- Q1. Consider the following statements.
  - 1. Aadhaar number profile people based on caste, religion, income, and geography.
  - 2. Government made it mandatory to quote Aadhaar number for filing Income Tax returns.
  - 3. The government has made Aadhaar the mandatory identification proof for all workers from unorganized sectors to avail of social security benefits.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: B

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect.

Aadhaar number is devoid of any intelligence and does not profile people based on caste, religion, income, health and geography. The Aadhaar number is a proof of identity, however, it does not confer any right of citizenship or domicile in respect of an Aadhaar number holder.

Second and third are correct.

Section 139AA of the Income-tax Act, 1961 as introduced by the Finance Act, 2017 provides for mandatory quoting of Aadhaar /Enrolment ID of Aadhaar application form, for filing of return of income.

113.(1) Every unorganised worker, gig worker or platform worker shall be required to be registered for the purposes of this Chapter, subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions, namely:—

Registration of unorganised workers, gig workers and platform workers.

- (a) he has completed sixteen years of age or such age as may be prescribed by the Central Government;
- (b) he has submitted a self-declaration electronically or otherwise in such form and in such manner containing such information as may be prescribed by the Central Government.
- (2) Every eligible unorganised worker, gig worker or platform worker referred to in sub-section (1) shall make an application for registration in such form along with such documents including Aadhaar number as may be prescribed by the Central Government and such worker shall be assigned a distinguishable number to his application:

Provided that the system of electronic registration maintained by the appropriate Government shall also provide for self registration by any such worker in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

- Q2. With respect to **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)**, consider the following statements.
  - 1. NTDs are formally recognized as targets for global action in SDG target.
  - 2. NTDs are non-communicable diseases and can be cured with proper and timely intervention.
  - 3. NTDs are most prevalent in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a. 1 and 2 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

**TARGET 3.3:** By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and **neglected tropical diseases** and combat hepatitis,

water-borne diseases and other communicable (second statement is correct).

# Neglected tropical diseases - Summary

**Dengue**: A mosquito-borne infection causing flu-like illness that may develop into severe dengue and cause lethal complications.

**Rabies**: A preventable viral disease transmitted to humans through the bites of infected dogs that is invariably fatal once symptoms develop.

**Trachoma**: A chlamydial infection transmitted through direct contact with infectious eye or nasal discharge, or through indirect contact with unsafe living conditions and hygiene practices, which left untreated causes irreversible corneal opacities and blindness.

**Buruli ulcer**: A debilitating mycobacterial skin infection causing severe destruction of the skin, bone and soft tissue.

Yaws: A chronic bacterial infection affecting mainly the skin and bone.

**Leprosy**: A complex disease caused by infection mainly of the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract and eyes.

**Chagas disease**: A life-threatening illness transmitted to humans through contact with vector insects (triatomine bugs), ingestion of contaminated food, infected blood transfusions, congenital transmission, organ transplantation or laboratory accidents.

**Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness)**: A parasitic infection spread by the bites of tsetse flies that is almost 100% fatal without prompt diagnosis and treatment to prevent the parasites invading the central nervous system.

**Leishmaniases**: Disease transmitted through the bites of infected female sandflies that in its most severe (visceral) form attacks the internal organs and in its most prevalent (cutaneous) form causes face ulcers, disfiguring scars and disability.

**Taeniasis and neurocysticercosis**: An infection caused by adult tapeworms in human intestines; cysticercosis results when humans ingest tapeworm eggs that develop as larvae in tissues.

**Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease)**: A nematode infection transmitted exclusively by drinking-water contaminated with parasite-infected water fleas.

**Echinococcosis**: Infection caused by the larval stages of tapeworms forming pathogenic cysts in humans and transmitted when ingesting eggs most commonly shed in faeces of dogs and wild animals.

**Foodborne trematodiases**: Infection acquired by consuming fish, vegetables and crustaceans contaminated with larval parasites; clonorchiasis, opisthorchiasis and fascioliasis are the main diseases.

**Lymphatic filariasis**: Infection transmitted by mosquitoes causing abnormal enlargement of limbs and genitals from adult worms inhabiting and reproducing in the lymphatic system.

Onchocerciasis (river blindness): Infection transmitted by the bite of infected blackflies causing severe itching and eye lesions as the adult worm produces larvae and leading to visual impairment and permanent blindness.

**Schistosomiasis**: Trematode infections transmitted when larval forms released by freshwater snails penetrate human skin during contact with infested water.

**Soil-transmitted helminthiases**: Nematode infections transmitted through soil contaminated by human faeces causing anaemia, vitamin A deficiency, stunted growth, malnutrition, intestinal obstruction and impaired development.

**Mycetoma** is a chronic, progressively destructive inflammatory skin disease which usually affects the lower limbs. Infection is thought to be caused by the inoculation, through a thorn prick or skin damage, of fungi or bacteria into the subcutaneous tissue.

#### Third statement is correct.

**Status of India with respect to Neglected Tropical Diseases:** 

As shown in Table, today the nation of India experiences the world's largest absolute burden of at least 11 major NTDs.

Table 1. India's major NTDs and rai	k. Data from GBD unless otherwise indicated.
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<b>TDs</b>	Number of cases in India in 2016	Rank globally	Number of cases globally and percentage of cases found in India (in 2016)
Ascariasis	222.2 million	1	799.7 million (28%)
Hookworm disease	102.4 million	1	450.7 million (23%)
Trichuriasis	67.8 million	1	435.1 million (16%)
Dengue <sup>a</sup>	53.2 million	1	101.1 million (53%)
LF	8.7 million	1	29.4 million (29%)
Trachoma <sup>b</sup>	1.8 million	1	3.3 million (53%)
Cysticercosis	819,538	1	2.7 million (31%)
Leprosy (IHME)	187,730	1	523,245 (36%)
Leprosy (WHO) <sup>c</sup>	135,485 new cases; 88,116 prevalent cases	1	New cases 214,783 (63%); prevalent cases 171,948 (51%)
Cystic echinococcosis	119,320	1	973,662 (12%)
Visceral leishmaniasis	13,530	1	30,067 (45%)
Rabies <sup>a</sup>	4,370	1	13,340 (33%)
India's population in 2016	1.324 billion <sup>d</sup>	2	7.44 billion (18%)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Incident cases

Abbreviations: GBD, Global Burden of Disease Study; IHME, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation; LF, lymphatic filariasis; NTD, neglected tropical disease.

#### **India & Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD)**

bVisual impairment cases only

c [4

dhttp://databank.worldbank.org/data/

- a) According to the World Health Organization report of 2017, India was able to eliminate Leprosy in 82% of the cities and districts
- b) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare also mentioned that **India has eradicated Infectious Trachoma** along with the chronic disease Yaws from the country.
- c) The most common NTDs in India are Lymphatic Filariasis, Visceral Leishmaniasis, Rabies, Leptospirosis, Dengue and Soil-Transmitted Helminthic Infections (STH).
- d) As per WHO data, India ranks number 1 in the number of cases for many major NTDs in the world. We have seen above.

