



PREMIX COMPILATION FOR 2020

**1st Week of May
(4th May to 9th May)**

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GEOGRAPHY

<https://youtu.be/WDEQwIzwxWQ>

1. Which of the following is correct in the context of MSP for MFP Scheme?

1. The scheme was started by Centre in 2013 to ensure fair and remunerative prices for MFP gatherers.
2. Bamboo is considered a minor forest produce

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation: MSP for MFPs is announced by the Central government and is revised every 3 years. However, this year the authorities revised it earlier than 3 years, by the Pricing Cell constituted under Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

- Union Environment ministry asked the states to treat bamboo as a minor forest produce in 2015.

2. Which of the following statement(s) is/are true in the context of **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs?)**

1. PVTG is recognised by the constitution of India
2. Dhebar Commission was responsible for the creation of the Primitive Tribal Groups which ultimately became PVTGs

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

- PVTG is neither **recognised by the Constitution of India nor is it mentioned in it**. But the **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA)** has a special section regarding the 75 PVTGs and the Act recognises forest and habitat rights of PVTGs
- **Dhebar Commission submitted its report in 1975 created this separate category of Primitive Tribal Groups which ultimately were renamed Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in 2006**. The report accounted for certain inequalities which existed in the development levels of the tribal communities.

3. Which of the following communities is **exempt by the Central government from obtaining licence for firearms?**

- A. Kodava
- B. Parivara
- C. Talwara
- D. Siddi

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Centre has decided to continue a **British-era rule of exempting the Kodavas of Coorg (a martial community of Karnataka)** from obtaining licence for firearms such as pistols, revolvers and double-barrelled shotguns. It is the only community in the country to get such an exemption.

4. Which of the following tribe is known as 'the Headhunters'?

- A. Nagas
- B. Konyaks
- C. Ao
- D. Sumi

Answer: B

Explanation:

- North East India is home to many intriguing tribal people and cultures but perhaps the most fascinating are the Konyak Tribe, better **known as the headhunters**, the largest of 17 officially recognized tribes in Nagaland and infamous due to their tradition of **head hunting**.
- All Nagas were **headhunters and this only stopped with the advent of the Christian missionaries**.
- The Konyaks, who reside deep in the forests of Longwa village, were the last to be converted. They were eventually converted by the Ao tribe of Nagaland who were converted by the missionaries.
- The term **“headhunting” was given by outsiders, the Konyak only see themselves as warriors**

5. Which of the following is/are associated with the Denotified, Tribes?

- 1. Idate Commission
- 2. Criminal Tribes Act 1871
- 3. Habitual Offenders Act 1952

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the Above

Answer: D

Explanation:

- DNTs are a heterogenous group engaged in various occupations such as transport, key-making, salt trading, entertaining — acrobats, dancers, snake charmers, jugglers — and pastoralists. These **communities were branded ‘born criminals’ under the colonial-era Criminal Tribes Act, 1871**. Independent India repealed this act in 1952, but the **Habitual Offenders Act 1952** kicked in soon.
- **Renke Commission** submitted its report in 2008 highlighting that 50 per cent of DNTs lacked any kind of documents and 98 per cent were landless.
- **Idate commission** was constituted in 2015 which identified them state-wise and assessed their developmental status.

HISTORY

<https://youtu.be/RcKL9AWUTEA>

1. The term 'Khalisa' in the Sultanate and Mughal periods was used for

- A. crown lands
- B. lands owned by the Sufi establishment
- C. lands revenue which was directly deposited in the imperial treasury
- D. land revenue which was assigned to the nobles for maintaining troops

Answer: C

Explanation:

- A **revenue yielding and the core of administered land** under the scope of the **Imperial revenue department** were termed as Khalisa.
- The most efficient and fertile lands were under the preview of Khalisa

2. Which of the following rulers introduced “Rupee” in India?

- A. Akbar
- B. Alauddin Khilji
- C. Shershah Suri
- D. Shah Jahan

Answer: C

Explanation: Sher Shah Suri is known for introduction of three coins in different metals as follows:

- 1. A silver coin called Rupiya weighing 178 grains;
- 2. Copper coins called dam,
- 3. Gold coins called mohur that weighed 169 grains

3. Akbar had a committee of scholars with cross lingual expertise. In that context, which of the following is/are correct?

- 1. In that era Mahabharat was translated into Persian and was renamed as Razm Namah
- 2. Panchatantra was also translated in Persian by Maulana Husain Faizi and its translated name was Yar-i-Danish.

