

1. With respect to the MGNREGA, which of the statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The primary objective of the scheme is to Guarantee 100 days of Employment in every Financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related both Skilled and unskilled Manual Work.
2. Wages must be paid according to the statutory minimum wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
3. The act mandates Gram Sabhas to recommend the works that are to be undertaken and at least 50% of the works must be executed by them.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world.
- The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do **public work-related unskilled manual work only**.
- **So statement 1 is not correct.**

- Unlike earlier employment guarantee schemes, the act aims at addressing the causes of chronic poverty through a rights-based framework.
- At least one-third of beneficiaries have to be women.
- Wages must be paid according to the statutory minimum wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. **So statement 2 is correct.**
- The most important part of MGNREGA's design is its legally-backed guarantee for any rural adult to get work within 15 days of demanding it, failing which an 'unemployment allowance' must be given.
- This demand-driven scheme enables the self-selection of workers.
- There is an emphasis on strengthening the process of decentralisation by giving a significant role in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in planning and implementing these works.
- The act mandates Gram Sabhas to recommend the works that are to be undertaken and at least 50% of the works must be executed by them.
- **So statement 3 is correct.**

2. Consider the following statements:

Statement 1: Fortifying rice involves grinding broken rice into powder, mixing it with nutrients, and then shaping it into rice-like kernels using an extrusion process.

Statement 2: Rice fortification is needed as regular milled rice is low in micronutrients and serves primarily as a source of carbohydrate only.

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

- (a) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation of Statement 1
- (b) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is not the correct explanation of Statement 1
- (c) Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is not correct
- (d) Statement 1 is not correct but Statement 2 is correct

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Rice fortification is the practice of increasing the content of essential micronutrients in rice and to improve the nutritional quality of the rice.
- Fortifying rice involves grinding broken rice into powder, mixing it with nutrients, and then shaping it into rice-like kernels using an extrusion process.

- These fortified kernels are then mixed with normal rice in a 1:100 ratio, and distributed for consumption.
- Rice is the world's most important staple food. An estimated 2 billion people eat rice every day, forming the mainstay of diets across large of Asia and Africa.
- Regular milled rice is low in micronutrients and serves primarily as a source of carbohydrate only. The fortification of rice is a major opportunity to improve nutrition.
- Fortified rice are contains Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B12, Folic Acid, Iron and Zinc.

3. Which of the statement(s) given below is/are correct regarding the appointment of the Chief Justice High Court?

1. High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the CJI and two senior-most judges.
2. The proposal, however, is initiated by the outgoing Chief Justice of the High Court concerned in consultation with two senior-most colleagues.
3. The recommendation is sent to the Chief Minister, who advises the Governor to send the proposal to the Union Law Minister.

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: d)

Explanation:

- The Chief Justice of High Court is appointed as per the policy of having Chief Justices from outside the respective States.
- The Collegium takes the call on the elevation.
- High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the CJI and two senior-most judges.
- The proposal, however, is initiated by the outgoing Chief Justice of the High Court concerned in consultation with two senior-most colleagues.
- The recommendation is sent to the Chief Minister, who advises the Governor to send the proposal to the Union Law Minister.
- **So, all the three statements are correct.**

4. With respect to the African Union, which of the following statement(s) given below is/are correct?

1. The African Union (AU) is a continental union consisting of 55 countries of the continent of Africa only.
2. The intention of the AU is to replace the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).
3. The most important decisions of the AU are made by the Assembly of the African Union, a semi-annual meeting of the heads of state and government of its member states.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The African Union (AU) has recently suspended Burkina Faso's participation in the organization's activities until the country restores constitutional order after the military mutiny.
- The African Union (AU) is a continental union consisting of 55 countries of the continent of Africa, **with exception of various territories of European possessions located in Africa. So, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The bloc was founded on 26 May 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and launched on 9 July 2002 in South Africa.
- The intention of the AU is to replace the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), established on 25 May 1963 in Addis Ababa by 32 signatory governments. **So, statement 2 is correct.**
- The most important decisions of the AU are made by the Assembly of the African Union, a semi-annual meeting of the heads of state and government of its member states. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

- The AU's secretariat, the African Union Commission, is based in Addis Ababa.
- **Key objectives:** To achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and Africans. To defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States. To accelerate the political and social-economic integration of the continent.

5. Consider the following, with regard to Partial Parasitic Plants:

1. They are also called holoparasitic plants.
2. They are chlorophyllous (contain chlorophyll).
3. They have a worldwide distribution in tropical as well as temperate habitats.

Which of the following is/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:

Partial Parasites/Hemi-Parasites:

- Hemi-parasites are commonly referred to as mistletoes that contain 18 families, 160 genera and over 2,200 species.
- They need a host tree or shrub in order to thrive and exhibit a worldwide distribution in tropical as well as temperate habitats that evolved Approximately five times in the

order and are important in forest ecology, Pathology and Medicine.

- They play an important role as they provide food for frugivorous (feeding on fruit) birds.

6. Consider the following:

1. Fiscal deficit is the difference between total expenditure and the sum of revenue receipts and non-debt receipts.
2. Primary deficit is derived by deducting capital expenditure from fiscal deficits.

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:

- Fiscal deficit by definition is the difference between total expenditure and the sum of revenue receipts and non-debt receipts. It indicates how much the Government is spending in net terms.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Since positive fiscal deficits indicate the amount of expenditure over and above revenue and non-debt receipts, it needs to be financed by a debt-creating capital receipt.
- Primary deficit is the difference between fiscal deficit and interest payments.

- Revenue deficit is derived by deducting capital expenditure from fiscal deficits.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

7. Consider the following, with reference to Special Drawing Rights:

1. It is an international reserve asset, created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
2. The value of an SDR is based only on the US Dollar, Euro and British Pound.

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:

Special Drawing Rights:

- The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The SDR is neither a currency nor a claim on the IMF. Rather, it is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. SDRs can be exchanged for these currencies.
- The value of the SDR is calculated from a weighted basket of major currencies, including the US dollar, the euro, Japanese

yen, Chinese yuan, and British pound. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- The interest rate on SDRs or (SDRi) is the interest paid to members on their SDR holdings.
- Recently, the IMF has made an allocation of SDR 12.57 billion (equivalent to around USD 17.86 billion) to India. Now, the total SDR holdings of India stand at SDR 13.66 billion.

8. With reference to the water on the planet Earth, consider the following statements:

1. The amount of water in the rivers and lakes is more than the Amount of Groundwater.
2. The amount of water in polar ice caps and Glaciers is more than the Amount of Groundwater.

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 amount of water in the rivers and lakes is less than the amount of groundwater.
- The amount of water in polar ice caps and Glaciers is more than the amount of Groundwater

9. SilverLine Project, often seen in News is:
- (a) A Dedicated Freight Corridor connecting Dakuni in West Bengal and Ludhiana in Punjab.
- (b) A railway corridor between Rameswaram-Manamadurai stretch in Tamil Nadu wherein the trains are equipped with bio-toilets to ensure zero discharge of human waste on the rail tracks.
- (c) A high-speed rail corridor connecting Mumbai in Maharashtra with Ahmedabad in Gujarat.
- (d) A semi high-speed railway corridor connecting Thiruvananthapuram and Kasargod.

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- SilverLine is a semi-high-speed railway project that would run trains at 200 km/h between the Kerala's northern and southern ends of Kasargod and Thiruvananthapuram.

10. Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY):

1. The scheme is a revamped version of the "Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters."
2. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is the nodal ministry for Implementation of the scheme.

3. It aims to bring about Blue Revolution in India and is completely a Central Sector Scheme.

Which of the given statement/s is/are

Incorrect?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. It is a scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India for holistic development of Fisheries sector including welfare of Fishers.
- The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. (PMMSY) is designed to address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, traceability, establishing a robust Fisheries Management framework and fishers' welfare.
- PMMSY is being Implemented in all the States and Union Territories for a period of 5 years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25.

- The PMMSY is an umbrella scheme with two separate Components namely (a) Central Sector Scheme (CS) and (b) Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- The ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana’ is a revamped version of the SAMPADA (Scheme For Agro-Marine Processing And Development Of Agro-Processing Clusters) scheme.



1. Consider the following statements:

1. Jawaharlal Nehru was the first PM to present the Union Budget for the FY 1958-1959.
2. The Budget presented for the FY 1973-74, by the then Finance Minister Yashwantrao B. Chavan was called as the Black Budget.
3. The Budget presented by the then Finance Minister Manmohan Singh for the FY 1991-92 is known as the Epochal Budget.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- **First Union Budget of Independent India:** It was introduced on 26 November 1947. It was present by the first Finance Minister R.K. Shanmukham Chetty. However, it was a review of the Indian economy and no new taxes were proposed. It is to be noted that almost 46% of the Budget or Rs. 92.74 crores were allocated for defence services department.
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Printing of Budget:** The Budget was leaked in 1950, following which the government shifted the printing of budget

- from Rashtrapati Bhawan to a press at Minto Road. In 1980, it was shifted to a government press in North Block.
- **Introduction of Hindi:** Till 1955, the Budget was presented only in the English language. However, from 1955-56, the Budget documents are printed both in English and Hindi.
- **First Prime Minister to present the Union Budget:** Former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was the first PM to present the Union Budget for the FY 1958-1959. The Union Budget is usually presented by the finance minister. Other than Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi were the only Prime Ministers to have presented the Budget in their respective administration.
- **First Woman to present the Union Budget:** Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was the first woman to present the Union Budget for the FY 1970-71. On 5 July 2019, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman became the first full-time woman Finance Minister on India.
- **Maximum Union Budgets by a Minister:** Former Finance Minister Moraji Desai presented the Union Budget a record 10 times, followed by former FM P. Chidambaram (9), former FM Pranab Mukherjee (8), former FM Yashwant Sinha (8), and former FM Manmohan Singh (6)

- **Black Budget:** For the FY 1973-74, the Budget was presented by the then Finance Minister Yashwantrao B. Chavan and is called as 'Black Budget' due to high budget deficit of Rs 550 crores-- the maximum until that time. The Budget followed the Indo-Pak war of 1971 and failed the monsoon season. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

- **The Epochal Budget:** The Budget presented by the then Finance Minister Manmohan Singh for the FY 1991-92 is known as 'The Epochal Budget'-- a budget that changed India forever as it marked the economic liberalisation of the nation. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

- **Dream Budget:** The Budget presented by the then Finance Minister P. Chidambaram for the FY 1997-98 is known as 'Dream Budget' as it proposed to lower the tax slabs of personal and corporate taxes.

- **The Millennium Budget:** The Budget presented by the then Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha for the FY 2000-01 is known as 'The Millennium Budget'-- revolutionised India's IT sector.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Foreign exchange reserves are assets held on reserve by a central bank in foreign currencies, which can include bonds, treasury bills and other government securities.

2. The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves.

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:

- Foreign exchange reserves are assets held on reserve by a central bank in foreign currencies, which can include bonds, treasury bills and other government securities. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- It needs to be noted that most foreign exchange reserves are held in US dollars.
- India's Forex Reserve include:
 - ✓ Foreign Currency Assets
 - ✓ Gold reserves
 - ✓ Special Drawing Rights
 - ✓ Reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves. **So, statement 2 is correct.**
- The SDR is neither a currency nor a claim on the IMF. Rather, it is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. SDRs can be exchanged for these currencies.

- The value of the SDR is calculated from a weighted basket of major currencies, including the US dollar, the euro, Japanese yen, Chinese yuan, and British pound.
- The interest rate on SDRs or (SDR_i) is the interest paid to members on their SDR holdings.
- Recently, the IMF has made an allocation of SDR 12.57 billion (equivalent to around USD 17.86 billion) to India. Now, the total SDR holdings of India stand at SDR 13.66 billion.

- Four North-Eastern States viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram share international boundary with Myanmar. Both countries share a heritage of religious, linguistic and ethnic ties.



3. Which of the following state shares international border with Myanmar?

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Mizoram
3. Assam
4. Manipur

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Anti-coup protesters across Myanmar defied a junta order not to mark the first anniversary of the military's power-grab with a silent strike and clapping protests recently.

4. The budget Session goes through different stages. Arrange the stages in a sequential order:

1. Presentation of Budget.
2. General discussion.
3. Scrutiny by Departmental Committees.
4. Voting on Demands for Grants.
5. Passing of Appropriation Bill.
6. Passing of Finance Bill.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1-2-3-4-5-6
- (b) 6-2-3-4-5-1
- (c) 1-3-2-4-5-6
- (d) 1-2-3-5-4-6

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The procedure for presentation of the Budget in and its passing by Lok Sabha is as laid down in articles 112—117 of the Constitution of India, Rules 204—221 and 331-E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and

Direction 19-B of Directions by the Speaker.

- The Budget goes through six stages:
 1. Presentation of Budget.
 2. General discussion.
 3. Scrutiny by Departmental Committees.
 4. Voting on Demands for Grants.
 5. Passing of Appropriation Bill.
 6. Passing of Finance Bill.

5. Consider the following statements with regards to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights:

1. It is a statutory body under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India.
2. The commission defines a child as a person between the ages of 0 and 18 years.
3. The commission has a chairperson and six Members of which at least two should be Women.

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights is an Indian statutory body

established by an Act of Parliament, the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. It was set up in March 2007.

- The Commission's mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.
- The Commission works under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

The commission consists of the following Members Namely:

- A chairperson who, is a person of eminence and has done outstanding work for Promoting the welfare of children; and
- Six members, out of which at least two are woman, are appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons of Eminence, ability, integrity, standing and Experience.

6. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Clean Air Programme:

1. The NCAP has set a target of reducing key air pollutants PM10 and PM2.5 (ultra-fine particulate matter) by 20-30% by 2024, taking the pollution levels in 2019 as the base year.

2. The NCAP has identified 132 cities as non-attainment cities as they did not meet the national ambient air quality standards for 2011-15 under the National Air Quality Monitoring Program.

3. The NCAP was launched in 2019.

Choose the correct code:

(a) 1 & 2 only

(b) 2 & 3 only

(c) 1 & 3 only

(d) All of the above

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- The NCAP launched in 2019, has set a target of reducing key air pollutants PM10 and PM2.5 (ultra-fine particulate matter) by 20-30% by 2024, taking the pollution levels in 2017 as the base year.

7. Which of the following nations is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)?

(a) Iran

(b) Syria

(c) South Sudan

(d) Afghanistan

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons, commonly known as the Non-Proliferation Treaty or NPT, is an international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and

weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament.

- South Sudan is not a signatory of the NPT. Other non-signatory countries include India and Pakistan.

8. In context to Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), consider the following statements:

1. It is a group of infections that are most common only in the developing regions of Africa and Asia.
2. They are caused by a variety of pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, protozoa and parasitic worms.
3. Globally, a minuscule population is affected by NTDs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 2 only

(d) 1,2 and 3

Answer- c)

Explanation:

- Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) are a group of infections that are most common among marginalised communities in the developing regions of Africa, Asia and the Americas. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- NTDs are especially common in tropical areas where people do not have access to clean water or safe ways to dispose of human waste.
- They are caused by a variety of pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, protozoa and parasitic worms.
- Hence, statement 2 is Correct.
- NTDs affect more than a billion people Globally.
- They are preventable and treatable. However, these diseases - and their intricate interrelationships with poverty and ecological systems - continue to cause devastating health, social and economic consequences.
- There are 20 NTDs that impact over 1.7 billion people worldwide.

9. Consider the following, with regard to Bomb Cyclones?

1. It is an intense midlatitude storm that has extremely high pressure at its centre.
2. They are less likely to occur during summer seasons.
3. They generally form over the northwestern Atlantic and northwestern Pacific waters.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Bomb Cyclone: It is a large, intense midlatitude storm that has low pressure at its center, weather fronts and an array of associated weather, from blizzards to severe thunderstorms to heavy precipitation.
- Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- Bomb cyclones put forecasters on high alert, because they can produce significant harmful impacts.

Bomb Cyclone v/s Hurricane:

- Hurricanes tend to form in tropical areas and are powered by warm seas. For this reason, they're most common in summer or early fall, when seawater is warmest.
- Bomb cyclones generally occur during colder months because cyclones occur due to cold and warm air meeting.
- During the summer, there's generally not much cold air across the atmosphere; this means a bomb cyclone is much less likely to occur. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Hurricanes form in tropical waters, while bomb cyclones form over the northwestern Atlantic, northwestern Pacific and sometimes the Mediterranean Sea.
- Hence, statement 3 is correct.

10. Consider the following, with regard to National Commission for Women (NCW):

1. It is a statutory body established under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act.
2. It can not take suo-moto action to inquire into the cases.

