

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 01

1. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Article 130 says that, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, decided by President of India, on advice of Prime Minister.
2. In Kerala, Supreme Court has its regional bench established long back in since 1968.

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

Answer- D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is Wrong

Article 130 says that “the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.”

It is decided by Chief Justice of India and approval of President is needed.

Statement 2 is also Wrong

There is no regional bench of supreme court in Kerala.

Why this Question:

Recently VP M Venkaiah Naidu made the following suggestions;

Institute four regional Benches to tackle the enormous backlog of cases, and to ensure their speedy disposal.

The court should be split into two divisions.

2. Consider the following pairs:

Festivals	State
1. Losar	- Arunachal Pradesh
2. Bathukamma	- Chhattisgarh
3. Wari	- Maharashtra

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct matched?

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

Answer - B

Explanation

Statement 2 is wrong

Bathukamma is celebrated in Telangana.

Why this Question:

Telangana government recently celebrated the eagerly awaited ‘Festival of Flowers’ (Bathukamma) for which the State is known. Bathukamma.

The festival was traditionally celebrated by women across the state.

Every year this festival is celebrated as per Telugu version of Hindu calendar in the Bhadrapada Amavasya, also known as Mahalaya Amavasya, usually in September–October of Gregorian calendar.

In Telugu, ‘Bathukamma’ means ‘Mother Goddess come Alive’.

It is the state festival of Telangana.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 01

3. Consider the following statements with respect to Sendai Framework:

1. It is a voluntary, non-binding agreement on disaster risk reduction.
2. It is the successor of Hyogo Framework for Action.
3. India is a signatory to Sendai Framework.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 or "Sendai Framework" is an international accord on disaster risk reduction, adopted at the Third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan, on March 18, 2015 as the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. It is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement.

India is a signatory.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is tasked with the implementation and follow up of the Sendai Framework.

Topic: National Ambient Air Quality Standards

4. Which of these pollutants are NOT included in measurement of air quality under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Ammonia
4. Lead
5. Ozone

Choose the Correct Option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 5 only
- d) 3 and 5 only

Answer: A

National Ambient Air Quality Standards are the standards for ambient air quality set by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) that is applicable nationwide.

The CPCB has been conferred this power by the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

The measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants, namely, PM₅, sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), PM₁₀, lead (Pb), carbon monoxide (CO), Ozone, Ammonia (NH₃).

5. Consider the following about Pattamaadai mat.

1. Pattamaadai mats are silk mats that originated in a small village in Andhra Pradesh
2. They have been given GI tag

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The Geographical Indications Registry has granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Pattamaadai Silk Mat

Pattamaadai mats are silk mats also called Pattu paai that originated in a small village in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 01

6. Consider the following statements about Saraswati Samman annual award:

1. It is given for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any of the 22 languages of India listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.
2. It was initiated by Ministry of Culture, India

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The Saraswati Samman is an annual award for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any of the 22 languages of India listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.

The Saraswati Samman was instituted in 1991 by the K. K. Birla Foundation. It consists of Rs 15 lakh, a citation and a plaque.

Candidates are selected from literary works published in the previous ten years by a panel that included scholars and former award winners.

7. Consider the following statements about Current Account Deficit

1. The current account measures the flow of goods, services and investments into and out of the country.
2. The current account includes net income, including interest and dividends, and transfers, like foreign aid.

3. We run into a deficit if the value of the goods and services we import exceeds the value of those we export.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: D

8. Consider the following statements about Index of Industrial Production (IIP)

1. It is a composite indicator measuring changes in the volume of production of a basket
2. of industrial products over a period of time, with respect to a chosen base period.
3. Currently, the base year is 2010-11.
4. It is computed and published by the Central Statistical Office

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is a composite indicator measuring changes in the volume of production of a basket of industrial products over a period of time, with respect to a chosen base period.

Currently, the base year is 2011-12.

It is computed and published by the Central Statistical Office (an office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation) on

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 01

←.....→
monthly basis with a time lag of six weeks from the reference month.

9. Consider the following statements about School Education Quality Index (SEQI)

1. It is developed to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the higher education sector.
2. It is developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with Ministry of Human Resource Development.
3. According to the report Kerala has topped in terms of its performance followed immediately by Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong:

It is developed to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector and not higher education sector

Statement 2 is correct: The index will serve as a regular and transparent review of the status of school education quality across the States and UTs. Developed through a collaborative process including key stakeholders such as MHRD, the World Bank and sector experts, the index consists

of 30 critical indicators that assess the delivery of quality education.

Statement 3 is wrong: Kerala (1), Rajasthan (2), Karnataka(3), Andhra Pradesh (4), Gujarat (5), Assam (6), Maharashtra (7), Tamil Nadu (8), Himachal Pradesh (9), Uttarakhand (10), Haryana (11), Orissa (12), Chhattisgarh (13), Telangana (14), Madhya Pradesh (15), Jharkhand (16), Bihar (17), Punjab (18), Jammu Kashmir (19) and Uttar Pradesh (20).

10. Consider the following statements about paleochannel:

1. Paleochannel, is a remnant of an inactive river or stream channel that has been filled or buried by younger sediment.
2. It typically acts as pathways for groundwater movement and provide a potential source of groundwater.

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

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

Answer: C

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 02

1. Identify the correct statement about the Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme:

- a) It is launched under the Gold Monetisation Scheme
- b) RBI Notifies the terms and conditions for the scheme
- c) Both are correct
- d) Both are incorrect

Answer: C

Explanation: Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme was launched under Gold Monetisation Scheme.

The issues are made open for subscription in tranches by RBI in consultation with GOI.

RBI Notifies the terms and conditions for the scheme from time to time.

The rate of SGB will be declare by RBI before every new tranche by issuing a Press Release.

2. National e Governance Division (NeGD) falls under,

- a) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- b) Ministry of Communications
- c) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- d) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Answer: A

Explanation: National eGovernance Division (NeGD) falls under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

3. Identify the correct statement about the School Education Quality Index (SEQI):

- 1. It was released by the NITI Aayog to assess learning outcomes.
- 2. It does not assess the state of infrastructure of schools.

Choose the correct answer:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: SEQI was developed by NITI Aayog to evaluate the performance of States and UTs in the school education sector.

It is developed through a collaborative process, including key stakeholders such as Ministry of HRD, the World Bank and sector experts.

It also assesses the Infrastructure and facilities for outcomes.

4. Which of the following is/are advantages of using plastic waste in National Highways construction?

- 1. Higher resistance to deformation
- 2. Improved stability and strength
- 3. Reduced consumption of bitumen

Choose the correct answer:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Plastic waste has already been used in wearing courses of National Highways

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 02

construction on the pilot basis in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Construction of 1 kilometre of 4-lane highway can help in disposal of approximately 7 tonnes of waste plastic.

The advantages are higher resistance to deformation, Increased durability and improved fatigue life and Improved stability and strength.

This also reduces consumption of bitumen in the mixes. Besides, this process opens up an avenue for environment friendly disposal of waste plastic.

5. Which one of the following index is NOT published by NITI AAYOG?

- a) India Innovation Index
- b) SDG India Index
- c) ASER Index
- d) School Education Quality Index (SEQI)

Answer: C

Explanation: The Annual Status of Education, ASER report by the NGO Pratham which measures the learning outcomes has been released. The report was based on an annual household survey which covered 5.46 lakh children in 596 rural districts across the country.

All other Index are publish by NITI AAYOG.

6. Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement which is recently seen in the news is proposed between India and which of the following,

- a) United States
- b) European Union
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) South Korea

Answer: C

7. Global Hunger Index is released by
- a) World Health Organisation
 - b) Economic Intelligence Unit
 - c) Food and Agriculture Organisation
 - d) Welthungerhilfe foundation

Answer: D

8. Consider the following pairs with respect to festivals and their states.

- 1. Moatsu - Nagaland
- 2. Chapchar kut - Mizoram
- 3. Mopin - Arunachal Pradesh

Which of the statements given above is correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: D

9. Consider the following with respect to International Astronomical Union (IAU).

- 1. It was founded in 1919 and it later formed a part of United Nations Group.
- 2. It acts as the internationally recognized authority for assigning designations and names to celestial bodies.
- 3. Its members includes only Nation states.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: B

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 02

10. Consider the following with respect to E-cigarettes:

1. They are non-combustible, battery-operated device that produces aerosol by heating the solution that it contains.
2. They are completely good for the health as they are nicotine free products.

Which of the statements given above is

Incorrect?

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

Answer: B



UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 03

1. Recently the term Coupled Forecast Model (CFS) has been in news. It refers to
- New monsoon prediction model deployed by IMD
 - Economic model to predict an economic recession
 - IMF's new lending model
 - None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation: The new monsoon model, called the Coupled Forecast Model (CFS), deployed by the IMD under the National Monsoon Mission (NMM) has failed to forecast the excess rainfall received during Aug-Sept 2019.

2. The Ganga Basin states include
- Uttarakhand
 - UP
 - Bihar
 - Jharkhand

Choose the correct answers from above

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- All the above

Answer: D

Explanation: The Central government has issued a 15-point directive, including cordoning off ghats and imposing a fine of Rs 50,000, to prevent the immersion of idols in the Ganga or its tributaries during festivals, including Dussehra, Diwali, Chhath and Saraswati Puja. The directive has been issued by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) to chief secretaries in 11 Ganga basin states. The 11 Ganga basin states include: Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal,

Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Rajasthan

The directive was issued under Section 5 of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

3. The "Paryatan Parv" is an initiative of
- Ministry of Tourism
 - Ministry of External Affairs
 - Ministry of Home Affairs
 - None of the above

Answer: A

4. On the 150th birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, an innovation challenge which provides a platform for every child across India to ideate innovative solutions for a sustainable India of their dreams, using Gandhi's principles. - The Gandhian Challenge was launched by

- NITI Aayog's Atal Tinkering Labs
- UNICEF India
- Generation Unlimited

Choose the correct answers from above

- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only
- All the above

Answer: D

Explanation: On the 150th birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, AIM, NITI Aayog's Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and UNICEF India, including Generation Unlimited, have launched 'The Gandhian Challenge'.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 03

5. With reference to Drone Regulation in India, consider the following statements

1. The regulation defines the “No Drone Zones”.
2. The Drone regulation is drafted by Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. DigiSky is a portal for registration and flying of civil drones in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Statement 2 is wrong.

Regulations of Drone is drafted by Ministry of Civil Aviation and Not by Ministry of Home Affairs. Statement 1 & 3 are correct.

6. In Koppen scheme of classification, India's Tropical Monsoon is denoted by

- a) Af
- b) Aw
- c) Am
- d) Cs

Answer: C

7. Consider the following statements about Vayoshreshtha Samman

1. It is a Scheme of awards instituted by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and it has status of National Awards.
2. It is conferred on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of

their services towards the cause of the elderly persons.

3. It is awarded in two categories – Government Institutions and Individuals from any part of the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: It is awarded in two categories – Institutions and Individuals from any part of the country.

8. Swachh Rail, Swachh Bharat Report, 2019 was released by

- a) Niti Aayog
- b) Ministry of Railways
- c) Ministry of Urban Development
- d) None of the above

Answer: B

9. Recently, Drone Innovators Network Summit-2019 was held in New Delhi. It was organized by

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) IMF
- d) Asian Development Bank

Answer: A

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 03

10. Maitree – 2019, is a military exercise

between

- a) India and Myanmar
- b) India and Thailand.
- c) India and Bangladesh
- d) India and Nepal

Answer: B

Explanation: Maitree – 2019. It is the joint military exercise between India and Thailand. It was recently conducted in Meghalaya.



UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 04

1. Consider the following statements about “Audio Odigos” recently in news:

1. It’s a personal audio guide app to explore the stories behind many iconic Indian heritage sites.
2. While the app will include English, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, it is not available in vernacular languages.

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The app will include English, Hindi, Japanese, Korean and other vernacular languages.

2. Recently an initiative called “Parichay” is in news, what is it?

- a) An initiative for easy filing of RTI through an online portal
- b) New Secondary School examination portal
- c) A collaborative clearing house of litigation and research assistance for lawyers filing appeals against exclusion from the NRC
- d) None of the Above

Answer: C

Explanation: Law schools across India launched a collaborative legal aid clinic to help people excluded from the National Register of Citizens in Assam.

3. Which of the following states have launched the “Mo Sarkar” programme?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Odisha
- d) Rajasthan

Answer: C

Explanation: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched his government’s new governance initiative ‘Mo Sarkar’ on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The objective of the ‘Mo Sarkar’ programme is to provide service with dignity to people who are coming to government offices for different purposes.

4. Consider the following pairs:

1. Dampa Tiger Reserve: Mizoram
2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary: Sikkim
3. Saramati Peak: Nagaland

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Dampa Tiger Reserve, the largest wildlife sanctuary in Mizoram, Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary is famous wildlife reserve in Tripura. Saramati is a peak rising above the surrounding peaks at the mountainous border of Nagaland state (India)

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 04

5. Consider the following Joint Exercises.
1. Nomadic Elephant - Indo-Mongolian
Joint Exercise
 2. Ekuverin - Indo Maldives Joint Exercise
 3. KAZIND - Indo-Kyrgyzstan Joint
Exercise

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: A

Explanation: The Joint Military Exercise KAZIND-2019 between India and Kazakhstan has started recently at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand and continues till 15th October 2019.