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Akbar had a committee of scholars with cross lingual expertise.
- Some of them were Naqeeb Khan, Mulla Abdul Qadir Badayuni, Mulla Sheri and Sultan Haji Thanasari.

- In that era **Mahabharat** was translated into Persian and was renamed as **Razm Namah (Saga of the Battlefield)**.
- **Ramayana** was translated by **Mulla Abdul Qadir Badayuni**.
- **Panchatantra** was also translated in Persian by **Maulana Husain Faizi** and its translated name was **Yar-i-Danish**.
- **Abul Fazal**, Vazeer of Akbar and author of Akbarnama had translated **Panchatantra** in Persian as **Anvar-i-Saadat**.

4. Which among the following terms precisely defines the loans given to cultivators for seeds, farm implements etc. in the Sultanate and Mughal period?

- A. Dams
- B. Dahsala
- C. Taqqavi
- D. Nasaq

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Mohammad Bin Tughlaq set up a separate department of agriculture. The primary object of this department was to bring uncultivated land under plough.
- He also extended 'Taqqavi' loans to peasants during bad times i.e. natural calamities like floods etc.

5. The 175 grains coin issued by Iltutmish was in which among the following metals?

- A. Gold
- B. Silver
- C. Copper
- D. Bronze

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Iltutmish introduced **Silver Tanka** and **Copper Jital**, the two coins of the Delhi Sultanate.
- The coins prior to Iltutmish were introduced by the invaders which bear the Sanskrit characters and even Bull and Shivalinga.
- **Iltutmish** was the first to introduce a "**Pure Arabic Coin**" in India.
- The Coins were engraved with "The Mighty Sultan, Sun of the Empire and the Faith, Conquest-laden, Iltutmish," after he received an investiture of Sovereign Sultan of Delhi from the Caliph of Baghdad.
- The Silver Tanka issued by Iltutmish was weighing 175 grains.
- Gold Tanka of the same weight was later issued by Balban.

POLITY

<https://youtu.be/-wFV4sxxSM0>

1. Which of the following statements are correct about GARUD Portal?

1. It is an initiative of Ministry of Civil Aviation and DGCA
2. It is a portal to avail UINs for drones and UAVs for public and private use

Select the Correct Option

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have launched the GARUD portal for providing fast track conditional exemptions to government agencies for COVID-19 related RPAS (Remotely Piloted Aircraft System)/ drone operations. GARUD is an acronym for 'Government Authorisation for Relief Using Drones'.
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation has proclaimed the launch of Digital Sky, the online platform for the enrollment of drones in India. All drones are required to have a one of a kind ID number (UIN). The expense for a crisp UIN is Rs 1000. All drone controllers are required to get an Unmanned Aircraft Operator Permit (UAOP).

2. Which of the following is correct about Government E-Marketplace?

1. It is a 100 percent Government owned company
2. It enables procurement of goods and services required for both government and private enterprises and wholesalers

Select the Correct Option

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation: Government e Marketplace (GeM) is a 100 percent **Government owned Section 8 Company set up as the National Public Procurement Portal for procurement of goods and services required by Central and State Government organizations.** GeM provides an online, end to end solution for procurement of goods and services for all Central Government and State Government Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs), local bodies and autonomous organisations. The platform reduces human interventions in procurement and enables transparency, cost savings, inclusiveness and efficiency of faceless standardized public procurement.

3. Which of the following is **incorrect** about Samagra Shiksha Scheme?

1. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme pushing for both RTE and SDGs

2. It provides vocational subject for classes XI and XII and is only focused on high school and not pre-school

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Launched by MHRD, Samagra Shiksha is an integrated scheme for school education extending from pre-school to class XII to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.
- It subsumes the three Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).
- Under the scheme, a vocational subject is offered for Classes IX to XII along with the general education to provide necessary employability and vocational skills for a variety of occupations.

4. Which of the following is correct about the Samudra Setu?

1. It is an initiative of Ministry of Shipping, Road transport and Highways
2. The scheme meaning 'sea bridge' aims to push blue ocean economy for sustainable development

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Indian Navy has launched Operation "Samudra Setu" - meaning "Sea Bridge", as a part of national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas. Indian Naval Ships Jalashwa and Magar are presently enroute to the port of Malè, Republic of Maldives to commence evacuation operations from 08 May 2020 as part of Phase-1.
- The Government has been closely monitoring the situation with respect to effect of COVID-19 pandemic on our citizens abroad. The Indian Navy has been directed to make suitable preparations for their evacuation by sea. The ships have been suitably provisioned for the evacuation operation. The evacuated personnel would be provided the basic amenities and medical facilities during the sea-passage. In view of the unique challenges associated with COVID-19 stringent protocols have also been stipulated.
- The evacuated personnel will be disembarked at Kochi, Kerala and entrusted to the care of State authorities. This operation is being progressed in close coordination with Ministries of Defence, External Affairs, Home Affairs, Health and various other agencies of the Government of India and State governments.

