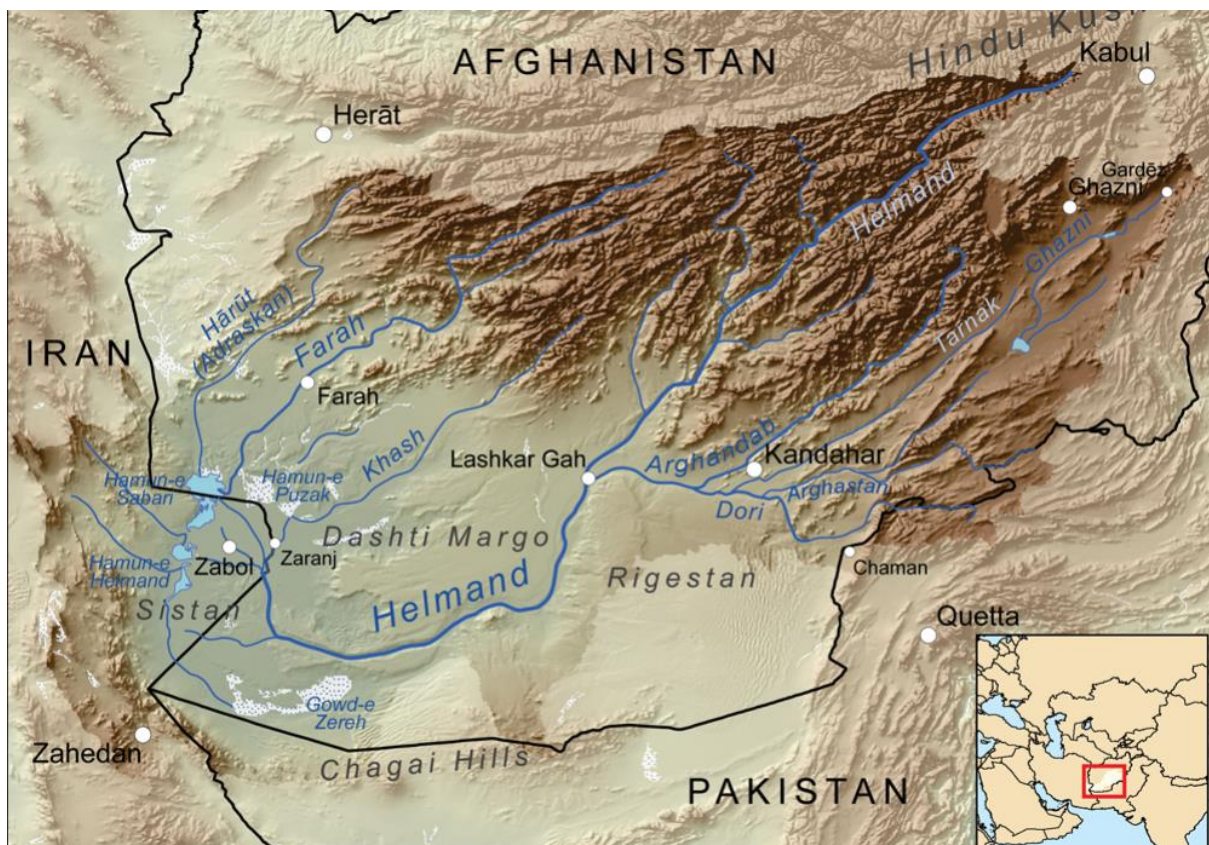
Solution: d

Explanation:

Tanzania designated Dodoma as its new capital in place of the seaside city of Dar es Salaam.



The Helmand River is the longest river in Afghanistan.



Q23. New study discovers 62 desiccation-tolerant vascular plant species in India's Western Ghats. What is so specific about Desiccation-tolerant vascular (DT) plants?

- a. They can withstand extreme dehydration.
- b. They don't need sunlight to grow.
- c. They are best suitable for corals growth and reproduction
- d. They contain sticky material which will be helpful in protecting from invasive species.

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

✓ New study discovers 62 desiccation-tolerant vascular plant species in India's Western Ghats, with potential applications in agriculture & conservation

Posted On: 01 JUN 2023 2:34PM by PIB Delhi

India's biodiversity hotspot, the Western Ghats, is home to 62 Desiccation-Tolerant Vascular Plant Species which could have applications in agriculture, particularly in areas with scarcity of water.

Desiccation-tolerant vascular (DT) plants are able to withstand extreme dehydration, losing up to 95% of their water content, and they revive themselves once water is available again.

This unique ability allows them to survive in harsh, arid environments that would be uninhabitable for most other plants. DT plants have been studied for their possible applications in agriculture, particularly in areas with limited water resources. In tropical regions, they are the predominant occupants of rock outcrops.

Q24. Millet production is highest in:

- a. Maharashtra
- b. Rajasthan
- c. Tamil Nadu
- d. Karnataka

Solution: b

Explanation:

I know sab sahirenge. Everyone knows Rajasthan. But do have a glance to other states too.

The image below of states has been taken from latest report of NITI Aayog on millets:



WHAT'S NEW AT NITI

- ▶ Best practices in social sector: A compendium 2023
- ▶ Revised list of shortlisted candidates for the positions for positions of Sr. Consultant/Consultant/YP (SSM) and Sr. Consultant (Public Policy) in NITI Aayog after examining the representations
- ✓ Promoting Millets in Diets Best Practices across States/UTs of India ✓

Latest data here:

STATE-WISE AREA, PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF MILLETS IN INDIA (2020-21)

State/UT	Jowar (Sorghum)			Bajra			Ragi			Small Millets			Total Millets		
	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hectare)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hectare)
Andhra Pradesh	120.00	411.39	3428.25	31.00	70.71	2281.00	33.00	39.50	1197.00	22.00	19.01	864.00	206.00	540.61	2624.32
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26.82	27.62	1030.00	26.82	27.62	1030.00
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.97	3.26	656.00	4.97	3.26	656.00
Bihar	1.23	1.31	1067.00	4.22	4.78	1134.00	2.77	2.58	934.00	2.17	1.64	753.00	10.38	10.31	993.06
Chhattisgarh	2.06	2.73	1326.00	0.04	0.02	515.00	5.48	1.65	302.00	84.62	21.83	258.00	92.20	26.24	284.59
Gujarat	41.07	57.43	1398.36	460.26	1008.89	2192.00	10.47	12.62	1205.00	8.46	13.04	1541.00	520.26	1091.97	2098.90
Haryana	31.28	16.42	525.00	569.20	1350.14	2372.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	600.48	1366.56	2275.79
Himachal Pradesh	0.02	0.01	435.00	0.52	0.29	557.00	0.58	0.49	842.00	2.41	2.34	972.00	3.53	3.13	885.64
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	—	13.14	6.47	492.00	—	0.00	—	8.11	2.14	264.00	21.25	8.61	404.99
Jharkhand	1.87	1.23	659.00	0.13	0.08	643.00	18.77	16.40	874.00	—	—	—	20.77	17.72	853.19
Karnataka	750.00	903.53	1204.70	222.00	275.50	1241.00	785.00	1369.83	1745.00	26.00	20.23	778.00	1783.00	2569.08	1440.88
Kerala	0.23	0.20	882.91	—	—	—	0.23	0.33	1435.00	0.05	0.04	745.00	0.51	0.57	117.91
Madhya Pradesh	112.00	217.00	1937.50	327.00	737.71	2256.00	—	0.00	—	78.00	69.42	890.00	517.00	1024.13	1980.91
Maharashtra	2078.90	1746.61	840.16	687.50	656.56	955.00	81.60	93.92	1151.00	37.00	16.72	452.00	2885.00	2513.82	871.34
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.89	2.72	941.00	2.89	2.72	941.00
Nagaland	0.28	0.27	964.00	0.71	0.72	1014.00	0.35	0.34	971.00	8.83	9.98	1130.00	10.17	11.31	1111.86

State/UT	Jowar (Sorghum)			Bajra			Ragi			Small Millets			Total Millets		
	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hectare)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hect.)	Area ('000 Hect.)	Production ('000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg./ Hectare)
Odisha	5.50	3.47	631.00	1.27	0.79	622.00	41.31	32.88	796.00	35.25	18.01	511.00	83.33	55.16	661.90
Punjab	-	-	-	0.40	0.26	640.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.40	0.26	640.00
Rajasthan	559.69	589.91	1054.00	4348.40	4561.47	1049.00	-	-	-	6.50	4.29	660.00	4914.58	5155.67	1049.05
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.05	213	1038.00	2.05	213	1038.00
Tamil Nadu	405.42	427.22	1053.77	67.41	158.89	2357.00	82.92	288.64	3481.00	24.47	30.51	1247.00	580.22	905.26	1560.20
Telangana	91.00	155.69	1710.87	10.00	9.30	930.00	1.00	1.34	1343.00	-	-	-	102.00	166.33	1630.71
Tripura	0.19	0.16	852.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.62	1.30	801.00	1.81	1.46	806.34
Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	89.00	129.85	1459.00	49.00	71.00	1449.00	138.00	200.85	1455.45
Uttar Pradesh	174.00	274.57	1578.00	907.00	2014.45	2221.00	-	-	-	12.00	918	765.00	1093.00	2298.20	2102.65
West Bengal	0.19	0.10	538.00	0.07	0.03	425.00	6.03	6.47	1073.00	-	-	-	6.29	6.60	1049.95
D & N Haveli	-	-	-	0.50	0.75	1509.00	0.85	1.40	1652.00	-	-	-	1.34	214	1599.11
Delhi	2.95	2.81	953.00	1.33	5.34	4030.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.28	815	1906.69
Puducherry	-	-	-	0.01	0.03	2600.00	0.05	0.11	2422.00	0.06	0.15	2375.00	0.12	0.29	2411.68
All India	4377.87	4812.07	1099.18	7652.10	10863.17	1419.63	1159.40	1998.36	1723.62	443.29	346.56	781.32	13632.66	18020.17	1321.84

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, DA&FW

Q25. Which of the following is/are the reasons for the increase in milk production and growth of dairy sector to agriculture after 1965?

1. Operation Flood was launched in year 1970 to increase milk production in the country.
2. very low share of export.
3. growth of milk did not require endowments, like irrigation, good soil etc.
4. increase in population of dairy animals.
5. Low GHG emission by dairy animals

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is correct

The green revolution initially covered wheat and rice. These two crops, even after initial phase of their adoption, occupied around one third of gross cropped area and constituted one fourth of value of agriculture (crop plus livestock) in early 1980s. Thus, initial spread and success of green revolution covered only small segment of food and agriculture though with big impact. Thus, simultaneous efforts were started in early 1970s to increase productivity and production of other crops and livestock especially dairy and poultry. A big initiative named "Operation Flood" was launched in year 1970 to increase milk production in the country.

Third statement is correct:

important to mention that growth rate in milk production accelerated after 2005 when the emphasis has shifted from exotic breeds to indigenous breeds. What is special about growth of dairy sector is the nature and quality of growth. The growth of dairy sector has been pro-poor and pro-women besides being resilient. Second, growth of milk did not require particular endowments, like irrigation, good soil etc. It only required efficient marketing of milk. Where ever, marketing outlets were set up to mop up milk, dairy sector witnessed impressive growth. Cooperatives have played major role in this.

Fourth statement is correct:

Much of the growth in milk output during last 50 years is due to increase in population of dairy animals. This has serious ecological and environmental implications. The number of female bovines in India increased from 122.7 million in 1972 to 246.7 million in year 2019. Thus, while the base of dairy in the country doubled, the base for crop production has not increased (net sown area has remained around 140 million hectare). When this is factored in, the edge that dairy sector has over crop sector reduces

First and fifth are incorrect:

Doubling population of female bovine means GHG emission by dairy animals has doubled in the last 50 years.

Share of export is very low. It has nothing to do with production. The success of dairy revolution in India is not translated into export. Dairy export constitutes only 2.6 per cent of India's agri export reported by APEDA (crop plus livestock) which is much lower than 24% share of milk output in value of crop and livestock output.

Q26. Which of the following is/are purpose for setting up of **Ministry of Cooperation** in Indian Government?

1. Streamline processes for ease of doing businesses for co-operatives and enabling development of Multi-State Co-operative Societies.
2. To implement the state's diplomatic principles and policies and related laws and regulations
3. to meet the challenge of connecting every village with cooperatives

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Ministry of Cooperation was created by transferring the existing entries related to cooperation and cooperative in the business of the erstwhile Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare vide Cabinet Secretariat's Gazette Notification dated 6th July, 2021.

The Ministry is responsible for provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in country.

Its aims to deepen co-operatives as a true people-based movement reaching up to the grassroots and develop a cooperative based economic model where each member works with a spirit to responsibility.

The principal activities of the Ministry include streamlining processes for 'Ease of doing business' for co-operatives and enabling development of Multi-State Co-operative Societies.

It lays emphasis on strengthening, bringing transparency, modernization, computerization, creating competitive cooperatives, **working constantly to meet the challenge of accessibility to development for every underprivileged in rural areas and on connecting every village with cooperatives**, making every village prosperous with the mantra of "Sahakar se Samriddhi" and through this making the country prosperous.

Second statement: Ministry of External Affairs.

Q27. Consider the following Nations.

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

Which of the above nations **share boundaries with Iran?**

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

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



Q28. Which principle among the following was added to the Directive Principles of State Policy by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution?

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

Solution: B

Examination:

2017 UPSC PRELIMS QUESTION.

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

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

Equal justice and free legal aid.

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

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

Participation of workers in management of industries.

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

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

Q29. Consider the following statements.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

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

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

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

(b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed, if such member is the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, and if such member is the Deputy Speaker, to the Speaker, resign his office; and

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

Second statement is incorrect: **He cannot vote.**

88. Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General as respects Houses.—Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote.

Two conditions exist for any minister.

1. He is a serving MP of any house, Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.
2. He is not a member of house although he has been appointed as a minister.

In both cases, the minister takes part in the proceedings of both houses. It's his right as a member of the council of ministers.

Now coming to the voting part. In above two cases,

In first case, the minister is allowed to vote in the house whose membership he holds. If he's a member of Lok Sabha, he cannot vote in Rajya Sabha but in Lok Sabha only. That's his right as a member of the respective house. His ministership doesn't bar him from voting.

In second case, as he is not a member of any house. He cannot vote in either of the houses. The minister has been given a time period of 6 months to become member of any one house. After he attains membership, he will be treated as in first case mentioned above.

Third statement is correct: long statement but simple. It takes time to read. So you need to increase speed but don't lose focus.

(3) Before a Minister enters upon his office, the Governor shall administer to him the oaths of office and of secrecy according to the forms set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

(4) A Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of the Legislature of the State shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a Minister.

(5) The salaries and allowances of Ministers shall be such as the Legislature of the State may from time to time by law determine and, until the Legislature of the State so determines, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule.

Q30. Consider the following statements:

1. A high foreign exchange rate may decrease the export of a country.
2. A Trade surplus in an economy may help to appreciate its currency.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Simple concepts.

Statement 1 is incorrect.

A rise in price of foreign exchange will reduce the foreigner's cost (in terms of USD) while purchasing products from a country. This increases the export of country.

Suppose exchange rate is 1 dollar = 60 Rs and now it increased to 1 dollar= 70 Rs. For foreigners, Indian goods will become cheaper and **export of Indian goods will increase.**

Statement 2 is correct.

A Trade surplus means that the export of a country is greater than its imports. The export of a country helps in bringing foreign currency. So surplus trade will bring more foreign currency. As a result of which the domestic currency will appreciate.

Q31. Which of the following states does not have their own High Court, i.e., under the jurisdiction of other High Courts?

1. Manipur
2. Tripura
3. Meghalaya
4. Mizoram
5. Nagaland

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: B

Explanation:

Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Mizoram are under the jurisdiction of Guwahati High Court.

So, option 4 and 5 are incorrect. All other three have their own High Courts.

Q32. Consider the following statements.

1. Upanishads contain discussion about the process of cloud formation and seasonal cycle caused by the movement of earth around the sun.
2. Kautilya's work, Brihatsamhita provides for scientific management of rainfall and its application.
3. The term 'cyclone' was coined by Harry Piddington.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Read the image:

HISTORY OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES IN INDIA

The beginnings of meteorology in India can be traced to ancient times. Early philosophical writings of the 3000 B.C. era, such as the Upanishads, contain serious discussion about the processes of cloud formation and rain and the seasonal cycles caused by the movement of earth round the sun. Varahamihira's classical work, the Brihatsamhita, written around 500 A.D., provides a clear evidence that a deep knowledge of atmospheric processes existed even in those times. It was understood that rains come from the sun (Aditya Jayate Vrishti) and that good rainfall in the rainy season was the key to bountiful agriculture and food for the people. Kautilya's Arthashastra contains records of scientific measurements of rainfall and its application to the country's revenue and relief work. Kalidasa in his epic, 'Meghdoot', written around the seventh century, even mentions the date of onset of the monsoon over central India and traces the path of the monsoon clouds.

Meteorology, as we perceive it now, may be said to have had its firm scientific foundation in the 17th century after the invention of the thermometer and the barometer and the formulation of laws governing the behaviour of atmospheric gases. It was in 1636 that Halley, a British scientist, published his treatise on the Indian summer monsoon, which he attributed to a seasonal reversal of winds due to the differential heating of the Asian land mass and the Indian Ocean.

India is fortunate to have some of the oldest meteorological observatories of the world. The British East India Company established several such stations, for example, those at Calcutta in 1785 and Madras (now Chennai) in 1796 for studying the weather and climate of India. The Asiatic Society of Bengal founded in 1784 at Calcutta, and in 1804 at Bombay (now Mumbai), promoted scientific studies in meteorology in India. Captain Harry Piddington at Calcutta published 40 papers during 1835-1855 in the Journal of the Asiatic Society dealing with tropical storms and coined the word "cyclone", meaning the coil of a snake. In 1842 he published his monumental work on the "Laws of the Storms". In the first half of the 19th century, several observatories began functioning in India under the provincial governments.

Q33. Consider the following statements regarding KalakadMundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR).

1. It was declared as the 'First Tiger Reserve of Tamil Nadu'.
2. River Thamirabarani originates from KMTR.

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:

ABOUT KMTR

The Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu is one of the protected areas having diverse flora and fauna. This region has got vegetation types which gradually changes from dry thorn forest to dry deciduous, moist deciduous and a patch of West coast wet evergreen forests on the higher reaches of the reserve. KMTR was declared as the "First Tiger Reserve of Tamil Nadu" and the 17th Tiger Reserve of the country. Forests of this reserve has rich biodiversity and endemism.

River Thamirabarani and 13 other rivers originate from KMTR and the rivers form the lifeline of Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Virudhunagar, Kanyakumari districts both for drinking water and agriculture. Hence, KMTR is called popularly as River Sanctuary.

Q34. Which of the following sanctuaries are home to *gharial* population?

1. Katraniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in UP
2. National Chambal Sanctuary in MP
3. Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary in Bihar

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

Mongabay Series: [Almost Famous Species](#)

The gharial attempts a second comeback with help from the Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary

by Sneha Mahale on 31 May 2023

f t in 34

Gharials are top predators and keystone species in running freshwater systems. They play a crucial role in bringing nutrients from the bottom of the riverbed to the surface, thus increasing fish populations and helping maintain the aquatic ecosystem. "Of the three crocodilian species, the gharial is the most efficient fish catcher because of its unique snout. It derives its name from "*ghara*", the Indian word for pot, because of a bulbous knob present at the end of its snout," says Akash Deep Badhawan, a divisional forest officer at KWS.

A success story from the 1970s

KWS was among the first five sanctuaries declared since the project began, as it was home to gharial populations breeding in the Girwa river. Established between 1975 and 1982 along with KWS were the National Chambal Sanctuary, Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary, Son Gharial Sanctuary and Ken Gharial Sanctuary. By 1991, about

Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha.

Q35. 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:



Q36. What factors affect the Indian summer monsoon?

1. Indian Ocean Dipole
2. Equatorial Indian Ocean Oscillation
3. Atlantic sea surface temperature variability
4. Mascarene High

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:

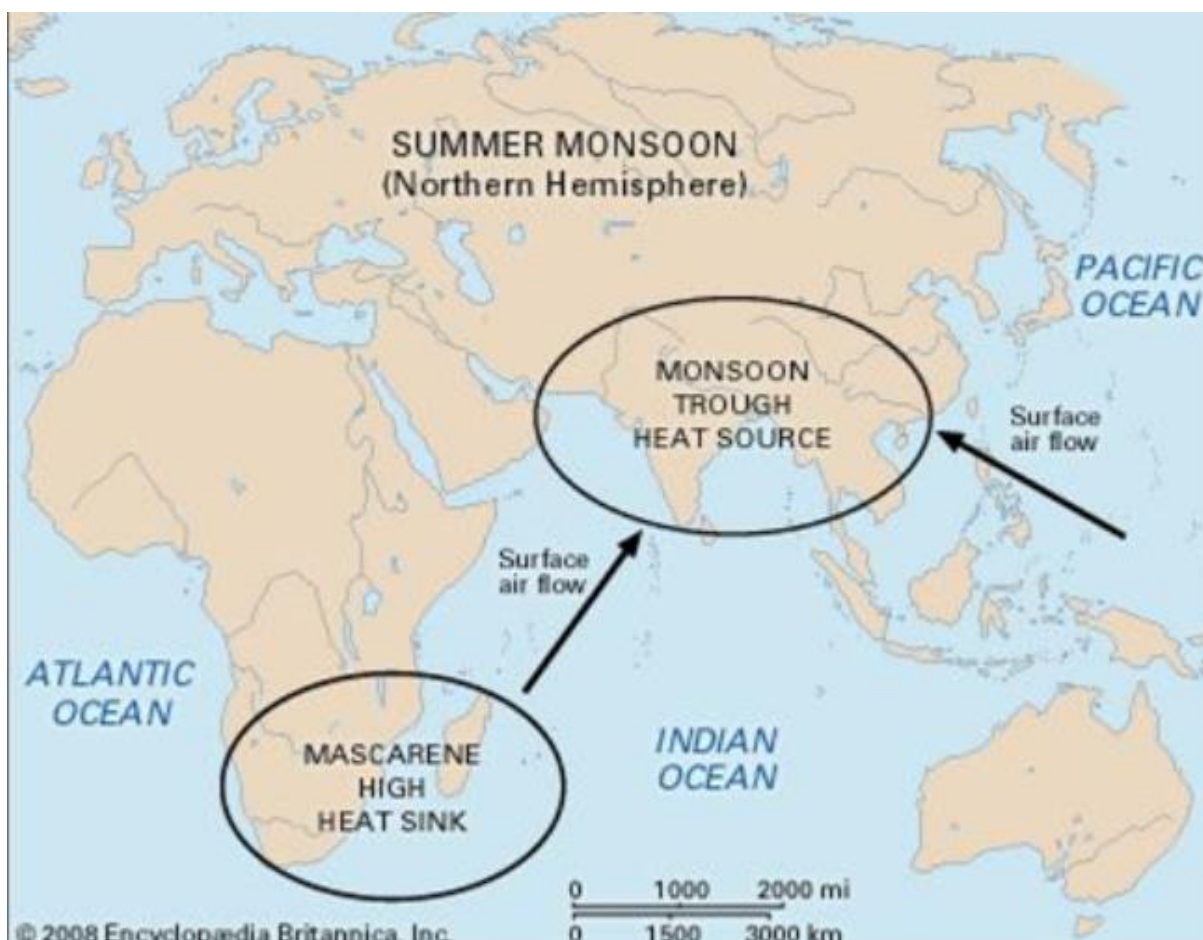
The **Indian Ocean Dipole or IOD** is caused by alternate warming and cooling in the Indian Ocean along the Equator from west to east, much like the ENSO.

The Equatorial Indian Ocean Oscillation (EQUINOO) is thought to arise as an effect of the IOD and refers to increased and decreased cloud formation between the western and eastern equatorial Indian Ocean.