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:

- Under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, the National Commission for Women (NCW) was set up as a statutory body in January 1992.
- Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It can take suo moto actions to inquire into cases related to the non-implementation of laws for women and non-enforcement of laws and non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines enacted and aimed at mitigating hardships ensuring the welfare and then take up issues arising out of matter with the concerned authorities.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The National Water Development Agency is responsible for the formulation of proposals of the linking of rivers.
2. NWDA was tasked to prepare feasibility reports and give concrete shape to Peninsular Rivers Development Component of National Perspective.
3. The task of Himalayan Rivers Development Component of National Perspectives is done by the National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA).

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: b)

Explanation:

- The **National Water Development Agency (NWDA)** is responsible for the formulation of proposals of the linking of rivers. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- NWDA is the agency of the Union Ministry of Water Resources. It was set up in July, 1982 as autonomous society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- It was established to carry out the water balance and other studies on a scientific and realistic basis for optimum utilisation of Water Resources of the peninsular rivers system.

- Besides it was tasked to prepare feasibility reports and give concrete shape to Peninsular Rivers Development Component of National Perspective. **So, statement 2 is correct.**
- In 1990, it was also entrusted with the task of Himalayan Rivers Development Component of National Perspectives.
- Recently, the functions of NWDA have been further modified and the work of preparation of detailed Project Reports (DPR) of various link proposals and Pre-feasibility Reports.
- It has been also entrusted to prepare feasibility reports of intra-State links as proposed by the States.
- The Central government is just working on the establishment of an exclusive body named **National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA)** to implement projects for linking rivers. **So, statement 3 is not correct.**

2. Consider the following pairs:

- | River | Disputed states |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Narmada | - Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan |
| 2. Krishna | - Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana |
| 3. Vamsadhara | - Chhattisgarh, Odisha |
| 4. Cauvery | - Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry |

Which of the pairs given above are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

Major Inter-State River Disputes	
River (s)	States
Ravi and Beas	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
Narmada	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
Krishna	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana
Vamsadhara	Andhra Pradesh & Odisha
Cauvery	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry
Godavari	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha
Mahanadi	Chhattisgarh, Odisha
Mahadayi	Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka
Periyar	Tamil Nadu, Kerala

3. Consider the following statements regarding Electoral Bonds scheme:

1. It is an anonymous bearer banking instrument that can be purchased by

individual or entity incorporated in India only.

2. It can be used for making donations to only those registered political parties which have secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last assembly election.
3. The information furnished by the buyer is treated confidential by the authorized bank-State Bank of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- In 2018, the central government notified the Electoral Bond Scheme. This scheme was announced in the 2017 budget. It is touted as an alternative to cash donations made to the political parties.
- It is aimed at bringing clean money and substantial transparency into the system of political funding. The salient features of the scheme are:
 - ✓ The electoral bond means a bond issued in the nature of promissory note which is a bearer banking instrument and does not carry the name of the buyer or payee. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- ✓ The electoral bonds may be purchased by a citizen of India or entities incorporated or established in India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- ✓ The electoral bonds can be used for making donations to only those registered political parties which have secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election to the Lok Sabha or the State legislative Assembly. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- ✓ The electoral bonds can be encashed by an eligible political party only through a bank account with the authorized bank.
- ✓ The electoral bonds are issued in the denomination of ₹1,000, ₹10,000, ₹1,00,000, ₹10,00,000 and ₹1,00,00,000.
- ✓ The information furnished by the buyer is treated confidential by the authorized bank and is not to be disclosed to any authority for any purposes, except when demanded by a competent court or upon registration of criminal case by any law enforcement agency. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- ✓ According to the Association for Democratic Reforms, political parties have received a total of 12,452 electoral bonds worth Rs. 6210.39 crore till January 2020.

4. This state is mainly a mountainous region, the main pattern of agriculture followed is Jhum or Shifting cultivation.

More than 90 per cent of the total geographical area is covered with forest which is the highest in the country. Dampa tiger reserve is located here.

Which of the following state is referred to in the above passage?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Nagaland
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Tripura

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Mizoram is a mountainous region which became the 23rd state of the Indian Union in February 1987.
- Dampa Tiger Reserve or Dampha Tiger Reserve is a tiger reserve of western Mizoram.
- About 60 per cent of the people of Mizoram are engaged in agriculture and its allied activities. The main pattern of agriculture followed is Jhum or Shifting cultivation.
- 91.27 per cent of the total geographical area (21,081 sq km) is covered with forest which is the highest in the country.

5. Consider the following statements with regards to Alternate Minimum Tax:

1. It was introduced in 1988 for the first time to bring zero tax companies into the ambit of tax.
2. Companies are taxed at 15% under this regime.
3. It is not applicable to Foreign Companies Operating in India.

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Alternate Minimum Tax is a tax levied on 'adjusted total income' in an FY wherein tax on normal income is lower than AMT on Adjusted total income.
- Companies pay the tax at the rate of 15 per cent. To provide a level playing field between co-operative societies and Companies, AMT is reduced to 15 percent.
- Alternate Minimum Tax is applicable to all companies, including foreign companies that have established their presence in India.

6. Consider the following statements with regards to Cess & Surcharge:

1. The Central Government levies both Cess and surcharge.
2. Both are collected and taken into the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. State Governments cannot share any of these.

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Cess and surcharge constitute types of taxes a Union Government levies on its citizens to gain revenue for government Functioning.
 - Cess taxes and surcharges go to the Consolidated Fund of India.
 - State Governments cannot share Cess & Surcharge.
7. Rajya Sabha has equal powers with Lok Sabha in
- (a) The matter of creating new All India Services
 - (b) Amending the Constitution
 - (c) The removal of the Government
 - (d) Making cut Motions

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Rajya Sabha has equal powers with Lok Sabha in the amendment of the constitutional bill.
- Unlike the money bill, the constitutional amendment bill has to be approved by both the Houses of Parliament with a special majority.
- There is no provision of a Joint Session in case of disagreement, so, Lok Sabha cannot override the decision of the Rajya Sabha. However, in the matters of formation and removal of the government, the Rajya Sabha has unequal status with respect to Lok Sabha.
- Similarly, Rajya Sabha has less power in matters of finance like making cut motions, passing money bills, etc. vis-a-vis Lok Sabha.
- The Rajya Sabha has been given some special powers which it enjoys exclusively. This includes the power to authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the centre and states (Article 312) by passing a resolution.

8. Consider the following statements regarding Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In).

1. It is an office within the Ministry of Defence.
2. It collects, analyse and disseminate information on cyber incidents.

3. It strengthens security-related defence of the Indian Internet domain.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is an office within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of India. It is the nodal agency to deal with cyber security threats like hacking and phishing. It strengthens security-related defence of the Indian Internet domain.

9. Consider the following statements regarding e-kuber.

1. It is the core banking solution of the RBI that gives high degree of access to commercial banks to their current account with the RBI.
2. It is used to conduct exercises like auctioning of government securities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- e-Kuber is the Core Banking Solution of Reserve Bank of India. E-Kuber provides the provision of a single current account for each bank across the country, with decentralised access to this account from anywhere-anytime using Portal-Based services in a safe manner.
- Auction of Government securities is done through e-kuber system. Sovereign Gold Bonds are available for subscription at the branches of scheduled commercial banks and designated post offices through RBI's e-kuber system.

10. Consider the following, with regard to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

1. It is a multilateral treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.
2. It is part of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
3. The covenant commits its parties to respect the civil and political rights of individuals including rights to due process and a fair trial.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) is a multilateral treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. The covenant commits its parties to respect the civil and political rights of individuals, including the right to life, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, electoral rights and rights to due process and a fair trial.
- The ICCPR is part of the International Bill of Human Rights, along with the International Covenant
- on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
- The ICCPR is monitored by the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

1. Consider the Following statements:

1. Under the Indus Water Treaty, India has control over water flowing in the eastern rivers– Beas, Ravi and Sutlej.
2. The deal was brokered by the World Bank after nine years of negotiation.
3. Of the total 168 million acre-feet, India's share of water from the three allotted rivers is 33 million acre-feet, which constitutes nearly 20 per cent.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The sharing of water of the six rivers– Indus, Chenab, Jhelum, Beas, Ravi and Sutlej– between India and Pakistan is governed by a treaty the two countries signed in 1960.
- The deal was brokered by the World Bank after nine years of negotiation.
- Under the treaty, India has control over water flowing in the eastern rivers– Beas, Ravi and Sutlej. Pakistan has control over the western rivers– Indus, Chenab and Jhelum.

- As per the treaty, the water commissioners of Pakistan and India are required to meet twice a year and arrange technical visits to projects' sites and critical river head works. Both the sides share details of the water flow and the quantum of water being used under the treaty.
- The treaty sets out a mechanism for cooperation and information exchange between the two countries regarding their use of the rivers.
- Of the total 168 million acre-feet, India's share of water from the three allotted rivers is 33 million acre-feet, which constitutes nearly 20 per cent. India uses nearly 93-94 per cent of its share under the Indus Waters Treaty. The rest of the water remains unutilised and goes to Pakistan.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Though states could come out with their own Bills to some extent to override the statutes of passed by the Parliament, none of those Bills would be effective unless the President accords his consent to such Bills.
2. It's the sole prerogative of the President whether to sign the state Bills or not.

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 the statements are correct.

3. Consider the following statements regarding a bill passed by the State Legislature:

1. A bill sent to the President for his assent can be returned any number of times.
2. In case of a money bill, the Governor may give or withhold it or sent it for president's consideration.
3. Neither governor nor president can return the money bill for reconsideration.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- All the three statements are correct.

4. Consider the following statements:

1. The President enjoys absolute veto and not suspensive veto over state bills.
2. The President cannot exercise pocket veto in respect of state legislation where the bill is kept pending by the President for an indefinite period.

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:

- The governor is empowered to reserve certain types of bills passed by the state legislature for the consideration of the President.
- The President can withhold his assent to such bills not only in the first instance but also in the second instance.
- Thus, the President enjoys absolute veto (and not suspensive veto) over state bills.
- Further, the President can exercise pocket veto in respect of state legislation also.

5. Consider the following, with reference to National Pension System (NPS):

1. The Central Government has introduced the National Pension System (NPS) for every employee, including from the Armed Forces.
2. It is regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

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:

National Pension System:

- The Central Government has introduced the National Pension System (NPS) with effect from January 2004 (except for armed forces). Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- In 2018 to streamline the NPS and make it more attractive, the Union Cabinet approved changes in the scheme to benefit central government employees covered under NPS.
- NPS is being implemented and regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) in the country. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- National Pension System Trust (NPST) established by PFRDA is the registered owner of all assets under NPS.

6. Consider the following, with regard to Graphene:

1. It is the most Electrically and Thermally Conductive Material in the world.
2. It has Applications in faster DNA sequencing and drug delivery.

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:

- Graphene is a one-atom-thick layer of carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal lattice. It is the building-block of Graphite, but graphene is a remarkable substance on its own with a multitude of astonishing properties.
- It is the thinnest, most electrically and thermally conductive material in the world, while also being flexible, transparent and incredibly strong. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Often referred to as a wonder material for its extraordinary electrical and electronics properties, graphene could replace Indium and thereby bring down the cost of OLED (organic light-emitting diode) screens in smartphones, studies have shown.
- Graphene has a lot of promise for additional applications: anti-corrosion coatings and paints, efficient and precise sensors, faster and efficient electronics, flexible displays, efficient solar panels, faster DNA sequencing, drug delivery, and more. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

7. Consider the following, with regard to Missile Technology Control Regime:

1. It was Established in April 1987 by G-7 countries.
2. It was Established to prevent the Proliferation of missile and unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technology.

3. India is a member of this group.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer-A)

Explanation:

Missile Technology Control Regime

(MTCR):

- It is an informal and voluntary partnership among 35 countries to prevent the proliferation of missile and unmanned aerial vehicle technology capable of carrying greater than 500 kg payload for more than 300 km.
- The members are thus prohibited from supplying such missiles and UAV systems that are controlled by the MTCR to non-members.
- The decisions are taken by consensus of all the members.
- This is a non-treaty association of member countries with certain guidelines about the information sharing, national control laws and export policies for missile systems and a rule-based regulation mechanism to limit the transfer of such critical technologies of these missile systems.

- It was established in April 1987 by G-7 countries – USA, UK, France, Germany, Canada, Italy, and Japan.
- India became the 35 full member MTCR In July 2016.
- Hence, option A is correct.

8. According to the Indus Water Treaty of 1960, which of the following rivers were Portioned/allocated to India?

1. Jhelum
2. Ravi
3. Sutlej
4. Indus
5. Chenab
6. Beas

Choose the correct code:

- (a) 1, 3 & 5 only
- (b) 2, 3 & 6 only
- (c) 4, 5 & 6 only
- (d) 1, 2 & 4 only

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- The Indus Waters Treaty is a water-sharing Agreement between India and Pakistan signed in 1960. It was brokered by the World Bank.
- The treaty spells out conditions for water-sharing of the River Indus and its Five tributaries.
- India got control over the three eastern rivers, which are:

- ✓ Ravi
- ✓ Beas
- ✓ Sutlej
- Pakistan got control over the three western rivers, which are:
 - ✓ Indus
 - ✓ Chenab
 - ✓ Jhelum

9. Consider the following statements with regards to EXIM Bank of India:

1. The organization was established in 1982 under the Export-Import Bank of India Act 1981 as a purveyor of export credit.
2. EXIM Bank is owned jointly by the Indian Government and RBI.
3. It offers term loans to Indian companies for equity investments in their overseas joint ventures or wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The EXIM bank was established in 1982 under the Export-Import Bank of India Act 1981 as a purveyor of export credit. R.C. Shah was the bank's first Chairman and Managing Director.
- EXIM Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Indian Government.

- It offers term loans to Indian companies for Equity Investments in their overseas joint ventures or wholly-owned subsidiaries.

10. Which of the following is/are amongst the Ramsar sites in India?

1. Sultanpur National Park, Haryana
2. Sunderbans Wetland, West Bengal
3. Tsomoriri Lake, Ladakh
4. Samaspur Bird Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- All the above sites are amongst Ramsar sites in India.
- The Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary in Gujarat and Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh have been listed as Wetlands of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention recently.

1. Which of the statements given below are correct regarding the powers given to the Armed Forces under The Armed Forces (Special Power) Act, 1958 (AFSPA)?

1. They have the authority to prohibit a gathering of five or more persons in an area, can use force or even open fire after giving due warning if they feel a person is in contravention of the law.
2. If reasonable suspicion exists, the army can also arrest a person without a warrant; enter or search premises without a warrant; and ban the possession of firearms.
3. Any person arrested or taken into custody may be handed over to the officer in charge of the nearest police station along with a report detailing the circumstances that led to the arrest.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- In simple terms, AFSPA gives armed forces the power to maintain public order in “disturbed areas”.
- **Powers given to armed forces:**
 - ✓ They have the authority to prohibit a gathering of five or more persons in an area, can use force or even open fire after

giving due warning if they feel a person is in contravention of the law.

- ✓ If reasonable suspicion exists, the army can also arrest a person without a warrant; enter or search premises without a warrant; and ban the possession of firearms.
- ✓ Any person arrested or taken into custody may be handed over to the officer in charge of the nearest police station along with a report detailing the circumstances that led to the arrest.
- A disturbed area is one which is declared by notification under Section 3 of the AFSPA. An area can be disturbed due to differences or disputes between members of different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities.
- The Central Government or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory can declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area.

2. Which parts of the country currently do *not* come under AFSPA?

- (a) Whole of Assam
- (b) Parts of Nagaland
- (c) Whole of Manipur, with the exception of the Imphal municipal area.
- (d) In Arunachal Pradesh, the districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding, and the areas falling under Namsai and

Mahadevpur police stations, bordering Assam.

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- The AFSPA has been in force for decades in most parts of the Northeast States. Under this law, an area can be declared a ‘disturbed area’, bringing into play the protection it offers to the armed forces for use of force in the notified area.
- The notification is extended periodically, mostly for six months at a time.
- As of today, **the whole of Assam and Nagaland** are ‘disturbed areas’. The last six-month extension was made on August 28 and June 30 respectively.
- **The whole of Manipur, with the exception of the Imphal municipal area,** has been notified by the State government for one year from December 2020.
- In **Arunachal Pradesh**, the ‘disturbed area’ notification is confined to the **districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding**, and the **areas falling under Namsai and Mahadevpur police stations, bordering Assam.**
- The AFSPA was revoked in Tripura in May 2015, after being in force since February 1997.

- It was revoked by a decision of the State Cabinet following substantial improvement in the ground situation.
- Meghalaya was under AFSPA for 27 years, until it was revoked from April 1, 2018. The Act was implemented in a 20-km area along the border with Assam.
- Jammu and Kashmir has a separate J&K Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1990.

