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Questions

1. Which of the following statements are correct about fundamental rights?

1. A law prescribing residence as a condition for certain employments or appointments in a state or union territory or local authority can be made either by Parliament or state legislature concerned.
2. A law prescribing punishment for offences under abolition of untouchability can only be formulated by the Parliament and not state legislatures.

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

2. Which of the following is correct about Parliamentary sessions in India?

1. India has a fixed Parliamentary session comprising of three sessions across a year.
2. Neither the Constitution nor rules of business of either House of Parliament prescribe a minimum number of days that the Parliament is required to convene.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

3. Which of the following statements are correct about the Question Hour?

1. It is the first hour of every parliamentary sitting and is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of both the Houses of Parliament.
2. The questions raised during the Question Hour can only be posed to government ministers and not private members.

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

4. Which of the following is correct about election of Speaker in the Lok Sabha?

1. The Constitution sets a time limit and specifies the process for election of Speaker of Lok Sabha.
2. In Lok Sabha it is the President who sets a date for the election of the Speaker.
3. On the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, although the Speaker ceases to be a member of the House, but does not vacate the Office.

A. 1 only

- B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3
5. Which of the following statements are correct about tribunals?
1. The original Constitution did not contain provisions with respect to tribunals and were added by the 42nd
 2. Amendment on the recommendation of Swaran Singh Committee.
 3. The Tribunal Reforms 2021 Act includes provisions on composition of selection committees, and provides for a four-year term of office.
 4. The Tribunal Reforms 2021 Act specifies a minimum age requirement of 50 years for appointment.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3
6. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* with regard to Office of Profit in India?
1. While the Constitution has not defined Office of Profit, it has been defined in the constitution or under Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951.
 2. The Supreme Court has given a wide interpretation to Office of Profit including not just office attached with remuneration but also influence and patronage.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
7. Which of the following is correct about the Sujit Prasad Committee?
1. The committee has been formulated under the aegis of the Reserve Bank of India.
 2. The committee will suggest on policy matters pertaining to development of municipal debt securities and issuance of these Bonds.
 3. It will give suggestions regarding regulation and development of both primary and secondary market of municipal debt securities.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. 1 and 2 only
D. 2 and 3 only
8. Which of the following are correct about the Election Commission of India?
1. The Election Commission shall consist of the chief election commissioner and such number of other election commissioners,

if any, as the President may from time to time fix.

2. The Chief Election Commissioner has the power to appoint regional commissioners as he may consider necessary to assist the election commission before general or state elections.
3. The Constitution provides that conditions of service and tenure of office of the election commissioners and the regional commissioners are subject to laws made by the Parliament.

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

9. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. Cooperative societies are protected as forms of association under Article 19 of the Constitution.
2. Cooperatives are a part of the Concurrent list in the Seventh schedule.

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

10. Which of the following are *incorrect* about Parliamentary privileges ?

1. Parliamentary privileges are available to members of Parliament as well as President and Attorney General of India.
2. Contempt of the House has wider implications than is breach of privilege with respect to violation of parliamentary privileges.

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

11. Which of the following is/are *incorrect* in context of Production Linked Incentive Scheme:

1. At the moment, it only aims to promote domestic manufacturing of drug intermediates but not Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients in the country.
2. The approved applicants can set up pharmaceutical manufacturing plants in the country.

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

12. Which of the following is/are correct in context of IMF:

1. IMF releases World Economic Outlook report and Global Financial Stability Report.
 2. Recently, the Board of Governors of the IMF approved a general allocation of about SDR 456 million.
 3. IMF was created in 1969 following the oil crisis of the era.
- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 2 & 3 only
C. 1 only
D. All are correct
13. Which of the following is/are correct in context of the newly formed Regulations Review Authority (RRA)?
1. It has been setup by SEBI.
 2. It is setup every 5 years.
 3. The authority will function for a period of one year.
- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 3 only
C. 1 & 3 only
D. All are correct
14. Often in news, Currency Watch List, finds mention in:
- A. Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States
B. Annual Special 301 Report
C. The USA Associates Report
D. None of the above
15. Which of the following is/are correct about SMA accounts (Special Mention Accounts):
- A. These are the accounts of profitable start-ups given special preference by the banks.
B. These are the international accounts of start-ups which can get international debt without collateral.
C. These are the accounts which show signs of incipient stress.
D. None of the above.
16. In context of television rating point (TRP), consider the following statements:
1. It is a metric used in marketing and advertising to indicate the percentage of the target audience reached by a campaign or advertisement through a communication medium.
 2. The average is taken for a 30-day period, which gives the viewership status for the particular channel.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both are correct.
D. None is correct.
17. Consider the following statements about Swaminathan Committee:

1. It recommended a National Policy for Farmers.
2. It intended to establish an Agriculture Risk Fund to provide relief to farmers in the aftermath of successive natural calamities.
3. It strictly aimed at abandoning well-irrigation.

- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 2 & 3 only
C. 1 only
D. All are correct

18. A Liquidity Trap is:

- A. An economic situation in which interest rates are very high and savings rates are low, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- B. An economic situation in which interest rates are very low and savings rates are high, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- C. An economic situation in which interest rates and savings rates are very low, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- D. None of the above.

19. Consider the following statements regarding the production costs which are taken while fixing the MSPs:

1. 'A2' covers all paid-out costs directly incurred by the farmer in cash and kind on seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, hired labour, leased-in land, fuel, irrigation, etc.

2. 'A2' is a more comprehensive cost compared with 'C2'.

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

20. Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):

1. It is mandatory for those availing crop loans from banks.
2. Farmers pay a nominal 2% premium for all kharif crops, 1.5% for rabi and 5% for annual and horticultural crops.

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

21. Irrawaddy Dolphins are primarily found in:

1. Mekong (China)
2. Irrawaddy (Myanmar)
3. Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo)
4. Chilika lake (India)

- A. 2 only
B. 2 & 4 only
C. All except 4
D. All of the above.

22. In context of Three Banded Rosefinch, consider the following:

1. It is a new bird species identified while exploring the high-altitude coniferous forests of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. The three banded Rosefinch is endemic to Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both are correct.
 - D. None is correct.
23. State of the Global Climate report is released by:
- A. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
 - B. World Meteorological Organization.
 - C. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
 - D. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
24. Consider the following statements about Anamalai Tiger Reserve:

1. It is the first tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu.
2. It is home to various tribal communities such as Toto, Angami and Chenchu.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only

- C. Both are correct
- D. None is correct

25. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated on:

- A. Second Saturday of May.
- B. Second Saturday of October.
- C. Both of the above.
- D. None of the above.

26. Consider the following statements about National Parks in India:

1. Assam has the highest number of national parks.
2. Raimona and Dehing Patkai are the latest national parks of the state.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

27. In news, *Pyrostria laljii*, is:

- A. A new bird species.
- B. A new tree species.
- C. A species of mosquito known to carry Coronaviruses.
- D. A species of frogs that is known to have immunity to Coronaviruses.

28. UNFCCC's COP26 will be held in:

- A. New Delhi
- B. Glasgow

C. Rome

D. Kyoto

29. Which of the following statements about Black Carbon is/are *incorrect*?

1. Unlike other greenhouse gas emissions, Black Carbon is quickly washed out and can be eliminated from the atmosphere if emissions stop.
2. It is a short-lived pollutant that is one of the largest contributors to cooling of the planet.

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

C. Both are correct

D. None is correct

30. Consider the following places:

1. Thol
2. Wadhwana
3. Sultanpur
4. Bhindawas

They were in news recently, because they have recently been recognised as:

A. Tiger Reserves

B. Elephant Reserves

C. Vulture Parks

D. None of the above.

31. Wagon Tragedy is associated with which of the following incidents which happened during the Pre-Independence Indian History -

Santhal?

A. Santhal Rebellion

B. Munda Rebellion

C. Moplah Rebellion

D. None of the above

32. Punnapra - Vayalar uprising is associated with which of the following movements of Pre Indian History -

A. Declaration of Independent Travancore

B. Declaration of Independent Kerala.

C. Declaration of Independent Maarathi Speaking Land.

D. None of the above.

33. Consider the following statements with respect to Maharaja Ranjit Singh:

1. He proclaimed himself as the Ruler of Punjab in 1801 after uniting all the 13 Misl.
2. He was the only sovereign leader left in India by the time of his death in 1839.
3. He signed Treaty of Amritsar on 25 April 1809 with Charles T Metcalfe according to which boundaries were fixed between Sikh Empire and British Empire at Satluj River.

Choose the correct statements:

A. 1 and 2

- B. 2 and 3
- C. 1 and 3
- D. All of the above

34. Given statements ascertain which of the following cultural temple of India?

1. Built by a general of Kakatiya Dynasty - Racherla Senapati Rudrayya.
2. It is a Shiva Temple with its form Lord Ramalingashewra being worshipped here.
3. It is built using the Sandbox technique which makes it earthquake resistant.
4. Marco Polo described it as - "Brightest Star in the Galaxy of the Temples".

Choose the correct option:

- A. Jaggannath Puri Temple
- B. Brihadeshwara Temple
- C. Rudreswara Temple
- D. Kamakhya Temple

35. Consider the following statements with respect to Khajuraho Temples:

1. It was built between 950-1050 AD by Chandela Dynasty.
2. It included temples belonging to all the 3 prominent religions of that time - Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism.
3. It was selected as the UNESCO site in 1986.

Choose the correct statement:

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

36. Consider the following statements with respect to Kunjali Marrakars:

1. They fought bravely against the French Invasion in India.
2. They were skilled in direct hand to hand combat.

Choose the correct statement:

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

37. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Purandara Dasa':

1. He is regarded as the Pitama of Carnatic Music.
2. His birthplace as of now is disputed between Maharashtra and Karnataka.
3. He was a Haridasa, devotee of Lord Krishna.

Choose the correct statement:

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

38. Consider the following statements with respect to Talamaddale:

1. It is an ancient form of performance dialogue or debate performance in Southern India in the Karavali and Malnad regions of Karnataka and Kerala.
2. Unlike the Yakshagana performance, in the conventional 'talamaddale,' the artists sit across in a place without any costumes and engage in testing their oratory skills based on the episode chosen.

Choose the correct statement:

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

39. Consider the following statements with respect to Keeladi excavation:

1. Excavations in Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era on the banks of the river Vaigai.
2. Tamil Brahmi letters were found inscribed on the pots unearthed during the excavation.

Choose the correct statement:

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

40. Consider the following statements with respect to PRASHAD scheme:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme fully financed by the Government of India.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-2015.
3. Its objective is Integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations.

Choose the correct statement:

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

41. The Term "Aqua Alta" has been in news recently. Find the correct statement in context with the same:

- A. It is the name given to exceptionally high tides in the Adriatic Sea.
- B. It is a landform created by deposition of sediment that is carried by a river as the flow leaves its mouth and enters slower-moving or stagnant water.
- C. It is a set of policy initiatives by the European Commission with the overarching aim of making Europe climate neutral in 2050.
- D. It is part of a river or channel where there is a sharp change in channel slope, such as a waterfall or lake.

42. The term “Deep Ecology” is often in news. Identify the correct option in context with the same:

- A. The concept suggests environmental movement and philosophy which regards human life as just one of many equal components of a global ecosystem.
- B. The concept suggests that the world’s societies need to set limits on human-caused disturbances to tightly linked Earth system processes.
- C. The concept upholds the importance of Deep Ocean Systems as Abyssal deep-sea ecosystems are huge and cover 54% of the Earth's surface.
- D. The concept refers to is the process of retrieving mineral deposits from the deep sea – the area of the ocean below 200 m.

43. Which of the following are matched correctly?

- 1. Kuril Islands : Russia & Japan
 - 2. Abu Musa : Iran & Iraq
 - 3. Hala’ib Triangle : Sudan & Egypt
 - 4. Tigrey : Ethiopia & Eritrea
- A. 1,2 and 3 only
 - B. 2,3 and 4 only
 - C. 1,3 and 4 only
 - D. 1,2,3 and 4

44. Choose the *incorrect* statement for Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation(AMOC) :

- A. It is the Atlantic branch of the ocean thermo haline circulation which distributes heat and nutrients throughout the world’s ocean basins.
- B. Gulf Stream, a part of the AMOC, is a warm current responsible for mild climate at the Eastern coast of North America as well as Europe.
- C. An AMOC shutdown would cool the northern hemisphere and decrease rainfall over Europe.
- D. None of the above.

45. Which of the following are true for North Plains in India ?

- 1. The northern plains are formed by the alluvial deposits brought by the rivers – the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.
- 2. Bhabar is a narrow belt ranging between 8-10 km parallel to the Shiwalik foothills at the break-up of the slope.
- 3. South of the Bhabar is the Tarai belt, with an approximate width of 10-20 km where most of the streams and rivers re-emerge without having any properly demarcated channel, thereby, creating marshy and swampy conditions known as the Tarai.

4. The south of Tarai is a belt consisting of old and new alluvial deposits known as the Khadar and Bhangar respectively.
- A. 1,2 and 3
B. 2,3 and 4
C. 1,3 and 4
D. 1,2,3 and 4
46. The periodical rise and fall of the sea level, once or twice a day, mainly due to the attraction of the sun and the moon, is called a tide. Choose the *incorrect* statements in context with the same :
1. The time between the high tide and low tide, when the water level is falling, is called the ebb.
 2. The time between the low tide and high tide, when the tide is rising, is called the flow or flood.
- A. Only 1
B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
47. Which of the following are matched correctly?
1. Backstop : Northern Ireland & Scotland
 2. Catalonia : Spain
 3. Indonesia : Borneo Islands
- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1,2 and 3
48. The earth reaches its perihelion in:
- A. October
B. September
C. July
D. January
49. Which of the following is/are general features of Foot Loose Industries?
1. They are not dependent on any specific raw material, weight losing or otherwise.
 2. They produce in small quantity and also employ a small labour force.
- Choose the correct option:
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
50. Sandalwood is an example of:
- A. Evergreen forest
B. Deciduous forest
C. Deltaic forest
D. Thorny forest
51. Which of the following statements regarding the 'Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)' is correct?

- A. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- B. It is available to members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
- C. Lok Sabha secretariat is responsible for its implementation.
- D. If funds remain unused in a year, they get lapsed.
52. Farzad B gas field, recently in news, is located in which country?
- A. Iran
- B. Kuwait
- C. UAE
- D. Iraq

53. Consider following statements regarding the Artemis Accords:

1. It is a program initiated by NASA.
2. It is a set of guidelines related to lunar (moon) exploration and beyond.
3. India is also a signatory of accord.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

54. Consider following statements regarding the 'Protected Planet Report':

1. It is published by the organisation UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The recent report highlighted that since 2010, the coverage of 'protected areas' worldwide has decreased.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

55. Consider following statements regarding the Mid-Day Meal scheme:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of the Ministry of Education.
2. Under the MDM scheme, in North-Eastern States, both the Centre and State government share the cooking cost for daily meals in the ratio of 90:10.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

56. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP)?

- A. It is a central sector programme aimed at growing and developing identified horticulture clusters.
- B. It will be implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB).
- C. In its pilot phase, it will cover 12 horticulture clusters
- D. All of the above are correct

57. Consider following statements regarding the Tulu language, recently in news:

- 1. It is a language spoken by some tribes in north-eastern hilly states.
- 2. According to the Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger, published by UNESCO, Tulu is now considered a vulnerable language.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

58. What do you understand by the term 'Direct Monetisation of Deficit'?

- A. Borrowing money from international organizations like IMF.

- B. Central bank prints currency to cover deficit
- C. Government dips into Consolidated Fund of India to cover its deficit
- D. None of the above

59. Consider following statements regarding the Ethanol Blending in Petrol:

- 1. 'Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India by 2025' calls for 10% ethanol blending in petrol by 2022.
- 2. PM-JIVAN focusses on setting up of Second Generation (2G) Bio-Refineries.
- 3. National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 disallows use of Sugarcane Juice or Sugar Beet for producing the ethanol.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

60. Consider following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

- 1. Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is an initiative of SCO.
- 2. All the 5 Central Asian nations are the members of SCO.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

61. Consider following provisions regarding Inter State River water disputes:

1. Entry 17 of State List under Schedule VII gives power to the State Government for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys.
2. River Boards Act, 1956, gives powers to Centre only for the establishment of River Boards.
3. Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 empowers the Centre government to set up tribunal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

62. Consider following statements regarding the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds:

1. The funds are setup under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015.

2. It is set up as a non-profit trust in all mining districts of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

63. Which of the following statements regarding the Gangetic River dolphin is NOT correct?

- A. It is India's national aquatic animal.
- B. It is listed as Endangered under IUCN Red List
- C. It is the only surviving freshwater dolphin species in the world
- D. Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 categorises it under Schedule 1, thus providing it complete protection from poaching, killing, trading etc.