6. The term "NDLM-1" has been in news recently. It refers to
- a) New Delhi Landing Mechanism for VIP Flights
 - b) Protocol for dealing with stopping Elephant Deaths in case of endotheliotropic herpesvirus deaths
 - c) An enzyme that makes bacteria resistant to a broad range of antibiotics.
 - d) New Tele-medicine platform launched by ISRO

Answer: C

Explanation: New Delhi metallo-beta-lactamase 1 (NDM-1) is an enzyme that makes bacteria resistant to a broad range of beta-lactam antibiotics. These include the antibiotics of the carbapenem family, which are a mainstay for the treatment of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections. The gene for NDM-1 is one member of

a large gene family that encodes beta-lactamase enzymes called carbapenemases. Bacteria that produce carbapenemases are often referred to in the news media as "superbugs" because infections caused by them are difficult to treat.

7. Recently, U.S. warned India that it may risk sanctions under CAATSA law. In this context consider the following statements regarding CAATSA law.

1. CAATSA is a U.S. federal law through which U.S. imposed sanctions on Iran, North Korea and Russia.
2. CAATSA empowers the US President to impose at least five of the 12 listed sanctions on persons engaged in a "significant transaction" with Russian defence and intelligence sectors.

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Why this question?

The U.S. officials have warned India that with the decision to go ahead with the purchase of the Russian S-400 missile defence system, India may risk sanctions under CAATSA law.

What is CAATSA?

Enacted in 2017, it is a US federal law that imposed sanctions on Iran, North Korea and Russia.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 04

Includes sanctions against countries that engage in significant transactions with Russia's defence and intelligence sectors.

The Act empowers the US President to impose at least five of the 12 listed sanctions on persons engaged in a "significant transaction" with Russian defence and intelligence sectors.

8. Which one of the following Schedules of the Constitution of India contains provisions regarding anti-defection?
- Second Schedule
 - Fifth Schedule
 - Eighth Schedule
 - Tenth Schedule

Answer: D

Explanation: 10th Schedule – Anti – deflection law.

9. Some Buddhist rock-cut caves are called Chaityas, while the others are called Viharas. What is the difference between the two?
- Vihara is a place of worship, while Chaitya is the dwelling place of the monks
 - Chaitya is a place of worship, while Vihara is the dwelling place of the monks
 - Chaitya is the stupa at the far end of the cave, while Vihara is the hall axial to it
 - There is no material difference between the two

Answer: B

Explanation: Chaityas refer to the halls enclosing the stupas. Chaityas were probably constructed to hold large numbers of devotees for prayer. Viharas on the other hand are

constructions built in ancient India in order to provide resting places for the wandering Buddhist monks.

10. Consider the following statements about Shaheen Falcon

- It can live in a variety of habitats, ranging from the low altitude, arid landscapes, to the upper slopes of the Nilgiris.
- They are classified as "vulnerable" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.

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

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

Answer: D

Explanation: Both Statements are correct

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 05

1. Recently PRAKASH portal was launched by
- Ministry of Coal & Power.
 - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
 - Meity
 - Niti Aayog

Answer: A

Explanation: Power Rail Koyla Availability through Supply Harmony (PRAKASH) portal was launched by the Ministry of Coal & Power.

2. Sarbat Da Bhala Express was recently flagged off from New Delhi. It forms the essence of teachings of
- Guru Nanak Dev
 - Acharya Vinoba Bhave
 - Kabir
 - Lal Bahadur Shastri

Answer: A

3. Consider the following statements about "Halt the Hate"
- Halt the Hate' is an interactive website that documents report of alleged hate crimes in India
 - It is an initiative of Journalists sans Borders

Which of the above statement(s) is/are **incorrect**?

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Amnesty's Halt the Hate website was launched in September 2015 in the wake of

the murder of Mohammed Akhlaq – a Muslim resident of Dadri, Uttar Pradesh – by a mob claiming that he had eaten beef.

4. Consider the following statements about Asian Development Bank

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank established in 1966.
- ADB now has 67 members, of which 48 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.
- Currently, Japan and United States hold the largest proportion of shares.
- ADB provides financing to both Sovereign Nations and private companies.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- 1,2,3 only
- 1,3,4 only
- 1 and 4 only
- All the above

Answer: D

Explanation: Factual statements about ADB

5. NH 766 recently seen in news passes through which of the following States
- Kerala and Karnataka
 - Karnataka and Telangana
 - Kerala and Tamil Nadu
 - Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

Answer: A

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 05

6. Consider the following statements with respect to Minimum Alternate Tax:

1. Minimum Alternate Tax is a direct tax.
2. It is imposed on book profit of companies.
3. MAT is applicable to “Zero tax companies”.

Which of the given statement/s is/are

Incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The Minimum Alternative Tax (MAT) is imposed on book profit of companies who record nil or negligible profit to pay the usual corporate income tax.

Book profit means the net profit as shown in the profit & loss account.

MAT is an indirect tax. The objective of the introduction of MAT is to bring into the tax net “zero tax companies” which in spite of having earned substantial book profits and having paid handsome dividends, do not pay any tax due to various tax concessions and incentives provided under the Income-tax Law.

Zero tax companies: The Income Tax Act allows companies to claim certain exemptions, deduct certain expenses and make various provisions to while calculating taxable income. Because of these exemptions and deductions, the taxable profit may become zero despite having substantial book profit. These companies are popularly known as Zero Tax companies.

7. Consider the following statements with respect to Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs):

1. ETFs are traded in Stock Markets.
2. They are index funds.
3. They are less liquid than Mutual Funds.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: ETFs hold a portfolio of securities that replicates an index and are listed and traded on the stock exchange.

Since they trade like stocks and on stock exchanges, ETFs tend to be more liquid than mutual funds. Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) are essentially index funds. They track indexes like the Nifty, Sense.

8. Consider the following statements about Cotton 4 Countries

1. It relates to talks in the WTO on cotton
2. India has been leading the group's negotiations

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

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

Answer: B

Explanation: India is not even part of the group

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 05

9. In compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, India's first e-waste clinic is to come up in
- a) Delhi
 - b) Bhopal
 - c) Chennai
 - d) Trivandrum

Answer: B

Explanation: The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have joined hands to set up the country's first e-waste clinic in Bhopal. CPCB will offer technical support.

10. The distribution of powers between the Centre and the States in the Indian Constitution is based on the scheme provided in the
- a) Morley-Minto Reforms, 1909
 - b) Montagu-Chelmsford Act, 1919
 - c) Government of India Act, 1935
 - d) Indian Independence Act, 1947

Explanation: Distribution of power between the Centre and the States in the Indian Constitution is based on the Government of India Act. 1935.



UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 07

1. Consider the following statements with respect to Youth Co:Lab

1. It was Co-created by UNDP and the Citi Foundation
2. The initiative aims to create an enabling ecosystem to promote youth leadership, innovation, and social entrepreneurship
3. India is the first country in Asia – Pacific region under the initiative

Which of the above statement(s) is/are

Incorrect?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Co-created in 2017 by UNDP and the Citi Foundation, and operational in 25 countries across the Asia Pacific region, the Youth Co:Lab initiative aims to create an enabling ecosystem to promote youth leadership, innovation, and social entrepreneurship.

2. Consider the following about “The annual study of state-level budgets”

1. It is released by Finance Commission
2. Since 2014-15, states have increasingly borrowed money from the market
3. During the last 5 years, except 2016-17, state governments have regularly met their fiscal deficit target of 3% of GDP

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: C

Explanation: The Reserve Bank of India releases its annual study of state-level budgets.

3. Recently seen in news - ‘CyPAD’ refers to:

- a) Traces of Human Skeleton found in Australia
- b) Gene editing tool
- c) Cyber Crime Unit of Delhi Police
- d) Exoplanet in Habitable region

Answer: C

Explanation: The Cyber Prevention, Awareness & Detection Centre (CyPAD) of Delhi Police and National Cyber Forensic Lab, MHA

4. Consider the following about usage of Drones to supply Medicals

1. The Maharashtra government has adopted a framework to use drones for last-mile delivery of essential medicals.
2. The project is a part of the World Economic Forum’s “Medicine from the Sky” initiative

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

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

Answer: B

Explanation: The Telangana government has adopted a framework to use drones for last-mile delivery of essential medicals.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 07

5. The power to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court of India is vested in

- a) The President of India
- b) The Parliament
- c) The Chief Justice of India
- d) The Law Commission

Answer: B

Explanation: It is the Parliament which has the power to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court of India. Parliament increased the number of judges from the original eight in 1950 to eleven in 1956, fourteen in 1960, eighteen in 1978, twenty-six in 1986 and thirty-one in 2008.

6. The terms 'WannaCry, Petya and Eternal Blue' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to

- a) Exoplanets
- b) Cryptocurrency
- c) Cyber-attacks
- d) Mini satellites

Answer: C

Explanation: The Petya and WannaCry cyber-attacks in May and June 2017; are two of the biggest in history and impacted the finances of companies throughout the globe.

Wanna Cry, which affected numerous organizations, including the NHS, spread to 150 countries and is estimated to have cost the global economy £6bn.

7. Recently the National e-Assessment Centre (NeAC) was inaugurated. It's an initiative of

- a) Reserve Bank of India
- b) Central Board of Direct Taxation

- c) GST Network
- d) None of the Above

Answer: B

Explanation: The Central Board of Direct Taxation (CBDT) has unveiled a new initiative for faceless e-assessment to impart greater efficiency, transparency and accountability in the assessment process.

8. "Planet Nine" seen sometimes in news refers to :

- a) A hypothetical planet in the outer region of the Solar System
- b) Goldilock Zone outside the Solar System
- c) An Asteroid where traces of water was found
- d) None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation: Factual Statement

9. The MOSAiC mission is related to

- a) India's mapping of languages which have lost their written script in last 10 years
- b) Study of Arctic Climate using a Drifting Observatory
- c) NASA's mission to map Exo-planets
- d) JAXA's mission to land on Moon's North Pole

Answer: B

Explanation: The Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate expedition is a one-year-long expedition into the Central Arctic, planned to take place from 2019 to 2020. For the first time a modern research icebreaker will operate in the direct vicinity of the North Pole year-round, including the nearly half

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 07

year long polar night during winter. In terms of the logistical challenges involved, the total number of participants, the number of participating countries, and the available budget, MOSAiC represents the largest Arctic expedition in history.

The President has recently commuted death sentences to life imprisonment in at least 20 cases over the past nine years, based on the recommendations received from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

10. With reference to the Pardoning Powers of President, consider the following statements:

1. The power of pardon shall be exercised by the President on the advice of Council of Ministers.
2. Constitution does not provide for any mechanism to question the legality of decisions of President or governors exercising mercy jurisdiction.

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

President cannot use suo moto Pardoning power there need to be advice by council of ministers.

But further, SC in Epuru Sudhakar case has given a small window for judicial review of the pardon powers of President and governors for the purpose of ruling out any arbitrariness.

Why this Question:

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 09

1. Consider the following statements:
1. Cotton is a Rabi crop which requires at least 210 frost free days in a year.
 2. World Cotton Day is observed every year on October 7.

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Cotton is a kharif crop which requires at least 210 frost free days in a year. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is hosting the event at the request of Cotton-4 (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali) to celebrate their official application for recognition of October 7 as World Cotton Day by the United Nations. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is organizing World Cotton Day event in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC).

2. Consider the following statements regarding Statue of Unity:

1. 'Loha Campaign' was initiated to collect Metal scrap all over the country for the construction of this Statue.
2. The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Rashtriya Ekta Trust (SVPRET) is responsible for planning and development of the complete project.

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Metal scrap (mainly agriculture equipment scrap) was collected from the 6 lakh villages under the 'Loha Campaign' from across the country. So, statement 1 is correct.

The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Rashtriya Ekta Trust (SVPRET) has been created to manage the resources and execution process of the project. This Apex Body is responsible for planning and development of the project. So, statement 2 is also correct.

3. Consider the following statements regarding "Nobel Prize"

1. The awardee for the Nobel Prize in the field of Peace was selected by a Committee elected by the Sweden Parliament.
2. One cannot nominate himself/herself for a Nobel Prize.

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 09

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

Answer: B

Explanation: The awardee for the Nobel Prize in the field of Peace was selected by a 5-member Committee elected by the Norwegian Parliament. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

It has to be noted that except for the field of Peace, the awardees are selected by Sweden based institutions.

One cannot nominate himself/herself for a Nobel Prize. So, statement 2 is correct.

4. Recently, an advanced Air Quality Early Warning System was launched, which can predict places neighbouring Delhi that are likely to burn crop residue on a given day.

It was launched by:

- a) Delhi Government
- b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- c) Union Ministry of Earth Sciences
- d) Indian Meteorological Department

Answer: C

Explanation: The system has been developed by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, under MoES.

It uses data of stubble burning incidents from the past 15 years to predict the date and place of the

next burning, and help authorities to act in advance.

Using the data, the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), under the aegis of the Central Pollution Control Board, creates probability maps to alert government agencies about areas where the chances of stubble burning is going to be high.

The system can also track pollution load from stubble burning in places neighbouring the national capital, using satellite data. It can predict the air pollution level for next 72 hours. It can also forecast the level of pollutants like particulate matter (PM) 2.5, PM10, and dust, coming from sources other than stubble burning.

5. Consider the following statements about Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan:

- 1. It is a unique open-water rafting and kayaking expedition on the Ganga River.
- 2. The expedition consists of members from Indian Armed Forces, NDRF, Wildlife Institute of India as well as CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research.