3. Nagaland is bordered by which of the following states?

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Mizoram
3. Assam
4. Manipur

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- National People’s Party (NPP) MP Agatha Sangma demanded repeal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the Lok Sabha recently, citing the example of the incident in Mon, in Nagaland, where 14 people died due to firing by the Army on a vehicle carrying miners.

- Nagaland is located in the northeast of India. The state shares its borders with Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Assam.
- The state shares international borders with Myanmar only.



Explanation:

- Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh recently said that there have been number of instances in the past when private member bills to amend the Preamble to the Constitution have been introduced in both the Houses of Parliament and its legislative competence is decided by Council and not the Chair.
- In Keshavananda Bharati case, the court held that the basic elements or the fundamental features of the constitution as contained in the preamble cannot be altered by an amendment under article 368. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- The preamble has been amended only once. That is- **42nd constitutional amendment act, 1976** when three new terms were added- Socialist, secular and integrity. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**
- It was introduced by BJP Member from Kerala K J Alphons.
- The Bill seeks to change the words in the Preamble “EQUALITY of status and of opportunity” to “EQUALITY of status and of opportunity to be born, to be fed, to be educated, to get a job and to be treated with dignity”.
- It also seeks to replace the word “socialist” with “equitable”.

4. With reference to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, which of the statement(s) given below is/are correct?

1. In Keshavananda Bharati case, the court held that the basic elements or the fundamental features of the constitution as contained in the preamble cannot be altered by an amendment under article 368.
2. The preamble has been amended only once by the 44th constitutional amendment act, 1978.

Select 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)

- The Bill also proposes adding “access to information technology” and “happiness” as objectives.

5. Consider the following, with regard to ‘Blue Economy’:

1. The concept was introduced by Gunter Pauli.
2. It advocates the greening of ocean development strategies for higher productivity.
3. The Deep Ocean Mission will be against the spirit of the Blue Economy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The concept of Blue economy was introduced by Gunter Pauli in his 2010 book- “The Blue Economy: 10 years, 100 innovations, 100 million jobs”. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ocean ecosystem health.
- It advocates the greening of ocean development strategies for higher productivity and conservation of ocean's health.

- Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Blue Economy emphasizes on integration of development of the ocean economy with social inclusion, environmental sustainability, combined with innovative business models.
- Deep Ocean Mission was launched with an intention to develop technologies to harness the living and non-living resources from the deep-oceans. It will promote the concept of Blue economy. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

6. Consider the following, with regard to ‘Saint Ramanujacharya’:

1. He is revered as a Vedic philosopher and social reformer.
2. He was inspired into the Bhakti Movement by Thyagaraja and Kabir.
3. He is the chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita subschool of Vedanta.

Which of the following statements are correct

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Ramanujacharya was born in 1017 in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. He is revered as a Vedic philosopher and social reformer.

- Hence, statement 1 is correct
- He travelled across India, advocating equality and social justice.
- He revived the Bhakti movement, and his preachings inspired other Bhakti schools of thought. He is considered to be the inspiration for poets like Annamacharya, Bhakta Ramdas, Thyagaraja, Kabir, and Meerabai. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- He is famous as the chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita sub school of Vedanta. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

7. Consider the following, with regard to ‘Saffron cultivation’:

1. It requires temperatures ranging from no more than 35 or 40 degree Celsius in summer to about –15 or –20 degree Celsius in winter.
2. It requires adequate rainfall of 1000-1500 mm per annum.

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:

- In India, saffron Corms (seeds) are cultivated during the months of June and

July and at some places in August and September.

- It starts flowering in October.

Conditions:

- Altitude: Saffron grows well at an altitude of 2000 meters above sea level. It needs a photoperiod (sunlight) of 12 hours.
- Soil: It grows in many different soil types but thrives best in calcareous (soil that has calcium carbonate in abundance), humus-rich and well-drained soil with a pH between 6 and 8.
- Climate: For saffron cultivation, we need an explicit climatological summer and winter with temperatures ranging from no more than 35 or 40 degree Celsius in summer to about –15 or –20 degree Celsius in winter. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Rainfall: It also requires adequate rainfall that is 1000-1500 mm per annum. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

8. Consider the following statements with respect to cartelization:

1. The Competition Commission is responsible for enforcing the cartel laws in India.
2. Prices controlled by the government under a law is not cartelization.
3. Both companies and individuals can be prosecuted under the Competition Act.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- “Cartel” includes an association of producers, sellers, distributors, traders or service providers who, by agreement amongst themselves, limit, control or attempt to control the production, distribution, sale or price of, or, trade in goods or provision of services;
- directly or indirectly determining purchase or sale prices;
- limiting or controlling production, supply, markets, technical development, Investment or provision of services;
- sharing the market or source of production or provision of services by way of allocation of geographical areas of the market, types of goods or services or number of customers in the market, or in any other similar way; or
- directly or indirectly resulting in bid-rigging or collusive bidding.
- Prices controlled by the government under a law is not cartelization.
- The Competition Commission is responsible for enforcing the cartel laws in India. Both companies and individuals can be prosecuted under the Competition Act.

9. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect with respect to National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change?

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which was set up in the year 2015-16.
2. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is the National Implementing Entity (NIE).

Options:

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both
(d) None

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) is a Central Sector Scheme that was set up in the year 2015-16.
- The overall aim of NAFCC is to support concrete adaptation activities which mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- The activities under this scheme are implemented in a project mode.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is the National Implementing Entity (NIE).

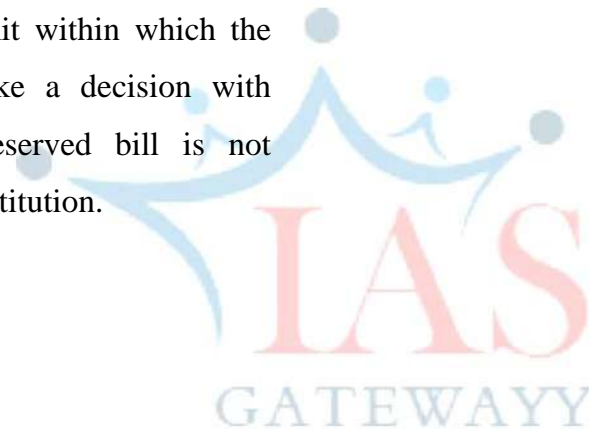
10. When a Bill is reserved by a Governor for the consideration of the President, what is the time limit prescribed by the constitution for returning the bill?

- (a) Six Weeks
- (b) Three Months
- (c) Six Months
- (d) No time limit

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Article 201 of the Indian Constitution allows the Governor to reserve bills for the consideration of the President.
- Notably, the time limit within which the President has to make a decision with regard to such a reserved bill is not mentioned in the Constitution.



1. With respect to the Delimitation Commission, which of the statements given above are *not* correct?

1. Delimitation Commission is a temporary body constituted only after every census.
2. Delimitation will be done to the UT of Jammu & Kashmir as per the rules of the J&K Representation of the People Act 1957.
3. These bodies are so powerful that its orders have the force of law and they cannot be challenged before any court.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The J&K Delimitation Commission has changed the complexion of most of the 90 Assembly seats, while reconfiguring and renaming 28 new Assembly constituencies and deleting 19 Assembly segments in its interim report.
- Under Article 82, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census.
- Under Article 170, States also get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census.

- Once the Act is in force, the Union government sets up a Delimitation Commission.
- The J&K Representation of the People Act 1957 has now been invalidated and, instead, delimitation to the UT of J&K will be done as per the **Representation of the People Act, 1950** (as amended from time to time) and provisions of Sections 59, 60 of Act 34 of 2019. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**
- These bodies are so powerful that its **orders have the force of law and they cannot be challenged before any court. So, statement 3 is correct.**

- Bifurcation of J&K into two UTs has led to redrawing of Assembly constituency boundaries. While, the UT of Ladakh will not have its own legislature, J&K will. This would be similar to Puducherry or Delhi.

- They are constituted after every Census. However, such delimitation was also necessitated in 2014 when Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were bifurcated.
- **So, statement 1 is not correct.**

2. Consider the following statements:

1. J&K acceded to the Dominion of India after the Instrument of Accession was signed by Maharaja Hari Singh, the ruler of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, on 26 October 1947.

2. The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954 settled the constitutional relationship of J&K and the Union of India and inserted Article 35A.
3. On 5th of August 2019, the President of India promulgated the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019 and abrogated the special status accorded to Jammu and Kashmir under the provision of Article 370.

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: d)

Explanation:

- All the three statements are correct.

3. Consider the following statements:

1. A green bond is a type of fixed-income Instrument that is specifically earmarked to raise Money for climate and environmental projects.
2. Green bonds are also called as Climate Bonds.
3. Blue bonds are sustainability bonds to finance Projects that protect the ocean and related Ecosystems.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Asserting that the issuance of **sovereign green bonds** is part of the government's overall borrowing programme, Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth has said these rupee-denominated papers will have long tenure to suit the requirement of green infrastructure projects.
- A green bond is a type of fixed-income instrument that is specifically earmarked to raise money for climate and environmental projects.
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- These bonds are typically asset-linked and backed by the issuing entity's balance sheet, so they usually carry the same credit rating as their issuers' other debt obligations.
- Green bonds may come with tax incentives to enhance their attractiveness to investors.
- The World Bank is a major issuer of green bonds. It has issued 164 such bonds since 2008, worth a combined \$14.4 billion. In 2020, the total issuance of green bonds was worth almost \$270 billion, according to the Climate Bond Initiative.

- Green bonds work just like any other corporate or government bond.
 - Borrowers issue these securities in order to secure financing for projects that will have a positive environmental impact, such as ecosystem restoration or reducing pollution.
 - Investors who purchase these bonds can expect to make as the bond matures.
 - In addition, there are often tax benefits for investing in green bonds.
 - Blue bonds are sustainability bonds to finance projects that protect the ocean and related ecosystems. **So, statement 3 is correct.**
 - This can include projects to support sustainable fisheries, protection of coral reefs and other fragile ecosystems, or reducing pollution and acidification.
 - All blue bonds are green bonds, but not all green bonds are blue bonds.
 - “Green bonds” and “climate bonds” are sometimes used interchangeably, but some authorities use the latter term specifically for projects focusing on reducing carbon emissions or alleviating the effects of climate change.
 - **So, statement 2 is not correct.**
4. Consider the following statements:
1. The Indian Federation was not the result of an Agreement by the units.

2. The component units of Indian Federation had no freedom to secede from the Federation.

Select 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: c)

Explanation:

- Various members of the Lok Sabha have raised their concerns over the Federal Nature of the Indian Union in the Parliament recently.
- While submitting the draft Constitution in 1948, Dr B R Ambedkar, chairman of the drafting committee, had said that the committee had used the word ‘Union’ because:
 - ✓ the Indian federation was not the result of an agreement by the units, and
 - ✓ the component units had no freedom to secede from the federation.
- The members of the Constituent Assembly were very cautious of not using the word ‘Centre’ or ‘Central government’ in the Constitution as they intended to keep away the tendency of centralising of powers in one unit.

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Dholavira:

1. Dholavira's location is on the Tropic of Cancer.
2. It is located on Khadir Bet Island in the Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary in the Great Rann of Kutch.
3. It is the first site of the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) in India to get the UNESCO World Heritage tag.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Dholavira is a Harappan City in the Rann of Kutch in the state of Gujarat in western India.
- Dholavira's location is on the Tropic of Cancer. It is one of the five largest Harappan sites and most prominent archaeological sites in India belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- It is located on Khadir Bet Island in the Kachchh Desert Wildlife Sanctuary in the Great Rann of Kachchh.
- Dholavira is the first site of the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) in India to get the UNESCO World Heritage tag.

6. Which Agreement/Convention is also described as a "Berne and Paris-plus" Agreement?

- (a) Cancun Agreement
- (b) Basel Convention
- (c) TRIPS Agreement
- (d) Abolition of Forced Labor Convention

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) came into force in 1995, as part of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO).
- The TRIPS Agreement introduces additional obligations in areas that were not addressed in these conventions or were thought not to be sufficiently addressed in them.
- The TRIPS Agreement is therefore sometimes described as a "Berne and Paris-plus" Agreement.

7. With respect to the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. ICRISAT is an international organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia & sub-Saharan Africa.
2. It is headquartered in Hyderabad.

3. ICRISAT founded the Smart Food Initiative in 2013.

Options:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a non-profit, non-political organization that conducts agricultural research for development in the drylands of Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
- ICRISAT is headquartered in Hyderabad, Telangana State, in India.
- The Smart Food initiative was founded by the ICRISAT in 2013 with the vision to create a world where food is 'Smart'.

8. Consider the following, with regard to Chauri Chaura Incident:

1. The Incident took place on the arrival of Simon Commission in India.
2. Mahatma Gandhi called off the Civil Disobedience Movement after this incident.

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

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C)

Explanation:

- On the occasion of the centenary of the Chauri Chaura incident, a postage stamp was released by the Prime Minister.
- Chauri Chaura is a town in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- On 4th February, 1922, volunteers congregated in the town, and after the meeting, proceeded in a procession to the local police station, and to picket the nearby Mundera bazaar.
- The police fired into the crowd killing some people and injuring many volunteers.
- In retaliation, the crowd proceeded to set the police station on fire.
- Some of the policemen who tried to escape were caught and battered to death. A lot of police property, including weapons, was destroyed.
- The Indian Statutory Commission, commonly referred to as the Simon Commission after its chairman Sir John Allsebrook Simon, was sent to India in 1928 (February - March and October 1928 - April 1929) to study potential constitutional reform. Hence, statement 1 is not correct. Mahatma Gandhi condemned the crime of the policemen's killing.
- The volunteer groups in nearby villages were disbanded, and a Chauri Chaura

Support Fund was set up to demonstrate "genuine sympathy" and seek atonement.

- Gandhi decided to stop the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22), which he saw as having been tainted by unforgivable violence. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

9. Consider the following, with regard to Pandit Bhimsen Joshi.

1. He was instrumental in organising the Sawai Gandharva Music Festival as homage to his guru, Sawai Gandharva.
2. He was a contemporary of Gangubai Hangal, singer of the khayal genre of Hindustani classical music.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

- Pandit Bhimsen Joshi was one of the greatest Indian vocalists from Karnataka, in the Hindustani classical tradition. He is known for the khayal form of singing, as well as for his popular renditions of devotional music. Joshi belongs to the Kirana gharana tradition of Hindustani Classical Music.
- Joshi was instrumental in organising the Sawai Gandharva Music Festival annually, as homage to his guru, Sawai Gandharva.

- He along with Smt. Gangubai Hangal along with others took Kirana gharana to heights.

10. Countries that are included in the FATF Grey list may face which of the following?

1. Problem in getting loans from other countries.
2. International boycott.
3. Economic sanctions from World Bank

Select the correct Answer Code:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Grey List: Countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.
- Considered in the **Grey List May Face:**
- Economic sanctions from IMF, World Bank, ADB.
- Problem in getting loans from IMF, World Bank, ADB and other countries.
- Reduction in international trade.
- International boycott.

1. Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPoA) sometimes seen in news is the affair related to which of the following country?

- (a) North Korea
- (b) Israel
- (c) Iran
- (d) Pakistan

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The international talks of have resumed in Vienna to revive the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA.
- The talks are held between the remaining partners to the deal — **Iran, China, Russia, Germany, France and the U.K.**
- The talks seek to bring back the United States, after it withdrew from the accord in 2018 under then President Donald Trump and began imposing sanctions on Iran.
- Also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).
- The JCPOA was the result of prolonged negotiations from 2013 and 2015 between Iran and P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union, or the EU).
- Under the deal, Tehran agreed to significantly cut its stores of centrifuges, enriched uranium and heavy-water, all key components for nuclear weapons.

2. Which of the following country is not bordered by Iran?

- (a) Afghanistan
- (b) Turkey
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Syria

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- There are seven countries that Iran shares this long land border with.
- These countries are Iraq, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.
- Of these countries, Turkmenistan shares the longest border with Iran, with the border between the two countries stretching 713 miles.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), 2019:

1. It seeks to give citizenship to refugees from the Hindu, Christian, Buddhist, Sikh and Zoroastrian communities fleeing religious persecution from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, who came to India before 31st December, 2014.
2. Residential requirement for citizenship through naturalization for persons from other countries from the above mentioned is 5 years.
3. The Act applies to all States and Union Territories of the country, except Assam, Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

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

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The Parliament passed the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), 2019 that seeks to give citizenship to refugees from the Hindu, Christian, Buddhist, Sikh and Zoroastrian communities fleeing religious persecution from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, who came to India before 31st December, 2014.
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- Residential requirement for citizenship through naturalization from the above said countries is at least 5 years. **Residential requirement for citizenship through naturalization for others is 11 years. So, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The Act applies to all States and Union Territories** of the country.
- **So, statement 3 is not correct.**
- The beneficiaries of Citizenship Amendment Act can reside in any state of the country.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the National Register of Citizens (NRC):

1. The NRC is an official record of those who are legal Indian citizens that includes demographic information about all those individuals who qualify as citizens of India as per the Citizenship Act, 1955.
2. The register was first prepared after the 1951 Census of India and since then it has not been updated until recently.
3. So far, such a database has only been maintained for the state of Assam.