64. Which of the following statements regarding the Rudreshwara Temple, recently seen in news, is correct?

- A. The temple belongs to the time period of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- B. It is dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- C. The temple founds mention in the works of renowned traveller Marco Polo
- D. None of the above.

65. Consider following statements regarding the KUSUM scheme:

1. It is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.
2. The scheme has been divided into two components of solarisation of grid-connected agriculture pumps and other of installation of standalone solar powered agriculture pumps.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

66. Consider following statements regarding the recently launched National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP):

1. Under it government would transfer the ownership and management of its assets to private entities in order raise funds for national development.
2. Top 5 sectors as identified by government would capture around 83% of the aggregate pipeline value.
3. Centre and State Governments would provide financing in the ratio of 50:50 for this.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

67. Consider following statements regarding Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):

1. It is created by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. It publishes Assessment Reports periodically based on its own original research.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

68. What do you understand by the term 'Neo-Banks' recently seen in news?

- A. Used for 'fintech firms' with only a digital presence and no physical branches.
- B. Referred to 'bad bank' that takes over Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) from other banks' books.

- C. Refers to NBFCs that deal only in new-aged 'crypto-currencies'
- D. None of the above
69. Consider following statements regarding the Quantum Computing:
1. 'QSim' is India's first Quantum Computer Simulator toolkit launched recently.
 2. Quantum supremacy refers to the ability that a programmable quantum device can solve a problem that no classical computer can solve in any feasible amount of time.
- Which of the above statements is/are **Not** correct?
- A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. 1 and 2 both
 - D. None of the above
70. Recently launched 'Ubharte Sitaare Fund' scheme is related to:
- A. Scholarships to bright minority students to study in foreign universities.
 - B. Seed funding to new firms in EduTech sector startups.
 - C. Provide loans to enterprises working in 'sunshine' sectors.
 - D. To fund export-oriented firms & startups.
71. ANITA is related to
- A. A scheme to promote re-entry of married women into schools and colleges
 - B. A radio telescope
 - C. A satellite part of IRNSS
 - D. ISRO's joint lunar polar exploration
72. GISAID is a
- A. It's a potential drug for COVID-19 treatment
 - B. Its an initiative to share data related to influenza viruses and coronavirus
 - C. It is an international effort towards patent pooling
 - D. A new mechanism under TRIPS
73. Shadow Pad is a term related to
- A. Malware
 - B. A rebel group
 - C. Cyber Volunteer Program
 - D. Offshore drilling
74. Which of the following is not a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)?
- A. Onges
 - B. Bodo Gadaba
 - C. Maldhari
 - D. Jarawas
75. S Mulgoankar vs Unknown is a case related to

- A. Right to Shebaitship
 - B. Uniform Civil Code
 - C. E-Lok Adalaats
 - D. Contempt of Court
76. Investment Clearance Cell has been established for which sector?
- A. Infrastructure
 - B. Manufacturing
 - C. Aviation
 - D. Food Processing
77. Five Eyes is related to
- A. Global trade alliance among top 5 trading partners
 - B. A new plant species which resembles as if five eyes were being viewed from top
 - C. It's a collaboration of five nations to counter threats by China and North Korea
 - D. US strategy to increase US maritime security
78. World Economic Situation and Social Prospects Report 2021 is published by
- A. WEF
 - B. UNCTAD and DESA
 - C. WTO
 - D. ILO and WTO
79. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

1. PMFBY recently completed 5 years of its operation.
2. One of the feature of PMFBY is Cluster Approach for Insurance Companies.
3. It only covers small and marginal farmers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

80. Consider the following statements regarding P172+18

1. It is a recently discovered Quasar.
2. Quasar have enormous amount of energy in them producing from black holes.
3. Quasars helps astronomers to understand birth of universe in a better way.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

81. Consider the following statements regarding Ageing

1. WHO defines healthy ageing as “the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age.”
2. The percentage of elderly population is more in urban areas as compared to rural areas in India.
3. RVY deals with aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category who suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment etc.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

82. Consider the following statements regarding Turtles in India

1. Olive Ridleys turtles are only found in the Odisha state of India.
2. Leatherback turtles are found along the entire coastline of India.
Olive Ridley and Leatherback turtles are Marine turtles.
3. India is yet to sign the Indian Ocean Sea Turtle Agreement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

83. Consider the following statements regarding the recently amended Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on adoption of the Integrity Pact.

1. CVC is a constitutional body for preventing corruption in the central government.
2. Integrity Pact is a vigilance tool that envisages an agreement between the prospective vendors/bidders and the buyer, committing both the parties not to exercise any corrupt influence on any aspect of the contract.
3. Maximum tenure of Integrity External Monitors has been restricted to 2 years.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

84. Consider the following statements regarding Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) ?

1. New funding has been developed for this scheme in the ratio 50:50 for all states except NE states.
2. District Collector will serve as the nodal officer for implementing SAGY.
3. Model Village concept aims to address various challenges like health, livelihood etc.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

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

85. Consider the following statements regarding Glacial Lakes

1. They are ice-dammed, moraine-dammed and bedrock-dammed lakes.
2. Due to global warming, they are reducing in size and numbers.

Which of the above statements is *incorrect*?

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

86. Consider the following statements regarding Bureau of Police Research and Development

1. It has been established by GoI under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It has been publishing data on police organisations since 1986.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

87. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

1. Center and states equally contribute to this scheme.
2. The responsibility to identify the beneficiary lies with the gram panchayat.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

88. Consider the following regarding to Production Linked Incentive scheme

1. It has been recently approved for the Telecom and IT hardware sector.
2. The duration is the same for all the above sectors.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

89. Consider the following statements regarding Commitment to Reduce Inequality Index 2020

1. It is released by ILO.
2. India has been ranked at 129th in the latest ranking.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

90. Consider the following statements regarding Space Hurricanes

1. Recently, it was detected above the North Pole.
2. They are formed as a result of the interactions between solar wind and earth's magnetic field.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

91. Consider the following statements in context to WHO funding:

1. WHO gets its funding from member states and other partners.
2. The amount each Member State must pay is calculated relative to the country's wealth and population.
3. The assessed contribution of member states forms a major chunk of WHO's total budget.

Select the correct answer code:

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

92. Class effect often in news, Which among the following is correct in this context:

1. Drugs with similar chemical structure
2. Drugs with similar mechanism of action
3. Drugs with similar pharmacological effects

Select the correct answer code:

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

93. 90-90-90 an ambitious treatment target of UN to end:

- A. COVID 19
- B. AIDS
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Malaria

94. Which among the following is/are correct in context to Monkey B virus

1. Macaque monkeys commonly have this virus, and it can be found in their saliva, faeces , urine etc.
2. Till date, no case has been documented of human infection

Select the correct answer code:

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

95. Recently Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Bombay incubated start-up has developed Nano Sniffer device, it helps to detect:

- A. Lung diseases
- B. Explosives
- C. Mutation
- D. Alcohol

96. Which among the following is/are correct in context to FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge :

1. It aims to accelerate adoption of Free and Open Source Software in Government
2. It was announced by NITI Aayog

Select the correct answer code

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

97. Which among the following is/are correct in context to Zeolites :

1. Zeolites are crystalline solids structures made of silicon, aluminum and oxygen
2. They can be used to adsorb a variety of materials
3. They can be used in pressure swing adsorption (PSA) technology

Select the correct answer code:

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

98. In recent times, many companies are exploring Low earth orbit technology to provide satellite internet. Which among the following is/ are correct in this context:

1. Low earth orbit Provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems
2. In low earth orbit companies need to launch less number of satellite as compare to high earth orbit

3. Satellite's footprint in low earth orbit is greater than high earth orbit

Select the correct answer code:

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

99. Nuclear fusion can be an alternative to Nuclear fission to provide huge amount of clean energy . Which among the following is/are correct in context to challenges faced in development of such technology:

- 1. For nuclear fusion to occur, tremendous heat and pressure is required
- 2. Till date we are not able to achieve temperature equivalent to Sun's temperature
- 3. It generate huge amount of waste which is difficult to handle with current technologies available.

Select the correct answer code:

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

100. Which among the following is/are correct in context to INSPIRE Scheme:

- 1. It aims to communicate to the youth population of the country the creative pursuit of science and attract talent to the study of science at an early stage
- 2. It is one of the flagship programmes of Indian Space Research Organisation
- 3. It covers students in the age group of 10-32 years

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer key

1	B	21	D	41	A	61	C	81	C
2	B	22	A	42	A	62	C	82	B
3	A	23	B	43	C	63	C	83	C
4	C	24	D	44	D	64	C	84	A
5	D	25	C	45	A	65	D	85	B
6	A	26	B	46	D	66	B	86	C
7	D	27	B	47	B	67	A	87	D
8	C	28	B	48	D	68	A	88	A
9	A	29	B	49	C	69	D	89	C
10	A	30	D	50	B	70	D	90	C
11	A	31	C	51	B	71	B	91	A
12	C	32	A	52	A	72	B	92	D
13	B	33	D	53	A	73	A	93	B
14	A	34	C	54	D	74	C	94	A
15	C	35	C	55	C	75	D	95	B
16	C	36	D	56	D	76	C	96	A
17	A	37	D	57	B	77	C	97	D
18	B	38	C	58	B	78	B	98	A
19	A	39	C	59	C	79	C	99	A
20	B	40	D	60	A	80	D	100	C

Answer With Explanation

1. Which of the following statements are correct about fundamental rights?

1. A law prescribing residence as a condition for certain employments or appointments in a state or union territory or local authority can be made either by Parliament or state legislature concerned.
2. A law prescribing punishment for offences under abolition of untouchability can only be formulated by the Parliament and not state legislatures.

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Article 35 lays down that the power to make laws, to give effect to certain specified fundamental rights shall vest only in the Parliament and not in the state legislatures. In this direction, Article 35 contains the following provisions:

- The Parliament shall have (and the legislature of a state shall not have) power to make laws with respect to the following matters:
 - Prescribing residence as a condition for certain

employments or appointments in a state or union territory or local authority or other authority (Article 16).

- Empowering courts other than the Supreme Court and the high courts to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds for the enforcement of fundamental rights (Article 32).
- Restricting or abrogating the application of Fundamental Rights to members of armed forces, police forces, etc. (Article 33).
- Indemnifying any government servant or any other person for any act done during the operation of martial law in any area (Article 34).
- Parliament shall have (and the legislature of a state shall not have) powers to make laws for prescribing punishment for those acts that are declared to be offences under the fundamental rights. These include the following:
 - Untouchability (Article 17).
 - Traffic in human beings and forced labour (Article 23).

Further, the Parliament shall, after the commencement of the Constitution, make laws for prescribing punishment for the above acts, thus making it obligatory on the part of the Parliament to enact such laws.

prescribe a minimum number of days that a Parliament must convene but the maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months. In other words, the Parliament should meet at least twice a year.

2. Which of the following is correct about Parliamentary sessions in India?

1. India has a fixed Parliamentary session comprising of three sessions across a year.
2. Neither the Constitution nor rules of business of either House of Parliament prescribe a minimum number of days that the Parliament is required to convene.

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

India does not have a fixed parliamentary calendar. By convention, Parliament meets for three sessions in a year. The summoning of Parliament is specified in Article 85 of the Constitution. Like many other articles, it is based on a provision of The Government of India Act, 1935. Neither the Constitution nor rules of business of either House of Parliament

3. Which of the following statements are correct about the Question Hour?

1. It is the first hour of every parliamentary sitting and is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of both the Houses of Parliament.
2. The questions raised during the Question Hour can only be posed to government ministers and not private members.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for question hour and is mentioned in the rules of procedure of both Houses of Parliament. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers. The questions are of three kinds, namely, starred, unstarred and short notice.

- **A starred question** (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.
- **An unstarred question**, on the other hand, requires a written answer and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow.
- **A short notice question** is one that is asked by giving a notice of less than ten days. It is answered orally.
- **Questions to private members**: Addressed to a private member if the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that member is responsible.

4. Which of the following is correct about election of Speaker in the Lok Sabha?

1. The Constitution sets a time limit and specifies the process for election of Speaker of Lok Sabha.
2. In Lok Sabha it is the President who sets a date for the election of the Speaker.
3. On the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, although the Speaker ceases to be a member of the House, but does not vacate the Office.

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Indian Constitution in Article 93 for Lok Sabha and Article 178 for state Assemblies states that these Houses “shall, as soon as may be”, choose two of its members to be Speaker and Deputy Speaker.
- The Constitution neither sets a time limit nor specifies the process for these elections. It leaves it to the legislatures to decide how to hold these elections. In Lok Sabha and state legislatures, the President/Governor sets a date for the election of the Speaker, and it is the Speaker who decides the date for the election of the Deputy Speaker.
- Speaker holds Office from the date of his/her election till immediately before the first meeting of the Lok Sabha after the dissolution of the one to which he/she was elected. He/She is eligible for re-election. On the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, although the Speaker ceases to be a member of the House, he/she does not vacate his/her Office.

- The Speaker has to vacate his/her office earlier in any of the following three cases:
 - if he/she ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha;
 - if he/she resigns by writing to the Deputy Speaker; and
 - if he/she is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Lok Sabha. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The original Constitution did not contain provisions with respect to tribunals. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 on recommendation of Swaran Singh Committee added a new Part XIV-A to the Constitution. This part is entitled as 'Tribunals' (judicial or quasi-judicial institutions) and consists of only two Articles – Article 323 A (by Parliament) dealing with administrative tribunals and Article 323 B (by Parliament/state legislatures) dealing with tribunals for other matters.
- The 2021 Act includes provisions on composition of selection committees, and term of office. It provides for a four-year term of office (subject to the upper age limit of 70 years for the Chairperson, and 67 years for members). It specifies a minimum age requirement of 50 years for appointment.

5. Which of the following statements are correct about tribunals?

1. The original Constitution did not contain provisions with respect to tribunals and were added by the 42nd
2. Amendment on the recommendation of Swaran Singh Committee.
3. The Tribunal Reforms 2021 Act includes provisions on composition of selection committees, and provides for a four-year term of office.
4. The Tribunal Reforms 2021 Act specifies a minimum age requirement of 50 years for appointment.

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

6. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* with regard to Office of Profit in India?

1. While the Constitution has not defined Office of Profit, it has been defined in the constitution

or under Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951.

2. The Supreme Court has given a wide interpretation to Office of Profit including not just office attached with remuneration but also influence and patronage.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Office of profit has not been defined in the constitution or under Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951 but different courts have interpreted it to mean a position with certain duties that are more or less of public character.
- The Supreme Court in Pradyut Bordoloi vs Swapan Roy (2001) outlined the four broad principles for determining whether an office attracts the constitutional disqualification:
 - whether the government exercises control over appointment, removal and performance of the functions of the office.
 - whether the office has any remuneration attached to it.

- whether the body in which the office is held has government powers (releasing money, allotment of land, granting licenses etc.).
- whether the office enables the holder to influence by way of patronage.

-
7. Which of the following is correct about the Sujit Prasad Committee?

1. The committee has been formulated under the aegis of the Reserve Bank of India.
2. The committee will suggest on policy matters pertaining to development of municipal debt securities and issuance of these Bonds.
3. It will give suggestions regarding regulation and development of both primary and secondary market of municipal debt securities.

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Sujit Prasad or Municipal Bonds Development Committee works under the aegis of Security and Exchange

Board of India (SEBI) to suggest on policy matters pertaining to development of municipal debt securities and facilitate municipalities for issuance of such bonds. It will advise SEBI on issues related to regulation and development of primary and secondary market of municipal debt securities.

8. Which of the following are correct about the Election Commission of India?

1. The Election Commission shall consist of the chief election commissioner and such number of other election commissioners, if any, as the President may from time to time fix.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner has the power to appoint regional commissioners as he may consider necessary to assist the election commission before general or state elections.
3. The Constitution provides that conditions of service and tenure of office of the election commissioners and the regional commissioners are subject to laws made by the Parliament.

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Article 324 provides that Election Commission shall consist of the Chief Election Commissioner and such number of other Election Commissioners, if any, as the President may from time to time fix and the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall, subject to the provisions of any law made in that behalf by Parliament, be made by the President.
- It further provides that before each general election to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assembly of each State, and before the first general election and thereafter before each biennial election to the Legislative Council of each State having such Council, the President may also appoint after consultation with the Election Commission such Regional Commissioners as he may consider necessary to assist the Election Commission.
- Lastly, it states that subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, the conditions of service and tenure of office of the Election Commissioners and the Regional Commissioners shall be such as the President may by rule determine.

9. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. Cooperative societies are protected as forms of association under Article 19 of the Constitution.

2. Cooperatives are a part of the Concurrent list in the Seventh schedule.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **The Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011** added a new Part IXB right after Part IXA (Municipals) regarding the cooperatives working in India. The word “cooperatives” was added after “unions and associations” in Article 19(1)(c) under Part III of the Constitution.
- **A new Article 43B** was added in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) regarding the “promotion of cooperative societies”. In July, 2021, the Supreme Court struck down certain provisions of the 97th Amendment Act, 2011.
- It gave a major boost for federalism as the amendment shrank the exclusive authority of States over its co-operative societies.

- The SC held that states have exclusive power to legislate on topics reserved exclusively to them as cooperatives are a part of State list.

10. Which of the following are *incorrect* about Parliamentary privileges ?

1. Parliamentary privileges are available to members of Parliament as well as President and Attorney General of India.

2. Contempt of the House has wider implications than is breach of privilege with respect to violation of parliamentary privileges.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Parliamentary privilege refers to rights and immunities enjoyed by Parliament as an institution and MPs in their individual capacity, without which they cannot discharge their functions as entrusted upon them by the Constitution. Also provided to Attorney General of India and Union ministers. The parliamentary privileges do not extend to the President who is

also an integral part of the Parliament.

- When any individual or authority disregards or attacks any of the privileges, rights and immunities, either of the member individually or of the House in its collective capacity, the offence is termed as breach of privilege and is punishable by the House.
- Contempt of the House has wider implications. Any act or omission which obstructs a House of Parliament, its member or its officer in the performance of their functions or which has a tendency, directly or indirectly to produce results against the dignity, authority and honour of the House is Contempt of House.

11. Which of the following is/are *incorrect* in context of Production Linked Incentive Scheme:

1. At the moment, it only aims to promote domestic manufacturing of drug intermediates but not Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients in the country.
2. The approved applicants can set up pharmaceutical manufacturing plants in the country.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both are correct

D. None is correct

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong as the approvals will promote both the domestic manufacturing of drug intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients in the country.

The Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers has been approving applicants under Production Linked Incentive scheme.

- The approved applicants will set up pharmaceutical manufacturing plants in the country.
- This will in turn create employment as well
- The Indian Pharmaceutical industry is the third largest in the world.
- The only issue is that the Indian pharmaceutical industry is heavily dependent on foreign countries, especially China, for its Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients.
- The launch of these plants will reduce dependence of India over foreign countries.

Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

- The Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients are the same as that of the bulk drugs.
- India was actually self-reliant in API in 1990s.

- However, with cheaper products China captured the Indian pharmaceutical markets in foreign countries.
- China created an unbeatable low-cost API manufacturing industry.
- This was mainly through tax incentives and aggressive government funding.
- The cost of operation of Chinese Pharmaceutical companies is one-fourth the Indian cost.
- Thus, it is important for India to push in more funds in the pharmaceutical industry and recapture the lost markets.

12. Which of the following is/are correct in context of IMF:

1. IMF releases World Economic Outlook report and Global Financial Stability Report.
 2. Recently, the Board of Governors of the IMF approved a general allocation of about SDR 456 million.
 3. IMF was created in 1969 following the oil crisis of the era.
- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 2 & 3 only
C. 1 only
D. All are correct

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 2 is wrong because it's 456 Billion (not million).

Statement 3 is wrong because IMF was formed in 1944 and started working on 27 December 1945.

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international financial institution, headquartered in Washington, D.C., consisting of 190 countries "working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world."
- Formed in 1944, started on 27 December 1945, at the Bretton Woods Conference primarily by the ideas of Harry Dexter White and John Maynard Keynes, it came into formal existence in 1945 with 29 member countries and the goal of reconstructing the international monetary system.
- It now plays a central role in the management of balance of payments difficulties and international financial crises.
- Countries contribute funds to a pool through a quota system from which countries experiencing balance of payments problems can borrow money.
- The Board of Governors of the IMF had approved a general allocation of about SDR 456

billion on August 2, 2021 (effective from August 23, 2021) of which the share of India is SDR 12.5 billion.

- The International Monetary Fund release its World Economic Outlook report as well as Global Financial Stability Report.

13. Which of the following is/are correct in context of the newly formed Regulations Review Authority (RRA)?

1. It has been setup by SEBI.
 2. It is setup every 5 years.
 3. The authority will function for a period of one year.
- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 3 only
C. 1 & 3 only
D. All are correct

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong because it has been setup by RBI.

Statement 2 is wrong because it is not a regular affair for this authority to be set-up, last it was set up in 1999-2000.

1. The Reserve Bank of India recently established the Regulations Review Authority (RRA) 2.0.
2. The authority is to function for a period of one year.

3. The RRA will review the regulatory prescriptions internally.

4. It will also review the regulatory prescriptions by seeking suggestions from regulated entities and stakeholders.

5. It will work towards easing the implementations of the regulatory prescriptions.

6. Deputy Governor Rajeshwar Rao has been appointed as the head of RRA.

- It will work in reducing the compliance burden on regulated entities. This is to be done by streamlining the reporting mechanism, removing paper-based submission of returns wherever possible and revoking obsolete instructions.
- The RRA will also obtain feedback from regulated entities on simplification of procedures and enhancing the ease of compliance.
- The RRA will also examine and suggest the changes required in the dissemination process of RBI instructions and circulars.
 - Earlier, RRA was set up in 1999-2000.
 - The authority then reviewed the regulations of the apex bank, simplified regulatory prescriptions, reduced reporting burden.

14. Often in news, Currency Watch List, finds mention in:

- A. Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States
- B. Annual Special 301 Report
- C. The USA Associates Report
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The United States releases its report on “Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States”.
- The report reviews currency practices of the biggest trading partners of the US.
- The three main criteria used by the report to review the trading partners of US are as follows:
 - Material Current Account Surplus.
 - Bilateral Trade surplus.
 - Persistent one-sided intervention in forex markets.
- According to the US, currency manipulation deliberately influences the exchange rate between one’s currency and US dollar.

- This, in turn, is done to gain unfair competitive advantage in international trade.
- India is also often accused of it.

301 Report

- The report is released annually by the United States Trade Representative. It is published under Section 301 of Trade Act of 1974 and hence the name.
- It is being published since 1989.
- The report basically lists the countries that do not provide sufficient IP rights to American companies.

15. Which of the following is/are correct about SMA accounts (Special Mention Accounts):

- A. These are the accounts of profitable start-ups given special preference by the banks.
- B. These are the international accounts of start-ups which can get international debt without collateral.
- C. These are the accounts which show signs of incipient stress.
- D. None of the above.

Answer: C

Explanation:

SMA accounts are Special Mention Accounts.

These accounts show signs of incipient stress.

- The SMA accounts whose payments are partially or wholly overdue for 1-30 days are called SMA-0 accounts.
- The SMA accounts that have payments overdue for 31-60 days are called SMA-1 account.
- The SMA accounts that have payment overdue for 61-90 days are SMA-2 account.

16. In context of television rating point (TRP), consider the following statements:

1. It is a metric used in marketing and advertising to indicate the percentage of the target audience reached by a campaign or advertisement through a communication medium.
2. The average is taken for a 30-day period, which gives the viewership status for the particular channel.

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

TRP

- A television rating point (TRP) is a metric used in marketing and advertising to indicate the percentage of the target audience reached by a campaign or

advertisement through a communication medium.

- In the particular case of television, a device is attached to the TV set in a few thousand viewers' houses to measure impressions. [L]
[SEP]
- These numbers are treated as a sample from the overall TV owners in different geographical and demographic sectors. Using a device, a special code is telecasted during the programme, which records the time and the programme that a viewer watches on a particular day.
- The average is taken for a 30-day period, which gives the viewership status for the particular channel. [L]
[SEP]
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in 2018 defined its importance as: "On the basis of audience measurement data, ratings are assigned to various programmes on television. Television ratings in turn influence programmes produced for the viewers. Better ratings would promote a programme while poor ratings will discourage a programme. *Incorrect* ratings will lead to production of programmes which may not be really popular while good programmes may be left out." [L]
[SEP]

- Manipulated TRP ratings results in miscalculated targeted audience for the advertisers, which in turn resulted into losses of hundreds of crores of rupees because of the manipulated statistics of TRP. [SEP]
- BARC functions under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). It is an industry body jointly owned by advertisers, ad agencies, and broadcasting companies, represented by The Indian Society of Advertisers, the Indian Broadcasting Foundation and the Advertising Agencies Association of India. It is set up to design, commission, supervise and own an accurate, reliable, and timely TV audience measurement system.

17. Consider the following statements about Swaminathan Committee:

1. It recommended a National Policy for Farmers.
 2. It intended to establish an Agriculture Risk Fund to provide relief to farmers in the aftermath of successive natural calamities.
 3. It strictly aimed at abandoning well-irrigation.
- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 2 & 3 only
C. 1 only

D. All are correct

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 3 is wrong because it recommended "Million Wells Recharge" programme, specifically targeted at private wells for promoting decentralised irrigation.
- In Swaminathan Committee, total five reports submitted. Through December 2004 - October 2006.
- 5th report focused on farmer suicides and farmer distress. It then recommends a National Policy for Farmers.
- It aims to establish a National Land Use Advisory Service, which would have the capacity to link land use decisions with ecological meteorological and marketing factors on a location and season specific basis.

Recommendations on Irrigation-

- Increase water supply through rainwater harvesting.
- Recharge of the aquifer should become mandatory.
- "Million Wells Recharge" programme, specifically targeted at private wells should be launched.

- **Recommendations on Credit and Insurance-**

- Reduce rate of interest for crop loans to 4 per cent simple, with government support.
- Moratorium on debt recovery, including loans from non-institutional sources, and waiver of interest on loans in distress hotspots and during calamities, till capability is restored.
- Establish an Agriculture Risk Fund to provide relief to farmers in the aftermath of successive natural calamities.
- Issue Kisan Credit Cards to women farmers, with joint pattas as collateral.

Answer: B

Explanation:

A liquidity trap is a contradictory economic situation in which interest rates are very low and savings rates are high, rendering monetary policy ineffective.

- First described by economist John Maynard Keynes, during a liquidity trap, consumers choose to avoid bonds and keep their funds in cash savings because of the prevailing belief that interest rates could soon rise (which would push bond prices down).
- Because bonds have an inverse relationship to interest rates, many consumers do not want to hold an asset with a price that is expected to decline.
- In a liquidity trap, should a country's reserve bank try to stimulate the economy by increasing the money supply, there would be no effect on interest rates, as people do not need to be encouraged to hold additional cash.
- A notable issue of a liquidity trap involves financial institutions having problems finding qualified borrowers.
- This is compounded by the fact that, with interest rates approaching zero, there is little room for additional incentive to attract well-qualified candidates.

18. A Liquidity Trap is:

- A. An economic situation in which interest rates are very high and savings rates are low, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- B. An economic situation in which interest rates are very low and savings rates are high, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- C. An economic situation in which interest rates and savings rates are very low, rendering monetary policy ineffective.
- D. None of the above.

- This lack of borrowers often shows up in other areas as well, where consumers typically borrow money, such as for the purchase of cars or homes.

19. Consider the following statements regarding the production costs which are taken while fixing the MSPs:

1. 'A2' covers all paid-out costs directly incurred by the farmer in cash and kind on seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, hired labour, leased-in land, fuel, irrigation, etc.
 2. 'A2' is a more comprehensive cost compared with 'C2'.
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both are correct
D. None is correct

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 2 is wrong because 'C2' is a more comprehensive cost compared with 'A2'.

The CACP's 'Price Policy for Kharif Crops: The Marketing Season 2018-19' report stated that its MSP recommendation was based on 1.5 times the A2+FL costs.

- 'A2' covers all paid-out costs directly incurred by the farmer in cash and kind on seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, hired

labour, leased-in land, fuel, irrigation, etc.

- 'A2+FL' includes A2 plus an imputed value of unpaid family labour.

'C2' is a more comprehensive cost that factors in rentals and interest forgone on owned land and fixed capital assets, on top of A2+FL.

Figure 8.1: CACP Cost Concepts

Cost A1 = Value of hired human labour (HL), value of hired bullock labour (BL), value of owned bullock labour, value of owned machine labour (ML), hired machinery charges, value of seed (both farm produced and purchased), value of insecticides and pesticides, value of manure (owned and purchase) value of fertilizers, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm building, land revenue, cesses and other taxes, and interest on working capital
Cost A2 = Cost A1+ Rent paid for leased-in land,
Cost B1 = Cost A1 + interest value of owned fixed capital assets (excluding land)
Cost B2 = Cost B1 + Rental value of owned land (net of land revenue) and rent paid for leased-in land
Cost C1 = Cost B1 + imputed value of family labour
Cost C2 = Cost B2 + Imputed value of family labour
Modified Cost (C2M) = Cost C2 + marketing costs and transportation report

20. Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):

1. It is mandatory for those availing crop loans from banks.
 2. Farmers pay a nominal 2% premium for all kharif crops, 1.5% for rabi and 5% for annual and horticultural crops.
- A. 1 only is correct.
B. 2 only is correct.
C. Both are correct.
D. None is correct.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong because it is now a 100% voluntary for all farmers from 2020 kharif season.

- Launched in the 2016 kharif season, PMFBY makes the insurance companies liable for full risk coverage.
- Farmers pay a nominal 2% premium rate on the sum insured (the maximum amount that insurance would give in the event of damage) for all kharif crops, with these at 1.5% for rabi and 5% for annual and horticultural crops.
- The balance premium, vis-à-vis the actuarial rate based on statistical risk assessment, is paid as subsidy to the companies and shared between the Centre and the states on a 50:50 basis.
- PMFBY has until 2020 August been a voluntary scheme only for non-loanee farmers, while it was mandatory for those availing crop loans from banks.
- August 2020 onwards, center has decided to make enrolment 100% voluntary for all farmers from 2020 kharif.

4. Chilika lake (India)

- A. 2 only
- B. 2 & 4 only
- C. All except 4
- D. All of the above.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Chilika Development Authority and the State Wildlife Wing found 342 dolphins of three species in the lake.

- The Irrawaddy Dolphins have been listed under Endangered category in the IUCN Red List.
- The Dolphin distribution in Chilika lake is the highest single lagoon population.
- Irrawaddy dolphin is the flagship species inhabiting the lake.
- These dolphins are mainly found in three rivers namely Mekong (China), Irrawaddy (Myanmar) and Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo). Dolphins have been included in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and categorised as 'endangered' on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List.

21. Irrawaddy Dolphins are primarily found in:

1. Mekong (China)
2. Irrawaddy (Myanmar)
3. Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo)

22. In context of Three Banded Rosefinch, consider the following:

1. It is a new bird species identified while exploring the high-altitude coniferous forests of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. The three banded Rosefinch is endemic to Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 2 is wrong because the three banded Rosefinch is a resident of southern China and a vagrant in Bhutan.

- A team of scientists from the Bombay Natural History Society recorded a new species of bird.
 - It has been identified as the three banded Rosefinch.
 - The new bird species was identified while exploring the high-altitude coniferous forests of Arunachal Pradesh.
- It was seen along with the flock of white browed Rosefinch.
- The white browed Rosefinch is commonly seen in this landscape.

- According to the scientists the three banded Rosefinch may be using the high altitude temperate coniferous forests of Arunachal Pradesh as a passage while they were migrating from China to Bhutan.

23. State of the Global Climate report is released by:

- A. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- B. World Meteorological Organization.
- C. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- D. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Answer: B

Explanation:

The World Meteorological Organisation recently released the "State of the Global Climate 2020" report.

It said that 2011-2020 was the warmest decade in record.

Other important observations:

- 2020 is one of the three warmest years on record.
- The increase in global average temperature as of 2020 was 1.2 degree Celsius as compared to the pre-industrial levels. Pre-industrial levels refer to the period before 1850.

- The increase has occurred despite the cooling effect of La-Nina in 2020.
- India had one of its two wettest monsoon seasons since 1994.
- The average rainfall between June and September was 9% above the long-term average.
- Around 2,000 deaths were reported during monsoon seasons due to flooding, landslides and heavy rains.
- The global average carbon dioxide concentrations have exceeded 410 parts per million.
- This is 148% higher than the pre-industrial levels.
- The World Meteorological Organisation is publishing the report since 1993.
- The report mainly documents indicators of climate system such as increasing land and ocean temperatures, greenhouse gas concentrations, melting ice, sea-level increase, glacier retreat and extreme weather. The report also highlights the impacts of climate change on socio-economic development, food security, migration and marine ecosystems.

