



**Goaltide**  
A Prelims IAS Academy

# Goaltide Daily Quiz (consolidation)

**September  
2020  
Part - II**

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Q1. Consider the following Pairs.

Power Plants/Projects in India in news	Affected National Park/Tiger Reserve
1. Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station	Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve
2. Kaiga Nuclear Plant	Bandhavgarh National Park
3. Ken-Betwa river linking project	Panna Tiger Reserve

Select the correct Pairs.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**We are covering such topics in our Daily Current Affairs section. You must [read it](#).**

Suppose this question comes in exam, so most of you will skip without looking it. Not always, but there is possibility, you can do correct.

At least we know, where is **Kaiga**. It is in **Karnataka**. And **Bandhavgarh** is in **Madhya Pradesh**. **Second option is incorrect then.**

**Now, left with 1 and 3. 1 is in both options, 3 is easy as most of you have read this.**

Power Plants in India	Affected National Park/Tiger Reserve
Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station	Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve
<b>Kaiga Nuclear Plant</b>	<b>Kali Tiger Reserve</b>
Ken-Betwa river linking project	Panna Tiger Reserve

Clearing the final hurdle in the expansion of the capacity of the Kaiga Atomic power plant in Karwar area of Karnataka, an expert wildlife panel led by the Indian government's environment minister Prakash Javadekar has **recommended wildlife clearance** to it.

The project related to setting up of pressurised heavy water reactor-based nuclear power plant with installed capacity of 1,400 megawatt (MW) comprising of two units of 700 MW each in the existing premises of 54.09 hectares at Kaiga plant located 1.30 kilometres away from the boundary of the Kali Tiger Reserve got the go-ahead in the meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) on August 29, 2019.

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited's (NPCIL) **Kaiga nuclear power plant** is operational in the Karwar area of Uttara Kannada district in Karnataka. In 1992, it received environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) for setting up six units of 220-megawatt capacity each. At present, the units 1-4 (of 220 MW capacity each) are operational.

### **Favourable conditions to live**

The Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station (CSTPS) is connected to famous Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) through a corridor of coal mines that is thickly covered with Prosopis plant species. Adequate prey base in the form of stray cattle and wild boars, substantial tree cover and a perennial nullah passing through the CSTPS help meet all the basic needs of these resident tigers, point out experts.

Q2. Which of the following are the objectives of National Gokul Mission?

1. To undertake breed improvement program for indigenous cattle breeds to improve the genetic makeup.
2. To enhance milk production and productivity of indigenous bovines.
3. To distribute disease free high genetic merit bulls of indigenous breeds for natural service

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

For such schemes, it is very important for you to know the objective. Don't remember like it is Gokul, mean something related to cow. *Either you study well or just enjoy life. Life is very beautiful outside UPSC.*

**Rastriya Gokul Mission (RGM)** has been launched in December 2014 with an outlay of Rs 2025 crore for development and conservation of indigenous breeds through selective breeding in the breeding tract and genetic upgradation of nondescript bovine population. The scheme comprises of two components namely National Programme for Bovine Breeding (NPBB) and National Mission on Bovine Productivity (NMBP).

### Objectives of RGM :

- Development and conservation of indigenous breeds; ✓
- Breed improvement programme for indigenous breeds so as to improve the genetic makeup and increase the stock; ✓
- Enhancing milk production and productivity of bovine population by increasing disease free high genetic merit female population and check on spread of diseases ;
- Upgrading nondescript cattle using elite indigenous breeds like Gir, Sahiwal, Rathi, Deoni, Tharparkar, Red Sindhi ;
- Distribution of disease free high genetic merit bulls for natural service; ✓
- To bring all breedable females under organised breeding through AI or natural service using germ plasm of high genetic merits;
- To arrange quality Artificial Insemination (AI) services at farmers' doorstep;
- To create e-market portal for bovine germplasm for connecting breeders and farmers;
- ✓ To increase trade of livestock and livestock products by meeting out sanitary and phyto sanitary (SPS) issues;
- ✓ To select breeding bulls of high genetic merit at a young age through application of genomics.

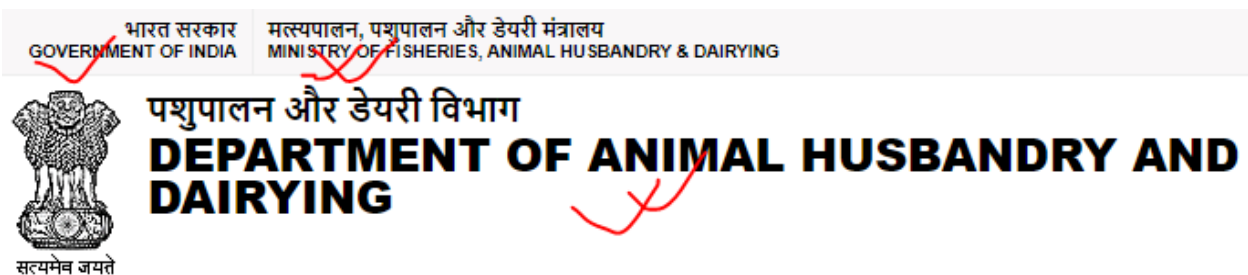
See Gokul Gram also.

## 2. **Gokul Gram:**

The Rashtriya Gokul Mission also envisages establishment of integrated cattle development centres 'Gokul Grams' to develop indigenous breeds including upto 40% nondescript breeds.

- To promote indigenous cattle rearing and conservation in a scientific manner.
- To propagate high genetic merit bulls of indigenous breeds.
- To optimize modern Farm Management practices and promote Common Resource Management.
- To utilize animal waste in economical way i.e. Cow Dung, Cow Urine

And what is the Ministry:



Q3. Recently, Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) was seen in news in India. It is launched by:

- a. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- b. NITI Aayog
- c. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- d. Ministry of Road and Transport

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Climate Centre for Cities under National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is supporting **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in implementation of CSCAF.**



# CLIMATESMART CITIES

## Assessment Framework 2.0

**We have two CSCAF 1.0 and CSCAF 2.0 TILL NOW:**

**What is CSCAF?**

### ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework

The ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework is a first-of-its-kind assessment framework on climate relevant parameters. Launched in 2019 by MoHUA, the objective is to provide a clear roadmap for Indian cities towards combating climate change while planning their actions within the city including investments.

Based on a background study of internal climate assessment models and frameworks along with consultation with several organizations and city representatives, the CSCAF 1.0 was formulated with focus on indicators across 5 sectors (i) Energy and Green Buildings; (ii) Urban Planning, Biodiversity and Green Cover; (iii) Mobility and Air; (vi) Water Resource Management and (v) Waste Management.

## ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework 2.0

### An Overview

The CSCAF 2.0 has been revised based on the experience of phase 1 implementation and feedback received from cities. A thorough review of the indicators, progression levels and data inputs have been conducted with cities and further validated and approved by the expert committee and the thematic sub group committee.

Improved indicators with feedback from cities and thematic experts

Simplified for easy understanding

Alignment with Swachh Survekshan & Ease of Living

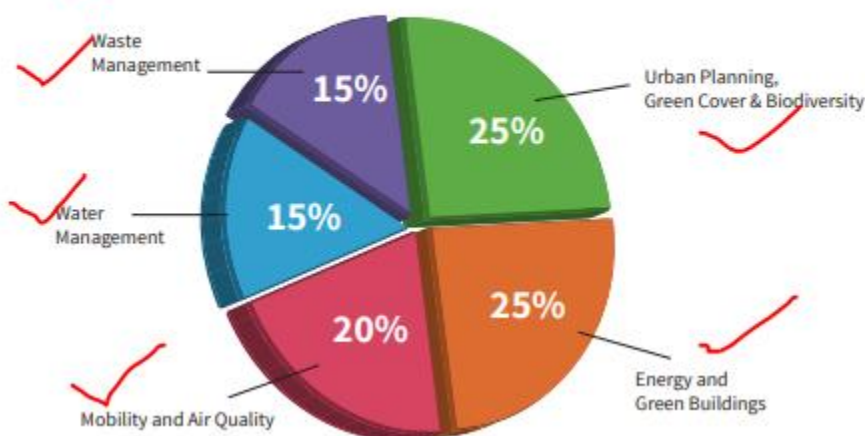
Standard evidence templates and data input templates to support in data collection

Centralized portal for data entry with dashboard to view real time updates

The framework has 28 indicators across five categories namely:

- Energy and Green Buildings.
- Urban Planning, Green Cover & Biodiversity.
- Mobility and Air Quality.
- Water Management.
- Waste Management.

Figure 2.1. Sector-wise weightage for ClimateSmart Cities Assessment 2.0



You can watch 2 minute [video](#) on Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0

Link: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1653293>

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Constitutional Provisions related to Privileges.

1. Parliamentary Privileges parliamentary privileges are only available to members of the House.
2. Parliamentary Privileges are not available to lower of Parliament and State Legislatures.
3. Concept of parliamentary privilege in the Constitution of India has been taken from the British Constitution.

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

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Incorrect statement. Be careful!!**

**Second statement is incorrect.**

**Article 105 contains the privileges enjoyed by the members of the parliament. Similarly, Art. 194 deals with the privileges given to the members of state legislative assembly.**

*Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its Members*

✓ **105. Powers, privileges, etc., of the Houses of Parliament and of the members and committees**

**thereof.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution and to the rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of Parliament, there shall be freedom of speech in Parliament.

(2) **No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof, and no person shall be so liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings.**

*Powers, Privileges and Immunities of State Legislatures and their Members*

**194. Powers, privileges, etc., of the Houses of Legislatures and of the members and committees thereof.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution and to the rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of the Legislature, there shall be freedom of speech in the Legislature of every State.

(2) No member of the Legislature of a State shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Legislature or any committee thereof, and no person shall be so liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of a House of such a Legislature of any report, paper, votes or proceedings.

**First statement is incorrect.**

Additionally, Article 105(2) confers immunity with regard to proceedings in courts. It provides that any member of parliament cannot be held liable to any 'proceedings' in any court in relation to anything uttered, any vote casted in Parliament or a committee thereof. **It must be noticed that parliamentary privileges are also available to those who, though not members of a House, are authorized to speak and participate in the proceedings of a House or any of its committees. These individuals may be Ministers and Attorney-General.**

**Third statement is correct.**

For the effective and efficient exercise of their powers, the Parliament has conferred certain privileges on the members of the houses which are recognized as Parliamentary privileges. In Britain, the famous case of **Sir John Eliot and the Bill of Rights, 1688**, laid down the principle that the freedom of speech and debates in the parliament should not be questioned anywhere outside the parliament. **As we have borrowed the parliamentary form of government from Britain, the concept of parliamentary privileges has also been adopted from there.**

**Q5. Recently India signed an agreement concerning Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services that enhance the interoperability of army and defence engagement with which country?**

- a. Australia
- b. Bangladesh
- c. Japan
- d. Vietnam

**Solution: c**

**Explanation:**

**India and Japan signed an Agreement concerning Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services between the Armed Forces of India and The Self-Defence Forces of Japan.**

India and Japan have signed a key agreement for reciprocal provision of supplies and services between their defence forces, which is expected to drive closer military cooperation and contribute to security in the Indo-Pacific.

The Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) between Japan's Self-Defense Forces and India's armed forces was signed by defence secretary Ajay Kumar and Japanese ambassador Satoshi Suzuki in New Delhi on Wednesday.

"The agreement establishes a framework such as the settlement procedures for the reciprocal provision of supplies and services between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Indian armed forces," said a statement from Japan's foreign ministry.

**Link:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india-japan-ink-pact-to-bolster-defence-forces/story-x0CacyTP50IADoqruteQBI.html>

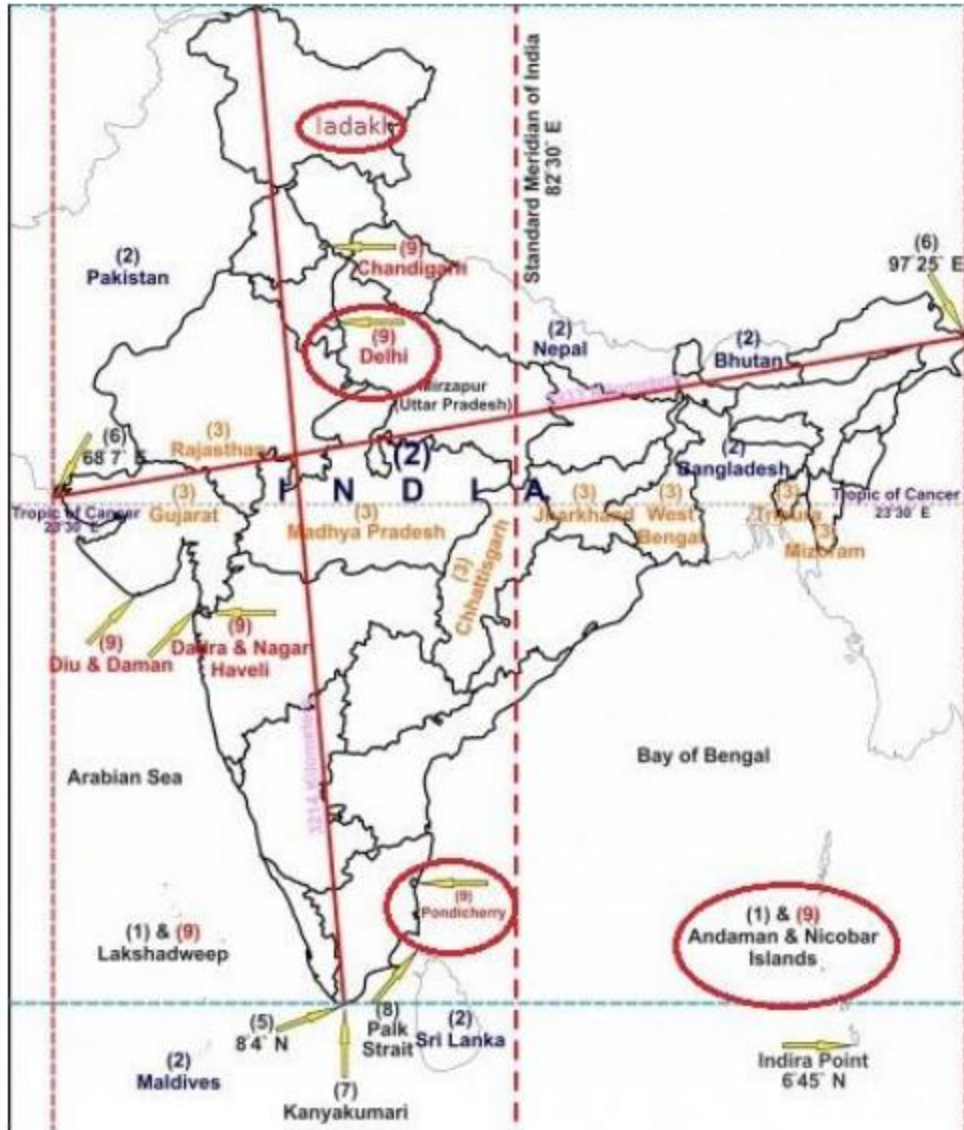
**Q5.** Which of the following Union Territory is the closest to the Indian Standard Meridian?

- a. Delhi
- b. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- c. Ladakh
- d. Puducherry

Solution: d

Explanation:

Its Puducherry.



Q6. Consider the following statements regarding **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**.

1. The 'Aichi Target' adopted by the 1992, Rio Convention, also known as Earth Summit.
2. There are 10 targets under Aichi, which talks about conservation of biodiversity and its sustainable use.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Important. Such questions have not been asked in detail till now. Learn.**

The 'Aichi Target' adopted by the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** at its Nagoya conference. **In the COP-10 meeting**, the parties agreed that previous biodiversity protection targets are not achieved, So we need to do come up with new plans and targets. The short term plan provides a set of 20 ambitious yet achievable targets, **collectively known as the Aichi Targets**.

In decision X/2, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held from 18 to 29 October 2010, in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011-2020 period.

This Plan provided an overarching framework on biodiversity, not only for the biodiversity-related conventions, but for the entire United Nations system and all other partners engaged in biodiversity management and policy development.

**Aichi Targets= 20 targets divided into 5 sections (A to E).**

**Strategic goal A**

**Address the causes of biodiversity loss**

1. Make people aware about the values of biodiversity
2. Integrated biodiversity values in development + poverty reduction plan
3. Subsidies which are harmful to biodiversity and eliminate them, phase them out or reform them
4. Sustainable production and consumption.

**Strategic Goal B:**

**Reduce the direct pressure on biodiversity and promote sustainable use**

5. Reduce the rate of natural habitat loss + forest loss by at least 50%
6. Reduce overfishing
7. Agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in sustainable manner
8. Reduce pollution and excessive use of fertiliser
9. Prevent invasive alien species (non-native)
10. Minimize the coral reef destruction, ocean acidification

## Strategic Goal C

### Safeguard ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

11. Conserve terrestrial and inland water, coastal – marine areas
12. Prevent extinction of threatened species
13. Maintain genetic diversity of agro-plants, domesticated animals and minimizing genetic erosion

## Strategic Goal D

### Biodiversity benefits to all

14. Safeguard ecosystems for women, tribals, and poor.
15. Combat desertification and restore the degraded ecosystem
16. Operationalize the Nagoya protocol on genetic resources, via national legislations

## Strategic Goal E

### Participatory planning, capacity building

17. National biodiversity strategy and action plans – update for participation
18. Integrate the knowledge of tribal communities
19. Scientific and technological knowledge sharing application
20. Financial resources mobilization

Link: <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

Q11. **Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA)** seen recently in news is related to:

- a. A common standard guideline to prevent release of greenhouses gases in airline sector
- b. To takes action to prevent forest fires in southern countries
- c. To find solution to climate change due large Ocean cold currents in Atlantic Ocean
- d. Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) adopted by 138 UN Member States in 1978 is regarded as **one of the main pillars for South- South Cooperation**, which has defined a series of recommendations in order to establish legal frameworks and financing mechanisms at the national, regional, interregional and global levels.

