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January
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1. Geography

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1. Which of the following are true about Ocean Currents?

1. Patagonia Desert is the result of the cold Falkland current.
2. Ocean Currents act as major ocean routes which are followed by the navigating ships.
3. The continuous flow of ocean currents is a natural effort to bring a horizontal heat balance.
4. A thriving fishing ground along the Peruvian coast is due to the Humboldt Current.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

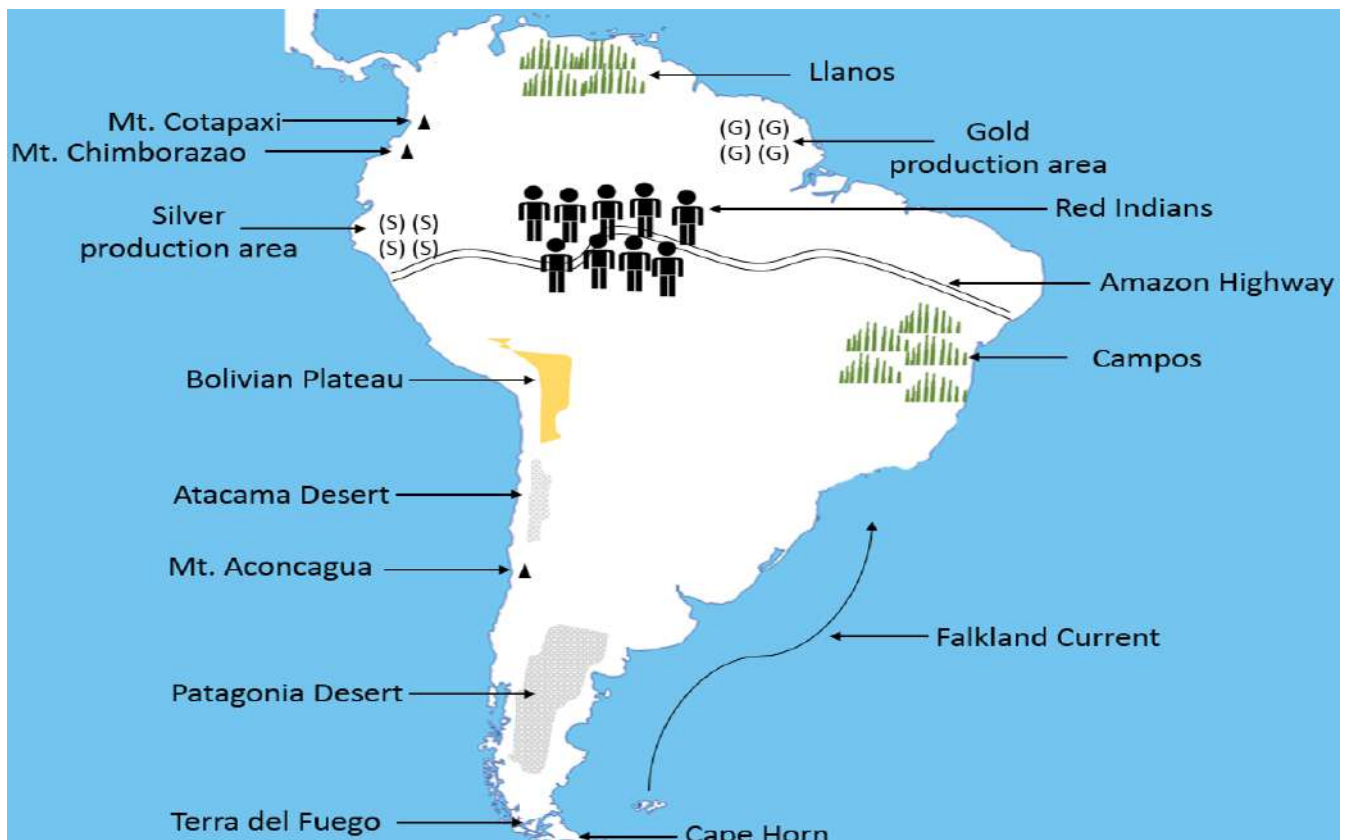
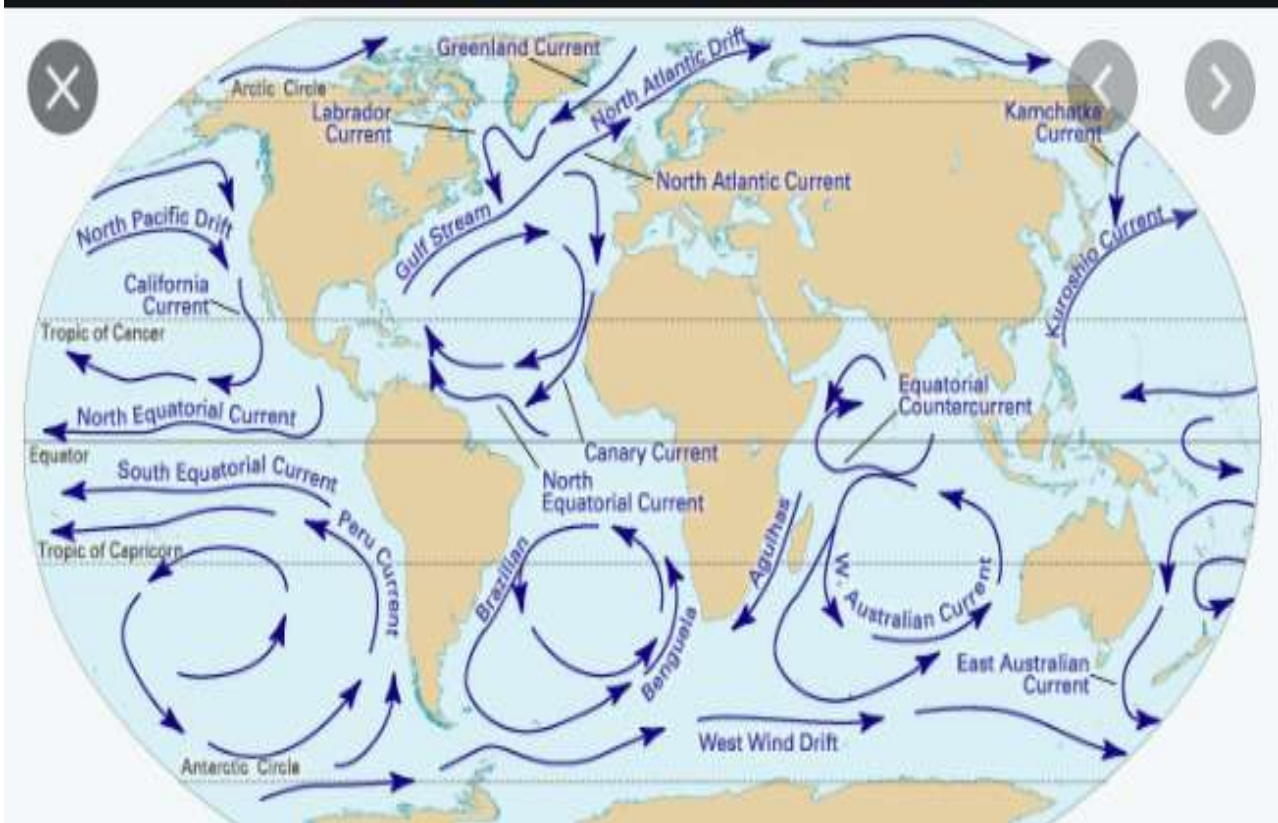
Answer: D