2. It is home to various tribal communities such as Toto, Angami and Chenchu.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong because it is one of the four Tiger Reserves in Tamil Nadu.

Statement 2 is wrong because Toto Tribe's home is in and around Totapara village in Alipurdoar district of West Bengal, Angamai Tribe around the district of Kohima in Nagaland, Chenchu Tribe is indigenous to Andhra Pradesh and inhabits the forests of Nallamala Hills.

About Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR)

- It is the 29th and one of the four Tiger Reserves in Tamil Nadu.
- It lies South of the Palakkad gap in the Southern Western Ghats.
- It was originally a territorial division known as Coimbatore South Forest division which was declared as wildlife sanctuary in 1976.
- It forms part of the Anamalai Parambikulam Elephant Reserve declared in 2003.

24. Consider the following statements about Anamalai Tiger Reserve:

1. It is the first tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu.

- Recently, the residents of two tribal settlements within the limits of the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR), were gearing up for the annual festival of their local deity, Vairapattan.
 - The Wildlife sanctuary was declared as Tiger Reserve in April 2007 and declared as a critical Tiger habitat in December 2007.
 - There are Six Tribal Communities (VIZ) Malasar, Malaimalasar, Kadar, Muduvar, Pulayar and Eravalar with the population of nearly 6000 living in 35 Settlements.
 - It supports diverse habitat types viz. Wet evergreen forests, semi evergreen forests, moist deciduous, dry deciduous, dry thorn and shola forests.
- Every year, the world celebrates International Migratory Bird Day in order to commemorate the arrival of hundreds of migratory bird species between their summer nesting habitats in North America and wintering grounds in Latin America, Mexico, and the Caribbean.
 - As per the reports by the U.S. Library of Congress, Bird Day was first observed on May 4, 1894.
 - It was started by Charles Almanzo Babcock, the superintendent of schools in Oil City, Pennsylvania.
 - It quickly gained popularity and by 1910 it was also celebrated along with Arbor Day, which is the official day dedicated to trees.
 - It also creates awareness for conserving the habitats of the migratory birds, especially the wetlands.
 - This year, the World Migratory Bird Day (that falls in the month of May) is celebrated under the theme: Sing, fly, Soar - Like a Bird
 - The World Migratory Bird Day is organised by the Convention on Migratory Species, environment for the Americas, Colorado-based Non-Profit Organisation and the African - Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement.

25. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated on:

- A. Second Saturday of May.
- B. Second Saturday of October.
- C. Both of the above.
- D. None of the above.

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Every year, the World Migratory Day is celebrated on second Saturday of May and October.

- It is also celebrated by the United Nations Environment Programme.

26. Consider the following statements about National Parks in India:

1. Assam has the highest number of national parks.
2. Raimona and Dehing Patkai are the latest national parks of the state.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is wrong because Assam has now become the second state in the country, after Madhya Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands which have nine each.

- The Assam government has formally declared Raimona and Dehing Patkai as the sixth and seventh national parks of the state.
- The five other national parks in Assam are Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri, Orang and Dibru-Saikhowa.
- The Raimona National Park covering 422 square km is situated in Gossaigaon subdivision of Kokrajhar district

and will be administered by Kachugaon Forest Division of Bodoland Territorial Council, Assam.

- With Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary in Bhutan to its north, Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal to its west and the first addition to Manas and Manas National Park to its east, Raimona lies in a 2300 sq km transboundary landscape which is essential for long ranging wildlife like elephants and tigers.
- The area is already a part of buffer of the Manas Tiger Reserve and home to the Golden Langur, elephant, tiger, Clouded Leopard, Indian gaur, wild buffalo, spotted deer, hornbill, several species of orchids and has more than 150 species of butterflies, 170 species of birds besides 380 species of plants.
- Conservation of this area shall provide water security to more than 20 lakh people downstream in Kokrajhar and Dhubri district and open opportunities in promotion of community-based tourism, focused wildlife management and ensure biodiversity for future generations.
- It comprises some pristine forests along the Assam-Arunachal interstate boundary, classified as Assam Valley Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests.

- The Dehing Patkai National Park, spread across 234.26 square kilometres, is a contiguous stretch of forests, starting from Upper Dihing Reserve Forests in the East (under Digboi Division, Tinsukia district) up to the Jeypore RF (under Dibrugarh Division, Dibrugarh district).
- The newly notified national park shall be administered by the Soraipung range of Digboi Division and Jeypore range of Dibrugarh Division.
- Additional anti-poaching camps and manpower are being provided by the state government for intensive patrolling and conservation of the new area.

27. In news, *Pyrostria laljii*, is:

- A. A new bird species.
- B. A new tree species.
- C. A species of mosquito known to carry Coronaviruses.
- D. A species of frogs that is known to have immunity to Coronaviruses.

Answer: B

Explanation:

- *Pyrostria laljii* is new to science, and also the first record of the genus *Pyrostria* in India.
- A 15-meter-tall tree that belongs to the genus of the coffee family

has recently been discovered from the Andaman Islands by a team of researchers from India and the Philippines.

- The new species, *Pyrostria laljii*, is also the first record of the genus *Pyrostria* in India.
- Plants belonging to genus *Pyrostria* are usually found in Madagascar but the recently discovered species is new to science.
- The tree is distinguished by a long stem with a whitish coating on the trunk, and oblong-obovate leaves with a cuneate base, and was first reported from South Andaman's Wandoor forest.
- The other places in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands where the tree could be located are the Tirur forest near the Jarawa Reserve Forest and the Chidia Tapu (Munda Pahar) forest.
- *Pyrostria laljii* has been assessed as 'Critically Endangered' based on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List criteria.
- The discovery is unique as the species is a big tree and yet had not been recorded as a new species.
- The species has been named *Pyrostria laljii* after Lal Ji Singh, Joint Director and Head of Office, Andaman and Nicobar Regional

Centre, Botanical Survey of India.

- While the genus *Pyrostria* is not found in India, there are several genera from the family Rubiaceae that are common in India.
- These plants, including cinchona, coffee, adina, hamelia, ixora, galium, gardenia, mussaenda, rubia, morinda, have high potential for economic value.
- Other physical features that distinguish the tree from other species of the genus is its umbellate inflorescence with 8-12 flowers.
- Scientists have also discovered a new species of pokeweed named *Rivina andamanensis*.

- The 2021 conference, hosted by the UK, together with our partners Italy, in Glasgow, will be the 26th meeting of the Parties, which is why it's called COP26.
- United Nations climate change conferences are among the largest international meetings in the world. The negotiations between governments are complex and involve officials from every country in the world as well as representatives from civil society and the global news media.

28. UNFCCC's COP26 will be held in:

- A. New Delhi
- B. Glasgow
- C. Rome
- D. Kyoto

Answer: B

Explanation:

- COP stands for Conference of the Parties. Parties are the signatories of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - a treaty agreed in 1994 which has 197 Parties (196 countries and the EU).

29. Which of the following statements about Black Carbon is/are *incorrect*?

1. Unlike other greenhouse gas emissions, Black Carbon is quickly washed out and can be eliminated from the atmosphere if emissions stop.
 2. It is a short-lived pollutant that is one of the largest contributors to cooling of the planet.
- A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both are correct
 - D. None is correct

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 2 is wrong because Black Carbon is a short-lived pollutant that is the second-largest contributor to

warming the planet behind carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Black Carbon

- Black carbon is a kind of an aerosol.
- Among aerosols (such as brown carbon, sulphates), Black Carbon (BC) has been recognized as the second most important anthropogenic agent for climate change and the primary marker to understand the adverse effects caused by air pollution.
- It gets emitted from gas and diesel engines, coal-fired power plants, and other sources that burn fossil fuel. It comprises a significant portion of particulate matter or PM, which is an air pollutant.
- BC is a short-lived pollutant that is the second-largest contributor to warming the planet behind carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- Unlike other greenhouse gas emissions, BC is quickly washed out and can be eliminated from the atmosphere if emissions stop.
- Unlike historical carbon emissions it is also a localised source with greater local impact.
- An aerosol is a suspension of fine solid particles or liquid droplets in the air.

30. Consider the following places:

1. Thol

2. Wadhwana

3. Sultanpur

4. Bhindawas

They were in news recently, because they have recently been recognised as:

A. Tiger Reserves

B. Elephant Reserves

C. Vulture Parks

D. None of the above.

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Four more wetlands from India get recognition from the Ramsar Secretariat as Ramsar sites. These sites are Thol and Wadhwana from Gujarat and Sultanpur and Bhindawas from Haryana.
- With this, the number of Ramsar sites in India is 46 and the surface area covered by these sites is now 1,083,322 hectares.
- While Haryana gets its first Ramsar sites, Gujarat gets three more after Nalsarovar which was declared in 2012.
- The aim of the Ramsar list is “to develop and maintain an international network of wetlands which are important for the conservation of global biological diversity and for sustaining human life through the maintenance of their ecosystem components, processes and benefits”.

- **Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary**, the largest wetland in Haryana is a human-made freshwater wetland. Over 250 bird species use the sanctuary throughout the year as a resting and roosting site. The site supports more than ten globally threatened species including the endangered Egyptian Vulture, Steppe Eagle, Pallas's Fish Eagle, and Black-bellied Tern.
- **Sultanpur National Park** from Haryana supports more than 220 species of resident, winter migratory and local migratory waterbirds at critical stages of their life cycles. More than ten of these are globally threatened, including the critically endangered sociable lapwing, and the endangered Egyptian Vulture, Saker Falcon, Pallas's Fish Eagle and Black-bellied Tern.
- **Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary** from Gujarat lies on the Central Asian Flyway and more than 320 bird species can be found here. The wetland supports more than 30 threatened waterbird species, such as the critically endangered White-rumped Vulture and Sociable Lapwing, and the vulnerable Sarus Crane, Common Pochard and Lesser White-fronted Goose.
- **Wadhvana Wetland** from Gujarat is internationally

important for its birdlife as it provides wintering ground to migratory waterbirds, including over 80 species that migrate on the Central Asian Flyway. They include some threatened or near-threatened species such as the endangered Pallas's fish-Eagle, the vulnerable Common Pochard, and the near-threatened Dalmatian Pelican, Grey-headed Fish-eagle and Ferruginous Duck.

31. Wagon Tragedy is associated with which of the following incidents which happened during the Pre-Independence Indian History - Santhal?

- A. Santhal Rebellion
- B. Munda Rebellion
- C. Moplah Rebellion
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

In November 1921, 67 Moplah prisoners were killed when they were being transported in a closed freight wagon from Tirur to the Central Prison in Podanur. They died of suffocation. This event is called the Wagon Tragedy.

Context - Centenary year

- A political leader claimed that the Moplah rebellion, also known as the Mappila riots, of 1921 was

one of the first manifestations of the Taliban mindset in India.

- 'Moplah martyrs' will be removed from the Dictionary of Martyrs of India's Freedom Struggle as per the recommendations made by a three-member panel.

Important points to remember

- These riots or rebellion of 1921 was the culmination of a series of riots by Moplahs (Muslims of Malabar) in the 19th and 20th century against British and Hindu Landlords in Malabar (Northern Kerala).
- Resistance started against the British colonial rule and feudal system later took the shape of communal violence.
- Gandhiji along with Shaukat Ali, the leader of the Khilafat movement in India, visited Calicut in August 1920 to spread the combined message of non-cooperation and Khilafat among the residents of Malabar.
- In response to Gandhiji's call, a Khilafat committee was formed in Malabar and the Mappilas, under their religious head Mahadum Tangal of Ponnani who pledged support to the non-cooperation movement.
- Resistance was related to security of tenure, high rents, renewal fees and other unfair exactions of the landlords.

32. Punnapra - Vayalar uprising is associated with which of the following movements of Pre Indian History -

- A. Declaration of Independent Travancore
- B. Declaration of Independent Kerala.
- C. Declaration of Independent Maarathi Speaking Land.
- D. None of the above.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Martyrs of the communist movement of Kerala, including the ones killed at the Punnapra-Vayalar, Kayyur, Karivelloor, and Kavumbayi uprisings, will remain as freedom fighters in the annals of India's struggle for Independence.

About Punnapra-Vayalar uprising

- It was a militant communist movement in 1946 in the Princely State of Travancore, British India against the Prime Minister, C. P. Ramaswami Iyer and the state.
- This was a proper struggle against the declaration of 'Independent Travancore' by the then Travancore.

33. Consider the following statements with respect to Maharaja Ranjit Singh:

1. He proclaimed himself as the Ruler of Punjab in 1801 after uniting all the 13 Misl.
2. He was the only sovereign leader left in India by the time of his death in 1839.
3. He signed Treaty of Amritsar on 25 April 1809 with Charles T Metcalfe according to which boundaries were fixed between Sikh Empire and British Empire at Satluj River.

Choose the correct statements:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All of the above statements are correct.

Context - His Statue vandalised in Lahore fort.

- Important points to remember
 - Connection with Lahore - Seized the city in 1799 - carried out the repairs of Lahore fort - built by Emperor Akbar.
 - Proclaimed himself as the Ruler of Punjab in 1801 after uniting all the 13 Misl (Sub groups).
 - At the time of his death - He was the only sovereign leader left in India - 1839.

- Treaty of Amritsar - 25 April 1809.
 - Between Charles T Metcalfe and Ranjit Singh.
 - Fixed the boundaries between Sikh Empire and British East India Company at Satluj river.
 - Battle of Guns - 21 February 1849 - Second Anglo Sikh war.

34. Given statements ascertain which of the following cultural temple of India?

1. Built by a general of Kakatiya Dynasty - Racherla Senapati Rudrayya.
2. It is a Shiva Temple with its form Lord Ramalingashewra being worshipped here.
3. It is built using the Sandbox technique which makes it earthquake resistant.
4. Marco Polo described it as - "Brightest Star in the Galaxy of the Temples".

Choose the correct option:

- A. Jaggannath Puri Temple
- B. Brihadeshwara Temple
- C. Rudreswara Temple
- D. Kamakhya Temple

Answer: C

Explanation:

Rudreswara / Ramappa Temple

Context - UNESCO World Heritage List - 39th Addition.

Important Points to remember

- Built by a general of Kakatiya Dynasty. (Racherla Senapati Rudrayya).
- Time Period - 13th century - Lord Shiva (Ramalingeshwra) temple.
- Style - Star Shaped Foundation - Because of which Marco Polo called it as the "Brightest star in the Galaxy of Temples".
- Built using Sandbox Technique - protection against the earthquakes.
- Floating Bricks found here.

35. Consider the following statements with respect to Khajuraho Temples:

1. It was built between 950-1050 AD by Chandela Dynasty.
2. It included temples belonging to all the 3 prominent religions of that time - Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism.
3. It was selected as the UNESCO site in 1986.

Choose the correct statement:

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

D. All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement II is wrong because it includes temples of only 2 religions - Hinduism and Jainism and not Buddhism.

Context - Ministry of Tourism had recently organised webinar on "Khajuraho - Temples of Architectural Splendour" under Dekho Apna Desh.

Important points to remember

- Built between 950-1050 AD by Chandela Dynasty.
- Includes both Hindu and Jaina temples.
- Situated in Vindhya's Mountain range.
- UNESCO Site in 1986.
- Nagara style architecture.
- Reported first time by Al Biruni in 1022 AD and Ibn Battuta in AD 1335.

36. Consider the following statements with respect to Kunjali Marrakars:

1. They fought bravely against the French Invasion in India.
2. They were skilled in direct hand to hand combat.

Choose the correct statement:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2

D. None of the above.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Context - Recently, a petition was filed in the Kerala High Court against the film- Marakkars: The Lion of the Arabian Sea, alleging 'distortion of history' and demanding a stay on the release. It is said to be the most expensive Malayalam film ever made.

Faced with invading Portuguese ships, the Zamorin reached out to the Marakkars to defend the coast.

- They were led in succession by four Marakkars, chief admirals who were appointed by the Zamorin with the title of Kunjali.
- Their strategy was similar to guerrilla warfare. The Portuguese had massive ships which could not make easy manoeuvres in the sea.
- The Marakkars used small ships which could easily surround the Portuguese ships, enabling the fighters to attack at will.

37. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Purandara Dasa':

1. He is regarded as the Pitama of Carnatic Music.
2. His birthplace as of now is disputed between Maharashtra and Karnataka.
3. He was a Haridasa, devotee of Lord Krishna.

Choose the correct statement:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Context - Department of Archaeology, Heritage and Museums will soon commence field research work at Keshavapura in Araga Gram Panchayat (GP) of Tirthahalli taluk to explore definitive archaeological evidences that may put an end to speculations regarding the birthplace of Purandara Dasa.