Although the IOD was discovered only in 1999, and the EQUINOO in 2002, both have been recognised as important modulators of the Indian summer monsoon. **Positive IOD and EQUINOO events are associated with more rainfall as these events increase moisture transport from the southeastern parts of the Indian Ocean.**

The **Atlantic SST variability** affects the Indian summer monsoon in the same way that the ENSO does. A **warming of the surface of the Atlantic Ocean weakens the monsoon, just as cooling of the ocean's surface has the opposite effect.** The effects of this phenomenon, also known as the Atlantic Niño, on the Indian summer monsoon, is thought to be mediated through perturbations in the jet streams above India.

The **Mascarene High** is a semi-permanent high-pressure zone in the south Indian Ocean, about 4,000 km from India, near the Mascarene Islands. The Mascarene High begins developing in mid-April and is a major factor in driving the circulation between the northern and southern hemispheres that powers the summer monsoon winds towards the Indian subcontinent from the Indian Ocean.



Q37. Consider the following statements regarding

1. The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India relating to the accounts of the Indian states shall be submitted to the Governor.

2. As per the Constitution, CAG is also responsible for the audit and accounts of Panchayats and Municipalities.

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:

The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be **submitted to the President**, who shall cause them to be **laid before each House of Parliament**.

151. Audit reports.—(1) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament.

(2) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of a State shall be submitted to the Governor^{3***} of the State, who shall cause them to be laid before the Legislature of the State.

The **Legislature of a State may**, by law, make provisions with respect to the maintenance of accounts by the Panchayats and the auditing of such accounts.

243J. Audit of accounts of Panchayats.—The Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to the maintenance of accounts by the Panchayats and the auditing of such accounts.

Q38. Which of the following is/are the agencies of United Nations?

- a. The International Fund for Agricultural Development,
- b. World Intellectual Property Organization
- c. International Monetary Fund

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The UN specialized agencies are autonomous international organizations working with the United Nations.

FAO

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

The Food and Agriculture Organization leads international efforts to fight hunger. It is both a forum for negotiating agreements between developing and developed countries and a source of technical knowledge and information to aid development.

ICAO

Headquarters: Montreal, Canada

The International Civil Aviation Organization develops standards for global air transport and assists its 192 Member States in sharing the world's skies to their socio-economic benefit.

IFAD

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

The International Fund for Agricultural Development, since it was created in 1977, has focused exclusively on rural poverty reduction, working with poor rural populations in developing countries to eliminate poverty, hunger and malnutrition; raise their productivity and incomes; and improve the quality of their lives.

ILO

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

The International Labor Organization promotes international labor rights by formulating international standards on the freedom to associate, collective bargaining, the abolition of forced labor, and equality of opportunity and treatment.

IMF

Headquarters: Washington, DC, USA

The International Monetary Fund fosters economic growth and employment by providing temporary financial assistance to countries to help ease balance of payments adjustment and technical assistance. The IMF currently has \$28 billion in outstanding loans to 74 nations.

IMO

Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

The International Maritime Organization has created a comprehensive shipping regulatory framework, addressing safety and environmental concerns, legal matters, technical cooperation, security, and efficiency.

ITU

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

The International Telecommunication Union is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies. It is committed to connecting all the world's people - wherever they live and whatever their means. Through our work, we protect and support everyone's fundamental right to communicate

UNESCO

Headquarters: Paris, France

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization focuses on everything from teacher training to helping

UNIDO

Headquarters: Vienna, Austria

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.

UNWTO

Headquarters: Madrid, Spain

The World Tourism Organization is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

UPU

Headquarters: Bern, Switzerland

The Universal Postal Union is the primary forum for cooperation between postal sector players. It helps to ensure a truly universal network of up-to-date products and services.

WHO

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

The World Health Organization is the directing and coordinating authority on international health within the United Nations system. The objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health, as defined in the WHO Constitution, is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

WIPO

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

The World Intellectual Property Organization protects intellectual property throughout the world through 23 international treaties.

WMO

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

The World Meteorological Organization facilitates the free international exchange of meteorological data and information and the furtherance of its use in aviation, shipping, security, and agriculture, among other things.

WORLD BANK

Headquarters: Washington, DC, USA

The World Bank focuses on poverty reduction and the improvement of living standards worldwide by providing low-interest loans, interest-free credit, and grants to developing countries for education, health, infrastructure, and communications, among other things. The World Bank works in over 100 countries.

- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)*
- International Development Association (IDA)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)*

* International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) are not

Q39. With respect to India's foreign exchange reserves, consider the following statements.

1. If other currencies in our Forex appreciates, our Forex will increase
2. If Dollar appreciates with respect to other currencies, then our Forex will increase.

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:

Our FOREX reserve has several foreign currencies including US dollar. But our forex is expressed in terms of US dollars. So, now suppose we have in our forex one billion Pound also. and the Dollar Pound rate is: \$ 1 = pound 0.8. So, one billion pound will be \$ 1.25 billion in our forex. Now suppose pound appreciates to \$1 = pound 0.75. So, now the same one billion pound will be \$ 1.33 billion in our forex. and RBI will say that our forex increased. But if dollar appreciates say, \$ 1 = pound 1 So, now one billion pound will be just \$ 1 billion in our Forex and RBI will say our Forex decreased.

So, if other currencies in our Forex appreciates, our Forex will increase.

and if Dollar appreciates with respect to other currencies, then our Forex will decrease.

Q40. Who appoints the Acting Chief Justice for the High Courts?

- a. CJI in consultation with President
- b. CJI in consultation with Governor
- c. CJI in consultation with High Court Judge
- d. President

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

In exercise of the powers conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Vineet Kothari, senior-most Judge of Gujarat High Court, to perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of that High Court with effect from the date Shri Justice Vikram Nath relinquishes the charge as Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court consequent upon his appointment as Judge of the Supreme Court of India and Shri Justice Rashmin Manharbhai Chhaya, senior-most Judge of Gujarat High Court, to perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court with effect from 02nd September, 2021 consequent upon the retirement of Shri Justice Vineet Kothari.

Also see article:

223. Appointment of acting Chief Justice.—When the office of Chief Justice of a High Court is vacant or when any such Chief Justice is, by reason of absence or otherwise, unable to perform the duties of his office, the duties of the office shall be performed by such one of the other Judges of the Court as the President may appoint for the purpose.

at the export of a country is greater than its imports. The export of a country helps in bringing foreign currency. So surplus trade will bring more foreign currency. As a result of which the domestic currency will appreciate.

Q41. In essence, what does 'Due Process of Law' mean?

- a. The principle of natural justice
- b. The procedure established by law
- c. Fair application of law
- d. Equality before law

Solution: a

Explanation:

"Natural Justice is a distillate of due process of law" – Justice Magarry, as quoted in *Maneka Gandhi v/s Union of India*, 1978 – the landmark case for due process of law in India.

The confusion here is due to option 'c', but that can be discarded simply because it states "application". 'Due Process' is not just about application of a law/procedure, but also the fairness of that law/procedure itself. "Fair application" would again make it 'Procedure Established by Law' by checking the fairness of executive action, but the 'Due Process of Law' is meant to check the fairness of the legislative action as well.

Q42. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, prisons are managed by State Governments with their own rules and regulations for the day-to-day administration of prisons.

Statement-II: In India, prisons are governed by the Prisons Act, 1894 which expressly kept the subject of prisons in the control of Provincial Governments.

Q43. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

I think many of you here will mark it incorrect.

Both statements are correct. However, prisons are managed by State Govts. not because of the said Act but because of the placement of the subject of prisons in the State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Q43. Which one of the following statements best reflects the chief purpose of the 'Constitution' of a country?

- a. It determines the objective for the making of necessary laws.
- b. It enables the creation of political offices and a government.
- c. It defines and limits the powers of government.
- d. It secures social justice, social equality and social security.

Solution: c

Q44. In India, which one of the following Constitutional Amendments was widely believed to be enacted to overcome the judicial interpretations of Fundamental Rights?

- a. 1st Amendment
- b. 42nd Amendment
- c. 44th Amendment
- d. 86th Amendment

Solution: a

Explanation:

1st Amendment – The most popular contribution of this amendment was the Ninth Schedule and the associated Articles 31A and 31B. That was in the background of the agrarian reforms, especially the Zamindari abolition laws. It also expanded the scope of restrictions on fundamental rights (esp. freedom of speech and expression) in the background of various court judgments striking down various laws on public safety, press etc. Even the ‘Statement of Objects and Reasons of the First Amendment notes “difficulties brought to light by judicial decisions” in the opening sentence. The **main objective was, and it is widely known for**, overcoming judicial interpretations of FRs.

THE CONSTITUTION (FIRST AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Constitution (First Amendment) Bill, 1951 which was enacted as the Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

During the last fifteen months of the working of the Constitution, certain difficulties have been brought to light by judicial decisions and pronouncements specially in regard to the chapter on fundamental rights. The citizen's right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by article 19(1)(a) has been held by some courts to be so comprehensive as not to render a person culpable even if he advocates murder and other crimes of violence. In other countries with written

Q45. Consider the following organizations/ bodies in India:

1. The National Commission for Backward Classes
2. The National Human Rights Commission
3. The National Law Commission
4. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

How many of the above are constitutional bodies?

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

Solution: a

Explanation: Only NCBC is a constitutional body.

Q46. Consider the following statements:

1. If the election of the President of India is declared void by the Supreme Court of India, all acts done by him/her in the performance of duties of his/her office of President before the date of decision become invalid.
2. Elections for the post of the President of India can be postponed on the ground that some Legislative Assemblies have been dissolved and elections are yet to take place.

3. When a Bill is presented to the President of India, the Constitution prescribes time limits within which he/she has to declare his/her assent.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Article 71(2), Article 71(4), Article 111 of the Constitution of India.

¹[**71. Matters relating to, or connected with, the election of a President or Vice-President.**—(1) All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final.

(2) If the election of a person as President or Vice-President is declared *void* by the Supreme Court, acts done by him in the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of the office of President or Vice-President, as the case may be, on or before the date of the decision of the Supreme Court shall not be invalidated by reason of that declaration.

(4) The election of a person as President or Vice-President shall not be called in question on the ground of the existence of any vacancy for whatever reason among the members of the electoral college electing him.]

111. Assent to Bills.—When a Bill has been passed by the Houses of Parliament, it shall be presented to the President, and the President shall declare either that he assents to the Bill, or that he withholds assent therefrom:

Provided that the President may, as soon as possible after the presentation to him of a Bill for assent, return the Bill if it is not a Money Bill to the Houses with a message requesting that they will reconsider the Bill or any specified provisions thereof and, in particular, will consider the desirability of introducing any such amendments as he may recommend in his message, and when a Bill is so returned, the Houses shall reconsider the Bill accordingly, and if the Bill is passed again by the Houses with or without amendment and presented to the President for assent, the President shall not withhold assent therefrom.

Q47. With reference to Finance Bill and Money Bill in the Indian Parliament Money the following statements:

1. When the Lok Sabha transmits the Finance Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it can amend or reject the Bill.
2. When the Lok Sabha transmits Money Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it cannot amend or reject the Bill, it can only make recommendations.
3. In the case of disagreement between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, there is no joint sitting for Money Bill, but a joint sitting becomes necessary for the Finance Bill.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

d. None

Solution: b

Explanation:

So, here finance bill should not be considered as money bill as UPSC has asked both bills separately.

First statement is correct:

The Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject the money bill but it has the power to amend or reject the finance bill.

Statement 2 is correct.

109. Special procedure in respect of Money Bills.—(1) A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States.

(2) After a Money Bill has been passed by the House of the People it shall be transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and the Council of States shall within a period of fourteen days from the date of its receipt of the Bill return the Bill to the House of the People with its recommendations and the House of the People may thereupon either accept or reject all or any of the recommendations of the Council of States.

(3) If the House of the People accepts any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses with the amendments recommended by the Council of States and accepted by the House of the People.

(4) If the House of the People does not accept any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses in the form in which it was passed by the House of the People without any of the amendments recommended by the Council of States.

Third is also incorrect:

To resolve a deadlock, the President can summon a joint sitting of Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha in case if it is finance bill, however no such provision is made in case of a money bill. But the word “necessary” is a problem here.

Q48. With reference to ‘Scheduled Areas’ in India, consider the following statements:

1. Within a State, the notification of an area as Scheduled Area takes place through an Order of the President.
2. The largest administrative unit forming the Scheduled Area is the district and the lowest is the cluster of villages in the Block.
3. The Chief Ministers of concerned States are required to submit annual reports to the Union Home Ministry on the administration of Scheduled Areas in the States.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First and second are correct.

The Fifth Schedule under Article 244(1) of Constitution defines “Scheduled Areas” as such areas as the President may by order declare to be Scheduled Areas after consultation with the Governor of that State.

The largest administrative unit forming the scheduled areas has been the district and the lowest the cluster of villages in the block.

Third is incorrect.

3. Report by the Governor to the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas.— The Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas therein shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas in that State and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to the State as to the administration of the said areas.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Supreme Court of India has held in some judgments that the reservation policies made under Article 16(4) of the Constitution of India would be limited by Article 335 for maintenance of efficiency of administration.

Statement-II: Article 335 of the Constitution of India defines the term ‘efficiency of administration’.

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

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Solution: c

Explanation:

In the past seven decades of constitutional jurisprudence on reservations, the Supreme Court of India has consistently referred to the notions of “efficiency” and “merit,” while adjudicating the validity of various reservation policies. The Court has held in several judgments — *Indra Sawhney v Union of India* 1993; *M Nagaraj v Union of India* 2006 — that the reservation policies made under Article 16(4)¹ of the Constitution would be limited by Article 335,² which provides for “maintenance of efficiency of administration,” while considering the claims of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the making of appointments to public services and posts. This was done while the Constitution does not define the term “efficiency of administration.”

335. Claims of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to services and posts.—The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State:

⁵[Provided that nothing in this article shall prevent in making of any provision in favour of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for relaxation in qualifying marks in any examination or lowering the standards of evaluation, for reservation in matters or promotion to any class or classes of services or posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.]

It is not defined.

Q50. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Constitution of India, the Central Government has a duty to protect States from internal disturbances.
2. The Constitution of India exempts the States from providing legal counsel to a person being held for preventive detention.
3. According to the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002, confession of the accused before the police cannot be used as evidence.


How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Solution: a


Explanation:


Only statement 1 is correct. Article 355 of the Constitution of India.

 **355. Duty of the Union to protect States against external aggression and internal disturbance.**—It shall be the duty of the Union to protect every State against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the Government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect.

Statement three is incorrect.

 The POTA, 2002 clearly defines the terrorist act and the terrorist in Section 3 and grants special powers to the investigating authorities under the Act. However, in order to ensure that these powers are not misused and the violation of human rights does not take place, specific safeguards have been built into the Act. Some of these are:

- No court can take cognizance of any offence under the Act without the previous sanction of the Central Government or, as the case may be, of the State Government.
- No officer lower in rank than the Deputy Superintendent of Police can investigate offences under the Act.
-  Confession made by a person before a police officer not below the rank of Superintendent of Police is admissible as evidence under the Act provided such person is produced with 48 hours before a magistrate along with his confessional statement.
- The Act provides for punishment for any officer who exercises powers maliciously or with malafide intentions. It also provides for award of compensation to a person who has been corruptly or maliciously proceeded against under the Act.

Q51. In reference to **Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Minor Forest Produce (MFP)**, consider the following statements.

1. The Minimum Support Price will be recommended by Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP).
2. The funds to procure MFP, infrastructure and losses will be completely borne by Central Government.
3. More than 50 Minor Forest Produce (MFP) are under MSP coverage.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

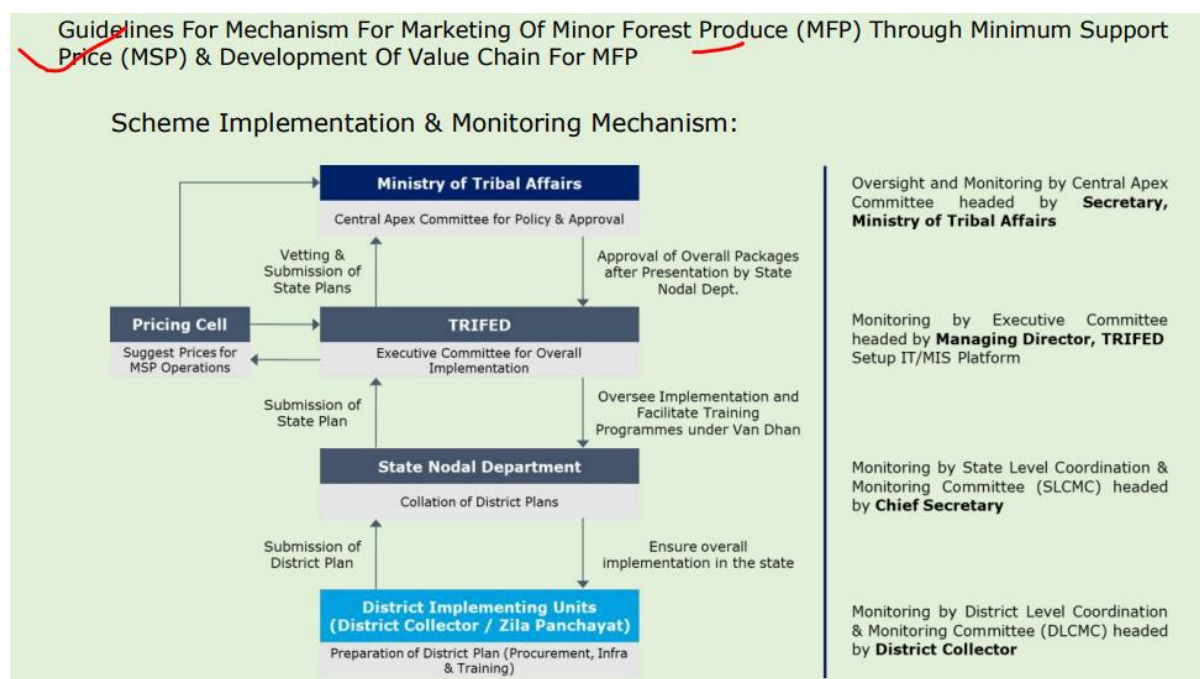
- a. Only 1
- b. Only 2
- c. All three
- d. None.

Solution: a

Explanation:

First and second statement is/are incorrect.

Cabinet approved the **scheme named “Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of value chain for MFP”** vide order dated 06.08.2013 for **providing MSP to gatherers of forest produces and introducing value addition and marketing through tribal groups and clusters.**



(iii) Pricing Cell

The Minimum Support Price will be recommended by the Pricing Cell setup in TRIFED. The Cell will constitute of members and experts in areas of price fixation, economic analysis, trade and marketing of MFPs. The announcement of MSP would be done by MoTA.

Third statement is correct. More than 50 are covered under this.

Q52. Consider the following pairs.

Recent volcanic eruptions	location
1. Nyamuragira	Indonesia
2. Popocatepetl	Mexico
3. Mount Etna	Italy

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Solution: b

Explanation:

Nyamulagira (also known as Nyamuragira) is a shield volcano in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mount Etna, or simply Etna, is an active stratovolcano on the east coast of Sicily, Italy.

Popocatépetl is one of the most active volcanoes in Mexico.

Q53. In reference to **certification of organic products in India**, consider the following statements.

- To make the certification system accessible without the need for third-party certification agencies, National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) was implemented.
- Participatory Guarantee System (PGS-India) for meeting the demand of domestic market is implemented under Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Food Safety Regulation has made it mandatory for organic products to be certified under NPOP or PGS for being sold in the domestic market under Jaivik Bharat logo.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Solution: a

Explanation:

In India, there are two systems that certify organic food products.

- a. **One is the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) which is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, and**
- b. **The other one is the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) which is implemented by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**

Both systems are independent of each other and **to make the certification system affordable and accessible without the need for third-party certification agencies, PGS-India was implemented.**

This is a farmer group-centric certification system for local and domestic markets.

NPOP was launched during 2001 by the Government of India under Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The NPOP *not only provides the institutional framework for accreditation of certification agencies and operationalization of certification programme through its accredited Certification Bodies (CBs) but also ensures that the system effectively works and is monitored on regular basis.*

Under PGS-India programme, Government is implementing Participatory Guarantee System of India (PGS-India) as a quality assurance initiative for certification of organic produce **that is locally relevant, emphasizing the participation of stakeholders, including producers / farmers and consumers and operate outside the frame of third-party certification.**

In the operation of PGS-India, stakeholders (including farmers/ producers) are involved in decision making and essential decisions about the operation of the PGS-India certification itself by assessing, inspecting, and verifying the production practices of each other and collectively declare produce as organic.

Only third is correct.

Food Safety Regulation has made it mandatory for organic products to be certified under NPOP or PGS for being sold in the domestic market under Jaivik Bharat logo.

Organic Food Products and their Certification Labels in India



Safe Food

(Labels provided under the 'Participatory Guarantee System' that are under the category of conversion fields)



*FSSAI's Organic certification label

Organic Food Products

(Labels provided under the 'Participatory Guarantee System' that are completely organic)



Or



*FSSAI's Organic certification label

Organic Food Products

(Labels provided under the 'National Programme for Organic Production')

Organic food Certification labels in India. Logos compiled by researchers.



To ensure end-to-end traceability (as per the requirements of regulatory framework under Food Safety Standard (FSS) [Organic Foods] Regulation 2017, **PGS-India programme also provides uninterrupted chain of custody, starting from producer groups till the products are processed and finally packed into retail packs.**

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding 'formation water'.

1. Formation water cannot be reused and recycled.
2. Water that develops during the drilling process for oil and gas extraction is known as the formation water.
3. It has a high viscosity and density.

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:

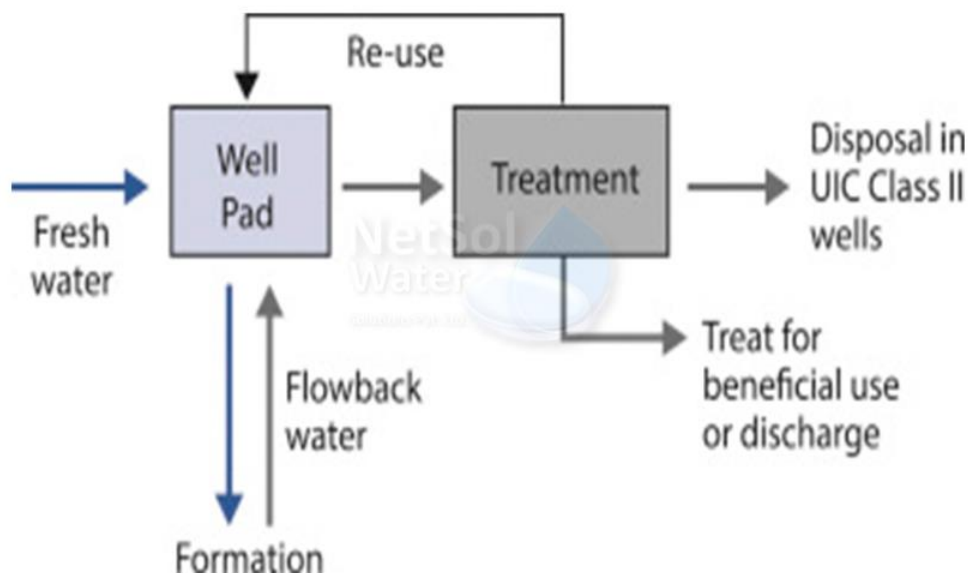
Water that develops during the drilling process for oil and gas extraction is known as the formation water.

It has a high viscosity and density.

In actuality, the chemical characteristics vary depending on the crude extracted, **although salts containing K^+ , Na^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} , CO_3^{2-} , and HCO_3^- are commonly found.**

Free oil, dispersed oil (tiny oil droplets), and emulsified oil are all types of oil and grease found in formation water.