Explanation

- Some deserts are found on the western edges of continents. They are caused by cold ocean currents, which run along the coast. They cool the air and make it harder for the air to hold moisture. For Example- Kalahari Desert is the result of cold Benguela current, whereas the Patagonia Desert is the result of the cold Falkland current.
- Knowledge of ocean currents is essential in reducing costs of shipping, since travelling with them reduces fuel costs. In the wind powered sailing-ship era, knowledge of wind patterns and ocean currents is even more essential. For Example- Agulhas Current prevented Portuguese sailors from reaching India.
- In recent times, around-the-world sailing competitors make good use of surface currents to build and maintain speed.
- Ocean currents act as the distributing agents of nutrients. Oxygen and other elements necessary for the existence and survival of fishes. Ocean currents transport planktons from one area to the other. The planktons are useful food for the fishes
- Upwelling is a process in which deep, cold water rises toward the surface. Upwelling brings abundant nutrients close to the surface, and the beneficial effects of sunlight, which allow for rich plankton growth, make the waters off Peru, Chile, and Ecuador one of the world's greatest fishing grounds for anchovies and the larger fish (e.g., tuna) that feed upon them.



- The favorable conditions for growth of planktons develop where the cold current and warm current meet. For Example- the cold Labrador Current and the warm Gulf Stream current met near Newfoundland where world famous fishing banks like Grand Bank and George's bank have developed. The distribution of the anchovy's fishes on the Peruvian coast is too related with the cold Peru or Humboldt Current because it brings planktons for these fishes.



2. Which of the following are known as “Genetic Express Highway” in our country?

- A. Nilgiri Biosphere reserve
- B. Panchmarhi Biosphere Reserve
- C. Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve
- D. Gulf of Manner Biosphere Reserve

Answer: B

Explanation

- Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve area, which constitutes the Central part of India, is one of the highly biodiversity rich areas with high floristic diversity and unique plant life forms.
- Pachmarhi BR is often recognized as “Genetic Express Highway” linking two biodiversity hot spots of the country, viz., Eastern Himalaya and Western Ghats, also as confluence of northern and southern type of vegetation.

3. The term “Dhrians “ in India refers to :

- A. The shifting Sand Dunes in Thar Desert .
- B. Streams which disappear after flowing for some distance and present a typical case of inland drainage by joining a lake or playa.
- C. A waterless lakebed, typically covered in fine-grained rocks that contain salt.
- D. An accumulation of sediment or silt that are joined together by calcium carbonate.

Answer: A

Explanation

- In Thar desert the shifting sand dunes are locally known as Dhrians.
- loess - an accumulation of sediment or silt that are joined together by calcium carbonate (China).

4. Which of the following are true for “Footloose Industries “?

1. Footloose industry is a general term for an industry that can be placed and located at any location without effect from factors of production.
 2. Diamonds, computer chips, and mobile manufacturing are some examples of footloose industries.
 3. These are generally non-polluting industries.
- A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1,2 and 3

Answer: D

Explanation

- Footloose industry is a general term for an industry that can be placed and located at any location without effect from factors of production such as resources, land, labour, and capital.
- These industries often have spatially fixed costs, which means that the costs of the products do not change despite where the product is assembled. Diamonds, computer chips, and mobile manufacturing are some examples of footloose industries. These are generally non-polluting industries.
- Non-footloose industries generally require raw material availability within a time limit to make products.
- Sugar industry, jute industry and tea industry are the examples of non-footloose industries.

5. Micro elements needed to increase soil fertility are

- A. Nitrogen, Hydrogen, Calcium
- B. Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium
- C. Iron, Calcium and Potassium
- D. Manganese , Cooper and Zinc

Answer: D

Explanation

- Carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, three of the essential plant nutrients, are taken up from the atmosphere and from water. The other essential nutrients come from the soil.
- The major nutrients, or macronutrients, supplied by the soil are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, Sulphur, magnesium and calcium.
- The minor nutrients, also referred to as micronutrients or trace elements, supplied by the soil are molybdenum, copper, zinc, manganese, iron, nickel, boron and chlorine.

2. Polity

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1. The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is termed as

- A. Zero Hour
- B. Question Hour
- C. Lamé Duck Session
- D. Censure Hour

Answer: B

Explanation

- Context: The Question Hour, which was suspended by the government during the monsoon session, will resume when Parliament meets for the Budget session 2021.

Question Hour

- The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is termed as Question hour.
- It is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House.
- During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers.
- The questions can also be asked to the private members (MPs who are not ministers)
- Question Hour in both Houses is held on all days of the session except:
 - ✓ The day the President addresses MPs from both Houses in the Central Hall.
 - ✓ The day the Finance Minister presents the Budget.
- The presiding officers of the both Houses (Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha) are the final authority with respect to the conduct of Question Hour.