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: d)

Explanation:

- The NRC is an official record of those who are legal Indian citizens. It includes demographic information about all those individuals who qualify as citizens of India as per the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- The register was first prepared after the 1951 Census of India and since then it has not been updated until recently.
- So far, such a database has only been maintained for the state of Assam.
- ✓ In 2014, the SC ordered the updation of the NRC, in accordance with Citizenship Act,

1955 and Citizenship Rules, 2003 in all parts of Assam.

- ✓ The process officially started in 2015.
- So all the statements are correct.

5. Consider the following, with reference to Dhole:

1. It also known as Asian Wild Dogs are listed Endangered on the IUCN Red list.
2. It is only found in India and Bangladesh.

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:

- Dhole (*Cuon alpinus*) is a wild carnivorous animal and is a member of the family Canidae and the class Mammalia.
- They are also known as Asian wild dogs.
- Historically, dholes purportedly occurred throughout southern Russia, all across central Asia, south Asia and southeast Asia.
- According to recent research and current distribution maps, they are restricted to south and southeast Asia, with the northernmost populations in China.
- They have been discovered in the Bek-Tosot Conservancy in the Osh region of southern Kyrgyzstan, a few kilometres from the Tajik border. It lies in the Pamir

Mountain range of Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

- In India, they are found in three clusters across India namely the Western and Eastern Ghats, central Indian landscape and North East India.
- Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh rank high in the conservation of the endangered dhole in India, according to a study (2020).
- Conservation Status of Dholes:
- IUCN List of Threatened Species: Endangered. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES): Appendix II
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule II

6. In context to Anaemia, consider the following:

1. Anaemia can be caused due to the deficiency of Vitamin A and Vitamin B12.
2. The 6X6X6 strategy is associated with the Anaemia Mukht Bharat plan.

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:

- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), women in the reproductive age group and having haemoglobin levels lower than 12 grams per decilitre (g / dL), as well as children under five with haemoglobin levels lower than 11.0 g / dL are considered anaemic.
 - Iron deficiency is the most common cause of anaemia, although other conditions, such as folate, vitamin B12 and vitamin A deficiencies, chronic inflammation, parasitic infections, and inherited disorders can all cause anaemia.
 - Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - Anaemia Mukh Bharat plan is based on a life cycle approach, providing preventive and curative mechanisms through a 6X6X6 strategy including six target beneficiaries, six interventions and six institutional mechanisms for all stakeholders to implement the strategy.
 - Hence, statement 2 is correct.
7. Consider the following, with regard to National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
1. NSM is steered jointly by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
 2. It is implemented by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

3. The Mission has supported the deployment of supercomputer systems at IISc., and IITs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

- NSM is steered jointly by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and implemented by C-DAC and IISc.
- The Mission has supported the deployment of 10 supercomputer systems so far at IISc., in IITs, IISER Pune, JNCASR, NABI-Mohali and C-DAC, with a cumulative computing power of 17 petaflops.

8. Which of the following articles in the Indian constitution is/are associated with Education?

1. Article 21A
2. Article 27
3. Article 45
4. Article 47

Options:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Article 27- No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes, the proceeds of which are specifically appropriated in payment of expenses for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious Denomination.
- Article 47- Directs the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health as among its primary duties and, in particular, the State shall Endeavour to bring about prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs
- Articles in the Indian constitution associated with education:
 - ✓ **Article 21A:** The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.
 - ✓ **Article 28:** Freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in certain educational institutions
 - ✓ **Article 45:** Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years
 - ✓ **Article 46:** Promotion of educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections. The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the

- ✓ people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation

9. With respect to African Union (AU), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The AU's secretariat, the African Union Commission is based in Abuja, Nigeria
2. The Abuja Treaty led to the creation of the African Union

Options:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both
- (d) None

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The African Union Commission (AUC) is the AU's secretariat and undertakes the day-to-day activities of the Union. It is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- The AU was announced in the Sirte Declaration in Sirte, Libya in 1999, calling for the establishment of the African Union.

10. Which of the following statements about Basai Wetland is/are correct?

1. It located in Gurgaon district in Haryana
2. It is recognized globally as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by the Bird Life International

Options:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both
- (d) None

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Basai wetlands is a 250-acre shallow wetland located close to Gurugram city.
- It is recognised as one of India's Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas and is of Global Conservation significance as it supports populations of several endangered, vulnerable, and threatened bird species. Basai wetlands is recognised globally as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by the BirdLife International.
- It is recognized as a key biodiversity area by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Wildlife Institute of India.

1. Consider the following with regard to ‘Parvatmala’:

1. The aim is to improve connectivity to hilly regions for military troops movement only.
2. Border Road Organization (BRO) is the nodal agency for the 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: d)

Explanation:

- Recently, the Union Finance Minister in the Union Budget for 2022-23 announced National Ropeways Development Programme – “Parvatmala” to improve connectivity in hilly areas.
- The Idea is to improve connectivity and convenience for commuters, besides promoting tourism. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- This may also cover congested urban areas, where conventional mass transit systems are not feasible.
- The scheme is being presently started in regions like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Jammu & Kashmir and the other North Eastern states.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) will have

- responsibility for development of ropeway and alternative mobility solutions technology, as well as construction, research, and policy in this area.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

2. In context to the Green Bonds, consider the following statements:

1. It is a debt instrument with which capital is being raised to fund green projects.
2. Budget 2022 has announced the issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds.

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:

- A green bond is a debt instrument with which capital is being raised to fund ‘green’ projects, which typically include those relating to renewable energy, clean transportation, sustainable water management etc.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- A bond is a fixed income instrument that represents a loan made by an investor to a borrower (typically corporate or Governmental).
- Bonds traditionally paid a fixed interest rate (coupon) to investors.

- ←----->
- Recently, the finance minister in the Budget 2022 announced that the government proposes to issue sovereign green bonds to mobilise resources for green infrastructure.
 - The proceeds will be deployed in public sector projects which help in reducing the carbon intensity of the economy.
 - The announcement is in sync with India's commitment to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.
 - Hence, statement 2 is correct.
3. Consider the following with regard to 'Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary':
1. It is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
 2. It is included in the UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
 3. The Cauvery River flows through the sanctuary.
- 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
- Answer: b)**
- Explanation:**
- Located in Kerala, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
 - It was established in 1973. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the first from India to be included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (designated in 2012). Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - Other wildlife parks within the Reserve are: Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Bandipur National Park, Nagarhole National Park, Mukurthi National Park and Silent Valley.
 - Spread over 344.44 sq km, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is contiguous to the tiger reserves of Nagarhole and Bandipur of Karnataka and Mudumalai of Tamil Nadu. Kabini river (a tributary of the Cauvery River) flows through the sanctuary.
 - Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
 - The forest types include South Indian Moist Deciduous forests, West coast semi-evergreen forests and plantations of teak, eucalyptus and Grewelia. Elephant, Gaur, Tiger, Panther, Sambar, Spotted deer, Wild boar, Sloth bear, Nilgiri langur, Bonnet macaque, Common langur, Malabar giant squirrel etc are the Major Mammals.

4. Which of the following statement(s) regarding Special Marriage Act 1954 is/are correct?

1. It was created to validate and register interreligious and inter-caste marriages in India.
2. People of the same faith can also marry under this act.
3. The act validates the marriage between two consenting adults belonging to different faiths, and there is strict punishment for those who forcibly convert the other partner just for the sake of marriage.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- The Special Marriage Act 1954 is the legislation made to validate and register interreligious and inter-caste marriages in India. It allows two individuals to solemnize their marriage through a civil contract without any religious formalities to be carried out under the Act.
- While considering the age, the male must be at least 21 and the female be 18 at least. This Act includes Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists marriages. This act applies to all Indian states, except Jammu & Kashmir.

- This Act applies not only to Indian citizens who belong to different castes and religions but also to Indian nationals who live abroad. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- People of the same faith can also marry under this act but separate laws for marriage also exist in their respective faith. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- In case all of the conditions under the act are fulfilled, the parties are supposed to give a notice for their marriage to the Marriage Officer in an area.
- The provisions under the Act require parties to an intended marriage to publish their private details for public scrutiny 30 days prior to the intended marriage.
- Anyone who believes that either of the given parties do not fulfill all the required conditions can file an objection against the marriage and the marriage officer can reject the marriage.
- Further the act only validates the marriage of two people belonging to different faiths, but there is no punishment for those who forcibly convert the other partner just for the sake of marriage.
- Hence statement 3 is not correct.

5. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 26 gives Right to Religious Institutions subject to public order, morality and other Fundamental Rights.
2. Religious Institutions have Fundamental Right to own and acquire movable and immovable property.
3. Article 27 lays down that no person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of any particular religion.
4. Religious Institutions recognised by the State are prohibited for religious instructions.

Which of the above statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Article 25 says that all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion. However, these rights are subject to public order, morality, health and other provisions relating to fundamental rights.
- The rights under Article 26 are also subject to public order, morality and health but not subject to other provisions relating to the Fundamental Rights. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.**

- According to Article 26, every religious denomination or any of its section shall have the following rights: (a) Right to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes; (b) Right to manage its own affairs in matters of religion; (c) Right to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and (d) Right to administer such property in accordance with law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Article 27 lays down that no person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination. This provision prohibits only levy of a tax and not a fee. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Article 28 distinguishes between four types of educational institutions: (a) Institutions wholly maintained by the State. (b) Institutions administered by the State but established under any endowment or trust. (c) Institutions recognised by the State. (d) Institutions receiving aid from the State. In (a), religious instruction is completely prohibited while in (b), religious instruction is permitted. In (c) and (d), religious instruction is permitted on a voluntary basis (not prohibited).
- Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the voting rights:

1. The right to cast vote is neither a fundamental right nor a common law right and is only provided by a statute.
2. Under Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, individuals in lawful custody of the police and those serving a sentence of imprisonment after conviction cannot vote.
3. Under trial prisoners are also excluded from participating in elections even if their names are on electoral rolls.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The right to cast vote is neither a fundamental right nor a common law right and is only provided by a statute.
- Under Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, individuals in lawful custody of the police and those serving a sentence of imprisonment after conviction cannot vote.

- Under trial prisoners are also excluded from participating in elections even if their names are on electoral rolls.
- So all three statements are true.
- The right to vote provided under the statute — Representation of the People Act — was subject to restrictions imposed by the law, which does not allow prisoners to cast vote from jails.

7. If the nation is to adopt Common Electoral Roll and Simultaneous election, then which of the articles of the constitution will be amended?

1. Article 83.
2. Article 85.
3. Article 172.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Under the Common Electoral Roll, only one voter list will be used for Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha and other elections.
- There is always a tendency for voters to vote the same party in power in the state and at the Centre in case the Lok Sabha polls and the state elections are held together.

• For simultaneous elections to be implemented, Changes to be made in Constitution and Legislations:

- ✓ Article 83 which deals with the duration of Houses of Parliament need an amendment.
- ✓ Article 85 (on dissolution of Lok Sabha by the president).
- ✓ Article 172 (relating to the duration of state legislatures).

• The Representation of People Act, 1951 Act would have to be amended to build in provisions for stability of tenure for both parliament and assemblies.

• This should include the following crucial elements:

- ✓ Restructuring the powers and functions of the ECI to facilitate procedures required for simultaneous elections
- ✓ A definition of simultaneous election can be added to section 2 of the 1951 act.

8. Along with the Budget, the finance minister also places other documents before the Parliament which include ‘The Macro Economic Framework Statement’.

The aforesaid document

is presented because this is mandated by

(a) Long standing parliamentary convention

(b) Article 112 and Article 110(1) of the Constitution of India

(c) Article 113 of the Constitution of India

(d) Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) became an Act in 2003. The objective of the Act is to ensure inter-generational equity in fiscal management, long-run macroeconomic stability, better coordination between fiscal and monetary policy, and transparency in the fiscal operation of the Government.
- FRBM Act provides a legal institutional framework for fiscal consolidation. The Act also requires the government to lay before the parliament three policy statements in each financial year namely:
 - ✓ Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement;
 - ✓ Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement and
 - ✓ Macroeconomic Framework Policy Statement.

9. Consider the following statements with regards to Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana:

1. PMMVY is a maternity benefit programme being implemented in all districts of the country with effect from 1st January 2017.
2. Cash benefits are provided to pregnant women in their bank account directly to meet enhanced nutritional needs and partially compensate for Wage Loss.

3. It is a centrally sponsored scheme being executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Choose the correct code:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a Maternity Benefit Programme that is implemented in all the districts of the country in accordance with the provision of the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana launched in 2017, provides ₹5,000 for the birth of the first child to partially compensate a woman for the loss of wages. It is combined with another scheme, Janani Suraksha Yojana, under which nearly ₹1,000 is given for an institutional birth. So in total, a woman gets ₹6,000.
- The amount is given in three instalments upon meeting certain conditions. Cash benefits are provided to pregnant women in their bank account directly.
- It is a centrally sponsored scheme being executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

10. Consider the following statements with regards to Anticipatory Bail:

1. It is a direction issued to release a person on Bail even before the person is arrested.
2. It is issued only by the High Court and Supreme Court.
3. An application for anticipatory Bail can be filed in cases of both bailable and non-bailable offences.

Choose the correct code:

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 & 3 only
(d) 2 & 3 only

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Anticipatory bail is a direction to release a person on bail, issued even before the person is arrested. It is only issued by the Sessions Court and High Court.
- An application for anticipatory bail can be filed in cases of non-bailable Offences.

1. Which of the following belongs to the Quad Grouping?

- (a) South Korea, India, United States and Australia
(b) Japan, India, United States and South Korea
(c) Russia, India, United States and Australia
(d) Japan, India, United States and Australia

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The quadrilateral security dialogue includes Japan, India, United States and Australia.
- All four nations find a Common ground of being the Democratic Nations and Common interests of unhindered maritime trade and security.
- The idea was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007. However, the idea couldn't move ahead with Australia pulling out of it.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the National Population Register (NPR):

1. The NPR database would contain demographic as well as biometric details.
2. It is not mandatory for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.
3. As per the provisions of the NPR, a resident identity card will be issued to individuals over the age of 18.

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

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- It is a Register of usual residents of the country.
- It is being prepared at the local (Village/sub-Town), sub-District, District, State and National level under provisions of the Citizenship Act 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.
- It is **mandatory** for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**
- A usual resident is defined for the purposes of NPR as a person who has resided in a local area for the past 6 months or more or a person who intends to reside in that area for the next 6 months or more.
- To create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country.
- The NPR database would contain demographic as well as biometric details. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- As per the provisions of the NPR, a resident identity card (RIC) will be issued to individuals over the age of 18.

- So, statement 3 is correct.
- This will be a chip-embedded smart card containing the demographic and biometric attributes of each individual.
- The UID number will also be printed on the card.

3. Recently students from a Government Educational Institution were not allowed to wear anything that replicates their religion. Here which of the Fundamental Right is violated?

- (a) Article 25
- (b) Article 26
- (c) Article 27
- (d) Article 28

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- **Article 25** says that all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion. However, these rights are subject to public order, morality, health and other provisions relating to fundamental rights.
- The rights under **Article 26** are also subject to public order, morality and health but not subject to other provisions relating to the Fundamental Rights.
- According to Article 26, every religious denomination or any of its section shall have the following rights: (a) Right to establish and maintain institutions for

religious and charitable purposes; (b) Right to manage its own affairs in matters of religion; (c) Right to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and (d) Right to administer such property in accordance with law.

- **Article 27** lays down that no person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination. This provision prohibits only levy of a tax and not a fee.
- **Article 28** distinguishes between four types of educational institutions: (a) Institutions wholly maintained by the State. (b) Institutions administered by the State but established under any endowment or trust. (c) Institutions recognised by the State. (d) Institutions receiving aid from the State. In (a), religious instruction is completely prohibited while in (b), religious instruction is permitted. In (c) and (d), religious instruction is permitted on a voluntary basis (not prohibited).

4. Consider the following statements regarding 'Article 44 of the Indian Constitution':

1. The article states that 'The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India'.

2. It is one of the Economic Social Principle of DPSP in Part IV of the Indian Constitution.
3. Although the Indian constitution was compiled by Dr. BR Ambedkar, it was Pandit Nehru who introduced Article 44 to the constitution which sought to establish India's status as a secular state.