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

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

Answer: C

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 09

Explanation: Jal Shakti Ministry has launched Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan, a **unique open-water rafting and kayaking expedition on the Ganga River** to create awareness on Ganga rejuvenation and water conservation.

- ▶▶ The expedition team consists of members from Indian Armed forces, NDRF, WWI and CSIR-IITR,
- ▶▶ Apart from the awareness campaign, the team from CSIR–Indian Institute of Toxicology Research will collect water samples from across diverse ranges of the river for the purpose of water testing, while members of the Wildlife Institute of India will undertake flora and fauna census for the year 2019.

6. The Nobel Prizes are a set of recognition given to fields of:

1. Literature
2. Space
3. Physics
4. Chemistry
5. Psychology
6. Physiology

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 3, 4 and 6
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

Explanation:

- ▶▶ The Nobel Prizes are a set of recognition given to fields of **Chemistry, Literature, Peace,**

Physics, and Physiology or Medicine by The Nobel Foundation.

- ▶▶ It doesn't include any specific field called Space and Psychology

7. Which of the following region is considered as the Third Pole (after the North and South Poles) of the Earth?

- a) The Siberian region
- b) Mount Everest
- c) Hind-Kush-Himalayan Region
- d) The Mariana Trench

Answer: C

Explanation:

- ▶▶ The HKH region is considered the Third Pole [after the North and South Poles] and has significant implications for climate.

- ▶▶ The Third Pole, which contains vast cryospheric zones, is also the world's largest store of snow and ice outside the polar region, and the source of 10 major rivers, and, therefore, particularly sensitive to climate change.

- ▶▶ The Hindu-Kush-Himalayan (HKH) region spans Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

8. 'Bunad' recently seen in news refers to:

- a) Traditional folk costume of Norway
- b) Traditional saree embroidery from Rajasthan
- c) A newly discovered Near Earth Asteroid
- d) None of the above

Answer: A

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 09

Explanation:

- ▶▶ Bunad is Norway's traditional folk costume.
- ▶▶ When Norwegian Ambassador Hans Jacob Frydenlund went to Rashtrapati Bhavan to present his credentials to President Ram Nath Kovind recently, he was wearing a “bunad.”
- ▶▶ Bunad is not a single kind of costume but an umbrella term with several regional variations. There are 400 different variations that come in different styles for men and women.
- ▶▶ A bunad often includes an apron, a headdress, and a scarf or shawl, and is embroidered and embellished with buckles, ornaments, jewellery and at times, blades.
- ▶▶ Bunads are expensive and typically worn on festive occasions.

9. Consider the following statements about ‘Green Channel Combination’ recently seen in News:

1. It is a combination of methods to channel environmentally harmful waste safely into the atmosphere.
2. It has been brought up by Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with UNEP

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

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- ▶▶ Putting in place a speedier approval mechanism, Competition Commission has introduced a green channel route for clearing certain categories of mergers and acquisitions.
- ▶▶ Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As) or combinations beyond a certain threshold are required to have mandatory approval from the fair trade regulator.
- ▶▶ The **green channel is aimed to sustain and promote a speedy, transparent and accountable review of combination cases, strike a balance between facilitation and enforcement functions, create a culture of compliance and support economic growth.**
- ▶▶ Under this process, the combination is deemed to have been approved upon filing the notice in the prescribed format.
- ▶▶ It has nothing to do with Pollution and Waste Management.

10. Recently which of the following states have come up with a draft policy to deliver Medical Essentials through Drones:

- a) Telangana
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Kerala

Answer: A

Explanation:

- ▶▶ Telangana government has adopted a framework to use drones for last-mile delivery of essential medical supplies such as blood and medical samples in an effort to increase the

UPSC OCTOBER - 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 09

access to healthcare to communities across the state.

- ▶▶ The framework has been co-designed by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Apollo Hospitals Group Healthnet Global Limited.
- ▶▶ The project is a part of the WEF's "Medicine from the Sky" initiative that aims to develop source materials for policymakers and health systems to analyse the challenges that come with drone delivery, and to compare this model with other competing delivery models.



UPSCOCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 10

1. Consider the following statements with respect to MOSAiC Expedition:

1. MOSAiC is the largest ever Arctic expedition.
2. The mission is aimed at studying the impact of climate change on the Arctic.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate (MOSAiC) expedition is the largest ever Arctic expedition in history and will be the first to conduct a study of this scale at the North Pole for an entire year.

It is spearheaded by the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany.

Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate (MOSAiC) expedition will help the researchers better understand the impact of climate change and aid in improved weather projections.

The mission is aimed at studying the impact of climate change on the Arctic and how it could affect the rest of the world.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) is an information-sharing hub of maritime data established in Gurugram.

2. Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Thailand are among the nations that have joined the IFC-IOR coastal radar chain network.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

The IFC-IOR, established in December 2018 in Gurugram, India, is a single point centre linking all coastal radar chains in the region to generate a seamless real-time picture of India's 7,500-kilometre-long coastline.

In addition to Maldives, several countries in the Indian Ocean Region have joined the coastal radar chain network including Mauritius, Sri Lanka and Seychelles.

Bangladesh is set to join IFC-IOR while discussions are being held with Thailand as well.

3. Which of the following are the aims of Nutrient Based subsidy scheme?

1. Balanced use of fertilizer.
2. Improving the agricultural productivity.
3. Promoting growth of indigenous fertilizer industry.
4. Reducing burden of subsidy.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

UPSCOCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 10

Explanation: Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) programme for fertilizer was initiated in the year 2010. Under the scheme, a fixed amount of subsidy decided on an annual basis is provided on, based on the nutrient content present in them. The scheme is being implemented by the Department of Fertilizers.

In India, urea is the only controlled fertilizer and is sold at a statutory notified uniform sale price. The scheme allows the manufacturers, marketers, and importers to fix the MRP each grade of subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, except for Urea of the Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers at reasonable levels.

The scheme aims at ensuring that sufficient quantity of P&K is at the farmer's disposal at statutory controlled prices. So that the agricultural growth can be sustained and balanced nutrient application to the soil can be ensured.

It aims at ensuring balanced use of fertilizers, improving the agricultural productivity, promoting the growth of the indigenous fertilizers industry and also reducing the burden of Subsidy.

4. Consider the statements regarding Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

1. It was formed in 2016 to maintain price stability and accelerate the growth rate of the economy.

2. It is a 6-member committee with RBI governor as its chairman and Finance secretary as its ex-officio member.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a 6-member committee formed after the amendment in the RBI Act, 1934 through the Finance Act, 2016. The basic objective of MPC is to maintain price stability and accelerate the growth rate of the economy.

Monetary policy refers to the policy of the Reserve Bank of India with regard to the use of monetary instruments under its control to achieve the goals of GDP growth and lower inflation rate. The RBI is authorized to make monetary policy under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

The Monetary Policy Committee determines the policy rates required to achieve the inflation target.

As per the provisions of the RBI Act, out of the six Members of Monetary Policy Committee, three Members will be from the RBI and the other three Members of MPC will be appointed by the Central Government.

UPSCOCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 10

5. Nandankanan Zoological Park, which was recently in news is located in the state of
- Madhya Pradesh
 - Odisha
 - Bihar
 - Uttarakhand

Answer: B

Explanation: Four calves between the ages of six and 10 have died in NandanKanan Zoo in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The four deaths in NandanKanan Zoo are the first reported cases of EEHV-related deaths in an Indian zoo.

EEHVs or elephant endotheliotropic herpes virus as a type of herpes virus that can cause a highly fatal haemorrhagic disease in young Asian elephants.

The disease is usually fatal, with a short course of 28-35 hours. There is no true cure for herpes viruses in animals or in humans.

6. Which of the following is correct regarding Zero Budget Natural Farming?
- It is a new agriculture technology developed by ICAR.
 - It aims to reduce the adverse impact of the green revolution.
 - The input cost of the farmer's will be reduced.

Select the correct codes:

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

Answer: D

Explanation: Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) is a method of chemical-free agriculture drawing from traditional Indian practices.

It was originally promoted by Maharashtrian agriculturist and Padma Shri recipient Subhash Palekar, who developed it in the mid-1990s as an alternative to the Green Revolution's methods

driven by chemical fertilizers and pesticides and intensive irrigation.

The cost of production in ZBNF is zero as farmers don't require to buy any inputs.

The farmers practicing ZBNF either of small land holding or large land holding prepare the low-cost cow urine and dung-based formulation on farm by procuring the required inputs locally from the village.

7. The Report 'Global Competitiveness Index' was released by
- World Bank
 - International Monetary Fund
 - World Economic Forum
 - OECD

Answer: C

Explanation: The Global Competitiveness

Index (GCI), which was launched in 1979, maps the competitiveness landscape of 141 economies through 103 indicators organised into 12 pillars.

Twelve Pillars:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Institutions | 7. Product market |
| 2. Infrastructure | 8. Labour market |
| 3. ICT adoption | 9. The financial system |
| 4. Macroeconomic stability | 10. Market size |
| 5. Health | 11. Business dynamism |
| 6. Skills | 12. Innovation capability |

GCI 2019 has been released. Compared to last year India has moved down 10 places to rank 68th. India was ranked 58th last year.

It is among the worst-performing BRICS nations along with Brazil (which ranked 71st). Singapore has replaced the U.S. as the world's most competitive economy.

8. Consider the Lithium-ion batteries:

1. They are rechargeable batteries with high energy densities.
2. They are significantly lighter and are widely used in the portable electronics.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: C

Explanation: Lithium-ion batteries have revolutionised our lives and are used in everything from mobile phones to laptops and electric vehicles.

The batteries have a high energy density

(Energy density is the amount of energy stored in a given system or region of space per unit volume).

Lithium -ion battery is a lightweight, hardwearing battery that could be charged hundreds of times before its performance deteriorated.

The advantage of lithium-ion batteries is that they are not based upon chemical reactions that break down the electrodes, but upon lithium ions flowing back and forth between the anode and cathode.

9. Consider the following statements:

1. 51 Pegasi was the first exoplanet discovered orbiting a sun like star.
2. Cosmic microwave background radiation is an evidence of expanding universe.

Which of the following statements is /are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: The Swiss astronomers have been awarded the Nobel for their discovery of the first ever exoplanet orbiting a star. Exoplanet 51 Pegasi was the 1st exoplanet discovered orbiting a sun-like star, about 50light years away from earth in the constellation of Pegasus. So, statement 1 is correct.

UPSCOCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 10

Immediately after the big bang, the universe was so hot that the thermonuclear reactions (that are usually seen in stars today) happened everywhere in the universe leading to formation of primordial elements, hydrogen and helium. Peebles (NOBEL Prize winner) predicted that this thermonuclear fusion of hydrogen into helium atoms led to release of high-energy shortwave photons which is known to be cosmic background radiation. As the universe expanded this radiation also expanded becoming long-wave (microwave) which is why it is called cosmic microwave background radiation which fills the entire space.

Thus, CMB is an evidence for expansion of universe. So, statement 2 is also correct.

10. With reference to Satnami rebellion, consider the following statements?

1. Originally, Satnamis were a militant sect of Hindu worshippers.
2. The major religious activity of Satnami sect is to chant and meditate the true names (Sat-Nam) of God, specially Rama and Krishna.
3. Satnami sect is thought to be an offshoot of Vedanta and comprised of elites of the Hindu society.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Statement 3 is wrong

Satnami sect is thought to be an offshoot of Ravidasi sect and comprised of lower strata of the Hindu society, particularly, leather workers, sweepers, carpenters, Goldsmiths etc.

Who are Satnamis?

Originally, they were a militant sect of Hindu worshippers.

Founded by a saint named "Birbhan" in 1657 in Narnaul in Haryana.

The major religious activity of this sect is to chant and meditate the true names (Sat-Nam) of God, specially Rama and Krishna.

The followers of this sect kept their heads shaven (thus called Mundiya) and abstained from liquor and meat.

The religious granth of the Satnamis is called Pothi.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 11

1. Consider the statement regarding Graded Response Action Plan
1. It is aimed to measure air quality based on PM 2.5 and PM 10 in the atmosphere.
 2. It will be enforced by Central Pollution Control Board.
 3. Based on air quality, grades are classified in 6 categories.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None of the Above

Answer: A

Explanation: Graded Response Action Plan defines the measures to taken based on-air quality on the basis of PM 2.5 and PM 10 in the atmosphere.

Based on the air quality the grades have been classified as Emergency, Severe, very poor and Moderate poor.

It will be enforced by Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA).

Under this plan emergency measures will be automatically enforced in NCR if level of PM_{2.5} breaches 300 micrograms per cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and PM₁₀ levels stay above 500 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for two consecutive days.

The plan recommends measures like odd-even car rationing scheme and ban on construction activities to combat air pollution.

2. Which of the following State has launched the first-ever public information portal in India?
- a) Tamil Nadu
 - b) Rajasthan
 - c) Kerala
 - d) Odisha

Answer: B

Explanation: The first-ever public information portal (Jan Soochna Portal) was launched in Rajasthan by promising to provide information about government authorities and departments suo moto to the public in the Right to Information Act.

Section 4(2) of the RTI Act mandating the public authorities to disclose information in the public domain, so that the people need not file applications under the law to obtain information.

The State government has collaborated with the civil society groups to develop the portal, the first of its kind in the country, initially giving information pertaining to 13 departments on a single platform.

Jan Soochna Portal launched under the Rajasthan Innovation Vision (RAJIV) campaign.