Underground injection to encourage new oil production, usage for irrigation, livestock or wildlife watering, and habitat are **all part of the formation water treatment for reuse and recycling along with a variety of industrial applications** (e.g., dust control, vehicle washing, power plant makeup water, and fire control).



What is formation water?

How to treat?

COAGULATION AND FLOCCULATION

They are two terms for the same thing. The first steps in water treatment are commonly coagulation and flocculation. Positively charged chemicals are added to the water. The negative charge of dirt and other dissolved particles in the water is neutralized by the positive charge of these substances. When this happens, the particles connect with the chemicals and create floc, which are bigger particles.

Q55. Consider the following nations.

1. Thailand
2. Laos
3. Cambodia
4. Vietnam

Which of the above nations share boundaries with China?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Thailand and Cambodia don't share boundary with China.



Q56. Consider the following statements regarding the Attorney General of India:

1. He must be a person qualified to be appointed as a Judge of the High Court as well as the Supreme Court.
2. In the performance of his duties, he has the right of audience take part and right to vote in all Courts.
3. He receives salary as provided in second schedule of Indian Constitution.

Which of the Statements given above is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

First Statement is incorrect.

The Attorney-General for India

76. Attorney-General for India.—(1) The President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney-General for India.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to give advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, and to perform such other duties of a legal character, as may from time to time be referred or assigned to him by the President, and to discharge the functions conferred on him by or under this Constitution or any other law for the time being in force.

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

(4) The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President, and shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.

Second statement is incorrect. They are not entitled to vote.

88. Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General as respects Houses.—Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote.

Third statement is incorrect:

First of all, he doesn't receive salary, he receives remuneration. Second is, no mention of Attorney General in Second Schedule.

(4) The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President, and shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.

Q57. Consider the following statements regarding Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

1. CAG shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The duties and Powers of CAG are mentioned in 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: a

Explanation:

Article 148 states **there shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General** of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

148. Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.—(1) There shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

The Constitution has given authority to Parliament to frame power and duties of CAG.

149. Duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General.—The Comptroller and Auditor-General shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States and of any other authority or body as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States as were conferred on or exercisable by the Auditor-General of India immediately before the commencement of this Constitution in relation to the accounts of the Dominion of India and of the Provinces respectively.

So, Parliament enacted the comptroller and auditor general's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment ACT, 1971.

DPC ACT, 1971

The comptroller and auditor general's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment ACT, 1971
Comptroller and Auditor General of India

Q58. Consider the following statements regarding Deputy Chairman of India.

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

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

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

Removal of Deputy Chairman:

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

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

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

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

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

First statement is correct.

SECOND SCHEDULE

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

PART B— [*Omitted.*]

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

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

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

Q59. Consider the following statements regarding Biomining.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News is:

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

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

What metals are currently biominer?

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

Q60. Consider the following statements.

1. The G20 is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis.
2. G-7 was formed after G-20.
3. All members of G-7 are part of G-20.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

The **G20** is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis as a forum for the finance ministers and central bank governors of 19 countries and the European Union.

G-7 was formed in 1975. **Second statement is correct.**

G-7 members: United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Japan, France and Italy.

G:20 members: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, **Canada**, China, **France**, **Germany**, India, Indonesia, **Italy**, **Japan**, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the **United Kingdom**, the **United States**, and the European Union.

Q61. Consider the following countries of South America.

1. Bolivia
2. Ecuador
3. Uruguay
4. Paraguay

Which of the above countries **doesn't share boundaries with Ocean?**

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Except **Bolivia and Paraguay**, all other countries share boundaries with Oceans.



Q62. Consider the following Seas.

1. Aegean Sea
2. Strait of Gibraltar
3. Adriatic Sea

Arrange the above from **East to West**.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

From now only, you start creating picture of these maps in your mind. So, many times these images will come in our Practice quiz but with different places. **Gradually you will become expert. See map below.**



Q63. Consider the following nations.

1. Tajikistan
2. Turkmenistan
3. Uzbekistan
4. Kyrgyzstan

Which of the following Central Asian countries has/have border with Afghanistan but not with China?

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

Solution: b

Explanations:

Tajikistan shares boundary with Afghanistan as well as China.

Kyrgyzstan shares boundary with China but not with Afghanistan



Q64. If you travel from Himachal Pradesh to Andhra Pradesh, what is the minimum number of states you need to cross between two states?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Please try to recall map before seeing explanations. Learn to draw map in mind. It will take time, but you have to practice. Its compulsory.

One needs to **cross two states** between Himachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

Himachal Pradesh- **Uttar Pradesh-Chhattisgarh**-Andhra Pradesh



Q65. Consider the following nations.

1. Thailand
2. Laos
3. Cambodia
4. Vietnam

Which of the above nations share boundaries with China?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Thailand and Cambodia don't share boundary with China.



Q66. Consider the following South East Asian Countries Capitals.

1. Bangkok (Thailand)
2. Naypyidaw (Myanmar)
3. Hanoi (Vietnam)
4. Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

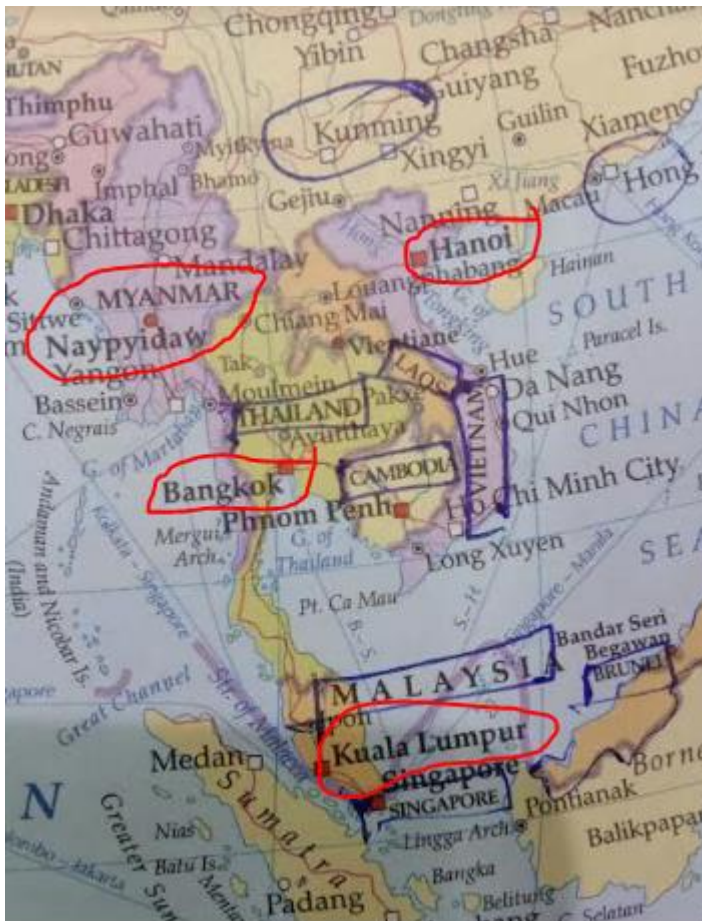
Arrange the above places from North to South.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Now let us see the map. These South East Asian countries are very much important for exam as these countries connects North -Eastern India (India's Act East Policy).



Q67. Consider the following capitals.

1. Gandhinagar
2. Bhopal
3. Agartala
4. Aizawl

Which of the above capitals lies above Tropic of Cancer?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

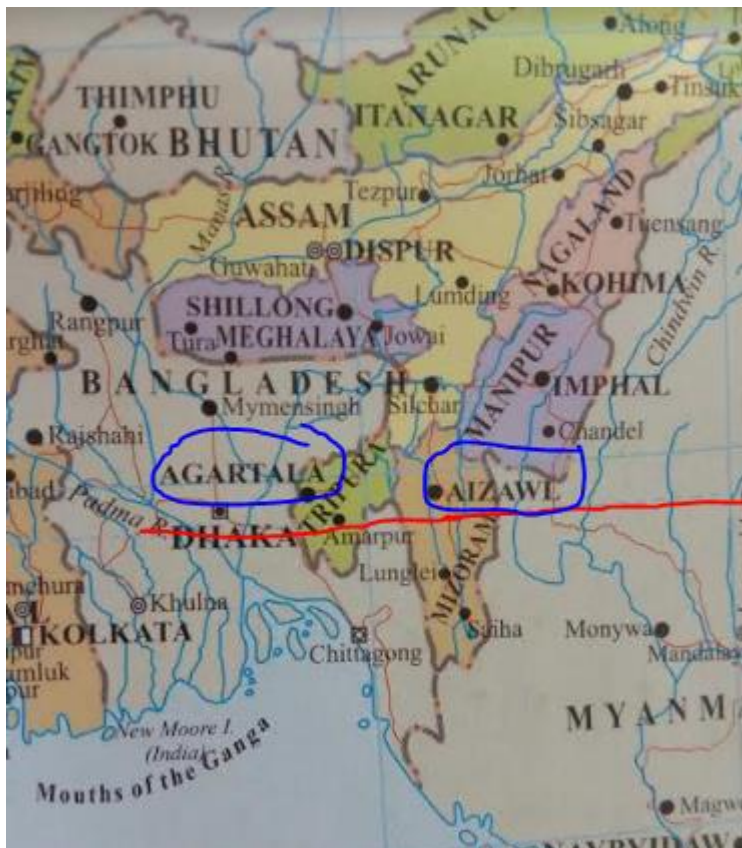
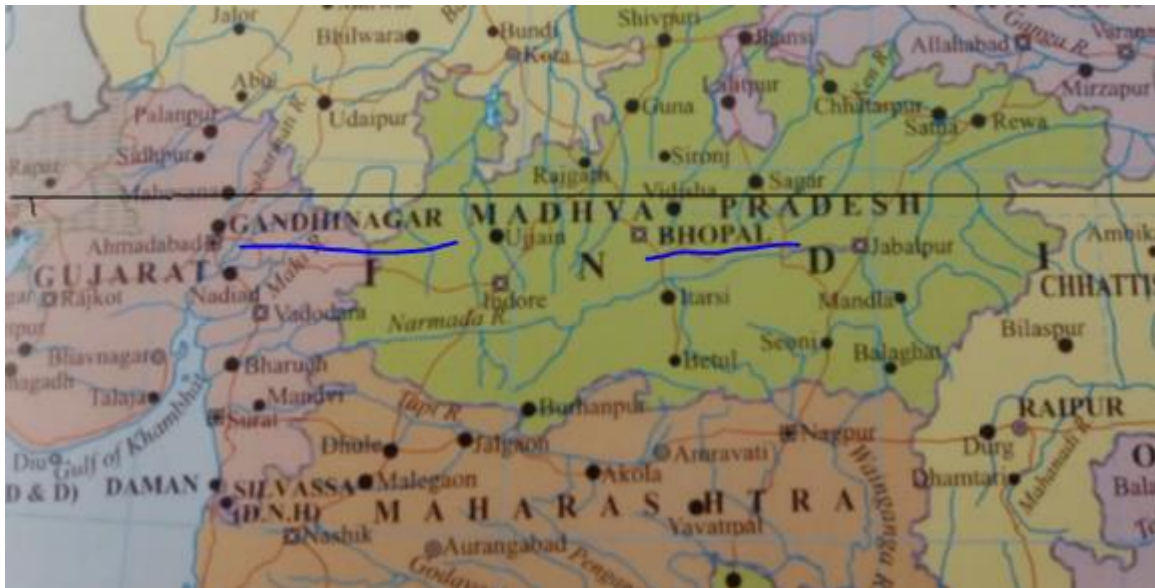
The above capitals belong to states through which Tropic of Cancer. So, first we will know through which states of India, Tropic of Cancer passes.

Tropic of Cancer passes through:

Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram.

Capitals of Rajasthan, Tripura and Mizoram lies above Tropic of cancer.

Let's see map now. Please open you Atlas Map book, if you have it.



Q68. Consider the following seas.

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

Arrange the above seas from East to West.

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

Solution: d

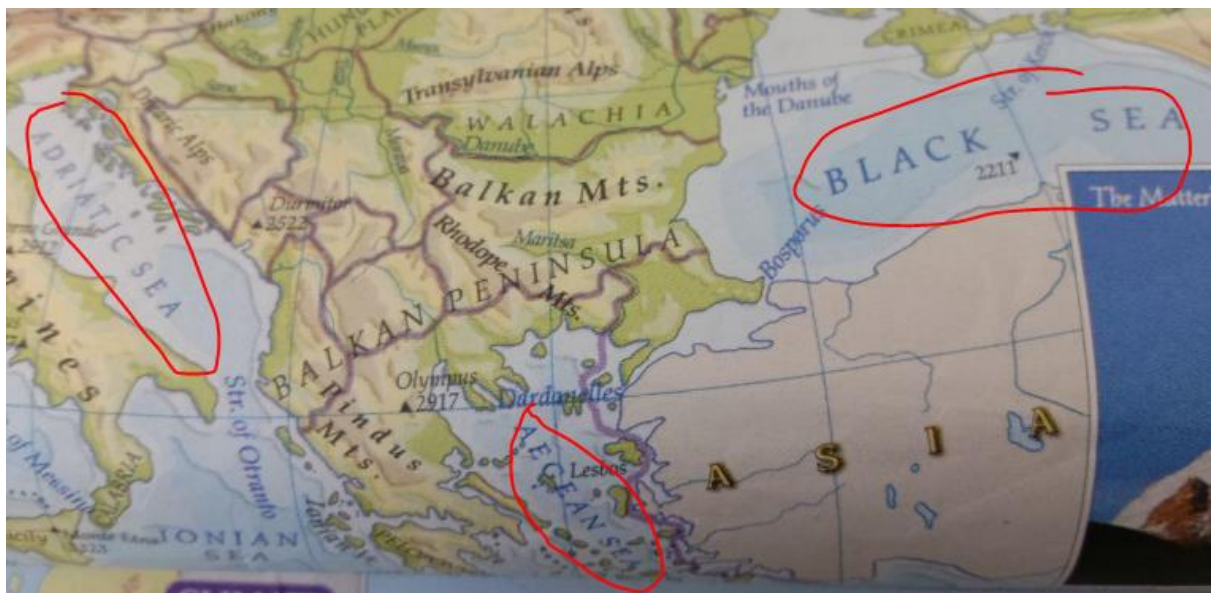
Explanation:

Adriatic Sea was already asked in Prelims 2019.

Correct order from West to East is:

Adriatic- Aegean- Black

See the map now.



Q69. Consider the following Central American Countries.

1. Costa Rica
2. Nicaragua
3. Panama
4. Guatemala

Arrange the above countries from West to East.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The correct order of countries from West to East:

Guatemala- Nicaragua- Costa Rica- Panama



Q70. Kamchatka Peninsula divides:

- a. Sea of Okhotsk and Arctic Sea
- b. Arctic Ocean and Pacific Ocean
- c. Sea of Okhotsk and Bering sea
- d. Artic Sea and Siberian Sea

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q71. Consider the following statements.

1. As per recent judgement, both married and unmarried women can seek an abortion beyond 20 weeks under Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971.
2. As per the Hindu Succession Act, only daughter belonging to the nontribal is entitled to the equal share in the property of the father, it is not applicable for tribal community.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The court held Rule 3B of the MTP Rules, which specifies the categories of women who can seek an abortion beyond 20 weeks, must be interpreted to include unmarried women as their exclusion would violate the right to equality.

X v. Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Another, (Civil Appeal No. 5802 of 2022).

[The Supreme Court held that all women are entitled to safe and legal abortion. The Court held that by eliminating the word “married woman or her husband” from the scheme of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971, the legislature intended to clarify the scope of Section 3 of the MTP Act and bring pregnancies which occur outside the institution of marriage within the protective umbrella of the law.] The Court further held that by framing Rule 3B of the MTP Rules, the legislature intended to solve the mischief, so to speak, of women being unable to access abortions when their lives underwent significant changes impacting their physical and mental health, and their decision to have a child was impacted after the length of the pregnancy exceeded twenty weeks. The Court also dwelled upon the right to

According to Section 2(2) of the Hindu Succession Act, the statute which guarantees equal shares for male and female heirs is not applicable to members of Scheduled Tribe communities

In a judgment on December 9, 2022, the Supreme Court asked the government to re-examine provisions in the Hindu Succession Act which deny a tribal woman the right of succession to her father’s property.

Q72. **SAMARTH** scheme of Indian Government aims to:

- Capacity building in textile sector
- Improving livelihood of tribals by providing them education
- Providing employment opportunities for youth in J and K and LADAKH REGION
- Building infrastructure for MSME

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Ministry of Textile has introduced a Scheme for Capacity Building in the Textile Sectors (SCBTS) which will be known as Samarth Scheme.

The Government launched this scheme to transform the unskilled labour force into a skilled one and engage them in different sectors. These sectors include knitting, processing, garment and other unorganized sectors, including handloom, carpet, jute, silk and many others.

Q73. Tropic of Cancer passes through:

- Garo and Khasi Hills
- Kachchh Peninsula
- Rohilkhand plains

4. Mizo Hills

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:



Q74. Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) is related to:

- a. protecting indigenous community and their habitats
- b. addressing illegal animal trades around globe
- c. protecting corals
- d. marine biodiversity in the deep seabed and high seas

Solution: d

Explanation:

BBNJ treaty addresses marine biodiversity in the deep seabed and high seas, which are largely unregulated under existing treaties. The high seas comprise most of the ocean's surface, serve as an important source of biodiversity, and supply a third of the world's oxygen.

As rising sea temperatures, ocean acidification, marine pollution, and overfishing pose serious threats, stakeholders have described the BBNJ treaty as the UN's "once in a lifetime" chance to protect marine biodiversity.

Q75. With respect to **Prevention of Money Laundering Act**, consider the following statements.

1. The anti-money laundering legislation was passed by the National Democratic Alliance government.
2. The Act empowered the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to control money laundering, confiscate property, and punish offenders.
3. Currently, cryptocurrency transactions in India is within the ambit of PMLA.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

What is the PMLA?

The anti-money laundering legislation was passed by the National Democratic Alliance government in 2002, and came into force on July 1, 2005. The PMLA was showcased as India's commitment to the **Vienna Convention on combating money laundering, drug trafficking, and countering the financing of terror** (CFT). The law was aimed at curbing the process of converting illegally earned money into legal cash. The Act **empowered the Enforcement Directorate (ED)** to control money laundering, confiscate property, and punish offenders.

The gazette notification by the Ministry brings cryptocurrency transactions within the ambit of PMLA. This means that Indian crypto exchanges will have to report any suspicious activity related to buying or selling of cryptocurrency to the Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU-IND).

Q76. With respect to the **appointment of Enforcement Directorate (ED)**, consider the following statements.

1. The Centre appoints the director of ED on recommendation of a committee chaired by Union Home Minister.
2. The committee to appoint ED consists members from Judiciary and Leader of opposition.
3. no person below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India shall be eligible for appointed as Director of Enforcement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The ED director is appointed as per provisions of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.

- (a) the Central Government shall appoint a Director of Enforcement in the Directorate of Enforcement in the Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of—
- (i) the Central Vigilance Commissioner — Chairperson;
 - (ii) Vigilance Commissioners — Members;
 - (iii) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Central Government — Member;
 - (iv) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Personnel in the Central Government — Member;
 - (v) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance in the Central Government — Member;
- (b) while making a recommendation, the Committee shall take into consideration the integrity and experience of the officers eligible for appointment;
- (c) no person below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India shall be eligible for appointment as a Director of Enforcement;

Q77. Consider the following statements.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

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

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

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

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

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

Q78. Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

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

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second statement is incorrect:

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

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

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

Q79. Consider the following statements.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: B

Explanation:

What do Indian laws say?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Last update: 9 November 2022

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

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

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

Q80. Consider the following statements regarding Panchayats.

1. The Constitution has authorized a Panchayat to levy, collect and appropriate such taxes, duties, tolls and fees.
2. The Hight Court has been authorized to look into the matter if disqualification of any member of Panchayat.

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.

It's Not Constitution, State Legislature authorize it.

243H. Powers to impose taxes by, and Funds of, the Panchayats.—~~The Legislature of a State may, by law,—~~

- (a) authorise a Panchayat to levy, collect and appropriate such taxes, duties, tolls and fees in accordance with such procedure and subject to such limits; .
- (b) assign to a Panchayat such taxes, duties, tolls and fees levied and collected by the State Government for such purposes and subject to such conditions and limits;
- (c) provide for making such grants-in-aid to the Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the State; and

Second Statement is incorrect.

No role of any High Court. The authority will be as provided by State Legislature by Law.

243F. Disqualifications for membership.—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of a Panchayat—

- (a) if he is so disqualified by or under any law for the time being in force for the purposes of elections to the Legislature of the State concerned:

Provided that no person shall be disqualified on the ground that he is less than twenty-five years of age, if he has attained the age of twenty-one years;

- (b) if he is so disqualified by or under any law made by the Legislature of the State.

(2) If any question arises as to whether a member of a Panchayat has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1), the question shall be referred for the decision of such authority and in such manner as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide.

Q81. Which of the following is/are dimensions for assessment and scoring under National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)?

1. Teaching, Learning & Resources
2. Research and Professional Practice
3. Graduation Outcomes
4. Outreach and Inclusivity

How many of the above options is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

NIRF ranks institutes by their total score; it uses five indicators to determine this score: 'Teaching, Learning & Resources' (30% weightage); 'Research and Professional Practice' (30%); 'Graduation Outcomes' (20%); 'Outreach and Inclusivity' (10%); and e) 'Perception' (10%).

Parameters



Teaching, Learning & Resources (TLR)

- > Student Strength including Doctoral Students (SS)
- > Faculty-student ratio with emphasis on permanent faculty (FSR)
- > Combined metric for Faculty with PhD (or equivalent) and Experience (FQE)
- > Financial Resources and their Utilisation (FRU)

Research and Professional Practice (RP)

- > Combined metric for Publications (PU)
- > Combined metric for Quality of Publications (QP)
- > IPR and Patents: Published and Granted (IPR)
- > Footprint of Projects and Professional Practice (FPPP)



Graduation Outcomes (GO)

- > Metric for University Examinations (GUE)
- > Metric for Number of Ph.D. Students Graduated (GPHD)

Outreach and Inclusivity (OI)

- > Percentage of Students from Other States/Countries (Region Diversity RD)
- > Percentage of Women (Women Diversity WD)
- > Economically and Socially Challenged Students (ESCS)
- > Facilities for Physically Challenged Students (PCS)
- > Perception (PR) Ranking



Peer Perception

- > Academic Peers and Employers (PR)

Q82. Consider the following statements.

1. Spiders can build webs in space.
2. Spider can be both, carnivores, or herbivores.
3. Spider venoms contains proteins and polypeptides that perform various functions including antimicrobial functions.

How many of the above statement sis/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First and third are correct.

A new paper has now noted that the webs built by spiders in space were quite symmetric. But when the light was on, they built asymmetric webs with the centre near the light source. The results were published in the journal *Science of Nature*.

Spider venoms are known to contain proteins and polypeptides that perform various functions including antimicrobial, neurotoxic, analgesic, activities.

Second is incorrect:

Spiders are carnivores. One two exceptions cannot describe them herbivores.

Q83. In reference to the MSP recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), consider the following statements.

1. After receiving the recommendations from the CACP, the Ministry of Agriculture takes a final decision on the level of MSPs of different crops.
2. CACP takes the views of state governments before submitting final recommendations to central government.
3. CACP is a statutory body formed under Agriculture Price Commission Act, 1962.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First and third are incorrect statements.