### How it was formed?

**The United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries:**

Having convened in Buenos Aires, from 30 August to 12 September 1978 pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 31/179 of 21 December 1976 and 32/183 of 19 December 1977 on technical co-operation among developing countries.

- a. Adopts the following Plan of Action **for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries**
- b. **Decides that it be known as the “Buenos Aires Plan of Action”**
- c. Urges all Governments, the entire United Nations Development system and the international community as a whole, to take effective action for its implementation.

Link: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/bapa40/documents/buenos-aires-plan-of-action/>

Q12. Consider the following statements regarding India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

1. It is a dedicated facility within the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation.
2. The fund provides financial resources and technical knowledge to support partner governments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Now here, in UPSC they will directly pick statements from website. **Here in first statement, you can easily guess** but in second statement **few things will come in between:**

- a. **Whether it provides technical and financial assistance both?**
- b. **Whether it is for achieving Sustainable Development Goals?**

**You have to go through website well for every such organizations and Fund for gaining high accuracy in UPSC.**

**Now learning statements from [website](#):**

- a. **The India-UN Development Partnership Fund is a dedicated facility within the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation established in 2017.**
- b. It is supported and led by the Government of the Republic of India, managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and implemented in collaboration with the United Nations system.

- c. The India-UN Development Partnership Fund supports Southern-owned and led, demand-driven, and transformational sustainable development projects across the **developing world, with a focus on least developed countries and small island developing states.**
- d. The Fund project portfolio aims to contribute to the efforts of developing countries **towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**
- e. The Fund responds **directly to the national priorities and development objectives** of partner countries, contributing **financial resources and technical knowledge to support partner governments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.**

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding Wetlands International.

- 1. It is a non-governmental organization dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands.
- 2. The concept of 'biodiversity hotspots' originated from this organization.
- 3. It identifies the wetlands sites for recognition under Ramsar Sites.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. None.

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Wetlands international is a global not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands.**

**The concepts of biodiversity don't originate from here. 'Conservation International' was a pioneer in defining and promoting the concept of hotspots.**

~~Conservation International was a pioneer in defining and promoting the concept of hotspots. In 1989, just one year after scientist Norman Myers wrote the paper that introduced the hotspots concept, Conservation International adopted the idea of protecting these incredible places as the guiding principle of our investments. For nearly two decades thereafter, hotspots were the blueprint for our work.~~

**No, it doesn't It identifies the wetlands sites for recognition under Ramsar Sites.**

**India is a [member](#) of Wetland International:**

Government



Q14. The 'Living Planet Report' 2020 is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet. It is released by:

- World Economic Forum
- World Wildlife Fund for Nature
- IUCN
- Birdlife International

Solution: b

Explanation:

The **Living Planet Report**, WWF's flagship publication released every two years, is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet.

The **Living Planet Report 2020 is the 13th edition of the report** and provides the scientific evidence to back what nature has been demonstrating repeatedly: unsustainable human activity is pushing the planet's natural systems that support life on Earth to the edge.

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding **UN Commission on the Status of Women**.

1. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
2. India has been recently elected as a member of the commission.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

In a significant victory, **India got elected as Member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women**, the principal global body focussed on gender equality and women empowerment, beating China in a hotly contested election.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global **intergovernmental body** exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

**United Nations:** In a significant victory, India got elected as Member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the principal global body focussed on gender equality and women empowerment, beating China in a hotly-contested election.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The 54-member ECOSOC, holding the first plenary meeting of its 2021 session in the General Assembly Hall on Monday, held elections for two seats in the Asia-Pacific States category with Afghanistan, India and China in the fray.

Afghanistan, which is led by Ambassador Adela Raz at the UN, garnered 39 votes and India got 38 votes of the 54 ballots cast.

## ✓ Member States

Forty-five Member States of the United Nations serve as members of the Commission at any one time. The Commission consists of one representative from each of the 45 Member States elected by the Economic and Social Council on the basis of equitable geographical distribution:

- 13 members from Africa
- 11 from Asia ✓
- nine from Latin America and Caribbean
- eight from Western Europe and other States
- four from Eastern Europe

Please remember this, **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action** related to: It is related to advancement of women rights. **Important one.**

## ✓ Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, Beijing +5 Political Declaration and Outcome

Considered the most progressive blueprint ever for advancing women's rights, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action has been reprinted in this special edition, which also includes a copy of the political declaration reached at the 23rd special session of the General Assembly in 2000, which reviewed progress towards the Platform for Action five years after its adoption.



Link: <https://theprint.in/india/india-beats-china-in-highly-contested-election-to-un-commission-on-status-of-women/502901/>

Q16. Which of the following establishes the “Doctrine of Checks and Balances” in Indian polity?

1. Impeachment of Judges
2. Judicial Review
3. Promulgation of Ordinances
4. Tribunal system

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1, 3 and 4 only

- d. 2, 3 and 4 only

Solution: a

Explanation:

**The Doctrine of Check and Balances is a corollary of the Doctrine of Separation of Powers.** Both are constituted as a part of the basic structure doctrine in India. It is a system that allows each branch of a government to amend or veto the acts of another branch so as to prevent a single branch from exerting too much power. The Constitution of India makes sure that the discretionary power bestowed upon any organ of the State does not breach the principles of democracy.

Following are the examples in India polity that illustrate the Doctrine of Checks and Balances in practice:

- a. The Legislature reviews the functioning of the Executive branch of a State.
- b. The Executive appoints the Judges of the courts in India.
- c. Impeachment of Judges of the courts i.e. the Legislative branch removes the Judges. It can also alter the basis of the judgment while adhering to the constitutional limitation. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- d. Judicial Review i.e. the Judiciary exercises Judicial Review over Legislative and Executive actions. The Judiciary has the power to declare void the laws passed by the Parliament. Similarly, it can declare unconstitutional executive actions as null and void. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

The promulgation of Ordinances and Tribunal system, on the contrary, are the instances where the Doctrine of Separation of Powers is violated. **So, statement 3 and 4 are not correct.**

Q17. In the Indian Legislature, right to move a motion for an adjournment of the business of House **should not**

1. deal with any matter that is under adjudication by the court.
2. raise a question of privilege.
3. revive discussion on a matter already discussed in the same session

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The right to move a motion for an adjournment of the business of the House is subject to the following restrictions:

- a. It should raise a matter which is definite, factual, urgent and of public importance
- b. It should not cover more than one matter
- c. It should be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence and should not be framed in general terms; **(statement 3 is not correct)**
- d. It should not raise a question of privilege; **(statement 2 is correct)**
- e. It should not revive discussion on a matter that has been discussed in the same session
- f. It should not deal with any matter that is under adjudication by court; and **(statement 1 is correct)**
- g. It should not raise any question that can be raised on a distinct motion.

### **Admissibility of Notices**

11. While giving consent to an adjournment motion the Speaker is guided by the following principles:—

- (i) The matter raised is definite. An adjournment motion is not admissible where the facts are not settled or unless it relates to some precise

recent action or omission of the Union Government. Notices about threatened strike or likely dislocation of a service or about a situation which has not actually arisen are inadmissible.

- (ii) The matter raised is urgent. A matter is deemed to be urgent only if it has arisen suddenly or is in the nature of an emergency. It should not be a continuing matter. The urgency should be such that the matter brooks no delay.
- (iii) The matter raised is of public importance. The importance of the matter should warrant interruption of normal business of the House. It should be a larger issue than a merely individual or local grievance. It should be a question of general public concern.
- (iv) It relates to a specific matter of recent occurrence.
- (v) It does not raise a question of privilege.
- (vi) It does not revive discussion on a matter already discussed in the same session.
- (vii) It does not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration.
- (viii) It does not relate to a matter which is sub-judice.
- (ix) It does not raise any question which under the Constitution or Rules can be raised only on a distinct substantive motion.
- (x) The matter involves direct or indirect responsibility of the Government of India.

Q18. Vaibhashika and Sautrantika belongs to which sect?

- a. Jainism
- b. Buddhism
- c. Vaishnavism
- d. Shaivism

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Hinayana was later divided into two sects i.e. Vaibhashika and Sautrantika.**

There are four principal Buddhist philosophical schools that together create the four pillars of Buddhist doctrine. These are known as the (1) Vaibhashika, (1) Sautrantika, (3) Cittamatra [Mind Only], and (4) Madhyamaka schools.

The Vaibhashikas believe that relative truth is that which can be broken down into parts, whereas ultimate truth is indivisible.

The Sautrantikas accept the selflessness of persons but not the selflessness of phenomena.

The Cittamatrins accept the selflessness of both self and phenomena, but believe in the true existence of mind.

Finally, the Madhyamikas claim that things appear to be real and substantial but are actually without inherent true existence.

**Q19. How many states in India neither border a neighbouring country nor has a coastal area?**

- a. 6
- b. 3
- c. 4
- d. 5

Solution: d

Explanation:

**You need to spend some time. If you are doing this question correct it means, you are at least best in India map.**



The states which neither borders a neighbouring country nor has a coastal area are

1. Chhattisgarh,
2. Telangana,
3. Haryana,
4. Jharkhand
5. Madhya Pradesh. So, option (d) is correct

**Q20. Mandana paintings”,** sometimes seen in the news recently, is the most popular art form of

- a. Andhra Pradesh
- b. Tamil Nadu
- c. Rajasthan
- d. West Bengal

Solution: c

Explanation:

*Mandana* paintings are one of the oldest forms of tribal art in India that has survived over the ages. It is done in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh by one of the oldest tribal communities, the *Meenas*. This art is done on walls and floors, both within and surrounding the house, as a way to ward off evil and welcome the blessings of gods into the home. Within the *Meena* community, this painting is done predominantly by women, as traditionally it is their social role to take care of the house and the family. This art form is not passed on through any formal training neither is it recognized as a discipline. On the contrary, girls learn the art by observing and emulating their mothers.

Q21. Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements.

1. It is a binding international instrument provides for settlement of cross-border commercial disputes by providing a cross-border mediated settlement agreements.
2. India has signed and ratified it.
3. It is first convention to be named after Singapore.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Now here, third statement is something which will confuse you, will minimize your faith in God, will make you feel, nothing you have done so far in life. **BUT Don't worry.** Just see other two statements, **maybe they come out to be oxygen cylinders to you.** Don't quit ever in UPSC question. Ok, coming back to statements.

**First Statement is correct. So, either a or c is answer now.**

Open for signature: 7 August 2019 in Singapore and, thereafter, at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

## Purpose

Adopted in December 2018, the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements resulting from Mediation, also known as the "Singapore Convention on Mediation" (the "Convention") applies to international settlement agreements resulting from mediation ("settlement agreement"). It establishes a harmonized legal framework for the right to invoke settlement agreements as well as for their enforcement.

The Convention is an instrument for the facilitation of international trade and the promotion of mediation as an alternative and effective method of resolving trade disputes. Being a binding international instrument, it is expected to bring certainty and stability to the international framework on mediation, thereby contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), mainly the SDG 16.

**India has only signed it. Ratified till now only by 6 countries. Till today, it has not ratified. So, later if it does, we will update. So, statement 2 is incorrect. So left with only one option, i.e. c.**

Participant	Signature	Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)
India	7 Aug 2019	X

Till, now we have not touched third statement and we have reached answer. This is what will happen in UPSC. Learn to face questions here. ***Starting Test Series from 12 October, do join it and give a different dimension to your preparation.***

As [The Hindu](#) mentions, it is first convention after Singapore.

The Singapore Convention on Mediation came into force on Saturday and will provide a more effective way for enforcing mediated settlements of corporate disputes involving businesses in India and other countries that are signatories to the Convention.

Also known as the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation, this is also the first UN treaty to be named after Singapore.

And yes, the Convention will enter into force **six months after a State has signed and ratified it**. For example, out of 6, last country to ratified it was Ecuador. **If it ratified on 9 September,**

Ecuador	25 Sep 2019	9 Sep 2020
---------	-------------	------------

It means, it will enter into force for Ecuador on **9 March 2021**.

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/business/singapore-convention-on-mediation-comes-into-force/article32589671.ece>

Q22. Consider the following Pairs.

Committees	Purpose
1. Rajiv Mehrishi Committee	To measure the impact of cuts in repo rates on the economy
2. KN Dikshit Committee	To study on the origin and evolution of Indian culture

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Committees	Purpose
<a href="#">Rajiv Mehrishi Committee</a>	<b>To measure the impact of interest waivers on the national economy, under the COVID-19 related moratorium.</b>
<a href="#">KN Dikshit Committee</a>	To study on the origin and evolution of Indian culture

Q23. Consider the following statements regarding the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

- 1. It aims to repress piracy and armed robbery against ships in the western Indian Ocean.
- 2. India is a member of the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**The Djibouti Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden, also referred to as the Djibouti Code of Conduct, was adopted on 29 January 2009.

In particular, the signatories to the Code have agreed to co-operate, in a manner consistent with international law, in:

(a) the investigation, arrest and prosecution of persons who are reasonably suspected of having committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships, including those inciting or intentionally facilitating such acts;

(b) the interdiction and seizure of suspect ships and property on board such ships;

(c) the rescue of ships, persons and property subject to piracy and armed robbery and the facilitation of proper care, treatment and repatriation of seafarers, fishermen, other shipboard personnel and passengers subject to such acts, particularly those who have been subjected to violence; and

**Who are signatories: India is not there.**

Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Seychelles, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen. Comoros, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates.



But recently India has received observer status to this Djibouti Code of Conduct.

## India joins Djibouti Code of Conduct as Observer

ANI | Updated: Sep 16, 2020 19:10 IST

New Delhi [India], September 16 (ANI): India has joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct as Observer, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said here on Wednesday.

"India has joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment, as Observer, following the high level meeting of the Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment (DCOC/JA) held virtually on August 26," MEA said in a statement.

Q24. Consider the following statements regarding Deputy Chairman of India.

1. A member holding office of Deputy Chairman shall vacate the office if he is not a member of any House of Parliament.
2. Deputy Chairman finds itself mentioned in the second schedule of Indian Constitution.
3. There is no Constitutional provision to remove Deputy Chairman from the office.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 and 2 only

- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 2 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

**First statement is wrong. He should be member of Rajya Sabha.** Lok Sabha has nothing to do anything here.

**Third statement is also wrong.** As you can see below, **there is a provision mentioned to remove Deputy Speaker.**

**Removal of Deputy Chairman:**

99. Vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the office of Deputy Chairman.—A member holding office as Deputy Chairman of the Council of States—

- (a) shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the Council;
- (b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign his office; and
- (c) may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council:

Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

**Second statement is correct.**

## SECOND SCHEDULE

PART A— Provisions as to the President and the Governors of States.

PART B— [*Omitted.*]

PART C— Provisions as to the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council of a State.

PART D— Provisions as to the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts.

PART E— Provisions as to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.


Q25. Nyingma, Kagyu, Sakya, and Gelugpa are the four schools of:

- a. Jainism in western India

- b. Buddhism in Tibet
- c. Buddhism in South beyond Tirupati
- d. Jainism in Southern Karnataka.

Solution: b

Explanation:

 The four schools of Tibetan Buddhism are Nyingma, Kagyu, Sakya, and Gelug or Gelugpa.

- Nyingma (founded in 8th century)
- Kagyu (founded in the early 11th century)
- Sakya (founded in 1073)
- Gelug (founded in 1409)

Q26. As we have seen Djibouti Code of Conduct above. We will solve one map. Consider the following.

1. Eritrea
2. Sudan
3. Ethiopia
4. Kenya

Which of the above countries form border with Djibouti?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Djibouti shares boundary with Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia.**



Q27. Consider the following statements regarding **Index of Eight core Industries**.

1. The Eight Core Industries comprise less than 50% percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production.
2. The Index of Core Industries is prepared by Central Statistical Organization.
3. Highest weightage in the 8 core industries is given to Petroleum Refinery Products.

Choose the following correct options below.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Index of Eight core Industries contains index, production and growth of Eight Core Industries- **Electricity, steel, refinery products, crude oil, coal, cement, natural gas and fertilizers**.

**The Index of Eight Core Industries** is a monthly production index, which is also considered as a **lead indicator of the monthly industrial performance**.

**Statement 1 is correct.**

**After the base revision to 2011, the Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 per cent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). Therefore, statement 1 is correct.**

**Second statement is incorrect.**

**This index is prepared by Office of the Economic Advisor, Ministry of commerce of and Industry and is published monthly with the base year as 2011-12.**

***Note: Index for Industrial Production (IIP) is prepared by Central Statistical Organization (Index of 8 core industries is different).***

**Third statement is correct.**

The weights of respective industries in IIP are - Coal 10.33%, Crude Oil production 8.98%, Natural Gas 6.88%, **Petroleum Refinery 28.04%, Fertilizers 2.63 %**, Steel 17.92 %, Cement production 5.37 % and Electricity generation 19.85 %.

**Q28. What determines how much Ultraviolet Radiation reaches the earth's surface?**

1. Aerosols in the troposphere,
2. Water depth of Ocean
3. Cloud Cover
4. Reflectivity of the Earth's Surface

Select the correct code.