5. Which of the following is correct about the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana?

1. It is an initiative of Ministry of Health and Family welfare with initial funding completely by the Centre
2. The Janaushadhi kendras may be located in government and private hospitals and can be run by NGOs too

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The PMBJP is an initiative of the BPPI, Department of Pharmaceuticals under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers. The scheme hopes to reduce health expenditure by providing quality generic medicines at affordable prices.
- The Janaushadhi kendras may be located in government and private hospitals or anywhere outside as well. These Kendras may be run by state governments or any organisations/ NGOs/ Trusts/ Private Hospitals/ Charitable organisations/ Doctors/ unemployed pharmacists/ entrepreneurs.

ECONOMY

https://youtu.be/ZCS_POZVQG4

1. Capitalism is founded on which of the following pillars:

1. Private Property
2. Competition
3. A market mechanism
4. Inequality

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 2, 3 & 4 only
- C. 1, 2 & 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Capitalism is founded on the following pillars:

- **Private property**, which allows people to own tangible assets such as land and houses and intangible assets such as stocks and bonds.
- **Self-interest**, through which people act in pursuit of their own good, without regard for sociopolitical pressure. Nonetheless, these uncoordinated individuals end up benefiting society as if, in the words of Smith's 1776 Wealth of Nations, they were guided by an invisible hand
- **Competition**, through firm's' freedom to enter and exit markets, maximizes social welfare, that is, the joint welfare of both producers and consumers.
- A **market mechanism** that determines prices in a decentralized manner through interactions between buyers and sellers—prices, in return, allocate resources, which naturally seek the highest reward, not only for goods and services but for wages as well.
- **Freedom to choose** with respect to consumption, production, and investment—dissatisfied customers can buy different products, investors can pursue more lucrative ventures, workers can leave their jobs for better pay.
- **Limited role of government**, to protect the rights of private citizens and maintain an orderly environment that facilitates proper functioning of markets.

The extent to which these pillars operate distinguishes various forms of capitalism.

- In **free markets**, also called laissez-faire economies, markets operate with little or no regulation.
- In **mixed economies**, so called because of the blend of markets and government, markets play a dominant role, but are regulated to a greater extent by government to correct market failures, such as pollution and traffic congestion; promote social welfare; and for other reasons, such as defense and public safety.
- **Mixed capitalist** economies predominate today.
- **Inequality** remains one of capitalism's most controversial attributes.

If you got it correct:

Give yourself 1 Mark, otherwise no marks.

2. Which of the following is a central tenet of Keynesian Economics?

- A. Government intervention can de-stabilize the economy
- B. Government intervention can stabilize the economy

- C. Government intervention has no impact on the economy
- D. Keynesian Economy does not discuss the role of Government interventions in stabilizing an economy at all

Answer: B

Explanation: Basics of Keynesian economics:

- According to Keynesian economics, **state intervention is necessary to** moderate the booms and busts in economic activity, otherwise known as the business cycle.
- **Aggregate demand** is influenced by many economic decisions—public and private.
- **Private sector** decisions can sometimes lead to **adverse macroeconomic outcomes**, such as reduction in consumer spending during a recession.
- These market failures sometimes call for active policies by the government, such as **a fiscal stimulus package**.
- Therefore, **Keynesian economics supports a mixed economy** guided mainly by the private sector but partly operated by the government.

If you got it correct:

Give yourself 2 Marks, otherwise no marks.

3. Which of the following are fundamental features of Perfect Competition?

1. A large numbers of identical suppliers and demanders of the same product
2. Buyers and sellers can find one another at no cost
3. No barriers prevent new suppliers from entering the market

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 1 & 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation: The most fundamental features of perfect competition are:

- There are large numbers of identical suppliers and demanders of the same product
- Buyers and sellers can find one another at no cost, and no barriers prevent new suppliers from entering the market.
- In perfect competition, no one has the ability to affect prices.
- Both sides take the market price as a given, and the market-clearing price is the one at which there is neither excess supply nor excess demand.
- Suppliers will keep producing as long as they can sell the good for a price that exceeds their cost of making one more (the marginal cost of production).
- Buyers will go on purchasing as long as the satisfaction they derive from consuming is greater than the price they pay (the marginal utility of consumption).
- If prices rise, additional suppliers will be enticed to enter the market. Supply will increase until a market-clearing price is reached again.
- If prices fall, suppliers who are unable to cover their costs will drop out.