#### Q3. Consider the following statements.

- 1. UN-Habitat is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities.
- 2. The mandate of UN-Habitat extends to improve the lives of slum-dwellers and the target to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.
- 3. UN-Habitat's funding comes from voluntary contributions from governmental and intergovernmental donors, and the UN General Assembly.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

## Explanation:

UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities. It is the focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the UN system.

Most of UN-Habitat's funding comes from voluntary contributions from governmental and intergovernmental donors, while the UN General Assembly provides part of the regular budget. Other UN bodies, local authorities, the private sector, and multilateral organizations provide funds for specific projects (termed "earmarked" or "non-core activities").

The mandate of UN-Habitat is further derived from other internationally agreed upon development goals, including those established in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (Assembly resolution 55/2) — in particular the target on achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by the year 2020, and the target to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by the year 2015.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding impeachment of President.

- Both houses have to pass the resolution by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.
- 2. A charge can be preferred by any House of Parliament against President.
- 3. The Constitution has provided what constitutes "Violation of the Constitution" for impeachment of President.

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

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

Solution: a

#### **Explanation:**

- 61. Procedure for impeachment of the President.—(1) When a President is to be impeached for violation of the Constitution, the charge shall be preferred by either House of Parliament.
  - (2) No such charge shall be preferred unless—
  - (a) the proposal to prefer such charge is contained in a resolution which has been moved after at least fourteen days' notice in writing signed by not less than one-fourth of the total number of members of the House has been given of their intention to move the resolution, and
  - (b) such resolution has been passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House.
- (3) When a charge has been so preferred by either House of Parliament, the other House shall investigate the charge or cause the charge to be investigated and the President shall have the right to appear and to be represented at such investigation.
- (4) If as a result of the investigation a resolution is passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House by which the charge was investigated or caused to be investigated, declaring that the charge preferred against the President has been sustained, such resolution shall have the effect of removing the President from his office as from the date on which the resolution is so passed.

## Third statement is incorrect:

#### The Constitution doesn't provide details about violation of the Constitution.

- Q5. Which of the following are NOT mentioned in the Constitution of India?
  - 1. Motion of No Confidence
  - 2. Tenure of office of the Attorney General
  - 3. Oath of the Speaker of Lok Sabha
  - 4. President's Address to a joint session of Parliament after a general election to Lok Sabha

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

## No tenure of Attorney General.

(4) The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President, and shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.

Speaker Oath is not mentioned. He/She takes oath as MP.

A motion of "No Confidence Motion" against the Government can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha under rule 198.

#### Fourth is part of the Constitution.

87. Special address by the President.—(1) At the commencement of <sup>3</sup>[the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year] the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons

Q6. What are the consequences of Plastic on crops and soils ecosystem?

- 1. microplastic films influence soil tensile strength
- 2. It reduces the hydraulic conductivity or permeability of the soil
- 3. Plastics can induce changes in soil aggregation and pore sizes Select the correct code.
  - a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 3 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only
  - d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: d

Explanation:

## All statements are correct.

It was reported that the presence of microplastics may reduce the hydraulic conductivity or permeability of the soil which ultimately may affect the soil microbial activity as well as soil fertility. Moreover, their presence can create channels in soil that may lead to increased water evaporation and soil desiccation, suppressing the plant growth.

Microplastics can induce changes in soil physicochemical and biological parameters, and these effects have been well established in previous studies. For instance, microplastic fibers can interfere with soil aggregate formation due to their linear shape and **microplastic films influence soil tensile strength**. It is likely that such physical changes in microplastic containing soils would become more intense with time.

Polyethylene films and polyester fibers induced changes in soil aggregation and pore sizes, and these phenomena can be directly or indirectly linked with water evaporation and soil cracking.

**Q7.** First discovery of rock paintings was made in India in 1867–68 by:

- a. Cockburn Anderson
- b. Joseph Rodrigue
- c. Archibold Carlleyle
- d. James Philips

Solution: c

**Explanation:** 

AN INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN ART

It is interesting to know that the first discovery of rock paintings was made in India in 1867–68 by an archaeologist, Archibold Carlleyle, twelve years before the discovery of Altamira in Spain. Cockburn, Anderson, Mitra and Ghosh were the early archaeologists who discovered a large number of sites in the Indian sub-continent.

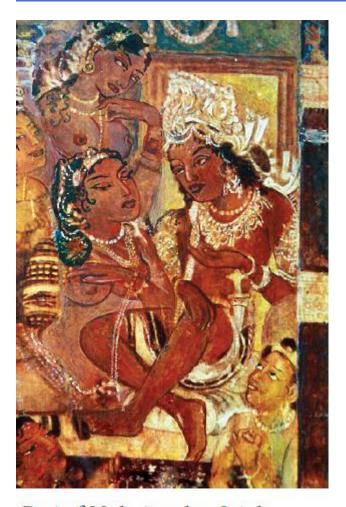
- Q8. Consider the following statements regarding paintings in Ajanta and Ellora.
  - 1. The paintings of Mahajanaka Jatakas are found at Ajanta.
  - 2. Buddhist caves having many images belonging to Vajrayana Buddhism is found at Ajanta.
  - 3. Images of Padmapani and Vajrapani are very common in Ajanta.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

**Explanation:** 



Part of Mahajanaka Jataka panel, Cave No. 1, Ajanta

## Second is incorrect.

There are twelve Buddhist caves (Ellora) having many images belonging to Vajrayana Buddhism like Tara, Mahamayuri, Akshobhya, Avalokiteshwara, Maitrya, Amitabha, etc.

## Ellora

Another important cave site located in Aurangabad District is Ellora. It is located a hundred kilometres from Ajanta and has thirty-four Buddhist, Brahmanical and Jain caves. It is a unique art-historical site in the country as it has monastries associated with the three religions dating from the fifth century CE onwards to the eleventh century CE. It is also unique in terms of stylistic eclecticism, i.e., confluence of many styles at one place. The caves of Ellora and Aurangabad show the ongoing differences between the two religions—Buddhism and Brahmanical. There are twelve Buddhist caves having many images belonging to Vajrayana Buddhism like Tara, Mahamayuri, Akshobhya, Avalokiteshwara, Maitrya, Amitabha, etc. Buddhist caves

tusk and giving it to the nunter, Sonuttar. The other important paintings are the famous Padmapani and Vajrapani in Cave No. I However, it may be observed that the images of Padmapani and Vajrapani are very common in Ajanta but the best preserved paintings are in Cave No. 1. Some figures in Cave No. 2 have affiliation with the Vengi sculptures and at the same time, the influence of

Q9. Which of the following are supply side factor/s responsible for inflation?

- 1. Increase in exports (consider the domestic as well as abroad as one entity)
- 2. Increase in government expenditure
- 3. Increase in credit creation

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

The (ii) & (iii) statements will basically lead to increase in demand and hence it will cause "Demand Pull" Inflation.