We will go to CACP website and search for authentic information:

CACP submits its recommendations to the government in the form of Price Policy Reports every year, separately for five groups of commodities namely Kharif crops, Rabi crops, Sugarcane, Raw Jute and Copra. Before preparing aforesaid five pricing policy reports, the Commission draws a comprehensive questionnaire, and sends it to all the state governments and concerned National organizations and Ministries to seek their views. Subsequently, separate meetings are also held with farmers from different states, state governments, National organizations like FCI, NAFED, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), trader's organizations, processing organizations, and key central Ministries. The Commission also makes visits to states for on-the-spot assessment of the various constraints that farmers face in marketing their produce, or even raising the productivity levels of their crops. Based on all these inputs, the Commission then finalizes its recommendations/reports, which are then submitted to the government. The government, in turn, circulates the CACP reports to state governments and concerned central Ministries for their comments. After receiving the feed-back from them, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) of the Union government takes a final decision on the level of MSPs and other recommendations made by CACP. Once this decision is taken, CACP puts all its reports on the web site for various stakeholders to see the rationale behind CACP's price and non-price recommendations.

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is a decentralised agency of the Government of India. It was established in 1965 as the Agricultural Prices Commission, and was given its present name in 1985.

It is an advisory body, not statutory, attached to the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

Q84. Consider the following statements.

1. The liability of the Railway Administration for death of passengers due to accidents is dealt by Indian Railways Act, 1989.
2. As per the Act, the railways administration is liable to pay compensation for loss of life to rail passengers who become victims of terrorist acts, robberies, etc.

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:

Section 124 of the Indian Railways Act, 1989 deals with the extent of liability of the Railway Administration for death, injury, or damage of goods belonging to passengers due to accidents. According to the Act, if a railway accident occurs involving **at least one train carrying passengers including a railway servant on duty**, the railway administration **is legally bound to pay** a prescribed compensation for loss of lives, injuries, and damage to goods belonging to passengers in the accident. The accident may **be due to collision, derailment, fire, or explosion, or due to road vehicles colliding with trains at level crossings, etc.**

Section 124. Extent of liability.- When in the course of working a railway, an accident occurs, being either a collision between trains of which one is a train carrying passengers or the derailment of or other accident to a train or any part of a train carrying passengers, then whether or not there has been any wrongful act, neglect or default on the part of the railway administration such as would entitle a passenger who has been injured or has suffered a loss to maintain an action and recover damages in respect thereof, the railway administration shall, notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, be liable to pay compensation to such extent as may be prescribed and to that extent only for loss occasioned by the death of a passenger dying as a result of such accident, and for personal injury and loss, destruction, damage or deterioration of goods owned by the passenger and accompanying him in his compartment or on the train, sustained as a result of such accident.

Since 1994, the Act has also made the railway administration liable to pay compensation for loss of life or injury to bonafide rail passengers, who become victims of untoward incidents such as terrorist acts, violent attacks, robberies, dacoity, rioting, shoot-out or arson by any persons in or on any train carrying passengers, waiting hall, cloakroom, reservation or booking office, platform, any place within the precincts of a railway station or the accidental falling of any passenger from a train carrying passengers.

2.2 With effect from 1.8.1994 under Section 124-A of the Railways Act, 1989 the railway administration has also become liable to pay compensation for loss of life or injury to bonafide rail passengers, who become victims of untoward incidents such as terrorist acts, violent attack, robbery, dacoity, rioting, shoot-out or arson by any persons in or on any train carrying passengers, waiting hall, cloak room, reservation or booking office, platform, any place within the precincts of a railway station or the accidental falling of any passenger from a train carrying passengers. Section 124-A of the Railways Act, 1989 reads as under:-

Q85. Consider the following pairs.

Regions in news	location
1. Nova Kakhovka	Armenia
2. Jakhau port	Kutch district, Gujarat

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Kakhovka dam and reservoir



Q86. As per the rules, who is the leader of Houses in Parliament?

- a. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- b. Leader of House is decided by Speaker, rules don't specify any position
- c. Person nominated by prime Minister
- d. Person elected by members in House.

Solution: c

Explanation:

As per the Rules of House, see for both the Houses,

Lok Sabha:

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

Rajya Sabha:

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

Q87. Consider the following.

1. A bill introduced to alter the boundaries of the state.
2. Introduction of Money Bills
3. A bill introduced by States to impose restrictions on the goods imported from other states

Which of the above Bills **need prior sanctions/recommendations of the President** before introduction into Parliament?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All given Bills need prior sanctions/recommendations of the President.

First option is correct.

3. Formation of new States and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing States.—Parliament may by law—

- (a) form a new State by separation of territory from any State or by uniting two or more States or parts of States or by uniting any territory to a part of any State;
- (b) increase the area of any State;
- (c) diminish the area of any State;
- (d) alter the boundaries of any State;
- (e) alter the name of any State;

⁴[Provided that no Bill for the purpose shall be introduced in either House of Parliament except on the recommendation of the President and unless, where the proposal contained in the Bill affects the area, boundaries or name of any of the States⁵, the Bill has been referred by the President to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon within such period as may be specified in the reference or within such further period as the President may allow and the period so specified or allowed has expired.]

Third option is correct.

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

- (a) impose on goods imported from other States ¹[or the Union territories] any tax to which similar goods manufactured or produced in that State are subject, so, however, as not to discriminate between goods so imported and goods so manufactured or produced; and
- (b) impose such reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse with or within that State as may be required in the public interest:

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

Second option is correct. Article 110 mentioned below is Money Bill.

117. Special provisions as to financial Bills.—(1) A Bill or amendment making provision for any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) of article 110 shall not be introduced or moved except on the recommendation of the President and a Bill making such provision shall not be introduced in the Council of States:

Q88. Who designates person as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act?

- a. Committee chaired by judge of Supreme Court
- b. Ministry of Home Affairs
- c. Ministry of Finance
- d. Committee chaired by Prime Minister.

Solution: b

Explanation:

Home Minister is the correct answer. No need for any explanation.

Q89. Which of the following correctly defines Bioprospecting?

- a. Use of modern technologies for in-situ and ex-situ conservation of wildlife
- b. process used to treat contaminated media, including water, soil and subsurface material, by altering environmental conditions to stimulate growth of microorganisms and degrade the target pollutants
- c. systematic and organized search for useful products derived from bioresources including plants, microorganisms, animals, etc., that can be developed further for commercialization and overall benefits of the society.
- d. Majorly used in Oceans, to develop an interlink between biotic and abiotic resources and develop a chain between them and use it as a criterion for protecting biodiversity

Solution: c

Explanation:

Bioprospecting

Bioprospecting or biodiversity prospecting is the exploration, extraction and screening of biological diversity and indigenous knowledge for commercially valuable genetic and biochemical resources. In the early stages, prospecting largely centred on the plants from the forest ecosystem. However in recent times, various other forms of biodiversity like insects, algae and microorganisms have been explored with considerable success (Kumar and Tarui, 2004). The bioprospecting of plants and living organisms for pharmaceutical purposes is useful not only to the pharmaceutical firms but also to the host country and the local people, who are benefited from the ownership of the biological resources. Although the discovery of medicinal products by bioprospecting is

Q90. Which of the following can potentially lead to a higher credit growth in the Indian banking sector?

1. Reduction in the Capital Adequacy Ratio by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
2. Cut in the Repo Rate by the RBI.
3. Increase in interest rates offered by small savings schemes.
4. Improvement in macroeconomic indicators of the economy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

The term bank credit refers to the amount of credit available to a business or individual from a banking institution in the form of loans. Higher credit growth in the Indian banking sector means banks have higher deposits which they can lend.

First statement is correct.

Reduction in the Capital Adequacy Ratio by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) - capital adequacy ratio (CAR) is a measurement of a bank's available capital expressed as a percentage of a bank's risk-

weighted credit exposures. So, its reduction will increase the capital available with the bank to lend thus it will increase the credit growth of the bank.

Second statement is correct:

Cut in the Repo Rate by the RBI – decreased lending rate by RBI to banks will increase the borrowing of banks and in turn, increase the lending capacity of banks to the businesses (credit growth)

Third statement is incorrect.

Increase in interest rates offered by small savings schemes – It will attract public to withdraw their money from bank deposits to these small saving schemes because of relatively high interest rates.
So, the credit growth of banks will decrease.

Fourth statement is correct.

Improvement in macroeconomic indicators of the economy- It will strengthen the overall economy and ultimately banking sector. For e.g., Increased GDP will increase the purchasing power of the public thus **increase in deposits in bank.**

Q91. Consider the following statements regarding **Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative**.

1. The initiative led by FAO uses advanced geospatial modeling and analytics to accelerate the market-based transformation of agrifood systems
2. The Initiative prioritizes countries and territories where poverty and hunger are highest or operational difficulties are greatest due to natural or man-made crises.
3. India is a member of this initiative.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Every single day, I go to all important websites to search for news, relevant topics for you people. So, as I searched for FAO website. **In home page, I found this and I chose topic for Quiz:**



IN FOCUS

[Annual funding overview](#)



IN FOCUS

[Hand in Hand Initiative](#)



IN FOCUS

[FAO Data Lab](#)

The Hand-in-Hand Initiative, launched in 2019, is a flagship of FAO and one of its core priority programme areas.

The Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative supports the implementation of nationally led, ambitious programmes to accelerate agrifood systems transformations by eradicating poverty (SDG1), ending hunger and malnutrition (SDG2), and reducing inequalities (SDG10).

It uses advanced geospatial modeling and analytics, as well as a robust partnership-building approach to accelerate the market-based transformation of agrifood systems.

The Initiative prioritizes countries and territories where poverty and hunger are highest, national capacities are limited, or operational difficulties are greatest due to natural or man-made crises.

As of January 2023, the Initiative supports 60 countries. **India is not a part of it.**

~~Asia~~ and the Pacific



Afghanistan



Bangladesh



Bhutan



Cambodia



Lao PDR



Nepal



Pakistan



Papua New Guinea



Solomon Islands



Tuvalu



Vanuatu

Q92. Consider the following pairs.

Lakes/rivers in news	location
1. Wular Lake	Ramsar site and largest freshwater lake in India
2. Chite Lui River	Manipur

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Wular lake everyone knows. The largest freshwater lake in India.

Mizoram's Chite Lui River is crying for help

Chite Lui River is in danger as it turns into a dumping ground in Aizawl. Citizens' efforts, lauded even by PM Modi, are making a difference but more is needed to save it from dying



NEXT NEWS >

By Gurminder Singh
Published: Sunday 11 June 2023

Q93. As per "The Electricity Act 2003", any person/entity requires a 'license':

- to generate electricity
- to transmit electricity
- to distribute electricity

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Solution: b

Explanation:

Section 12. (Authorised persons to transmit, supply, etc., electricity):

No person shall

- (a) transmit electricity; or
- (b) distribute electricity; or
- (c) undertake trading in electricity,

unless he is authorised to do so by a licence issued under section 14, or is exempt under section 13.

Section 13. (Power to exempt):

The Appropriate Commission may, on the recommendations, of the Appropriate Government, in accordance with the national policy formulated under section 5 and in the public interest, direct, by notification that subject to such conditions and restrictions, if any, and for such period or periods, as may be specified in the notification, the provisions of section 12 shall not apply to any local authority, Panchayat Institution, users' association, co-operative societies, non-governmental organizations, or franchisees:

Section 14. (Grant of licence):

The Appropriate Commission may, on an application made to it under section 15, grant a licence to any person -

- (a) to transmit electricity as a transmission licensee; or
- (b) to distribute electricity as a distribution licensee; or
- (c) to undertake trading in electricity as an electricity trader,

In India we **do not require licence for generation of electricity**. But for transmission, distribution, and trading, **License is required**.

Q94. Which of the following space agency has undertaken an intriguing study to investigate the effects of microgravity on culinary methods like frying?

- a. European Space Agency
- b. NASA
- c. China Space Agency
- d. North Kore Space Agency

Solution: a

Explanation:

The European Space Agency (ESA) has undertaken an intriguing study to investigate the effects of microgravity on culinary methods like frying.

✓ To study how microgravity influences cooking techniques such as frying, a novel experimental carousel-type apparatus was designed be safe while also operate in weightlessness. ✓ The experiments were conducted on two ESA parabolic flight campaigns, whereby an aircraft flies in repeated arcs to recreate brief moments of weightlessness.

Q95. 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.

Q96. Consider the following statements regarding Lignite coal deposits in India.

1. The carbon content of lignite is low compared to Anthracite and Bituminous.
2. More than 50 percent of the lignite deposits is in Tamil Nadu.
3. Only Lignite coal is found in India, all other varieties are imported.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct and third is incorrect: **Below information is form Ministry of coal [website](#).**

Types of coal found in India

Anthracite: It is the highest grade of coal containing a **high percentage of fixed carbon**. It is hard, brittle, black and lustrous. It is found in smaller quantity in regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bituminous: It is a medium grade of coal having high heating capacity. **It is the most commonly used type of coal for electricity generation in India. Most of bituminous coal is found in Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh.**

Subbituminous: It is black in colour, dull (not shiny) and has a higher heating value than lignite.

Lignite: It is the lowest grade coal with the **least carbon content**. It is found in the regions of Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Jammu & Kashmir.

Second statement is correct.

A report from Indian Bureau of Mines 2020: **Authentic information.**

Lignite

Indian lignite deposits occur in the Tertiary sediments in the southern and western parts of peninsular shield particularly in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Gujarat & Rajasthan and also in Jammu & Kashmir. The total known geological resources of lignite as on 01.04.2019 is about 45.759 billion tonnes, of which 79% resources are located in Tamil Nadu with about 36.230 billion tonnes. Other States where lignite deposits have been located are Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Rajasthan, West Bengal and the Union Territory of Puducherry. State-wise/District-wise

Q97. Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) has been developed by:

- a. RBI
- b. SEPI
- c. Ministry of Finance
- d. NITI Aayog

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme was announced by the **Reserve Bank on January 5, 2021**. The objective of the scheme was to encourage deployment of Points of Sale (PoS) infrastructure (both physical and digital modes) in tier-3 to tier-6 centres and north eastern states.

Q98. Consider the following statements regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

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

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

Second statement is incorrect:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Q99. Consider the following countries.

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

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

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

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



Q100. What happens to human life after death” is a theme used in:

- a. Warli Paintings
- b. Madhubani Paintings.
- c. Paitkar Paintings
- d. Manjusha Paintings

Solution: c

Explanations:

Practiced by the tribal **people of Jharkhand**, Paitkar paintings are considered one of the ancient paintings in the country.

The common theme of this painting is **“What happens to human life after death”**.

Q101. In reference to Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), consider the following statements.

1. The MCSD was established in line with Barcelona Convention as an advisory body to assist them to promote sustainable development policies in the Mediterranean region and countries.
2. Morocco and Algeria are Mediterranean countries.

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:

News:

✓ 20th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) 14-16 June 2023, Marseille, France

- Mediterranean countries, institutions, representatives of the private sector and academia, and civil society organizations come together for a new push for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region
- Unlocking the potential of the blue economy sustainably holds the key to the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development adopted within the framework of the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan—Barcelona Convention system

✓ The **Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025** provides an integrative policy framework for all stakeholders, including MAP partners, to translate the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** at the regional, sub-regional, national and local levels in the Mediterranean region.

As a strategic document, the MSSD serves to:

- adapt international commitments to regional conditions;
- guide national strategies and stimulate regional cooperation in the achievement of sustainable development objectives.

The MCSD was established in line with **Article 4 of the Barcelona Convention as an advisory body** to the Contracting Parties to assist them in their efforts to integrate environmental issues in their socioeconomic programmes and to promote sustainable development policies in the Mediterranean region and countries.

Reform of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and Updated MCSD Constitutive Documents

The 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred to as “the Barcelona Convention”,

Q102. Which of the following countries is/are part of Amazon basin?

1. Bolivia
2. Chile
3. Ecuador
4. Peru

How many of the above location falls under correct option?

- a. Only 1
- b. Only 2
- c. Only 3
- d. All four

Solution: c

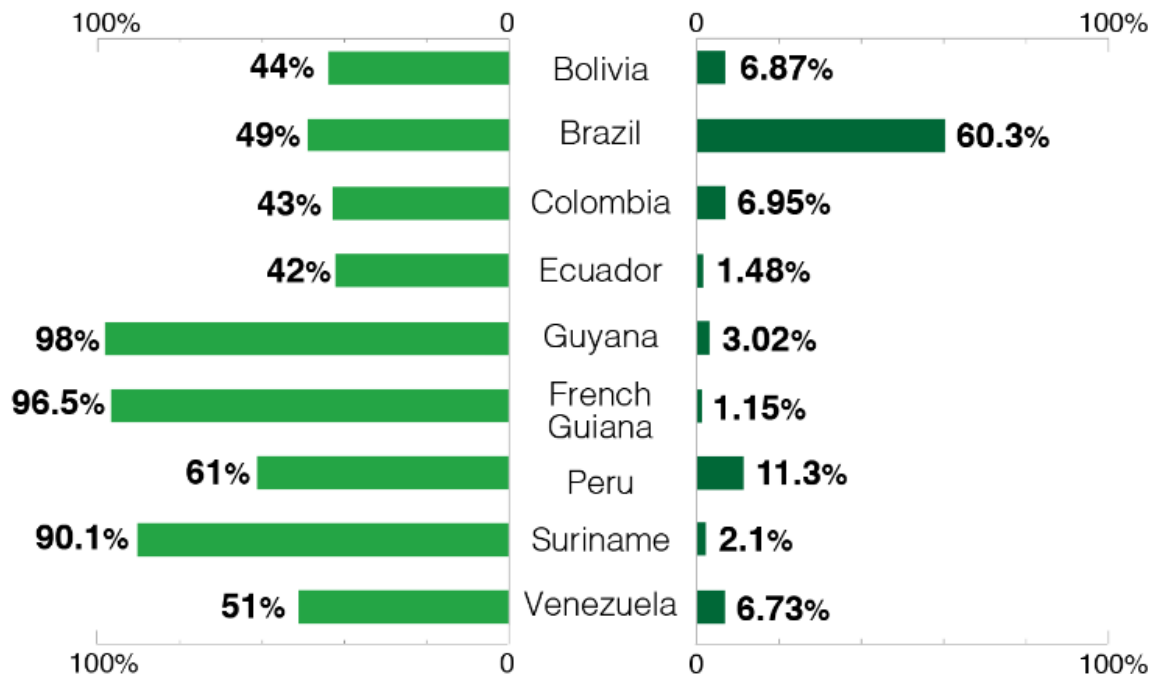
Explanation:

See two beautiful images below.



Who does the Amazon belong to?

■ % of country in the Amazon ■ % of the Amazon in each country



Source: Raisg, mongabay.com, ONU, OTCA

BBC

Q103. In reference to bye-elections in India, consider the following statements.

1. As per the Constitution, Election Commission is mandated to fill the vacancies in the Houses of Parliament through bye elections within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy.
2. A by-poll need not be held, if the remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is less than one year.

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 is incorrect: Constitution doesn't mention that.

Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 mandates the Election Commission to fill the casual vacancies in the Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures through bye elections within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy, provided that the remainder of the

term of a member in relation to a vacancy is one year or more.

¹[151A. Time limit for filling vacancies referred to in sections 147, 149, 150 and 151.— Notwithstanding anything contained in section 147, section 149, section 150 and section 151, a bye-election for filling any vacancy referred to in any of the said sections shall be held within a period of six months from the date of the occurrence of the vacancy:

Provided that nothing contained in this section shall apply if—

- (a) the remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is less than one year; or
- (b) the Election Commission in consultation with the Central Government certifies that it is difficult to hold the bye-election within the said period.

Q104. What are the 'major' objectives of National Food Security Act, 2013?

1. To provide adequate quantity of food to people to lead life with dignity
2. To provide free quality food to people.
3. To provide subsidies to farmers growing crops.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Just see the objective of Act, sab samjh aa jyga.

~~THE~~ NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT, 2013

ACT No. 20 OF 2013

[10th September, 2013.]

An Act to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

At affordable prices, NOT FREE. No mention of any subsidies to farmers. So, second and third are incorrect.

Q105. What are the advantages of Na-ion batteries?

1. Sodium materials are cheaper than Li-based materials
2. Na-ion cell can be totally discharged to zero volt
3. Na-ion batteries can be charged rapidly.

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:

Scientists have used nano-materials to develop Na-ion-based batteries and supercapacitors, which can be rapidly charged and have integrated them in e-cycles. **The low-cost Na-ion-based technologies would be cheap and are expected to reduce the cost of the e-cycles significantly.**

Sodium-ion (Na-ion) batteries have triggered academic and commercial interest as a possible complementary technology to lithium-ion batteries **because of the high natural abundance of sodium and the consequent low costs of Na-ion batteries.**

These **sodium materials are cheaper than Li-based materials, high performing, and can be scaled up to industrial-level production.**

The **Na-ion cell can also be totally discharged to zero volt**, similar to a capacitor, making it a safer option in comparison to many other storage technologies.

Na-ion batteries can be charged rapidly.

Q106. Consider the following.

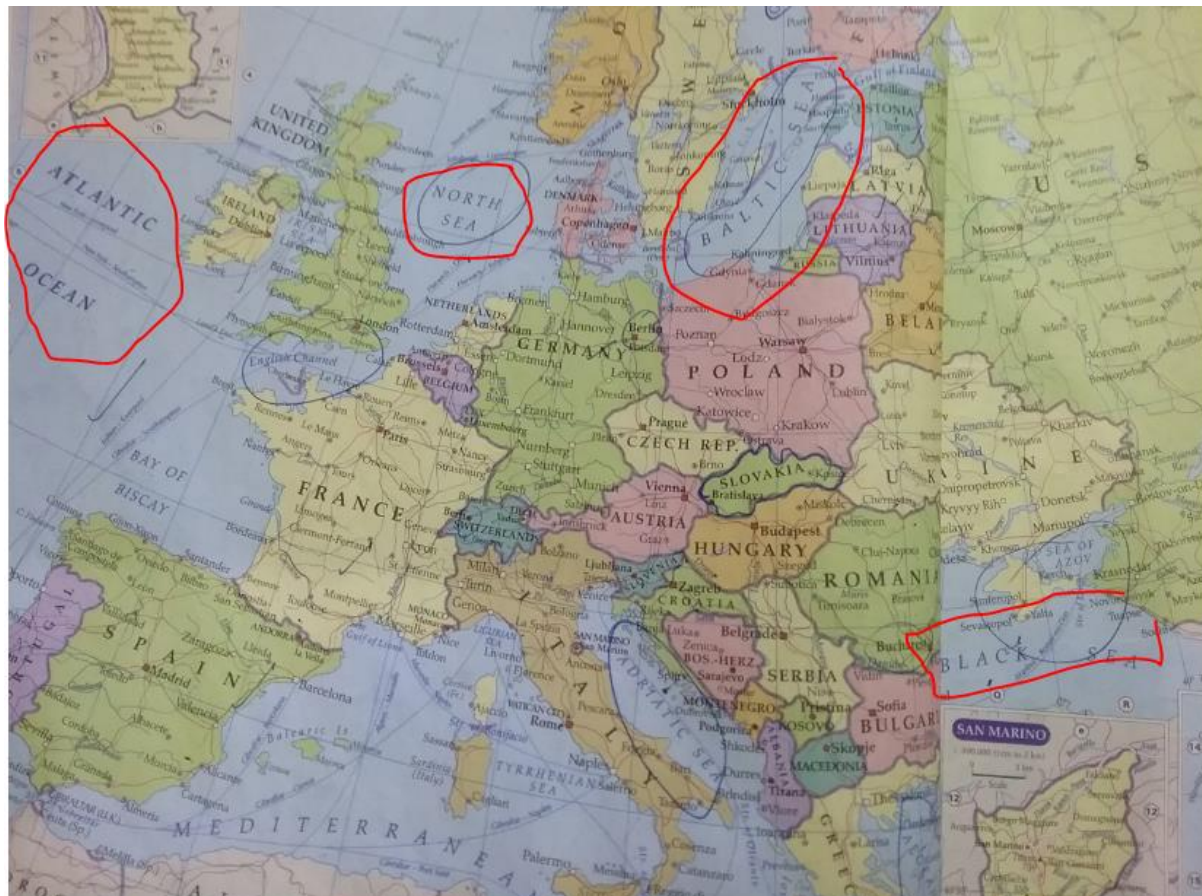
1. North Sea
2. Baltic Sea
3. Atlantic Ocean
4. Black Sea

Arrange the above seas from **West to East**.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q107. In the context of temple architectures, *Keralantakam*, *Rasarasan* and *Tiruanukkam* represents:

- Separate kitchen areas for different group of people inside Virupaksha Temple
- different religious places in the temple to perform different religious activities during Guptas
- Places dedicated for waste management of Temple during the reign of Vijayanagar
- Three Main entrances to the shrine in Brihadisvara Temple

Solution: d

Explanation:

Brihadisvara Temple: some important features of temple.