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

**Solution: d**

**Explanation:**

**What Determines How Much Ultraviolet Radiation Reaches the Earth's Surface?**

The amount of UV radiation reaching the Earth's surface varies widely around the globe and through time. Several factors account for this variation at any given location. They are discussed below:

### Aerosols

Unlike clouds, aerosols in the troposphere, such as dust and smoke, not only scatter but also absorb UV-B radiation. Usually the UV reduction by aerosols is only a few percent, but in regions of heavy smoke or dust, aerosol particles can absorb more than 50 percent of the radiation.

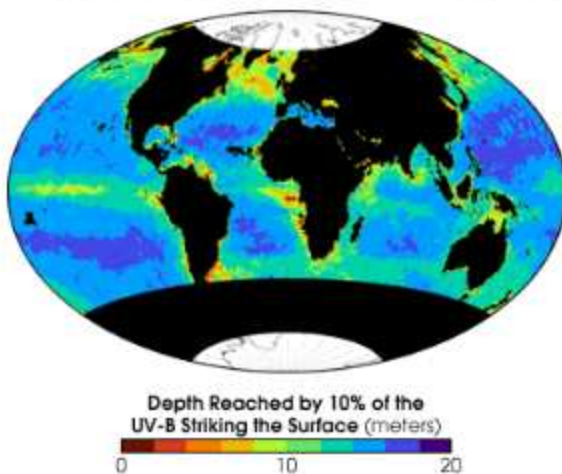
While the presence of aerosols anywhere in the atmosphere will always scatter some UV radiation back to space, in some circumstances, aerosols can contribute to an increase in UV exposure at the surface. For example, over Antarctica, cold temperatures cause ice particles (Polar Stratospheric Clouds) to form in the stratosphere. The nuclei for these particles are thought to be sulfuric acid aerosol, possibly of volcanic origin. The ice particles provide the surfaces that allow complex chemical reactions to take place in a manner that can deplete stratospheric ozone.

### Water Depth

UV-B exposure decreases rapidly at increasing depths in the water column. In other words, water and the impurities in it strongly absorb and scatter incoming UV-B radiation. Some substances that are dissolved in water, such as organic carbon from nearby land, will also absorb UV-B radiation and enhance protection of microorganisms, plants, and animals from UV-B. Different masses of water at different locations contain different amounts of such dissolved substances and other particles, making evaluation of UV damage very difficult.

Penetration of UV-B into Ocean Water

June 6, 2001



### *Reflectivity of the Earth's Surface*

As a highly reflective substance, snow dramatically increases UV-B exposure near the Earth's surface as it reflects most of the radiation back into the atmosphere, where it is then scattered back toward the surface by aerosols and air molecules. Fresh snow can reflect much as 94 percent of the incoming UV radiation. In contrast, snow-free lands typically reflect only 2-4 percent of UV and ocean surfaces reflect about 5-8 percent (Herman and Celarier 1997).

### *Cloud Cover*

Cloud cover plays a highly influential role in the amount of both UV-A and UV-B radiation reaching the ground. Each water droplet in a cloud scatters some incoming UV radiation back into space, so a thick cover of clouds protects organisms and materials from almost all UV. The larger the percentage of the sky that is covered by clouds, the less UV reaches the ground. The more opaque the cloud, the less UV-B. However, thin or broken cloud cover can be deceiving to people who are sunbathing, and the result can be an unexpected and severe sunburn.

Q29. With reference to the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, consider the following potential tools.

1. It recognizes both community as well as individual rights.
2. It recognizes Right to intellectual property related to biodiversity and cultural diversity.
3. National Parks and Sanctuaries are also included for recognition of rights.
4. State government has been designated as the competent authority for determining the nature and extent of forest rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 2 and 3 only

- c. 1, 2 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: a

Explanation:

We have already covered FRA Act, 2006 in our current affairs section in detail. Please read.

For the first time Forest Rights Act recognizes and secures

- ✓ Community Rights in addition to their individual rights
  - Right to protect, regenerate or conserve or manage any community forest resource which the communities have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use.
- ✓ Right to intellectual property and traditional knowledge related to biodiversity and cultural diversity
  - Rights of displaced communities & Rights over developmental activities
- ✓ **National Parks and Sanctuaries have been included along with Reserve Forest, Protected Forests for the recognition of Rights.**
  - The Act recognizes the right of ownership access to collect, use, and dispose of minor forest produce by tribals.
  - Minor forest produce includes all non-timber forest produce of plant origin.
  - The rights conferred under the Act shall be heritable but not alienable or transferable.
  - ✓ As per the Act, the **Gram Sabha** has been designated as the competent authority for initiating the process of determining the nature and extent of individual or community forest rights.

Q30. Recently, "**Power of Siberia**" pipeline project was inaugurated by:

- a. Russia and Poland
- b. Russia and Kazakhstan
- c. Russia and China
- d. Russia and Tukey

Solution: c

Explanation:

**China and Russia's leaders opened the giant "Power of Siberia" pipeline project** on 2 December 2019. The 3,000-kilometer pipeline has been hailed as a sign of the close friendship between two of the world's superpowers.

The "Power of Siberia" project will **see a gas pipeline stretching** from the Chayandinskoye and Kovyktinskoye fields in **Russia's east** over more than 3,000 kilometers (1,864 miles) to Liaoning in **northeastern China**.



Q31. Consider the following statements regarding Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.

1. The act also prohibits the cultivation of coca, opium poppy or any cannabis plant.
2. The Act is administered by Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue.
3. India is a signatory to the Conventions on Psychotropic Substances, 1971.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

We have covered the National Crime Record Bureau Report on this Act in our Current Affairs Section too. [Do read.](#)

Prior to NDPS Act, the control and legality of narcotic drugs was exercised under the provision of The Opium Act, 1852, The Opium Act, 1878 and The Dangerous Drugs Act,

1930. However, in 1985, the government of the day felt that the prevailing legislation was inadequate to deal with the illicit drug trade and drug abuse at both national and international level. **Therefore, a comprehensive new legislation was formulated and brought forth in the form of Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985 (NDPS Act, 1985).**

**ACT 61 OF 1985**  
The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill having been passed by both the Houses of Parliament received the assent of the President on 16th September, 1985. It came on the Statute Book as **THE NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT, 1985 (61 of 1985)** (*Came into force on 14-11-1985*).

There have been multiple amendments to the original act in 1988, 2001 and 2014.

**LIST OF AMENDING ACTS**

1. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988 (2 of 1989) (w.e.f. 29-5-1989).
2. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 2001 (9 of 2001) (w.e.f. 2-10-2001).
3. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 2014 (16 of 2014) (w.e.f. 1-5-2014).

- a. The Act lists all the narcotics and other psychotropic substances which are considered as illegal. These includes various extracts from Cannabis plant (charas-resin, Ganja – fruiting/flowering tops), Coco extracts (cocaine), opium, poppy stalk and other manufactured drugs which are psychotropic in nature.
- b. The act **also prohibits the cultivation of coca, opium poppy or any cannabis plant.**
- c. It further prohibits the production, manufacturing, possession, selling, purchase, transport, storage or consumption of any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.
- d. **The act restricts the interstate import & export along with import & export of these substances into and outside of the country.**

**8. Prohibition of certain operations.**—No person shall—

- (a) cultivate any coca plant or gather any portion of coca plant; or
- (b) cultivate the opium poppy or any cannabis plant; or
- (c) produce, manufacture, possess, sell, purchase, transport, warehouse, use, consume, import inter-State, export inter-State, import into India, export from India or tranship any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance,

**Some important provisions for Prelims Exam:**

**India is a signatory to the single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961**, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Conventions on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

The responsibility of drug abuse control, which is a central function, is carried out through a number of Ministries, Departments and Organizations.

**These include the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue which has the nodal co-ordination role as administrator of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.**

Q32. Which of the following publications is/are released by World Bank?

1. World Development Report
2. Human Capital Index.
3. Global Economic Prospects
4. Human Development Index

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

In the latest ranking of the **World Bank's annual Human Capital Index**, India has been ranked 116 in the list of 174 countries. Last year, India was ranked 115 in the list of 157 countries.

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) publish Human Development Index.**

**World Development Report and Global Economic Prospects Report are published by World Bank.**

**Link: <https://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-india-ranked-116-in-the-world-bank-s-human-capital-index-2843592>**

Q33. Consider the following statements regarding difference between Swadesh Darshan Scheme and Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD).

1. PRASAD scheme is for integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits in the country.
2. Swadesh Darshan Scheme is under Ministry of Tourism while PRASAD is under Ministry of Culture.
3. Simhachalam temple of Tamil Nadu was recently added in the list under PRASAD Scheme.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 1 only
- d. None.

Solution: d

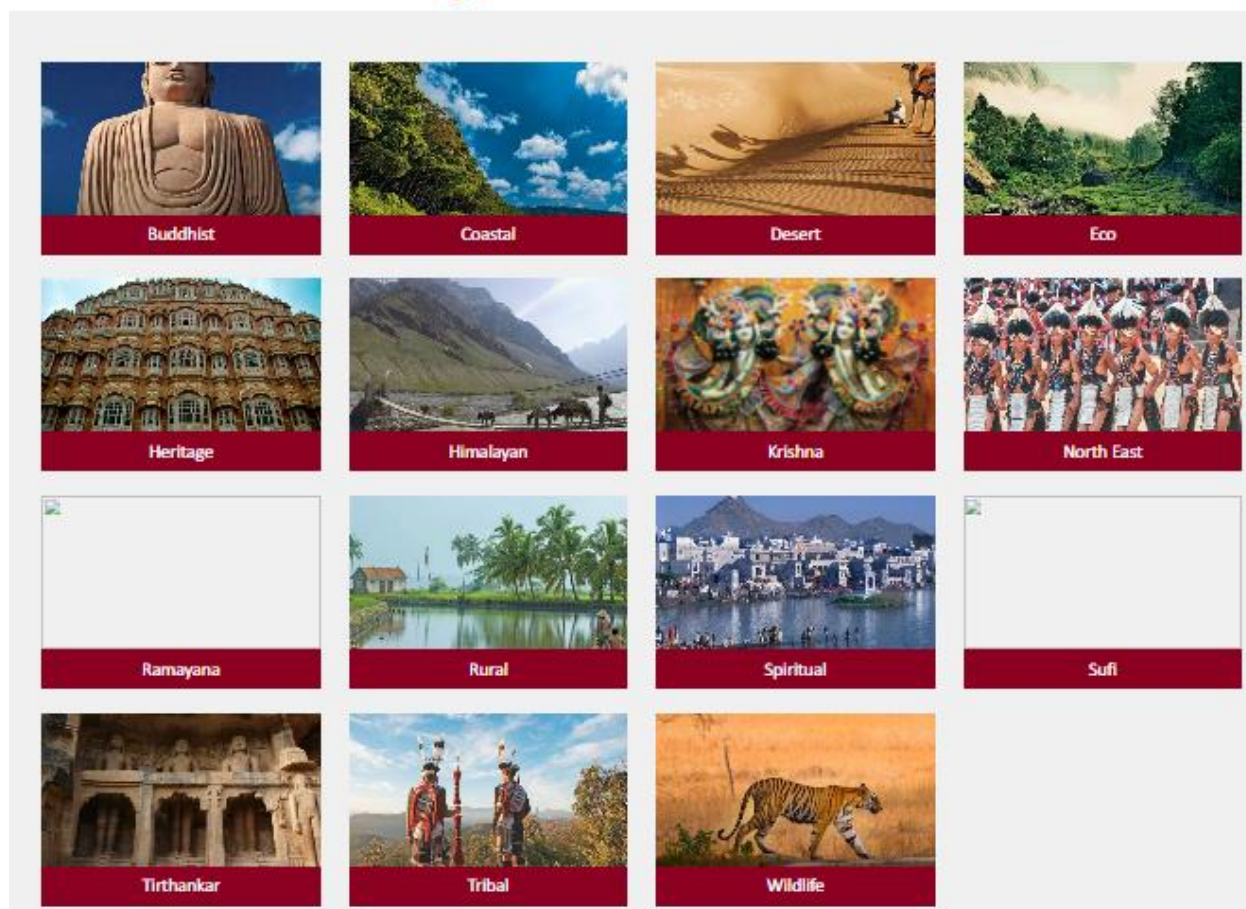
Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect.**

**Ministry of Tourism launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme (Central Sector Scheme)– for integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits in the country in 2014-15. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Tourism.**

**Remember these circuits themes.**

## Theme Based Circuits



### Funding pattern

- The Scheme is 100% centrally funded and efforts are made to achieve convergence with other schemes of Central and State Governments and also to leverage the voluntary funding available for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives of Central Public Sector Undertakings and Corporate Sector.
- Suitable Public Private Partnerships to be taken up for improved sustainability of the projects.

Second statement is incorrect:

Both schemes come under Ministry of Tourism.

Third statement is incorrect:

Simhachalam temple is in Andhra Pradesh, Visakhapatnam.

# Centre releases ₹53 cr. for development of Simhachalam temple under PRASAD scheme



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

VISAKHAPATNAM, JULY 29, 2020 23:03 IST  
UPDATED: JULY 29, 2020 23:04 IST

Introduced in 2015, the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) is a government scheme that focuses on identifying and developing the pilgrim sites across the country to enrich the religious tourism experience. **It was launched by Union Ministry of Tourism.**

It aims at integrated development of **pilgrimage destinations** in planned, prioritized and sustainable manner to provide complete religious tourism experience.

Q34. Recently, The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020 has been passed by the Parliament. It converts three existing bodies under the Ministry of Civil Aviation into statutory bodies. Which of the following are those bodies?

1. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
2. Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau
3. Airport Authority of India (AAI)
4. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020



The Bill seeks to amend the **Aircraft Act, 1934**. The Act (1934 one) regulates the manufacture, possession, use, operation, sale, import and export of civil aircrafts, and licensing of aerodromes.

**Key provisions of the Bill include:**

- a. **Authorities:** **The Bill converts three existing bodies under the Ministry of Civil Aviation into statutory bodies under the Act.** These three authorities are: (i) **the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**, (ii) **the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)**, and (iii) **the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau (AAIB)**. Each of these bodies will be headed by a Director General who will be appointed by the centre.
- b. The DGCA will carry out safety oversight and regulatory functions with respect to matters under the Bill. The BCAS will carry out regulatory oversight functions related to civil aviation security. The AAIB will carry out investigations related to aircraft accidents and incidents. **The central government may issue directions to these authorities** on matters related to their functions, if considered necessary in public interest.
- c. **Power of centre to make rules:** Under the Act, the central government may make rules on several matters. These include: (i) registration of aircraft, (ii) regulating air transport services, and (iii) prohibition of flight over any specified area.  
**The Bill adds the regulation of air navigation services to this list.**
- d. **It also allows the centre to empower the Director General of BCAS or any authorized officer to issue directions and make rules on certain matters.** These matters include: (i) conditions under which an aircraft may be flown, (ii) inspection of aircrafts, and (iii) measures to safeguard civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference.
- e. **Adjudicating officers:** The Bill provides for the appointment of designated officers, not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to adjudicate penalties under the Bill. Persons aggrieved by an order of a designated officer **may appeal to an appellate officer**. Appeals must be filed by the aggrieved person within 30 days from the day the order is received.
- f. **Offences and Penalties:** Under the Act, the penalty for various offences is imprisonment of up to two years, or a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh, or both. These offences include: (i) carrying arms, explosives, or other dangerous goods aboard aircraft, (ii) contravening any rules notified under the Act, and (iii) constructing building or structures within the specified radius around an aerodrome reference point. The Bill raises the maximum limit on fines for all these offences from Rs 10 lakh to one crore rupees.
- g. **Under the Bill, the central government may cancel the licences, certificates, or approvals granted to a person under the Act** if the person contravenes any provision of the Act. Such licences include those given for: (i) the establishment of an air transport service, (ii) the establishment of aerodromes, and (iii) the operation, repair, and maintenance of aircraft.
- h. **Courts will not take cognizance of any offence under this Act**, unless a complaint is made by, or there is previous sanction from the Director General of Civil Aviation,

BCAS, or AAIB. Only courts equivalent or superior to a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Magistrate of the first class may try offences under the Act.

- i. **Exemption for Armed Forces: Aircraft belonging to the naval, military, or air forces of the Union are exempted from the provisions of the Act.** The Bill expands this exemption to include aircraft belonging to any other armed forces of the Union.

**However, aircrafts belonging to an armed force other than the naval, military, and air forces which are currently regulated under the Act will continue to do so until specified otherwise by the central government.**

Link: <https://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/aircraft-amendment-bill-2020>

Q35. Consider the following Pairs.

Places in News	Location
1. Etosha Salt Pan	Indonesia
2. Edakkal Caves	Kerala
3. Slingalila National Park	Odisha

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Places in News	Location
<a href="#">Etosha Salt Pan</a>	Namibia
<a href="#">Edakkal Caves</a>	Kerala
<b>Slingalila National Park</b>	<b>West Bengal</b>



Q36. The concept of “Inter-Generational Equity” was introduced in:

- National Mineral Policy 2019
- National Forest Policy 2006
- National Policy on Solid Waste Management 2019
- National Policy on water 2019

Solution: a

Explanation:

**See similar question was seen in 2019 UPSC Prelims Exam.**

In India, 'extended producer responsibility' was introduced as an important feature in which of the following?

- (a) The Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998
- (b) The Recycled (Manufacturing and Usage) Rules, 1999
- (c) The (e-Waste) (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011
- (d) The Food Safety and Standard Regulations, 2011

Here, answer is National Mineral Policy 2019. Read our Current Affairs section. We have covered this policy in detail. Click [here](#) to read.