About

- Regarded as the Pitama of Carnatic Music.
- Regarding birthplace - contest between Araga hobli in Tirthahalli taluk of Shivamogga district in Karnataka and Purandaragadh, near Pune in Maharashtra.
- He was a Haridasa, great devotee of Lord Krishna and a saint.
- He was a disciple of the celebrated Madhwa philosopher-saint Vyasa-tirtha, and a contemporary of yet another great Haridasa, Kanakadasa.
- Purandaradasa was the pioneer who blended the rich musical streams, namely the Dravidian

and Aryan music, into a single stream known as Carnatic music.

- Prior to his initiation to Haridasa tradition, Purandara Dasa was a rich merchant and was called as Srinivasa Nayaka.
- He formulated the basic lessons of teaching Carnatic music by structuring graded exercises known as Svaravalis and Alankaras.
- He introduced the raga Maya malavagowla as the first scale to be learnt by beginners in the field - a practice that is still followed today.
- He is noted for composing Dasa Sahithya, as a Bhakti movement.

38. Consider the following statements with respect to Talamaddale:

1. It is an ancient form of performance dialogue or debate performance in Southern India in the Karavali and Malnad regions of Karnataka and Kerala.
2. Unlike the Yakshagana performance, in the conventional 'talamaddale,' the artists sit across in a place without any costumes and engage in testing their oratory skills based on the episode chosen.

Choose the correct statement:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct.

Context - The traditional art of 'Talamaddale', a variant of Yakshagana theatre, has gone virtual in times of COVID-19. A performance was streamed live on social media on June 13.

About

- It is an ancient form of performance dialogue or debate performance in Southern India in Karavali and Malnad regions of Karnataka and Kerala.
- The plot and content of the conversation is drawn from popular mythology but the performance mainly consists of an impromptu debate between characters involving sarcasm, puns, philosophy positions and humour.

How is it different from Yakshgana

- Unlike the Yakshagana performance, in the conventional 'talamaddale,' the artists sit across in a place without any costumes and engage in testing their oratory skills based on the episode chosen.
- If music is common for both Yakshagana performance and 'talamaddale', the latter has only

spoken word without any dance or costumes.

- Hence it is an art form minus dance, costumes and stage conventions.

39. Consider the following statements with respect to Keeladi excavation:

1. Excavations in Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era on the banks of the river Vaigai.
2. Tamil Brahmi letters were found inscribed on the pots unearthed during the excavation.

Choose the correct statement:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct.

Context - Skeletal remains of a child excavated as part of Keeladi's 6th phase excavation. The skeleton was found buried between two terracotta urns.

About

- Excavations in Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era on the banks of the river Vaigai.

- Many antiquities have been unearthed that provide crucial evidence to understanding the missing links of the Iron Age [12th century
- BCE to 6th century BCE] to the Early Historic Period [6th century BCE to 4th century BCE] and subsequent cultural developments .

Findings

- Literate society: Tamil Brahmi letters found were inscribed when the pot was wet or after the pot became dry. This clearly suggests literacy levels in the 6th century BC.
- Agrarian society that reared cattle: Skeletal fragments of cow/ox, buffalo, sheep, goat, nilgai, blackbuck, wild boar and peacock were found.
- High standard of living: Long walls, Well-laid floors along with roof tiles in a collapsed state, iron nails fastened to the poles and rafters prove a high standard of living during the Sangam age.
- Items found: Brick structures, terracotta ring wells, fallen roofing with tiles, golden ornaments, broken parts of copper objects, iron implements, terracotta chess pieces, ear ornaments, spindle whorls, figurines, black and redware.
- Graffiti marks are found in earthenware, caves and rocks in or near the excavation sites.

40. Consider the following statements with respect to PRASHAD scheme:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme fully financed by the Government of India.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-2015.
3. Its objective is Integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations.

Choose the correct statement:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All of the above statements are correct.

It is also called as the 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive' (PRASHAD).

- It is a Central Sector Scheme fully financed by the Government of India.
- Launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15.

Objective:

- Integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations.

- It includes infrastructure development such as entry points (Road, Rail and Water Transport), last mile connectivity, basic tourism facilities.

41. The Term "Aqua Alta" has been in news recently. Find the correct statement in context with the same:

- A. It is the name given to exceptionally high tides in the Adriatic Sea.
- B. It is a landform created by deposition of sediment that is carried by a river as the flow leaves its mouth and enters slower-moving or stagnant water.
- C. It is a set of policy initiatives by the European Commission with the overarching aim of making Europe climate neutral in 2050.
- D. It is part of a river or channel where there is a sharp change in channel slope, such as a waterfall or lake.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Venice and Adriatic Sea

- High tides in the Adriatic Sea have caused floods in the historic city of Venice. The mayor of Venice called for a state of emergency after the second-highest tide ever recorded swept through the Italian lagoon city.

- Acqua Alta” is the name given to exceptionally high tides in the Adriatic Sea.
- It is a set of policy initiatives by the European Commission with the overarching aim of making Europe climate neutral in 2050 – European Deal.

42. The term “Deep Ecology” is often in news. Identify the correct option in context with the same:

- A. The concept suggests environmental movement and philosophy which regards human life as just one of many equal components of a global ecosystem.
- B. The concept suggests that the world’s societies need to set limits on human-caused disturbances to tightly linked Earth system processes.
- C. The concept upholds the importance of Deep Ocean Systems as Abyssal deep-sea ecosystems are huge and cover 54% of the Earth's surface.
- D. The concept refers to is the process of retrieving mineral deposits from the deep sea – the area of the ocean below 200 m.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Deep ecology is an environmental philosophy promoting the inherent

worth of living beings regardless of their instrumental utility to human needs, plus a restructuring of modern human societies in accordance with such ideas.

43. Which of the following are matched correctly?

1. Kuril Islands : Russia & Japan
 2. Abu Musa : Iran & Iraq
 3. Hala’ib Triangle : Sudan & Egypt
 4. Tigrey : Ethiopia & Eritrea
- A. 1,2 and 3 only
B. 2,3 and 4 only
C. 1,3 and 4 only
D. 1,2,3 and 4

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Kuril Islands : Russia & Japan
- Abu Musa : Iran & UAE
- Hala’ib Triangle : Sudan & Egypt
- Tigrey : Ethiopia-Eritrea

44. Choose the *incorrect* statement for Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation(AMOC) :

- A. It is the Atlantic branch of the ocean thermo haline circulation which distributes heat and nutrients throughout the world’s ocean basins.
- B. Gulf Stream, a part of the AMOC, is a warm current responsible for

mild climate at the Eastern coast of North America as well as Europe.

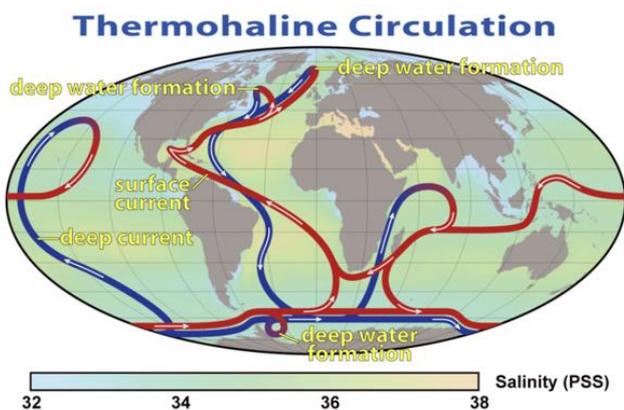
- C. An AMOC shutdown would cool the northern hemisphere and decrease rainfall over Europe.
- D. None of the above.

Answer: D

Explanation:

It is the Atlantic branch of the ocean thermo haline Circulation which distributes heat and nutrients

throughout the world's ocean basins. Gulf Stream, a part of the AMOC, is a warm current responsible for mild climate at the Eastern coast of North America as well as Europe. An AMOC shutdown would cool the northern hemisphere and decrease rainfall over Europe.



45. Which of the following are true for North Plains in India ?

- 1. The northern plains are formed by the alluvial deposits brought by the rivers - the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.

- 2. Bhabar is a narrow belt ranging between 8-10 km parallel to the Shiwalik foothills at the break-up of the slope.
- 3. South of the Bhabar is the Tarai belt, with an approximate width of 10-20 km where most of the streams and rivers re-emerge without having any properly demarcated channel, thereby, creating marshy and swampy conditions known as the Tarai.
- 4. The south of Tarai is a belt consisting of old and new alluvial deposits known as the Khadar and Bhangar respectively.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The northern plains are formed by the alluvial deposits brought by the rivers - the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. Bhabar is a narrow belt ranging between 8-10 km parallel to the Shiwalik foothills at the break-up of the slope. South of the Bhabar is the Tarai belt, with an approximate width of 10-20 km where most of the streams and rivers re-emerge without having any properly demarcated channel, thereby, creating marshy and swampy conditions known as the Tarai. This

has a luxurious growth of natural vegetation and houses a varied wildlife. The south of Tarai is a belt consisting of old and new alluvial deposits known as the Khadar and Bhangar respectively. These plains have characteristic features of mature stage of fluvial erosional and depositional landforms such as sand bars, meanders, oxbow lakes and braided channels.

46. The periodical rise and fall of the sea level, once or twice a day, mainly due to the attraction of the sun and the moon, is called a tide. Choose the *incorrect* statements in context with the same :

1. The time between the high tide and low tide, when the water level is falling, is called the ebb.
 2. The time between the low tide and high tide, when the tide is rising, is called the flow or flood.
- A. Only 1
B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: D

Explanation:

The periodical rise and fall of the sea level, once or twice a day, mainly due to the attraction of the sun and the moon, is called a tide. The moon's gravitational pull to a great extent and to a lesser extent the sun's gravitational

pull, are the major causes for the occurrence of tides. Another factor is centrifugal force, which is the force that acts to counter balance the gravity. Together, the gravitational pull and the centrifugal force are responsible for creating the two major tidal bulges on the earth.

The time between the high tide and low tide, when the water level is falling, is called the ebb. The time between the low tide and high tide, when the tide is rising, is called the flow or flood. Movement of water caused by meteorological effects (winds and atmospheric pressure changes) are called surges.

47. Which of the following are matched correctly?

1. Backstop : Northern Ireland & Scotland
 2. Catalonia : Spain
 3. Indonesia : Borneo Islands
- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1,2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Recently, Indonesia's President has announced that the country's capital (currently Jakarta) will be relocated to East Kalimantan province on Borneo island.

- Referendum on independence for Catalonia was held in 2017 in Spain .
- The backstop agreement was designed to ensure there would be no border posts or barriers between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland after Brexit.

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

Answer: C

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.

48. The earth reaches its perihelion in:

- A. October
- B. September
- C. July
- D. January

Answer: D

Explanation:

On around January 3rd, Earth is closest to sun and distance is around 147.5 million Kilometers. This is called Perihelion. On about July 4th earth is Farthest from Sun and this is called Aphelion. Speed of Earth is fastest at Perihelion and slowest at Aphelion.

49. Which of the following is/are general features of Foot Loose Industries?

1. They are not dependent on any specific raw material, weight losing or otherwise.
2. They produce in small quantity and also employ a small labour force.

Choose the correct option:

50. Sandalwood is an example of:

- A. Evergreen forest
- B. Deciduous forest
- C. Deltaic forest
- D. Thorny forest

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Moist deciduous forests are more pronounced in the regions which record rainfall between 100-200 cm.

These forests are found in the northeastern states along the foothills of Himalayas, eastern slopes of the Western Ghats and Odisha. Teak, sal, shisham, hurra, mahua, amla, semul, kusum, and sandalwood etc. are the main species of these forests.

51. Which of the following statements regarding the 'Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)' is correct?

- A. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- B. It is available to members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
- C. Lok Sabha secretariat is responsible for its implementation.
- D. If funds remain unused in a year, they get lapsed.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement B is correct: It is available to elected as well as nominated members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Additional Information:

- The MPLADS is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by Government of India. The annual MPLADS fund entitlement per MP constituency is INR 5 crore.
- MPs have to recommend at least 15% of MPLADS funds for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and 7.5% for areas

inhabited by S.T. population, every year. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is responsible for implementation of the Scheme.

- District Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner is generally the District Authority to implement MPLADS in the district.
- Funds released to the District Authority by the Government of India are non-lapsable. Funds left in the district or not released by Government of India can be carried forward for utilization in subsequent years.

News: The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) has been suspended for two years to boost funding against COVID-19.

Source:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/it-is-time-to-revive-mplads-it-will-help-citizens-101622297618501.html>

52. Farzad B gas field, recently in news, is located in which country?

- A. Iran
- B. Kuwait
- C. UAE
- D. Iraq

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement A is correct. Farzad B is an offshore natural gas field located in Persian Gulf (Iran). It lies in the Farsi block on the border between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

Additional Information:

- Earlier India had made a proposal to Iran to allow Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Videsh (OVL)'s to develop Farzad B gas field.
- But in 2021, Iran decided to develop Farzad B gas field domestically, cutting off India's hopes of landing the lucrative contract.
- In 2020 also, Iran decided to proceed with the construction of rail line from Chabahar port to Zahedan, along the border with Afghanistan without India.

Importance of India's investments in Iran:

- Energy security: The India imports approximately 45 percent of the natural gas it consumes.
- Access to Afghanistan: Chabahar Port and related transport networks including the Chabahar-Zahedan rail project are crucial for developing and strengthening trade with Afghanistan
- Connectivity to Central Asia: Iran's geographical position is paramount to India's connectivity to Central Asia.

- Counterbalance China's presence in the Indian Ocean.

News: India loses ONGC-discovered Farzad-B gas field in Iran

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/india-loses-ongc-discovered-farzad-b-gas-field-in-iran/articleshow/82706202.cms>

53. Consider following statements regarding the Artemis Accords:

1. It is a program initiated by NASA.
2. It is a set of guidelines related to lunar (moon) exploration and beyond.
3. India is also a signatory of accord.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 3 is *incorrect* as India has not signed the accord.

Additional Information:

1. Artemis Accord was announced by NASA recently.

2. It is related to Artemis Programme which will see the arrival of the first woman and next man to the surface of the Moon in 2024.
3. It will also explore other planets and heavenly bodies other than moon.
4. Signatories: US, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, and Ukraine.
5. Major space players like India, Russia, China, France and Germany are not a signatory of the accord.

News: The Artemis Accords and impact on Global Lunar Governance

Source: <https://www.orfonline.org/research/the-artemis-accords-and-global-lunar-governance/>

54. Consider following statements regarding the 'Protected Planet Report':

1. It is published by the organisation UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The recent report highlighted that since 2010, the coverage of 'protected areas' worldwide has decreased.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. 1 only

- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Both statements are *incorrect*. It is UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the National Geographic Society. It highlighted that since 2010, the coverage of 'protected areas' worldwide has increased by 21 million Km square.

Additional Information:

- The latest report provides the final report on the status of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets are ten-year framework for action by all countries and stakeholders to safeguard biodiversity and the benefits it provides to people adopted in 2010 under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- Under it, 20 ambitious but realistic targets, known as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, were adopted.
- Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 aims to conserve 17 per cent of land and inland water ecosystems and 10 per cent of its coastal waters and oceans by 2020.

55. Consider following statements regarding the Mid-Day Meal scheme:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of the Ministry of Education.
2. Under the MDM scheme, in North-Eastern States, both the Centre and State government share the cooking cost for daily meals in the ratio of 90:10.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both statements are correct. National Programme of Mid-Day Meals in School (MDM) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of the Ministry of Education.

Additional Information:

- The children covered under MDM Scheme are entitled to meals under National Food Security Act, 2013.
- Under the MDM scheme, both the Centre and State government share the cooking cost for daily meals in the ratio of 60:40 for non-North eastern states (NER) and UTs with legislatures except Jammu and Kashmir

- The ratio is of 90:10 for all others states.
- Provides cooked meals to every child within the age group of six to fourteen years studying in classes I to VIII who enrolls and attends the school.
- Cooked meal having nutritional standards of 450 calories and 12 gm of protein for primary (I-V class) and 700 calories and 20 gm protein for upper primary (VI-VIII class).
- Recently, government changed name of Mid-day meal scheme to 'PM Poshan' Abhiyan and said that pre-primary children will also be covered.

News: Centre to transfer Mid-day meal cooking cost directly to students' accounts

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/centre-to-transfer-mid-day-meal-cooking-cost-directly-to-students-accounts-121052801269_1.html<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/mid-day-meal-scheme-is-now-pm-poshan-pre-primary-children-will-be-covered-7542748/>

56. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP)?

- A. It is a central sector programme aimed at growing and

developing identified horticulture clusters.