3. Which state has granted infrastructure project status for a \$10-billion plan to build the world's first ultra-fast hyper loop project?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Tamil Nadu
 - c) Uttar Pradesh
 - d) Gujarat

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 11

Answer: A

Explanation: The very basis of Hyper loop is to reduce the friction against the air or the ground, which restricts the speed of conventional trains. Hyper loop involves a long vacuum tube with pods carrying passengers beamed through it.

The Maharashtra government accorded the infrastructure status to the Mumbai-Pune ultra-fast hyper loop transport project that seeks to reduce the travel time between the two cities to just 23 minutes.

4. Consider the following institutes and the Nobel Prizes awarded by them:

Institute	Nobel Prize
1. Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	Physics, chemistry and Economics
2. Karolinska Institute	Medicine
3. Swedish Academy	Literature
4. Norwegian Nobel Committee	Peace

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: D

Explanation: The institutions that choose winners: The Nobel Committees of the prize-awarding institutions are responsible for the selection of the candidates, the institutions being:

▶▶ Nobel Prize in Physics, Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Prize in Economic Sciences: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

- ▶▶ Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine: The Karolinska Institute
- ▶▶ Nobel Prize in Literature: The Swedish Academy
- ▶▶ Nobel Peace Prize: A five-member Committee elected by the Norwegian Parliament

5. Which of the following international reports are published by World Economic Forum:

- 1. Global Gender Gap Report
- 2. Future of Jobs Report
- 3. World Economic Outlook

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation: World Economic Outlook is published by IMF, whereas the other two reports are by World Economic Forum.

6. Consider the following statements relating to GEMINI system:

- 1. GEMINI is a portable device that is devised to help fishermen to access warnings and alerts even when they are outside the signal range of their phone companies.
- 2. This device has been developed by ISRO and works on the GAGAN platform.

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

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 11

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

Answer: A

Explanation: To avoid communication blackouts that led to 20 fishermen going missing in the aftermath of Cyclone Okchi in 2017, a slew of government departments, research agencies and private companies have developed GEMINI, a portable receiver linked to ISRO-satellites, that is “fail-proof” and warn fishermen of danger. So, statement 1 is correct.

This device has been devised by The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), in collaboration with Accord, a private company. GEMINI works on GAGAN, an India-made global positioning system and relies on the positioning system by ISRO’s GSAT satellites. So, statement 2 is incorrect.

7. With reference to Agriculture subsidies, which of the following is NOT an Agriculture subsidy scheme.
- a) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
 - b) Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana in Madhya Pradesh
 - c) Neem coated urea scheme.
 - d) The Rythu Bandhu scheme of the Telangana

Answer: C

Explanation: Neem coated Urea This scheme is initiated to regulate use of urea, enhance availability of nitrogen to the crop and

reduce cost of fertilizer application. Not a subsidy scheme.

All other schemes are subsidised based

Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana in Madhya Pradesh was sought to provide relief to farmers by providing the differential between MSPs and market prices.

The Rythu Bandhu scheme of the Telangana provides ₹4,000 per acre for every season to all the farmers of the state. Similar initiatives have also been framed in Jharkhand and Odisha.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi:

Under this programme, vulnerable landholding farmer families, having cultivable land upto 2 hectares, will be provided direct income support at the rate of Rs. 6,000 per year.

This income support will be transferred directly into the bank accounts of beneficiary farmers, in three equal instalments of Rs. 2,000 each.

8. The word ‘triple billion target’ sometimes seen in news is:
- a) 5-year strategic plan launched by WHO.
 - b) Target set by RBI to add up to 3 billion dollar to its reserves till 2020.
 - c) An ambitious plan started by Ministry of health to reduce infant mortality across the country.
 - d) None of the above

Answer- A

Explanation: WHO ‘Triple Billion’ targets: It is a strategic plan for the next five years.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 11

One billion more people to be benefitted from Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

One billion more people to be protected from health emergencies

One billion more people to be covered for better health and well-being.

9. Recently Government of India has launched a scheme called SUMAN, this scheme aims to:

- a) Distribute free sanitary pads
- b) Provide free electricity to farmers
- c) Bring down maternal and infant mortality rates
- d) Empower women by encouraging training in martial arts

Answer: C

Explanation: Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN) Scheme was recently launched by Union Health Ministry.

Under the scheme, the beneficiaries visiting public health facilities are entitled to several free services.

These include at least four ante natal check-ups that also includes one check-up during the 1st trimester, at least one check-up under Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, Iron Folic Acid supplementation, Tetanus diphtheria injection and other components of comprehensive ANC package and six home-based new born care visits.

Under the scheme there will be zero expense access to identification and management of complications during and after the pregnancy.

The government will also provide free transport from home to health institutions.

10. Consider the following statements about World Mental Health Day:

- 1. The theme for 2019 was 'Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention.'
- 2. It is observed every year on 10th October.

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 14

1. Consider the following with respect to Agatti Island:

1. It belong to Andaman and Nicobar island groups.
2. It is made of coral reef.

Which of the statements is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

2. With reference to ‘Hindu kush Himalayan region’; consider following statements.

1. The Hindu Kush-Himalayan region spans an area in Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.
2. The region stores more snow and ice than anywhere else in the world outside the polar regions, giving its name: ‘The Third Pole’.

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is wrong

Hindu kush is not there in Kazakhstan, it is there in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.

Why this Question:

To better gauge the impact of climate change on the Hindu Kush mountains, which includes the Himalayas, and spruce up data-gathering, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) will collaborate with meteorological agencies in China and Pakistan, among others, to provide climate forecast services to countries in the region.

3. Which of the following statements correctly explains the term ‘Tax Haven’?

- a) A country which gives tax exemptions to the foreign citizens that there will
- b) be no tax on investing the money in their country
- c) Subsidy given by the government in taxes
- d) Tax evasion in the domestic country
- e) To impose equal taxes on domestic producers and foreign producers

Answer: A

Explanation: Tax havens are countries that have low or near-zero tax rates, especially for some kinds of transactions. Tax havens, which help rich corporations and businessmen, avoid paying high taxes on their income. Singapore, Hong Kong and Mauritius are the popular ones. Multinationals set up their holding companies in these locations which then invest in operations located at other high-tax locations. So, even as the company carries out its real business in a high-tax regime such as the US or India, it’s able to dodge the taxman by showing a large share of profits as emanating from a tax haven.

Tax havens as “anti-poor” since they help the rich avoid paying taxes to governments. Several

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 14

governments have also come together to crack down on tax havens, for only a collective effort can help.

4. The term 'Base Erosion and Profit Shifting' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of
- World Bank
 - International Monetary Fund
 - World Trade Organization
 - Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development

Answer: D

Explanation: Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) refers to those instances where gaps between different tax rules leads to tax avoidance causing harm to the government. It refers to all those artificial arrangements where:

Due to gaps in application of the bilateral tax treaties, cross border activities may go untaxed in any of the two countries.

No or low tax is paid by shifting profits to low tax jurisdictions and shifting losses and high expenditures to high tax jurisdictions.

Originally, OECD had started the BEPS project in response to the 2008 financial crisis in order to create sustainable economic growth.

It was formally launched in 2012 by the G-20 Finance Ministers who in turn called on OECD to develop an action plan to address BEPS issues in a co-ordinated and comprehensive manner and develop an action plan.

5. Consider the following statements on Minimum Alternate Tax

- It is a tax introduced in the finance Act of 2016.
- The objective of the tax is to check the tax avoidance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 and 2

Answer: B

Explanation: MAT is levied to facilitate the taxation of 'zero tax companies' i.e., those companies which show zero or negligible income to avoid tax.

MAT is levied at the rate of 18.5% of the book profits. Now with the recent amendments, MAT is reduced to 15% for those who continue to avail exemptions and incentives.

Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) is a tax effectively introduced in India by the Finance Act of 1987, vide Section 115J of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (IT Act).

6. Consider the following statements:

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands are separated by eight-degree channel.
- Shompen tribes are part of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) and are native to Lakshadweep Islands.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 14

Choose the correct statement(s) using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation: The Ten Degree Channel is a channel that separates the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands from each other in the Bay of Bengal. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

The Shompen or Shom Pen are the indigenous people of the interior of Great Nicobar Island (and not Lakshadweep), part of the Indian union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They are part of PVTG. So, statement 2 is also incorrect.

7. Consider the following statements regarding IRCTC:

- 1. IRCTC is under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways.
- 2. IRCTC is a Mini Ratna Category-I central public sector enterprise.

Choose the correct statement(s) using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation: IRCTC is completely owned and controlled by the Ministry of Railways. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) is a Mini Ratna Category-I (conferred in 2008) Central Public Sector Enterprise. Hence, statement 2 is also correct.

8. The proposed Green Wall of India stretches from:

- a) Kerala to Maharashtra
- b) Tamil Nadu to West Bengal
- c) Gujarat to Delhi
- d) Meghalaya to Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: C

Explanation: The Central Government of India is going to take up an ambitious plan of creating a 1,400 km. long and 5 km wide green belt from Gujarat to the Delhi-Haryana border, which will be known as the Green Wall of India.

The plan is inspired by Africa's 'Great Green Wall' project, running from Senegal (West) to Djibouti (East), which came into effect in 2007.

The overarching objective of India's Green Wall will be to address the rising rates of land degradation and the eastward expansion of the Thar desert.

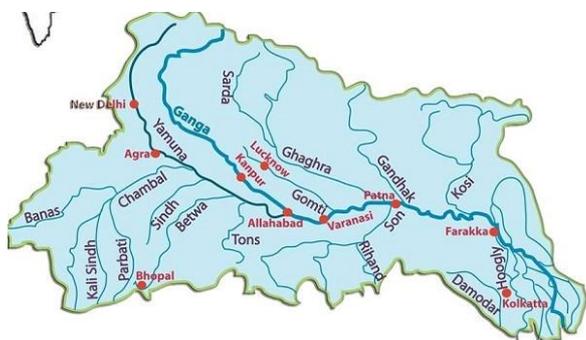
The green belt being planned from Porbandar to Panipat will help in restoring degraded land through afforestation along the Aravali hill range. It will also act as a barrier for dust coming from the deserts in western India and Pakistan.

9. From West to East, which one of the following is the correct sequence of the tributaries of river Ganga?

- a) Kosi-Gandak-Ghaghara-Gomati
- b) Gomati-Gandak-Ghaghara-Kosi
- c) Kosi-Ghaghara-Gandak-Gomati
- d) Gomati-Ghaghara-Gandak-Kosi

Answer: D

Explanation: Major left-bank tributaries of Ganga from West to East are Ram Ganga, Gomti, Ghaghara, Gandak, Kosi, and Mahananda. Hence, option (D) is the correct answer.



10. The term 'Green wall' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to

- a) a project by Highway authority of India of planting trees on both sides of National highways across India.
- b) It is ambitious project by Central government to build green wall on borders of India Bangladesh similar to great wall of china.
- c) It is a 1,400km long and 5km wide green belt from Gujarat to the Delhi-Haryana border.
- d) to build a artificial green wall near Western Ghats to protect it from heavy rainfall.

Answer: C

Explanation: It will be a 1,400km long and 5km wide green belt from Gujarat to the Delhi-Haryana border, on the lines of the "Great Green Wall" running through the width of Africa, from Dakar (Senegal) to Djibouti, to combat climate change and desertification.

If approved, this may turn out to be a legacy programme in India's efforts to deal with land degradation and the eastward march of the Thar desert.

India seeks replicate the idea as a national priority under its goal to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.

The green belt may not be contiguous but would roughly cover the entire degraded Aravali range through a massive afforestation exercise.

Why this Question:

The Centre is mulling an ambitious plan to create a green wall on North- Western part of India.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 15

1. With reference to solar power production in India, consider the following statements:

1. India is the third largest in the world in the manufacture of silicon wafers used in photovoltaic units.
2. The solar power tariffs are determined by the Solar Energy Corporation of India.

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

Answer: D

Explanation: Not a single silicon chip for solar energy is manufactured in India.

Every solar panel which is made in India is assembled while all the material comes from China, Europe and some other countries. India is yet to develop semiconductor clusters.

CERC determines solar power tariffs and regulates the tariff of generating companies owned or controlled by the Central Government.

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), a key regulator of power sector in India, is a statutory body functioning with quasi-judicial status under Electricity Act 2003.

CERC was initially constituted on 24 July 1998 under the Ministry of Power's Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 for rationalization of electricity tariffs transparent policies regarding subsidies, promotion of efficient and environmentally benign policies,

and for matters connected Electricity Tariff regulation.

SECI has a power-trading license, but it does not set solar power tariffs.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY):

1. The motive of UDAY is to improve the health and performance of the distribution companies.
2. The motive of UDAY is to improve the health and performance of the Public Sector Banks of the country.
3. One of the salient features of the scheme is to increase supply of domestic coal to substitute for imported coal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: The motive of UDAY is to improve the health and performance of the power distribution companies. The salient features of the schemes are:

States shall take over 75 per cent of discom debt outstanding as of September 2015.

Reduction of Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses to 15 per cent by 2018-19.

Reduction in difference between average cost of

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 15

supply and average revenue realized (ARR) by 2018-19.

Increased supply of domestic coal to substitute for imported coal. States shall take over future losses of discoms in a phased manner.

Banks/FIs not to advance short term debt to discoms for financing losses.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the salient features of the Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS):

1. Strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network in urban areas.
2. Metering of distribution transformers/feeders/consumers in rural areas.
3. IT enablement of distribution sector and strengthening of distribution network.