Q37. Which of the following are the instruments through which the Lower House of Parliament can exert its non-confidence in the government?

- 1. By not passing a Motion of Thanks on the President's inaugural address
- 2. By rejecting a Money Bill
- 3. By passing a Cut Motion on the Annual Financial Statement.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Article 75 of the Constitution states that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People. As such the Lok Sabha exercises direct accountability over the Treasury Bench. The Lok Sabha can also express a lack of confidence in the government in the following ways:

- a. By not passing a Motion of Thanks on the President's inaugural address. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- b. By rejecting a Money Bill. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

- c. By passing a Censure Motion or an Adjournment Motion.
- d. By defeating the government on a vital issue.
- e. By passing a Cut Motion. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

These powers of the Parliament help in making government responsive and responsible. **Therefore, the correct answer is (d).**

Q38. Consider the following statements with reference to the Preamble to Indian Constitution:

1. It provides substantive power i.e. definite and real power, to the three organs of the State, under the provisions of the Constitution.
2. It is not enforceable in a Court of law, but it aids in the legal interpretation of the Constitution where the language is found to be ambiguous.

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

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

The Preamble to any Constitution is a brief introductory statement that conveys the guiding principles of the document. The Preamble is non-justiciable in nature, like the Directive Principles of State Policy, and cannot be enforced in a Court of law. It can neither provide substantive power (definite and real power) to the three organs of the State, nor limit their powers under the provisions of the Constitution. The Preamble cannot override the specific provisions of the Constitution. In case of any conflict between the two, the latter shall prevail. So, it has a very limited role to play. **So, statement 1 is not correct.**

The Preamble to our Constitution serves the following purposes:

- a. It indicates the source from which the Constitution derives its authority i.e. the people of India.
- b. It also states the values and objects which the Constitution seeks to establish and promote.
- c. The Preamble, by itself, is not enforceable in a Court of law, but it aids in the legal interpretation of the Constitution where the language is found to be ambiguous. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

Therefore, the answer is (a).

Q39. The term —West Asia peace plan, often mentioned in the news, is most closely related to?

- a. Iraq and USA

- b. Israel and UAE
- c. Iran and Saudi Arabia
- d. Israel and Palestine

Solution: d

**Explanation:**

**Option (d) is correct:** The West Asia peace plan has been unveiled by U.S. President Donald Trump on 28 January 2020. It proposed creation of a **Palestinian state** with capital in eastern Jerusalem, dependent on Palestinians taking steps to become self-governing, as part of a peace plan to end decades of conflict in the region. As per the proposed plan the U.S. will recognize **Israeli** settlements on the occupied West Bank.

Q40. Which of the following Ocean Current are present in Atlantic Ocean?

- 1. Canaries Current
- 2. California Current
- 3. Kamchatka Current
- 4. Benguela Current

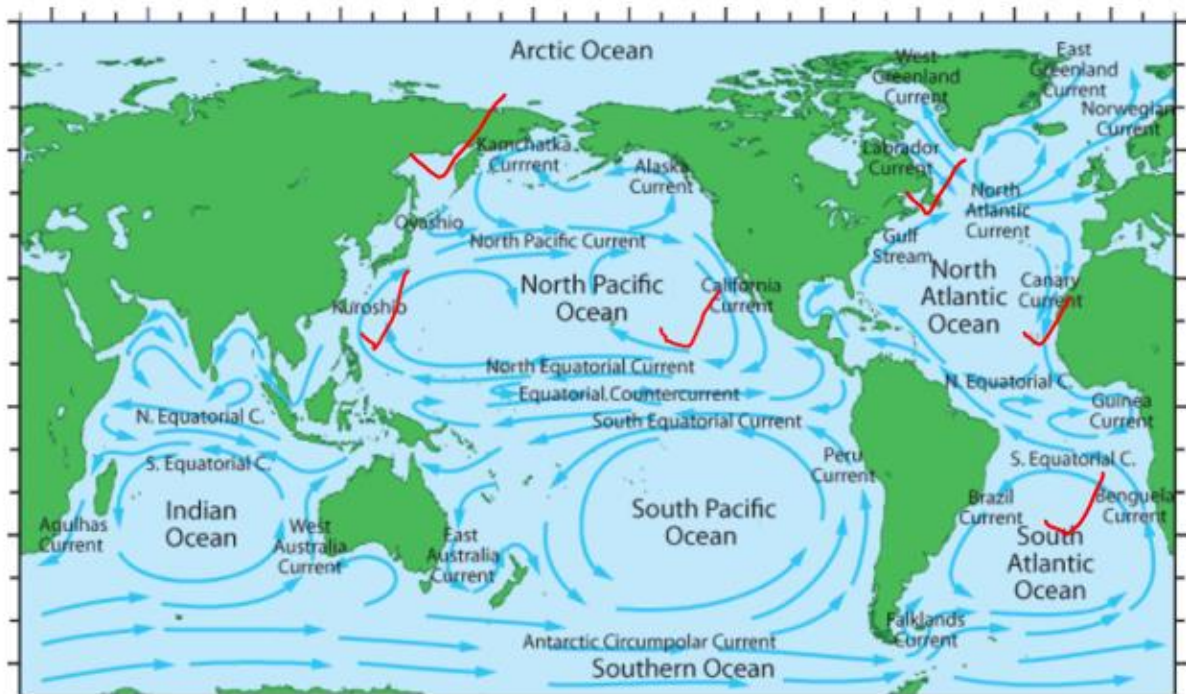
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

## Pacific Ocean Currents



Q41. 'Green Cities Initiative and Action Plan' recently launched to help transform agri-food systems, end hunger and improve nutrition in and around the cities in a post COVID-19 era. It is an initiative of:

- United Nation Development Programme Secretariat
- UNEP
- Food and Agricultural Organization
- UNICEF and World Bank

Solution: c

Explanation:

FAO launches Green Cities Initiative to help transform agri-food systems, end hunger and improve nutrition.

**18 September 2020, Rome/New York** - FAO unveiled today its new Green Cities Initiative and Action Plan to help transform agri-food systems, end hunger and improve nutrition in and around the cities in a post COVID-19 era. The launch took place at a high-level virtual event entitled "Green Cities to Build Back Better for SDGs - A New Powerful Venture" hosted by FAO during the 75th session of the UN General Assembly.

Highlighting the vast potential of cities in reducing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people's health and food security and contributing to climate change mitigation, FAO Director-General QU Dongyu encouraged all partners to appreciate the essential role of cities in building back better and the urgency of innovative, comprehensive and coordinated actions.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1308436/icode/>

Q42. Consider the following statements regarding **Departmentally Related Standing Committee**.

1. DRSCs are mentioned in Rules of House of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
2. It consists of equal number of the members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
3. The term of office of the members of the committees shall not exceed one year.
4. One of its functions is that it considers of Demands and Grants of the Ministries and Departments and reports it to the house.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Why we have asked this question:

COMMENT

## Parliament and its panels

 Vivek K. Agnihotri

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 00:15 IST  
UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 00:33 IST

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✓ **There is a need to rethink the tenurial prescription for reconstitution of Department-related Standing Committees** ✓

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees have a so-called tenure of one year. There was speculation in the media that the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, M. Venkaiah Naidu, is keen on amending the rules to give them a fixed tenure of two years. However, since these are joint committees of the two Houses of Parliament, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha also has to concur.

**If you learn about basic about anybody, you will never forget. Read now.**

During the year 1989 (8th Lok Sabha) the Rules Committee considered and approved a proposal that three Subject Committees, on (i) Agriculture; (ii) Environment & Forests; and (iii) Science & Technology might be set up for ensuring effective parliamentary surveillance over the working of the concerned Ministries/ Departments and allied Governmental organisations. The rules relating to these Committees were finally approved by the House and the Committees were formally constituted with effect from 18 August, 1989.

2. After observing the functioning of these Committees for some time there was general consensus among all concerned that the Parliament should go in for a full-fledged Departmentally Related Standing Committee System. The Reports of Rules Committees of the Tenth Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha adopted by the two Houses on 29 March, 1993 paved the way for the setting up of the seventeen Departmentally Related Standing Committees covering under their jurisdiction all the Ministries/Departments of the Union Government.

**These DRSCs replaced the earlier three Subject Committees constituted in August 1989. The 17 Departmentally Related Standing Committees were formally constituted with effect from April 1993. After experiencing the working of the DRSC system for over a decade, the system was re-structured in July 2004 wherein the number of DRSCs was increased from 17 to 24.**

**First statement is incorrect.**

**Ok, one thing you remember here, that DRSC, are mentioned in the Rules of House of both Lok Sabha (331C) and Rajya Sabha (268).**

Departmentally Related Standing Committees. 331C. (1) There shall be Departmentally Related Standing Committees of the Houses (to be called the Standing Committees).  
(2) The Ministries/Departments covered under the

268. Department-related Standing Committees  
(1) There shall be Parliamentary Standing Committees of the Houses (to be called the Standing Committees) related to Ministries/Departments.

**Composition:**

Till 13th Lok Sabha, each of these Standing Committees used to consist of 45 members—30 nominated by the Speaker from amongst the members of Lok Sabha and 15 members nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha from amongst the members of Rajya Sabha.

**However, with re-structuring of DRSCs in July 2004 each DRSC consists of 31 members—21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha.**

**331D.** (1) Each of the Standing Committees constituted under Rule 331C shall consist of not more than <sup>10</sup>[31 members, 21 members to be nominated by the Speaker from amongst the members of Lok Sabha and 10] members to be nominated by the Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, from amongst the members of Rajya Sabha. Constitution.

**Minister not to be a Member of the Committee:**

**A Minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member** of any of the Standing Committees and if a member, after her/his nomination to any of the Standing Committees, is appointed a Minister, she/he ceases to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

(2) A Minister shall not be nominated as a member of the Committee, and if a member after nomination to the Committee is appointed a Minister, such member shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

**Term of Office:**

The term of office of the “members” of the committees shall not exceed one year. Thus, it is the **term of office of the members** and not that of the committees per se that is one year. Remember this small thing

(4) The term of office of the members of the Committees shall not exceed one year.

## Functions

8. The functions of each of the Standing Committees are :—

- (a) to consider the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments and make a report on the same to the Houses. The report shall not suggest anything of the nature of cut motions;
- (b) to examine such Bills pertaining to the concerned Ministries/Departments as are referred to the Committee by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or the Speaker, Lok Sabha as the case may be, and make report thereon;
- (c) to consider annual reports of Ministries/Departments and make reports thereon; and
- (d) to consider national basic long term policy documents presented to the Houses, if referred to the Committee by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or the Speaker, Lok Sabha as the case may be, and make reports thereon.

Q43. Consider the following statements regarding the **Blue Flag Programme**.

1. It is operated under the auspices of the United Nation Environment Programme.
2. It aims to promote sustainability in the tourism sector through environmental education.
3. Beach Environment & Aesthetics Management Services (BEAMS) is India's initiative for the sustainable development of coastal regions.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News is:

## In a first, eight Indian beaches recommended for 'Blue Flag' eco-label; World Bank applauds India's efforts

19-09-2020 | 1:55 am

Share Now



The Blue Flag programme is operated **under the auspices of the Foundation for Environmental Education** and is headquartered in **Copenhagen, Denmark**. **First statement is incorrect.**

The Blue Flag Programme for beaches and marinas is run by the international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation FEE (the Foundation for Environmental Education). It started in France in 1985 and has been implemented in Europe since 1987, and in areas outside Europe since 2001, when South Africa joined. Japan and South Korea are the only countries in South and southeastern Asia to have Blue Flag beaches. Spain tops the list with 566 such beaches; Greece and France follow with 515 and 395, respectively.

In order to qualify for this prestigious award, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety-related and access-related criteria must be met and maintained.

### 33 criteria

There are nearly 33 criteria that must be met to qualify for a Blue Flag certification, such as the water meeting certain quality standards, having waste disposal facilities, being disabled- friendly, have first aid equipment, and no access to pets in the main areas of the beach. Some criteria are voluntary and some compulsory.

### Second statement,

you might get confused. But such statements are very important for UPSC exam. They will such statements from website. So, for anybody, organization, do read the original website. **It is correct statement.**

The mission of Blue Flag **is to promote sustainability in the tourism sector, through environmental education**, environmental protection and other sustainable development practices.

**Third Statement is incorrect:**

**There is no where NITI Aayog is involved.**

A “Clean” Beach is the primary indicator of the Coastal environmental quality & management. **However, the coastal region in India is highly susceptible** to litter accumulation. The presence of such debris not only affects the aesthetic appeal of beaches negatively but also reduces their recreational (tourism) value drastically.

**To plan sustainable tourism and healthy coastal management, MoEF&CC has conceived an integrated coastal management scheme viz. BEAMS** (also referred to as Beach Management Services) to reduce existing pollutants on beaches and to aspire & achieve such high International Standards in India.

The **main objective of setting up of BEAMS programme** is to promote sustainable development in coastal regions of India for the beach management authorities to strive to achieve high international standards in four categories of:

- ✓ Environmental Management including cleanliness, solid waste management in beaches.
- ✓ Environment Education.
- ✓ Safety & Security of Beachgoers.
- ✓ Bathing Water Quality Standards.

**Link:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1656392>

Q44. ‘**Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program**’ was seen in news recently. Consider the following statements regarding this.

1. It was recently held during ministerial meeting at Shanghai Co-operation Organization.
2. India was part of this initiative.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Any environment related question in which India is involved is very important for exam.**

**First Statement is incorrect.**

The **Environment Ministerial Meeting (EMM) of the G20 countries** took place recently through video conferencing under the Presidency of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia **to launch the Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program.**

The **Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation** aims to **strengthen the implementation of existing frameworks to prevent, halt, and reverse land degradation within G20 member states and globally**, taking into account possible implications on the achievement of other SDGs and adhering to the principle of doing no harm.

The Global Coral Reef R&D Accelerator Platform is an innovative action-oriented initiative aimed at creating a global research and development (R&D) program to advance research, innovation and capacity building in all facets of coral reef conservation, restoration, and adaptation, and strengthen ongoing efforts and commitments made to enhance coral reefs conservation and their further degradation.

**Second Statement is correct.**



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1655306#:~:text=The%20Minister%20s aid%2C%20India%20has,to%20enhance%20coral%20reef%20conservation.&text=Shri%20Javadekar%20applauded%20the%20launch,under%20the%20G20%20this%20year.>

Q45. Consider the following statements regarding Electric Power Survey Report 2019.

1. It has been released by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) under the Ministry of Power.

2. Mumbai had the highest energy requirement in 2019-20.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Keeping track of energy demands is important for countries since it is related to economic activity of that particular nation.**

✓ The economic development of our country is dependent upon the reliable power at affordable prices to various sectors and section of the country. Demand projection is an important exercise for power procurement planning and development of the whole power sector. Central Electricity Authority (CEA) carries out Electric Power Surveys for estimating the electricity demand of all the states/ UTs, Regions and for the country.

These trends also help in forecast of future energy needs for governments to plan based on the estimated demand. **We can do policy formulation, tariff estimation, and optimization of peak demand in the long run by knowing forecasting.** With this objective, **the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) under the Ministry of Power conducts the Electric Power Survey for India**, giving projections on electricity demand for the next ten years. So far, 18 such surveys have been conducted in India. **The latest survey is the 19th edition** which was conducted by a committee constituted by CEA in 2015.

As per the [report](#), **Mumbai had the highest energy requirement** with a demand of 21,977 MU in 2019-20. **Hyderabad was closely behind Mumbai** with a requirement of 21,799 in 2019-20, among these 45 cities. As per the projections, **Hyderabad is all set to overtake Mumbai in 2020-21** in terms of energy requirement.

Sl. No.	Mega City	Energy Requirement in MU			CAGR in %		
		2019-20	2024-25	2029-30	2019-20 to 2024-25	2024-25 to 2029-30	2019-20 to 2029-30
12.	Mumbai ✓	21977 ✓	24709 ✓	27657 ✓	2.37	2.28	2.33
5.	Hyderabad	21799 ✓	30054 ✓	39267 ✓	6.63	5.49	6.06

Q46. Consider the following Seas.

1. Aegean Sea
2. Strait of Gibraltar
3. Adriatic Sea

Arrange the above from **East to West**.

- a. 3-2-1
- b. 1-2-3
- c. 1-3-2
- d. 2-1-3

Solution: c

Explanation:

**From now only, you start creating picture of these maps in your mind.** So, many times these images will come in our Practice quiz but with different places. **Gradually you will become expert. See map below.**



Q47. Consider the following statements.

1. Vice President can discharge the function of President and perform the duties of the office of Chairman of the Council of States simultaneously.
2. The voting for the election of Vice President shall be by secret ballot.
3. Provision of removal of Vice President is not mentioned in the Constitution of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Mind my words. If you don't read polity from Articles mentioned in Constitution and just mug up things from Lakshmikanth, you will never be able to perform well in future Tests.

**First statement is incorrect. He cannot do that. Read below Article 64.**

**64. The Vice-President to be *ex officio* Chairman of the Council of States.**—The Vice-President shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the Council of the States and shall not hold any other office of profit:

Provided that during any period when the Vice-President acts as President or discharges the functions of the President under article 65, he shall not perform the duties of the office of Chairman of the Council of States and shall not be entitled to any salary or allowance payable to the Chairman of the Council of States under article 97.

**Second statement is correct.**

The Vice President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the **voting at such election shall be by secret ballot.**

~~66. Election of Vice-President.~~—(1) The Vice-President shall be elected by the <sup>1</sup>[members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament] in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot.