The Brihadeshvara Hindu Temple

The sacred monument of Brihadeshvara Temple of Tanjore, Tamilnadu, south India (1010 AD) is listed on the UNESCO's World Heritage Sites (1987) as part of the three Chola temples of Southern India. They represent an outstanding creative achievement in the architectural conception of the pure form of the Dravida temples. This style, originally known as Dravidadesha style, was practiced during several dynasties only in the state of Tamilnadu in South India. The Brihadeshvara Temple (or Rajarajeshvara) was built in the capital of the Chola dynasty Tanjore by Rajaraja the Great (985-1014 AD) and has been dedicated to Shiva. It was built of granite stone during a span of six years, and reflects the prosperity and opulence of the Chola kingdom.

This monument not only expresses the Chola power but also is considered as one of the finest architectural examples of intricate craftsmanship in stone (Michell 1989) (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Brihadeshvara Hindu Temple (1010 AD), Tanjore, Tamilnadu, India: view from the east (based on Harle 1986).

Q108. 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 Vice-President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.
2. The person elected to fill the vacancy of Vice 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:

68. Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of Vice-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 Vice-President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.

(2) An election to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy, and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of article 67, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

Q109. Right to form political party in India is a:

- a. Fundamental Right
- b. Legal Right
- c. Natural Right
- d. Constitutional Right

Solution: a

Explanation:

Article 19(1) (c) of the Constitution of India guarantees to all its citizens the right —to form associations, or unions or Co-operative Societies'.

The right to form association includes the right to form companies, societies, partnerships, trade union and **political parties**.

Q110. Cherial Scroll Paintings belongs to:

- a. Telangana
- b. Kerala
- c. Maharashtra
- d. West Bengal

Solution: a

Explanation:

It belongs to Telangana.

Q111. With reference to **Elephant Rehabilitation/Rescue Centres (ERCs)**, consider the following statements.

1. Captive Elephant Welfare Committee notified by state government to periodically inspect all ERCs and submit report to the Chief Wildlife Warden of state concerned.
2. ERCs should be designed of minimum 5 elephants and maximum 50 elephants.
3. The Animal Board of Wildlife issues certificate to any personal for lawful possession of any animal.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- a. Only one

- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. None

Solution: b

Explanation:

First and second are correct statements.

Standards / Norms for Recognition of Elephant Rehabilitation/Rescue Centres under Section 42 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

An Expert Group, chaired by Inspector General of Forests (Project Elephant) was constituted on 30th April, 2015 by the Central Zoo Authority to "Develop Standards / Norms for Recognition of Elephant Rehabilitation/Rescue Centres (ERCs)" (copy enclosed). This decision was necessitated in view of large numbers of complaints regarding abuse of captive elephants from elephant lovers/animal right activists, both within and outside the country. The Expert Group met three times on 17th July, 2015; 9th September, 2015 and 20th January, 2016 and a draft report, developed in its last meeting, was circulated to all members vide email dated 4.2.2016 and the report was modified in view of comments received from various quarters.

Captive Elephant Welfare Committee (District Level), duly notified by the State Governments will be authorized to periodically inspect all ERCs and complaints relating to captive elephants and submit their report to the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State/UTs concerned for certification of norms by concerned ERCs.

Important guidelines:

1. ERCs should be located, preferably near the forest areas with access to water body/streams.
2. ERCs should be designed for a minimum of 5 elephants and maximum of 50 elephants.
3. As a thumb rule, the minimum area for ERCs should be 0.2 hectares/elephant.
4. Perimeter of ERCs should be fenced with an elephant proof barrier. Eg. Solar power fence, elephant proof trenches and/or walls
5. Every ERC should have
 - (i) Holding area with shed
 - (ii) Raised feeding platform
 - (iii) Water trough/pool

Third statement is incorrect:

42. Certificate of ownership.—The Chief Wild Life Warden may, for the purposes of section 40, issue a certificate of ownership in such form, as may be prescribed to any person who, in his opinion, is in lawful possession of any wild animal or any animal article, trophy, uncured trophy and may, where possible, mark, in the prescribed manner, such animal article, trophy or uncured trophy for purposes of identification.

Q112. United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 was recently signed in India by:

- a. NITI Aayog and United Nations in India
- b. Ministry of Cooperation and UNICEF
- c. Ministry of Science and Technology and UNDP
- d. Ministry of Environment and UNEP

Solution: a

Explanation:

See below:

NITI Aayog and the United Nations in India signed the Government of India - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 today.

GoI-UNSDCF 2023-2027 represents the UN development system's collective offer to the Government of India, in line with the national vision for development, for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting gender equality, youth empowerment and human rights. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/279 designates the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework as the principal planning and implementation instrument for the UN Development System at country level. Programme priorities of the UN entities working at the country are derived from the GoI-UNSDCF.

Q113. Consider the following statements.

1. TRAFFIC is an organization that was established in by World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and IUCN as a wildlife trade monitoring network
2. TRAFFIC's mission is built on the long-term vision of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
3. TRAFFIC is a leading non-governmental organisation.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

TRAFFIC is a strategic alliance of which two international bodies of WWF and IUCN.

Since its formation in 1976, the responsibilities of TRAFFIC included data collection, analysis, and providing recommendations related to wildlife trade. Being a leader in wildlife trade research for over 40 years, **TRAFFIC became an independent non-profit organization in 2017**. Therefore, the organization consists of its independent Board members along with the Board of Directors from WWF and IUCN.

OUR MISSION IS TO ENSURE THAT TRADE IN WILD SPECIES IS LEGAL AND SUSTAINABLE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PLANET AND PEOPLE

TRAFFIC's mission is built on the long-term vision of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: *a world living in harmony with nature where by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored, and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.*

Our mission is closely linked with the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to terrestrial and marine ecosystems and sustainable production and consumption.

Our work reinforces the vision for legal and sustainable international trade set out in the CITES Strategic Vision for 2021-2030 and the focus on sustainable use of biodiversity set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity.

To realise this long-term mission, we have set two specific goals to guide our work through 2030, linked to the targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework:

1. *Illegal and unsustainable trade in wild species will be significantly reduced by 2030;*
2. *Legal and sustainable trade in wild species will provide significantly increased social, economic, and environmental benefits for people by 2030.*

Q114. Consider the following statements regarding Dimethyl Ether (DME).

1. When used instead of diesel fuel, it reduces NOx emissions.
2. It is produced from natural gas and other sources like biomass and coal.
3. IIT Kanpur developed a 100% DME-fueled engine with a mechanical fuel injection system.

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: d

Explanation:

News:

[Home](#) >> Country's first Dimethyl Ether fuelled tractor ushers a new era of clean fuel applications

Country's first Dimethyl Ether fuelled tractor ushers a new era of clean fuel applications

3 Dimethyl ether (DME) and its synthesis

DME is a clean burning, synthetic fuel, completely soot-less. It is a substitute for diesel fuel or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). When used instead of diesel fuel, it reduces NOx emissions by 90%, and offers a high cetane number. It can also be reformed into a hydrogen fuel for fuel cells. It is produced from natural gas, but it can also be produced from other sources like biomass and coal. DME is produced by an in-direct method as well as in a one-step, direct process.

India's first 100% Dimethyl Ether (DME) -fuelled tractor/ vehicle for on- and off-road applications has been developed.

To bring the country up to speed in renewable energy sector, researchers at IIT Kanpur developed a **100% DME-fuelled engine with a mechanical fuel injection system**. It exhibited **higher thermal efficiency and lower emissions than the baseline diesel engine**.

Q115. Consider the following statements.

1. Assam has the highest number of national parks in India.
2. Both Central and State government can declare National Parks.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Assam's national park count to seven, making it the Indian state with the second-highest number of national parks, **just behind Madhya Pradesh which has nine. First statement is incorrect.**

Second is correct.

National Parks

35. Declaration of National Parks.—(1) Whenever it appears to the State Government that an area, whether within a sanctuary or not, is, by reason of its ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological or zoological association or importance, needed to be constituted as a National Park for the purpose of protecting, propagating or developing wild life therein or its environment, it may, by notification, declare its intention to constitute such area as a National Park.

Sanctuaries or National Parks declared by Central Government

38. Power of Central Government to declare areas as sanctuaries or National Parks.—(1) Where the State Government leases or otherwise transfers any area under its control, not being an area within a sanctuary, to the Central Government, the Central Government may, if it is satisfied that the conditions

Q116. 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 in the SDR 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

Q117. In the context of India Polity, consider the following statements regarding Referendum.

1. As per the Constitution, Referendum is prohibited in India.
2. India has never exercised Referendum after independence.
3. Referendum is an example of indirect democracy majorly practiced by non-democratic nations.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The statement 1 is incorrect as Referendum is a tool of direct democracy.

What is the difference between direct and indirect democracy?

Majority of democratic nations across the world, **follow the system of an indirect democracy**, wherein the citizens elect their representatives, who in turn make laws, determine policies and carry-on administrative work. **On the other hand**, in some countries citizens directly take part in the administration of the country, decide on policy issues and make laws as well. **This form is called a direct democracy** and a **referendum** is a facet/means of it. In a referendum, the citizens are called to vote in person (rather than through their elected representatives) on a policy decision to be taken by the government (for instance, United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union) or an amendment to their Constitution. *Several nations have incorporated provisions for referendums in their Constitution.*

Second statement is incorrect.

India has Practiced referendum after Independence. Check below:

Independent India and Referendums

The Constitution as adopted by the Constituent Assembly, did not have any provisions for a referendum. However, the **nation witnessed referendums on five key occasions.**

- First, during the incorporation of Chandernagore within the territory of India
- Incorporation of princely state of Junagadh, wherein the citizens voted to accede to India rather than Pakistan in the year 1948
- Pondicherry (a former French territory) voting to join the Indian Union in the year 1954.
- Incorporation of Goa, Daman and Diu. It should be noted that the government did not call this exercise a 'referendum' but an Opinion Poll. However, in effect it was a referendum.
- The last referendum happened in the year 1975, wherein the inhabitants of Sikkim decided on their merger with India

First statement is also incorrect.

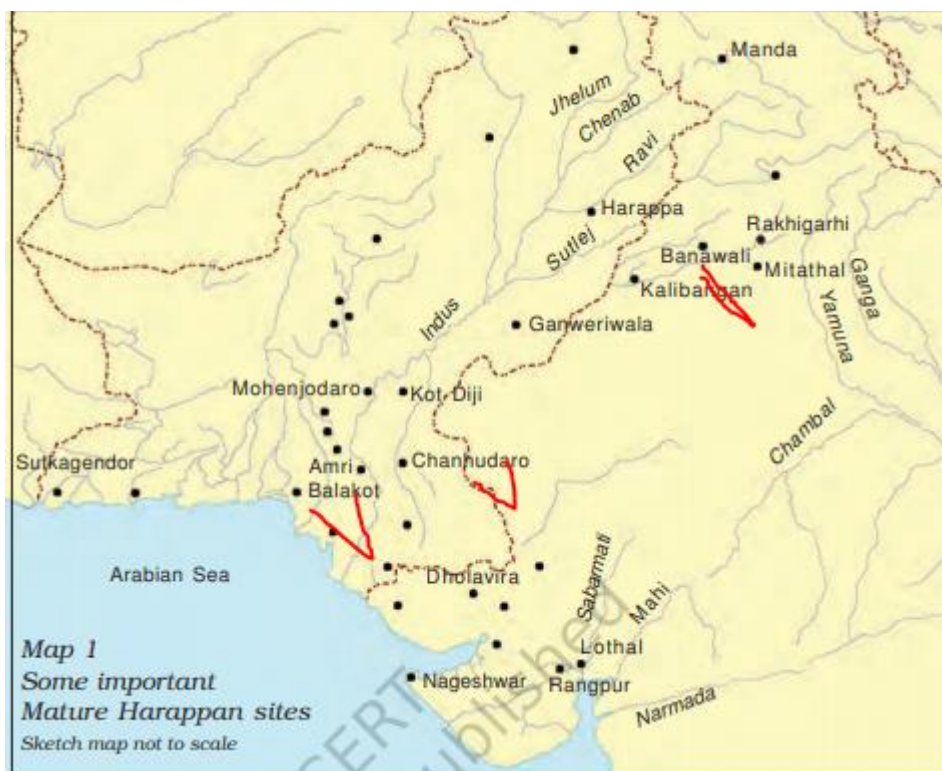
The Constitution of India is silent on a referendum, therefore theoretically a referendum is neither allowed nor prohibited.

Q118. Which of the above Harappan sites located near the coast?

- Chanhudaro
- Balakot
- Banawali
- Rakhigarhi

Solution: b

Explanation:



If you locate Nageshwar and Balakot on Map 1, you will notice that both settlements are near the coast. These were specialised centres for making shell objects – including bangles, ladles and inlay – which were taken to other settlements. Similarly, it is likely that finished products (such as beads) from Chanhudaro and Lothal were taken to the large urban centres such as Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

Q119. In the context of Indian Polity, consider the following statements regarding **Tenth Schedule**.

1. A person shall be disqualified for being a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative council of a state, if he is so disqualified under the Tenth schedule.
2. The purpose which the Tenth Schedule seeks to achieve were explained in KihotoHollohan v. Zachillhu and Others case.
3. Tenth schedule was passed during priministership of Rajiv Gandhi.

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:

First statement is correct.

Clause (2) of Article 191 states, "A person shall be disqualified for being a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative council of a state, if he is so disqualified under the Tenth schedule".

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

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

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

(c) if he is an undischarged insolvent;

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

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

³[Explanation.—For the purposes of this clause], a person shall not be deemed to hold an office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State specified in the First Schedule by reason only that he is a Minister either for the Union or for such State.

⁴[(2) A person shall be disqualified for being a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State if he is so disqualified under the Tenth Schedule.]

Second statement is also correct. Just remember, *KihotoHollohan v. Zachillhu and Others*, 1992 case is related to tenth schedule.

The underlying object and the purpose which the Tenth Schedule seeks to achieve were explained as under in *KihotoHollohan v. Zachillhu and Others*, 1992:

“These provisions in the Tenth Schedule give recognition to the role of political parties in the political process. A political party goes before the electorate with a particular programme and it sets up candidates at the election on the basis of such programme. A person who gets elected as a candidate set up by a political party is so elected on the basis of the programme of that political party. The provisions of Paragraph 2(1)(a) proceed on the premise that political propriety and morality demand that if such a person, after the election, changes his affiliation and leaves the political party which had set him up as a candidate at the election, then he should give up his membership of the legislature and go back before the electorate. The same yardstick is applied to a person who is elected as an Independent candidate and wishes to join a political party after the election”.

Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister when 10th schedule was passed.

Q120. Consider the following countries.

1. Philippines
2. Qatar
3. Bahrain
4. Kuwait

Which of the above countries doesn't share land boundaries with any country?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Bahrain and Philippines don't share boundary with any nation.

Kuwait and Qatar share boundaries with Saudi Arabia.



Q121. Which of the following countries does Tropic of Capricorn doesn't pass?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Madagascar
- Chile

Solution: b

Explanation:

It passes through these countries or overseas territories:

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



Q122. Which of the following is very near to Tropic of Cancer?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q123. Sea of Japan (East Sea) is located in:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q124. A horizontal line to Black Sea (at any point) will never cross:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q125. 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, 4 and 5 only
- b. 2, 4 and 5 only
- c. 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q126. 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/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.

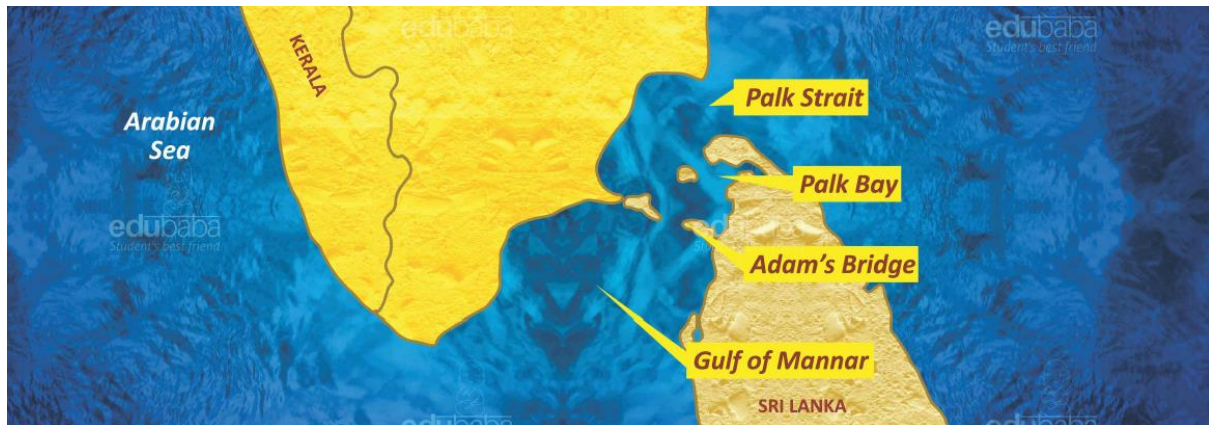


Q127. Identify the correct sequence, when one is travelling from **North to South**?

- Palk Strait-Adam's Bridge-Gulf of Mannar-Palk Bay
- Palk Strait-Palk Bay-Adam's Bridge-Gulf of Mannar
- Gulf of Mannar-Adam's Bridge-Palk bay-Palk Strait
- Adam's Bridge-Palk Strait—Palk Bay-Gulf of Mannar

Solution: b

Explanation:



Q128. 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. 1, 2, 3, 4 only
- b. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 2, 3, and 5 only

Solution: d

Explanation:





Q129. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- Andaman and Nicobar
- Nicobar and Sumatra
- Maldives and Lakshadweep
- Sumatra and Java

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Ten Degree Channel is a channel that separates the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands from each other in the Bay of Bengal.



Q130. If one need to go **from India to Kazakhstan**, what is the minimum number of country/countries one can cross between two, ***provided no movement restrictions in any country?***

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

India-China-Kazakhstan



Q131. With respect to **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)**, consider the following statements.

1. Once approved by GEAC, it can be revoked by GEAC if there is any new information as to the harmful effects of the genetically engineered organisms or cells.
2. Any person aggrieved by a decision made by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee can appeal within 30 days to designated authority.
3. GEAC has till now approved only GM cotton crop for commercial cultivation in India.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First and second are correct.

- (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.

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.

Third is incorrect statement: Don't get confuse with statement. GEAC has approved few but only cotton got final approval.

parental lines, during its 147th meeting on 18 October, 2022 for seed production and testing. This is one step away from full commercial cultivation.

went back on its decision and imposed additional tests. In 2010, the GEAC had approved GM brinjal, but this was put on an "indefinite moratorium" by the United

However, the GEAC, which is under the Union Environment Ministry, isn't the final arbiter in the case of GM crops. There is a long-standing litigation in the Supreme Court on the permissibility of allowing transgenic food crops in farmer fields based on petitions filed by activist Aruna Rodrigues and Gene Campaign, an NGO. Following the GEAC approval for DMH-11, the petitioners approached the apex court asking for a stay on the release of the crop because it would encourage farmers to spray herbicides, which are banned in India. Hearings on this case are still ongoing. In 2017, the GEAC had accorded a clearance for GM mustard, but

Progressive Alliance government.

What is the process of regulating transgenic crops in India?

The process of developing transgenic crops is an elaborate one as inserting transgenic genes into plants to elicit a sustained, protective response is a mix of both science and chance. There are multiple safety assessments done by committees before they are cleared for further tests in open plots of lands, which are located at either agricultural universities or are plots controlled by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR). A transgenic plant can apply for

Q132. Consider the following statements regarding **Finance Commission**.

1. Till now, 15 Finance Commissions has been appointed.
2. The chairman of the Finance Commission shall be qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court.
3. The tenure of Fianance Commission is specified as per the order of President, it is not fixed.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

So far 15 Finance Commissions have been appointed which are as follows:^[7]

Finance Commission	Year of establishment	Chairman	Operational duration
First	1951	K. C. Neogy	1952–57
Second	1956	K. Santhanam	1957–62
Third	1960	A. K. Chanda	1962–66
Fourth	1964	P. V. Rajamannar	1966–69
Fifth	1968	Mahaveer Tyagi	1969–74
Sixth	1972	K. Brahmananda Reddy	1974–79
Seventh	1977	J. M. Shelat	1979–84
Eighth	1983	Y. B. Chavan	1984–89
Ninth	1987	N. K. P. Salve	1989–95
Tenth	1992	K. C. Pant	1995–00
Eleventh	1998	A. M. Khusro	2000–05
Twelfth	2002	C. Rangarajan	2005–10
Thirteenth	2007	Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar	2010–15
Fourteenth ^[8]	2013	Dr. Y. V Reddy	2015–20
Fifteenth ^[9]	2017	N. K. Singh	2020–25

Second statement is incorrect:

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

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

Ok now this (1+4) is written where?? See below:

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

Third is correct: As per Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

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.

Q133. Consider the following statements.

1. NIRYAT portal pertains only to merchandise (goods) and does not include services.
2. For last three years, Maharashtra is the highest merchandise exporting state in 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: a

Explanation:

NIRYAT portal pertains only to merchandise (goods) and does not include services.



Gujarat, Maharashtra & Tamil Nadu are the highest merchandise exporting states in India. Check all three fiscal years.

States/UT	Total Exports Apr'20 - Mar'21 (\$Mn)
Gujarat	60,586.90
Maharashtra	58,383.19
Tamil Nadu	26,151.84
Andhra Pradesh	16,842.26
Uttar Pradesh	16,390.09

States/UT Total Exports
Apr'21 - Mar'22 (\$Mn)

Gujarat ✓	124,412.13
Maharashtra ✓	72,862.53
Tamil Nadu ✓	35,049.70
Karnataka	26,072.44
Uttar Pradesh	20,939.14

States/UT Total Exports
Apr'22 - Mar'23 (\$Mn)

Gujarat	146,485.25
Maharashtra	72,498.32
Tamil Nadu	40,673.58
Karnataka	27,883.84
Uttar Pradesh	21,686.41

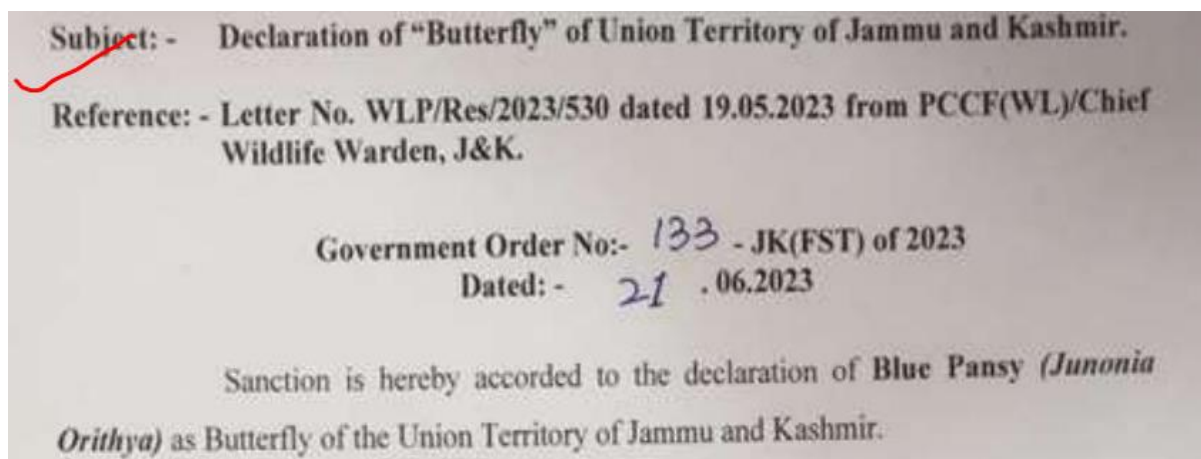
Q134. Blue Pansy has been recently declared as a butterfly of which of the following state/UT?