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

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Article 44 states that 'The State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India'. So, statement 1 is correct.
- It is one of the Liberal-Intellectual Principle of DPSP in Part IV of the Indian Constitution.
- So, statement 2 is not correct.
- Although the Indian constitution was compiled by Dr. BR Ambedkar, it was Pandit Nehru who introduced Article 44 to the constitution which sought to establish India's status as a 'secular state'.
- So, statement 3 is correct.

- The minimum age of marriage is distinct from the age of majority, which is gender-neutral.
- ✓ An individual attains the age of majority at 18 as per the Indian Majority Act, 1875.
- ✓ For Hindus, Section 5(iii) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 sets 18 years as the minimum age for the bride and 21 years as the minimum age for the groom. Child marriages are not illegal but can be declared void at the request of the minor in the marriage.
- ✓ In Islam, the marriage of a minor who has attained puberty is considered valid under personal law.
- ✓ The Special Marriage Act, 1954 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 also prescribe 18 and 21 years as the minimum age of consent for marriage for women and men respectively.

5. As per the FRBM Act, the target for Debt to GDP ratio for the central government is:

- (a) 20%
(b) 40%
(c) 60%
(d) 80%

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act was enacted in 2003 which set targets for the government to reduce fiscal deficits.

- ←----->
- The targets were put off several times. In May 2016, the Government set up a committee under NK Singh to review the FRBM Act.
 - The committee recommends that the Centre's debt-to-GDP ratio be reduced from 49.4 per cent in 2016-17 to 40 per cent by 2022-23.
6. Consider the following statements with regards to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act:
1. Foreign funding of persons in India is regulated under the FCRA act and is implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
 2. Under the Act, organisations are required to register themselves every five years.
 3. The Act states that foreign contributions must be received only in an account designated by the bank as FCRA account in such branches of the State Bank of India only.
- Choose the correct code:
- (a) 1 & 2 only
(b) 2 & 3 only
(c) 1 & 3 only
(d) All of the above
7. Consider the following statements with regards to Aadhar:
1. UIDAI is a statutory body working under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
 2. Under the Aadhaar Act, foreigners who have stayed in India for 182 days or more in the 12 months, are eligible to apply for Aadhaar.
 3. During enrolment for Aadhaar, an individual has three options for gender – Male, Female and Transgender.
- Choose the correct code:
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 & 3 only
(d) 2 & 3 only

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Foreign funding of persons in India is regulated under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act and is implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory authority and a government department, established in 2016 by the Government of India under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Electronics

and Information Technology, following the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016.

8. Consider the following with reference to the Central Media Accreditation Guidelines-2022:

1. Accreditation can be suspended if a journalist acts in a manner prejudicial to the country's security, sovereignty and integrity.
2. Accreditation can also be granted to freelance journalists working for foreign news media organisations.

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:

- Recently, the Central government has released the Central Media Accreditation Guidelines-2022.

Provisions to Withdraw/Suspend

Accreditation:

- If a journalist acts in a manner prejudicial to the country's security, sovereignty and integrity, friendly relations with foreign States, public order or is charged with a serious cognizable offence.
- Hence statement 1 is correct.

- If actions are prejudicial to decency, or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.
- Accredited media persons have been prohibited from using the words "Accredited to the government of India" on public/social media profile, visiting cards, letter heads or on any other form or any published work.

Provisions for Granting Accreditation:

- Accreditation is only available for journalists living in the Delhi NCR region. There are multiple categories.
- A journalist needs to have a minimum five years' professional experience as a full-time working journalist or a cameraperson in a news organisations, or a minimum of 15 years as a freelancer to become eligible.
- Veteran journalists, with over 30 years of experience, and who are older than 65 years of age, too are eligible.
- A newspaper or a periodical need to have a minimum daily circulation of 10,000, and news agencies must have at least 100 subscribers. Similar rules apply for foreign news organisations and foreign journalists.
- Journalists working with digital news platforms are also eligible, provided the website has a minimum of 10 lakh unique visitors per month.

- No accreditation will be granted to freelance journalists working for foreign news media organisations. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

9. Which of the following are the consequences that occur during Marine Heatwaves?

1. Coral bleaching
2. Loss of kelp forests
3. Higher risk of ocean acidification

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Marine heatwaves are periods of extremely high temperatures in the ocean.
- These events are linked to coral bleaching, seagrass destruction, and loss of kelp forests, affecting the fisheries sector adversely.
- Study showed that 85% of the corals in the Gulf of Mannar near the Tamil Nadu coast got bleached after the marine heatwave in May 2020. The most common drivers of marine heatwaves include ocean currents which can build up areas of warm water and air-sea heat flux, or warming through the ocean surface from the atmosphere.

Impacts of Marine Heatwaves:

- **Affect Ecosystem Structure:** Marine heat waves affect ecosystem structure, by supporting certain species and suppressing others.
- **Change Habitat Ranges of Certain Species:** Marine heatwaves can change the habitat ranges of certain species, such as the spiny sea urchin off southeastern Australia which has been expanding southward into Tasmania at the expense of kelp forests which it feeds upon.
- **Affect Biodiversity:** Biodiversity can be drastically affected by marine heatwaves.
- **Increase the Risk of Deoxygenation and Acidification:** Often they occur alongside other stressors such as ocean acidification, deoxygenation, and overfishing.
- In such cases, MHWs not only further damage habitats, but also increase the risk of deoxygenation and acidification.
- Hence, option D is correct.

10. Consider the following, with regard to Nai Roshni scheme:

1. It is launched for leadership development of women belonging to minority communities.
2. It aims to preserve the rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts of minorities.

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:

- Nai Roshni-a Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women is a Central Sector Scheme for women belonging to minority communities in the age group of 18 to 65 years. It was started in 2012-13.
- The objective of the scheme is to empower and instill confidence among minority women, including their neighbours from other communities living in the same village/locality, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It is run with the help of NGOs, Civil societies and Government Institutions all over the country.
- The ‘Nai Manzil’ scheme aims to benefit the youth (both men & women) belonging to six notified minority communities of 17-35 years of age, who do not have formal school leaving certificate, i.e., those in the category of school-dropouts or educated in community education institutions like Madrasas.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- Usttad (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development): The scheme aims to preserve the rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts of minorities. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

1. Consider the following statements:

1. A person can be named a Fugitive Economic offender if there is an arrest warrant against him or her for involvement in economic offences involving at least Rs. 100 crore or more and has fled from India to escape Legal Action.
2. The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 seeks to confiscate properties of economic offenders who have left the country to avoid facing criminal prosecution.
3. Offences involving amounts of Rs. 100 crore or more only fall under the purview of this law.

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: d)

Explanation:

- A person can be named an offender under this law if there is an arrest warrant against him or her for committing any offence listed in the schedule of the act and for involvement in economic offences involving at least Rs. 100 crore or more and has fled from India to escape Legal Action.
- Major criteria that have to be satisfied are:
 - ✓ The Person has left the country to avoid facing prosecution.

✓ He refuses to return to India to face prosecution.

- The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 seeks to confiscate properties of economic offenders who have left the country to avoid facing criminal prosecution.
- Offences involving amounts of Rs. 100 crore or more fall under the purview of this law.
- Some of the offences listed in the schedule of the bill are-counterfeiting government stamps or currency, cheque dishonour for insufficiency of funds, money laundering, transactions defrauding creditors etc.
- So all the three statements are correct.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the extradition of a fugitive criminal is governed under the Indian Extradition Act, 1962.
2. The Act only talks about extraditing of persons to India and extradition of persons from India to foreign countries is not mentioned.

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:

What is Extradition?

- It is the formal process of one state surrendering an individual to another state for prosecution or punishment for crimes committed in the requesting country's jurisdiction.
- This is generally enabled through a bilateral or multilateral treaty.
- The legal basis for extradition with countries with which India does not have an Extradition treaty is provided by Section 3 (4) of the Indian Extradition Act, 1962.

About Indian Extradition Act, 1962:

- In India, the extradition of a fugitive criminal is governed under the Indian Extradition Act, 1962. This is for both extraditing of persons to India and from India to foreign countries. The basis of the extradition could be a treaty between India and another country. India has extradition treaties with 39 countries currently.
- Example, underworld don Abu Salem was extradited from Portugal to India to face charges. He, along with his wife, was extradited on the conditions that they would not be given the death penalty in India. This was so because European law prevents extradition to a country where capital punishment is in practice.

3. Consider the following statements:

1. In the case of Machhi Singh v. State of Punjab, the Supreme Court formulated a sentencing framework to be followed for imposing death penalty.
2. According to the Bachan Singh judgment, for a case to be eligible for the death sentence, the aggravating circumstances must outweigh the mitigating circumstances.

Select 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: b)

Explanation:

- In the case of **Bachan Singh (1980)**, the Supreme Court formulated a sentencing framework to be followed for imposing death penalty. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It required the weighing of aggravating and mitigating circumstances relating to both the circumstances of the offence and the offender, to decide whether a person should be sentenced to death or given life imprisonment.
- According to the Bachan Singh judgment, for a case to be eligible for the death

sentence, the aggravating circumstances must outweigh the mitigating circumstances.

- So, statement 2 is correct.
- ‘Collective conscience of society’ as a ground to justify death penalty was first used by the **Supreme Court in the 1983 judgment of Machhi Singh v. State of Punjab**. In that case, the court held that when “collective conscience of society is shocked, it will expect the holders of the judicial power centre to inflict death penalty”.
- It was, however, most famously used by the top court in its 2005 judgment in the Parliament attack case in which it awarded capital punishment to convict, Afzal Guru.
- Collective conscience found its most recent endorsement in the 2017 judgment of the Supreme Court in the December 2012 Delhi gang rape case of Mukesh v. State of NCT of Delhi.

4. Consider the following statements:

1. The rate at which banks buy back the securities they keep with the RBI at a later period is called as Repo Rate.
2. Cash Reserve Ratio corresponds to the percentage of cash each bank has to keep as cash reserve with RBI (in their current accounts) corresponding to the deposits they have.

3. The banks and other financial institutions in India have to keep a fraction of their total net time and demand liabilities in the form of liquid assets to be called as statutory liquidity ratio.

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: d)

Explanation:

- **REPO rate** (now 4%) denotes Re Purchase Option – the rate by which RBI gives loans to other banks. In other words, it is the rate at which banks buy back the securities they keep with the RBI at a later period. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- Bank gives loan to the public at a higher rate, often 1% higher than REPO rate, at a rate known as **Bank Rate** (now 4.25%).
- RBI at times borrows from banks at a rate lower than REPO rate, and that rate is known as **Reverse REPO rate** (now 3.35%).
- **CRR or Cash Reserve Ratio** corresponds to the percentage of cash each bank has to keep as cash reserve with RBI (in their current accounts) corresponding to the deposits they have. For example, say if State Bank of India (SBI) got a total deposit

of Rs. 1 crore with them, they need to keep 3 % of that as cash reserve with RBI (around 3 lakh rupees).

- So, statement 2 is correct.
- The banks and other financial institutions in India have to keep a fraction of their total net time and demand liabilities in the form of liquid assets such as G-secs, precious metals, approved securities etc. The Ratio of these liquid assets to the total demand and time liabilities is called **Statutory Liquidity Ratio** (18%).
- So, statement 3 is correct.

5. Which of the following best defines ‘Khabar Lahariya’?

- (a) Only newspaper in India operated by only Dalit women
- (b) NGO working in the Bundelkhand region, raising issues of Dalit women
- (c) A special provision under RTI, ensuring faster replies to questions submitted by Dalits
- (d) A direct benefit transfer scheme for Dalit women in Madhya Pradesh-

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Khabar Lahariya is an Indian newspaper, published in various rural dialects of Hindi, including Bundeli, Avadhi and Bajjika dialects.
- The newspaper focuses on gender and Education.

- Beginning from the rural villages of Uttar Pradesh, Lahariya profoundly voiced out the issues of their community through a feminist perspective irrespective of class, caste, or religion.
- Khabar Lahariya is India’s only newspaper run by Dalit women.

6. Consider the following statements:

1. Energy by nuclear Fusion promises to be low carbon, but more Dangerous than how Nuclear Energy is now produced.
2. A kilogram of fusion fuel contains about 10 million times as much energy as a kilogram of coal, oil or gas.
3. The ITER is a fusion research mega-project supported by seven members — China, the European Union, India, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the U.S. — and based in the south of France.

Choose the correct code:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 & 3 only
- (d) 2 & 3 only

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Nuclear fusion is considered safer than Nuclear Fission.
- Nuclear fission power plants have the disadvantage of generating unstable nuclei; some of these are radioactive for millions of years. Fusion on the other hand does not

create any long-lived radioactive nuclear waste. A fusion reactor produces helium, which is an inert gas.

- Also, fusion energy production is not based on a chain reaction, as is fission. Plasma must be kept at very high temperatures with the support of external heating systems and confined by an external magnetic field.
- Every shift or change of the working configuration in the reactor causes the cooling of plasma or the loss of its containment; in such a case, the reactor would automatically come to a halt within a few seconds, since the process of energy production is arrested, with no effects taking place on the outside. For this reason, fusion reactors are considered to be inherently safe.

7. INCOIS (Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services) operates under which of the following ministries?

- (a) Ministry of Science & Technology
- (b) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- (c) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
- (d) Ministry of Defence

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is an autonomous organization of the

Government of India, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

- INCOIS is mandated to provide ocean information and advisory services to society, industry, government agencies and the scientific community through sustained ocean observations and through systematic and Focused Research.

8. Consider the following statements :

1. Crop diversification refers to the addition of new crops or cropping systems to agricultural production on a particular farm.
2. Crop Diversification is good for soil and can also provide enhanced crop productivity.

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:

Crop Diversification

- Crop diversification refers to the addition of new crops or cropping systems to agricultural production on a particular farm taking into account the different returns from value-added crops with complementary marketing opportunities. Hence statement 1 is correct.

- Cropping System: It refers to the crops, crop sequences and management techniques used on a particular agricultural field over a period of years.
 - Types: Major cropping systems in India are sequential-cropping, monocropping, intercropping, relay Cropping, mixed-cropping and alley cropping.
 - Many farmers also use the mixed crop-livestock system to increase their standards of living and income.
 - Animal husbandry or Animal Agriculture is the branch of science dealing with the practice of breeding, farming and care of farm animals (livestocks) such as cattle, dogs, sheep and horses by humans for advantages.
 - It refers to livestock raising and selective breeding. It is a branch of agriculture.
 - Crop Diversification is important to provide insect, weed, and disease control, build soil health, and has many other benefits such as enhanced crop productivity, environmental and economic benefits.
 - Hence statement 2 is correct.
 - Planting rotations that involve cover crops can produce a large root system which holds the soil together by producing a new source of fresh organic matter after roots decay.
 - This organic matter provides habitat suitable for earthworms which form tunnels in the soil for large soil pores, subsequently enhancing water infiltration. Organic matter also helps to form new soil aggregates, which is important because it holds the soil together and therefore prevents the risk of soil loss due to erosion during high intensity rainstorm events.
9. Consider the following statements about the 'Accelerate Vigyan' scheme:
1. It is a program of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).
 2. It aims to provide a big push to high-end scientific research and prepare a scientific workforce.
- Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Recently, the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), has invited applications under 'ABHYAAS', a program of 'Accelerate Vigyan' scheme, for summer season.
- SERB is an autonomous body of the Department of Science & Technology

(DST), Union Ministry of Science & Technology. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- ABHYAAS is a program of AV scheme, is an attempt to boost research and development in the country by enabling and grooming potential postgraduate / PhD students by developing dedicated research skills in selected areas / disciplines / fields through its two components — high-end workshops (“KAARYASHALA”) and Training and Skill Internship (“VRITIKA”).
- “Accelerate Vigyan” (AV) strives to provide a big push to high-end scientific research and prepare a scientific workforce, which can venture into research careers and a knowledge-based economy.
- AV aims to expand the research base in the country, with three broad goals — consolidation / aggregation of all scientific training programs, initiating high-end orientation workshops and creating opportunities for training and skill internships.
- Hence, statement 2 is correct.

10. Consider the following:

1. Line of Credit establishes the maximum loan amount the customer can borrow.
2. Recently, India has extended a Line of Credit for fuel imports to Sri Lanka.

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:

Line of Credit:

- It is a credit facility extended by a bank or any other financial institution to a government, business or an individual customer, that enables the customer to draw the maximum loan amount.
- Hence statement 1 is correct.
- The borrower can access funds from the line of credit at any time as long as they do not exceed the maximum amount (or credit limit) set in the agreement and meet any other requirements such as making timely minimum payments.
- Recent Economic Support that India is Providing to Sri Lanka
- Beginning January 2022, India has been providing crucial economic support to the island nation in the grip of a severe dollar crisis that, many fear, might lead to a sovereign default, and a severe shortage of essentials in the import-reliant country.
- The relief extended by India from the beginning of this year totals over USD 1.4 billion—a USD 400 currency swap, a USD 500 loan deferment and a USD 500 Line of Credit for fuel imports.