**Statement 3 is incorrect. There is provision in the Constitution for his/her removal.**

Provided that—

(a) a Vice-President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;

(b) a Vice-President may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council of States passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council and agreed to by the House of the People; but no resolution for the purpose of this clause shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution;

(c) a Vice-President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.

**Our Test Series for 2021 has started. [Click here](#) to see details and if you want really yourself get fully prepared for exam, do register.**

Q48. Who among the following is a pivotal figure in the establishment of Tibetan Buddhism and often called as the second Buddha?

- a. Padmasambhava
- b. Lawapa
- c. Shantarakshita
- d. Nagarjuna

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Buddhism and Jainism, every moment during your preparation, will make you feel that you are not prepared well for exam. Every time they will disturb you. But don't let them. We will cover every as many questions from these topics.**

**Padmasambhava introduced the people of Tibet to the practice of Tantric Buddhism.**

He is regarded as the founder of the Nyingma tradition. The Nyingma tradition is the oldest of the four major schools of Tibetan Buddhism.



The Nyingma tradition actually comprises several distinct lineages that all trace their origins to Padmasambhava.

Q49. Consider the following:

- 1. Temperature
- 2. Pressure gradient force
- 3. Frictional force

4. Coriolis force

Which of the factors given above affect the velocity and direction of winds?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Air in motion is called as the wind. The wind blows from areas of high pressure to low pressure. The wind at the surface experiences friction. Also, the rotation of the Earth affects the wind movement. The force exerted by the rotation of the Earth is known as the Coriolis force.

Thus, the horizontal winds near the earth's surface respond to the combined effect of three forces – **the pressure gradient force, frictional force and the Coriolis force**. Besides, the gravitational force also acts downward.

**The temperature on the other hand indirectly influences the velocity and direction of the wind.** Insolation on the Earth's surface causes the temperature to rise which leads to the formation of a low-pressure zone. This causes movement of air or drives the winds.

**So, option d is correct.**

Q50. Gangotri National Park is in:

- a. Uttarakhand
- b. Himachal Pradesh
- c. Ladakh
- d. Jammu and Kashmir

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Gangotri National Park is a national park in Uttarkashi District of Uttarakhand in India.**

## Rare Snow Leopards Spotted In Uttarkashi's Gangotri National Park

Like

Rare snow leopards spotted in Uttarkashi's Gangotri National Park

21 September, 2020  
by ANI

Print this article  
Font size 15

Q51. In the context of Minimum Support price in India, consider the following statements.

1. The MSP is fixed by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).
2. Currently more than 35 crops are covered under Minimum Support Price.
3. M S Swaminathan committee recommended to fix MSP at levels at least 50 per cent more than the weighted average cost of production.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect.**

Ok, here be careful about First statement. MSP is not fixed by CACP. It is just recommended by CACP and its decision/recommendations are not binding. It is finally fixed by Government.

**The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP)** is an attached office (statutory) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. It came into existence in January 1965. Currently, the Commission comprises a Chairman, Member Secretary, one Member (Official) and two Members (Non-Official). **The non-official members are representatives of the farming community** and usually have an active association with the farming community.

**Second statement is incorrect.** Such statements are very important for UPSC.

As of now, CACP recommends MSPs of 23 commodities, which comprise **7 cereals** (paddy, wheat, maize, sorghum, pearl millet, barley and ragi), 5 pulses (gram, tur, moong, urad,

lentil), **7 oilseeds** (groundnut, rapeseed-mustard, soyabean, seasmum, sunflower, safflower, nigerseed), and **4 commercial crops** (copra, sugarcane, cotton and raw jute).

See below the [latest release](#) of MSP on crops:

 Dated: 21.09.2020

Commodity
Paddy Common #
Paddy (F)/Grade 'A'
Jowar-Hybrid
Jowar-Maldandi
Bajra
Ragi
Maize
Tur (Arhar)
Moong
Urad
Groundnut
Sunflower Seed
Soyabean Black
Soyabean Yellow
Sesamum
Nigerseed
Medium Staple Cotton
Long Staple Cotton ^^
Wheat
Barley
Gram
Lentil (Masur)
Rapeseed/ mustard
Safflower
Jute (TD5)
Sugarcane
Copra (Milling)
Copra (Ball)

*They may also aks, only Rabi and Kharif crops are included under MSP. You will say NO. Commercial crops are also included.*

**Third statement is correct.**

**M S Swaminathan committee recommended to fix MSP at levels at least 50 per cent more than the weighted average cost of production.**



According to the formula prescribed by the Swaminathan Committee, there are three variables that determine production cost – **A2, A2+FL, and C2.**

A2 includes out-of-pocket expenses borne by farmers, such as term loans for machinery, fertilisers, fuel, irrigation, cost of hired labour and leasing land.

The second metric, A2+FL, takes into account the imputed value of unpaid labour on the part of family members, in addition to the paid-out cost.

The Comprehensive Cost (C2) is more reflective of the actual cost of production since it takes it accounts for rent and interest foregone on owned land and machinery, over and above the A2+FL rate.

**The ideal formula according the Committee would be  $MSP = C2 + 50\% \text{ of } C2$ .**

**Q52.** “Fish Cryobanks” was seen in news recently. It aims to:

- Established bunkers in mid seas to help to store fish during adverse weather
- Establish hypersonic radar system which will help fisherman to navigate the location of fishes in seas
- It will be established in all schools to help students to aware about marine population diversity
- facilitate all time availability of fish sperms of desired species to fish farmers.

Solution: d

Explanation:

Question is of one line statement, but it really took time to formulate options.

## Fish Cryobanks will be set up in different parts of the country: Govt

Government today said that Fish Cryobanks will be set up in different parts of the country. This will facilitate all time availability of fish sperms of desired species to fish farmers. ✓

Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Giriraj Singh announced this on the occasion of National Fish Farmers Day today. He said, this will be the first time in the world when Fish Cryobank will be established. ✓

Mr Singh said, this will bring a revolutionary change in the fisheries sector in the country for enhancing fish production and productivity. National Fisheries Development Board in collaboration with the National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources will take up the work to establish Fish Cryobanks. ✓



Q53. 22 September is World Rhino Day. So, we will solve one question related to **Indian Rhino (One-horned Rhino)**. Consider the following statements.

1. It is usually found in western and South-western parts of India.
2. Indian Rhino is categorized in same IUCN list as India Tiger.
3. Kaziranga National Park has highest number of one-horned Rhinos.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

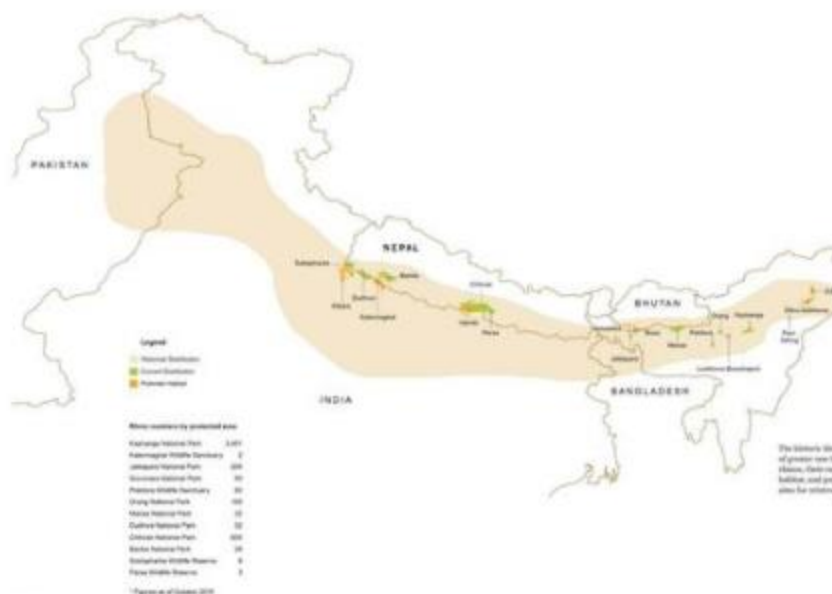
- a. 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1 and 3 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

There are majorly five species of Rhino- **Black, White, One-horned (Indian), Javan and Sumatran**.

The Indian Rhinoceros is an herbivorous grazer and is **one of the three species of Rhinos native to Asia- other two Javan and Sumatran**. The Indian rhinoceros lives primarily in northern **India and Nepal**. **First Statement is incorrect.**



Kaziranga National Park is in Assam. **So, first and third options can't be together. So, we can eliminate fourth option.**

**Second statement is wrong.**

Indian Rhino has been shifted from **Endangered to Vulnerable** recently.



**The tiger is listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List.**

**Third statement is correct.**

**The Indian state of Assam is home to the largest population of greater-one horned rhinos, with more than 90% in Kaziranga National Park.**

OTHER STATES

## Rhino census 2018: Kaziranga now has 2,413 rhinos



Rahul Karmakar

GUWAHATI, MARCH 30, 2018 17:39 IST  
UPDATED: APRIL 07, 2018 01:24 IST

Q54. Consider the following Pairs.

Places in News	Location
1. Botswana	A land Locked country of Africa
2. Cuddalore beach	Tamil Nadu
3. Tadoba National Park	Karnataka

Select the correct pairs.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Places in News	Location
Botswana	A land Locked country of Africa
Cuddalore beach	Tamil Nadu
<b>Tadoba National Park</b>	<b>Maharashtra</b>

## Botswana: Mystery elephant deaths caused by cyanobacteria

🕒 23 hours ago

POLLUTION

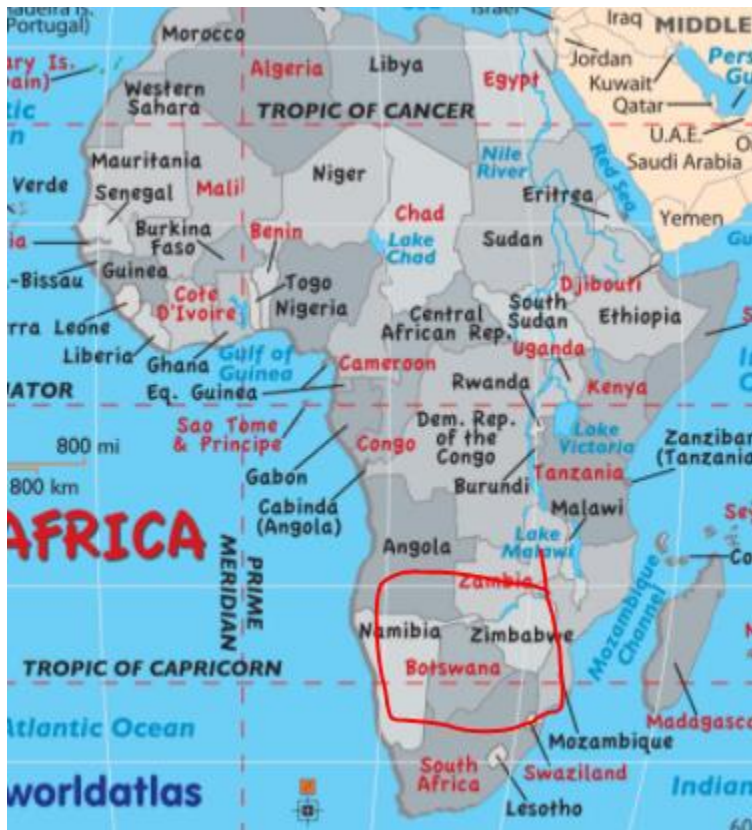
## Famous Cuddalore beach found to have high level of microplastics: NCPOR study

The Silver Beach in Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu was found to have a higher amount of coloured plastic particles, fragmented and irregular-shaped plastic particles



By DTE Staff

Last Updated: Monday 21 September 2020



Q55. With reference to the **coalbed methane (CBM)**, consider the following statements:

1. Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), Ministry of Coal, nominated as Nodal agency for promoting CBM in India.
2. The Damodar Koel valley and Son valley are prospective areas for CBM development.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither r 1 nor 2

Solution: b

Explanation:

In 1997 Government of India made **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas as the administrative Ministry for CBM** and **Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH)** nominated as Nodal agency for promoting CBM in India.



Following are the important areas of work allocated to the Ministry

1. Exploration for, and exploitation of petroleum resources, including natural gas and Coal Bed Methane, gas hydrates and shale gas.
2. Production, supply, distribution, marketing and pricing of petroleum, including natural gas, Coal Bed Methane and petroleum products.

The Gondwana sediments of **eastern India** host the bulk of India's coal reserves and all the current CBM producing blocks. The vast majority of the best prospective areas for CBM development are in eastern India, situated in **Damodar Koel valley and Son valley**.

**What is coalbed methane (CBM)?**

CBM, like shale gas, is extracted from what are known as unconventional gas reservoirs — where gas is extracted directly from the rock that is the source of the gas (shale in case of shale gas and coal in case of CBM).

The methane is held underground within the coal and is extracted by drilling into the coal seam and removing the groundwater. The resulting drop in pressure causes the methane to be released from the coal.

According to the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India's CBM resources are estimated at around 92 trillion cubic feet (TCF), or 2,600 billion cubic metres (BCM).

The country's coal and CBM reserves are found in 12 states of India, with the Gondwana sediments of eastern India holding the bulk.

The Damodar Koel valley and Son valley are prospective areas for CBM development, with CBM projects existing in Raniganj South, Raniganj East and Raniganj North areas in the Raniganj coalfield, the Parbatpur block in Jharia coalfield and the East and West Bokaro coalfields.

The Son valley includes the Sonhat North and Sohagpur East and West blocks.

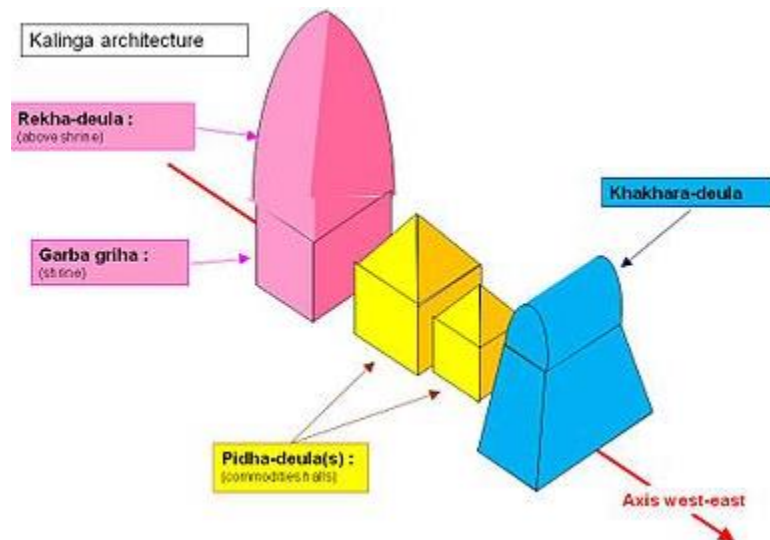
**Q56. Khakhara, Rekha and Pidha**, forms of architectural style, is the feature of which of the following regions?

- a. Karnataka
- b. Kalinga
- c. Malwa
- d. Kashmir

Solution: b

The Kalinga architectural style is a style of Hindu architecture which flourished in the ancient Kalinga and part of the kingdom of Magadha or present eastern Indian state of Odisha.

The style consists of three distinct types of temples: **Rekha, Pidha and Khakhara**. The former two are associated with Vishnu, Surya and Shiva temples while the third is mainly with Chamunda and Durga temples.



Q57. In the context of Fertilizers Industry in India, consider the following statements.

1. Currently, subsidies are passed to farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
2. Fertilizers are included in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
3. Currently in India, usage of fertilizers in India is much higher than desired levels.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

A parliamentary standing committee recently submitted its report on the 'study of system of fertilizer subsidy' in March 2020. We have covered this report in our Daily Current Affairs section. [Click here.](#)

**First statement is incorrect.**

**How Fertilizers are made available to farmers?**

In India, Fertilizers are made available to the farmers at a subsidized and affordable price to help with increase in yield. **The subsidy is passed onto companies manufacturing fertilizers** so that farmers get the fertilizers at subsidized MRP. **Not Passed to Farmers.**

The quantum of subsidy varies with type of fertilizer like Urea, DAP etc. The subsidy is given only to those fertilizers **which meet the standards laid down by the government.**

**Third statement is correct.**

**Usage of fertilizers in India is much higher than desired levels**

- a. As per the standing committee report on fertilizers subsidy submitted in the Lok Sabha in March 2020, the consumption of fertilizers is much higher compared to the desired ratio. Although the desired consumption in case of NPK fertilizers is 4:2:1, the usage is (6.7) :(2.4):1.
- b. It has also been reported that the consumption in states like Punjab and Haryana where agriculture is dominant, the consumption ratio was as high as (31.4): 8:1 and (27.7) :(6.1):1 respectively.

**Second statement is correct.**

**Fertilizers are included in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.**

As already seen, there is a myriad number of factors which determine the quantity and mix of fertilizer inputs to be used because of which there is no ideal or standard mix which can be adopted globally. The Fertiliser Control Order, 1985 lays down what all substances can be used as fertilizers in the country. The order also enlists the product-wise specifications, sampling methods and methods of analysis of fertilizers. For instance, the Ammonium Sulphate must conform to the following standard. **Because of their importance in agriculture, fertilizers are included in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 as an essential commodity.**

Q58. Consider the following statements about the Hallmarking process in India:

1. Hallmarking is the accurate determination and official recording of the proportionate content of precious metals.
2. The standards for Hallmark certification are laid by the Bureau of Indian Standards only.
3. Hallmarking is now mandatory for all the Gold Jewellery and Gold Coins.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Hallmarking is the accurate determination and official recording of the proportionate content of precious metal in precious metal articles. Hallmarks are thus official marks used in many countries as a guarantee of purity or fineness of precious metal articles. The principle objectives of the Hallmarking Scheme are to protect the public against adulteration and to obligate manufacturers to maintain legal standards of fineness. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Hallmarking is a certification of standards laid by the **Bureau of Indian Standards**, the national standards organization of India. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts will be made mandatory across the country from January 15, 2021 to ensure purity of the precious metal.