- Manipur
- Jammu and Kashmir
- Pondicherry
- Mizoram

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:



The Jammu and Kashmir government has officially declared Blue Pansy as 'Butterfly of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir'.

Q135. 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.

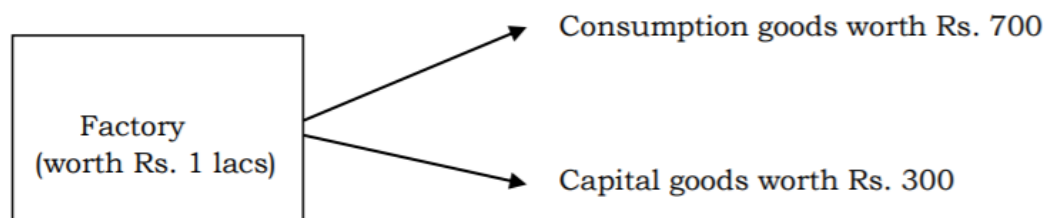
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: b

Explanation:

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/Rs1000) 30%, **as investment is measured as the percentage of output which consists of capital goods.**

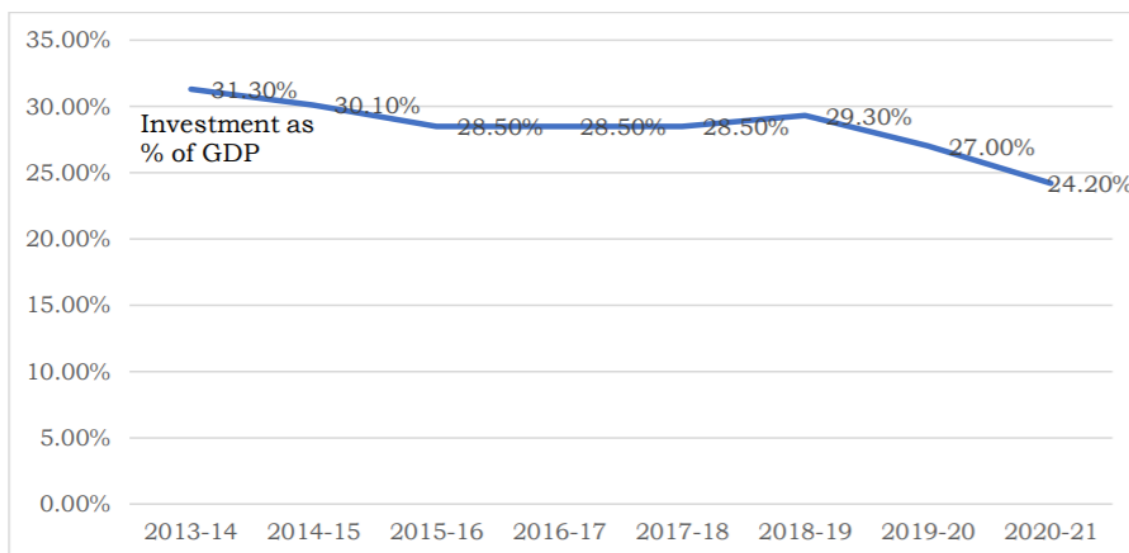
Third statement is incorrect.

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%



Q136. As per the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements with regard to Article 368.

1. An amendment to the Constitution can be initiated only in the Parliament, not state legislature.
2. The Amendment can be initiated only in the Lok Sabha and not in Rajya Sabha.

Select the correct answer.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

As per Article 368, procedure for amendment of the Constitution- **An amendment to the Constitution can be initiated only in the Parliament and not in State legislature.**

The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president;

It can be introduced in either House of the Parliament – **both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have equal rights.**

PART XX

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

368. ⁵ [Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and procedure therefor.]— ⁶ [(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may in exercise of its constituent power amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article.]

⁷[(2)] An amendment of this Constitution may be initiated only by the introduction of a Bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament, and when the Bill is passed in each House by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting, ⁸[it shall be presented to the President who shall give his assent to the Bill and thereupon] the Constitution shall stand amended in accordance with the terms of the Bill.

Q137. The power to legislate on all matters relating to elections to Panchayats lies with:

- the Parliament of India
- the State Legislatures
- the State Election Commission
- the Election Commission of India

Solution: b

Explanation:

The Election Commission of India conducts election of state assemblies, Parliament, president and Vice President.

The parliament has passed 73rd Constitutional amendment, wherein

The State legislature can enact law related to Panchayat elections. And according to those laws, the State Election Commission conducts elections to Panchayat.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, make provision with respect to all matters relating to, or in connection with, elections to the Panchayats.

Q138. Consider the following statements regarding Economy of Sangam Age.

- Spinning and weaving of cotton and silk clothes attained a high quality during this period.
- External Trade was completely banned during Sangam age, whereas internal trade follows barter system.
- Due to large parts of land under this age was infertile, agriculture was not practiced.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

The handicrafts of the Sangam period were popular. They include weaving, metal works and carpentry, ship building and making of ornaments using beads, stones and ivory. There was a great demand for these products, as the internal and external trade was at its peak during the Sangam period. Spinning and weaving of cotton and silk clothes attained a high quality. The poems mention the cotton clothes as thin as a cloud of steam or a slough of a snake. There was a great demand in the western world for the cotton clothes woven at Uraiyur.

Second statement is incorrect.

Both internal and foreign trade was well organized and briskly carried on in the Sangam Age. The Sangam literature, Greek and Roman accounts and the archaeological evidences provide detailed information on this subject. Merchants carried the goods on the carts and on animal-back from place to place. Internal trade was mostly based on the barter system.

External trade was carried between South India and the Greek kingdoms. After the ascendancy of the Roman Empire, the Roman trade assumed importance. The port city of Puhar became an emporium of foreign trade, as big ships entered this port with precious goods. Other ports of commercial activity include Tondi, Musiri, Korkai, Arikamedu and Marakkanam. The author of Periplus provides the most valuable information on foreign trade. Plenty of gold and silver coins issued by the Roman Emperors like Augustus, Tiberius and Nero were found in all parts of Tamil Nadu.

Third statement is incorrect.

Economy of the Sangam Age

Agriculture was the chief occupation. Rice was the common crop. Ragi, sugarcane, cotton, pepper, ginger, turmeric, cinnamon and a variety of fruits were the other crops. Jack fruit and pepper

were famous in the Chera country. Paddy was the chief crop in the Chola and Pandya country.

Q139. *Vishnudharmottara Purana*, *Citrakakasa*, *Silparatna* are the texts belongs to:

- Music
- Dances
- Paintings
- Puppetry

Solution: c

Explanation:

4a. Indian Paintings and Mythology

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

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

- Citalaksana, attributed to Nagnajit (The father of Indian painting).
- Vishnudharmottara Purana.

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

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

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

Q140. A study recently found the 'first record of these hybrid rocks, known as plastiglomerates', from India in which of the following place?

- Andaman and Nicobar
- Sundarban region
- Lakshadweep
- Nilgiri Hills

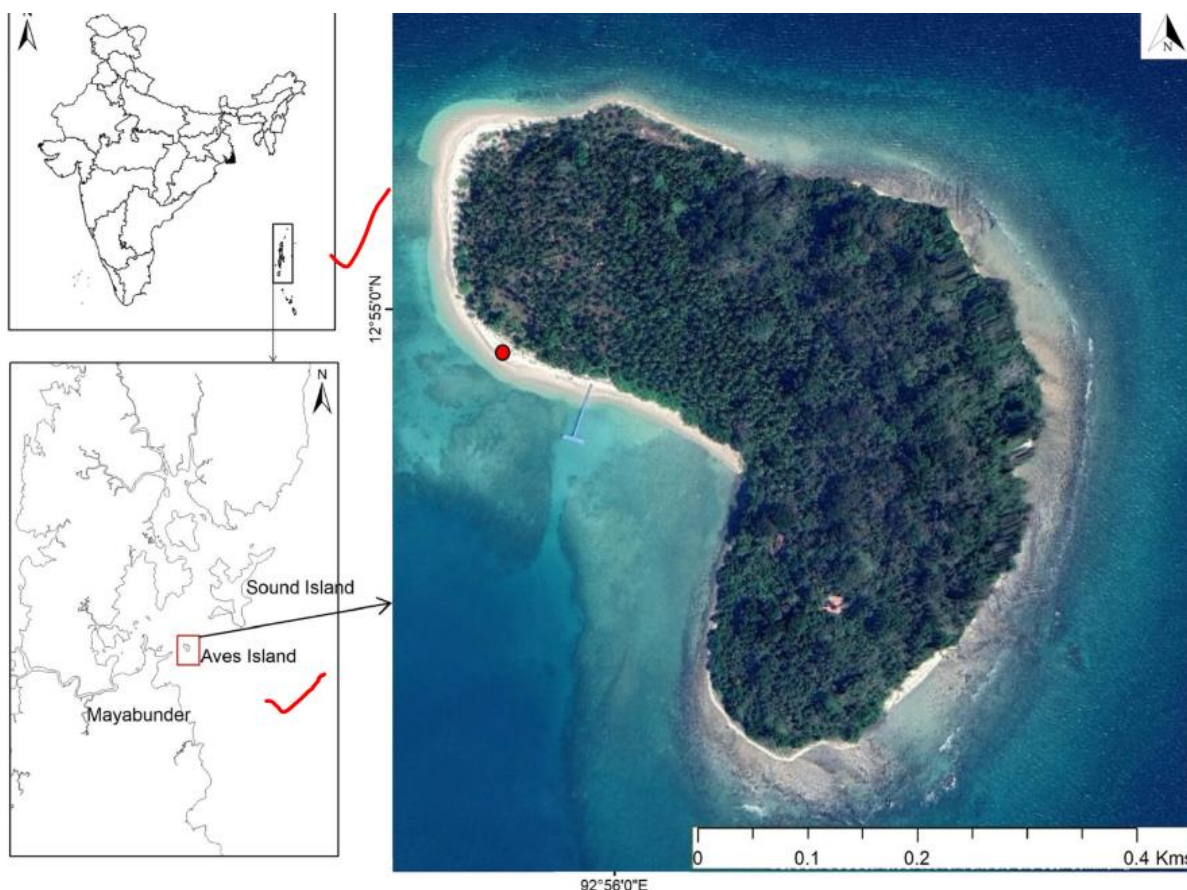
Solution: a

Explanation:

A new study by the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata, found the first record of plastiglomerates in the Indian sub-continent on Aves Island in the Andaman archipelago.

News:

- A study found the formation of plastic-rock hybrids in the intertidal zone of remote beaches of Aves Island in the Andaman archipelago. This is a first record of these hybrid rocks, known as plastiglomerates, from India.
- Samples from the island that were analysed contained polyethylene and polyvinyl chloride. Incineration of plastic litter could have led to their formation.



Study area map of Aves Island, the location of the discovery of the first record of plastiglomerate from the Indian subcontinent, in the Andaman Islands. Photo from Prasun Goswami and Punyasloke Bhadury.

Q141. With reference to the funds under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), which of the following statements are correct?

1. MPLAD Scheme was announced during priministership of Rajiv Gandhi.
2. District Authority shall mandatorily maintain inspection registers for works carried out for trustsand societies.
3. MPLADsfunds can be used for rehabilitation and reconstruction works inareas affected by natural “calamity of severe nature” declared by the Government ofIndia.

How many of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect:

- 2.1 The MPLAD Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Government of India. This Scheme was announced on December 23, 1993 by the then Prime Minister of India in the Parliament.
- 2.2 The main objective of the Scheme is to enable each Member of Parliament to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs of the people.

Initially the administration of MPLADS was with the Ministry of Rural Development. However, since October 1994, the administration of the Scheme has been vested with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Second statement is correct:

Role of District Authority:

4.5.2 has already been asked in UPSC Prelims 2020 exam. Here I have asked 4.5.5.

- 4.5.2 They shall inspect at least 10% of the works under implementation every year, and would involve the Member of Parliament concerned in such inspections to the extent feasible.
- 4.5.3 They shall maintain the work-registers, for each Member of Parliament and for each of their tenure, indicating the position of each work recommended by them. This register will also contain the photographs of the work, when completed.
- 4.5.4 They shall inspect all works executed for societies and trusts under MPLADS and ensure that the conditions of agreement are being complied with. They should initiate action in case of violation, if any, of the terms of the agreement.
- 4.5.5 They shall mandatorily maintain inspection registers for works carried out for trusts and societies as per the provisions of Chapter 6 of these Guidelines.

Third statement is correct:

MPLADS WORK FOR CALAMITIES AFFECTED AREAS

- 8.1 Any Member of Parliament from anywhere in the country can consent their MPLADS funds upto Rs. One Crore per annum for rehabilitation and reconstruction works in areas affected by natural "calamity of severe nature" declared by the Government of India in any part of the country, subject to other provisions of these Guidelines.

Q142. How many of the following statements is correct regarding Agroforestry?

- India had adopted the National Agroforestry Policy in 2014.
- Some of the frequently grown tree species in agroforestry are neem, teak, eucalyptus, poplar, bamboo, amla, etc.

3. The atmospheric carbon fixation of agroforestry is more than 10 times than fixation by cropping systems such as rice-wheat.

Select the correct code.

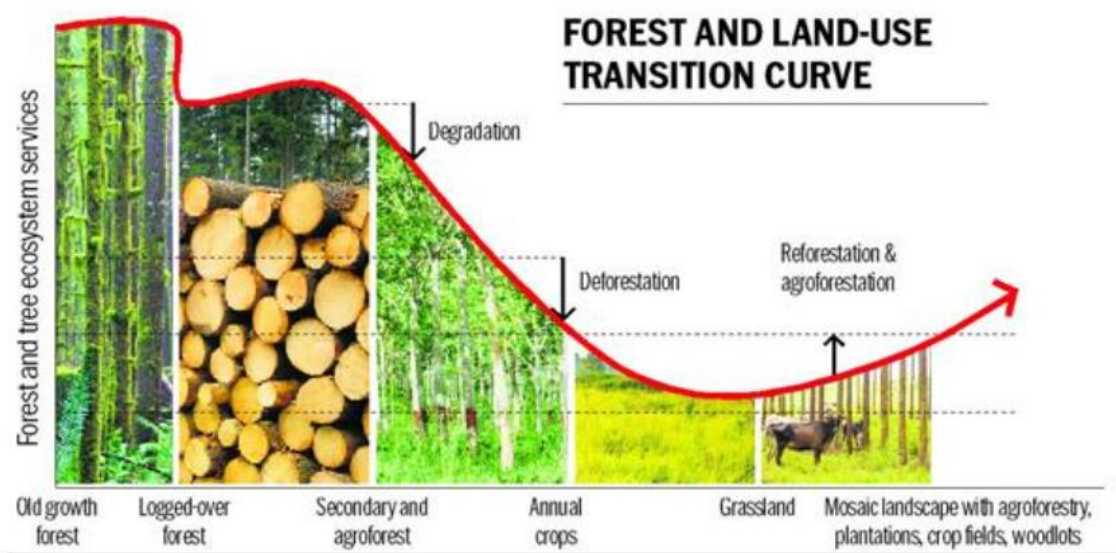
- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

First and second are correct:

India had adopted the National Agroforestry Policy in 2014. It defined agroforestry as a land-use system which integrates trees and shrubs on farmlands and rural landscapes to enhance productivity, profitability, diversity and ecosystem sustainability. With an appropriate mix of species, agroforestry enables agricultural land to withstand extreme weather events such as floods and droughts and enhance farmers' income.



The National Forest Policy (1988) was aimed at forest coverage of 33 per cent of the total geographical area; as of now, only around 22 per cent of the area is under forest cover. There is little scope for increasing the area under forests; hence, that gap can be filled by expanding the area under agroforestry.

Some of the frequently grown tree species in agroforestry are neem, teak, eucalyptus, poplar, bamboo, amla, drumstick, banyan, peepal and acacia. These species are useful for medicinal purposes and repelling insects; they also provide timber and plywood.

Third statement is correct:

Agroforestry plays a significant role in mitigating climate change and increasing land fertility and productivity by carbon fixation. Trees absorb carbon dioxide through photosynthesis and act as carbon sinks. Agroforestry contribute to carbon sequestration and can offset greenhouse gas emissions. The atmospheric carbon fixation of agroforestry is on an average more than 15 tonnes of carbon/hectare/year, while cropping systems such as rice-wheat fix only less than 0.3 tonnes. Hence, carbon fixation can be achieved by shifting from lower biomass land use (e.g. grasslands) to tree-based systems such as agroforestry. Carbon sequestration in Indian agroforests varies from 19.56 tonnes/hectare/year in Uttar Pradesh to 23.46-47.36 tonnes in tree-bearing arid agro-ecosystems of Rajasthan.

Q143. Consider the following statements regarding **National Water Awards**.

1. National Water Awards were launched in 2022 to encourage all stakeholder for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rainwater harvesting.
2. The criterion for National Water Awards is formulated for state, districts, schools as well as industries.

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 Ground Water Augmentation Awards and National Water Awards were launched in the year 2007 with an objective to encourage all stakeholder including the Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Gram Panchayats, Urban Local Bodies, Water User Associations, Institutions, Corporate Sector, Individuals etc. for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge, promoting water use efficiency, recycling & re-use of water and creating awareness through people's participation in the targeted areas resulting into the sustainability of ground water resources development, adequate capacity building amongst the stakeholders etc.

4th National Water Awards announced recently.

There are different criteria for various categories of 4th National Water Awards. For example, criterion for state, criterion for district, criterion for industry, etc.

Now it is very difficult to remember all criterion for different categories. One we will see here for industry;

8. Best Industry:

Sl. No.	Criteria	Marks
1.	Corporate commitment to water efficiency - Designate a water efficiency coordinator, Develop a mission statement and a plan, Educate and involve employees in water efficiency efforts, awards given in your company for identifying and innovative solutions to reduce water consumption.	15
2.	Water Audit and setting targets for future.	15
3.	Installation of high-efficiency plumbing fixtures, appliances and other equipment yielding substantial savings on water.	15
4.	Installing and maintaining ETP (effluent treatment plant) and STP (sewage treatment plant) in industry area to treat waste water and its reuse. (Achieving the zero liquid discharge mandates).	15
5.	Installation of water treatment (other than ETP/STP) mechanisms like Reverse Osmosis and other relevant treatment mechanisms.	15
6.	Efforts in saving of non-processed water.	15
7.	Narrate any other implemented ways of saving water in your industry/innovations.	10
	Total Marks	100

Latest Awards: Just see once if your state is there or not. States PSC main aa sakte:

The Award for the Best State will be conferred on Madhya Pradesh, 2nd prize will go to Odisha while 3rd prize will be given jointly to Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

The Award for the Best District will be conferred on Ganjam District, Odisha while 2nd prize will go to Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu and 3rd prize will be given to Adilabad District, Telangana.

The Award for the Best Village Panchayat will be conferred on Jagannadhapuram Village Panchayat, Bhadrachalam district, Telangana, the 2nd prize will go jointly to Kadavur Village Panchayat,

The Award for the Best School will be conferred on Jamiatul Uloom Primary School, Mehsana, Gujarat,

The Award for the Best Industry will be conferred on Barauni Thermal Power Station, Begusarai Bihar: 2nd prize will go to Honda Motorcycle And Scooter India Pvt Ltd. Kolar. Karnataka while 3rd

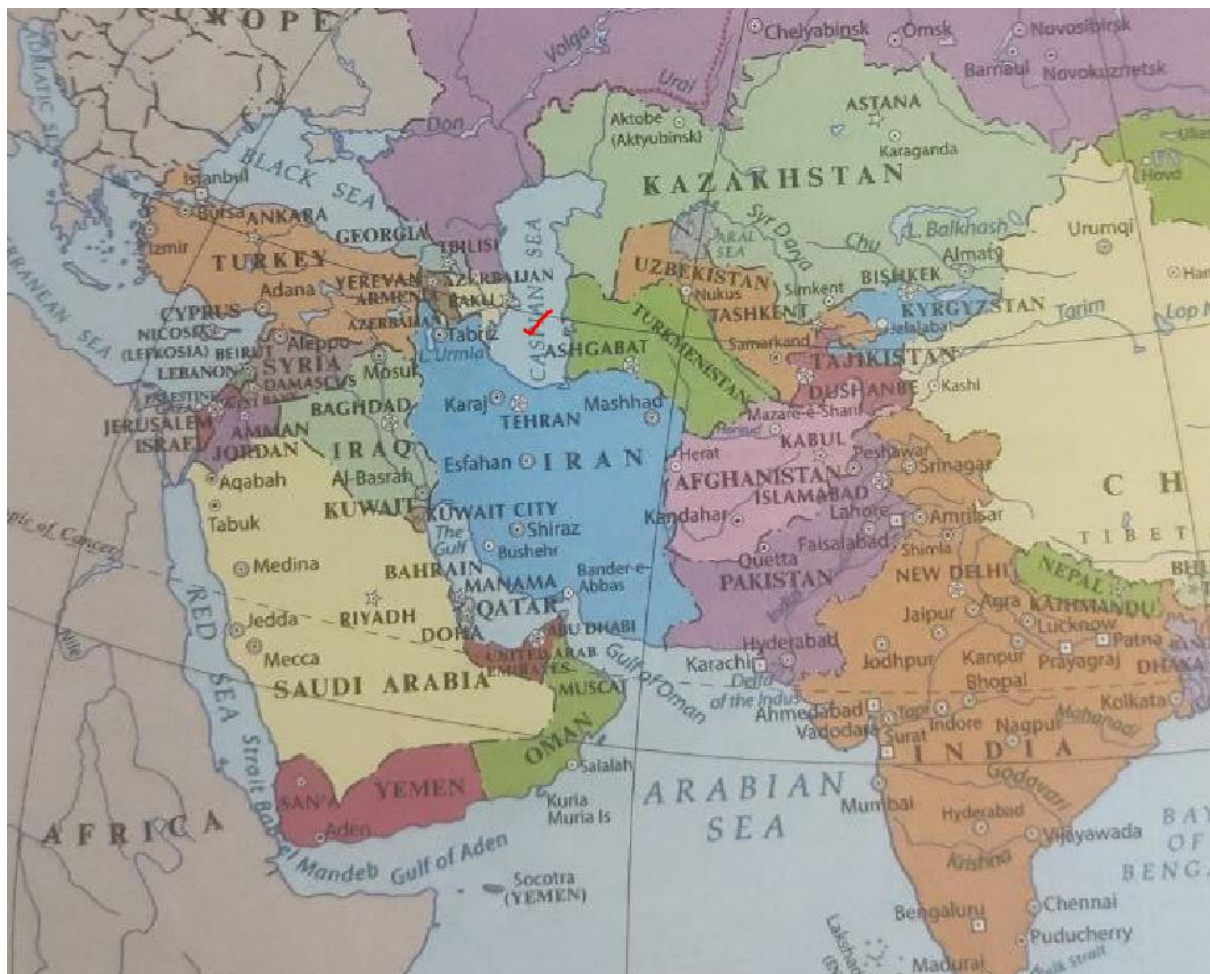
Q144. If you draw a vertical straight line at any point on Caspian Sea on world map, it will always cross:

- Kazakhstan
- Iran
- Saudi Arabia
- Turkmenistan

Solution: b

Explanation:

Draw krke check kro. I am asking you such small questions so that dimag main map print ho jaaye. I don't want that you do mistakes in map.