If you got it correct:

Give yourself 3 Marks, otherwise no marks.

4. Which of the following will be counted while estimating the Gross Domestic Product of a country?

1. Bread baked by a baker for his family.
2. COVID-19 relief work done by volunteers.
3. Selling of wheat and rice in black-markets

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. All of the above will be counted
- D. None of the above will be counted

Answer: D

Explanation:

- GDP measures the **monetary value of final goods and services**— that is, those that are bought by the final user—produced in a country in a given period of time (usually a year).
- It counts all the output generated within the **economic borders** of a country.
- GDP is composed of goods and services **produced for sale in the market**.
- It also includes **some nonmarket production**, such as defense or education services provided by the government.
- **Not all productive activity** is included in GDP.
- For example, **unpaid work** (such as that performed **in the home** or by **volunteers**) and **black-market activities** are not included because they are difficult to measure and value accurately.
- That means, for example, that a baker who produces a loaf of bread for a customer would contribute to GDP, but would not contribute to GDP if he baked the same loaf for his family.
- Gross domestic product takes **no account of the wear and tear** on the machinery, buildings, and so on that are used in producing the output.
- If this depletion of the capital stock, called **depreciation**, is subtracted from GDP, we get **net domestic product**.

If you got it correct:

Give yourself 4 Marks, otherwise no marks.

5. Which of the following are correct in relation with Output Gap in an economy?

1. When there is a negative output gap, contractionary or tight fiscal policy is adopted to reduce demand and combat inflation through lower spending and/or higher taxes.
2. Theoretically, a full employment corresponds to an output gap of zero.

Select the Correct Option

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both are correct
- D. None is correct

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The output gap is an economic measure of the **difference** between the actual output of an economy and its potential output.
- **Potential output** is the maximum amount of goods and services an economy can turn out when it is most efficient—that is, at full capacity.
- Often, **potential output** is referred to as the **production capacity** of the economy.
- Just as GDP can rise or fall, the output gap can go in two directions: **positive and negative**. Neither is ideal.
- A **positive** output gap occurs when **actual output is more** than full-capacity output.
- This happens when demand is very high and, to meet that demand, **factories and workers operate far above** their most efficient capacity.
- A **negative** output gap occurs when **actual output is less** than what an economy could produce at full capacity.
- A negative gap means that **there is spare capacity**, or slack, in the economy due to weak demand.
- An **output gap suggests that an economy is running at an inefficient rate**—either **overworking** or **underworking** its resources.
- The output gap can play a central role in **policymaking**.
- For many central banks, maintaining **full employment** is a policy goal.
- **Full employment** corresponds to an **output gap of zero**.
- Nearly all central banks seek to keep inflation under control, and the **output gap is a key determinant of inflation pressure**.
- **Fiscal policy that is expansionary**—that raises aggregate demand by increasing government spending or lowering taxes— can be **used to close a negative output gap**.
- By contrast, when there is a **positive output gap, contractionary or “tight” fiscal policy** is adopted to reduce demand and combat inflation through lower spending and/or higher taxes.

If you got it correct:

Give yourself 5 Marks, otherwise no marks.

Additional Info:

Now sum total your marks and divide it by 3:

- It will give you a tentative idea of your grip over the subject.
- A score above 3 can be considered assuring.
- Below that need to revisit basics and solve more tests.

ENVIRONMENT

<https://youtu.be/q8koj6kWzSg>

1. Consider the following statements regarding Black Buck

1. It is found in India only.
2. Its IUCN status is Endangered.
3. It is listed under the Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