- Hence statement 2 is correct.
- Sri Lanka is further negotiating a USD 1 billion assistance from India to help the country as it faces an unprecedented economic crisis.



1. Recently, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) were used for the first time to drop explosive devices, triggering blasts inside the Air Force Station's technical area in Jammu. UAV's are used in which of the following purposes?

1. Package Delivery
2. in Agriculture for spraying pesticides
3. Monitoring Environmental Changes
4. Aerial Photography

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Drone is a layman terminology for Unmanned Aircraft (UA). There are three subsets of Unmanned Aircraft- Remotely Piloted Aircraft, Autonomous Aircraft and Model Aircraft.
- Remotely Piloted Aircraft consists of remote pilot station(s), the required command and control links and any other components, as specified in the type design.
- Besides combat use, drones are used for a range of purposes like package delivery, in agriculture (spraying pesticides etc), monitoring environmental changes, aerial photography, and during search and relief operations, among others.

2. With reference to the Drone Rules, 2021, which of the statement(s) given below is/are *not* correct?

1. No Flight Permission required upto 200 feet in green zones and upto 400 feet in the area between 8 and 12 km from the Airport Perimeter.
2. No pilot licence required for micro drones (for non-commercial use), nano drone and for R&D organisations.
3. No restriction on drone operations by foreign-owned Companies registered in India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Digital sky platform shall be developed as a business-friendly single-window online system.
- No flight permission required upto 400 feet in green zones and upto 200 feet in the area between 8 and 12 km from the airport perimeter. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**
- No pilot licence required for micro drones (for non-commercial use), nano drone and for R&D organisations. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

- No restriction on drone operations by foreign-owned companies registered in India. **So, statement 3 is correct.**
- Import of drones and drone components to be regulated by DGFT.
- No security clearance required before any registration or licence issuance.
- No requirement of certificate of airworthiness, unique identification number, prior permission and remote pilot licence for R&D entities.
- Coverage of drones under Drone Rules, 2021 increased from 300 kg to 500 kg. This will cover drone taxis also.
- Issuance of Certificate of Airworthiness delegated to Quality Council of India and certification entities authorised by it.
- Manufacturer may generate their drone's unique identification number on the digital sky platform through the self-certification route.
- Maximum penalty under Drone Rules, 2021 reduced to INR 1 lakh. This shall, however, not apply to penalties in respect of violation of other laws.
- Drone corridors will be developed for cargo deliveries.
- Drone promotion council to be set up to facilitate a business-friendly regulatory regime.

3. Right to Education is enshrined in which of the articles of the Indian Constitution?

1. Article 21A
2. Article 45
3. Article 44
4. Article 47

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002 inserted Article 21-A in the Constitution of India to provide free and compulsory education of all children in the age group of six to fourteen years as a Fundamental Right in such a manner as the State may, by law, determine.
- Article 45 Constitution of India: Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.
- [The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years].

4. Consider the following statements:

1. Minority schools are exempted from implementing The Right to Education policy and do not fall under the government's Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
2. Article 15(5) empowers the country to make reservations with regard to admissions into educational institutions both privately run and those that are aided or not aided by the Government.

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)

- The Supreme Court recently refused to intervene in a petition challenging sections of the Right to Education Act of 2009 which exclude vedic pathsalas, madrasas and institutions imparting religious education from its ambit.
- Article 15(5) empowers the country to make reservations with regard to admissions into educational institutions both privately run and those that are aided or not aided by the government.
- From this rule only the minority run institutions such as the Madarsas are exempted.

- Please note, Minority schools are exempted from implementing The Right to Education policy and do not fall under the government's Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
- **So, both the statements are correct.**

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

1. The One Ocean Summit is organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the World Bank.
2. The agenda of the One Ocean summit is to build international cooperation for anti-piracy.
3. The UNESCO is the custodian of unique ocean places, through 232 marine biosphere reserves and 50 marine World Heritage sites of outstanding universal value.

Options:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- One Ocean Summit is being organised by France, in cooperation with the United Nations and the World Bank.
- The objective of the Summit is to mobilise the international community to take tangible action towards preserving and supporting healthy and sustainable ocean Ecosystems.

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is the UN agency in charge of ocean sciences.
 - Founded in 1960, UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), brings together 150 countries, coordinates Global Programmes such as ocean mapping, ocean health monitoring and tsunami risk prevention, as well as numerous scientific research projects.
 - The agency is also the custodian of unique ocean places, through 232 marine biosphere reserves and 50 marine World Heritage sites of outstanding universal value.
6. Consider the following statements with respect to Madhvacharya:
1. He is the founder of Tattvavada.
 2. The Bhakti movement vocalist Purandara Dasa was a follower of Madhvacharya's philosophy.
 3. His name at birth was Ilaya Perumal.
- Which of the given statements is/are **Incorrect**?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 3 only
 - (c) 1 only
 - (d) None of the above

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Madhvacharya was a Hindu philosopher and the chief proponent of the Dvaita school of Vedanta. Madhva called his philosophy Tattvavāda meaning "arguments from a realist viewpoint". His name at birth was Vasudeva.
 - Purandara Dasa is a prominent composer of Dasa Sahithya, a poetic form of the Madhwa philosophy
 - Ramanuja's Tamil name was Ilaya Perumal.
7. Which of the following is not included in the assets of a commercial bank in India?
- (a) Advances
 - (b) Deposits
 - (c) Investments
 - (d) Money at call and short notice

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- For the banks, the deposits represent the liabilities of the banks as they have to pay interest on it, while loans advanced and investments made by banks represent their Assets as they help the banks Earn Interest.
 - The Deposit is a liability owed by the bank to the Depositor.
8. Consider the following:
1. Volatile Organic Molecules (VOCs) are carbon-containing chemicals released by vehicular emissions only.
 2. The majority of the VOCs are carcinogenic.

3. The VOCs can also trigger the formation of Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Volatile Organic Molecules (VOCs) are carbon-containing chemicals released by petrol and diesel vehicles. They impact air quality and human health.
- However, VOCs can have a natural origin, too.
- Plants emit these chemicals to attract pollinators, defend themselves from pests and predators and adapt to environmental stress. Hence,
- statement 1 is not correct.
- Effect of VOCs on Health: VOCs can irritate the eyes, nose and throat, damage body organs and cause cancer.
- Long-term exposure to VOCs is not good because the majority of the VOCs are carcinogenic (cancer-causing).
- Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- It is also linked to medical conditions such as Asthma and Heart Disease.

- Black carbon is linked to health problems such as respiratory and cardiovascular disease, cancer and congenital disabilities. It also contributes to climate change.
- VOCs can drive the formation of other dangerous pollutants.
- For instance, they react with sunlight and nitrogen dioxide to form ground-level ozone.
- VOCs also trigger the formation of Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}), a pollutant that reaches deep into the lungs, affecting their normal functioning. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- They react in the air to produce secondary organic aerosols, minute particles suspended in the air.
- Human-made VOCs are a cause for concern, yet they don't draw enough attention.
- Benzene, a chemical that induces cancer, is the only VOC included in the National ambient air-quality standards.
- The other pollutants under ambient air-quality standards considered are PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, ozone, ammonia, lead, nickel and benzo(a)pyrene.

9. Consider the following, with regard to Vigyan Jyoti Programme

1. It aims to address the underrepresentation of women in different fields of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).
2. It envisages hand-holding and interventions right from the school level i.e., Class IX and which will continue till the PhD level.

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:

Vigyan Jyoti Programme

- It aims to address the underrepresentation of women in different fields of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the country.
- Hence statement 1 is correct.
- As a first step, the “Vigyan Jyoti” has been introduced in the year 2019-20 at the school level wherein meritorious Girl Students of Class 9-12 are being encouraged to pursue higher education and career in STEM field.
- The Vigyan Jyoti envisaged hand-holding and interventions right from the school level i.e., Class IX and which will continue

- till the PhD level to encourage girls to pursue a career in underrepresented areas of STEM.
- Hence statement 2 is correct.
- The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Education, is the implementation partner of Vigyan Jyoti. NVS has a network of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) in more than 600 districts of India.

10. Consider the following, with regard to Nuclear Fusion

1. Fusion requires the presence of uranium/plutonium for the reaction to take place.
2. Fusion reactions take place in the liquid state of matter.
3. Tritium, an isotope of hydrogen, is produced during nuclear fusion when the fusion neutrons interact with lithium.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Nuclear fusion is defined as the combining of several small nuclei into one large Nucleus with the Subsequent Release of huge Amounts of energy.

- It Is the opposite reaction of fission, where heavy isotopes are split apart.
- Fusion reactions take place in a state of matter called plasma. Plasma is a hot, charged gas made of positive ions and free-moving electrons that has unique properties distinct from solids, liquids and gases. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- At high temperatures, electrons are ripped from atom's nuclei and become a plasma or an ionized state of matter. Plasma is also known as the fourth state of matter.
- **No long-lived Radioactive Waste:** nuclear fusion reactors produce no high activity, long-lived nuclear waste.
- Limited risk of proliferation: Fusion doesn't employ fissile materials like uranium and plutonium (Radioactive tritium is neither a fissile nor a fissionable material). Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- **No Risk of Meltdown:** It is difficult enough to reach and maintain the precise conditions necessary for fusion—if any disturbance occurs, the plasma cools within seconds and the reaction stops.

Advantages of Nuclear Fusion:

- Abundant energy: Fusing atoms together in a controlled way releases nearly four million times more energy than a chemical reaction such as the burning of coal, oil or gas and four times as much as nuclear fission reactions (at equal mass).
- **Sustainability:** Fusion fuels are widely available and nearly inexhaustible. Deuterium can be distilled from all forms of water, while tritium will be produced during the fusion reaction as fusion neutrons interact with lithium.
- Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- **No CO₂:** Fusion doesn't emit harmful toxins like carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere.
- Its major by-product is helium: an inert, non-toxic gas.

1. Chardham Project was sometimes seen in News. Which of the following places constitute the same?

1. Kedarnath
2. Badrinath
3. Yamunotri
4. Gangotri
5. Kasi

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- It is a programme taken up by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for connectivity improvement for Chardham (**Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri and Gangotri**) in Uttarakhand and part of the route leading to Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.
- The cost of the project is around Rs. 12,000 Crore.
- It envisages improvement as well as development of 889 km length of national highways.
- Implementing Agencies are Uttarakhand State Public Works Department (PWD), BRO and the National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL).

2. With respect to the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Model, Consider the Following Statements:

1. Under this model, the cost borne by the Government and the private player is 50:50.
2. Government invites bids for engineering Knowledge from the private players and the Procurement of raw materials and Construction costs are met by the Government.

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:

- Under this model, the cost is completely borne by the Government.
- **So, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Government invites bids for engineering knowledge from the private players. Procurement of raw materials and Construction costs are met by the Government.
- **So, statement 2 is correct.**

3. Which of the following countries are included in the Six Party Talks?

1. US
2. UK
3. Russia
4. France
5. Germany

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) All the above
(b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) None of the above

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The Six-Party Talks between North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China, Russia, and the United States began in 2003 with the goal of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. However, these talks have been suspended since April 2009.

4. Cauvery River was recently seen in news. Which of the following are the tributaries of the Cauvery River?

1. Amravati
2. Bhavani
3. Hemavati
4. Kabini

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) All the above

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Cauvery is a sacred river of southern India. It rises in the Brahmagiri range of the Western Ghats and falls in the Bay of Bengal south of Cuddalore, in Tamil Nadu.
- It forms the sacred islands of Srirangapatna and Shivanasamudra and Shivanasamudra falls and also a wide delta.
- Total Length of the river is about 760 km.
- Its main tributaries are Amravati, Bhavani, Hemavati, Kabini, Shimsha, and Lakshmana Tirtha.
- Its basin drains parts of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

5. River Sal flows through the state of

- (a) Sikkim
(b) Manipur
(c) Goa
(d) Tripura

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Sal is an important river of South Goa.
- It rises near Verna and flows for 35 km parallel to the coast where it meets the sea at Betul.

6. With respect to Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is calculated and published by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) every Three Months.
2. The CSO has revised the base year of the IIP from 2012 to 2016.

Options:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both
- (d) None

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index that indicates the performance of various industrial sectors of the Indian Economy.
- It is calculated and published by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) every Month.
- The previous base year was 2004 – 05. The new and current base year for IIP is 2011 – 12.

7. Which amongst the following statements is the best description of Exercise Milan?

- (a) Naval exercise in the Indo-Pacific region by India, Japan and USA
- (b) India, Thailand and Singapore annual Trilateral Exercise
- (c) Naval exercise between India and Oman

(d) Multilateral naval exercise hosted by the Indian Navy

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- ‘Milan’ is a biennial multilateral naval Exercise hosted by the Indian Navy.
- It will see the participation of all major Navies including Quad countries, Russia and from West Asia amid tensions in Ukraine and developments in West Asia.

8. Consider the following, with regard to Cess :

1. It is a form of tax levied over and above the base Tax Liability of a taxpayer.
2. It is a Permanent Source of revenue for the 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:

- Cess is a form of tax levied over and above the base tax liability of a taxpayer. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Cess is resorted to only when there is a need to meet the particular expenditure for public welfare.
- Cess is not a permanent source of revenue for the government, and it is discontinued

when the purpose of levying it is fulfilled.
Hence statement 2 is not correct.

- It can be levied on both Indirect and direct taxes.

9. Consider the following with regard to ‘One Ocean Summit’:

1. The summit was organised by France in cooperation with the United Nations and the World Bank.
2. A high ambition coalition on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) has been launched at the One Ocean Summit, 2022.

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:

- The One Ocean Summit was organised by France in Brest, France in cooperation with the United Nations and the World Bank. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The goal of the One Ocean Summit is to raise the collective level of ambition of the international community on marine issues.
- Commitments will be made towards combating illegal fishing, decarbonising shipping and reducing plastic pollution.

- Will also focus on efforts to improve governance of the high seas and coordinating international scientific research.
- A high ambition coalition on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) has been launched at the One Ocean Summit, on 11th of February 2022. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The coalition gathers parties which are committed, at the highest political level, to achieve an ambitious outcome of the ongoing negotiations on a Treaty of the High Seas (“the implementing agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction”), under the auspices of the United Nations.
- The “BBNJ Treaty”, also known as the “Treaty of the High Seas”, is an international agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine
- Biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, currently under negotiation at the United Nations.
- This new instrument is being developed within the framework of the United Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the main international agreement governing human activities at sea.

- It will achieve a more holistic management of high seas activities, which should better balance the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

10. In context to Judicial Appointments, consider the following:

1. In practice, the appointment of the Chief Justice of India is done strictly on the basis of seniority.
2. For the appointment of the Supreme Court Judges, the Collegium does not send the recommendations directly to the Prime Minister to advise the President 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

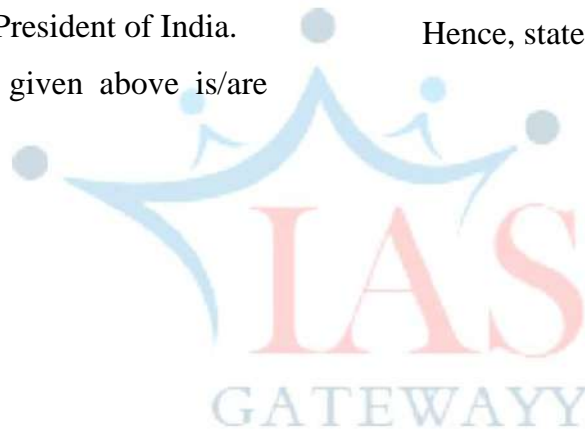
Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Procedures for Judicial Appointments
- For Chief Justice of India (CJI):
- The President of India appoints the CJI and the other SC judges.
- As far as the CJI is concerned, the outgoing CJI recommends his successor.
- In practice, it has been strictly by seniority ever since the supersession controversy of the 1970s.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.

For SC Judges:

- For other judges of the SC, the proposal is initiated by the CJI.
- The CJI consults the rest of the Collegium members, as well as the senior-most judge of the court hailing from the High Court to which the recommended person belongs.
- The consultees must record their opinions in writing and it should form part of the file.
- The Collegium sends the recommendation to the Law Minister, who forwards it to the Prime Minister to advise the President. Hence, statement 2 is correct.



1. Consider the following statements:

1. Not giving the Quota Benefits cannot be construed as a violation of any constitutional right.
2. Reservation of seats to certain communities was not a Fundamental Right.