Q145. Soil Health Card contains status of his soil with respect to 12 parameters. Which of the following are the parameters?

1. pH
2. Electrical Conductivity (EC),
3. Organic Carbon (OC),
4. Nitrogen (N)

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation

What is Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme?

It is a Government of India's scheme promoted by the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation under the Ministry of Agriculture. It will be implemented through the Department of Agriculture of all the State and Union Territory Governments. A SHC is meant to give each farmer soil nutrient status of his holding and advice him on the dosage of fertilizers and also the needed soil amendments, that he should apply to maintain soil health in the long run.

What is a Soil Health Card?

SHC is a printed report that a farmer will be handed over for each of his holdings. It will contain the status of his soil with respect to 12 parameters, namely N,P,K (Macro-nutrients) ; S (Secondary- nutrient) ; Zn, Fe, Cu, Mn, Bo (Micro - nutrients) ; and pH, EC, OC (Physical parameters). Based on this, the SHC will also indicate fertilizer recommendations and soil amendment required for the farm.

Q146. What are the benefits of **Neem Coated Urea**?

1. Improvement in soil quality.
2. Decrease in cost of pest & disease control and weed management.
3. Improvement in the yield of all crops and their by-products.
4. Highest incremental income in case of tur, followed by sugarcane, soybean, paddy, jute and maize crops.

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: d

Explanation:

As per the final report prepared by Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Bengaluru, Neem Coated Urea has led to:

- (i) Improvement in soil quality.
- (ii) Decrease in cost of pest & disease control and weed management.
- (iii) Improvement in the yield of all crops and their by-products.
- (iv) Highest incremental income in case of tur, followed by sugarcane, soybean, paddy, jute and maize crops.
- (v) Diversion of normal urea to other than crop production purposes has completely stopped post introduction of Neem Coated Urea(NCU).

The information was given by the Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri Bhagwanth Khuba in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

Q147. Consider the following statements regarding **composition of GST Council**.

1. It is a Constitutional Body.
2. The Chairperson of Central Board of Indirect Excise and Customs (CBEC) is the ex-officio member of GST Council.
3. Secretary, Department of Expenditure, is the ex-officio secretary to the GST Council.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

GST Council is a constitutional body for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to Goods and Service Tax. Union Finance Minister is the chairman of GST Council.

As per Article 279A (1) of the amended Constitution, the GST Council has to be constituted by the President within 60 days of the commencement of Article 279A.

The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 12th September, 2016 approved setting-up of GST Council and setting-up of its Secretariat. The Cabinet inter alia took decisions for the following:

- (a) Creation of the GST Council as per Article 279A of the amended Constitution;
- (b) Creation of the GST Council Secretariat, with its office at New Delhi;
- (c) Appointment of the Secretary (Revenue) as the Ex-officio Secretary to the GST Council;
- (d) Inclusion of the Chairperson, Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), as a permanent invitee (non-voting) to all proceedings of the GST Council;

The Chairperson of Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) is a permanent invitee **with no voting rights. He is not a member of Council.**

Secretary, **Department of Revenue**, is the **ex-officio secretary to the GST Council.**

Q148. Consider the following statements about a classical dance form.

- 1. Tribhanga is a special feature of this dance.
- 2. The torso movement is very important and is a unique feature of this dance.
- 3. Maharis and Gotipuas are associated with this dance.

Identify the classical dance.

- a. Kuchipudi Dance
- b. Odissi dance
- c. Sattriya Dance
- d. Kathakali dance

Solution: b

Explanation:

The dance is Odissi.

Odissi closely follows the tenets laid down by the Natya Shastra. Facial expressions, hand gestures and body movements are used to suggest a certain feeling, an emotion or one of the nine rasas. The techniques of movement are built around the two basic postures of the **Chowk and the Tribhanga**.



Tribhanga position

The torso movement is very important and is a unique feature of the Odissi style. With the lower half of the body remaining static, the torso moves from one side to the other along the axis passing through the centre of the upper half of the body.

For centuries **maharis** were the chief repositories of this dance. The maharis, who were originally temple dancers came to be employed in royal courts which resulted in the degeneration of the art form.

Around this time, a class of boys called **gotipuas** were trained in the art, they danced in the temples and also for general entertainment. Many of today's gurus of this style belong to the gotipua tradition.

An Odissi orchestra essentially consists of a pakhawaj player (usually the Guru himself), a singer, a flutist, a sitar or violin player and a manjira player.

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

Q149. 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.]

Q150. Consider the following statements regarding **International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)**.

1. The Board has been established by World Economic Forum.
2. It aims to enable companies to provide comprehensive sustainability information to global capital markets.

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:

News:

Statement
The CBD Secretariat welcomes the release of ISSB's S1 and S2 Standards
26 June 2023

[The CBD Secretariat welcomes the release this Monday 26 June 2023 of ISSB's General Sustainability-related Disclosure Standard (S1), and Climate-related Disclosure Standard (S2). These provide much-needed frameworks to facilitate consistent reporting on sustainability-related risks and opportunities and help drive investment decisions towards more sustainable economic activities and outcomes for investors, people, and the planet.] The Secretariat also acknowledges ISSB's ongoing consultation on agenda priorities

First statement is incorrect. Second is correct.

✓ As world leaders met in Glasgow for COP26, the UN global summit to address the critical and urgent issue of climate change, the IFRS Foundation Trustees (Trustees) announced three significant developments to provide the global financial markets with high-quality disclosures on climate and other sustainability issues:

- The formation of a new **International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)** to develop—in the public interest—a comprehensive global baseline of high-quality sustainability disclosure standards to meet investors' information needs;

The ISSB has international support with its work to develop sustainability disclosure standards backed by the G7, the G20, the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), the Financial Stability Board, African Finance Ministers and Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from more than 40 jurisdictions.

The ISSB has set out four key objectives:

- ✓ 1. to develop standards for a global baseline of sustainability disclosures;
- ✓ 2. to meet the information needs of investors;
- ✓ 3. to enable companies to provide comprehensive sustainability information to global capital markets; and
- ✓ 4. to facilitate interoperability with disclosures that are jurisdiction-specific and/or aimed at broader stakeholder groups.

Q151. Consider the following pairs.

Landfill sites in India	location
1. Dhapa landfill site	Jammu and Kashmir
2. Bhalswa Landfill site	Odisha

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Landfill sites in India	location
Dhapa landfill site	Kolkata
Bhalswa Landfill site	Delhi

Q152. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has notified draft rules for 'Green Credit Programme.'

Consider the following statements regarding this Programme.

1. It aims for incentivizing voluntary environmental actions of various stakeholders.
2. It aims to replace coal with renewables by 2030.

3. It aims to create mass movement around environment positive actions and realize the vision of "Mission LiFE.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Statement two is incorrect:

2. Objectives of the Green Credit Programme – (1) The main objectives of the Green Credit Programme (herein after referred as 'Programme') are as follows: -

- a. Create a market based mechanism for providing incentives in the form of Green Credits to individuals, Farmer Producer Organisations, cooperatives, forestry enterprises, sustainable agriculture enterprises, Urban and Rural Local Bodies, private sectors, industries and organisations for environment positive actions;
- b. Create mass movement around environment positive actions and realise the vision of "Mission LiFE" through pro-planet-people and entities.

6. Green Credit Programme Administrator and its functions – (1) The Green Credit Programme Administrator (herein after referred as 'Administrator') shall be responsible for implementation of the Programme including its management, monitoring and operation.

(2) The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education shall be the Administrator of the Programme.

Q153. Consider the following statements regarding **Global Environment Facility**.

1. It was formed in 2010 after Minamata Convention was signed in 2010.
2. Both developed and developing countries are members of this facility.
3. India is part of this facility.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

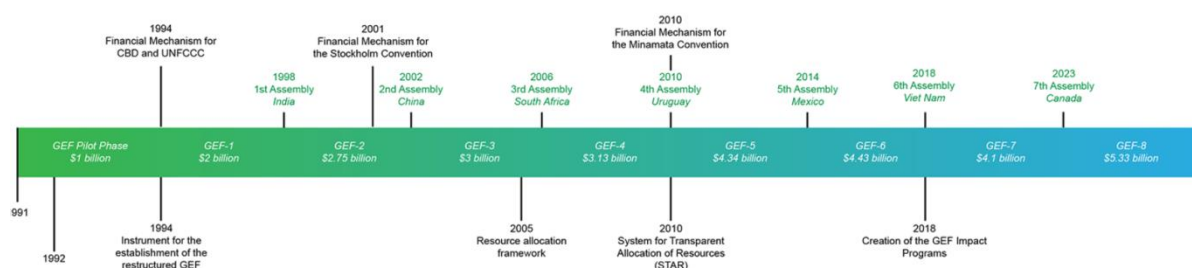
Now you read history:

Spurred by public concern, the international community was quick to respond. The successful Montreal Protocol, which has so far reduced some hundred ozone-depleting substances by a total of 98 per cent, was agreed in 1987 within four years of the discovery of the ozone hole over Antarctica. Negotiations on the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention of Biological Diversity, and Convention to Combat Desertification followed, and these were agreed in 1992. But the world also needed an international financial mechanism to tackle global environmental problems and help implement the new conventions.

In September 1989 France proposed, through its Finance Minister, that the World Bank be provided with additional resources to fund environmental projects, offering to support it with a contribution of 900 million French francs over a three year period. Its proposal, to the Bank's Development Committee, was quickly seconded by Germany. And little more than a year later - in November 1990 - after the Bank had developed the proposal, with extensive consultations and negotiations - 27 countries, including nine developing ones, agreed to set up a pilot Global Environment Facility (GEF), with about \$1 billion for its first three years.

So, we can it is a **FINANCIAL MECHANISM for five major international environmental conventions**: the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

GEF Timeline



The GEF has 185 member countries. In the Instrument, GEF member countries are referred to as participants. In general terms there are developed and developing participants in the GEF.

India is part of this Facility since 1994.

India

05/12/1994

✓ India and Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a financial mechanism that provides grants to developing countries for projects that benefit the global environment and promote sustainable livelihoods in local communities. GEF projects address six designated focal areas: Biodiversity, Climate Change, International Waters, Ozone Depletion, Land Degradation and Persistent Organic Pollutants.

India has formed a permanent Constituency in the Executive Council of the GEF together with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives. The Council Meetings are held semi-annually or as frequently necessary. At each meeting, the Council elects a Chairperson from among its members for the duration of that meeting. India's Executive Director in the World Bank represents the GEF Council from our Constituency.

India is both a donor and a recipient of GEF. It has been a leading developing country

Q154. Consider the following rivers.

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

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

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Only Chenab and Jhelum pass through Jammu and Kashmir UT.



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

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

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

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

Q155. Consider the following statements regarding Deputy Chairman of India.

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

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

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

Removal of Deputy Chairman:

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

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

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

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

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

First statement is correct.

SECOND SCHEDULE

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

PART B— [Omitted.]

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

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

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

Q156. Consider the following statements regarding Biomining.

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

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Only first statement is correct.

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

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

What ~~metals~~ are currently biominined?

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

Q157. How many of the following statements about Preamble is **incorrect**?

1. The Preamble sets out the ideals of identifying the nature of the State of the Constitution.
2. In Berubari Union and Exchange of Enclaves, the Court ruled that the Preamble is not a part of the Constitution.
3. The word 'Secular' inscribed in Preamble after 42nd Constitutional Amendment means that the State will be anti-religious or an atheistic State.
4. Preamble can be amended under Article 368 of the Constitution.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

The **Preamble to our Constitution** (in brief, 'Preamble') is more than **just 63 words** perfectly arranged and catalogued (in a certain way) in some normative sentences; most importantly, it is all about the democratic aspirations and ideals of the people of India (I. C. Golaknath & Ors vs State of Punjab & Anrs. 1967 SCR).

It **encapsules the characteristics of the aspirations of the people and sets out the ideals of identifying the nature of the State of the Constitution** intends to have and further epitomizes the fundamental philosophy of an egalitarian society and a progressive nation. The words of the Preamble are simultaneously metaphysical and practical and lay down the objectives upon which the foundation of this country was laid.

Second Statement is correct.

In 1960, in **Re: Berubari Union and Exchange of Enclaves**, the Court ruled that the **Preamble is not a part of the Constitution**. When the Court said that the Preamble is not a part of the Constitution, they stated that it is the key to open the mind of the Constitution makers meant for general purpose and does not confer anything else.

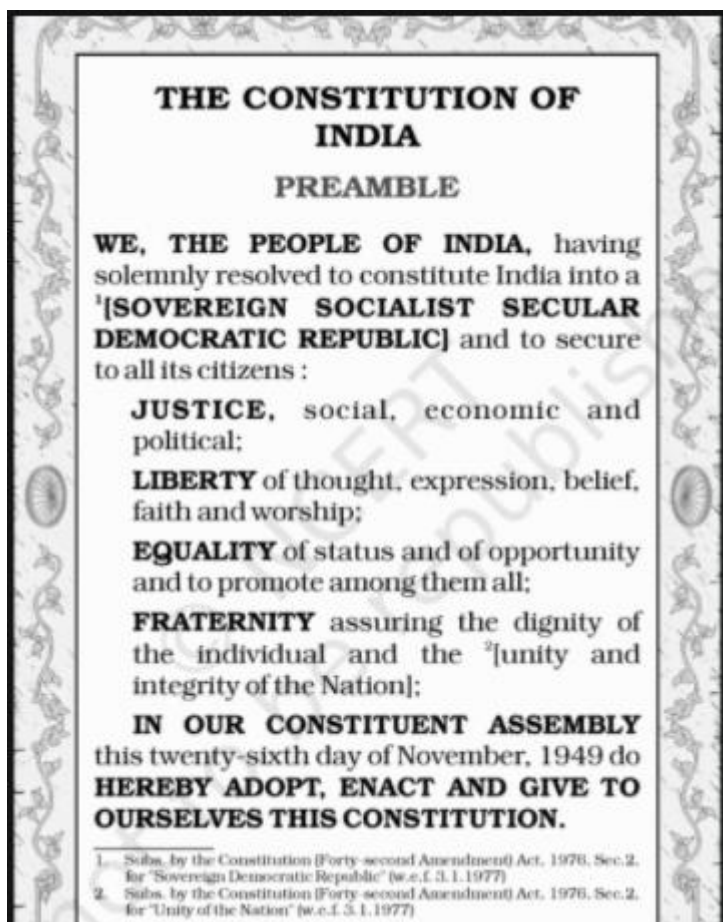
However, in the case of **Kesavananda Bharti v. State of Kerala**, the Supreme Court rightly rejected this idea and held that the Preamble is very much a part of the Constitution. This Judgment implies that through the route of Article 368 of the Constitution, the Parliament can amend the Preamble. However, in the same case, it was further propounded that through the route of Article 368, the basic structure of the Constitution cannot be altered. **Fourth statement is correct.**

As of now, the preamble is only amended once through the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.

The term '**Socialist**', '**Secular**', and '**Integrity**' were added to the preamble through **42nd Amendment Act, 1976**.

'Socialist' and 'Secular' were added between 'Sovereign' and 'Democratic'.

'Unity of the Nation' was changed to 'Unity and Integrity of the Nation'.



Third statement is wrong.

The term 'Secular' is not defined anywhere in the Constitution of India. **The word 'Secular' does not mean that the State will be anti-religious or an atheistic State. It means that the State has no religion.**

In S.R. Bommai case, it has been ruled: "the concept of Secularism was very much embedded in our Constitutional philosophy. **The term 'Secular' is not defined as it is a very elastic term not capable of precise definition and perhaps best left undefined.**"

Q158. 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:

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.

Q159. Consider the following statements.

- Meira Paibis are a group of women belonging to the Meitei community of Manipur.
- Meira Paibis movement launched by Government to fight social evils like drug addiction, alcoholism and sexual violence.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

News was:



First statement is correct:

✓ The Meira Paibis, also known as Imas or Mothers of Manipur, are Meitei women who come from all sections of society in the Imphal valley, are widely respected, and represent a powerful moral force. The Meira Paibis are loosely organised, usually led by groups of senior women, but have no rigid hierarchy or structure, or any overt political leanings. ✓

Second statement is partially correct, it is not recognized by Government. So, it is incorrect.

✓ The Meira Paibi movement have built an alternative institution accorded to ward off and protect against any kinds of misdoings and crimes in the society. The movement started in the 1970s to fight social evils like drug addiction, alcoholism and sexual violence. However, it can be traced way back to the *Nupi Laan* (Women's war) of 1904 and 1939. The

Q160. Consider the following pairs.

1. Soon after Independence, the University Education Commission was set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. S Radhakrishnan to report on Indian university education.

2. University Grants Commission (UGC) is a statutory body.
3. Lord Macaulay in his minutes of 1835 advocated to encourage indigenous education and regional language.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

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

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

First and second are correct statements:

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

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

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

Third statement is incorrect:

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

Q161. In reference to "Professor of Practice" concept in universities and colleges in India, consider the following statements.

1. It has been launched by NITI Aayog.
2. It aims to enable the higher education institutions to formally associate with persons of eminence and encourage them to participate in experiential learning.
3. A formal academic qualification is mandatory to be eligible for "Professor of Practice".

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two

- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: a

Explanation:

Its UGC, not NITI AAYOG.

Guidelines for Engaging Professor of Practice in Universities and Colleges

The National Education Policy 2020 seeks to transform higher education by focusing on skill- based education to meet needs of the industry and the economy. Further, the NEP also recommends integrating vocational education with general education and strengthening industry-academia collaboration in HEIs. For skilling of youth at the optimum level, learners are required to think like employers and employers are to think like learners. Towards this, the UGC has taken a new initiative to bring the industry and other professional expertise into the academic institutions through a new category of positions called "Professor of Practice".

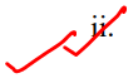
Second statement is correct:

1. Objectives:

- i. To develop courses and curriculum to meet the industry and societal needs and enable the HEIs to work with industry experts on joint research projects and consultancy services which will be mutually beneficial;
- ii. To bring in distinguished experts from various fields such as engineering, science, technology, entrepreneurship, management, chartered accountancy (CA), commerce, social sciences, media, literature, fine arts, civil services, armed forces, legal profession and public administration into the academic institutions;
- iii. To enable the higher education institutions to formally associate with persons of eminence and encourage them to participate in experiential learning, research, training, skilling, entrepreneurship and extension and to play mentoring role.

Third statement is incorrect:

2. Eligibility:

- i. Distinguished experts who have made remarkable contributions in their professions from various fields such as engineering, science, technology, entrepreneurship, commerce, social sciences, media, literature, fine arts, civil services, armed forces, legal profession, community development, panchayati raj, rural development, watershed development, water-harvesting, organic farming, small green energy systems, municipal planning, community participation, gender budgeting/planning, inclusive development of tribals and public administration among others. Those who have proven expertise in their specific profession or role with at least 15 years of service/experience, preferably at a senior level, will be eligible for Professor of Practice.
- ii.  A formal academic qualification is not considered essential for this position if they have exemplary professional practice in lieu. These experts will also be exempted from the requirement of publications and other eligibility criteria stipulated for the

Q162. Consider the following statements.

1. 'Order of the Nile' is the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea.
2. Prime Minister is the first Indian to receive the award.

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:

I search atleast 50 websites, before I present you 10 questions. I went to MEA website and found this:



Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

Home

About Us

Visits

Media Center

Consular Ser

Visit of National Security Advisor to the Sultanate of Or

June 26, 2023

Prime Minister conferred with the Order of the Nile

June 25, 2023

Prime Minister conferred with the Order of the Nile

June 25, 2023

In a special ceremony at the Presidency in Cairo on 25 June 2023, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. Mr. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, conferred Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with the 'Order of the Nile', the highest civilian award of Egypt.

2. Prime Minister thanked President Sisi for the honor on behalf of the people of India.

3. Prime Minister is the first Indian to receive the award.

Q163. If Malacca strait is blocked, which of the alternative straits will be available for vessel carrying goods from Africa to reach Japan?

1. Through Sunda Strait
2. Through Lombok Strait
3. Through Taiwan Strait

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

If the Strait of Malacca were blocked, nearly half of the world's shipping fleet would be required to reroute around the Indonesian archipelago, such as through the **Lombok Strait between the Indonesian islands of Bali and Lombok or through the Sunda Strait** between the Indonesian islands of Java and Sumatra.



Vessel can skip Taiwan strait.



Q164. Consider the following statements REGARDING Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

1. FRA is not applicable to Municipal Areas.
2. FRA is also applicable to National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves.
3. A provision of conversion of forest villages to revenue villages has been mentioned under this Act.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

Is FRA applicable in Municipal areas?

A plain reading of Section 1(2) of the FRA demonstrates that it extends to the whole of India and no part is exempted from its application⁴.

Section 2(d) of the FRA defines the term 'forest land' widely to mean "land of any description falling within any forest areas..." This definition of forest land reflects that law adopted by the Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 12.12.1996⁵ in the Godavarman case. Clearly, the FRA is applicable to claimants in respect of forest lands wherever they may be located; no exception is made for municipal areas.

Second statement is correct:

Is FRA applicable in National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves?

Yes, FRA is applicable in National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Tiger Reserves, as is apparent from the definition of 'forest land' under Section 2 (d) which describes forest land as "land of any description falling within any forest area and includes..... Sanctuaries and National Parks".

FRA only recognises pre-existing rights which are already being exercised by the eligible persons in the National Parks and Sanctuaries. Other than securing the tenure of the existing forest dwellers on the land, no new rights are being created which might potentially impact the ecological balance inside the protected areas.

Third statement is correct:

There is a provision for conversion of forest villages to revenue villages in 2019, as stipulated under the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Forest villages were villages set up by the British Indian government to settle workers inside forests and procure resources like timber more efficiently. There are around 2,500 forest villages across the country.

(h) rights of settlement and conversion of all forest villages, old habitation, unsurveyed villages and other villages in forests, whether recorded, notified or not into revenue villages;

Q165. Consider the following statements.

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

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

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

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

What is the concept of “General Consent”?

In case of 'general consent' **the CBI does not have to obtain the prior permission of the state government before investigation. When a state withdraws general consent**, CBI officers lose the powers to conduct investigation in the concerned state. In order to register a new case, the agency has to seek specific consent from the State government. As a result, it stalls registration of new cases. And over the years, **general consent has been used as a tool of political rivalry between the centre and state.**

Second Statements is incorrect:

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

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

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

Third Statement is incorrect:

Members are:

- a. Prime Minister of India
- b. Leader of Opposition
- c. CJI.

Q166. 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.

Q167. Kalpasutra and Kalakacharya-Katha are two very important texts depicts paintings belongs to:

- a. Buddhism
- b. Vijaynagar Empire
- c. Pala school
- d. Jainism

Solution: d

Explanation:

They are Jain Texts. When you will read Western School of Painting, you will find these texts. Click on the link given below:

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

Q168. With reference to the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years.
2. The term of the Lok Sabha can be extended during the period of national emergency by a law of the Parliament for two years at a time.

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:

Statement (1) is not correct:

The Council of States shall not be subject to dissolution, but as nearly as possible one-third of the members thereof shall retire as soon as may be on the expiration of every second year in accordance with the provisions made in that behalf by Parliament by law.

The Lok Sabha's normal term is five years from the date of its first meeting after the general elections, after which it automatically dissolves. However, the President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years.

Statement (2) is incorrect:

The term of the Lok Sabha can be extended during the period of national emergency by a law of the Parliament **for one year at a time for any length of time**. However, this extension cannot continue beyond a period of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.