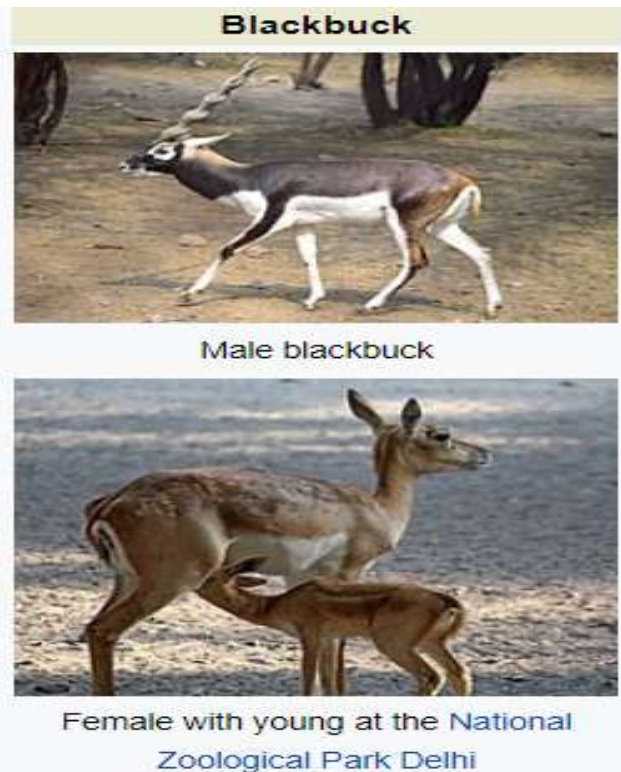
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

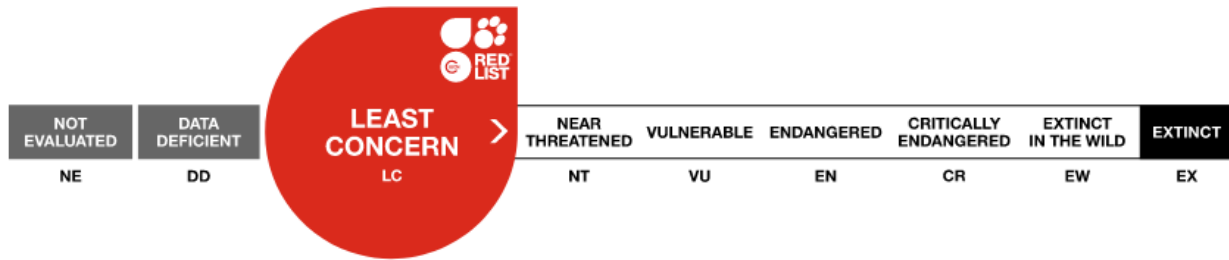
- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 2 only

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*), also known as the Indian antelope, is an antelope found in India, Nepal, and Pakistan.
- It is extinct in Bangladesh.
- The blackbuck inhabits grassy plains and slightly forested areas.
- Due to their regular need of water, they prefer areas where water is perennially available.
- The blackbuck is a diurnal antelope (active mainly during the day) It is the State animal of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana & Punjab Males often adopt lekking as a strategy to garner females for mating.
- While other males are not allowed into these territories, females often visit these places to forage.
- Bishnoi community of Rajasthan is known worldwide for their conservation efforts to blackbuck and Chinkara
- Environmentalists say blackbucks — famous for their soft coats and characteristic twisted horns — are very nervous by nature and sometimes die of heart attacks after sensing danger.





2. Consider the following

1. Eucalyptus
2. *Prosopis juliflora*
3. *Lantana camara*
4. Parthenium

Which of the above is/are invasive species?

- A. 2, 3 and 4 only
- B. 1,2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation: An invasive species is a species that is not native to a specific location, and that has a tendency to spread to a degree believed to cause damage to the environment, human economy or human health.

Example of Invasive Species

Eucalyptus, wattle, pine and cypress trees, as well as *Lantana camara*, *Prosopis juliflora*, parthenium and eupatorium, scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and gorse.

3. Recently 'Flying bulldog', world's largest bee has been rediscovered in a remote part of Indonesia in its first sighting in nearly 40 years.

Which of the following correctly describes its IUCN status?

- A. Critically Endangered
- B. Endangered
- C. Extinct in Wild
- D. Vulnerable

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The world’s largest bee, ‘Flying bulldog’, a giant insect roughly the size of a human thumb has been rediscovered in a remote part of Indonesia in its first sighting in nearly 40 years.
- The bee (*Megachile pluto*), which lives in the Indonesian island region of North Moluccas, makes its nest in termite mounds, using its large fang-like mandibles to collect sticky resin to protect its home from the termites.
- The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species lists the bee as “vulnerable”, meaning that while its numbers are relatively solid, the remoteness of its population makes it hard to study.