But the doubt is regarding the (i) statement.

## Before we go further, the definition is:

Demand Pull Inflation: When aggregate demand increases more as compared to supply

Cost push or Supply shock Inflation: When cost of production increases or supply gets impacted but demand remains the same.

#### Now let us clear the confusion:

If we segregate the domestic economy from the abroad then it seems that more exports will result in shortage of supply in the domestic economy resulting in supply shock inflation in the domestic economy.

But if we consider the domestic as well as abroad as one entity then increase in exports is basically more demand by the foreign buyers (while supply remaining the same) then it looks demand pull inflation. So, first is also incorrect.

BUT if the question is "increase in exports" then the first trigger point is "increase in demand by foreign buyers", so it may be demand pull inflation.

Q10. When RBI print extra cash, it will:

- a. Increase liability of RBI
- b. It will decrease asset of RBI
- c. It will increase both Liability and Asset
- d. Both and b

Solution: c

#### **Explanation:**

When Govt. will directly borrow from RBI then RBI will print extra cash and give it to Govt. and Govt. will have to issue/give securities/bonds to RBI. The cash which RBI prints is a liability on RBI but the Govt. securities which RBI will get, is asset for RBI. So, when RBI prints additional Rs. 3 lakh crore cash and give it to Govt. then RBI's liability (represented by cash) will increase by an amount of Rs. 3 lakh crore and RBI's assets will also increase by Rs. 3 lakh crores represented by Govt. bonds/securities.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding **Bioenergy crops**.

- 1. Bioenergy crops create cooling effect on cultivated areas.
- 2. Bioenergy crops could also be used for the phytoremediation of heavy metal-contaminated soils.
- 3. The first-generation bioenergy crops include corn, sorghum, rapeseed and sugarcane. Which of the above statements is/are correct?
  - a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 and 3 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only

d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution: d

Explanation:

Crops from which Biofuels are produced or manufactured are popularly known as Biofuels crops.

The biofuel generation using fast growing and photosynthetically efficient bioenergy crops is emerging as a reliable alternative to fossil fuels. **Bioenergy plants increase soil carbon and fix atmospheric carbon.** In addition, bioenergy crops (miscanthus, sorghum and poplar) could also be used for the phytoremediation of heavy metal-contaminated soils.

The bioenergy crops include specific plants that are grown and maintained at lower costs for biofuel production. The bioenergy crops are classified into five types namely, first-, second- and third-generation bioenergy crops, dedicated energy crops and halophytes.

The first-generation bioenergy crops include corn, sorghum, rapeseed and sugarcane, whereas the second-generation bioenergy crops are comprised of switchgrass, miscanthus, alfalfa, reed canary grass, Napier grass and other plants. The third-generation bioenergy crops contain boreal plants, crassulacean acid metabolism (CAM) plants, eucalyptus and microalgae.

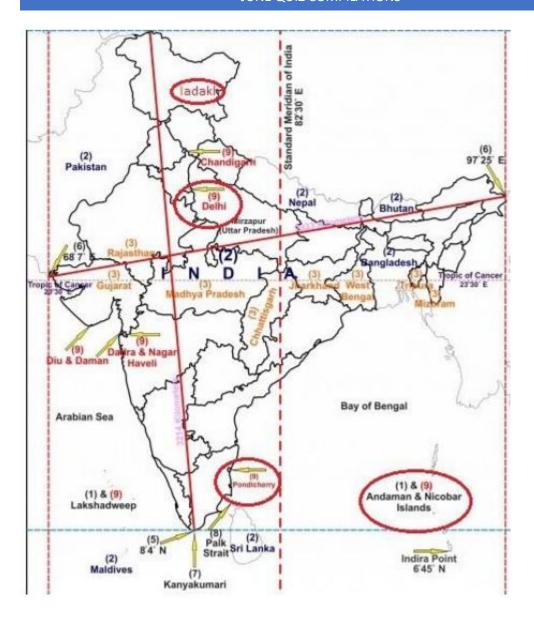
Q12. Which of the following Union Territory is the closest to the Indian Standard Meridian?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Its Puducherry.



Q13. When was Air India (Tata Airlines) nationalized?

- a. Late 1940s
- b. Early 1950s
- c. Late 1950s
- d. Early 1960s

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Air India (Tata Airlines) was founded by J.R.D. Tata in 1932. In 1953, the Government of India passed the Air Corporations Act and purchased a majority stake (nationalized) in the carrier from Tata Sons through its founder J. R. D. Tata.

And now in 2022, it has again been given to Tatas.

Q14. States need to take prior approval from the Centre for their borrowing:

1. If they have taken debt from Centre and there are pending dues

- 2. If there is any outstanding loan on State Govt. with respect to which Central Govt. has given guarantee
- 3. If States are breaching their FRBM targets (Every state has enacted their on fiscal responsibility and budget management act)

Select the correct code:

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

States need to take prior approval from Centre for borrowing (from anywhere) only if they have taken debt from Centre and there are pending dues OR there is any outstanding loan on States (from anywhere) with respect to which Central Govt. has given guarantee.

But as almost every state has taken loan from Centre and there are pending dues that is why in the budget document or economic survey it is written that Centre has allowed States to borrow up to this/that limit.

Q15. Consider the following Bills with reference to the State Legislature with bicameralism:

- 1. Ordinary Bills
- 2. Money Bills
- 3. Issues pertaining to the abolition of Legislative Council

In which of the Bills mentioned above, the deadlock/disagreement between the two Houses of the State Legislature can be resolved through the mechanism of Joint sitting?

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

Solution: d

## Explanation:

There is NO PROVISION OF JOINT SITTING IN STATE LEGISLATURE. Nothing more can be explained here.

Q16. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Attorney General (AG) of India?

- 1. AG can take part in the proceedings of Joint Sitting of Parliament.
- 2. AG can take part in the proceedings of all committee of the Parliaments.
- 3. Attorney-General shall have right of audience in only Supreme Court of India.
- 4. AG can vote in Lok Sabha.

Select the correct code.

a. 1 and 2 only

b. 1, 2 and 3 only

c. 3 and 4 only

d. 1 only

Solution: d

Explanation:

First statement is correct.

## Second and Fourth statements are wrong.

88. Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General as respects Houses.—Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote.

#### Third is also incorrect:

(3) In the performance of his duties the Attorney General shall have right of audience in all courts in the territory of India.

Q17. During an election to 10 seats of the Council of States, 401 valid votes were cast. The quota sufficient to secure the return of a candidate shall be:

- a. 36
- b. 37
- c. 38
- d. 3646

Solution: d

## **Explanation:**

The minimum number of valid votes required for a candidate to be declared elected is called the quota. The quota calculation depends on the number of seats to be filled.