## January 15, 2021

NEW DELHI: Hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts **will be made mandatory** across the country from January 15, 2021 to ensure purity of the precious metal, Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan announced on Friday. Nov 29, 2019

[economictimes.indiatimes.com > wealth > articleshow](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/articleshow) ▼

[Hallmarking to be mandatory for gold jewellery from 2021 ...](#)

**Third statement is incorrect.**

12. Is the mandatory hallmarking order applicable to gold bullion and coins also? +

No, the order is applicable for gold jewellery and artefacts only. Gold bullion/coins of 999/995 fineness are permitted to be hallmarked by BIS approved Refinery/Mints (29 licensed refineries are in operation at present). The list of BIS licensed Refineries/Mints is available at BIS website [www.bis.gov.in](http://www.bis.gov.in) under the hallmarking tab

Q59. Consider the following features in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution:

1. Social, economic and political justice
2. Unity and integrity of the Nation
3. Equality of status and opportunity
4. Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship

Which one of the following is the correct order in which they appear in the Preamble?

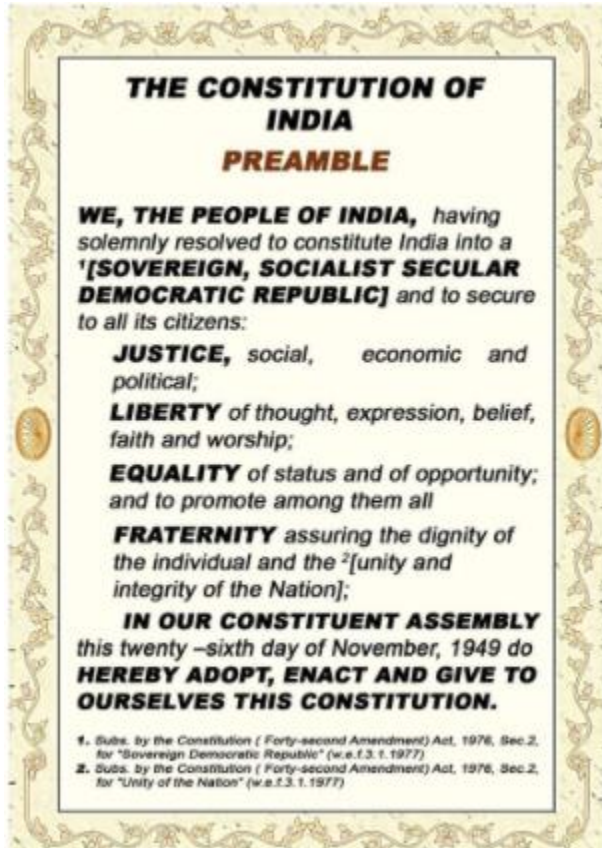
- a. 1-2-3-4
- b. 1-4-3-2
- c. 4-3-1-2

d. 4-1-2-3

Solution: b

Explanation:

**If you remember Preamble, then only you can solve. No guess work here.**



Q60. Consider the following pairs.

Religious town	Located in
Dwarka	Gulf of Kutch
Tirupati	Nilgiri Hills
Kamakhya	Kamagiri hill

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only

d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: c

Explanation:

**UPSC loves this type of question. We have asked you lot such questions in daily quiz, hope you have revised.**

**Dwarka is at the mouth of the Gulf of Kutch**, on the right bank of the Gomti River. **So, pair 1 is correct.**

Tirupati is a city in Chittoor district of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. The city is home to most famous and important Vaishnavite shrine of Tirumala Venkateswara Temple and other historic temples and is referred to as the "Spiritual Capital of Andhra Pradesh". It lies at the foot of **Seshachalam Hills of Eastern Ghats**. **So, pair 2 is incorrect.**

The Kamakhya Temple also known as Kamrup-Kamakhya temple, Kamakhya Devalaya, is a Hindu temple dedicated to the mother goddess Kamakhya. **Situated on the Nilachal Hill/Kamagiri Hills** in western part of Guwahati city in Assam, India. **So, pair 3 is correct.**

Q61. In the context of Indian Parliament, consider the following statements.

1. The procedure to suspend members of the Houses is not mentioned in the Constitution.
2. Speaker is empowered to suspend a member and revoke his suspension order.
3. Unlike the Speaker, the Rajya Sabha Chairman does not have the power to suspend a member.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Ok, see observe here options. Here, second statement is wrong. Bt in option "b" we have mentioned 2 only, just to keep your hope alive that 2 may be correct and YOU ARE TRAPPED. This is what will happen in UPSC Exam. Don't worry, till end you will learn these things.**

**First statement is correct.** It is not mentioned in the Constitution. It is mentioned in the Rule book of both the Houses.

**Second statement is incorrect.**

While the Speaker is empowered to place a Member under suspension, **the authority for revocation of this order is not vested in her. It is for the House, if it so desires**, to resolve on a motion to revoke the suspension.

Suspension  
of Member

374. (1) The Speaker, may, if deems it necessary, name a member who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business thereof.

(2) If a member is so named by the Speaker, the Speaker shall, on a motion being made forthwith put the question that the member (naming such member) be suspended from the service of the House for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session:

Provided that the House may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

(3) A member suspended under this rule shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House.

**Third statement is correct.**

Chairman of the Rajya Sabha is empowered — under Rule Number 255 of its Rule Book — to “*direct any member whose conduct is in his opinion grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House. “...Any member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself during the remainder of the day’s meeting.”*

The Chairman may “name a member who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the Council by persistently and wilfully obstructing” business.

In such a situation, **the House may adopt a motion suspending the member from the service of the House for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session.** The House may, however, by another motion, terminate the suspension. **Unlike the Speaker, the Rajya Sabha Chairman does not have the power to suspend a member.**

256 Suspension of member

(1) The Chairman may, if he deems it necessary, name a member who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the Council by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business thereof.

(2) If a member is so named by the Chairman he shall forthwith put the question on a motion being made, no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed, that the member (naming him) be suspended from the service of the Council for a period not exceeding the remainder of the Session:

Provided that the Council may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

Link: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-when-can-mps-be-suspended-from-the-house-what-rules-are-followed-in-the-process-6605221/>

Q62. Consider the following statements.

1. J&K Re-Organisation Act empowers the Parliament to decide on the adoption of official languages.
2. Kashmiri, Hindi and English are the official languages of the Jammu and Kashmir.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Parliament has passed the **Jammu & Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020**, to declare certain languages as official languages of the UT.

The Bill declares the following languages as the official languages to be used for the official purposes of the union territory, from such date as the Administrator of the union territory may notify:

- a. Kashmiri
- b. Dogri
- c. Urdu
- d. Hindi
- e. English

**Prior to this, Urdu has been the sole official language in J&K, for over 130 years. A small history:**

✓ Before the reorganisation of J&K on August 5, 2019, Urdu was the sole official language of the state. In 1889, Dogra ruler Pratap Singh adopted Urdu as the official language of the princely kingdom of J&K, replacing Persian which had enjoyed that status for more than three centuries. The same was carried forward by J&K's constituent assembly while adopting the state constitution.

It may be noted that the J&K Re-Organisation Act empowers the J&K legislative assembly to decide on the adoption of official languages. Thus, some MPs opposed Bill. However, the Government clarified thus: **Read section 47 below. First Statement is incorrect.**

✓ 47. (1) The Legislative Assembly may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir or Hindi as the official language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. ✓

(2) The business in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall be transacted in the official language or languages of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir or in Hindi or in English:

**So, why Parliament has passed this?**

✓ “By the proclamation issued by the president on October 31, 2019 to impose president’s rule in J&K, the powers of the legislative assembly of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall be exercisable by or under the authority of parliament. So the parliament will be exercising powers conferred upon the J&K assembly under Section 47 of the re-organisation Act,” he said. ✓

Q63. Consider the following statements regarding **Codex Alimentarius**.

1. It is a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization.
2. The Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the World Trade Organization recognizes Codex standards as reference standards for trade dispute settlement.
3. India is a member of Codex Alimentarius.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Start with introduction: very important to know how any body comes to existence? What is its need? It brings clarity.**

*International food trade has existed for thousands of years but until not too long-ago food was mainly produced, sold and consumed locally. Over the last century the amount of food traded internationally has grown exponentially, and a quantity and variety of food never before possible travels the globe today.*

The **Codex Alimentarius** international food standards, guidelines and codes of practice contribute to the safety, quality and fairness of this international food trade.

Consumers can trust the safety and quality of the food products they buy, and importers can trust that the food they ordered will be in accordance with their specifications.

**First statement is correct.**

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) is an international food standards body established jointly by the **Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO)** in May 1963 with the objective of protecting consumer's health and ensuring fair practices in food trade.

**Second statement is correct.**

The **Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the World Trade Organization (WTO)** recognizes **Codex standards**, guidelines and recommendations as reference standards for international trade and trade dispute settlement.

#### Resolving trade disputes

Although they are voluntary, Codex food safety standards are also referred to in the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS Agreement). The SPS Agreement says that "to harmonize sanitary and phytosanitary measures on as wide a basis as possible, Members shall base their sanitary or phytosanitary measures on international standards, guidelines or recommendations". Therefore, Codex is also a useful instrument to resolve trade disputes. Also, if WTO members are looking to deploy stricter food safety measures than those set by Codex, they may have to justify these measures scientifically.

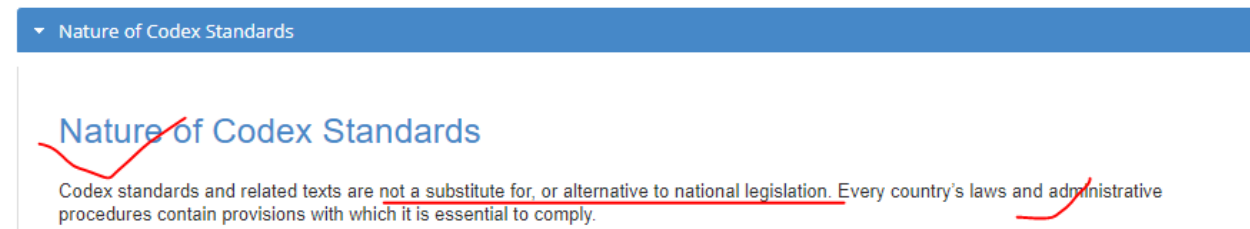
**Third statement is correct.**

Currently the Codex Alimentarius Commission has 189 Codex Members made up of 188 Member Countries and 1 Member Organization (The European Union). **India became the member of Codex Alimentarius in 1964.**

The major objectives of the work of Codex Alimentarius Commission [CAC] are **to protect the health of the consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade as well as to facilitate international trade in food**. The National Codex Contact Point (NCCP) in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare acts as the liaison office to coordinate with the other concerned government departments (at central and state level), food industry, consumers, traders, research and development institutions to ensure fulfill this objective.



Something more:



Q64. Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) system was seen in news recently. Let's solve one question on it. Consider the following statements.

1. It is a World Economic Forum led multilateral agreement that allows the results of a variety of non-clinical safety tests done on chemical products to be shared across countries.
2. Indi is a member of Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) system.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

The **OECD Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) system** is a multilateral agreement which saves governments and chemical producers over EUR 309 million every year **by allowing the results of a variety of non-clinical safety tests studies done on chemicals and chemical products such as medicines, industrial chemicals and pesticides to be shared across OECD.**

## Objective

As many of the same chemicals are produced and traded internationally, different national chemical control policies can lead to duplication in safety testing and government assessments. To address this problem, OECD has developed the Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) system, a multilateral agreement which allows participating countries (including non members) to share the results of various non-clinical tests done on chemicals using OECD *methods and principles*. This reduces duplicative testing, allows governments to work together when assessing chemicals, and saves government and industry resources.

**India joined the OECD system for the Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD)** in the Assessment of Chemicals, ensuring that the results of non-clinical chemical safety testing done there will be accepted in all other participating countries.

## India: joins OECD agreement on mutual acceptance of chemical safety data

06/04/2011 - India has become the third key emerging economy to join the OECD system for the [Mutual Acceptance of Data \(MAD\)](#) in the Assessment of Chemicals, ensuring that the results of non-clinical chemical safety testing done there will be accepted in all other participating countries.

## Benefits for countries & industries

By reducing duplicative testing, and creating a framework for sharing work, the MAD systems saves governments and industry around €150,000,000 each year. These net savings are a direct result from harmonising the testing and assessment of new pesticides and industrial chemicals and the systematic investigation of high production volume chemicals, and are listed in Table 1.

But, benefits quantified in monetary terms are not the only that accrue from the MAD system; broader qualitative benefits include the health and the environmental gains from governments being able to evaluate and manage more chemicals than they would if working independently. They also include the avoidance of delays in marketing new products; according to industry sources, these could represent similar amounts of money as those saved by avoiding duplicative testing (for example, delays in registrations of a pesticide might lead to missed sales for a full growing season). These qualitative benefits are described in Table 2.

Q65. Consider the following Pairs.

GI Tag	Belongs to
1. Dalle Khursani (Red Chilly)	Mizoram
2. Sohrai – Khovar Painting	Jharkhand

3. Telia Rumal	Andhra Pradesh
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Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

## Famous Chilli of Sikkim “Dalle Khursani” Gets GI Tag

September 6, 2020

GI Tag	Belongs to
<b>Dalle Khursani (Red Chilly)</b>	<b>Sikkim</b>
Sohrai – Khovar Painting	Jharkhand
<b>Telia Rumal</b>	<b>Telangana</b>

Link:

[http://www.ipindia.nic.in/writereaddata/Portal/Images/pdf/GI\\_Application\\_Register\\_10-09-2019.pdf](http://www.ipindia.nic.in/writereaddata/Portal/Images/pdf/GI_Application_Register_10-09-2019.pdf)

Q66. Consider the following.

- Iran
- UAE
- Strait of Hormuz
- Oman

Arrange the above from **North to South**.

- 1-3-4-2
- 1-3-2-4
- 1-4-3-2
- 1-4-2-3

Solution: a

Explanation:

Explanation:

Here also, you need to look map very carefully. If we image map, UAE comes north to Oman, but **this is not correct. See below.**



Q67. Consider the following statements.

1. India is a part of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).
2. Snow Leopard has same IUCN status as Indian Rhinoceros.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News is: **Rare snow leopards spotted last month in Gangotri National Park.**

## **Rare snow leopards spotted last month in Gangotri National Park**

"Snow leopards have been seen in Gangotri National Park, multiple times since last month," animal scientist Shambhu Prasad Nautiyal said.

IT-S-VIRAL Updated: Sep 22, 2020 10:09 IST

The **Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP)** is a world first joint initiative that aims to conserve the endangered **snow leopard** within the broader context of also conserving valuable high mountain ecosystems. GSLEP unites all 12- range country (**India is one of the range country**) governments, nongovernmental and inter-governmental organizations. Other 11 are: **China, Russia, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Bhutan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.**

The mission of GSLEP:

### **Our mission:**

The snow leopard range countries and partners unanimously agree to the shared goal of the GSLEP for the 7 years through 2020. The snow leopard range countries agree, with support from interested organizations, to work together to identify and secure at least 20 snow leopard landscapes across the cat's range by 2020 or, in shorthand – "Secure 20 by 2020."

Secure snow leopard landscapes are defined as those that contain at least 100 breeding age snow leopards conserved with the involvement of local communities, support adequate and secure prey populations, and have functional connectivity to other snow leopard landscapes, some of which cross international boundaries.

Snow Leopard and India Rhinoceros has same IUCN status: **VULNERABLE**. *Therefore, statement 2 is correct.*



## Snow Leopard

*Panthera uncia*

### CITATION

McCarthy, T., Mallon, D., Jackson, R., Zahler, P. & McCarthy, K. 2017. *Panthera* Threatened Species 2017: e.T22732A50664030. Downloaded on 24 Octol



## Indian Rhinoceros

*Rhinoceros unicornis*

### CITATION

Talukdar, B.K., Emslie, R., Bist, S.S., Choudhury, A., Ellis, S., Bonal, B.S., & Barua, M. 2008. *Rhinoceros unicornis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2008: e.T19496A8928657. Downloaded on 24 October 2019.



Link: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/it-s-viral/rare-snow-leopards-spotted-multiple-times-in-last-month-in-gangotri-national-park/story-f4RDruUNyasuL17mvMSCEBO.html>

Q68. Which of the following statements is correct regarding River Godavari?