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:

- The Supreme Court has said that reservation of seats to certain communities was not a Fundamental Right.
- **So statement 2 is correct.**
- The Court said this while refusing to act on a petition filed by all political parties from Tamil Nadu who sought 50% OBC reservation in the all-India NEET seats surrendered by states.
- All political parties from Tamil Nadu filed a writ petition under Article 32 of the Constitution.
- They accused the Centre of violating the “right of the people of Tamil Nadu to have a fair education” by not implementing the 50% quota for Backward Classes and

- Most Backward Classes for the All-India Quota seats in medical and dental science courses. Reservation is not a fundamental right”.
- Hence, Article 32 could not be applied.
- Therefore, not giving the quota benefits cannot be construed as a violation of any constitutional right.
- **So statement 1 is correct.**
- In February 2020, the Supreme Court ruled that there is no fundamental right to claim reservation in public jobs and no court can order a State Government to provide for Reservation to SC/STs.

2. Which of the statement(s) given below is/are correct regarding the appointment of the Chief Justice High Court?

1. High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the CJI and two senior-most judges.
2. The proposal, however, is initiated by the outgoing Chief Justice of the High Court concerned in consultation with two senior-most colleagues.
3. The recommendation is sent to the Chief Minister, who advises the Governor to send the proposal to the Union Law Minister.

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: d)

Explanation:

- The Chief Justice of High Court is appointed as per the policy of having Chief Justices from outside the respective States.
 - The Collegium takes the call on the elevation.
 - High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the CJI and two senior-most judges.
 - The proposal, however, is initiated by the outgoing Chief Justice of the High Court concerned in consultation with two senior-most colleagues.
 - The recommendation is sent to the Chief Minister, who advises the Governor to send the proposal to the Union Law Minister.
 - **So, all the three statements are correct.**
3. Which of the following are the conditions to be included in the reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)?
1. Annual household income below Rs 8 lakh.
 2. Agriculture land below 5 acres.
 3. Residential house below 1000 sqft.

4. Residential plot below 100 yards in Notified Municipality.
5. Residential plot below 200 yards in non-Notified Municipality Area.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- All the above are the conditions are the requirements for the reservation in EWS.
4. Section 69A of IT Act, 2000 deals with which of the following?
- (a) The punishment for sending “offensive” messages through a computer or any other communication device like a mobile phone or a tablet.
- (b) Blocking the content on online platforms in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India.
- (c) Trying to hack into the data stored in the computer
- (d) Provision of penalties for breach of privacy

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Blocking the content on online platforms in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India – **Section 69A.**

- The punishment for sending “offensive” messages through a computer or any other communication device like a mobile phone or a tablet – **Section 66 A.**
- Trying to hack into the data stored in the computer – **Section 66.**
- Provision of penalties for breach of privacy – **Section 66 E.**

5. With reference to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), consider the following statements:

1. It is compiled and published monthly by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
2. It measures the growth rate of only broad sectors such as Mining, Manufacturing, and Electricity.
3. IIP is significant because it is used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for policy-Making Purposes.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

Index of Industrial Production (IIP):

- IIP is an indicator that measures the changes in the volume of production of industrial products during a given period.

- It is compiled and published monthly by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It Is a composite indicator that measures the growth rate of industry groups classified under:
 - Broad sectors, namely, Mining, Manufacturing, and Electricity.
 - Use-based sectors, namely Basic Goods, Capital Goods, and Intermediate Goods.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Base Year for IIP is 2011-2012.
- IIP is used by government agencies including the Ministry of Finance, the Reserve Bank of India, etc, for policy-making purposes.
- Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- IIP remains Extremely relevant for the calculation of the quarterly and advance GDP (Gross Domestic Product) Estimates.

6. Consider the following statements with reference to Maharaja Surajmal:

1. He was described as the Plato of the Jat people because of his political sense, steady intellect and clear vision.
2. He played a key role in the Third Battle of Panipat.

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:

Maharaja Surajmal:

- He ruled in the 18th century and was the son of the Jat chieftain Badan Singh.
- He was a great leader, a great fighter, a great diplomat and a great statesman of his time.
- He was described as “the Plato of the Jat people” and by a modern writer as the “Jat Odysseus”, because of his political sense, steady intellect and clear vision. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- He united various factions of Hindus and Muslims and kept them together.
- He took care of the historical monuments built by the kings of other religions and employed people according to their abilities in higher posts, irrespective of their races.
- He believed that humanity is the only religion of man.
- He visualised “India as one nation” and devoted his life in forging national integration.
- Maharaja Surajmal considered farmers as the most important section of the society and had a lot of respect for them.

- He personally identified the problems of the farmers and introduced reforms to rectify them.
- Some institutions that have been named after him include the Maharaja Surajmal Institute of Technology and Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, Bharatpur.
- It is believed that the Maharaja died in battle in December of 1763 beside the Hindon river, after being ambushed by the army of Mughal chief Najib-ad-Dawlah.
- The Third Battle of Panipat was fought between the Marathas and the invading armies of Afghan general Ahmed Shah Abdali in 1761.
- Maharaja Surajmal was among those who played key roles in the battle. Hence statement 2 is correct.

7. Consider the following:

1. Fortification is the addition of key vitamins and minerals to staple foods to improve their Nutritional Content.
2. The Government has approved the distribution of fortified rice through a public Distribution system throughout the country.
3. The fortification of rice & its distribution under public distribution system is a Central Sector Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are Incorrect?

- (a) 1 only

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Fortification is the addition of key vitamins and minerals such as iron, iodine, zinc, Vitamin A & D to staple foods such as rice, milk and salt to improve their nutritional content.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- These nutrients may or may not have been originally present in the food before processing.
- The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has approved the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on
- “Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System” for a period of 3 years beginning in 2019-20 with total outlay of Rs. 174.64 Cr. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

Objectives the Scheme:

- Distribution of Fortified Rice through Public Distribution System, to cater 15 Districts in the country – preferably one district per State in the initial phase of Implementation. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. Coverage of NFSA (National Food Security Act) beneficiaries under PDS with Fortified Rice in the selected Districts.

- Facilitate cross learning and sharing of best practices among States/UTs and DoF & PD (Department of Food and Public Distribution).
- To evaluate the provision, coverage and Utilization of Fortified Rice by the target
- population as well as the efficiency/effectiveness of the consumption of fortified rice in reducing the targeted micronutrient deficiencies in different age and gender groups.

8. TOR or The Onion Router is often Associated with -

- (a) Cryptocurrencies
(b) 5G Networks
(c) Darknet
(d) Internet of Things (IoT)

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The Darknet is the hidden collective of internet sites only accessible by a specialized web browser.
- It is used for keeping internet activity Anonymous and private, which can be Helpful in both legal and illegal Applications.
- While some use it to evade Government censorship, it has also been known to be utilized for highly illegal activity.
- TOR (“The Onion Router” project) Network browser provides users access to

visit websites with the “onion” registry operator.

- This browser is a service originally developed in the latter part of the 1990s by the United States Naval Research Laboratory.

9. Under Article 12 of the Indian Constitution, the ‘state’ comprises -

1. Government of India
2. Parliament of India
3. State Government
4. State Legislature
5. Local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India.

Options:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- As per Article 12 of the Indian constitution, the “State” includes
- ✓ The Government and Parliament of India
- ✓ The Government and the Legislature of each of the States
- ✓ All local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India

10. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. SMILE scheme (Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) is set to provide welfare and rehabilitation for unemployed youth, widows & the Disabled.
2. It is a Central Sector scheme.
3. It has been launched by the Ministry for Social Justice & Empowerment.

Options:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- SMILE stands for Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise.
- It to provide welfare and rehabilitation to the transgender Community and the people engaged in the act of Begging.
- It is a Central Sector scheme which focuses on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counseling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages etc.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated SMILE.

1. With reference to the Socially Educational and Backward Class (SEBC), which of the statement(s) given below is/are **not** correct?

1. The President alone is empowered to identify SEBCs and include them in a list to be published under Article 342A (1) of the Constitution.
2. The States could only make suggestions to the President or the statutory commissions concerned for inclusion, exclusion or modification of castes and communities to be included in the List.
3. Once published, under Article 342A (1), the list can only be amended through a law Enacted by Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Parliament recently passed a constitutional amendment aimed at restoring the rights of the States and the Union Territories to maintain their own list of socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs), commonly known as Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
- The Bill seeks to restore the **power of State governments to identify Other**

Backward Classes that are socially and Economically Backward.

- So, statements 1 and 2 is not correct.
- Please note that In May 2021, the Supreme Court, in an order, had empowered only the Central government for such identification. The Bill amends this to provide that the President may notify the list of socially and educationally backward classes only for purposes of the central government.
- This central list will be prepared and maintained by the central government. The Bill enables states and union territories to prepare their own list of socially and educationally backward classes. **So, statement 3 is not correct.**
- This list must be made by law, and may differ from the central list.
- Article 338B of the Constitution mandates the central and state governments to consult the NCBC on all major policy matters affecting the socially and educationally backward classes.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Uttar Pradesh was the first state to pass a law against lynching in the state.
2. Rajasthan, Manipur, West Bengal and Jharkhand are the only states to pass law against Mob Lynching.
3. The Supreme Court has given guideline to the State Governments to prepare a

lynching/mob violence victim
Compensation Scheme.

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:

- Manipur was the first state to pass a law against lynching in the state.
- So, statement 1 is not correct.
- Rajasthan, Manipur, West Bengal and Jharkhand are the only states to pass law against Mob Lynching.
- So, statement 2 is correct.
- The Supreme Court has given guideline to the State governments to prepare a lynching/mob violence victim compensation scheme.
- So, statement 3 is correct.

3. 'Minsk Agreement, was sometimes seen in news is related to

- (a) China and Hong Kong
- (b) Israel and Palestine
- (c) European Union and The Great Britain
- (d) Russia and Ukraine

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- **Minsk I: Ukraine and the Russian-backed separatists agreed a 12-point**

ceasefire deal in the capital of Belarus in September 2014.

✓ Its provisions included prisoner exchanges, deliveries of humanitarian aid and the withdrawal of heavy weapons.

✓ The agreement quickly broke down, with violations by both sides.

- **Minsk II:** In 2015, an open conflict was averted after the 'Minsk II' peace agreement was signed, under the mediation of France and Germany.

✓ It was designed to end the fighting in the rebel regions and hand over the border to Ukraine's national troops.

4. Which of the following country is not bordered by Ukraine?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Poland
- (c) Slovakia
- (d) Latvia

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Ukraine borders with seven countries: Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Moldova, Russia, and Belarus.



5. Consider the following, with regard to Lassa Fever:

1. It was first discovered in Nigeria.
2. The death rate Associated with this disease is very low, around 1%.
3. Ribavirin is an antiviral drug that is effective in the Treatment of this Disease.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- The Lassa fever-causing virus is found in West Africa and was first discovered in 1969 in Lassa, Nigeria.
- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The fever is spread by rats and is primarily found in countries in West Africa including Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, and Nigeria where it is endemic.
- Matomys rats has the potential to spread the deadly Lassa virus.
- The death rate associated with this disease is low, at around 1%. But the death rate is higher for certain individuals, such as pregnant women in their third trimester. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- According to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, about

80% of the cases are asymptomatic and therefore remain undiagnosed.

Symptoms:

- Mild symptoms include slight fever, fatigue, weakness and headache.
- Serious symptoms include bleeding, difficulty breathing, vomiting, facial swelling, pain in the chest, back, and abdomen and shock.
- Death can occur from two weeks of the onset of symptoms, usually as a result of multi-organ failure.
- Treatment: The antiviral drug ribavirin seems to be an effective treatment for Lassa fever if given early on in the course of clinical illness.
- Hence, statement 3 is correct.

6. In context of the Earth Observation Satellites, consider the following statements:

1. These can be deployed only in Geosynchronous orbit.
2. RISAT-1, Megha-Tropiques, SARAL are some examples of it.

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:

- Earth observation satellites are the satellites equipped with remote sensing technology. Earth observation is the gathering of information about Earth's Physical, Chemical and biological systems.
- Many Earth Observation satellites have been employed on sun-synchronous orbit.
- Hence, statement 1 is NOT correct.
- Other earth observation satellites launched by ISRO include RESOURCESAT- 2, 2A, CARTOSAT-1, 2, 2A, 2B, RISAT-1 and 2, OCEANSAT-2, Megha-Tropiques, SARAL and SCATSAT-1, INSAT-3DR, 3D, etc.
- Hence, statement 2 is correct.

7. Consider the following, with regard to Medaram Jatara

1. It the second-largest fair of India.
2. It is a State Festival of Telangana.
3. It is celebrated by the Koya tribe.

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

Medaram Jathara:

- Medaram Jatara is the second-largest fair of India, after the Kumbh Mela. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- It is celebrated by the second-largest Tribal Community of Telangana- the Koya tribe for four days. Hence statement 3 is correct.
- Medaram Jatara is also known as Sammakka Saralamma Jatara.
- It is a tribal festival honoring the fight of a mother and daughter, Sammakka and Saralamma, with the reigning rulers against an unjust law.
- It is celebrated in the state of Telangana. The Jatra begins at Medaram in Tadvai Mandal in Warangal district.
- Medaram is a remote place in the Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary, a part of Dandakaranya, the largest surviving forest belt in the region.
- It is celebrated once in two years in the month of "Magha" (February) on the full moon day.
- People offer bangaram/gold (jaggery) of a quantity equal to their weight to the goddesses and take holy bath in Jampanna Vagu, a tributary to River Godavari.
- It was declared a State Festival in 1996. Currently it is a State Festival of Telangana. Hence statement 2 is correct.

8. Consider the following statements:

1. The fort at Masulipatnam was built by the French
2. Chandannagar was the first trading post on the eastern bank of the Hooghly, set up by the Dutch
3. During the British Raj, Darjeeling's temperate climate led to its development as a hill station for British residents

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- In the seventeenth century Masulipatnam was built by the Dutch.
- Chandannagar was established as a French colony in 1673. It was a trading post on the right bank of the river Hooghly.
- During the British Raj, Darjeeling's temperate climate led to its development as a hill station for British residents.

9. Which amongst the following statements is the best description of The Egmont Group?

- (a) The primary purpose of the group is to help countries develop their national anti money laundering systems.
- (b) It is a group that promotes and protects intellectual property

(c) It seeks to protect and conserve the world's oceans and marine wildlife

(d) It is a group of nuclear supplier countries that seeks to contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Egmont Group's primary purpose is to help countries develop their national anti-Money Laundering Systems.
- Egmont Group's FIU information are businesses that are obliged to collect, analyze, and forward financial information regarding money laundering and terrorist financing to the relevant departments.

10. Modified Elephant recently seen in news is a/an

- (a) Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) group that has been targeting activists, journalists, lawyers and others in India
- (b) Adult-size humanoid that is reportedly capable of face and object detection, speech recognition and generation
- (c) GPS collar that helps scientists track the animal movements in real time once they are released into their new habitat
- (d) Remote Access Trojan (RAT) focused on password stealing, keylogging and remote-control capabilities.

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- An advanced persistent threat (APT) group dubbed ModifiedElephant has been responsible for widespread attacks targeting human rights activists and defenders, academics, journalists, and lawyers across India.



1. Consider the following statements:

1. Phishing is the method of trying to gather personal information using deceptive e-mails and websites.
2. Malware is a type of malicious software designed to block access to a computer system until a sum of money is paid.
3. A spyware can access the data usage pattern of the device, gains access to photos and videos as well as other personal information of the user, and then passes it off to a central server.

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

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- Phishing is the method of trying to gather personal information using deceptive e-mails and websites.
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- Malicious software or malware can be described as unwanted software that is installed in your system without your consent.
- Ransomware is a type of malicious software designed to block access to a computer system until a sum of money is paid.

- **So, statement 2 is not correct.**

- A spyware app accesses the data usage pattern of the device, gains access to photos and videos as well as other personal information of the user, and then passes it off to a central server.

- **So, statement 3 is correct.**

2. 'ModifiedElephant', recently seen in news refers to

- (a) A portal developed by MoEFCC to track movement of Elephants
- (b) An automated Elephant used to ward away wild Elephants from farm lands
- (c) A hacking group that plants incriminating evidence on the personal devices
- (d) A bitcoin introduced by China

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- It was recently found by an American Agency that ModifiedElephant, a hacking group, had allegedly planted incriminating evidence on the personal devices of Indian journalists, human rights activists, human rights defenders, academics and lawyers.
- ModifiedElephant operators have been infecting their targets using spearphishing emails with malicious file attachments.
- Spearphishing refers to the practice of sending emails to targets that look like they are coming from a trusted source to either reveal important information or

install different kinds of malware on their computer systems.

- Through mail, the group delivers malware to their targets.
- NetWire and DarkComet, two publicly-available remote access trojans (RATs), were the primary malware families deployed by ModifiedElephant.
- It also sent android malware to its victims.

3. Consider the following statements:

(a) Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations.

(b) The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations and the European Union.

(c) Permanent Secretariat is in Tehran, Iran.

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

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- It is an international organization founded in 1969, consisting of 57 member states.
- It is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations.
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- The organisation states that it is “the collective voice of the Muslim world” and

works to “safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony “.