#### Scenario 1:

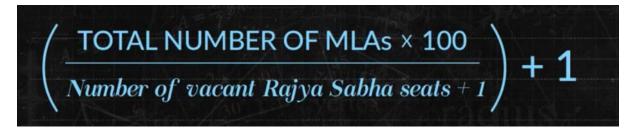
At an election **where only one seat** is to be filled, every ballot paper is deemed to be of the **value of one** and the quota is calculated by adding the values credited to all the candidates and dividing the total by two and adding one to the quotient, ignoring the remainder, if any, and the resulting number is the quota. It has to be:

votes needed to win = 
$$\left(\frac{\text{valid votes cast}}{\text{seats to fill} + 1}\right) + 1$$

Scenario 2:

At an election where more than one seat is to be filled, every ballot paper is deemed to be of the value of 100 and the quota is determined by adding the values credited to all the candidates and dividing the total by a number which exceeds by one the number of vacancies to be filled and adding one to the quotient ignoring the remainder, if any, and the resulting number is the quota.

For instance, if 10 candidates are to be elected and the total number of voters who participated in the poll is 401, the quota is:



As per question, it will be 3646.45.

In this case, a candidate has to get a minimum of 3646 votes or first preferential vote of 36 voters to be elected in the first round.

Q18. The Union Budget presented recently for the year 2022-23, has used a new term 'Effective Capital Expenditure'. This is equal to Centre's capital expenditure plus:

- a. Central PSUs capital expenditure
- b. Grants given to States for creation of capital assets
- c. Finance commission transfers to States for creation of capital assets
- d. Expenditure on Central Sector Schemes

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Effective Capital Expenditure = Capital Expenditure by Central Govt. PLUS Grants given to states for creation of capital assets.

Grants given to States (by Govt. of India) ...... is a revenue expenditure for Govt. of India but ultimately it is spent for creation of capital assets by State Govts, so effectively it is capital expenditure.

This same concept is used to calculate "Effective Revenue Deficit" which is equal to Revenue deficit MINUS grants given to states for creation of capital assets.

Q19. Consider the following stateents regarding Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI).

- 1. SECI is defined as a Public Sector Undertakings under which means, the commercial aspect of a SECI and its growth is completely prohibited.
- 2. Its aims to regulate tariffs on solar power projects.
- 3. The mandate of the company is restricted to cover only solar energy domain.

Which of the above statements is/are correct

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

Solution: d

#### **Explanation:**

# Introduction

"Solar Energy Corporation of India ltd" (SECI) is a CPSU under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), set up on 20th Sept, 2011 to facilitate the implementation of JNNSM and achievement of targets set therein. It is the only CPSU dedicated to the solar energy sector. It was originally incorporated as a section-25 (not for profit) company under the Companies Act, 1956.

However, through a Government of India decision, the company has recently been converted into a Section-3 company under the Companies Act, 2013. The mandate of the company has also been broadened to cover the entire renewable energy domain.

In the above image, you can see initially it was under section 25 of Companies Act, now it has been ocnverted to section 3 of Companies Act, 2013.

#### What is the difference?

Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 [earlier Section 25 of the Companies, Act 1956] provides for formation of companies with charitable, objects. **Under this provision, the commercial aspect of a business entity and its growth is completely prohibited**.

In comparison for a Section 3 company the object is not limited, and is mainly for commercial activities which will facilitate growth of the company. It therefore, means that a Section 25 company can only engage in activities of promotion of commerce, art, science, sports, education, research, social welfare, religion, charity etc., but not commercial activity leading to trade, buying and selling etc. resulting in profit and distribution of dividend.

#### **Second Statement is incorrect:**

The Tarrifs is regulated by CentralElectricity Authority Commission(CEA). Recently:

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (<u>CERC</u>) has come out with the draft tariff regulations 2020, which will come in force from July 01, 2020, and will remain in force until March 31, 2023.

These regulations will apply to the wind, small hydro, biomass with Rankine cycle technology, and non-fossil fuel-based co-generation projects. These regulations will also apply to solar, floating solar, solar thermal, renewable hybrid energy projects, renewable with storage projects, biogas, municipal solid waste based power projects, and refuse-derived fuel-based power projects.

The Commission has fixed 25 years as the useful life for wind power projects, 25 years for solar, floating, and solar thermal projects, and 20 years for biogas-based power projects.

#### Third Statement is incorrect:

As we have seen in the very first image, its mandate is not restricted only to solar. It will work in development of entire renewable sources.

Q20. Which of the following has the highest Elephant Density as per the latest census?

- a. Nagarhole Tiger Reserve
- b. Bannerghatta National Park
- c. Anaimudi Elephant Reserve
- d. Wayanad Elephant Reserve

Solution: a

## **Explanation:**

The Indian Elephant (Elephas maximus) is protected under **Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**, which affords maximal protection. It is listed as "**Endangered**" in the Red List of Threatened Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).



Latest Elephant Census has been conducted in 2017: <u>Remember very carefully. So, all numbers related to elephants comes from this census only.</u>

# Synchronized Elephant Population Estimation India 2017

August 2017

**Project Elephant Division** 

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Elephants are found in 33 forest divisions in Karnataka. A total of 654 blocks were sampled for the block count based population estimation for Karnataka state. The results show an overall density of 0.67 elephants/km² which, extrapolated to an elephant distribution area of 8976 km², gives a total estimate of 6049 elephants for the state (Table 18). Thus, during the 2017 population estimate, Karnataka retains its position as the state with the highest elephant population in the country.

Table 19: Elephant population estimated for Karnataka

Karnataka	Elephant density/km <sup>2</sup>	Elephant distribution area in km <sup>2</sup>	Elephant Population
Karnataka	0.67	8976	6049
Hassan	0.15		
Hunsur	0.62		
Nagarahole TR	1.54		
Dandeli	0.04		
Madikeri WL	0.24		
Dandeli WL	0.04		
Kollegal	0.24		
Mangaluru	0.08		
Bannerghatta NP	0.63		
Bhadra TR	1.12		
Chickamagalur	0.29		
Cauvery WL	0.50		
Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple TR	0.98		
Bandipur TR	1.13		

Kerala	Elephant density/km²	Elephant distribution area in km <sup>2</sup>	Elephant Population
Kerala	0.32	9670	3054
Anaimudi ER	0.41		
Periya ER	0.31		
Wyanad ER	0.25		
Nilambur ER	0.25		

Q21. With reference to **Stockholm conference of 1972**, consider the following statements.

- 1. India set up its ministry of environment and forest after this Conference.
- 2. The conference gave birth to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).
- 3. Important Conventions, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species came into force after this Conference.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

#### First statement is correct.

After the Stockholm Conference, the National Council for Environmental Policy and Planning was set up in 1972 within the Department of Science and Technology to establish a regulatory body to look after the environment-related issues. This Council later evolved into a full-fledged Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF).

**MoEF was established in 1985**, which today is the apex administrative body in the country for regulating and ensuring environmental protection and lays down the legal and regulatory framework for the same.

#### Second statement is correct.

The three dimensions of this conference were: Countries agreeing not to "harm each other's environment or the areas beyond national jurisdiction"; an action plan to study the threat to Earth's environment; and establishment of an international body called the UN Environment programme (UNEP) to bring in cooperation among countries.