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

- a) Only 1
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Integrated Power Development Scheme has replaced the UPA's Restructured Accelerated Power Development Programme. The major focus of the scheme is to improve the transmission and distribution network in urban areas of the country.

It also promises help in reduction of AT&C losses, establishment of IT enabled energy

accounting or auditing system, improvement in billed energy based on metered consumption and improvement in collection efficiency.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Extinction Rebellion:

1. It is a pro-democracy movement in Hong-Kong.
2. It is established by environmentalists to act as a pressure group for government action.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Extinction Rebellion (XR) is a civil society campaign group. It was established in 2018 in Britain by environmentalists and has become one of the world's fastest-growing environmental movements.

So, statement 1 is incorrect and statement 2 is correct.

Its objective is to use non-violent civil disobedience to achieve radical change in order to minimise the risk of human extinction and ecological collapse by averting climate breakdown and halt biodiversity loss.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 15

5. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct regarding Gossypol, which is recently in news:

1. It is a substance which is produced in the cotton seed.
2. Gossypol is included in the cotton seed through genetic modification to improve plants ability to withstand diseases.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: Cottonseed meal is a by-product of cotton that is used for animal feeding because it is rich in oil and proteins. However, gossypol toxicity limits cottonseed use in animal feed.

High concentrations of free gossypol may be responsible for acute clinical signs of gossypol poisoning which include respiratory distress, impaired body weight gain, anorexia, weakness, apathy, and death after several days. So statement 1 is correct and 2 is incorrect.

6. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

1. Arjuana's Penance - Mamallapuram
2. Five rathas - Badami
3. Shore temple - Mamallapuram
4. Swarga Brahma temple - Alampur

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Five rathas is also situated at Mamallapuram.

7. Consider the following statements on data localisation:

1. India does not have any rule as of now on Data localisation.
2. India has accepted all the clauses of e-commerce chapter of RCEP agreement.

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

Answer: D

Explanation: RBI has issued norms regarding data localisation.

So, statement 1 is incorrect.

On the grounds of data localisation, India has disapproved the chapter of e-commerce and didn't sign that in the RCEP agreement. So, statement 2 is also incorrect.

8. Which of the following is the main objective of mHariyali App?

- a) To encourage public engagement in planting trees and other such green drives
- b) To increase the participation of SHGs and NGOs in the policy making process

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 15

- c) Encouraging public to save trees in forest areas
d) None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation: mHariyali

- ◆ The app is aimed to encourage Public engagement in planting trees and other such Green drives.
- ◆ People can now upload information/photos of any plantation done by them, which is linked to app and will be displayed on the website epgc.gov.in.
- ◆ The App provides for automatic geo-tagging of plants. This app will also enable nodal officers to periodically monitor the plantation.
- ◆ The App is user friendly and works on any android mobile phone.

9. Which of the following is the example of Elastocaloric effect?

- a) Cooling effect produced when rubbers bands are twisted and untwisted
b) Storage of Calorie when nylon and polyethylene are cooled
c) Heating effect produced when rubbers bands are twisted and untwisted
d) None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation: When rubbers bands are twisted and untwisted, it produces a cooling effect.

- ◆ When a rubber band is stretched, it absorbs heat from its environment, and when it is released, it gradually cools down.

- ◆ This is called the “elastocaloric” effect.
- ◆ In the elastocaloric effect, the transfer of heat works much the same way as when fluid refrigerants are compressed and expanded.
- ◆ Researchers from multiple universities have found that the elastocaloric effect, if harnessed, may be able to do away with the need of fluid refrigerants used in fridges and air-conditioners.

10. Consider the following statements with respect to Pani Bachao Paisa Kamao Scheme

1. It is a pilot project launched by the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL).
2. The objective of the scheme is to encourage the farmers to save electricity and reduce the use of tube wells and ground water.

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation: The Punjab government has launched a pilot project last year 'Paani Bachao, Paise Kamao' to check depletion of underground water. Under this scheme, farmers will get monetary benefit for less use of tube well.

The purpose of the scheme was to ensure that farmers use the power with restraint to pump out water from earth.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 16

1. Consider the following statements regarding L2Pro India:

1. This app has been launched to help Indian start-ups to know about the IPR rights.
2. This app is launched by the Department of Science and Technology.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The modules of this e-learning platform (L2Pro India) will aid and enable youth, innovators, entrepreneurs and small and medium industries (SMEs) in understanding IPRs for their ownership and protection, integrate IP into business models and obtain value for their R&D efforts.

So, statement 1 is correct.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has launched the website and mobile application L2Pro India [Learn to Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation] on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).so statement 2 is incorrect.

2. Consider the following statements regarding Interconnect Usage Charge (IUC):

1. IUC is a cost paid by mobile telecom operator in India to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).
2. The IUC charges are fixed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation: Interconnect Usage Charge or IUC is a cost paid by one mobile telecom operator to another, when its customers make outgoing mobile calls to the other operator's customers.

So, statement 1 is incorrect.

The IUC charges are fixed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). So, statement 2 is correct.

3. Consider the following statements regarding 'Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences- 2019':

1. The award for the year 2019 was given to the laureates for their experimental approach towards alleviation of global poverty.
2. It was awarded to an Indian for the first time.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 16

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for 2019 was jointly awarded to Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, and Michael Kremer, for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Prof. Amartya Sen was the first Indian recipient of the Nobel Prize for Economics for the year 1998. He also became the first Asian to have been honoured with the award. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

4. Regarding “carbon credits” which one of the following statements is not correct?

- a) The carbon credit system was ratified in conjunction with the Kyoto Protocol
- b) Carbon credits are awarded to countries or groups that have reduced greenhouse gases below their emission quota
- c) The goal of the carbon credit system is to limit the increase of carbon emission quota
- d) Carbon credits are traded at a price fixed from time to time by the United Nations Environment Programme.

Answer: D

Explanation: Carbon credit – Kyoto Protocol

A carbon credit (often called a carbon offset) is a tradable certificate or permit.

One carbon credit is equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide.

Carbon credits are a part of attempts to mitigate the growth in concentrations of GHGs.

Carbon credits or carbon offsets can be acquired through afforestation, renewable energy, CO₂ sequestration, methane capture, buying from an exchange (carbon credits trading) etc.

Under Carbon Credits Trading mechanism countries that emit more carbon than the quota allotted to them buy carbon credits from those that emit less.

Carbon credit prices are traded on an exchange. So, their prices are never fixed.

5. Consider the following statements regarding “Carbon Emission”.

- 1. United States is the highest emitter of the carbon di oxide in the world.
- 2. Paris agreement in 2015 set the limit of global warming to 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial level.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: B

Explanation: The top four emitters in 2017, which covered 58 per cent of global emissions, were China (27 per cent), the US (15 per cent), the European Union (10 per cent) and India (7 per cent), according to the projection by the Global Carbon Project. The rest of the world contributed 41 per cent last year. 2015 global climate change agreement in Paris set the limit of

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 16

global warming to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

6. Consider the following with respect to Enforcement Directorate:

1. It is part of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
2. Its prime objective is the enforcement of the Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999 (FEMA) and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA).

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

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

Answer: B

7. Consider the following with respect to Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana:

1. It is an umbrella of two major health initiatives, namely Health and wellness Centres and National Health Protection Scheme.
2. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
3. It is being implemented by Central government directly.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All the above

Answer: A

8. Which of following becomes first UN organisation to hold and make transactions in cryptocurrencies ether and bitcoin?

- a) UNCTAD
- b) UNICEF
- c) UNESCO
- d) WHO

Answer: B

9. Consider the following statements with respect to DFDT insecticide.

1. DFDT kills mosquitoes including species that carry malaria, yellow fever, Dengue and Zika.
2. It acts two to four times faster than DDT.

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

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

Answer: C

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 16

10. Consider the following with respect to
Bluetongue (BT) virus.

1. It is a mosquito-transmitted viral disease of domestic and wild ruminants.
2. It is wide spread among both cattle and human in India.

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

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

Answer: D



UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 17

1. Consider the following statements with respect to the objectives of “Make in India” scheme.

1. To increase the manufacturing sector’s share in the economy from 16 to 25 per cent of the GDP by 2022.
2. To create 100 million additional jobs by 2022 in manufacturing sector.
3. Ensuring sustainability of growth, particularly with regard to environment.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation: Prime Minister launched the Make in India campaign on September 25, 2014.

Achievable Targets:

Target of an increase in manufacturing sector growth to 12-14% per annum over the medium term.

An increase in the share of manufacturing in the country’s Gross Domestic Product from 16% to 25% by 2022.

To create 100 million additional jobs by 2022 in manufacturing sector.

Creation of appropriate skill sets among rural migrants and the urban poor for inclusive growth.

An increase in domestic value addition and technological depth in manufacturing.

Enhancing the global competitiveness of the Indian manufacturing sector.

Ensuring sustainability of growth, particularly with regard to environment.

2. “Corruption perception Index” was released by

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) Transparency International
- c) World Bank
- d) Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development

Answer: b)

Explanation: Since its inception in 1995, the Corruption Perceptions Index, Transparency International’s flagship research product, has become the leading global indicator of public sector corruption.

The index offers an annual snapshot of the relative degree of corruption by ranking countries and territories from all over the globe.

The 2018 CPI draws on 13 surveys and expert assessments to measure public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories, giving each a score from zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean).

India ranks 78 out of 180 countries in Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index.

3. Which of the following country is not bordered by Syria?

- a) Turkey
- b) Iraq
- c) Iran
- d) Jordan

Answer: c)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 17

4. Consider the following with respect to Transports Internationaux Routiers (TIR)

1. The conventions were adopted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

2. India has ratified the convention.

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

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

Answer: c)

5. Consider the following statements with respect to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

1. It is released in a quarterly basis by Central Statistical Organisation.

2. It divides industrial economy is divided into three sectors, with highest weightage to manufacturing.

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

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

Answer: b)

6. Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report is published by?

- a) U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- b) UNCTAD and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

c) World Trade Organization

d) A and C

Answer: b)

7. Consider the following with respect to Ionosphere.

1. It contains electrically charged particles known as ions. So, it is known as ionosphere.

2. It is located between 20km to 80km.

3. Here the temperature starts decreasing with increase in height.

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

a) All the above

b) 1 and 3

c) 1 and 2

d) 2 and 3

Answer: d)

8. Which among the following was not an economic activity performed between 2000 to 2010?

a) Setting up Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises

b) Establishment of Competition Commission of India

c) Establishment of National Disaster Management Authority

d) Setting up of Disinvestment Commission

Answer: d)

Explanation: Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) was established in December 2004 as an advisory body to advise the Government on the strategies, measures and schemes related to strengthening,

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 17

modernizing, reviving and restructuring of public sector enterprises. Composition.

Competition Commission of India is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 throughout India and to prevent activities that have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.

NDMA is an agency of the Ministry of Home Affairs whose primary purpose is to coordinate response to natural or man-made disasters and for capacity-building in disaster resiliency and crisis response. NDMA was established through the Disaster Management Act 2005.

Disinvestment Commission was set up in 1996.

9. With Which country is India conducting the 10th edition of the joint Military exercise 'Vajra prahar 2019'?

- a) USA
- b) China
- c) Australia
- d) Indonesia

Answer: a)

10. Consider the following statements:

1. RFID technology uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags containing electronically stored information.
2. RFID communication is the same as two-way radio communication.

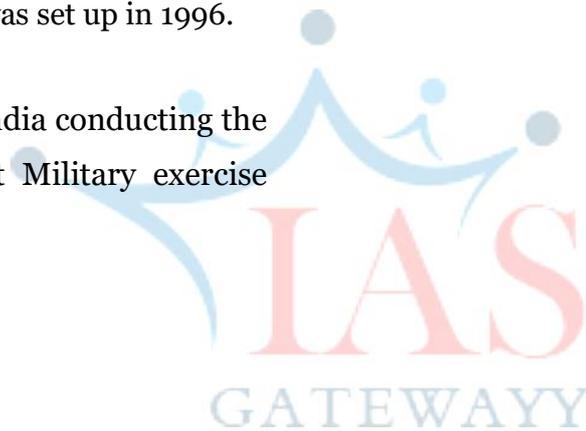
Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Answer: c)

- Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags containing electronically stored information.
- It uses radio waves to communicate between two objects: a reader and a tag.
- RFID communication is the same as two-way radio communication in the sense that information is transmitted or received via a radio wave at a specific frequency.



UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 18

1. Consider the following statements regarding GOAL (Going Online as Leaders) programme:

1. It is a programme aimed at inspiring, guiding and encouraging tribal girls to become leaders.
2. It is a programme of Facebook which is jointly implemented in India with the help of Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: GOAL (Going Online as Leaders) is a Facebook programme aimed at inspiring, guiding and encouraging tribal girls to become leaders. So, statement 1 is correct.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Facebook together will digitally mentor 5000 young women in India's tribal dominated districts. So, statement 2 is also correct.

2. With reference to the 'Global Hunger Index Report', consider the following statements:

1. The report is annually released by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
2. India's performance has been continuously declining since the last few years.

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: The Global Hunger Index report is an annual publication that is jointly prepared by the Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

India's performance has downgraded since the last decade. India's rank has slipped from 95th position (in 2010) to 102nd (in 2019). Hence, statement 2 is correct.