83. Duration of Houses of Parliament.—(1) The Council of States shall not be subject to dissolution, but as nearly as possible one-third of the members thereof shall retire as soon as may be on the expiration of every second year in accordance with the provisions made in that behalf by Parliament by law.

(2) The House of the People, unless sooner dissolved, shall continue for ⁸[five years] from the date appointed for its first meeting and no longer and the expiration of the said period of ⁸[five years] shall operate as a dissolution of the House:

Provided that the said period may, while a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation, be extended by Parliament by law for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not extending in any case beyond a period of six months after the Proclamation has ceased to operate.

Q169. Which of the following is/are drought-adapted species?

1. Babool (Acacia nilotica)
2. Aloe vera (Aloe barbadensis)
3. Lemon grass (Cymbopogon citratus)

How many of the above are deciduous trees?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

All are correct. Read few more:

- ✓ 1. Aloe vera (*Aloe barbadensis*): This succulent plant is well-known for its medicinal properties and ability to survive in dry conditions. It can be grown in pots or directly in the ground.
- ✓ 2. Bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea* spp.): These colorful shrubs are drought-tolerant and can grow in a range of soil types. They are perfect for adding a pop of color to your garden.
- ✓ 3. Cacti (*Cactaceae*): Cacti are extremely drought-tolerant and come in a variety of shapes and sizes. They can be grown in pots or in the ground.
- ✓ 4. Curry leaves (*Murraya koenigii*): This small tree is an essential ingredient in Indian cooking and can be grown in a range of soil types. It is drought-tolerant and low-maintenance.
- ✓ 5. Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*): These palm trees are well-suited to dry conditions and can tolerate heat and wind. They are also prized for their sweet fruit.
- ✓ 6. Dragon fruit (*Hylocereus undatus*): This cactus-like plant is becoming increasingly popular in India due to its health benefits and drought-tolerant nature.
- ✓ 7. Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.): These fast-growing trees are well-suited to dry conditions and can be used for timber and pulp production.
- ✓ 8. Henna (*Lawsonia inermis*): This shrub is prized for its natural dye, which is used in traditional Indian art and textiles. It can be grown in a range of soil types and is drought-tolerant.
10. Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*): This large fruit tree is well-suited to dry conditions and can provide shade and fruit.
11. Lavender (*Lavandula* spp.): This fragrant herb is drought-tolerant and can be grown in pots or in the ground. It is often used for its calming properties.
- ✓ 12. Lemon grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*): This aromatic herb is often used in Indian cooking and is drought-tolerant.
13. Marigold (*Tagetes* spp.): These colorful flowers are easy to grow and can be used for decorative purposes or as a natural insect repellent.
14. Neem (*Azadirachta indica*): This tree is well-known for its medicinal properties and can be grown in a range of soil types. It is drought-tolerant and low-maintenance.

Few more are:

The first step would be to earmark 'camel sanctuaries' — places that are protected from further development, where camels can roam around and forage safely. These would be areas where native trees that camels thrive on grow — such as khejri (*Prosopis cineraria*), bordi (*Zizyphus nummularia*), babool (*Acacia nilotica*) and other drought-adapted species. These places would not just be havens for camels but double

The **UN has designated 2024 as the International Year of Camelids**. Camels, llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and guanacos are an important source of livelihood for millions of families - most of them pastoralists - in dryland and mountainous rangeland ecosystems around the world.

Q170. Consider the following statements.

1. The UN General Assembly established The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 1993 after Vienna declaration.
2. The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is designed to ensure equal treatment for every country when their human rights situations are assessed.
3. The objective of the UPR is to review the fulfillment of the human rights commitments of all UN member states as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

These facts are very important. You must know.

Read below:

History of the mandate

The UN General Assembly established The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in December 1993 through its **resolution 48/141** which also details its mandate. This was just a few months after the World Conference on Human Rights adopted the **Vienna Declaration and Plan of Action**.

Adopted by 171 States, the Vienna Declaration renewed the world's commitment to human rights. It also called for strengthening and harmonizing the monitoring capacity of the United Nations system with regards to human rights.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) was created by the General Assembly in 2006 and is carried out by an inter-governmental working group of the Human Rights Council. The objective of the UPR is to review the fulfillment of the human rights commitments and obligations of all 193 UN member states as set out in: a) the UN Charter; b) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; c) human rights instruments to which the State is party (human rights treaties ratified by the State concerned); d) voluntary pledges and commitments made by the State (e.g. national human rights policies and/or programmes implemented); and, e) applicable international humanitarian law. (It is a state-driven peer review mechanism, whereby all the UN member States are reviewed on the same terms.)

The review is based on the following documents:

- Information provided by the State, which normally takes the form of a 'national report';

Q171. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the RBI Act, 1934, Government of India has the sole right to produce/mint coins including the 1 Rupee note.
2. QR code-based Coin Vending Machine (QCVN) projects aims to improve distribution of coins by harnessing technology.

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:

Box VIII.1
Pilot Project on QR Code-based Coin Vending Machine (QCVM)

As per the Coinage Act, 2011, the Government of India has the sole right to produce/mint coins including the ₹1 note. These coins are issued for circulation only through the Reserve Bank in terms of Section 38 of the RBI Act, 1934.

Presently, coins are largely distributed through the counters at all bank branches. Several measures have been undertaken recently such as enhanced incentives to banks for distribution of coins, use of mobile coin vans for coin distribution with a special focus on sub-urban, rural and remote areas along with holding of coin *melas* by currency chest branches.

To further improve distribution of coins by harnessing technology, the Reserve Bank has launched a pilot project on QCVM in collaboration with five banks (*viz.*, Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India and Federal Bank).

The QCVM is a cashless coin dispensation system which allows payment transactions through UPI on scanning a dynamic QR code generated by the machine on the mobile phone of the customer.

Unlike cash-based traditional coin vending machines, the QCVM eliminates the need for physical tendering of banknotes and their subsequent authentication. Further, in QCVMs, the customers will have the option to withdraw coins in required quantity and denominations.

The pilot project is being initially rolled out at 19 locations in 12 cities across the country (*viz.*, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, Patna, Prayagraj and Kozhikode).

Source: RBI.

Q172. Hindu Kush Himalayan region is spread across eight countries. Which of the following is part of it?

1. India
2. Pakistan
3. Bhutan
4. Afghanistan
5. Iran
6. Myanmar

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

See map below:



Q173. Recently, a Mesolithic period rock painting depicting a person tilling a piece of land has been found in:

- Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
- Trivandrum, Kerala
- Hampi, Karnataka
- Bhimbetka, MP

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

Archaeologist reports Mesolithic-era rock paintings in Guntur

According to the archaeologist, the find throws light on aspects of the social life and culture of the people who lived in the area

June 20, 2023 07:18 am | Updated 09:54 am IST - ANANTAPUR/GUNTUR

A Mesolithic period rock painting depicting a person tilling a piece of land has been found in Orvakallu village in Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh.

Q174. Consider the following statements regarding Central Zoo Authority (CZA).

- It is a statutory body under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- No zoo shall be operated without being recognised by the Authority.
- Animal specified in Schedules I and II shall not be sold or transfer without the permission of Authority.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The **CZA is a statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was constituted in 1992 under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.

CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY AND RECOGNITION OF ZOOS

38A. Constitution of Central Zoo Authority.—(1) The Central Government shall constitute a body to be known as the Central Zoo Authority (hereinafter in this Chapter referred to as the Authority), to exercise the powers conferred on, and to perform the functions assigned to it under this Act.

(2) The Authority shall consist of—

- (a) chairperson;
- (b) such number of members not exceeding ten; and
- (c) Member-Secretary,

to be appointed by the Central Government.

No zoo shall be operated without being recognised by the Authority.

38-I. Acquisition of animals by a zoo.—(1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, no zoo shall acquire, sell or transfer any wild animal or captive animal specified in Schedules I and II except with the previous permission of the Authority.

Animal specified in Schedules I and II shall not be sold or transfer without the permission of Authority. See two more provisions below.

38F. Annual report.—The Authority shall prepare in such form and at such time, for each financial year, as may be prescribed, its annual report, giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year and forward a copy thereof to the Central Government.

38G. Annual report and audit report to be laid before Parliament.—The Central Government shall cause the annual report together with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations contained therein, in so far as they relate to the Central Government, and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations and the audit report to be laid as soon as may be after the reports are received before each House of Parliament.

38H. Recognition of zoos.—(1) No zoo shall be operated without being recognised by the Authority:

Q175. Consider the following statements.

1. Constitution prescribed that the Supreme Court shall comprise of a Chief Justice of India and not more than seven other judges.
2. The maximum number of judges could be increased by Parliament by law.
3. A person is eligible to be appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court if he/she is citizen of India and in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

Article 124(1) of the Constitution prescribed that the Supreme Court shall comprise of a Chief Justice of India and not more than seven other judges.

Second statement is correct.

The maximum number of judges could be increased by Parliament by law. Accordingly, the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 provided for a maximum of eleven judges. Thereafter this number was increased to 13 in 1960; to 17 in 1977; to 25 in 1986, and to 30 in 2009. With the appointment of recent nine judges, **we will have 33 judges including the CJI.**

124. Establishment and constitution of Supreme Court.—(1) There shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven² other Judges.

Third statement is correct:

(3) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court unless he is a citizen of India and—

(a) has been for at least five years a Judge of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession; or

(b) has been for at least ten years an advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession; or

(c) is, in the opinion of the President a distinguished jurist.

Till date, no 'distinguished jurist' (category (c)) has been appointed as judge of Supreme Court.

Q176. Consider the following Pairs.

Conventions/Protocols	Related to
1. Stockholm	Persistent Organic Pollutants
2. Cartagena	Advance Informed Agreement procedures for transfer of Living Modified Organisms
3. Basel	Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanations:

Conventions/Protocols	Related to
1. Stockholm	Persistent Organic Pollutants
2. Cartagena	Advance Informed Agreement procedures for transfer of Living Modified Organisms
3. Rotterdam	Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade
4. Basel	Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Q177. Which among the following represents the **effective monetary policy transmission**?

- Banks increasing the lending rate, when RBI reduces the Repo rate.
- Banks reducing the lending rate, when RBI reduces the Repo rate.
- Banks increasing lending rate, when RBI reduces the Reverse Repo rate.
- Banks increasing the lending rate and deposit rates, when RBI reduces both Repo and Reverse Repo rate

Solution: b

Explanation:

Effective or complete monetary policy transmission implies banks passing on the benefits of RBI's policy to the borrowers/public.

It means that if RBI reduces the Repo rate, this will increase the money supply or banks can borrow from the RBI at lesser rates. This benefit of reduced Repo rate is transmitted to public by reducing the lending rates to borrowers. **Hence, only statement b is correct.**

Q178. The appointment of District judges in a State are made by

- The governor in consultation with the High Court of the State
- Chief Minister in consultation with the High Court of the State
- Chief Minister in consultation with the Chief Justice of India
- Governor in consultation with the President

Solution: a

Explanation:

Article 233 of the Constitution states that:

Appointments and promotion of district judges in any state shall be made by the Governor of the state in consultation with the high court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such state. So, option (a) is correct.

CHAPTER VI.—SUBORDINATE COURTS

233. Appointment of district judges.—(1) Appointments of persons to be, and the posting and promotion of, district judges in any State shall be made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State.

(2) A person not already in the service of the Union or of the State shall only be eligible to be appointed a district judge if he has been for not less than seven years an advocate or a pleader and is recommended by the High Court for appointment.

1. Aloe vera (*Aloe barbadensis*): This succulent plant is well-known for its medicinal properties and ability to survive in dry conditions. It can be grown in pots or directly in the ground.
2. Bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea* spp.): These colorful shrubs are drought-tolerant and can grow in a range of soil types. They are perfect for adding a pop of color to your garden.
3. Cacti (*Cactaceae*): Cacti are extremely drought-tolerant and come in a variety of shapes and sizes. They can be grown in pots or in the ground.
4. Curry leaves (*Murraya koenigii*): This small tree is an essential ingredient in Indian cooking and can be grown in a range of soil types. It is drought-tolerant and low-maintenance.
5. Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*): These palm trees are well-suited to dry conditions and can tolerate heat and wind. They are also prized for their sweet fruit.
6. Dragon fruit (*Hylocereus undatus*): This cactus-like plant is becoming increasingly popular in India due to its health benefits and drought-tolerant nature.
7. Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.): These fast-growing trees are well-suited to dry conditions and can be used for timber and pulp production.
8. Henna (*Lawsonia inermis*): This shrub is prized for its natural dye, which is used in traditional Indian art and textiles. It can be grown in a range of soil types and is drought-

Q179. For the last several weeks Delhi has been witnessing a large-scale eviction of the *jhuggi dwellers* ahead of an international event in the capital. The eviction drive has rendered hundreds of children, women and old people homeless and thrown into the streets during this scorching summer. We solve one question on this.

Consider the following statements regarding *Jhuggi Jhopri Bastis* (JJ Bastis).

1. As per the protocol, comprehensive surveys are done to assess which of the JJ Bastis would be entitled for development or rehabilitation.
2. There is no protocol to remove JJ Bastis situated in the Central Government's land.
3. India ratified International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First is correct. Second is incorrect.

In India, state governments and agencies have different rehabilitation policies for the Jhuggi dwellers.

In Delhi, we have the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Act, 2010 (DUSIB Act, 2010) & Delhi Slum & JJ Rehabilitation and Relocation Policy, 2015 (RR Policy, 2015) which govern the Jhuggi rehabilitation.

The DUSIB Act, 2010 & RR Policy, 2015 bars any eviction without proper rehabilitation. The procedure established by law also emphasizes in-situ rehabilitation unless the land was acquired for public purposes.

Till a few years ago Jhuggis in the capital had no protection against the arbitrary and unannounced demolitions by the agencies. To comply with the direction of the High Court, DUSIB formulated a Draft Protocol for the removal of Jhuggis and JJ Bastis in Delhi (hereinafter the draft protocol, 2016) in its 16th Board Meeting and notified the same on 14.06.2016.

Protocol to remove JJ Bastis:

1. The DUSIB will be the **Nodal Agency** to conduct the **comprehensive surveys** and ascertain which of the JJ Bastis and Jhuggis would be entitled for in-situ improvement/development or re-settlement and rehabilitation.
2. It is essential that a **uniform approach** is adopted as regards all the jhuggis and JJ bastis in NCT of Delhi;
3. The removal of Jhuggis & JJ Bastis in Delhi will be as per the provisions of "**Delhi Slum & JJ Rehabilitation & Relocation Policy, 2015 (Annexure A)**" as modified from time to time. The focus of the policy is on in-situ re-development and rehabilitation of Jhuggis and JJ Bastis as a matter of principle and relocation in exceptional cases.
4. This protocol shall be **followed by all agencies** including the Delhi Police in the event of any action for removal of Jhuggis and JJ Bastis in the future.

The ultimate product of the meeting was that all stakeholders agreed upon the draft protocol for the removal of JJ Bastis from the National Capital and the same shall apply to the JJ Bastis situated in the Central Government's land as well. More pertinently, the

Third statement is correct:

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on December 16, 1966. The Covenant entered into force on January 3, 1976. Its Preamble notes that the "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

It has been ratified by 170 countries and has 71 signatories. India acceded to the Covenant on April 10, 1979.]

Q180. "**Summit for a New Global Financing Pact**" is:

- a. Announced at COP 27 to the UNFCCC, with need of a new financial pact for most vulnerable countries for climate work.
- b. Organized by World Economic Forum for financing Artificial Intelligence in different sectors.
- c. Organised by UNICEF for promoting children education who got affected by COVID wave
- d. Organized by FAO for ensuring food security in vulnerable countries

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Summit was announced at the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with Macron stating that "we need a new financial pact with the most vulnerable countries.

✓ The aim of this Summit is to concurrently tackle the challenges of climate change, biodiversity protection, and the fight against inequality in order to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

✓ The Summit is co-organized by France and **India**, with the latter holding the presidency of the G20 this year. The Secretary-General of the United Nations will be in Paris for this occasion.

Q182. With respect to **Artemis Accord**, consider the following statements.

1. Artemis Accords are a non-binding set of principles designed to guide civil space exploration.
2. India is part of the Artemis Accord.
3. Artemis Accords signatories are committed for providing information regarding their respective national space policies in accordance with their national rules and regulations.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

All three are correct statements.

News:


✓ India joins Artemis Accords, will launch ISRO–NASA space mission to ISS in 2024, says White House

Grounded in the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 (OST), the Artemis Accords are a non-binding set of principles designed to guide civil space exploration and use in the 21st century

June 22, 2023 03:27 pm | Updated 06:42 pm IST - Washington



Overview

Grounded in the **Outer Space Treaty of 1967** (OST), the Artemis Accords are a non-binding set of principles designed to guide civil space exploration and use in the 21st century. Co-led for the United States by the Department of State and the **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** , the Artemis Accords were launched on October 13, 2020 with Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States. As of May 2023, there are 25 signatories, and we continue bring together nations with a common vision for peaceful, sustainable, and transparent cooperation in space. ✓

2. Transparency

Transparency is a key principle for responsible civil space exploration and use. Artemis Accords signatories are committed to the broad dissemination of information regarding their respective national space policies and space exploration plans in accordance with their national rules and regulations.

Q183. As per the news study, which of the following affect the spin of a table tennis ball?

1. angle of incidence – i.e., the angle at which the ball approaches the surface
2. force at which ball strikes the surface
3. friction of the surface

How many of the above reasons is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Third reason is incorrect.

News:

Explained | The physics of why a table-tennis ball spins the way it does



In a new study, scientists have reported that only the angle of incidence and the friction of the surface affect the spin of a table tennis ball.

June 21, 2023 05:05 pm | Updated June 22, 2023 11:24 am IST – Chennai

- The concept of spin has a pronounced effect in table tennis, where players use gripping rubber-coated paddles to strike a light, hollow ball over a hard surface.
- Now, in a new study, scientists have reported that only the angle of incidence – i.e. the angle at which the ball approaches the surface – and the friction of the surface affect the spin of a table tennis ball.
- They found that the ball rolled perfectly after bouncing over a wide range of incident angles and velocities.

Q184. With respect to elections in India, consider the following statements.

1. Model Code of Conduct in India has does not have statutory or constitutional backing.
2. Model Code of Conduct is valid for Legislative Assembly elections and General Election to Lok Sabha, not Legislative Councils.
3. Model Conduct of Conduct is not valid for by-elections as it is not possible to implement rule for entire state.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Second and third statements are incorrect:

For State Legislative Assembly elections and General Election to Lok Sabha, MCC stays in operation till completion of the election process, for the former, throughout the state and for the latter, throughout the country.

MCC is even applicable to Legislative council elections from Local Bodies Graduates and Teacher's constituencies.

But in the case of bye-elections, **MCC's application is limited to the specific assembly constituency segment** (when it is a part of state capital/metropolitan city/municipal corporation) and in other cases, Model Code is applicable to the entire district, encompassing the constituency going for bye-election.

MCC doesn't have statutory or constitutional backing, as was accorded to the Election Commission by the Constitution Makers.

However, there is a legislative enactment punishing certain violations of the Model Code of Conduct in the form of Representation of People's Act, 1951, under provisions like Section 123, 126, 126A, 133 etc. where prohibition and punishments for violation of code of conduct guidelines have been laid down.

Q185. Who among the following are the members of selection committee to recommend the Chairperson of Lokpal and its members as per the **Lokpal and Lokayukta Act 2013**?

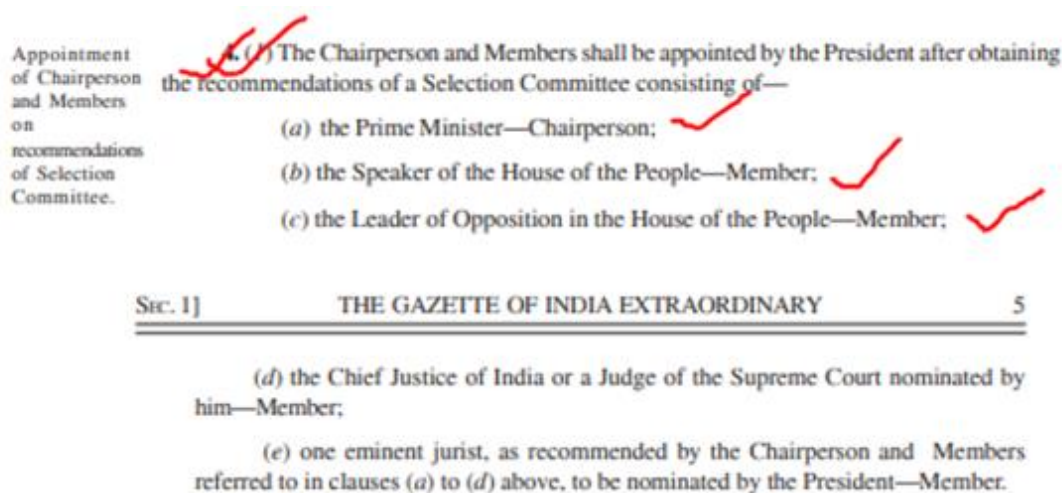
1. Prime Minister
2. Ministry of Law and Justice
3. Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha
4. Chief Justice of India or a member nominated by him

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:



Q186. Which of the following capitals form closest border with Mediterranean Sea?

- a. Damascus (Syria)
- b. Ankara (Turkey)
- c. Cairo (Egypt)
- d. Tel Aviv (Israel)

Solution: d

Explanation:

See maps for the answer. Don't stop just At Tel Aviv. See all places surrounding.



Q187. Separation of the Judiciary from the executive and Legislative is enjoined by:

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Read carefully. Only Executive.

Article 50 (DPSP) of the Indian constitution talks that the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State. It is one of the liberal intellectual principle.

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

Q188. Consider the following statements regarding AFSPA.

1. The Armed Forces Special Powers Act was enacted during priministership of Indira Gandhi.
2. Power to declared disturbed area under AFSPA lies only with the Central Government.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Ministry of Home Affairs recently declared Nagaland as “Disturbed Area” for the next six months under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.

Origin to AFSPA.

The Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958, had its genesis in the 1942 Lord Linlithgow ordinance, which was enacted **to curb the Quit India movement**. Soon after Independence, the country faced various secession movements. The government quickly evoked the Armed Forces Special Powers Act: a law that was once used by the British to curb movements of freedom struggle which saw many Indians being killed or imprisoned.

Nehru’s government passed the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (1958) in the Indian parliament. First statement is incorrect.

Second statement is incorrect.

What is a “disturbed area” and who has the power to declare it?

A disturbed area is one which is declared by notification under **Section 3 of the AFSPA**. An area can be disturbed due to differences or disputes between members of different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities. **The Central Government, or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory** can declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area. A suitable notification would have to be made in the Official Gazette. As per Section 3, it can be invoked in places where “the use of armed forces in aid of the civil power is necessary”.

3. Power to declare areas to be disturbed areas.—If, in relation to any State or Union territory to which this Act extends, the Governor of that State or the Administrator of that Union territory or the Central Government, in either case, is of the opinion that the whole or any part of such State or Union territory, as the case may be, is in such a disturbed or dangerous condition that the use of armed forces in aid of the civil power is necessary, the Governor of that State or the Administrator of that Union territory or the Central Government, as the case may be, may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare the whole or such part of such State or Union territory to be a disturbed area.]

Q189. Which of the following aspects can lead to appreciation in the exchange rate of the Rupee?

5. Increase in foreign tourists coming to India.
6. Indian citizens investing abroad.
7. A decrease in crude oil prices.
8. Increase in exports by Indian pharmaceutical companies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- e. 1 and 2 only
- f. 1, 3 and 4 only
- g. 2 and 4 only
- h. 1 and 3 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

SUCH QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE WRONG NOW.

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

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

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

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

Therefore, the correct answer is (b).