2. Regarding the powers vested in President of India/ Governor of a state, awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact, such as the physical disability of a convict or the pregnancy of a woman offender, the power is of

- A. Commutation
- B. Reprieve
- C. Remission
- D. Respite

Answer: D

Explanation

- Context: Tamil Nadu Governor has told the Supreme Court that a decision on the mercy petition of a convict serving a life sentence for the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, will be taken within four weeks.
- The petition has been pending with the Governor since December 30, 2015.
- Citing inaction on part of the Governor in deciding on his clemency plea moved under Article 161 of the Constitution, the convict has come to Supreme Court for passing necessary directions.
- Article 161 gives the Governor the “power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the state extends”.
- The scope of the pardoning power of the President under Article 72 is wider than the pardoning power of the Governor under Article 161.
- The power differs in the following two ways:
 - ✓ The power of the President to grant pardon extends in cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial but Article 161 does not provide any such power to the Governor.
 - ✓ The President can grant pardon in all cases where the sentence given is sentence of death but pardoning power of Governor does not extend to death sentence cases.
 - ✓ The pardoning power of Executive is very significant as it corrects the errors of judiciary. It eliminates the effect of conviction without addressing the defendant’s guilt or innocence.
 - ✓ Pardon may substantially help in saving an innocent person from being punished due to miscarriage of justice or in cases of doubtful conviction.
 - ✓ The object of pardoning power is to correct possible judicial errors, for no human system of judicial administration can be free from imperfections.

3. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Money Bill?

- 1. Article 110 deals with the Money Bill**
 - 2. If any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the final decision lies with Speaker of the House of the People.**
 - 3. Speaker’s decision to declare a proposed law as Money Bill is final and cannot be challenged in court.**
- A. 1 and 3 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1, 2 and 3
D. 1 and 2 only

Answer: D

Explanation

- Context: The Supreme Court has dismissed a series of petitions seeking a review of its 2018 judgment upholding the Lok Sabha Speaker's certification of Aadhaar law as a Money Bill and its subsequent passage in Parliament.
- The Aadhaar Bill had been certified by the government as a money Bill, enabling it to get it cleared without getting the assent of a majority in the Rajya Sabha
- SC upheld the Aadhaar Act in a 4:1 ruling on September 26, 2018.
- Section 7 of Aadhaar Act provided that the expenditure for subsidy, services or benefits under welfare schemes would be met from the Consolidated Fund of India. Because of this, the bill was qualified to be categorised as a money bill.
- Following the Supreme Court judgement, petitions were filed on two issues:
 - ✓ Whether the Speaker's decision to declare a proposed law as Money Bill was "final" and cannot be challenged in court.
 - ✓ Whether the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 was correctly certified as a 'Money Bill' under Article 110 (1) of the Constitution.

Court's judgement

- Speaker's decision could be challenged in court only under "certain circumstances".
- The Aadhaar Act was rightly called a Money Bill.

Money Bill

- A Money Bill is one that contains provisions for taxes, appropriation of funds etc.
- Money Bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha, and the Rajya Sabha cannot make amendments to such bills passed by the Lok Sabha.
- The Rajya Sabha can suggest amendments, but it is the Lok Sabha's choice to accept or reject them.
- Under Article 110(1), a Bill is deemed to be a money Bill if it deals only with matters specified in Article 110 (1) (a) to (g) – taxation, borrowing by the government and appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund of India among others.
- According to Article 110 (3) of the Constitution, "if any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the House of the People thereon shall be final."

4. Article 179 of constitution is related to which of the following?

- A. Removal of the Speaker
- B. Constitution of Legislature in states
- C. Special address by the Governor
- D. Language to be used in the Legislature

Answer: A

Explanation

- Context: Kerala Assembly recently rejected a motion moved by the Opposition seeking the removal of Speaker.
- Article 179(c) of constitution provides that a member holding office as a Speaker or Deputy Speaker of an Assembly may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Assembly passed by a majority of all the then Members of the Assembly.
- Provided that no resolution for the purpose shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution
- Subject to the provisions of Article 181 of Constitution, the Speaker, or the Deputy Speaker or such other person as is referred to in clause (2) of Article 180, presides when a resolution for the removal of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker is taken for consideration.