1. Panchganga, Dudhaganga, Ghataprabha are the major tributaries of River Godavari.
2. The river Godavari rises in the Western Ghats near the Triambak hills in the Nasik district.
3. Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple is located on the banks of River Godavari.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only

- d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: b

Explanation:

**The river Godavari rises at an elevation of 1067 m in the Western Ghats near the Triambak hills in the Nasik district of Maharashtra.**

Dharmapuri is a small town located in the Karimnagar district of Telangana, 60 km away from the district headquarters. It is mostly famous for **Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple** which is situated on the **southern banks of Godavari** which flows through the town. The most interesting fact of Dharmapuri is that the Godavari river flows from north to south direction unlike west to east in all other places where it flows and hence the **river is termed here as Dakshina Vahini.**

**Panchganga, Dudhaganga, Ghataprabha are the major tributaries of River Krishna.**

**Tributaries of Godavari:**

✓ Basin features	
<b>Tributaries</b>	
• left	Banganga, Kadva, Shivana, Purna, Kadam, Pranahita, Indravati, Taliperu, Sabari, <b>Dharma</b>
• right	Nasardi, Pravara, Sindphana, Manjira, Manair, Kinnerasani

Q69. In the Gandhara school of art, Buddha is generally depicted standing frontally and one leg is shown bent. He wore a heavy robe which covers his both shoulders and his right hand is upraised with left hand hanging down. This posture of Buddha is called:

- Anjali Mudra
- Abhay Mudra
- Bhumisparsha Mudra
- Dharma chakra Mudra

Solution: b

Explanation:



Buddhas and bodhisattvas often are depicted in Buddhist art with stylized hand gestures called mudras. The word "mudra" is Sanskrit for "seal" or "sign," and each mudra has a specific meaning. Buddhists sometimes use these symbolic gestures during rituals and meditation.

**Abhay Mudra:** The Abhay mudra is the open right hand, palm out, fingers pointing up, raised to about the height of the shoulder. Abhaya represents the accomplishment of enlightenment, and it signifies the Buddha immediately after his realization of enlightenment.

Q70. In the context of provisions of India Constitution, Consider the following statements.

1. Parliament by law decides about the number of Judges in Supreme Court and High Court.
2. Both Supreme Court and High Court Judges resigns from office by writing under his/her hand addressed to President

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First see for Supreme Court Judges,**

### Central Government Act

#### Article 124 in The Constitution Of India 1949

##### 124. Establishment and constitution of Supreme Court

(1) There shall be a Supreme Court of India constituting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other Judges

(2) Every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with such of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the States as the President may deem necessary for the purpose and shall hold office until he attains the age of sixty five years: Provided that in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the chief Justice, the chief Justice of India shall always be consulted:

(a) a Judge may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;

#### Now for High Court Judges:

### Central Government Act

#### Article 216 in The Constitution Of India 1949

216. Constitution of High Courts Every High Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may from time to time deem it necessary to appoint

##### 217. Appointment and conditions of the office of a Judge of a High Court

(1) Every Judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, the Governor of the State, and, in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the chief Justice, the chief Justice of the High court, and shall hold office, in the case of an additional or acting Judge, as provided in Article 224, and in any other case, until he attains the age of sixty two years Provided that

(a) a Judge may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;

From above images, first statement is wrong, and second statement is correct.

***In Supreme Court, Parliament by law decides about number of Judges but in High Court President decides.***

Q71. Consider the following statements regarding the comptroller and auditor general (CAG)

1. The salary of CAG is equal to the salary of the Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The jurisdiction of CAG has been extended to cover audit of all receipts of Union, States and Union Territories.

3. CAG audit all transactions of the Union and of the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Now, you will think all these statements are mentioned in Lakshmikant, so these are part of Indian Constitution. **NO, THEY ARE NOT.**

**Now, see what is written in the Constitution? If you see below two articles, it is written as per the law made by Parliament.**

**149. Duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General.**—The Comptroller and Auditor-General shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States and of any other authority or body as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament

(3) The salary and other conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General shall be such as may be determined by Parliament by law and, until they are so determined, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule:

So, Parliament enacted: **Comptroller and Auditor General (Duties, Powers, and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971. In this Act, all the above three statements are mentioned. NOT CONSTITUTION**

Now, coming back to statements.

**First Statement is correct.**

**Chapter-II Salary and Other Conditions of Service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General**  
**3.** There shall be paid to the Comptroller and Auditor-General a salary which is equal to the salary of the Judge of the Supreme Court:

**Second statement is also correct:**

The Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 is a comprehensive piece of legislation. The jurisdiction of the Comptroller and Auditor General has been widened to cover the audit of all receipts of the Union, States and Union Territories, stores and stock kept in any office or department, and receipts and expenditure of bodies and authorities substantially financed from Government revenues and scrutiny of accounts relating to grants and loans given by government. ~~There is also an enabling provision to~~

Third statement is correct.

#### General Provisions Relating to Audit

13. It shall be the duty of the Comptroller and Auditor-General-

- ✓ a. to audit all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and of each State and of each Union territory having a Legislative Assembly and to ascertain whether the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged and whether the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it;
- ✓ ~~b. to audit all transactions of the Union and of the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts;~~
- c. to audit all trading, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts and balance-sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept in any department of the Union or of a State; and in each case to report on the expenditure, transactions or accounts so audited by him.

Why we have asked questions from Act?? Reason is UPSC Prelims Paper 2019. Last year it was asked from Judges Inquiry Act, 1968. See below.

Consider the following statements:

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what constitutes incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.

Q72. Consider the following Pairs.

Buddhist Stupas	Location
1. Dhamekh Stupa	Bhubaneswar
2. Chaukhandi Stupa	Thotlakunda
3. Sanchi Stupa	Sarnath

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

Buddhist Stupas	Location
Dhamekh Stupa	Sarnath
Chaukhandi Stupa	Sarnath
Sanchi Stupa	Sarnath

An ancient Buddhist site in **Uttar Pradesh's Sarnath known as Chaukhandi Stupa** has been declared to be a "protected area of national importance" by the Archaeological Survey of India recently. This you should know if you are following Current Affairs.

**Dhamekh in Sarnath** is one of the best representations of Buddhist art and architecture with carvings and paintings of humans, birds, flowers and several Brahmi scriptures and inscriptions. This structure was also commissioned under the reign of the Ashokan Empire.

Constructed during the reign of Emperor Ashoka, **the Sanchi stupa** honors and protects the relics of Buddha. This stupa also houses the very famous Ashokan pillar made of sandstone.

Q73. Consider the following Pairs.

Recent schemes/summits in news	objective
1. VAIBHAV Summit	global summit of Overseas and Resident students and industries
2. National Service Scheme	To encourage women entrepreneurs for skill development

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Both Pairs are wrong.**

**Vaishwik Bharatiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit is a collaborative initiative by S&T and Academic Organizations of India to enable deliberations on thought process, practices and R&D culture with a problem-solving approach for well-defined objectives.**

The VAIBHAV initiative aims to bring out the comprehensive roadmap to leverage the expertise and knowledge of global Indian researcher for solving emerging challenges. By bringing the **Indian Overseas and Resident academicians/scientists together a structure of association will be evolved.** The aim of summit is to reflect in-depth on the collaboration and cooperation instruments with academia and scientists in India. The goal is to create an ecosystem of Knowledge and Innovation in the country through global outreach.

The **National Service Scheme (NSS)** is a **Central Sector Scheme of Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports**. It provides opportunity to the student youth of 11th & 12th Class of schools at +2 Board level and student youth of Technical Institution, Graduate & Postgraduate at colleges and University level of India to take part in various government led community service activities & programmes.

The sole aim of the NSS is to provide hands on experience to young students in delivering community service.

Q74. Consider the following statements regarding 'Living Planet Report 2020'.

1. It is an annual publication of World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
2. Freshwater species population has increased for the first time in last 3 decades.
3. Per human consumption is among the highest in developed nations than developing nations.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution:

**First statement is wrong. Be focussed!!**

**World Wildlife Fund (WWF)**'s flagship **biennial publication**, 'Living Planet Report', brings together different research work to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Earth's health. It clearly states how humans' unsustainable activities are stressing the Earth's natural systems which essentially support life on the planet.

**Second statement is incorrect:** Don't focus on 3-decade, 4 -decade for such questions. Problem is somewhere else. **Here, population has decreased not increased. Very easy if once you have gone through news.**

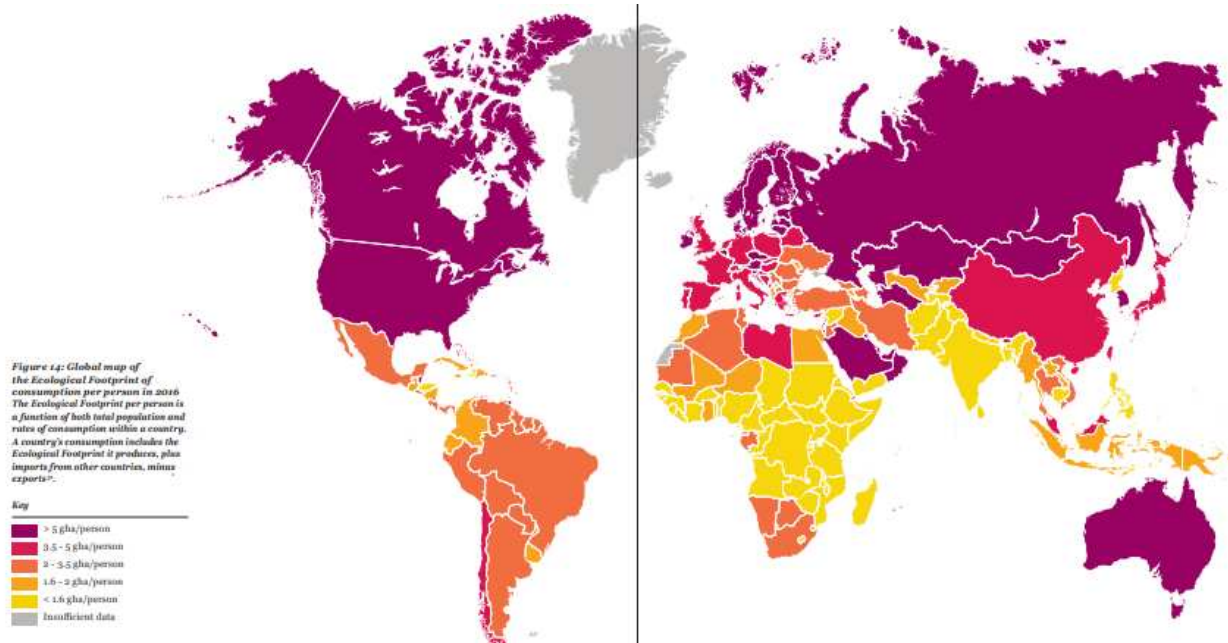
The index calculated for 3,741 populations of **freshwater species revealed an average decline by 84%**, equivalent to 4% per year since 1970. This was in the case of freshwater animal species including mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and fishes. Most of the decline in this case was evident in freshwater reptiles, fishes, and amphibians, mainly in Latin America and Caribbean regions.

**Third statement is correct.**

Per human consumption is among the highest in developed nations.

As per the report, however, humans demand as if they are living off 1.56 Earths. The COVID-19 induced lockdowns across the world reduced human demands by almost 10%.

The consumption of natural resources per person across countries (ecological footprint) shows that the consumption is **high in the developed countries such as USA, Australia, and Russia.** India's per person consumption is among the lowest, less than 1.6 global hectares per person.



Q75. Which of the following capitals is nearest to Jerusalem (Israel)?

- Damascus (Syria)
- Beirut (Lebanon)
- Amman (Jordan)
- Ankara (Turkey)

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Turkey is on extreme north. So, it will be eliminated.**



Q76. Consider the following statements **IBSA Forum**.

1. The IBSA forum was established in 2003 by Brasilia Declaration.
2. All members of IBSA are members of BRICS.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The India-Brazil- South Africa Forum was established in 2003 by the [Brasilia Declaration](#) and intends for South-South Co-operation.

The India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (**IBSA Fund**) is not only a remarkable example of **cooperation among three developing countries** but also a pioneering initiative to implement **South-South cooperation** for the benefit of other Southern countries in partnership with the United Nations system. **The IBSA Fund was established in 2004 and became operational in 2006.**

**BRICS members are: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.**

Q77. In the context of **Indian Judiciary**, consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution has provided power to President to increase the number of SC Judges.
2. The original Constitution of 1950 provided for the 10 Supreme Court Judges including Chief Justice of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**We will start with Article 124(1) which states that: Original Constitution.**

*"There shall be a Supreme Court of India constituting of a Chief Justice of India and, until **Parliament by law** prescribes a larger number, **of not more than seven other Judges**. Therefore, both statements are wrong.*

Therefore, the strength of Supreme Court Judges can expand by the way of Parliament Legislation. For this purpose, Parliament has enacted **The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956** which originally provided for maximum of 10 judges (excluding CJI).

#### THE SUPREME COURT (NUMBER OF JUDGES) ACT, 1956

ACT NO. 55 OF 1956

[16th September, 1956.]

An Act to provide for an increase in the number of Judges of the Supreme Court, excluding the Chief Justice.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

**1. Short title.**—This act may be called the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.

**This number was increased to 13** by Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act,1960 and to 17 in 1977.

In 1986, strength of Supreme Court was increased to 25, excluding CJI. Subsequently, Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2009 further increased strength of Supreme Court judges from 25 to 30 (excluding CJI).

The recent **The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2019** has now increased the strength of Judges from 30 to 33(excluding CJI).

**Q78. Payment and Settlement systems in India is regulated by:**

- Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- Reserve Bank of India
- Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance
- SEBI

Solution: b

Explanation:

The Payment and settlement system refer to the system which facilitates the transfer of money from a payer to the beneficiary. It includes both paper-based payments (Cheques, Drafts) as well as electronic payments such as Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), Immediate payment Service (IMPS), UPI etc.

**RBI regulates Payment and Settlement systems in India.**

**THE PAYMENT AND SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS ACT, 2007**  
No. 51 of 2007  
[20<sup>th</sup> December, 2007]  
An Act to provide for the regulation and supervision of payment systems in India and to designate the Reserve Bank of India as the authority for that purpose and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Q79. Consider the following Pairs.

Conventions/Protocols	Related to
1. Stockholm	Persistent Organic Pollutants
2. Cartagena	Advance Informed Agreement procedures for transfer of Living Modified Organisms
3. Basel	Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain

	Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade
--	--------------------------------------------

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanations:

Conventions/Protocols	Related to
1. Stockholm	Persistent Organic Pollutants
2. Cartagena	Advance Informed Agreement procedures for transfer of Living Modified Organisms
3. Rotterdam	<b>Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade</b>
4. Basel	<b>Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal</b>

Q80. With respect to **Ajivika Philosophy**, which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. Ajivikas were considered important rivals of both Buddhism and Jainism.
- 2. The Ajivika sect reached its peak during the reign of Bindusara.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

One of the most popular was the Ajivika sect. Though it had been around for ages, its most important leader Makkhali Goshala was a contemporary of both the Buddha and Mahavira.

*The Ajivikas' central belief was that absolutely everything is predetermined by fate, or niyati, and hence human action has no consequence one way or the other. According to them, each soul's course was like a ball of thread that is unravelling. It will go as it has to go, and similarly each cycle of life and death will have to be experienced, as will joy and sorrow. Once the ball of thread is fully unwound, its journey will end, and so the soul will be liberated through nirvana.*

### **Learn about Barabar caves**

Barabar caves are a set of 7 rock-cut-caves dating back to the third century BC. These are located on the twin hills of Barabar and Nagarjuni. These are also known as Lomas Rishi Cave, Sudama Cave and Vishwamitra Cave among the locals.

Each of the Barabar caves, 4 in Barabar and 3 in Nagarjuni, are carved out of granite and feature two chambers each along with a highly polished surface, **completely missing any kind of sculpture or embellishments.**

Barabar caves are also known for their architecture and **these are the very caves which saw the use of the Chaitya Arch in stone for the first time. The inscriptions found in here date it to the Mauryan period.**

The inscription in the Sudama cave informs that the four caves on **Barabar hill were assigned by King Ashoka to Ajivika monks in 261 BC.** Another inscription on the Nagarjuni hill is of the grandson of King Ashoka, Dasaratha Maurya, **which tells that the Ajivikas continued to enjoy imperial Mauryan patronage for long.**

**Now,**

Ajivika is one of the "heterodox" schools of Indian philosophy founded in the 5th century BCE by Makkhali Goshala. **Buddhist and Jain texts are very critical of the Ajivikas and Makkhali Goshala, which shows us that the Ajivikas must have been considered fairly important rivals of both. First statement is correct.**

**Like Jains, Ajivikas wore no clothes, and lived as ascetic monks in organized groups.**

Ajivikas were quite influential and had many powerful followers. **The sect reached its peak during the Mauryan Emperor Bindusara's (Ashoka's father) time. Second statement is correct.**

Q81. World Trade Statistical Review – 2020 report by World Trade Organization (WTO) released recently says USA is the World's largest trader for the year 2019. But we will solve here important question related to India-US trade. Consider the following statements.

1. USA is India's leading trade partner in 2018-19 and 2019-20 both.
2. India maintains a trade surplus with US for last three years (2016-17 to 2019-20).
3. Pearls, Stones & other metals used in Jewellery are the major export commodity of India to USA.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

If you really want to know the exact information about trade relation between countries, you have to visit the ministry site and gather information from there. But don't worry we have done this.

First statement Link: <https://commerce-app.gov.in/eidb/iecnttopnq.asp>

Data indicates that the overall volume of trade between India & USA has increased substantially in the last 10 years so much so that **USA has overtaken China to become India's largest trade partner in 2018-19 & 2019-20**. Do zoom and see the data. In 2017-18, you can see below, China is first, US is second.