#### Third statement is correct:

Since that conference fifty years ago, there have been many environmental victories, a primary one being the development of international environmental laws. These include the International Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) in 1973 to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1975, and the Convention on Migratory Species in 1983, and the Rio Conventions (climate, biodiversity, desertification) in 1992 and the 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury.

#### Q22. **SHRESHTA** scheme aims to:

- a. providing seats for the meritorious SC boys and girls in the best private residential schools in the country.
- b. Providing higher education to girls.
- c. Providing interconnections between schools and higher institutions
- d. Training teachers to improve quality of education at primary level

Solution: a

#### Explanation:



लक्षित क्षेत्रों में उच्च विद्यालयों में छात्रों के लिए आवासीय शिक्षा की योजना

Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas

The government has approved a new scheme named SHRESHTA (Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas) for the purpose of providing seats for the meritorious SC boys and girls in the best private residential schools in the country.

## Q23. Consider the following statements.

- 1. India is the largest producer of pulses in the world.
- 2. Pulses are 20 to 25 per cent protein by weight which is more than the protein content of wheat and rice.
- 3. Production of Pulses increased by more than 50% in the last 10 years.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

We relied on the data available with APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) for the information related to this question.

India is the largest producer of pulses in the world.

Pulses are 20 to 25 per cent protein by weight which is double the protein content of wheat and three times that of rice.

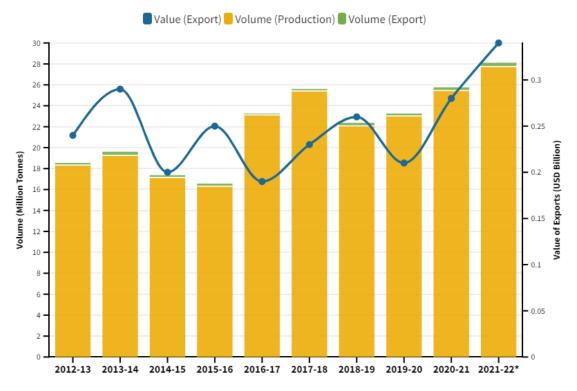
## Production of Pulses increased by more than 50% in the last 10 years

A few of the major Pulses produced in India include Tur, Urad, Moong, Gram, Lentil, etc. In 2020-21, 25.46 million tonnes of pulses were produced in the country. The third advance estimates peg the annual production of pulses to cross the target of 25 million tonnes with an estimated 27.76 million tonnes.

Over the 10-year period (2012-13 to 2021-22), there has been an increase in the annual production of the pulses by about 51%. During this period, the first major growth was witnessed in 2016-17 when 23.13 million tonnes were produced compared to 16.32 tonnes in the previous year.

## Trends in India's Production & Export of Pulses

(2012-13 to 2021-22)



Source: Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, APEDA 2021-22\* - April'21 to Deb'22 in case of Exports



## Q24. Consider the following Pairs.

Wetlands (RAMSAR designated)	features
<ol> <li>Haiderpur Wetland</li> </ol>	located within the boundaries of
	Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary
<ol><li>Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary</li></ol>	freshwater wetland near the coast of
	the Bay of Bengal
3. Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary	largest natural floodplain wetland of
	eastern Uttar Pradesh.

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

## Explanation:

Wetlands (RAMSAR designated)	features
<ol> <li>Haiderpur Wetland</li> </ol>	located within the boundaries of
	Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary

2.	Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary	freshwater wetland near the coast of the Gulf of Kutch
3.	Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary	largest natural floodplain wetland of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

## Q25. Consider the following.

- 1. Djibouti
- 2. Yemen
- 3. Qatar
- 4. Bahrain

Arrange the above nations from North to South

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

Solution: c

## Bahrain-Qatar-Yemen-Djibouti



Q26. Consider the following statements regarding the Attorney General of India:

- 1. He must be a person qualified to be appointed as a Judge of the High Court as well as the Supreme Court.
- 2. In the performance of his duties, he has the right of audience take part and right to vote in all Courts.
- 3. He receives salary as provided in second schedule of Indian Constitution.

Which of the Statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: d

#### **Explanation:**

#### First Statement is incorrect.

The Attorney-General for India

- **76.** Attorney General for India.—(1) The President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney-General for India.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to give advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, and to perform such other duties of a legal character, as may from time to time be referred or assigned to him by the President, and to discharge the functions conferred on him by or under this Constitution or any other law for the time being in force.
- (3) In the performance of his duties the Attorney-General shall have right of audience in all courts in the territory of India.
- (4) The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President, and shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.

## Second statement is incorrect. They are not entitled to vote.

**88.** Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General as respects Houses.—Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote.

## Third statement is incorrect:

First of all, he doesn't receive salary, he receives remuneration. Second is, no mention of Attorney General in Second Schedule.

- (4) The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President, and shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.
- Q27. Consider the following statements regarding Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
  - 1. CAG shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
  - 2. The duties and Powers are CAG are mentioned in the Constitution.

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: a

**Explanation:** 

**Article 148** states **there shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General** of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

148. Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.—(1) There shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court

The Constitution has given authority to Parliament to frame power and duties of CAG.

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 and, until provision in that behalf is so made, shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States as were conferred on or exercisable by the Auditor-General of India immediately before the commencement of this Constitution in relation to the accounts of the Dominion of India and of the Provinces respectively.

So, Parliament enacted the comptroller and auditor general's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment ACT, 1971.

DPC ACT, 1971
The comptroller and auditor general's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service)
Amendment ACT, 1971
Comptroller and Auditor General of India

Q28. Consider the following statements regarding Deputy Chairman of India.

- 1. Deputy Speaker finds itself mentioned in the second schedule of Indian Constitution.
- 2. There is no Constitutional provision to remove Deputy Speaker from the office. Select the correct code.
  - a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a

Explanation:

Second 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.

#### First 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.

Q29. Consider the following statements regarding Biomining.

- 1. It is the process of using microorganisms (microbes) to extract metals of economic interest from rock ores or mine waste.
- 2. The use of this technique is limited to metals which can be oxidized by the microbes.
- 3. This technique is not suitable for metals like iron and copper, which are dissolved easily in water, for such minerals other techniques are used.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

News is:

Biomining is the process of using microorganisms (microbes) to extract metals of economic interest from rock ores or mine waste. Biomining techniques may also be used to clean up sites that have been polluted with metals.

Valuable metals are commonly bound up in solid minerals. Some microbes can <u>oxidize</u> those metals, allowing them to dissolve in water. This is the basic process behind most biomining, which is used for metals that can be more easily recovered when dissolved than from the solid rocks. A different biomining technique, for metals which are not dissolved by the microbes, uses microbes to break down the surrounding minerals, making it easier to recover the metal of interest directly from the remaining rock.