5. Contingency Fund of India is officially held by

- A. The President of India
- B. The Parliament of India
- C. The Finance Secretary
- D. The Public Accounts Committee

Answer: C

Explanation

- Contingency Fund of India is the emergency fund for the nation.
- Constituted under Article 267(1) of the Indian Constitution, the Contingency fund of India is used at a time when there is a crisis in the nation – a natural calamity, for instance – and money is required to deal with it.
- The Union government has its own contingency fund with a corpus of Rs 500 crore.
- In 2005, the amount of the fund was raised from Rs 5 crore to Rs 500 crore.
- States can also opt to have their own contingency funds.
- The contingency fund of the Union government is at the disposal of the President of India, who releases the funds on request of the Union Cabinet, which later gets an approval from Parliament.
- This fund is held by Finance Secretary on the behalf of The president.
- A Parliament approval is mandatory.
- After the emergency has been dealt with, the fund is reimbursed to its full capacity of Rs 500 crore.
- This required money comes from the Consolidated Fund of India.

3. Economy

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1. Which of the following statements are correct about production linked incentive schemes is/are correct?
1. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme is a Central Government scheme aimed for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing.
 2. The scheme was initially launched for the import of Mobile Phones and Specified Electronic Components.
 3. The scheme was later rolled out for pharmaceutical ingredients and medical devices.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1, 2 and 3
D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: D

Explanation

- Context: The government has given approval to drug firms including Aurobindo Pharma and Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals under the PLI scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical bulk drugs.
- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme aims at promotion of manufacturing of critical key starting materials (KSMs)/drug intermediates and APIs in the country.
- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme is a Central Government scheme that was notified in April 2020 for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing to provide financial incentives for domestic manufacturing of goods and also to attract large investments.
- The scheme was initially launched for domestic manufacturing of Mobile Phones and Specified Electronic Components and was later rolled out for pharmaceutical ingredients and medical devices.
- The PLI Scheme resonates with the ambitious Aatma Nirbhar Bharat campaign and Make in India initiative to make India a self-reliant nation.
- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme provides 4% to 6% incentive on incremental sales (over base year, 2019-20) to eligible companies for manufacturing goods for 5 years period, subsequent to the base year.
- Companies that are registered in India and are involved in the manufacturing of goods covered under the Target Segments of the scheme can apply under the Scheme. The applicant can also operate existing or new manufacturing unit at one or more locations in the country.

2. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Incremental Capital Output Ratio (ICOR)?

- A. The higher the ICOR, the higher the productivity of capital.
- B. The higher the ICOR, the lower the productivity of capital.
- C. The lower the ICOR, the lower the productivity of capital.
- D. Neither of the above

Answer: B

Explanation

- The Incremental Capital-Output Ratio (ICOR) is the ratio of investment to growth which is equal to the reciprocal of the marginal product of capital.
- The higher the ICOR, the lower the productivity of capital or the marginal efficiency of capital. The ICOR can be thought of as a measure of the inefficiency with which capital is used.
- If K is capital output ratio, Y is output (GDP), and I is net investment then the incremental capital output ratio can be computed by dividing the investment share in GDP by the rate of growth of GDP.
- If the level of investment (as a share of GDP) in a developing country had been 20% over a particular period, and if the growth rate of GDP had been 5% per year during the same period, then the ICOR would be $20/5 = 4$.

3. Based on the following statements identify the working body?

1. It is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7.
 2. Its Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
 3. Initially it was established to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering
 4. In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
- A. Financial Action Task Force
 - B. Interpol
 - C. United Nations' Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
 - D. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Answer: A

Explanation

- Context: Pakistan might be pushed into the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) 'black list' next month as it continues to finance and tolerate terrorist organisations.
- According to a report, terrorist organisations, such as Jamaar-ud-Dawa (JuD) and Jaish-e-Muhammed (JeM), continue to operate with impunity in Pakistan.

- It is a list of countries that the intra-governmental organisation considers non-cooperative in the global effort to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

Background

- In October, the FATF decided that Pakistan will continue to be on its greylist and asked it to continue to work on implementing an action plan to address its strategic deficiencies.
- Pakistan is on the FATF's grey list since June 2018 and the government was given a final warning in February 2020 to complete the 27 action points by June in the same year.
- The FATF extended the June deadline to September due to the spread of coronavirus that disrupted the FATF plenary meetings.
 - ✓ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7.
 - ✓ It is a "policy-making body" which works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in various areas.
 - ✓ The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
- Initially it was established to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.
- In October 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing, in addition to money laundering.
- In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

4. Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 was enacted by the central government under which of the following?