4. Consider the following statements with respect to *Syzygium occidentale*

1. It grows mostly along the banks of the River Periyar in Kerala.
2. It is categorized as ‘vulnerable’ by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

- *Syzygium occidentale* is a small, wild jamun tree that grows mostly along the banks of the River Periyar in Kerala.
- It is native to Karnataka and Kerala in India.
- It is categorised as 'vulnerable' by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.
- The survival of such a species is crucial, depending on the fruits it produces, which is only possible if pollinators fertilize its flowers first.
- Bees might be the most well-known pollinators, but researchers have found that common white-footed ants are the best pollinators of a rare evergreen tree in the southern Western Ghats.



5. Mahakalapada forest which is considered to have the most biodiverse mangrove vegetation in the world, second only to Papua New Guinea is located in

- A. Pichavaram Mangroves
- B. Sunderbans National Park
- C. Bhitarkanika National Park
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The Mahakalapada forest is part of Bhitarkanika National Park, which is considered to have the most biodiverse mangrove vegetation in the world, second only to Papua New Guinea, with 64 species of flora recorded.
- Mangrove forests are a formidable natural barrier against cyclones and storms surges and play an important part in stabilising the shoreline.
- They also serve as the nesting and breeding ground of various terrestrial, arboreal, benthic and aquatic organisms.
- It contributes immensely to the growth of estuarine fishery resources besides providing timber, firewood, honey and medicines to locals.

IR (Asian Institute Special)

<https://youtu.be/6YkonLKr7ag>

Which of the following are true in the context of AIIB?

1. AIIB is the first major multilateral development bank where principal contributors are the borrowing members themselves.
 2. Almost three-fourth of the capital is from Asia alone.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Both the Statements are correct
- Unlike most other multilateral development banks set up by advanced economies, AIIB is the first major multilateral development bank where principal contributors are the borrowing members themselves. The third Annual Meeting of the bank focuses on infrastructure, with the theme of innovation and collaboration
- While 75% of the capital is from Asia, several non-Asian regions like Europe, North America, some East African and Latin American countries have also joined the bank as members
- India has been the largest borrower of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) lending since the time the Bank started its operations

Which of the following are true in the context of Asian Development Bank?

1. It recently listed Masala bonds on both India INX and Luxembourg exchange.
 2. ADB's private sector operations are more than its public sector ones.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct but statement 2 is incorrect
- ADB recently listed its 10 year masala bonds on both Luxembourg exchange and India INX
 - This is also the first time a foreign issuer and a supranational is doing a primary listing with India INX
- ADB's private sector operations reached \$3.14 billion in 2018, a 37 per cent increase from the previous fiscal, and stood at 14.5 per cent of its overall commitment

Which of the following are true in the context of New Development Bank?

1. Membership of the NDB is reserved for the BRICS countries only.
 2. Its credit rating is significantly higher than the weighted average of its members.
- A. 1 only

- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect but statement 2 is correct
- Any UN member state can become a member of the NDB, although the cumulative share of BRICS nations can never be less than 55 per cent of the voting potential
- NDB is rated significantly higher than weighted average of its members.
 - India, for example, is BBB- on investment grade, South Africa has one rating at investment grade, China is A+, Brazil is sub-investment grade and Russia is BBB+
 - NDB is rated AAA foreign currency long-term issuer rating with a stable outlook
 - It means that there's almost zero probability of NDB ever defaulting
 - This is significant because there is no other bank in the world that is only owned by emerging markets that has a rating as high as the NDB. All of the others that have such a high rating, they have either the United States or Japan or the European Union as members

The following reports are published by which of the given institutions?

1. Asia Bond Monitor
 2. Future Thinking in Asia and Pacific
 3. Asian Development Outlook
- A. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
 - B. Asian Development Bank
 - C. New Development Bank
 - D. UNESCAP

Answer: B

Explanation:

- UNESCAP
 - Asia Pacific Disaster Report
 - Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report
- AIIB
 - Asian Infrastructure Finance

Which among the following are the investors in the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Fund of Funds?

1. AIIB
 2. ADB
 3. World Bank
 4. IMF
- A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3

C. 1, 2 and 4

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

Explanation:

- All of the above are investors in NIIF
- NIIF is India's first sovereign wealth fund that was set up in 2015. It manages three funds
 - Master Fund
 - Fund of Funds
 - Strategic Fund
- NIIF established Fund of Funds in 2018 with the objective of creating a vehicle to provide India-focused private equity fund managers with a go-to institutional investor operating at scale and based in India
- ADB and AIIB committed Government of India \$100 million equivalent for investment in NIIF FOF