3. Consider the following statements regarding International Monetary Fund (IMF):

1. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an inter-governmental organisation established to stabilize the exchange rate in the international trade.
2. It has been created during the Bretton Woods Conference of 1944.
3. It publishes the "World Economic Outlook" report.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: All the above statements are true regarding IMF. So, option B is the answer.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 18

4. Paektu Mountain is also known as Baekdu Mountain is situated at the border between which of the following countries?

- a) China and Mongolia
- b) Russia and China
- c) North Korea and China
- d) China and Pakistan

Answer: c)

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Food Safety Mitra scheme:

- 1. It aims to support small and medium scale food businesses to comply with the food safety laws.
- 2. mA FSM is an individual professional certified by FSSAI.
- 3. They have the power to inspect and even seal the firms which not in compliance with food safety laws.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: c)

6. KHON Ramlila is a masked form of Ramlila art, famous in which of the following country?

- a) Thailand
- b) Vietnam
- c) Nepal
- d) Sri Lanka

Answer: a)

7. Consider the following statements with respect to Anti-Dumping Duty:

- 1. It is a protectionist tariff that a domestic government imposes on Foreign Imports.
- 2. It is imposed by Directorate General of Trade Remedies, under Ministry of Commerce and Industries.

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

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

Answer: a)

8. Consider the following statements with respect to Services Exports Promotion Council (SEPC):

- 1. It is an apex trade body which facilitates service exporters of India.
- 2. It is an advisory body and it acts as an interface between the Services Industry and the Government.
- 3. It has recently brought out the India Intellectual Property, IP Guide in MIPCOM 2019.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All the above

Answer: d)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 18

9. Shaheen VIII is joint military exercise between which of the following countries?
- a) India and USA
 - b) USA and China
 - c) USA and Pakistan
 - d) Pakistan and China

Answer: d)

10. Consider the following statements with respect to World Intellectual Property Organization:

- 1. It is the global forum for intellectual property policy, services, information and cooperation.
- 2. It is an UN Specialized Agency.
- 3. World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) report is one of its publications.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All the above

Answer: d)



UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 19

1. Consider the following statements regarding Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

1. It was an initiative of G7 countries to combat growing problem of money laundering.
2. India is not a part of FATF.
3. Currently Pakistan and Iran are in the FATF Blacklist category.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: FATF comprises over 39 members' countries including India. So, statement 2 is wrong.

Currently North Korea and Iran are in FATF Blacklist category. So, statement 3 is wrong.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Angel Tax':

1. Angel Tax is a 20% tax that is levied on the funding received by startups from an Angel Investor.
2. Currently this tax has been reduced to 15% as it would encourage the startup companies and the entrepreneurs.
3. This tax is levied when startups receive funding at a valuation higher than its fair market value.

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

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: Angel Tax is a 30% tax that is levied on the funding received by startups from an 'Angel Investor'.

This tax was recently scrapped as it was considered as a bane for the Indian Startups and young entrepreneurs.

3. Kuki community recently seen in news does not belong to which of the following states?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Mizoram
- c) Manipur
- d) Meghalaya

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Kukis are one of several hill tribes within India, Bangladesh, and Burma.

In India Kukis are found in the states of Manipur, Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and in the state of Mizoram.

4. Consider the following statements with respect to Dark matter and Dark energy:

1. Dark matter constitutes around 70% of the mass of the universe and dark energy constitutes 25% of the mass of the universe.
2. As they contain mass, they interact with the light.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 19

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

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

Answer: d)

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Tuberculosis:

- 1. UN aims to eradicate TB by 2030, while India aims to eradicate it by 2025.
- 2. Rifampicin is the first-line of drug used to treat TB.
- 3. India accounted for 27 per cent of the world total.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: d)

6. DANX-19, a military exercise which is recently seen in the news is related to?

- a) An exercise between India and Denmark
- b) Naval exercise between India and Australia
- c) An exercise related to the defence of Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- d) Trilateral exercise between India and Russia

Answer: c)

7. Consider the following statements with respect to India Innovation Index (III) 2019:

- 1. Gujarat is the most innovative state.
- 2. It is released by NITI Aayog.

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

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

Answer: b)

8. Which of the following cities is located closest to the Indian landmass?

- a) Jaffna
- b) Colombo
- c) Hambantota
- d) Mannar

Answer: d)

9. The Asia Pacific trade investment report 2019 is published by

- a) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- b) Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)
- c) Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- d) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2019 was published by the United

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 19

←.....→
Nations Economic and Social Commission for
Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and
the United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development (UNCTAD).

10. Sirumugai is a town well known for silk
sarees, it belongs to which of the following
state?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Karnataka
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: a)



UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 21

1. Consider the following statements:
1. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) helps in promoting the financial inclusion in the country.
 2. NPCI has launched RuPay, a card payment scheme.

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India. It has been incorporated as a “Not for Profit” Company under the provisions of Companies Act 1956.

Its objective is to provide infrastructure to the entire Banking system in India for physical as well as electronic payment and settlement systems. The Company is focused on bringing innovations in the retail payment systems through the use of technology for achieving greater efficiency in operations and widening the reach of payment systems.

RuPay is an Indigenously developed Payment System by NPCI – designed to meet the expectation and needs of the Indian consumer, banks and merchant eco-system.

2. Which of the following is a most likely consequence of implementing the ‘Unified Payments Interface (UPI)’?
- a) Mobile wallets will not be necessary for online payments.
 - b) Digital currency will totally replace the physical currency in about two decades.
 - c) FDI inflows will drastically increase.
 - d) Direct transfer of subsidies to poor people will become very effective

Answer: a)

Explanation: Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the “Peer to Peer” collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.

3. Consider the following statements regarding UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC):

1. It requires absolute majority to get elected to UNHRC.
2. No member country can hold two consecutive terms in the council.
3. Currently India is not a member of UNHRC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct:

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

Answer: a)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 21

Explanation: To become a member, a country must receive the votes of at least 96 of the 191 states of the UN General Assembly (an absolute majority). Elections takes place through secret ballot. So, statement 1 is correct.

The members are elected for a period of three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. They cannot enjoy third consecutive term. so, statement 2 is incorrect.

India has been elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019 as a part of Asia- Pacific category. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Asbestos:

1. It has been widely used in the manufacturing and the cosmetic industry.
2. Asbestos is the major cause for a progressive cancer called mesothelioma.

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: Both the statements are correct. So, option 3 is correct.

5. Consider the following statements:

1. The Global Tuberculosis (TB) Report is published by World Health Organisation.
2. According to the report, TB incidence per 1,00,000 population in India has increased significantly from 2017.
3. Globally, India accounts for the second highest number of TB cases after China.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently released its 2019 edition of the Global Tuberculosis (TB) Report.

The report provides a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic and progress in the response at global, regional and country levels for India. WHO has been publishing global TB report every year since 1997. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

According to the report, India has performed better in countering the TB.

TB incidence per 1,00,000 population has declined from 204 (2017) to 199 (2018). Hence, statement 2 is not correct. Geographically, most TB cases in 2018 were in the WHO regions of South-East Asia (44%), Africa (24%) and the Western Pacific (18%). Eight countries that accounted for two thirds of the global total

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 21

include India (27%), China (9%) and Indonesia (8%). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

6. Plethora 2, sometimes seen in news is referred to
- A crater found in the red planet mars
 - A protein that induces regeneration
 - A satellite launched by SpaceX
 - An active volcano in the ring of fire.

Answer: b)

Explanation: Plethora 2 is a protein which helps to regenerate the primary and lateral roots of the plants.

This discovery ensures the quick repair of the plants which is damaged either by high wind or rain.

However, excess dosage of this protein beyond the threshold level reduces the regeneration potential.

7. Bhashan Char Island is located in which of the following seas?
- Arabian Sea
 - Philippines Sea
 - Bay of Bengal
 - Indian Ocean

Answer: c)

Explanation: Bhashan Char or Thengar Char is an island under the jurisdiction of Bangladesh which emerged only 2 decades before in the Bay of Bengal.

8. Consider the following statements regarding 'Anthrax':

- Anthrax is a zoonotic disease that mainly affects the livestock animals.
- It is a viral disease that affects human when they come in contact with the infected animals.
- It is a non-curable disease and can only be prevented by antibiotics.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: Anthrax is a serious infectious zoonotic disease caused by a bacterium known as *Bacillus anthracis*.

- ▶▶ *Bacillus anthracis* is a gram-positive, rod-shaped bacterium that mainly affects the livestock.
- ▶▶ Although it is rare, people can get sick with anthrax if they come in contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products.
- ▶▶ It can occur in four forms: skin, lungs, intestinal, and injection.
- ▶▶ Two months of antibiotics such as ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, and doxycycline after exposure can prevent infection.
- ▶▶ Anthrax vaccination is recommended for people who are at high risk of infection.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 21

9. The purpose of Jan Aushadhi Sugam, a mobile app recently launched by union government is
- a) To buy generic medicines from all medical shops
 - b) To avail discounts from Jan Aushadi Kendras
 - c) To access directions to Jan Aushadi Kendras
 - d) To gather information about various diseases

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- ▶▶ Jan Aushadhi Sugam” mobile application would have user-friendly options like- to locate nearby Jan Aushadhi Kendra, direction guidance for location of the Jan Aushadhi Kendra through Google Map, search Jan Aushadhi generic medicines, analyse product comparison of Generic and Branded medicine in form of MRP & overall Savings, etc.
- ▶▶ The mobile application is available on both Android & iOS platforms.

10. National Security Guard (NSG) is functioning under which of the following?
- a) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - b) Ministry of Defense
 - c) Prime Minister Office
 - d) President of India

Answer: a)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 22

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC):

1. The Chairman of DAC is the Minister of Defence and the Vice Chairman is the Secretary of Defence.
2. It was constituted to ensure a fair defence procurement planning process.
3. It also advises the Prime Minister regarding the national security policy.

Which of the statements given above is/are Incorrect?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: The Chairman of DAC is the Minister of Defence and the other members include Minister of State for Defence, Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Naval Staff, Chief of Air Staff, Defence Secretary, Secretary of Defence Research & Development, Secretary of Defence Production, Chief of Integrated Staff Committees HQ IDS, Director General (Acquisition), Dy. Chief of Integrated Defence as Staff Member Secretary.

There is no Vice Chairman. So, statement 1 is not correct.

National security policy advisory is done by National Security Advisor. So statement 3 is also not correct.

2. In the context of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body under the chairmanship of the Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
2. It approves the reserve specific tiger conservation plan prepared by the Central Government.

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: The reserve specific tiger conservation plan is prepared by the State Government. So, statement 2 is not correct.

3. Thylacine, a marsupial which was said to be extinct was found again in which of the following places?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Tasmania
- c) Brazil
- d) Madagascar

Answer: b)

4. Place of Effective Management (POEM) is the term recently seen in the news is related to?

- a) Shell companies
- b) Non-Performing Assets
- c) Ground water reserve
- d) Mining

Answer: a)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 22

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Inter- Parliamentary Union (IPU):

1. IPU is the global organization of national parliaments.
2. It is under the United Nations.
3. India is member of this organization.

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

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

Answer: c)

6. Okayama Declaration is related to,

- a) Primary Education
- b) Climate change
- c) Cyber security
- d) Health care

Answer: d)

7. Consider the following statements with respect to PACEsetter Fund:

1. It was constituted by India and the USA.
2. It aims to promote artificial intelligence in India.

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

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

Answer: a)

8. Which of the following is Not one among the seven social sins of Mahatma Gandhi?

- a) Success without integrity
- b) Pleasure without Conscience
- c) Religion without sacrifice
- d) Knowledge without character

Answer: a)

Explanation:

Mohandas Karamachand Gandhi, one of the most influential figures in modern social and political activism, considered these traits to be the most spiritually perilous to humanity.

- Wealth without Work
- Pleasure without Conscience
- Science without Humanity
- Knowledge without Character
- Politics without Principle
- Commerce without Morality
- Worship without Sacrifice

9. Which one of the following is a very significant aspect of the Champaran Satyagraha?

- a) Active all-India participation of lawyers, students and women in the National Movement
- b) Active involvement of Dalit and Tribal communities of India in the National Movement
- c) Joining of peasant unrest to India's National Movement
- d) Drastic decrease in the cultivation of plantation crops and commercial crops

Answer: c)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 22

Explanation: The Champaran Satyagraha was the combination of an elements of extra-constitutional struggle as well as the employment of moral force against an adversary, an exemplar of the rule of law; and the use of compromise as a gambit.

It marked as the first India's Civil Disobedience movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi to protest against the injustice meted out to tenant farmers in Champaran district of Bihar.

He led organised protests and strike against the landlords, who with the guidance of the British government, signed an agreement granting more compensation and control over farming for the poor farmers of the region, and cancellation of revenue hikes and collection until the famine ended. **Source: Yojana**

10. Identify the Freedom Fighter using the below

1. She lead the Women's organisation of Azad Hind Government
2. Contested unsuccessfully in one of India's Presidential Elections
 - a) Usha Mehta
 - b) Laxmi Sehgal
 - c) Janaky Athi Nahappan
 - d) Pritilata Waddedar

Answer: b)

Explanation: She was a revolutionary of the Indian independence movement, an officer of the Indian National Army, and the Minister of Women's Affairs in the Azad Hind government. In 2002, four leftist parties – the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India

(Marxist), the Revolutionary Socialist Party, and the All India Forward Bloc – nominated Sahgal as a candidate in the presidential elections. She was the sole opponent of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, who emerged victorious

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 23

1. Consider the following statements regarding TechSagar:

1. It is a consolidated and comprehensive repository of India's cyber tech capabilities.
2. This has been launched with the partnership of Data Security Council of India (DSCI).