- A. Union List
- B. State list
- C. Concurrent list
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation

- The RERA Act was enacted under Entry 6 and 7 (dealing with contracts and the transfer of property) of the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India.
- Enacted in enacted March 2016, RERA came into effect from May 2017.

What is the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA)

The Act came into force from 1 May 2016 with 59 of 92 sections notified. Remaining provisions came into force from 1 May 2017.



Can't advertise, market, book, sell or offer for sale any plot, apartment or building.

Separate escrow account for each of their projects. 70 per cent of the money from investors and buyers

Legal Authority for Implementation

- Regulatory Authority
- Appellate Tribunal

1. Submit the original approved plans for their ongoing projects
2. The alterations that they made later.
3. details of revenue collected from allottees,
4. **How the funds were utilised,**
5. **the timeline for construction, completion, and delivery**
6. Certified by an Engineer/Architect/practicing CA
7. Developers can't ask more than 10% of property's cost as before signing a registered sale agreement.

All commercial and residential real estate projects where the land is over 500 square metres, or eight apartments, to register with the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA)

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Ministry of Housing & Urban Population (HUPA)



5. Which of the following statements regarding the composition of National Startup Advisory Council are incorrect?

1. The Council will be chaired by The Prime Minister.
 2. It will consist of the non-official members, to be nominated by Central Government, from various categories like founders of successful startups, veterans and persons capable of representing interests of incubators and accelerators etc.
 3. The term of the non-official members of the Startup Advisory Council will be for a period of four years.
- A. 1 only
 B. 2 only
 C. 1 and 3
 D. 2 and 3

Answer: C

Explanation

- Context: Centre appointed edu-tech platform respective founders of Byju's, Snapdeal, Ola and others as non-official members of National Startup Advisory Council.
- The NSAC will recommend steps to encourage innovation in various sectors among citizens across the country. Besides, it will assist in quick start, operation and exit for the startups.
- The NSAC's non-official panel will have stakeholders, including founders of successful startups and business tycoons.

- The Union Government notified the structure of the National Startup Advisory Council to advise on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country in Jan 2020.
- The Council will be chaired by Minister for Commerce & Industry.
 - ✓ It will consist of the non-official members, to be nominated by Central Government, from various categories like founders of successful startups, veterans and persons capable of representing interests of incubators and accelerators etc.
 - ✓ The term of the non-official members of the Startup Advisory Council will be for a period of two years.
 - ✓ The nominees of the concerned Ministries/Departments/Organisations, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, will be ex-officio members of the Council.
 - ✓ Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade will be the Convener of the Council.

Roles and functions

- Suggest measures to foster a culture of innovation amongst citizens and students in particular, promote innovation in all sectors of economy across the country.
- Suggest measures to facilitate public organizations to assimilate innovation with a view to improving public service delivery, promote creation, protection and commercialization of intellectual property rights.
- Suggest making it easier to start, operate, grow and exit businesses by reducing regulatory compliances and costs, promote ease of access to capital for startups, and incentivize domestic capital for investments into startups.
- Mobilize global capital for investments in Indian startups, keep control of startups with original promoters and provide access to global markets for Indian startups.