- B. It will be implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB).
- C. In its pilot phase, it will cover 12 horticulture clusters
- D. All of the above are correct

Answer: D

Explanation:

All statements are correct. Recently, Union Agriculture Minister launched Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP) to ensure holistic growth of horticulture

Additional Information:

- It is a central sector programme, implemented by National Horticulture Board.
- It will be starting with pilot phase in 12 horticulture clusters (out of total 53 clusters) covering nearly 10 lakh farmers from 11 States/UTs.
- India is the second-largest producer of horticulture crops globally, accounting for approximately 12% of the world's production of fruits and vegetables.
- One of the main program regarding the Horticulture is Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).
- Another program is CHAMAN 'Coordinated programme on

Horticulture Assessment & Management using geoinformatics ' was initiated in 2014 under MIDH

News: Union Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar launches Horticulture Cluster Development Programme

Source:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1723155>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/12-districts-get-nod-for-horticulture-cluster-development-pilot-programme/articleshow/83118672.cms>

57. Consider following statements regarding the Tulu language, recently in news:

1. It is a language spoken by some tribes in north-eastern hilly states.
2. According to the Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger, published by UNESCO, Tulu is now considered a vulnerable language.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is *incorrect*: Tulu is a Dravidian language spoken mainly in two coastal districts Dakshina Kannada and Udupi of Karnataka and Kasaragod district of Kerala.

Additional Information:

- Recently, various organisations initiated a campaign demanding official language status to Tulu in Karnataka and Kerala and include it in the eighth schedule of the Constitution.
- As per the 2011 Census report, there are 18,46,427 Tulu-speaking people in India.
- Some scholars suggest Tulu is among the earliest Dravidian languages with a history of 2000 years.
- Robert Caldwell (1814-1891), in his book, A Comparative Grammar of the Dravidian or South-Indian Family of Languages, called Tulu as 'one of the most highly developed languages of the Dravidian family'.
- The Eighth Schedule was intended to promote the progressive use of Hindi and for the enrichment and promotion of language.
- The Constitution does not mention any qualifying criterion for a language to be included in the Eighth Schedule.

News: Karnataka to push for Tulu to be added under 8th schedule

Source:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/karnataka-to-push-for-tulu-to-be-added-under-8th-schedule-as-a-recognised-language/articleshow/74176234.cms>

<https://www.businessinsider.in/theife/news/demands-on-the-rise-to-include-more-languages-like-tulu-in-eighth-schedule/articleshow/73207892.cms>

58. What do you understand by the term 'Direct Monetisation of Deficit'?

- A. Borrowing money from international organizations like IMF
- B. Central bank prints currency to cover deficit
- C. Government dips into Consolidated Fund of India to cover its deficit
- D. None of the above.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement B is correct. It refers to a scenario where a central bank prints currency to the tune of accommodating massive deficit spending by the government.

Additional Information:

- Under it, government privately places its bonds with the Central bank i.e., the central bank purchases government bonds in the primary market.
- Direct monetisation may not necessarily involve actual printing of currency as the central bank could simply credit the Government's account with itself through an electronic accounting entry.
- The exercise leads to an increase in total money supply in the system.
- Direct monetisation of deficit is also referred to as helicopter money when large sums of new money are printed to stimulate an economy during a crisis – like a recession.
- In a recent interview, the finance minister said that she is keeping her options open on monetisation of the deficit by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). But such steps might lead to inflation and loss of credibility of RBI.

News: RBI chief warns of downsides to direct financing of govt deficit

Source:

<https://www.livemint.com/industry/banking/rbi-chief-warns-of-downsides-to-direct-financing-of-govt-deficit-11626324741395.html>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/covid-19-relief-package-india-economy-rbi-fiscal-deficit-nirmala-sitharaman-duvvuri-subbarao-6430542/>

59. Consider following statements regarding the Ethanol Blending in Petrol:

1. 'Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India by 2025' calls for 10% ethanol blending in petrol by 2022.
2. PM-JIVAN focusses on setting up of Second Generation (2G) Bio-Refineries.
3. National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 disallows use of Sugarcane Juice or Sugar Beet for producing the ethanol.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 3 is *incorrect*. National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 allows use of Sugarcane Juice; use of sugar containing materials like Sugar Beet, Sweet Sorghum.

Additional Information:

- Government has released an expert committee report on the

'Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India by 2025'.

- It proposes a gradual rollout of ethanol-blended fuel to achieve E10 fuel (10% ethanol blending in petrol) supply by April 2022 and phased rollout of E20 (20% ethanol blending in petrol) by April 2025.
- Earlier target for 20% blending was set at year 2030. But not it has been advanced to 2025.
- National Policy on Biofuels, 2018: increased the scope of raw materials to be used for producing bio-ethanol so as to give boost to its production.
- It allowed use of Sugarcane Juice; use of sugar containing materials like Sugar Beet, Sweet Sorghum, starch containing materials like Corn, Cassava, Damaged/unfit food grains like wheat, broken rice, Rotten Potatoes.
- Under PM-JIVAN (Jaiv Indhan-Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana, 12 commercial plants and 10 demonstration plants of Second Generation (2G) Bio Refineries are envisaged to be set up in areas having sufficient availability of biomass so that ethanol is available for blending throughout the country.
- Ethanol blending in petrol leads to reduced Pollution, lower India's crude oil bill, improves farmer's income.

News: India's 20% ethanol-petrol blending target advanced to 2025

Source: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/video/environment/india-s-20-ethanol-petrol-blending-target-advanced-to-2025-77334>

<https://vikaspedia.in/energy/policy-support/renewable-energy-1/biofuels/pradhan-mantri-jl-van-yojana-1>

60. Consider following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

1. Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is an initiative of SCO.
2. All the 5 Central Asian nations are the members of SCO.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 2 is *incorrect*. Only 4 Central Asian nations are the members of SCO. Turkmenistan is not a member of SCO.

Additional Information:

- Recently, the 16th meeting of Secretaries of Security Councils of SCO was held at Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was setup as Shanghai Five in 1996 by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan.
- Later it was renamed as SCO and at present it eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan).
- Regional development and security issues (terrorism, ethnic separatism, and religious extremism) are its main focus.
- Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is a permanent organ of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). It's objective is to help members states fight combat, extremism, terrorism and separatism.
- It is likely that after the withdrawal of US and NATO forces from Afghanistan SCO will start playing a more prominent role.

News: Prime Minister virtually participates in 21st Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

Source:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/nsa-ajit-doval-attends-shanghai-corporation-organisation-meet-dushanbe-1818644-2021-06-24>

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/security-terrorism-discussed-at-sco-meet-mea20210624203635/>

61. Consider following provisions regarding Inter State River water disputes:

1. Entry 17 of State List under Schedule VII gives power to the State Government for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys.
2. River Boards Act, 1956, gives powers to Centre only for the establishment of River Boards.
3. Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 empowers the Centre government to set up tribunal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is *incorrect*. Entry 56 of Union List gives power to the Union Government for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys.

Additional Information:

Various provisions to resolves Inter State River water disputes are:

- Entry 17 of State List under Schedule VII deals with water i.e., water supply, irrigation, canal, drainage, embankments, water storage and water power.

- Entry 56 of Union List under Schedule VII gives power to the Union Government for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys to the extent declared by Parliament to be expedient in the public interest.
- Article 262 provides that Parliament by law provides that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint. Under this Act, Parliament has enacted 2 laws - River Boards Act, 1956 and Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956.
- River Boards Act, 1956, provides for the establishment of River Boards, for the regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys. River boards are established by central government on the request of the concerned state.
- Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 empowers the central government to set up tribunal for the adjudication of inter-state river dispute. The decision of the tribunal is final and binding on the parties to the dispute.
- Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to streamline the adjudication of inter-state river water disputes

and make the present institutional architecture robust.

- Recently, Ministry of Jal Shakti has notified the jurisdiction of Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) and Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act (APRA) of 2014

News: Centre notifies Godavari, Krishna river management boards

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseSelfFramePage.aspx?PRID=1736182>

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/centre-notifies-godavari-krishna-river-management-boards/articleshow/84475270.cms?from=mdr>

62. Consider following statements regarding the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds:

1. The funds are setup under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015.
2. It is set up as a non-profit trust in all mining districts of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds has been conceptualized as a benefit-sharing mechanism with mining-affected communities and set up as a non-profit trust in all mining districts of India.

Additional Information:

- It was mandated through the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act, (MMDRA) 2015 and is funded through the contributions from miners.
- The Act provides for the creation of a District Mineral Foundation (DMF) and a National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET).
- The DMF is to be established by the state government for the benefit of persons in districts affected by mining related operations.
- The fund is collected at the district level. There are certain high-priority areas identified in all states' DMF rules.
- Further, Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) said that that High priority areas like drinking water, health care, sanitation, education, skill development, welfare measures, skill development and environment conservation will get at least 60% share of the funds.

- Recently, Centre Government has taken complete control of the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds thereby negating states' right to sanction or approve any expenditure out of the funds

News: Alleged diversion: Centre takes complete control of district mineral funds from states

Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/alleged-diversion-centre-takes-complete-control-of-district-mineral-funds-from-states/2290387/>

<https://www.deccanherald.com/national/centre-to-take-complete-control-of-dmf-funds-1024874.html>

63. Which of the following statements regarding the Gangetic River dolphin is NOT correct?

- A. It is India's national aquatic animal.
- B. It is listed as Endangered under IUCN Red List.
- C. It is the only surviving freshwater dolphin species in the world.
- D. Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 categorises it under Schedule 1, thus providing it complete protection from poaching, killing, trading etc.

Answer: C

Explanation:

It is one of four freshwater dolphin species in the world. The other three are: 'Baiji' in Yangtze River in China (Functionally extinct since 2006), 'Boto' in Amazon River, 'Bhulan' in Indus River in Pakistan.

Additional Information:

- The Gangetic Dolphin is endemic to the Indian sub-continent and has a fairly extensive distribution range.
- It is found in the Ganga - Brahmaputra - Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of India and Bangladesh, while a few individuals survive in the Karnali, and the Sapta Kosi Rivers in Nepal.
- It is blind and finds its way and prey in river waters through echolocation.
- They are usually found in turbulent waters, where there are enough fish for them to feed on.
- India's and Asia's first National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC) is coming up in the premises of Patna University, Bihar.
The centre is being set up under the Project Dolphin.
- As per the committee, Bihar had a natural advantage as it accounted for 50% of the world's river dolphin population

News: India's first national dolphin research centre to come up in Patna

Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2019/dec/16/indias-first-national-dolphin-research-centre-to-come-up-in-patna-2076991.html>

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/work-on-india-s-first-dolphin-research-centre-to-start-in-patna-post-monsoon-77862>

64. Which of the following statements regarding the Rudreshwara Temple, recently seen in news, is correct?

- A. The temple belongs to the time period of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- B. It is dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- C. The temple founds mention in the works of renowned traveller Marco Polo
- D. None of the above.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement C is correct. Its construction started in 1213 AD under rule of

Kakatiya king Ganpati Deva and is dedicated to Lord Shiva.

Additional Information:

- Rudreshwara Temple, at Palampet, Mulugu district, near Warangal in Telangana, is a masterpiece of Kakatiyan style of Temple architecture.
- It is famous for engineering innovation by creating floating bricks, sand-box foundations, material selection knowledge.

- Famous Italian merchant and explorer Marco Polo had remarked that temple was “brightest star in the galaxy of medieval temples of the Deccan”.
- It includes pyramidal Vimana (horizontally stepped tower) made of lightweight porous bricks, so-called ‘floating bricks’, which reduced the weight of the roof structures.
- Recently, Kakatiya Rudreswara Temple (also known as the Ramappa Temple) and Dholavira have been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list.

News: India gets its 39th World Heritage Site: Rudreswara Temple (Ramappa Temple) at Palampet, Warangal, Telangana inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1738864>

<https://en.unesco.org/news/two-new-indian-sites-unesco-world-heritage-list>

65. Consider following statements regarding the KUSUM scheme:

1. It is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.
2. The scheme has been divided into two components of solarisation of grid-connected agriculture pumps and other of installation of standalone solar powered agriculture pumps.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Both statements are *incorrect*. It is being implemented by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and it has 3 components.

Additional Information:

- The main goal is to de-dieselise the farm sector by replacing diesel pumps with solarised ones.

Its 3 components are:

- Component A: 10,000 MW of Decentralized Ground Mounted Grid Connected Renewable Power Plants of individual plant size up to 2 MW.
- Component B: Installation of 17.50 lakh standalone Solar Powered Agriculture Pumps of individual pump capacity up to 7.5 HP.
- Component C: Solarisation of 10 Lakh Grid-connected Agriculture Pumps of individual pump capacity up to 7.5 HP.

It will help in:

- Achieving India's INDC target of 40% power from renewable

sources by 2030 under Paris Agreement.

- In respect of Solar pumps, it is made mandatory to use indigenously manufactured solar panels with indigenous solar cells and modules.
- Help the financial health of DISCOMs by reducing the subsidy burden
- Water security to farmers
- Reduce transmission losses through off-grid systems.

News: Union Minister for Power and MNRE takes review of implementation of PM-KUSUM

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseSelfFramePage.aspx?PRID=1747469>

<https://vikaspedia.in/energy/policy-support/renewable-energy-1/solar-energy/pm-kusum-scheme>

66. Consider following statements regarding the recently launched National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP):

1. Under it government would transfer the ownership and management of its assets to private entities in order raise funds for national development.
2. Top 5 sectors as identified by government would capture around 83% of the aggregate pipeline value.

3. Centre and State Governments would provide financing in the ratio of 50:50 for this.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Under it, government would not be transferring ownership rights to the private entities.

Additional Information:

- National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP), a roadmap for asset monetisation of various brownfield infrastructure assets across sectors.
- 'Monetization' is distinct shift from 'privatization' or 'structured partnerships' with the private sector within defined contractual frameworks. In this ownership remains with the government only.
- Monetization through disinvestment and monetization of non-core assets have not been included in the NMP.
- The total indicative value of NMP for Core Assets has been estimated at Rs 6.0 lakh crore over the 4 year period, FY 2022-2025.

- The top 5 sectors (by estimated value) capture ~83% of the aggregate pipeline value. These top 5 sectors include: Roads (27%) followed by Railways (25%), Power (15%), oil & gas pipelines (8%) and Telecom (6%).
- Finance sources: Centre would provide about 18% of funding. States would provide about 25% of the financing. Rest would be financed by banks, bond markets, NBFCs, PSUs and alternative financing.

News: National Monetisation Pipeline: unlocking value in brownfield projects via the private sector

Source:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-what-is-the-governments-plan-with-the-national-monetisation-pipeline-7468258/>

67. Consider following statements regarding Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):

1. It is created by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. It publishes Assessment Reports periodically based on its own original research.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. 1 only

- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 2 is *incorrect*. IPCC does not conduct original research nor monitor climate change, but rather undertakes a periodic, systematic review of all relevant published literature.

Additional Information:

- IPCC is created by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1998.
- The IPCC currently has 195 members including India.
- In 2007, the IPCC and U.S. Vice-President Al Gore were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change,

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently released its Sixth Assessment Report (AR6):

- It noted that global net-zero by 2050 was the minimum required to keep the temperature rise to 1.5 degree Celsius.
- The last decade was hotter than any period of time in the past 1,25,000 years.

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) Concentrations are the highest in at least two million years.
- Sea-level rise has tripled compared with 1901-1971. The Arctic Sea ice is the lowest it has been in 1,000 years.
- Every additional 0.5 °C of warming will increase hot extremes, extreme precipitation and drought.
- Heatwaves and humid heat stress will be more intense and frequent during the 21st century over South Asia.

News: IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report warns against unabated global warming

Source: <https://www.ipcc.ch/>
<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/ipccs-sixth-assessment-report-warns-against-unabated-global-warming/article35810868.ece>

68. What do you understand by the term 'Neo-Banks' recently seen in news?

- A. Used for 'fintech firms' with only a digital presence and no physical branches.
- B. Referred to 'bad bank' that takes over Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) from other banks' books
- C. Refers to NBFCs that deal only in new-aged 'crypto-currencies'
- D. None of the above.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Neo-bank is a term for 'fintech firms' with only a digital presence and no physical branches. They provide banking services use such as savings accounts, instant loans, credit cards, mutual funds, and fixed deposits.

Additional Information:

- They provide banking services via tie-ups with Reserve Bank of India (RBI)-licensed banks.
- They are usually mobile-first, leveraging technology to minimise operating costs and offer a customer-friendly interface.
- They help to analyze and track the spending
- They offer wider choices and better customer experiences with the following features: New account online can be opened in just a few minutes; Connecting of existing bank accounts; Receive payments immediately with integrated payment gateways.
- Examples include RazorpayX, InstantPay, NiYO, etc.