## What metals are currently biomined?

Most current biomining operations target valuable metals like copper, uranium, nickel, and gold that are commonly found in sulfidic (sulfur-bearing) minerals. Microbes are especially good at oxidizing sulfidic minerals, converting metals like iron and copper into forms that can dissolve more easily. Other metals, like gold, are not directly dissolved by this microbial process, but are made more accessible to traditional mining techniques because the minerals surrounding these metals are dissolved and removed by microbial processes. When the metal of interest is directly dissolved, the biomining process is called "bioleaching," and when the metal of interest is made more accessible or "enriched" in the material left behind, it is called "biooxidation." Both processes involve microbial reactions that can happen anywhere the microbes, rocks, and necessary nutrients, like oxygen, occur together.

#### Q30. Consider the following statements.

- 1. The G20 is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis.
- 2. G-7 was formed after G-20.
- 3. All members of G-7 are part of G-20.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

Which of the above statement sis/are correct?

The **G20** is an international group initially founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis as a forum for the finance ministers and central bank governors of 19 countries and the European Union.

G-7 was formed in 1975. Second statement is correct.

G-7 members: United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Japan, France and Italy.

G:20 members: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the **United Kingdom, the United States**, and the European Union.

Q31. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Typosquatting is based on the probability of a considerable number of internet users would make typographical error while net-surfing.
- 2. In India, In India, there is no law in existence to combat this evil of Typosquatting.

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:

With the Advancement of technology and development of commerce in Cyberspace, transformation of Cybercrimes is also taking place. 'Typosquatting' is one of such lesser-known evil in Cyberspace.

Typosquatting, also called URL hijacking, is based on the probability of a considerable number of internet users would make typographical error while net-surfing.

For example, imagine a young Indian child while surfing Internet, wants to visit a website "www.indianchild.com" in order to read short inspiring stories, omitting letter "a" type "www.indinchild.com" negligently, will reach a website containing adult content. Again, the situation will become worst when that child tries to close the window but unable to do so and with his every attempt a new window opens on his computer screen.

In India, there is no law in existence to combat this evil of Typosquatting, there are no specific provisions under the Information Technology Act 2000 to deal with typosquatting. Our Law makers do not respond against this evil of typosquatting despite the fact that this illegal activity is universal in nature. The only remedy is to bring an action under The Trade Marks Act, 1999, the sole enactment for the protection of Domain name in India. Generally, the courts all over the world applied their respective Trademark Laws in order to resolve domain name disputes.

United States is the first country that criminalizes Typosquatting by passing a law 'The Truth in Domain names Act' in 2003.

Q32. With respect **to Fishing Cats**, consider the following statements.

- 1. It is a wild cat species that is found primarily in wetland and mangrove ecosystems.
- 2. In India, it is mostly found in Kanha National Park.

3. It has been listed as Vulnerable in IUCN Red List species.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

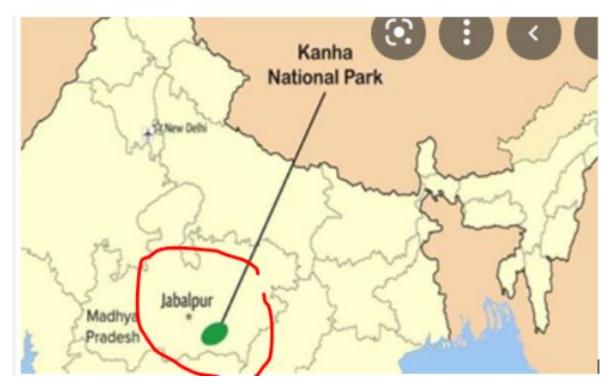
Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:

Here, if it is found in wetlands and Mangrove ecosystems, then statement two will be incorrect because Kanha location is here:



So, 1 and 2 will not come together. 1 and 4 will be eliminated.

## First statement is correct:

Fishing cat is a symbolic species of floodplains, deltas and coastal wetlands of South and Southeast Asia. The South Asian countries of India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka hold the core of the global Fishing Cat population. In India, it is largely restricted to the floodplains of Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Sundarbans Delta and smaller coastal wetlands along the Bay of Bengal formed by Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna rivers.

Second statement will be automatically incorrect as question mentions word 'mostly'.

## Third statement is correct:

It is listed as Vulnerable in IUCN List.

## Q33. Consider the following statements.

- 1. A Living Modified Organism (LMO) is defined in the Nagoya Protocol on Biosafety.
- 2. India doesn't have any rules or statute to regulate LMO.'

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: d

#### Explanation:

A Living Modified Organism (LMO) is defined in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety as any living organism that possesses a novel combination of genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology. First statement is incorrect.

#### Second statement is also incorrect.

# II/National Regulatory Framework

GMOs/LMOs are regulated products in India. The rules and guidelines applicable for transboundary movement and release of GMOs into environment are provided in:

- The Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms, Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. The Rules came into force from 01.10.1993
- Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV & FRA), 2001
- National Biodiversity Act (NBA), 2002
- National Seeds Policy (NSP), 2002
- Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003, herein after referred to as PQ Order
- Foreign Trade Policy, 2006
- Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- Recombinant DNA Safety Guidelines, 1990

## Q34. Consider the following statements regarding GST Council.

- 1. The weightage of votes of State Government is more than Central government in GST Council.
- 2. One-half of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall constitute the quorum at its meetings.
- 3. Secretary (Expenditure) as the Ex-Officio Secretary to the GST Council.

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: a

## Explanation:

The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Second Amendment) Act, 2016 came into force on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016. As per Article 279A (1) of the amended Constitution, the GST Council has to be constituted by the President within 60 days of the commencement of Article 279A.

As per Article 279A of the amended Constitution, the GST Council which will be a joint forum of the Centre and the States, shall consist of the following members:

(2) Goods and Services Tax Council shall consist of the fol namely:	lowing members,
(a) the Union Finance Minister	Chairperson;
(b) the Union Minister of State in charge of Revenue or	
Finance	Member;
(c) the Minister in charge of Finance or Taxation or ar nominated by each State GovernmentMembers.	ny other Minister

On 12th September 2016 cabinet approved setting-up of **GST Council and setting up its Secretariat:** 

- Creation of the GST Council as per Article 279A of the amended Constitution
- Creation of the GST Council Secretariat, with its office at New Delhi
- Appointment of the Secretary (Revenue) as the Ex-Officio Secretary to the GST Council. Third statement is incorrect.
- Inclusion of the Chairperson, Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), as a permanent invitee (non-voting) to all proceedings of the GST Council

Every decision of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall be taken at a meeting, by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting, in accordance with the following principles, namely: —

- the vote of the Central Government shall have a weightage of **one third** of the total votes cast, and
- the votes of all the State Governments taken together shall have a weightage of **two-thirds** of the total votes cast, in that meeting. **FIRST STATEMENT IS CORRECT.**

**One-half** of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall constitute the **quorum** at its meetings. **Statement 2 is correct.** 

Q35. Consider the following rivers.