4. Environment

Click [here](#) to watch the following questions on YouTube

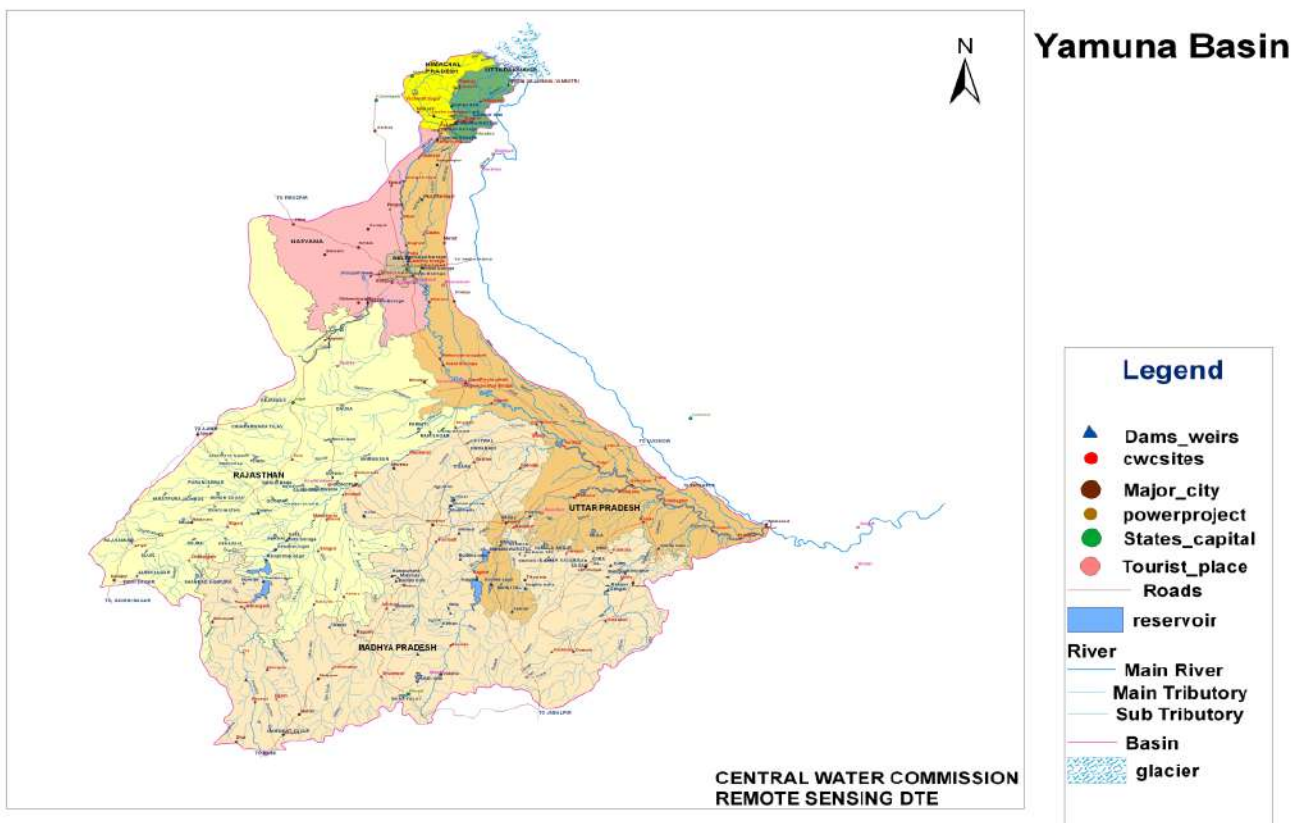
1. Which of the following states does river Yamuna pass through?

1. Himachal Pradesh
2. Haryana
3. Madhya Pradesh
4. Uttar Pradesh
5. Delhi
6. Uttarakhand

- A. 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6
- B. 1, 4, 5 and 6 only
- C. 4, 5 and 6 only
- D. 1, 3, 5 and 6 only

Answer: A

Explanation



For State Boundary refer to Survey of India Maps

2. Cold desert Biosphere Reserve is located in

- A. Jammu and Kashmir
- B. Ladakh
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

Answer: C

Explanation

- Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve is a biosphere reserve located in the western Himalayas region, within Himachal Pradesh
- Cold Desert has an area of 7,770 square kilometres.
- It includes:
 - ✓ Pin Valley National Park
 - ✓ Chandratal
 - ✓ Sarchu
 - ✓ Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary.

3. Which of the following statements with regard to The Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 are incorrect?

1. It is in line with Article 48A of the Constitution.
 2. It helped India become a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
 3. The National Bio-conservation authority was constituted as a statutory organization under the provisions of this Act.
 4. The Act also provided for the establishment of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 3 only
 - C. 2 and 4 only
 - D. 4 only

Answer: B

Explanation

- Article 48A of the Constitution directs the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard wildlife and forests. This article was added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976.