Choose the correct statements using the code given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

It is a consolidated and comprehensive repository of India's cyber tech capabilities which provides actionable insights about capabilities of the Indian Industry, academia and research across 25 technology areas. So, statement 1 is correct.

National Cyber Security Coordinator's office in partnership with Data Security Council of India (DSCI) has launched national repository of India's cyber tech capabilities named TechSagar.

So statement 2 is also correct.

2. 'Crime in India' report is an annual publication of which of the following organization:

- a) National Human Rights Commission
- b) Central Bureau of Investigation
- c) National Crime Record Bureau
- d) National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science

Answer: c)

Explanation:

National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) brings out its annual comprehensive statistics of crime across the country in the 'Crime in India' report.

The report is being published since 1953 and serves as a crucial tool in understanding the law and order situation across the country.

Hence, option C is the correct answer.

3. Arrange the following glaciers from West to East:

1. Siachen glacier
2. Gangotri glacier
3. Zemu glacier
4. Baltoro glacier

Which of the following is the correct sequence?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

The Siachen Glacier (around 77° E) is located in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayas.

Gangotri Glacier (around 79° E) is located in Uttarakhand, India in a region bordering Tibet.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 23

Zemu Glacier (around 88° E) is located at the base of Kangchenjunga in the Himalayan region of Sikkim, India.

Baltoro glacier (around 76° E) is located in the Gilgit-Baltistan region of Pakistan. Hence, option D is the correct answer.

4. With reference to the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC), consider the following statement.

1. It was set up to enhance inter-regulatory coordination
2. It is a statutory body
3. It was chaired by Governor of Reserve Bank of India

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) All the above

Answer: a)

Explanation:

The Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) were constituted in December, 2010. The FSDC was set up to strengthen and institutionalize the mechanism for maintaining financial stability, enhancing inter-regulatory coordination and promoting financial sector development.

An apex-level FSDC is not a statutory body.

The Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister

5. Which of the following are the terms of reference (TOR) given to 15th Finance Commission

1. The efforts taken to promote digital economy
2. Eliminating losses of power sector
3. To end open defecation
4. Promoting ease of doing business

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

The 15th Finance Commission was notified on November 27, 2017 and was mandated to suggest a formula for devolution of funds to states for five years beginning April 1, 2020.

The Commission may consider proposing measurable performance-based incentives for States, at the appropriate level of government, in following areas.

Promoting digital economy and removing layers between the government and the beneficiaries.

Progress made in sanitation, solid waste management and bringing in behavioral change to end open defecation.

Progress made in promoting ease of doing business by effecting related policy and regulatory changes and promoting labour intensive growth.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 23

6. Regarding, Tanaaji Malusare maratha military leader consider following statements.

1. Tanaaji is popularly remembered for the Battle of Singhagad that took place in the year 1670.
2. Tanaaji was having rivalry with Chatrapati Shivaji.
3. The fort of Kondhana was renamed as Singhagad (lion's fort) to honour Tanaaji.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: Statement 2 is wrong.

Who was Tanaaji Malusare?

He was a Maratha military leader and a close aide of Chhatrapati Shivaji.

Hailing from the Malusare clan, Tanaaji is popularly remembered for the Battle of Singhagad that took place in the year 1670.

In the battle, Tanaaji fought against Udaybhan Rathore, a formidable Rajput warrior, who was put in charge of Fort Kandhana (later named Singhagad) by Jai Singh.

Why this question

A Bollywood movie is being made based on Subedar Tanaaji Malusare.

7. Consider the following statements with respect to Hunar Haat

1. It is a mission to provide a platform to master artisans and craftsmen to display as well sell their products.
2. It is organised by Ministry of Culture.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: Hunar haat comes under the Ministry of Minority affairs.

Hunar Haat components:

- ▶▶ To promote marketing and sale of products of individual Minority craftsmen/ artisans.
- ▶▶ To provide platform for the artisans and culinary expert belonging to minorities to showcase and sale their exquisitely crafted products and serve traditional cuisine.
- ▶▶ To support participation of minority craftsmen/ artisans in exhibition, trade fair, buyer seller meets etc., To support organisations (Government organizations, Registered societies/ trusts/ companies, PSUs) for organising exhibitions at state/District level. To establish linkages with Dilli Haat, Handicraft Emporiums etc., Financial norms: 100% funding will be done by the Ministry. Implementations of Hunar haat will be done through National Minorities development & finance corporation.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 23

8. Which of the following releases Global Wealth Report?

- a) Credit Suisse Group
- b) Welthungerhilfe
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) World Bank

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Credit Suisse Group, a Switzerland-based multinational investment bank, has released the 10th edition of its annual Global Wealth Report.

9. Consider the following statements with respect to definition of StartUps

- 1. An entity shall be considered a start-up up to 10 years from its date of incorporation/registration.
- 2. An entity would be considered as a startup up to a turnover of Rs 100 crore.
- 3. A start-up cannot offer loans or advances, other than those where lending money is part of its business.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: d)

Explanation: Apart from the third point, a start-up cannot invest in a building or land unless it is for its business or used by it for purposes of renting or held by it as stock-in-trade. A start-up cannot make any capital contribution to any other entity or invest in

shares, car, any vehicle or mode of transport that costs more than Rs 10 lakh.

10. Consider the following statements with respect to Polio in India:

- 1. India's attainment of polio-free status in 2014.
- 2. Pulse Polio Initiative was started with an objective of achieving a hundred per cent coverage under Inactivated Polio Vaccine.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: India's attainment of polio-free status in 2014 was coined by the World Health Organization as "one of the most significant achievements in public health," and marked not just India but the entire South East Asia Region being declared polio-free.

The last case of polio in the country was in 2011. 25 years of Pulse Polio Programme to be celebrated in October 2019. It aimed to immunize children through improved social mobilization, plan mop-up operations in areas where poliovirus has almost disappeared and maintain a high level of morale among the public.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 24

1. Consider the following about Marawah Island

1. It's a Paleolithic Site off Dubai Coast
2. Recently, the oldest known human skeleton was discovered here

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation: The oldest known natural pearl in the world has been discovered by Abu Dhabi archaeologists working at a Neolithic site on Marawah Island, just off the coast of Abu Dhabi.

Dubbed the 'Abu Dhabi Pearl', it was found in layers that have been radiocarbon dated to 5,800-5,600 BCE, during the Neolithic period.

2. Recently seen in news, Whisper and Gravity RAT refers to

- a) Plant Proteins
- b) Malware
- c) Exoplanets
- d) Gene Editing Techniques

Answer: b)

Explanation: Detectives in UP Police and military intelligence (MI) have found a Pakistani spy who uses robots to hack into computer systems. Till date, he has hacked more than 98 officials from various forces and defence organizations, including the Indian Army, the Air Force, the Navy, paramilitary forces and state police personnel in Rajasthan, MP, Punjab and UP from 2015 to 2018. The spy, who got the

nickname "Sejal Kapoor" on Facebook used spy applications called "Whisper" and "Gravity Rat".

3. Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Program (GSLEP), sometimes seen in news comprises of which of the following countries?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: GSLEP comprises of Russia, China, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Among the 5 Central Asian countries Turkmenistan is not present in the GSLEP.

4. Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index was released by which of the following?

- a) UNESCO
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) UN World Tourism Organisation
- d) World Travel and Tourism Council

Answer: b)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 24

5. Consider the following statements regarding 'Snow Leopard':

1. It is the state animal of Uttarakhand.
2. Hemis National Park in Uttarakhand is the natural habitat of the snow leopard.
3. Bishkek Declaration was adopted to protect the snow leopard and its environment.

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: Snow Leopard is the state animal of Himachal Pradesh.

Uttarakhand's state animal is Alpine musk deer.

6. Consider the following statements regarding 'Feed Our Future' campaign:

1. This campaign is launched by United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).
2. The campaign is to promote the prey base for the critically endangered species to ensure their longevity.

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has joined hands with Bollywood in India and launched a cinema

advertisement campaign 'Feed Our Future' to raise awareness and take steps against hunger and malnutrition in India.

'Feed Our Future' focuses on the urgent attention for the critical issue of hunger and malnutrition in the country.

So, statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is incorrect.

7. 'Mission Indradhanush' covers which of the following diseases:

1. Polio
2. Japanese Encephalitis
3. Tetanus
4. Cancer

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: It provides vaccination against 12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD) i.e. diphtheria, Whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, hepatitis B, meningitis and pneumonia, Hemophilus influenza type B infections, Japanese encephalitis (JE), rotavirus vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and measles-rubella (MR).

8. Aflatoxin-M1, recently in news is produced by:

- a) Bacteria
- b) Fungi
- c) Protozoa
- d) Virus

Answer: b)

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 24

Explanation: Recently the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has tested different types of milk (raw and processed of various types) samples under the National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018. It has revealed that the problem of Aflatoxin-M1 was found in both processed milk than raw milk.

Aflatoxins are toxins produced by certain fungi which are generally found in agricultural crops like maize, peanuts, cotton seed and others. They are carcinogenic in nature.

9. Colonel Chewang Rinchen Setu, recently in News, is in:

- a) Gulf of Kutchh
- b) Palk Strait
- c) Andaman and Nicobar Island
- d) Ladakh

Answer: d)

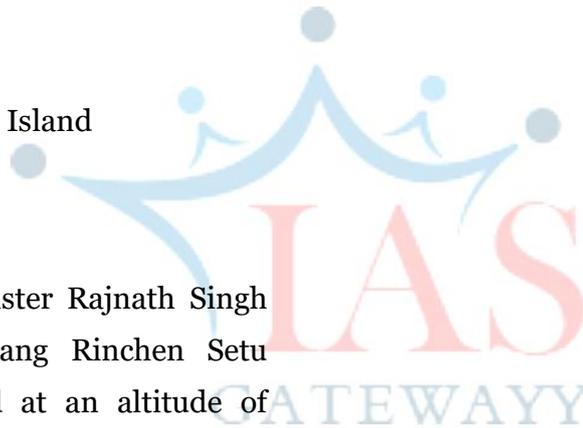
Explanation: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu which has been constructed at an altitude of 14,650 feet in the forward area of Ladakh region. This bridge has been built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

10. 'Digital Bharat Digital Sanskriti' is an initiative of

- a) MEITY
- b) Ministry of Culture
- c) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- d) Ministry of Information and Communication

Answer: b)

Explanation: Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (IC), Shri Prahlad Singh Patel launched the E-Portal of CCRT 'Digital Bharat Digital Sanskriti' and CCRT YouTube Channel



UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 25

1. Recently World Health Organization announced the eradication of which of the following?

- a) Small Pox
- b) Wild poliovirus type 2
- c) Wild poliovirus type 3
- d) Yaws

Answer: c)

Explanation: In an historic announcement on World Polio Day, an independent commission of experts concluded that wild poliovirus type 3 (WPV3) has been eradicated worldwide.

2. Consider the following statements with respect to definition of Kartarpur Sahib Corridor.

- 1. It stands on the bank of the River Ravi.
- 2. It is the final resting place of Guru Nanak.
- 3. As per the agreement, Indian pilgrims of only Sikh faith can use the corridor.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: Indian pilgrims of all faith can use the corridor.

3. Which of the following organizations recently released the Data on Police Organization?

- a) National Crime Records Bureau

- b) Bureau of Police Research and Development
- c) State Police departments
- d) Central Vigilance Commission

Answer: b)

Explanation: Union Minister G Kishan Reddy releases Bureau of Police Research and Development's (BPRD) flagship publication Data on Police Organizations

4. Consider the following with respect to Snow Leopard:

- 1. They inhabit alpine and subalpine zones at elevations from 3,000 to 4,500 m.
- 2. In 2017, status of Snow leopard in the Red List of the IUCN was changed from 'vulnerable' to 'endangered'.
- 3. Government of India launched Project Leopard in 1992 to in the 5 Himalayan states.

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

- a) All the above
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 2 only

Answer: c)

5. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is an international commission with 26 Members and India being one of them.
- 2. It was in response to increasing commercial interest in Antarctic krill resources.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 25

3. Krill is a keystone component of the Arctic ecosystem.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above

Answer: c)

Explanation: Krill is a keystone component of the Antarctic ecosystem.

6. Consider the following statements regarding United Nations:

- 1. To become a member of the UN, the States need to be admitted by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council.
- 2. ILO is a specialized agency of the UN.

Choose the correct statement using the code given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation: The UN Charter declares that the membership of the UN is open to all the peace-loving nations who accept its obligations. The States are admitted by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) was also created in 1919 under the Treaty of

Versailles is a specialized agency of the UN. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

7. '6X6X6 strategy' is related to which of the following disease?

- a) Tuberculosis
- b) HIV/AIDS
- c) Anaemia
- d) Malaria

Answer: c)

Explanation: The 6X6X6 strategy (six target beneficiary groups, six interventions, and six institutional mechanisms) is related to anaemia testing and treatment. Hence, option C is the correct answer.