- The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations and the European Union.
So, statement 2 is correct.
- Permanent Secretariat is in **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.**
- **So, statement 3 is not correct.**

4. Consider the following statements regarding the Model Code of Conduct:

1. The code comes into force on the announcement of the poll schedule and remains operational till the end of the voting day.
2. However, it is not statutory, Political Parties, Candidates and Polling Agents are expected to observe the norms strictly.
3. The cVIGIL App provides time-stamped, evidence-based proof of the Model Code of Conduct having live photo or video with auto location data.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *not* correct?

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The MCC is a set of **guidelines issued by the Election Commission (EC)** to regulate political parties and candidates prior to elections. Basically, the code spells out the **do's and don'ts for elections**.
 - This is in keeping with **Article 324 of the Constitution**, which mandates EC to conduct free and fair elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures.
 - It is **not statutory** but Political Parties, Candidates and Polling Agents are expected to observe the norms, on matters ranging from the content of election manifestos, speeches and processions, to general conduct etc.
 - The code **comes into force on the announcement of the poll schedule and remains operational till the whole election process is concluded**. So, statement 1 is **incorrect**.
 - The EC has devised several mechanisms to take note of the violation of the code, which include joint task forces of enforcement agencies and flying squads.
 - The latest is the introduction of the **cVIGIL** mobile app through which audio-visual evidence of malpractices can be reported.
- The cVIGIL App provides time-stamped, evidence-based proof of the Model Code of Conduct / Expenditure Violation, having live photo/video with auto location data.
 - Any citizen can lodge a complaint through the Mobile App. Flying Squads will then investigate the matter and the Returning Officer takes the decision.
 - The status of cVIGIL can be shared with the cVIGIL complainant within a specified time limit.
 - The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential and will be provided with Unique ID to track and receive the follow up updates on the mobile.
 - The app also has inbuilt features to prevent its misuse.
 - It will be **active only in States where elections have been announced**.

5. Consider the following, with reference to Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009:

1. It aims to provide primary education to all children aged 6 to 14 years.
2. It mandates 25% reservation for disadvantaged sections of the society.

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:

- Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009
 - It aims to provide primary education to all children aged 6 to 14 years. It enforces Education as a Fundamental Right (Article 21). Hence statement 1 is correct.
 - The act mandates 25% reservation for disadvantaged sections of the society where disadvantaged groups include:
 - SCs and STs
 - Socially Backward Class
 - Differently abled. Hence statement 2 is correct.
 - It also makes provisions for a non-admitted child to be admitted to an age-Appropriate Class.
 - It also states that sharing of financial and other responsibilities between the Central and State Governments.
 - It lays down the norms and standards related to:
 - Pupil Teacher Ratios (PTRs)
 - Buildings and Infrastructure
 - School-working days
 - Teacher-working hours.
6. Consider the following, with reference to Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana Scheme:
1. It provides a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of all food & Oilseed Crops.

2. It prescribes a premium of 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi Crops.

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:

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
- Launched in 2016 and is being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS).
- **Aim:** To provide a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crop thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers.
- **Scope:** All food & oilseed crops and annual commercial/horticultural crops for which past yield data is available. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- **Premium:** The prescribed premium is 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all rabi crops. In the case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium is 5%. Hence statement 2 is correct.

- Premium cost over and above the farmer share was equally subsidised by States and GoI.
 - However, GoI shared 90% of the premium subsidy for North Eastern States to promote the uptake in the region.
 - Implementation: By empanelled general insurance companies. The selection of the Implementing Agency (IA) is done by the concerned State Government through bidding.
 - **Revamped PMFBY:** The revamped PMFBY is often called PMFBY 2.0, it has the following features:
 - **Completely Voluntary:** Enrolment 100% voluntary for all farmers from 2020 Kharif.
 - Earlier, it was compulsory for loanee farmers availing Crop Loan/Kisan Credit Card (KCC) account for notified crops.
 - **Limit to Central Subsidy:** The Centre has decided to limit the PMFBY premium rates – against which it would bear 50% of the subsidy – to a maximum of 30% in un-irrigated and 25% in irrigated areas.
 - **More Flexibility to States:** The government has given the flexibility to states/UTs to implement PMFBY and given them the option to select any number of additional risk covers/features.
 - **Investing in ICE Activities:** Insurance companies have to now spend 0.5% of the total premium collected on Information, Education And Communication (IEC) activities.
7. Consider the following, with regard to Epilepsy disorder:
1. It is a central nervous system (neurological) disorder.
 2. It affects only male adult population.
- 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:

- Epilepsy is a central nervous system (neurological) disorder in which brain activity becomes abnormal, causing seizures or periods of unusual behaviour, sensations, and sometimes loss of awareness. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Epilepsy is the fourth most common neurological disorder and affects people of all ages.
- Anyone can develop epilepsy, but it's more common in young children and older adults. It occurs slightly more in males than in females. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

Symptoms:

- Alterations to sense of taste, smell, sight, hearing, or touch, dizziness, tingling and twitching of limbs, Staring blankly, unresponsiveness, performing repetitive movements.
- It may or may not Involve loss of awareness or consciousness.

Cure:

- There's no cure for epilepsy, but the disorder can be managed with medications and other strategies.

8. The festival of Medaram Jatara is celebrated in the State/Union Territory of
- (a) Telangana
(b) Kerala
(c) Tamil Nadu
(d) Puducherry

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- Medaram Jathara is a festival of tribal origin in Telangana held every two years at Medaram Village of Tadvai Mandal.
- This Jathara has been declared as a State Festival in 1998.
- It commemorates the fight of a mother and daughter, Sammakka and Saralamma, with the reigning rulers against an unjust law.
- It is believed that after Kumbh Mela, the Medaram Jathara attracts the largest number of devotees in the country.

- Medaram is a remote place in the Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary, a part of Dandakaranya, the largest surviving forest belt in the Mulugu.
- It is a festival with no Vedic or Brahmanic influence.

9. With reference to Lassa fever, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Lassa virus is named after a town in Malaysia where the first case was Discovered.
2. The fever is spread by Bats.
3. Human-to-human transmission is possible.

Options:

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

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Lassa fever is caused by a virus that is found in West Africa. It was first discovered in 1969 in Lassa. So it is called Lassa fever.
- It is an animal-borne, or zoonotic, acute viral illness.
- Lassa fever is caused by infection with the Lassa virus. The virus is spread by a rat that lives in large numbers in west, central, and east Africa.
- The Lassa virus is transmitted to humans via contact with food or household items

contaminated with rodent urine or faeces. Person-to-person infections and laboratory transmission can also occur, particularly in hospitals lacking adequate infection prevention and control measures.

10. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?

1. When a state gives general consent to the CBI for probing a case, the agency is not required to seek fresh Permission every Time it enters that state in Connection with Investigation.
2. Withdrawal of consent, if any, by a State Government can be effected prospectively and retrospectively.

Options:

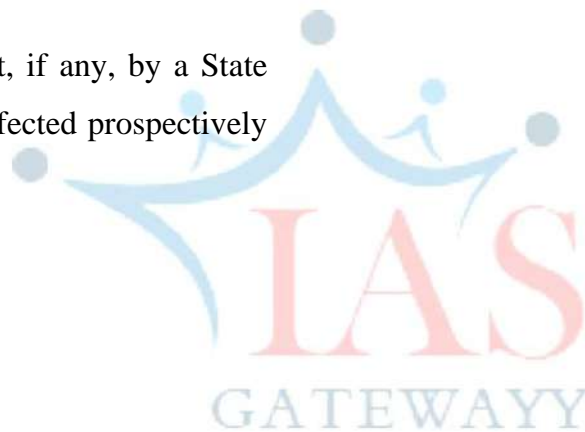
- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both
- (d) None

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The CBI is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (DSPEA) which makes the CBI a special wing of Delhi Police and thus its original jurisdiction is limited to Delhi.
- For other matters, the CBI needs the consent of the state government in whose territorial jurisdiction, the CBI has to conduct an investigation.

- When a state gives general consent to the CBI for probing a case, the agency is not required to seek fresh permission every time it enters that state in connection with investigation or for every case.
- Withdrawal of consent, if any, by a State Government can be effected prospectively and not retrospectively. Further, in the cases which are referred by the Constitutional Courts, the entry of CBI cannot be denied by that State as these do not require the consent of the State.



1. In the context to the Eastern and Western Ghats, consider the following statements:

1. While the Western Ghats passes through six states, the Eastern Ghats passes through only four states.
2. While Western Ghats was recognized as the UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2012, Eastern Ghats got the tag very recently in 2020.
3. Both the Western and Eastern Ghats meet at the Nilgiri Hills.

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: c)

Explanation:

- The **Western Ghats** is an extensive region spanning over six States. It is the home of many endangered plants and animals. The **Eastern Ghats** run from the northern Odisha through Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu in the south passing some parts of Karnataka. **So statement 1 is correct.**
- **Western Ghats** is a **UNESCO World Heritage site**. It is one of the eight “hottest hot-spots” of biological diversity in the world. Recently Environmental groups have also demanded to add the

- Eastern Ghats in the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Currently it is **not under UNESCO World Heritage Site.**
- **So statement 2 is not correct.**
- According to UNESCO, the Western Ghats are older than the Himalayas but younger than the Eastern Ghats. They influence Indian monsoon weather patterns by intercepting the rain-laden monsoon winds that sweep in from the south-west during late summer.
- They are eroded and cut through by four major rivers of peninsular India, viz. Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna, and Cauvery.
- The Eastern Ghats meet up with the Western Ghats **at Nilgiri Hills.**
- **So statement 3 is correct.**

2. Consider the following statements:

Statement 1: Neutrinos are the second most widely occurring particle in the universe, only second to protons.

Statement 2: Neutrinos hold the key to several important and fundamental questions on the origin of the Universe and the energy production in stars.

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

- (a) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation of Statement 1

- (b) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is not the correct explanation of Statement 1
- (c) Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is not correct
- (d) Statement 1 is not correct but Statement 2 is correct

Answer: d)

Explanation:

- Neutrinos, first proposed by Swiss scientist Wolfgang Pauli in 1930, are the second most widely occurring particle in the universe, only second to photons, the particle which makes up light. In fact, neutrinos are so abundant among us that every second, there are more than 100 trillion of them passing right through each of us — we never even notice them.
- Neutrinos occur in three different types, or flavours. These are separated in terms of different masses.
- From experiments so far, we know that neutrinos have a tiny mass, but the ordering of the neutrino mass states is not known and is one of the key questions that remain unanswered till today. This is a major challenge INO will set to resolve, thus completing our picture of the neutrino. Neutrinos hold the key to several important and fundamental questions on the origin of the Universe and the energy production in stars.

- Another important possible application of neutrinos is in the area of neutrino tomograph of the earth, that is detailed investigation of the structure of the Earth from core on wards. This is possible with neutrinos since they are the only particles which can probe the deep interiors of the Earth.

3. Consider the following statements:

1. Gadgil Committee defined the boundaries of the Western Ghats for the purposes of ecological management and proposed that this entire area be designated as ecologically sensitive area (ESA).
2. None of the six concerned states agreed with the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee Report.
3. The Kasturirangan report seeks to bring just 37% of the Western Ghats under the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) zones — down from the 64% suggested by the Gadgil report.

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

Answer: d)

Explanation:

What did the Gadgil Committee say?

- It defined the boundaries of the Western Ghats for the purposes of ecological management.
- It proposed that this entire area be designated as ecologically sensitive area (ESA).
- Within this area, smaller regions were to be identified as ecologically sensitive zones (ESZ) I, II or III based on their existing condition and nature of threat.
- It proposed to divide the area into about 2,200 grids, of which 75 per cent would fall under ESZ I or II or under already existing protected areas such as wildlife sanctuaries or natural parks.
- The committee proposed a Western Ghats Ecology Authority to regulate these activities in the area.

Why was Kasturirangan Committee setup?

- None of the six concerned states agreed with the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee, which submitted its report in August 2011. In August 2012, then Environment Minister constituted a High-Level Working Group on Western Ghats under Kasturirangan to “examine” the Gadgil Committee report in a “holistic and multidisciplinary fashion in the light of responses received” from states, central ministries and others.

- The Kasturirangan report seeks to bring just 37% of the Western Ghats under the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) zones — down from the 64% suggested by the Gadgil report.

Recommendations of Kasturirangan

Committee:

- A ban on mining, quarrying and sand mining.
- No new thermal power projects, but hydro power projects allowed with restrictions.
- A ban on new polluting industries.
- Building and construction projects up to 20,000 sq m was to be allowed but townships were to be banned.
- Forest diversion could be allowed with extra safeguards.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the Haryana Quota for Private Jobs:

1. The law provides for 75% reservation in private sector jobs to those having a resident certificate (domicile).
2. The law will be applicable for a period of 20 years.
3. Jobs with a gross monthly salary of not more than ₹50,000 will be up for hiring from among local candidates.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 3 only

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court recently set aside a Punjab and Haryana High Court order staying a controversial State law which provides 75% reservation for local youths in private sector jobs earning less than ₹30,000 a month.
- The Bench observed that every law passed by legislature was presumed to be legal. An order of stay of their implementation by a court of law should be reasoned. The High Court had not given sufficient reasons for stopping the Haryana law.
- The Supreme Court, without going into the merits of the issue, requested the High Court to decide the writ petition filed by industrialists before it expeditiously and not later than a period of four weeks from today.
- The parties were directed to not seek adjournments in the High Court.
- The law provides for 75% reservation in private sector jobs to those having a resident certificate (domicile).
- **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- The law will be applicable for a period of 10 years. **So, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Jobs with a gross monthly salary of not more than ₹30,000 will be up for hiring from among local candidates.

- **So, statement 3 is not correct.**

5. With respect to The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a not-for-profit, policy research organization that is headquartered in New Delhi.
2. The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual event of TERI.
3. Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment was conceived by TERI and developed jointly with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Options:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- TERI is an autonomous, not-for-profit, research institute established in 1974. It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
- GRIHA, an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment, is the National Rating System of India. GRIHA has been conceived by TERI and

developed jointly with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea.

6. Consider the following statements with respect to East Asia Summit (EAS):

1. The concept of an ‘East Asia Grouping’ was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad.
2. The First East Asia Summit was held in Tokyo, Japan.
3. India is a founding member of the East Asia Summit.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is the Indo-Pacific’s premier forum for strategic Dialogue.
- The concept of an ‘East Asia Grouping’ was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad.
- The first EAS was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The East Asia Summit comprised 16 participating countries, namely ASEAN

7. Bhiku Ramji Idate commission was set up by the Government of India to

- (a) Review the governance of the board of banks in India
- (b) Suggest appropriate measures in respect of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes that may be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Government
- (c) Review various Acts administered by the Ministry of Environment
- (d) Consider reforms to the country’s existing criminal laws

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Bhiku Ramji Idate Commission on Denotified and Nomadic Tribes was constituted in 2015 for a period of three years from the date of Gazette Notification or appointment of Chairperson.
- The terms of reference of the Commission include preparation of a State-wise list of castes belonging to Denotified and Nomadic Tribes and suggest appropriate measures in respect of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes to be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Government.

8. With respect to The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a not-for-profit, policy research organization that is headquartered in New Delhi.
2. The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual event of TERI.
3. Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment was conceived by TERI and developed jointly with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Options:

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

Answer: a)

Explanation:

- TERI is an autonomous, not-for-profit, research institute established in 1974.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
- GRIHA, an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment, is the National Rating System of India. GRIHA has been conceived by TERI and developed jointly with the Ministry of

New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

9. Consider the following statements with respect to East Asia Summit (EAS):

1. The concept of an 'East Asia Grouping' was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad.
2. The First East Asia Summit was held in Tokyo, Japan.
3. India is a founding member of the East Asia Summit.

Which of the above statements is/are

Incorrect?

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

Answer: c)

Explanation:

- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is the Indo-Pacific's premier forum for strategic dialogue.
- The concept of an 'East Asia Grouping' was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad.
- The first EAS was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- The East Asia Summit comprised 16 participating countries, namely ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea.

10. Bhiku Ramji Idate commission was set up by the Government of India to

- (a) Review the governance of the board of banks in India
- (b) Suggest appropriate measures in respect of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes that may be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Government
- (c) Review various Acts administered by the Ministry of Environment
- (d) Consider reforms to the country's existing criminal laws

Answer: b)

Explanation:

- Bhiku Ramji Idate Commission on Denotified and Nomadic Tribes was constituted in 2015 for a period of three years from the date of Gazette Notification or appointment of Chairperson.
- The terms of reference of the Commission include preparation of a State-wise list of castes belonging to Denotified and Nomadic Tribes and suggest appropriate measures in respect of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes to be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Government.