- The Act provides for the formation of wildlife advisory boards, wildlife wardens, specifies their powers and duties, etc.
 - It helped India become a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
 - CITES is a multilateral treaty with the objective of protecting endangered animals and plants.
 - It is also known as the Washington Convention and was adopted as a result of a meeting of IUCN members.
 - For the first time, a comprehensive list of the endangered wildlife of the country was prepared.
 - The Act prohibited the hunting of endangered species.
 - Scheduled animals are prohibited from being traded as per the Act's provisions.
 - The Act provides for licenses for the sale, transfer, and possession of some wildlife species.
 - It provides for the establishment of wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, etc.
 - Its provisions paved the way for the formation of the Central Zoo Authority. This is the central body responsible for the oversight of zoos in India. It was established in 1992.
 - The Act created six schedules which gave varying degrees of protection to classes of flora and fauna.
 - Schedule I and Schedule II (Part II) get absolute protection, and offences under these schedules attract the maximum penalties.
 - The schedules also include species that may be hunted.
 - The National Board for Wildlife was constituted as a statutory organization under the provisions of this Act.
 - This is an advisory board that offers advice to the central government on issues of wildlife conservation in India.
 - It is also the apex body to review and approve all matters related to wildlife, projects of national parks, sanctuaries, etc.
 - The chief function of the Board is to promote the conservation and development of wildlife and forests.
 - It is chaired by the Prime Minister.
 - The Act also provided for the establishment of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- 4. Which of the following statements regarding The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is/ are incorrect?**
- 1. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is an autonomous body tasked with the management of Project Tiger and the many Tiger Reserves in India.**
 - 2. It is headed by Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.**
- A. 1 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation

- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change. The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 was amended in 2006 to provide for constituting the NTCA.
- It is headed by Prime Minister.
- The objectives of the National Tiger Conservation Authority is as follows:
 - Providing authority to Project Tiger so that its recommendations are implemented to its fullest extent.
 - Nurturing accountability in the management of Tiger Reserves either by the state or Central governments through providing a basis of operations within the federal structure.
 - Addressing livelihood interests of local people in areas surrounding Tiger Reserves.
- Powers and Functions:
 - ✓ Evaluate and assess aspects of sustainable ecology while ensuring that no environmentally destructive activities such as mining, the industry is carried out within the proximity of Tiger Reserves.
 - ✓ Provide information on protection measures including future conservation plan, estimation of population of tiger and its natural prey
 - ✓ species report on untoward happenings such as poaching and any other illegal activities
 - ✓ Ensure critical support including scientific, information technology and legal support for better implementation of the tiger conservation plan
 - ✓ Facilitate ongoing capacity building programme for skill development of officers and staff of tiger reserves.
 - ✓ Facilitate and support the tiger reserve management in the State for biodiversity conservation initiatives through people's participation by supporting similar initiatives in adjoining areas consistent with the Central and State laws
 - ✓ Ensure critical support for Tiger Conservation in India by including scientific, information technology and legal support for better implementation of the tiger conservation plan.

5. Which of the following statements regarding Biodiversity Heritage sites are correct?

1. Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS) are well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems – terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and, marine having rich biodiversity
 2. Under Section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may notifies areas of biodiversity importance as Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS).
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer:

Explanation

Biodiversity Heritage Sites

- Under Section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) the State Government in consultation with local bodies may notify in the official gazette, areas of biodiversity importance as Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS).
- “Biodiversity Heritage Sites” (BHS) are well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems – terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and, marine having rich biodiversity comprising of any one or more of the following components:
 - ✓ richness of wild as well as domesticated species or intra-specific categories
 - ✓ high endemism
 - ✓ presence of rare and threatened species
 - ✓ keystone species
 - ✓ species of evolutionary significance
 - ✓ wild ancestors of domestic/cultivated species or their varieties
 - ✓ past pre-eminence of biological components represented by fossil beds and
 - ✓ having significant cultural, ethical or aesthetic values and are important for the maintenance of cultural diversity, with or without a long history of human association with them.

Prelims Test Series

This course includes 25 GS Tests

- 4 Tests for Current Affairs of 2019 (Jan-Feb-March; Apr-May-June; July-Aug-Sept; Oct-Nov-Dec)
 - 12 Sectional Tests – 2 Tests each for History, Polity, Economy, Geography, Sci & Tech, and Environment, including Current Affairs of 12 months of 2020, one month in each test
 - 4 Half-Length Tests – 2 Tests each for Hist + Pol + Eco, and Geo + Env + Sci & Tech
 - 5 Full-Length Tests
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