- 1. Chenab
- 2. Jhelum
- 3. Indus
- 4. Satluj

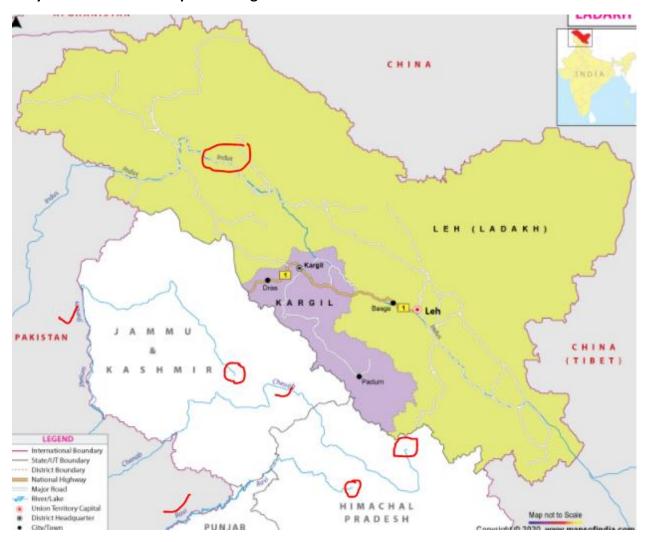
Which of the above rivers flow through newly formed Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir?

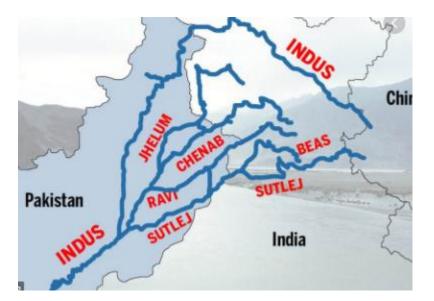
- a. 1 and 4 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: b

## Explanation:

## Only Chenab and Jhelum pass through Jammu and Kashmir UT.





Satluj, you can see in above maps, flows below Ravi, so it far away from Jammu and Kashmir. Satluj river doesn't cross Jammu and Kashmir. It enters India in Himachal Pradesh.

Satluj rises from beyond Indian borders in the Southern slopes of the Kailash mountain near Mansarover lake from Rakas lake, as Longcchen Khabab river (in Tibet).

Flowing northwestward and then west southwestward through Himalayan gorges, it enters and crosses the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh before beginning its flow through the Punjab plain near Nangal, Punjab state. Continuing southwestward in a broad channel, it receives the Beas River and forms 65 miles (105 km) of the India-Pakistan border before entering Pakistan.

Hope, now you are clear with rivers now. These are small things but great learning.

Q36. The appointment of District judges in a State are made by

- a. The governor in consultation with the High Court of the State
- b. Chief Minister in consultation with the High Court of the State
- c. Chief Minister in consultation with the Chief Justice of India
- d. Governor in consultation with the President

Solution: a

## Explanation:

Article 233 of the Constitution states that:

Appointments and promotion of district judges in any state shall be made by the Governor of the state in consultation with the high court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such state. So, option (a) is correct.

#### CHAPTER VI.—SUBORDINATE COURTS

- 233. Appointment of district judges.—(1) Appointments of persons to be, and the posting and promotion of, district judges in any State shall be made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State.
- (2) A person not already in the service of the Union or of the State shall only be eligible to be appointed a district judge if he has been for not less than seven years an advocate or a pleader and is recommended by the High Court for appointment.

#### Q37. Mitra mela and the Abhinav Bharat as secret societies is associated with:

- Aurobindo Ghosh
- b. VD Savarkar
- c. Praful Chaki and Khudiram Bose
- d. Chapekar brothers of Poona-Damodar and Balkrishna

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Vinayak Savarkar and Ganesh Savarkar started Mitra Mela, a revolutionary secret society in Nasik in 1899. It was one among several such melas (revolutionary societies) functioning in Maharashtra at that time, which believed in the overthrow of British rule through armed rebellion. In 1904, in a meeting attended by 200 members from various towns in Maharashtra, Vinayak Savarkar renamed it Abhinav Bharat, taking after Giuseppe Mazzini's Young Italy.

Q38. Consider the following statements regarding Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- 1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to help tackle environment problems.
- 2. GEF funds are available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.
- 3. India has formed a permanent Constituency in the Executive Council of the GEF with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives.
- 4. GEF is a financial mechanism for UNCCD and Minamata Convention.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

From below image it is clear that statement 1 and 4 are correct.

#### **GEF Timeline** 2010 2001 Financial Financial Financial Mechanism for 1994 Mechanism for the Stockholm Mechanism for Financial Mechanism for the Minamata UNCCD CBD and UNFCCC Convention Convention 2006 1998 2002 2010 2014 2nd Assembly China 3rd Assembly 4th Assembly 5th Assembly India South Africa Uruguay Mexico \$3.13 billion 1994 Instrument for the 1991 2005 2010 urce allocation establishment of the restructured GEF framework Allocation of Resources (STAR) 1992 **UN Earth Summit**

## **Fourth option is correct**. If **only** is there in statement, then problem.

the world's most challenging environmental issues. The GEF has a large network of civil society organizations, works closely with the private sector around the world, and receives continuous inputs from an independent evaluation office and a world-class scientific panel. It is a **FINANCIAL**MECHANISM for five major international environmental conventions: the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). GEF is also

#### Third statement is also correct.

# India and Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a financial mechanism that provides grants to developing countries for projects that benefit the global environment and promote sustainable livelihoods in local communities. GEF projects address six designated focal areas: Biodiversity, Climate Change, International Waters, Ozone Depletion, Land Degradation and Persistent Organic Pollutants.

India has formed a permanent Constituency in the Executive Council of the GEF together with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives. The Council Meetings are held semi-annually or as frequently necessary. At each meeting, the Council elects a Chairperson from among its members for the duration of that meeting. India's Executive Director in the World Bank represents the GEF Council from our Constituency.

India is both a donor and a recipient of GEF. It has been a leading developing country

#### Second statement is also correct.

GEF funds are available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.

Q39. With respect to the Amara-Nayaka System, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Amara-Nayaka System was a major political innovation of Vijaynagar Empire.
- 2. Amara Nayakas were military commanders, whose main work was to collect revenue.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Amara-Nayaka system you all know, it is from Vijaynagara. The addition is just to make you learn more about it.

The Amara-Nayaka system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagar Empire. It is likely that many features of this system were derived from the Iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate. First statement is correct.

The Amara-Nayakas were military commanders, who were given territories to govern by the Raya. They collected taxes and other dues from the peasants, crafts persons and traders in the area. They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants. Second statement is also correct.

These contingents provided the Vijayanagar kings with an effective fighting force, with which they brought the entire southern peninsula under their control.

Q40. Which of the following are included in the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court as per the Constitution?

- 1. A dispute between the Government of India and one or more States
- 2. A dispute regarding elections to either House of the Parliament or that of Legislature of a State
- 3. A dispute between the Government of India and a Union Territory
- 4. A dispute between two or more States

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

131. Friginal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.—Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Supreme Court shall, to the exclusion of any other court, have original jurisdiction in any dispute—

- (a) between the Government of India and one or more States; or
- (b) between the Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other States on the other; or
  - (c) between two or more States,

Q41. With respect to **Commission for Air Quality Management** in the NCR and Adjoining Areas, consider the following statements.