News: Rising challenges for Indian neo-banks

Source: <https://bfsi.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/fintech/rising-challenges-for-indian-neo-banks/85028088>

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/neo-bank-the-new->

[disruptor-on-the-block/article34093484.ece](https://www.sleepyclasses.com/block/article34093484.ece)

69. Consider following statements regarding the Quantum Computing:

1. 'QSim' is India's first Quantum Computer Simulator toolkit launched recently.
2. Quantum supremacy refers to the ability that a programmable quantum device can solve a problem that no classical computer can solve in any feasible amount of time.

Which of the above statements is/are **NOT** correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 both
- D. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) recently launched QSim – India's First Quantum Computer Simulator Toolkit.

Additional Information:

- QSim toolkit allows researchers and students to write and debug Quantum Code that is essential for developing Quantum Algorithms.
- This project is being executed collaboratively by IISc Bangalore,

IIT Roorkee and C-DAC with the support of MeitY

- Quantum computers harness the unique behaviour of quantum mechanics and apply it to computing.
- It uses 'qubits' as its the basic unit of information which are different from 'bits' used by traditional computers. While bits can hold only a position of 0 or 1, qubits can hold a superposition of all possible states.
- One related concept is Quantum supremacy: It's the point at which a quantum computer can complete a mathematical calculation that is demonstrably beyond the reach of even the most powerful supercomputer.

News: India's first Quantum Computer Simulator toolkit launched

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/indias-first-quantum-computer-simulator-toolkit-launched/articleshow/85696357.cms>

70. Recently launched 'Ubharte Sitaare Fund' scheme is related to:

- A. Scholarships to bright minority students to study in foreign universities.
- B. Seed funding to new firms in EduTech sector startups.
- C. Provide loans to enterprises working in 'sunshine' sectors.

D. To fund export-oriented firms & startups.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement D is correct. It is setup as an Alternative Investment Fund to help future champions among export-oriented firms & startups.

Additional Information:

- Fund corpus is Rs. 250 crore with a green shoe option of Rs 250 crore.
- Green shoe option is a provision that grants the right to sell investors more shares than initially planned by the issuer if the demand for a security issue proves higher than expected.
- It will be setup by Exim Bank and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- It is a mix of structured support to export-oriented units in manufacturing and services. i.e. financial and advisory services in the form of: investments in equity and equity-like instruments; debt (funded and non-funded) and Technical Assistance.

News: Ubharte Sitaare Fund: Rs 250-crore export-oriented fund for MSMEs launched.

Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/sme/ubharte-sitaare-fund-rs-250-crore-export-oriented-fund-for-msmes-launched/2315113/>

71. ANITA is related to

- A. A scheme to promote re-entry of married women into schools and colleges
- B. A radio telescope
- C. A satellite part of IRNSS
- D. ISRO's joint lunar polar exploration

Answer: B

Explanation:

ANITA is a radio telescope.

- Antarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna (ANITA) is a radio telescope instrument to detect ultra-high energy cosmic-ray neutrinos from a scientific balloon flying over the continent of Antarctica.

Additional info:

- ANITA is the first NASA observatory for neutrinos of any kind.
- Neutrinos are of great interest to astrophysicists as they are the only particles that can reach earth unattenuated at all energies.
- The ANITA instrument detects these ultra-high energy neutrinos by use of the Askaryan effect.
- This effect predicts the production of a coherent radio emission from the cascade of particles produced in a high-energy particle interaction.

News: ANITA detected an unusual upward movement of neutrinos in Antarctica.

Source: <https://www.timesnownews.com/technology-science/article/what-is-antarctic-impulsive-transient-antenna-or-anita/595256>

72. GISAID is a

- A. It's a potential drug for COVID-19 treatment.
- B. It's an initiative to share data related to influenza viruses and coronavirus.
- C. It is an international effort towards patent pooling.
- D. A new mechanism under TRIPS.

Answer: B

Explanation:

- GISAID is an initiative to share data related to influenza viruses and coronavirus.
- GISAID stands for the Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data; an international consortium of researchers helped to set it up as a non-profit foundation in 2008, to address researchers' reluctance to share data on influenza strains.
- It was started by WHO in 2008.

Additional info:

- Genome sequencing is figuring out the order of DNA nucleotides, or bases, in a genome – the order of As, Cs, Gs, and Ts that make up an organism's DNA.
- The human genome is made up of over 3 billion of these genetic letters.
- The Federal Republic of Germany became the official host of GISAID in 2010.

News: Costa Rica suggests pooling of rights to deal with the pandemic.

Source: <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/01/22/countries-look-to-acquire-the-ip-of-vaccine-makers-to-fight-pandemic.html>

73. Shadow Pad is a term related to

- A. Malware
- B. A rebel group
- C. Cyber Volunteer Program
- D. Offshore drilling

Answer: A

Explanation:

Shadow Pad is Malware.

Shadow Pad is a backdoor Trojan malware, which means it opens a secret path from its target system to its command-and-control servers. Information can be extracted or more malicious code delivered via this path.

Additional info:

- Cybersecurity is the practice of protecting critical systems and sensitive information from digital attacks
- Shadow Pad is built to target supply-chain infrastructure in sectors like transportation, telecommunication, energy and more.
- It was first identified in 2017, when it was found hidden in a legitimate software produced by a company named Net Sarang.

News: Chinese malware targets Indian power centers.

Source: <https://theprint.in/theprint-essential/redecho-shadowpad-how-chinese-hackers-may-have-accessed-critical-indian-computer-systems/614523/>

74. Which of the following is not a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)?
- A. Onges
 - B. Bodo Gadaba
 - C. Maldhari
 - D. Jarawas

Answer: C

Explanation:

Maldhari is not a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. It is a tribe belonging to Gujarat.

- PVTGs are more vulnerable among the tribal groups. Onges and Jarawas are PVTGs that reside in Andamans archipelago. Bodo Gadaba are found in Andhra Pradesh and Telangan.

Additional info:

- 75 PVTGs have been identified in the country
- Government of India follows the following criteria for identification of PVTGs.
 1. Pre-agricultural level of technology
 2. Low level of literacy
 3. Economic backwardness
 4. A declining or stagnant population

News: Displacement of Maldhari tribes within Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Source: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/project-lion-could-displace-maldharis-within-gir-to-create-inviolable-space--73992>

75. S Mulgoankar vs Unknown is a case related to
- A. Right to Shebaitship
 - B. Uniform Civil Code
 - C. E-Lok Adalaats
 - D. Contempt of Court

Answer: D

Explanation:

S Mulgoankar vs Unknown is related to Contempt of Court. Right to Shebaitship is related to the rights of the erstwhile Royal Family of Travancore as the shebait of Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple.

Additional info:

- Parliament framed the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, laying down procedure and punishment.
- The Act divides contempt into civil and criminal contempt.
- Civil contempt refers to the willful disobedience of an order of any court.
- Criminal contempt includes any act or publication which: scandalises the court, prejudices any judicial proceeding or interferes with the administration of justice in any other manner.

News: SC holds Prashant Bushan for Contempt of Court.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-contempt-of-court-attorney-general-7049560/>

76. Investment Clearance Cell has been established for which sector?

- A. Infrastructure
- B. Manufacturing
- C. Aviation
- D. Food Processing

Answer: C

Explanation:

ICC has been established for the Aviation sector.

MoCA (Ministry of Civil Aviation) has an Investment Clearance Cell (ICC) for prompt assistance and clearance

Additional info:

- The setting up of the ICC was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in 2020-2021 Union Budget
- The 10-member ICC will be headed by Amber Dubey, joint secretary in the aviation ministry, according to the MoCA order.
- The ICC has been mandated to serve as a single-window system for attracting investment and its terms of reference include accelerating investments, bringing projects to the Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) which require special incentive, policy interventions, expeditious clearances and systematic references, among others,
- The ICC will also identify projects and report to EGoS and maintain active contacts with investors and work with the states, duly adopting ways of on-boarding the states to make them a part of the institutional set-up.

News: Govt established ICC for Aviation sector

Source:

<https://journalsofindia.com/investment-clearance-cell-icc/>

77. Five Eyes is related to

- A. Global trade alliance among top 5 trading partners
- B. A new plant species which resembles as if five eyes were being viewed from top
- C. It's a collaboration of five nations to counter threats by China and North Korea
- D. US strategy to increase US maritime security

Answer: C

Explanation:

Five Eyes is an international collaboration of five nations- US, UK, Canada, New Zealand and Australia to counter threats by China and North Korea.

Additional Information:

- The Five Eyes is an intelligence alliance consisting of the US, UK, Australia, Canada and New Zealand.
- The origins of the Five Eyes can be traced back to the informal meetings between the US and UK code-breakers during the Second World War.
- In 1941, British and American intelligence members began engaging in secret meetings

before signing the Atlantic Charter that August, which listed global objectives for the two countries beyond the conclusion of the war.

- According to the UK's Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), this Charter paved the way for the Britain-USA agreement, and later the UKUSA agreement, which was signed in 1946.

News: Japan joins five eyes, by becoming the sixth eye.

Source:

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/resolved-japan-ready-become-formal-member-five-eyes>

78. World Economic Situation and Social Prospects Report 2021 is published by

- A. WEF
- B. UNCTAD and DESA
- C. WTO
- D. ILO and WTO

Answer: B

Explanation:

World Economic Situation and Social Prospects Report 2021 is published UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNCTAD.

Additional info:

- The latest edition underscore the importance of the SGDs for

emerging stronger from the Great Disruption to the world economy caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The report asserts that the only way to offset socio-economic devastation resulting from the pandemic is to make 'smart investments in economic, societal and climate resilience'.
- The 2021 WESP report updates a mid-2020 prediction, to report that 131 million additional people are likely living in poverty as a result of COVID-19.

News: World Economic Situation and Social Prospects Report 2021 published.

Source: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-2021/>

79. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

1. PMFBY recently completed 5 years of its operation.
2. One of the feature of PMFBY is Cluster Approach for Insurance Companies.
3. It only covers small and marginal farmers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 2 only

D. All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 and 2 are correct. Statement 3 is wrong. PMFBY covers all farmers growing notified crops in a notified area during the season who have insurable interest in the crop are eligible.

Additional info:

- Premium cost over and above the farmer share is equally subsidized by States and GoI.
- GoI shares 90% of the premium subsidy for North Eastern States to promote the uptake in the region.
- The average sum insured per hectare has increased from Rs. 15,100 during the pre-PMFBY Schemes to Rs. 40,700 under PMFBY.
- Integration of land records with the PMFBY portal, Crop Insurance mobile-app for easy enrollment of farmers and usage of technology such as satellite imagery, remote-sensing technology, drones, artificial intelligence and machine learning to assess crop losses are some of the key features of the scheme.

- The scheme makes it easier for the farmer to report crop loss within 72 hours of occurrence of any event through the Crop Insurance App, CSC Centre or the nearest agriculture officer.

News: PMFBY completes 5 years

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1687913>

80. Consider the following statements regarding P172+18:

1. It is a recently discovered Quasar.
2. Quasar have enormous amount of energy in them producing from black holes.
3. Quasars helps astronomers to understand birth of universe in a better way.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All the above statements are correct regarding Quasars.

Additional info:

- Quasars are among the brightest objects in the Universe. Therefore, astronomers can

study them in detail at large cosmological distances.

- Although first discovered in 1963 by measuring radio waves, only 10% of quasars are radio-loud, i. e., shine particularly bright at radio frequencies
- The scientists found the quasar designated P172+18 at redshift $z = 6.82$. It corresponds to an era when the Universe was just 780 million years old, which is about 100 million years earlier than the previous record holder.
- An international group of researchers have discovered the most distant radio source known to date. Eduardo Bañados, an astrophysicist at the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA) in Heidelberg, and Chiara Mazzucchelli of the European Southern Observatory (ESO) in Chile and former PhD students at MPIA headed the collaboration.

News: Most distant radio loud quasar currently known.

Source:

<https://www.mpg.de/16478716/the-most-distant-radio-beacon-in-the-early-universe#>

81. Consider the following statements regarding Ageing

1. WHO defines healthy ageing as “the process of developing and

maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age.”

2. The percentage of elderly population is more in urban areas as compared to rural areas in India.
3. RVY deals with aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category who suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment etc.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 and 3 are correct whereas 2 is *incorrect*. The percentage of elderly population is more in rural areas as compared to urban areas.

Additional info:

- The number and proportion of people aged 60 years and older in the population is increasing. In 2019, the number of people aged 60 years and older was 1 billion. This number will increase to 1.4 billion by 2030 and 2.1 billion by 2050.

- This increase is occurring at an unprecedented pace and will accelerate in coming decades, particularly in developing countries.
- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) scheme on 01.04.2017 for providing physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens belonging to BPL category and also to the senior citizens with monthly income not more than Rs. 15000/-.

The following aids & assisted devices are provided under the scheme:

- (i) Generic Items: (1) Walking sticks (2) Elbow crutches (3) Walkers/Crutches, (4) Tripods/Quadpods (5) Hearing Aids (6) Artificial Dentures, and (7) Spectacles.

News: Decade of Healthy Ageing declared by the UN General Assembly.

Source: <https://www.who.int/news/item/14-12-2020-decade-of-healthy-ageing-a-new-un-wide-initiative>

82. Consider the following statements regarding Turtles in India

1. Olive Ridleys turtles are only found in the Odisha state of India.
2. Leatherback turtles are found along the entire coastline of India.

Olive Ridley and Leatherback turtles are Marine turtles.

3. India is yet to sign the Indian Ocean Sea Turtle Agreement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1, 2 and 4 are *incorrect*. Statement 3 is correct. Olive Ridelys are found on the coast of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andaman and Nicobar islands and Lakshadweep.

- Leatherback turtles are found only in Andaman and Nicobar islands.
- India has signed the IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU in 2007.

Additional info:

- The action plan aims to conserve marine turtles and their habitats for maintaining a healthy marine ecosystem.
- The vision is to create a viable and healthy marine ecosystem for marine turtles and associated species through a coordinated and participatory mechanism to ensure long term survival of marine turtles.

- India has a vast coastline of more than 7,500 km, of which, about 5,400 km belong to Peninsular India and about 2,000 km to the Andaman, Nicobar, and Lakshadweep Islands, and with an EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) of 2.02 million sq. km.
- Five species of sea turtles are found in Indian waters. The marine biodiversity including marine turtles in India is one among the richest in the Indian Ocean.
- India is home to the largest known nesting population of olive ridley turtles.
- Marine turtles have a major influence on the structure and function of marine biodiversity and play an important role in shaping the behavior and life history traits of prey species and predators that is critical for the sustainability of fisheries in the region.

News: MOEFCC launches National Marine Action Turtle Plan

Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1692990>

83. Consider the following statements regarding the recently amended Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on adoption of the Integrity Pact.

1. CVC is a constitutional body for preventing corruption in the central government.
2. Integrity Pact is a vigilance tool that envisages an agreement between the prospective vendors/bidders and the buyer, committing both the parties not to exercise any corrupt influence on any aspect of the contract.
3. Maximum tenure of Integrity External Monitors has been restricted to 2 years.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 and 3 are *incorrect*. Statement 2 is correct.

- CVC is a statutory body and not a constitutional body. It was established on the recommendations of K.Santhanam Committee.
- Maximum tenure of Integrity External Monitors (IEMs) has been restricted to 3 years.
- Additional info:
- The IEMs independently and objectively review the documents to determine if the

parties have complied with their obligations under the pact.

- They may submit a report to the chief executive of the organisation concerned or directly to the CVO and the CVC, if they find serious irregularities attracting the Prevention of Corruption Act provisions.

News: CVC amends Integrity Pact.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cvc-amends-sop-for-adoption-of-integrity-pact-in-govt-organisations/article32932525.ece>

84. Consider the following statements regarding Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) ?

1. New funding has been developed for this scheme in the ratio 50:50 for all states except NE states.
2. District Collector will serve as the nodal officer for implementing SAGY.
3. Model Village concept aims to address various challenges like health, livelihood etc.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is *incorrect*. No new funding has been allocated. Statements 2 and 3 are correct.

Additional info:

- Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is a village development project launched by Government of India in October 2014, under which each Member of Parliament will take the responsibility of developing physical and institutional infrastructure in three villages by 2019.
- The goal is to develop three Adarsh Grams by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, five such Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.
- These values include promoting a culture of cleanliness, nurturing local self governance, guaranteeing social justice among others.

News: SAGY completes 6 years.