8. With reference to the 'Livestock Census' in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is conducted every 5 years to cover all domesticated animals and their headcounts.
- 2. The 20th census has been conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Livestock Census has been conducted in the country periodically since 1919-20. Since then it has been conducted once every 5 years and covers all domesticated animals and their headcounts. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 25

The census is conducted by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, in participation with State Governments and UT Administrations. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF):

1. USOF was formed by the NITI Aayog to help fund projects to boost connectivity in urban as well as rural areas.
2. It was envisaged in National Telecom Policy, 1999 and was given statutory status through Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003.
3. The resources are raised through a 'Universal Access Levy (UAL)', which would be a percentage of the revenue earned by the telecom operators.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) was formed by the Central Government to help fund projects to boost connectivity in rural areas only.

10. Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Tunnel, recently seen in news, connects:

- a) Udhampur to Ramban in Jammu.
- b) Ukshi and Bhoke station.
- c) Manali and Keylong.
- d) Khopoli to Lonavla.

Answer: a)

Explanation: Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways announced renaming of Chenani Nashri Tunnel on NH 44 in Jammu & Kashmir as Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Tunnel in an event in New Delhi today.

This 9 km tunnel is the longest such state of art tunnel in the country, connecting Udhampur to Ramban in Jammu.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 30

1. Kartarpur Corridor connects which of the following pilgrimages of Sikhs?

- a) Anandpur Sahib and Dera Baba Nanak Sahib
- b) Dera Baba Nanak Sahib and Gurudwara Darbar Sahib
- c) Goindwal Sahib and Anandpur Sahib
- d) Gurudwara Darbar Sahib and Goindwal Sahib

Answer: b)

Explanation:

▶▶ Kartarpur Corridor connects Dera Baba Nanak Sahib in the state of Punjab, India and Gurudwara Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur in Punjab province of Pakistan.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Competition Commission of India (CCI):

- 1. It is a statutory body established under the Competition Act, 2002.
- 2. The Commission comprises of six members including the Chairperson.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

Including the Chairperson, the commission comprises of 7 members.

3. The term Bio-terrorism recently in news refers to

- a) Terrorism using naturally occurring Virus and Bacteria
- b) Terrorism using modified forms of Virus and Bacteria
- c) Both a and b
- d) None of the above

Answer: c)

Explanation:

▶▶ Bioterrorism is terrorism involving the intentional release or dissemination of biological agents.

▶▶ These agents are bacteria, viruses, fungi, or toxins, and may be in a naturally occurring or a human-modified form, in much the same way in biological warfare.

▶▶ Recently Union defence minister described bio-terrorism as a “contagious plague” and asked the armed forces to be at the forefront of combating the menace.

4. Which reference to ‘World Bank’s Ease of doing business’, recently in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. India went up 14 rungs in the 2020 survey to score a 63, making it the one of world’s top 10 most improved countries for the third consecutive time.
- 2. Ease of doing business measures regulation on employing workers and contracting with the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 30

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

Answer: a)

Explanation: Statement 2 is wrong

Doing Business also measures regulation on employing workers and contracting with the government, which are not included in the ease of doing business score and ranking.

Why this Question

World Bank's ease of doing business ranking released.

10 top improvers are Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Togo, Bahrain, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Kuwait, China, India, and Nigeria.

5. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Non-Aligned Movement'

1. The Asian-African Conference of 1955 held in Bandung was the catalyst for the establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. None Aligned movement is formed in backdrop of Vietnam War, as to de associate for major powers.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

Statement 2 is wrong

▶ Newly independent nations dreamed they could make their way in this new world without hewing to either of the big powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, eschewing the icy hostilities of the Cold War and bask in the warmth of Third World (as it was then known) cooperation.

Why this Question

▶ Prime Minister Modi will skip the meet. This is the second time in a row that PM Narendra Modi will skip the summit, marking India's transformation from a non-aligned country to one which is supposedly multi-aligned.

6. Consider following statements regarding Tanaaji Malusare, Maratha military leader

1. Tanaaji is popularly remembered for the Battle of Singhadgad that took place in the year 1670.
2. He had rivalry with Chatrapati Shivaji.
3. The fort of Kondhana was renamed as Singhadgad (Lion's Fort) to honour Tanaaji.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation: Statement 2 is wrong.

Who was Tanaaji Malusare?

▶ He was a Maratha military leader and a close aide of Chhatrapati Shivaji.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 30

- ▶▶ Hailing from the Malusare clan, Taanaji is popularly remembered for the Battle of Singhagad that took place in the year 1670.
- ▶▶ In the battle, Taanaji fought against Udaybhan Rathore, a formidable Rajput warrior, who was put in charge of Fort Kandhana (later named Singhagad) by Jai Singh.

Why this Question

- ▶▶ A Bollywood movie is being made based on Subedar Taanaji Malusare.

7. With reference to 'Snow leopard' found in India, consider the following statements:

1. Snow Leopard is State animal of Himachal Pradesh and the National Heritage Animal of Pakistan.
2. Global Snow Leopard Forum, 2013 declares 12 countries encompassing the snow leopard's range Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.
3. Bishkek Declaration protects Snow Leopard species and its environment.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

Listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Inhabit alpine and subalpine zones at elevations from 3,000 to 4,500 m (9,800 to 14,800 ft).

State animal of Himachal Pradesh and the National Heritage Animal of Pakistan.

Habitat extends through twelve countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. China contains as much as 60% of all snow leopard habitat areas.

Listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).

Global Snow Leopard Forum, 2013: 12 countries encompassing the snow leopard's range (Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan).

Bishkek Declaration: To protect the species and its environment.

Global Snow Leopard and Eco-system Protection Program: It is a joint initiative of range country governments, international agencies, civil society, and the private sector. Goal — secure the long-term survival of the snow leopard in its natural ecosystem.

Why this Question:

Recently, First National Protocol to Enumerate Snow Leopard Population in India Launched.

8. Consider the following statements:

1. Depletion of ozone is due to many factors, the most dominant of which is the release of chlorine from HFCs (Hydrofluorocarbons) which destroys the ozone.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 30

2. The ozone layer exists mainly in the stratosphere, a layer of the atmosphere that reaches from 10 to 50 kilometers (about 6 to 30 miles) above the Earth's surface.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- ▶▶ Statement 1 is wrong
- ▶▶ It is not Hydrofluorocarbon that damages Ozone layer but Chlorofluorocarbon that damages Ozone layer
- ▶▶ Statement 2 is right

Why this Question

- ▶▶ During September and October, the annual ozone hole over the Antarctic reached its peak extent of 16.4 million sq km on September 8, then shrank to less than 10 million sq km. This has been the smallest observed since 1982. NASA has described it as great news for the Southern Hemisphere.

9. With reference to 'El Nino phenomenon, consider the following statements:

- 1. El Nino is a climatic cycle characterised by high air pressure in the Western Pacific and low air pressure in the eastern.

2. During El Nino there is a warming of the sea surface temperature in the eastern and central equatorial Pacific Ocean.

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

Both statements is right.

What is El Nino?

- ▶▶ El Nino is a climatic cycle characterised by high air pressure in the Western Pacific and low air pressure in the eastern.
- ▶▶ During this event, there is a warming of the sea surface temperature in the eastern and central equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- ▶▶ It is one phase of an alternating cycle known as El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO).

Why this Question

- ▶▶ In a new study, researchers have found that because of climate change, extreme El Nino events are likely to become more frequent.

10. With reference to Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017, consider the following statement.

- 1. It aimed to establish a regulated wholesale agri-market at a distance of every 80 km.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 30

2. It has proposed to issue licenses to new private players and traders.

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

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- ▶▶ The new model law seeks to establish a regulated wholesale agri-market at a distance of every 80 km. To enable this, it has proposed to issue licenses to new private players and traders who wish to set up a wholesale market.
- ▶▶ Unlike the current system, now only by paying unified single fees, farmer/trader will be able to transact in all such regulated agri-markets within the state.
- ▶▶ It caps market fee (including developmental and other charges) at not more than 1 per cent for fruit and vegetables, and two per cent for food grain. It caps commission agents' fee at not more than two per cent for non-perishables and four per cent for perishables.
- ▶▶ Besides, it stipulates a single license for trading within the state and at the national level.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 31

1. Consider the following pairs:

Islands	Located at River
----------------	-------------------------

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Bashan Char Island - Meghna | |
| 2. Majuli Island - Brahmaputra | |
| 3. Omkareshwar Island - Narmada | |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

Bashan Char Island is located at Meghna river.

Majuli Island is located at Brahmaputra river.

Omkareshwar Island is located at Narmada river.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

2. With reference to 'Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme', consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a programme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- 2. The SCAAP programme is an offshoot of the ITEC.

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme was launched by the Ministry

of External Affairs in September 1964. The programme is fully funded by the Government of India. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Programme SCAAP (Special Commonwealth African Assistance Programme) is a corollary programme of the ITEC. Under it, 161 countries from Asia, Africa, East Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean as well as Pacific and Small Island countries are invited to share in the Indian developmental experience in various fields acquired over six decades of India's existence as a free nation. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

3. Consider the following statements:

- 1. SARAS Aajeevika Mela is an initiative of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.
- 2. The Mela is an integrated approach towards women empowerment.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

SARAS Aajeevika Mela is an initiative by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) under the Ministry of Rural Development. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The Mela aims to bring the rural women Self Help Groups (SHGs) under one platform in order to showcase their skills and sell their products, and thereby acts as an integrated approach

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 31

towards women empowerment. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bhima Yojana (PMFBY)

1. It provides insurance coverage and financial support to farmers
2. Post-harvest losses are included in the scheme.
3. There is a uniform premium for kharif and Rabi crops.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

The PMFBY will replace the existing two schemes National Agricultural Insurance Scheme as well as the Modified NAIS. It aims to provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases.

There will be a uniform premium of only 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops. In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium to be paid by farmers will be only 5%.

In post-harvest losses, coverage will be available up to a maximum period of 14 days from harvesting for those crops which are kept in "cut & spread" condition to dry in the field.

5. Which of the following is/are NOT inflammatory bowel disease/s (IBD):

1. Crohn's disease
2. Ulcerative colitis
3. Jaundice

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is an umbrella term used to describe disorders that involve chronic inflammation of the digestive tract.

Types of IBD include:

Ulcerative colitis: This condition causes long-lasting inflammation and sores (ulcers) in the innermost lining of the large intestine (colon) and rectum.

Crohn's disease: This type of IBD is characterized by inflammation of the lining of the digestive tract, which often spreads deep into affected tissues.

The most common areas affected by Crohn's disease are the last part of the small intestine and the colon.

The exact cause of Crohn's disease remains unknown. Previously, diet and stress were suspected, but now doctors know that these factors may aggravate but don't cause Crohn's disease. A number of factors, such as heredity and a malfunctioning immune system, likely play a role in its development.

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 31

Both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease usually involve severe diarrhea, abdominal pain, fatigue and weight loss.

6. Consider the following statements:

1. Bhaona is a traditional form of entertainment created by Sankardeva.
2. The art form is widely practiced in the north eastern state of Assam.
3. They are one act plays written in Brajwali and Sanskrit.

Which of the given statement/s is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

Bhaona is a traditional form of entertainment, always with religious messages, prevalent in Assam.

It is a simple drama which shows the victory of truth at the climax, generally using fictitious or mythological kings, queens, demons, Gods, soldiers, etc.

The history of Assamese drama begins with the plays of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankardeva (1449-1568) written in the early sixteenth century.

These plays are popularly known as Ankiya Nats (one act play) and their staging is known as bhaona.

The bhaonas are written in the Assamese and Brajwali languages.

7. The term pegasus recently seen in news is related to:

- a) A Roman Goddess excavated in Turkey
- b) Nuclear attack submarine developed by Israel
- c) A Spyware which infested WhatsApp
- d) None of the above

Answer: c)

Explanation:

Facebook-owned platform WhatsApp revealed that journalists and human rights activists in India have been targets of surveillance by operators using Israeli spyware Pegasus.

Pegasus sends people "exploit links." Once a user clicks on it, the malware can penetrate a phone's security features, and Pegasus is installed on the device without the owner's knowledge or permission. Once in the system, Pegasus can extract the user's private data, including passwords, contact lists, calendar events, text messages, and even voice calls.

8. Consider the following statements regarding Lymphatic filariasis (LF):

1. It is a neglected tropical disease commonly known as elephantiasis
2. It is a fatal disease which is likely to kill 8 of the 10 affected people
3. It is caused mainly by Wuchereria Bancrofti and spread by Culex mosquito

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

UPSC OCTOBER- 2019
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS CLASS TEST - 31

Answer: d)

Explanation:

Lymphatic filariasis (LF) is a neglected tropical disease commonly known as elephantiasis.

LF disease is caused mainly by *Wuchereria Bancrofti* and spread by *Culex* mosquito. This mosquito grows in dirty accumulated water. Infection occurs when filarial parasites are transmitted to humans through mosquitoes. The infection is usually acquired in childhood, causing hidden damage to the lymphatic system.

LF does not kill the affected people, but may cause permanent disfigurement, reduced productivity and social stigma. Therefore 2nd statement is incorrect.

2. Any Indian between ages of 18 to 65 years may voluntarily join the NPS.
3. Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) are not eligible to join NPS.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

Recently PFRDA has notified that even OCI are eligible to join the NPS.

9. 'Perseids' sometimes seen in news is referred to

- a) Meteor shower
- b) Crater in moon
- c) Radio galaxy
- d) Newly discovered satellite

Answer: a)

Explanation:

The Perseids are one of the brighter meteor showers of the year.

They occur every year between July 17 and August 24 and tend to peak around August 9-13.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the National Pension Scheme (NPS):

1. National Pension System (NPS) is a government-sponsored pension scheme that is managed by PFRDA.