Department of Commerce  
Export Import Data Bank  
Total Trade :: Top countries

Dated: 29/09/2020  
Values in Rs Crore

Year: 2019-2020

Rank	Country	Export	Import	Total Trade	Trade Balance
1.	USA	376,165.34	233,363.46	629,529.00	122,802.08
2.	CHINA PRF	117,673.31	461,324.77	579,198.08	-343,651.45
3.	U ARAB EMTS	204,237.82	214,447.02	418,684.84	-10,209.20

Department of Commerce  
Export Import Data Bank  
Total Trade :: Top countries

Dated: 29/09/2020  
Values in Rs Crore

Year: 2018-2019

Rank	Country	Export	Import	Total Trade	Trade Balance
1.	USA	366,480.39	248,553.77	615,034.17	117,926.62
2.	CHINA PRF	117,289.11	492,079.28	609,368.39	-374,790.17
3.	U ARAB EMTS	210,210.93	208,550.77	418,761.70	1,660.17

Department of Commerce  
Export Import Data Bank  
Total Trade :: Top countries

Dated: 29/09/2020  
Values in Rs Crore

Year: 2017-2018

Rank	Country	Export	Import	Total Trade	Trade Balance
1.	CHINA PRF	85,994.30	492,236.17	578,230.47	-406,241.87
2.	USA	308,602.69	171,564.48	480,167.17	137,038.21
3.	U ARAB EMTS	181,456.93	140,095.89	321,552.82	41,361.04

**Second statement is correct.** Link: <https://commerce-app.gov.in/eidb/iecint.asp>

See the complete data of India-US trade below for last five years. We can see below that India has always a trade surplus.

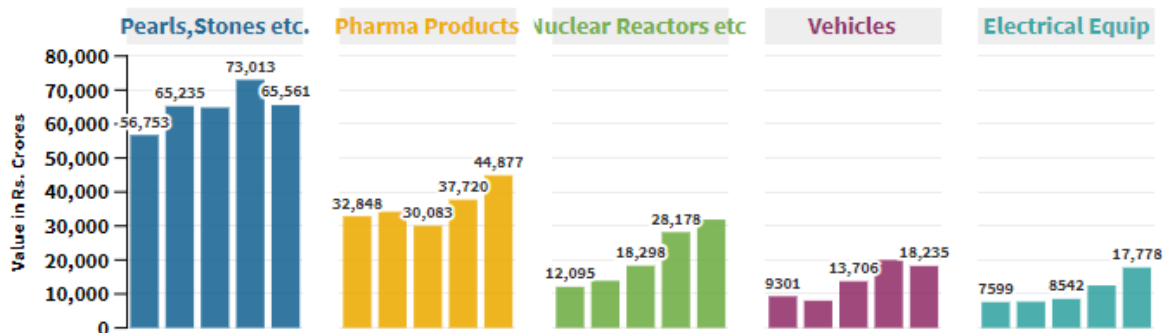
**Department of Commerce**  
**Export Import Data Bank**  
Country - wise

Dated: 29/09/2020  
Values in Rs Lacs

Country: USA		Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
1.	EXPORT		26,386,048.73	28,300,800.88	30,860,269.10	36,648,039.35	37,616,554.11
2.	%Growth			7.26	9.04	18.75	2.64
3.	India's Total Export		171,638,440.44	184,943,355.34	195,651,452.80	230,772,619.38	221,985,418.10
4.	%Growth			7.75	5.79	17.95	-3.81
5.	%Share		15.37	15.30	15.77	15.88	16.95
6.	IMPORT		14,267,820.18	14,965,539.59	17,156,448.30	14,855,377.39	25,336,346.10
7.	%Growth			4.89	14.64	44.87	1.94
8.	India's Total Import		249,030,553.78	257,767,536.68	300,103,343.35	359,467,461.19	336,095,445.61
9.	%Growth			3.51	16.42	19.78	-6.50
10.	%Share		5.73	5.81	5.72	6.91	7.54
11.	TOTAL TRADE		40,653,868.90	43,266,340.47	48,016,717.39	61,503,416.73	62,952,900.21
12.	%Growth			6.43	10.98	28.09	2.36
13.	India's Total Trade		420,668,994.22	442,710,892.02	495,754,796.15	590,240,080.57	558,080,863.71
14.	%Growth			5.24	11.98	19.06	-5.45
15.	%Share		9.66	9.77	9.69	10.42	11.28
16.	TRADE BALANCE		12,118,228.55	13,335,261.29	13,703,820.80	11,792,661.96	12,280,208.01
17.	India's Trade Balance		-77,392,113.34	-72,824,181.34	-104,451,890.54	-128,694,841.81	-114,110,027.52

**Third statement is also correct.**

**India's Top Exports to USA**  
2015-16 to 2019-20 in Rs. Crores



Q82. Which one of the following group of countries are part of ASEAN+3 grouping?

- China, South Korea, India
- South Korea, China, Japan
- India, Australia, Japan
- US, Japan, Australia

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Members are fine. But you see history also. You will never forget then.**

### **Overview of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation**

The ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation process began in December 1997 with the convening of an Informal Summit among the Leaders of ASEAN and China, Japan and the ROK at the sidelines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Informal Summit in Malaysia. The APT Summit was institutionalised in 1999 when the Leaders issued a Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> APT Summit in Manila. The Joint Statement for the first time determined the main objectives, principles and further directions of APT countries cooperation. In the Joint Statement, the APT Leaders resolved to strengthen and deepen East Asia cooperation at various levels and in various areas, particularly in economic and social, political and other fields.

Q83. Consider the following statements regarding Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

1. It is an important legislation, still it has not entered into force.
2. India has signed and ratified this legislation.
3. Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) is an intergovernmental organisation and the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention,

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

***Statements will be very simple in exam like asked. You just need to go through basics of every organization from original website.***

**First statement is incorrect. It has entered into force.**

✓ The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (hereinafter "the Convention") was adopted in Geneva on 3 September 1992 by the Conference on Disarmament, which transmitted it to the United Nations General Assembly at its Forty-Seventh Session. The General Assembly commended the Convention and requested the United Nations Secretary-General, as Depositary, to open it for signature in Paris on 13 January 1993.

The Convention remained open for signature in Paris from 13 to 15 January 1993 and, thereafter, at United Nations Headquarters, New York, until 29 April 1997, when it entered into force. States that did not sign the Convention before entry into force may accede to it at any time thereafter.

**Second statement is correct.**



# India

✓ Signature  
14 January 1993

✓ Ratification, accession or succession  
8 September 1996

✓ Entry into Force  
29 April 1997

**Third statement is correct.**

The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) **is the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention**, which entered into force on 29 April 1997. The OPCW, with its **193 Member States**, oversees the global endeavour to permanently and verifiably eliminate chemical weapons. As provided for in the Convention, the OPCW comprises three main bodies: the Conference of the States Parties, the Executive Council and the Technical Secretariat.

**One important feature you should know:**

A unique feature of the Convention is its incorporation of the 'challenge inspection', whereby any State Party in doubt about another State Party's compliance can request a surprise inspection. Under the Convention's 'challenge inspection' procedure, States Parties have committed themselves to the principle of 'any time, anywhere' inspections with no right of refusal.

Q84. In the context of the **Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)**, consider the following statements.

1. It is an initiative to draw attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity.
2. It is managed by United Nation Environment programme (UNEP).
3. It is one of the missions under National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE).

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

*You will read each and every paragraph. If you miss now, till end you will end up getting new statements and you will be a confused person in end.*

***In first paragraph below you can see first, and second statement is correct.***

# The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)

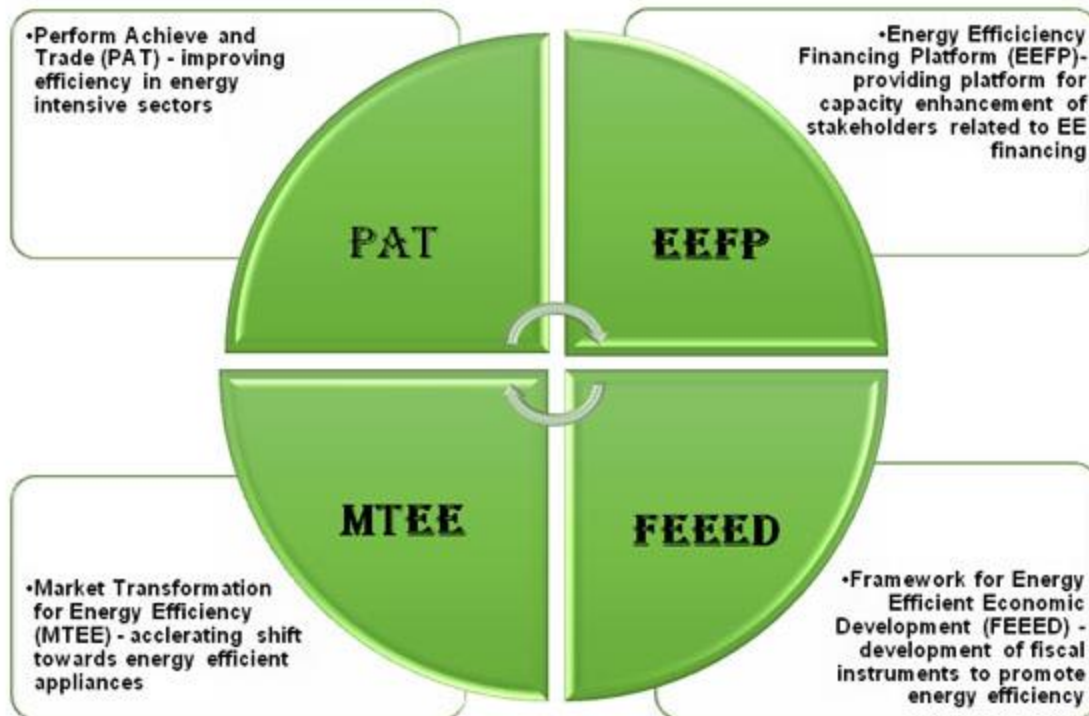
The initiative on 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity' (TEEB) is an important partner in implementing the CBD programme of work on incentive measures, and in particular its work on valuation. Launched at the G8 meeting of environment ministers in Potsdam, Germany, in 2007, this major international initiative, funded by the European Commission, Germany, the United Kingdom, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden, and managed by the United Nations Environment Programme as part of its Green Economy Initiative (GEI), seeks to draw attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity, to highlight the growing costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and to draw together expertise from the fields of science, economics and policy to enable practical actions moving forward.

## MAKING NATURE'S VALUES VISIBLE

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) is a global initiative focused on "making nature's values visible". Its principal objective is to mainstream the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision-making at all levels. It aims to achieve this goal by following a structured approach to valuation that helps decision-makers recognize the wide range of benefits provided by ecosystems and biodiversity, demonstrate their values in economic terms and, where appropriate, capture those values in decision-making.

**Third statement is incorrect.**

The **National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE)** is one of the eight national missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). NMEEE consist of four initiatives to enhance energy efficiency in energy intensive industries which are as follows:



One very important thing we will also see today is **Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) project**. Why this project? Because India is a part of it and is a project in collaboration with TEEB.

## About the Project

The United Nations Statistics Division, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the European Union have launched the project "**Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services**" (NCAVES).

The project funded by the European Union through its **Partnership Instrument (PI)**, aims to assist the five participating partner countries, namely Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, to advance the knowledge agenda on environmental-economic accounting, in particular ecosystem accounting. It will initiate pilot testing of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) with a view to:

- Improving the measurement of ecosystems and their services (both in physical and monetary terms) at the (sub)national level;
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems at (sub)national level policy planning and implementation;
- Contribute to the development of internationally agreed methodology and its use in partner countries

The project will have a duration until the end of 2020.

**The Social Statistics Division (SSD) of Central Statistics Office of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is the nodal agency for implementation of the project in India.**

**Q85.** Consider the following pairs.

Initiatives by states	State
1. first in the country to ban CFL and Filament Bulbs	Kerala
2. "Herbal Roads" initiative	Karnataka

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

News is not new. News is from May 2020. It appeared in some newspaper. Just learn.

Initiatives by states	State
first in the country to ban CFL and Filament Bulbs	Kerala
<b>"Herbal Roads" initiative</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>

These **herbal roads** will have medicinal and herbal trees – like Peepal, Neem, Sehjan along with other herb varieties like Brahmi, Ashvagandha and Jatropa – along with the land on their both sides. These plants will provide raw material for the medicines and will also help in curbing the erosion of land.

**Q86.** Dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan is on. We can't solve dispute, but we can solve one map. Consider the following places.

- Azerbaijan
- Turkey
- Caspian Sea
- Armenia

Arrange the above places from west to east.

- 3-1-4-2
- 2-1-4-3
- 2-4-1-3

d. 4-1-2-3

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q87. Consider the following statements.

1. The chairman or Speaker shall not accept resignation if he/she thinks resignation is not voluntary or genuine.
2. If a member of Parliament is absent from meetings for a period of 90 days without permission of the House, his seat becomes vacant.

Which of the above statement is/are correct and part of Indian Constitution?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Please refer to Constitution of India (P.M Bakshi or any other) for any polity related question. Try to read complete article from Constitution. It will give an idea about what provisions are part of original constitution or what has been added after amendment.**

Coming back to question. Here we have two tasks.

- a. Whether statements given are correct or not.
- b. Whether correct statement is part of Constitution or not. Let's see now.

The element of acceptance of resignation was introduced by the Constitution (33rd Amendment) Act, 1974 to place a check on any forced resignation.

### Central Government Act

#### Article 101(3) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(3) If a member of either House of Parliament

(a) becomes subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in clause (1) or clause (2) of Article 102, or

(b) resigns his seat by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, and his resignation is accepted by the chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, his seat shall thereupon become vacant: Provided that in the case of any resignation referred to in sub clause (b), if from information received or otherwise and after making such inquiry as he thinks fit, the chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, is satisfied that such resignation is not voluntary or genuine, he shall not accept such resignation

Therefore, statement 1 is right and is part of Indian Constitution.

Article 101(4) states:

### Central Government Act

#### Article 101(4) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(4) If for a period of sixty days a member of either House of Parliament is without permission of the House absent from all meetings thereof, the House may declare his seat vacant: Provided that in computing the said period of sixty days no account shall be taken of any period during which the House is prorogued or is adjourned for more than four consecutive days

Therefore, statement two is incorrect as it is period of 60 days.

Q88. Consider the following statements.

1. The Election Commissioners can be removed in a similar way as Supreme Court Judges.
2. State Election Commission can be removed in a similar way as High Court Judge.

Which of the following options is/are correct?

- a. 1 only

- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: b

Explanation:

**We won't let you solve this without make you read actual provision in the article.**

For tenure protection of Election Commission, refer article 324 (5)

Provided that the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment:

Provided further that any other Election Commissioner or a Regional Commissioner shall not be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

From the above article, it is clear that the Chief Election Commissioner **cannot be removed from office except in the manner provided for the removal of a Supreme Court judge**. Neither the conditions his service can be altered to the incumbent's disadvantage after appointment.

On the other hand, **Election Commissioner can be removed** on the recommendation of Chief Election Commissioner. **Election Commissioners are not provided protection by Constitution.**

**Therefore, statement one is incorrect.**

Now for State Election Commission refer to article 243 (k):

**243K. Elections to the Panchayats.**—(1) The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.

(2) Subject to the provisions of any law made by the Legislature of a State, the conditions of service and tenure of office of the State Election Commissioner shall be such as the Governor may by rule determine:

Provided that the State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of a High Court and the conditions of service of the State Election

Therefore, statement 2 is correct. **option b is correct.**

Q89. The division of industries in different schedules in the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 was based on:

- a. Ownership and responsibility of development
- b. Size and investment
- c. Geographical location
- d. Core vs non-core industries

Solution: a

Explanation:

#### **D. PUBLIC SECTOR POLICY**

- ✓ 29. The public sector has been central to our philosophy of development. In the pursuit of our development objectives, public ownership and control in critical sectors of the economy has played an important role in preventing the concentration of economic power, reducing regional disparities and ensuring that planned development serves the common good.
- ✓ 30. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 gave the public sector a strategic role in the economy. Massive investments have been made over the past four decades to build a public sector which has a commanding role in the economy. Today key sectors of the economy are dominated by mature public enterprises that have successfully expanded production, opened up new areas of technology and built up a reserve of technical competence in a number of areas.

It was the first comprehensive statement on industrial development of India. The 1956 policy continued to constitute the basic economic policy for a long time.

According to this resolution the objective of the social and economic policy in India was the establishment of a socialistic pattern of society. It provided more powers to the governmental machinery. It laid down three categories of industries which were more sharply defined. These categories were:

**Schedule A:** those industries which were to be an exclusive responsibility of the state.

**Schedule B:** those which were to be progressively state-owned and in which the state would generally set up new enterprises, but in which private enterprise would be expected only to supplement the effort of the state; and

**Schedule C:** all the remaining industries and their future development would, in general be left to the initiative and enterprise of the private sector.

**Although there was a category of industries left to the private sector (Schedule C above), the sector was kept under state control through a system of licenses.**

Q90. Consider the following statements.

Assertion (A): Keynesians reject the effectiveness of a fiscal stimulus in reviving the market.

Reason (R): Keynesians believe that investment depends solely on the rate of interest.

In the context of the above, which of these is correct?

- a. A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A.
- b. A is correct, but R is not an appropriate explanation of A.
- c. A is correct, but R is incorrect.
- d. Both A and R are incorrect.

Solution: d

Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect:**

Keynesian economists often argue that private sector decisions sometimes lead to inefficient macroeconomic outcomes which require active policy responses by the public sector, in particular, monetary policy actions by the central bank and fiscal policy actions by the government, in order to stabilize output over the business cycle.

**Second statement is incorrect:**

Keynesians believe that investment does not depend solely on the rate of interest but on various factors such as investor's expectations, market conditions, return on capital etc. In the absence of state intervention, investment may fluctuate erratically. This may cause aggregate demand to go down and reduce economic growth and employment.

**So, Keynesian economics advocates a mixed economy** – predominantly private sector, but with a role for government intervention during recessions.