Source: <https://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/rural-poverty-alleviation-1/schemes/sansad-adarsh-gram-yojana>

85. Consider the following statements regarding Glacial Lakes

1. They are ice-dammed, moraine-dammed and bedrock-dammed lakes.

2. Due to global warming, they are reducing in size and numbers.

Which of the above statements is *incorrect*?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 2 is *incorrect*. Glacial Lakes are expanding in numbers and size not reducing.

Additional info:

- Glaciers and lakes are intrinsically connected. Lakes form when meltwater ponds, and this can happen on the ice surface (supraglacial lakes), in front of the ice (proglacial lakes), or even underneath the ice (subglacial lakes).
- Glacier lakes can affect ice flow by reducing friction at the ice-bed interface, encouraging basal sliding.
- They can change the albedo of the ice surface, encouraging more surface melt.
- Proglacial lakes cause calving, which affects mass balance and can decouple mountain glaciers from climate.
- Glacier lakes can be hazardous; moraine and ice dams can fail,

causing catastrophic glacier lake outburst floods or jokulhlaups.

News: Glacial lakes outburst.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/lessons-from-ladakhs-glacial-lake-outburst/article33048752.ece>

86. Consider the following statements regarding Bureau of Police Research and Development:

1. It has been established by GoI under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It has been publishing data on police organisations since 1986.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both statements are correct.

Additional info:

- BPR&D (Bureau of Police Research and Development) is under the Ministry of Home Affairs and is mandated to promote excellence in policing, speedy and systematic study of police problems and apply science and technology in methods and techniques by Police.

News: BPRD releases data relating to police organizations.

Source:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1684384>

87. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

1. Center and states equally contribute to this scheme.
2. The responsibility to identify the beneficiary lies with the gram panchayat.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Both statements are *incorrect*. Only the center contributes to the scheme. The responsibility to identify the beneficiary lies with the concerned state or UT government.

Additional info:

- The Government with a view to augment the income of the farm families is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN).
- With a view to provide income support to all land holding

eligible farmer families, the Government has launched PM-KISAN. The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields,

commensurate with the anticipated farm income.

- The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.
- Earlier, under the scheme, financial benefit has been provided to all Small and Marginal landholder farmer families with total cultivable holding upto 2 hectares with a benefit of Rs.6000 per annum per family payable in three equal instalments, every four months.

News: Ministry of Agriculture replies to RTI.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/over-50-mn-farmers-yet-to-get-payments-under-third-round-of-pm-kisan-rti-120020500442_1.html

88. Consider the following regarding to Production Linked Incentive scheme

1. It has been recently approved for the Telecom and IT hardware sector.
2. The duration is the same for all the above sectors.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 2 is *incorrect*. Different sectors have different duration.

Additional info:

- An outlay of INR 1.97 lakh crores for the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes across 13 key sectors, to create national manufacturing champions and generate employment opportunities for the country's youth.
- The objective is to make domestic manufacturing globally competitive and to create global Champions in manufacturing.
- The first three PLI Schemes were approved earlier in March, 2020 and these were followed by another 10 New PLI Schemes in November, 2020
- The PLI scheme for the Telecom sector is from 2021-22 to 2025-26 and for the IT hardware sector

is 2021-22 to 2024-25, unless a one year extension is given for the latter.

News: PLI scheme has been extended to Telecom, IT hardware and Pharmaceuticals sectors.

Source:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1700425>

89. Consider the following statements regarding Commitment to Reduce Inequality Index 2020

1. It is released by ILO.
2. India has been ranked at 129th in the latest ranking.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both statements are correct. CRI Index is released by ILO.

Additional info:

- ILO was created in 1919. India is a founding member of ILO. It is the only tripartite UN agency which brings together governments, employers and workers.

- Commitment to Reduce Inequality Index (CRI) is released by ILO. It is developed by Development Finance International and Oxfam International.
- CRI Index measures governments actions on-taxation, workers rights and public services.

News: Ministry of Employment and Labour has slammed the rankings by ILO.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ministry-slams-oxfam-inequality-index/article34136349.ece>

90. Consider the following statements regarding Space Hurricanes

1. Recently, it was detected above the North Pole.
2. They are formed as a result of the interactions between solar wind and earth's magnetic field.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both statements are correct. For the first time, space hurricane was

detected. A space hurricane rains electrons into the ionosphere, causing a stunning effect that is a huge, cyclone-shaped glowing green aurora below the hurricane.

Additional info:

- It ranged from 110 to 860 kms in altitude and consisted of plasmas with many spiral arms swirling in anticlockwise direction.
- These hurricanes will help in understanding important space weather effects.
- In space, astronomers have spotted hurricanes on Mars, Saturn and Jupiter, which are similar to terrestrial hurricanes in the low atmosphere.

News: Space hurricane detected for the first time.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/first-space-hurricane-detected-north-pole-swirled-8-hours-1775049-2021-03-03>

91. Consider the following statements in context to WHO funding:

1. WHO gets its funding from member states and other partners.
2. The amount each Member State must pay is calculated relative to the country's wealth and population.
3. The assessed contribution of member states forms a major chunk of WHO's total budget.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

WHO

- The WHO was established in 7 April 1948, which is commemorated as World Health Day.
- The WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
- It is part of the U.N. Sustainable Development Group.
- It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland

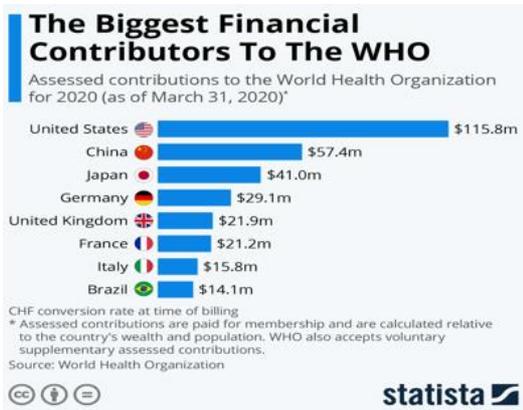
World health assembly

- Composed of representatives from all 194 member states, serves as the agency's supreme decision-making body
- Convenes annually and is responsible for selecting the Director-General, setting goals and priorities, and approving the WHO's budget and activities.

WHO Funding

- WHO gets its funding from two main sources: Member States paying their assessed

contributions (countries' membership dues), and voluntary contributions from Member States and other partners.



organizations, philanthropic foundations, the private sector, and other sources.

- Voluntary contributions come from Member States (in addition to their assessed contribution) or from other partners.
- In recent years, voluntary contributions have accounted for more than three quarters of the Organization's financing.

Assessed contributions (AC)

- are a percentage of a country's Gross Domestic Product (the percentage is agreed by the United Nations General Assembly).
- Member States approve them every two years at the World Health Assembly. They cover less than 20% of the total budget.
- Assessed contributions are the dues countries pay in order to be a member of the Organization.
- The amount each Member State must pay is calculated relative to the country's wealth and population.

Voluntary Funding

- The remainder of WHO's financing is in the form of voluntary contributions (VC), largely from Member States as well as from other United Nations organizations, intergovernmental

92. Class effect often in news, Which among the following is correct in this context:

1. Drugs with similar chemical structure
2. Drugs with similar mechanism of action
3. Drugs with similar pharmacological effects

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Class Effect

- Scientists at Johnson & Johnson refuted an assertion in a major medical journal that the design of their COVID-19 vaccine, which is similar AstraZeneca's, may explain why both have been

linked to very rare brain blood clots in some vaccine recipients.

- Class effect is usually taken to mean similar therapeutic effects and similar adverse effects, both in nature and extent. If such a class effect exists, then it makes decision-making easy: you choose the cheapest.

Criteria for drugs to be grouped together as a class involve some or all of the following:

- Drugs with similar chemical structure
- Drugs with similar mechanism of action
- Drugs with similar pharmacological effects

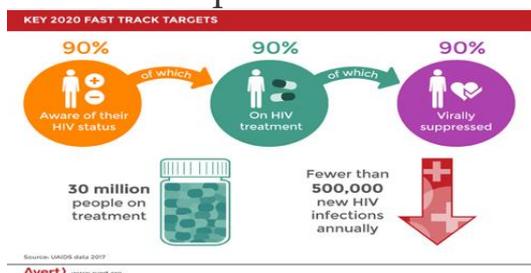
93. 90-90-90 an ambitious treatment target of UN to end:

- COVID 19
- AIDS
- Tuberculosis
- Malaria

Answer: B

Explanation:

90-90-90: An Ambitious Treatment Target of Unaid's to Help End the Aids Epidemic.



94. Which among the following is/are correct in context to Monkey B virus

1. Macaque monkeys commonly have this virus, and it can be found in their saliva, faeces, urine etc
2. Till date, no case has been documented of human infection

Select the correct answer code:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Monkey B virus

- China has reported the first death case with Monkey B virus (BV)
- The virus, initially isolated in 1932, is an alphaherpesvirus enzootic in macaques of the genus Macaca.
- B virus is the only identified old-world-monkey herpesvirus that displays severe pathogenicity in humans.

Transmission

- The infection can be transmitted via direct contact and exchange of bodily secretions of monkeys and has a fatality rate of 70 per cent to 80 per cent.

- Macaque monkeys commonly have this virus, and it can be found in their saliva, feces (poop), urine (pee), or brain or spinal cord tissue.
- The virus may also be found in cells coming from an infected monkey in a lab.
- B virus can survive for hours on surfaces, particularly when moist

When can a human get infected with B virus?

- Humans can get infected if they are bitten or scratched by an infected monkey
- Get an infected monkey's tissue or fluid on broken skin or in eyes, nose, or mouth
- Scratch or cut oneself on a contaminated cage or other sharp-edged surface or get exposed to the brain (especially), spinal cord, or skull of an infected monkey

Are there any cases of human-to-human transmission?

- Till date, only one case has been documented of an infected person spreading B virus to another person.

Who are at higher risk for infection?

- The virus might pose a potential threat to laboratory workers, veterinarians, and others who may be exposed to monkeys or their specimens.

Symptoms

- Start within one month of being exposed to B virus, but could appear in as little as three to seven days
- The first indications of B virus infection are typically flu-like symptoms such as fever and chills, muscle ache, fatigue and headache, following which an infection person may develop small blisters in the wound or area on the body that came in contact with the monkey.
- Some other symptoms of the infection include shortness of breath, nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain and hiccups.
- As the disease progresses, the virus spreads to and causes inflammation (swelling) of the brain and spinal cord, leading to neurologic and inflammatory symptoms

95. Recently Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Bombay incubated start-up has developed Nano Sniffer device, it helps to detect:

- A. Lung diseases
- B. Explosives
- C. Mutation
- D. Alcohol

Answer: B

Explanation:

Nano sniffer- Business Standard

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Bombay incubated startup Nano Sniff Technologies has developed the world's first micro-sensor based explosive trace detector (ETD)
- To be branded and marketed as 'Nano Sniffer', the device has been developed for the first time in the world using a micro-electromechanical system (MEMS), with its core technology being protected by patents in the US, Europe and India

Nano Sniffer

- 100% 'Made in India' product in terms of research, development & manufacturing.
- Nano Sniffer provides trace detection of nano-gram quantities of explosives and can accurately detect a wide range of military, commercial and homemade explosives threats
- Further analysis of the algorithms also helps in categorization of explosives into the appropriate class.
- It can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds

96. Which among the following is/are correct in context to FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge :

1. It aims to accelerate adoption of Free and Open Source Software in Government

2. It was announced by NITI Aayog

Select the correct answer code

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge (PIB)

- MeitY announces FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge to accelerate adoption of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) In Government
- Background
- The Government of India had issued a Policy on Adoption of Open Source Software in 2015 in order to acknowledge the huge potential of FOSS.
- India is well positioned to become a vibrant hub for Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) innovations, due to the large number of 4G data subscribers in India.
- Around 96% of whom access the digital world via open-source based mobile operating systems (primarily Android).

- India's largest-government projects (including Aadhaar) and many technology start-ups have also been built using FOSS.

Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)?

- Open source software is software with source code that anyone can inspect, modify, and enhance.
- "Source code" is the part of software that most computer users don't ever see; it's the code computer programmers can manipulate to change how a piece of software—a "program" or "application"—works.
- Programmers who have access to a computer program's source code can improve that program by adding features to it or fixing parts that don't always work correctly.
- It gives developers the opportunity to improve program functionality by modifying it.
- It doesn't mean software is free of cost

97. Which among the following is/are correct in context to Zeolites :

1. Zeolites are crystalline solids structures made of silicon, aluminum and oxygen.
2. They can be used to adsorb a variety of materials.

3. They can be used in pressure swing adsorption (PSA) technology.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Zeolite

- Recently Air India Airlifts 35 Tonnes of Zeolite Used in Oxygen Production Plants from Rome
- Zeolites are crystalline solids structures made of silicon, aluminum and oxygen that form a framework with cavities and channels inside where cations, water and/or small molecules may reside. They are often also referred to as molecular sieves

Application

- Adsorption: Zeolites are used to adsorb a variety of materials. This includes applications in drying, purification, and separation. They can remove water
- Zeolite is used in oxygen production plants that are based on pressure swing adsorption (PSA) technology
- Catalysis: Zeolites are extremely useful as catalysts for several

important reactions involving organic molecule

- Ion exchange: Hydrated cations within the zeolite pores are bound loosely to the zeolite framework, and can readily exchange with other cations when in aqueous media. Applications of this can be seen in water softening devices, and the use of zeolites in detergents and soaps.

Other

- Aquaculture: Ammonia filtration in fish hatcheries
- Agriculture: Odour control
- Household : odour control

98. In recent times, many companies are exploring Low earth orbit technology to provide satellite internet. Which among the following is/ are correct in this context:

1. Low earth orbit Provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems
2. In low earth orbit companies need to launch less number of satellite as compare to high earth orbit
3. Satellite's footprint in low earth orbit is greater than high earth orbit

Select the correct answer code:

A. 1 only

B. 1 and 2 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: A

Explanation:

Satellite Internet

- Following the successful launch of 36 satellites on May 28, OneWeb's Low Earth Orbit (LEO) constellation reached 218 in-orbit satellites
- The company only has one more launch to complete before it obtains the capacity to enable its 'Five to 50' service of offering internet connectivity to all regions north of 50 degrees latitude.

What is OneWeb?

- OneWeb is a global communications company that aims to deliver broadband satellite Internet around the world through its fleet of LEO satellites

Low Earth Orbit technology	
Distance	Around 500km-2000km from earth
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems • Signals travel faster through space than through fibre-optic cables
Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satellites travel at a speed of 27,000 kph and complete a full circuit of the planet in 90-120 minutes • Individual satellites can only make direct contact with a land transmitter for a short period of time thus requiring massive LEO satellite fleets • Huge capital investment

99. Nuclear fusion can be an alternative to Nuclear fission to provide huge amount of clean energy . Which among the following is/are correct in context to challenges faced in development of such technology:

1. For nuclear fusion to occur, tremendous heat and pressure is required
2. Till date we are not able to achieve temperature equivalent to Sun's temperature
3. It generate huge amount of waste which is difficult to handle with current technologies available.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Artificial Sun

- China's Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), which mimics the energy generation process of the sun, set a new record after it ran at 216 million degrees Fahrenheit (120 million degrees Celsius) for 101 seconds.
- For another 20 seconds, the "artificial sun" also achieved a peak temperature of 288 million degrees Fahrenheit (160 million degrees Celsius), which is over ten times hotter than the sun.

Artificial sun - Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST)

- It is an advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device located at the Institute of Plasma Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ASIPP) in Hefei, China
- The purpose of the artificial sun is to replicate the process of nuclear fusion, which is the same reaction that powers the sun.
- EAST project is part of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) facility.

Other Tokamak in China

- HL-2A reactor as well as J-TEXT.
- In December 2020, HL-2M Tokamak, China's largest and most advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device, was successfully powered up for the first time

Artificial sun (EAST)- working

- Designed to replicate the nuclear fusion process
- Nuclear fusion is a process through which high levels of energy are produced without generating large quantities of waste.
- For nuclear fusion to occur, tremendous heat and pressure are applied on hydrogen atoms so that they fuse together.

- The nuclei of deuterium and tritium – both found in hydrogen – are made to fuse together to create a helium nucleus, a neutron along with a whole lot of energy

study of science at an early stage and build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and Research & Development base.

100. Which among the following is/are correct in context to INSPIRE Scheme:

- It covers students in the age group of 10-32 years

1. It aims to communicate to the youth population of the country the creative pursuit of science and attract talent to the study of science at an early stage
2. It is one of the flagship programmes of Indian Space Research Organisation
3. It covers students in the age group of 10-32 years

Select the correct answer code:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

INSPIRE Scheme (2010)

- It is one of the flagship programmes of Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India.
- The objective is to communicate to the youth population of the country the creative pursuit of science and attract talent to the