- 1. The Commission is chaired by State Environment Minister.
- 2. The CAQM has replaced the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) which was appointed by the SC.
- 3. In case of conflicts over jurisdictions, directions of the Commission will prevail over the orders of the respective state governments, the Central Pollution Control Board and state PCBs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

This commission was in news.

# Commission for Air Quality Management orders phase-out of coal in Delhi-NCR by January 1, 2023

Centre for Science and Environment calls the decision 'significant'



So, when we talk about this body, we will see the origin of this body. This Commission was established by the below mentioned Bill.

The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Bill, 2021.

NEXT NEWS >



The Bill provides for the constitution of a Commission for better co-ordination, research, identification, and resolution of problems related to air quality in the National Capital Region (NCR) and adjoining areas.

The Bill also dissolves the Environment Pollution Prevention and Control Authority established in the NCR in 1998. Second statement is correct.

## First statement is incorrect.

The **Commission is chaired by Secretary level** (The Commission shall consist of a full-time Chairperson having special knowledge in the field of environment protection or pollution control with experience of not less than fifteen years or having administrative experience of not less than twenty-five years.

#### Third statement is correct.

The Commission will be the sole authority with jurisdiction over matters defined in the Bill (such as air quality management). In case of conflicts, directions of the Commission will prevail over the orders of the respective state governments, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), state PCBs, and state-level statutory bodies.

Q42. Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-chemical Development in Small Island Developing States Programme (ISLANDS) will be led by:

- a. UNEP Secretariat
- b. WHO
- c. FAO
- d. UNFCCC Secretariat

Solution: a

## Explanation:

Launched at the Conference of Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions in Geneva today, the \$515 million Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-chemical Development in Small Island Developing States Programme (ISLANDS) will help island countries in the Atlantic, Caribbean, Indian, and Pacific Ocean regions prevent the release of over 23,000 metric tons of toxic chemicals and more than 185,000 metric tons of marine litter by 2027.

Led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), ISLANDS will help participating countries control the import of hazardous substances, soundly dispose of harmful chemicals and waste, and establish circular production systems, in partnership with the private sector.

Q43. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Seagrasses convert organic carbon into large amounts of sugar during photosynthesis, mainly sucrose.
- 2. In India, Seagrasses are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.
- 3. Seagrasses reproduce through both sexual and asexual methods.

Which of the above statement sis/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Ek ek line ko ache se padho...Don't skip any sentence.

#### First statement is correct.

The research shows that seagrasses convert organic carbon into large amounts of sugar during photosynthesis, mainly sucrose. Globally, seagrasses have produced between 0.6 and 1.3 million tonnes of these sugars.

Like terrestrial plants, seagrass also photosynthesize and manufacture their own food and release oxygen.

#### Third statement is correct.

Seagrasses reproduce through both sexual and asexual methods. The pollen from the flower of the male plant is transferred to the ovary of the female flower through the sexual reproduction method. This is known as submarine pollination. Most species undergo this process and complete their life cycle underwater.

Seagrasses can also reproduce asexually by branching off at their rhizomes (modified subterranean plant stem that sends out roots and shoots from its nodes). Because of this character, they can recover after being cut by grazers like dugongs or disturbed by storms.

## Second statement is correct.

Seagrasses occur all along the coastal areas of India. They are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.

Though seagrasses inhabit all types of substratas (layers) from mud to rock, the lush green seagrass beds are found extensively in muddy and sandy substratas.

Q44. With respect to "**DAVINCI Mission**", consider the following statements.

- 1. It is led by NASA.
- 2. It is mission to Venus.

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:

NASA is set to launch a mission called "DAVINCI Mission". DAVINCI stands for "Deep Atmosphere Venus Investigation of Noble gases, Chemistry and Imaging Mission".

Q45. Which of the following correctly defines the term **Social Forestry**?

- a. land-use systems and technologies where woody perennials (trees, shrubs, palms, bamboos, etc.) are deliberately used on the same land-management units as agricultural crops and/or animals
- b. Forestry outside the conventional forests which primarily aim at providing continuous flow of goods and services for the benefit of people
- c. It is an applied science that studies ecological processes applied to agricultural production systems.
- d. It is the science and technology of producing and using plants in agriculture for food, fuel, fiber, and land restoration.

Solution: b

**Explanation:** 

# Social forestry

The National Commission on Agriculture, Government of India, first used the term 'social forestry' in 1976. It was then that India embarked upon a social forestry project with the aim of taking the pressure off the forests and making use of all unused and fallow land. Government forest areas that are close to human settlement and have been degraded over the years due to human activities needed to be afforested. Trees were to be planted in and around agricultural fields. Plantation of trees along railway lines and roadsides, and river and canal banks were carried out. They were planted in village common land. Government wasteland and Panchayat land.

Social forestry also aims at raising plantations by the common man so as to meet the growing demand for timber, fuel wood, fodder, etc. thereby reducing the pressure on the traditional forest area. This concept of village forests to meet the needs of the rural people is not new. It has existed through the centuries all over the country but it was now given a new character.

With the introduction of this scheme the dovernment formally recognised the local communities' rights to forest resources and is now encouraging rural participation in the management of natural resources. Through the social forestry scheme, the government has involved community participation, as part of a drive towards afforestation, and rehabilitating the degraded forest and common lands.

Q46. Consider the following.

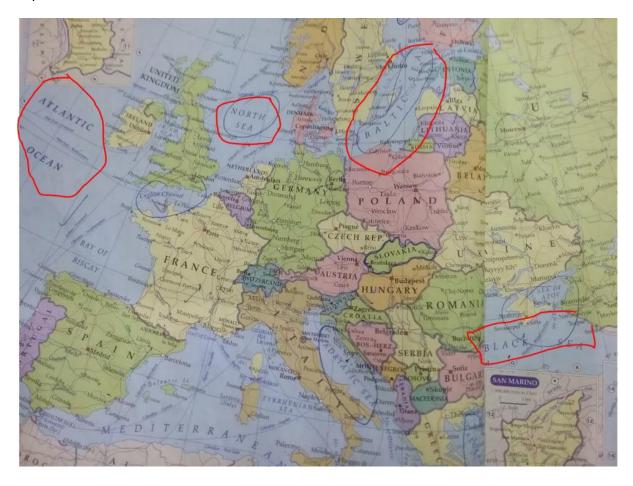
- 1. North Sea
- 2. Baltic Sea
- 3. Atlantic Ocean
- 4. Black Sea

Arrange the above seas from West to East.

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:



Q47. Out of the following statements, choose the one that brings out the principle underlying the Cabinet form of Government:

- a. An arrangement for minimizing the criticism against the Government whose responsibilities are complex and hard to carry out to the satisfaction of all.
- b. A mechanism for speeding up the activities of the Government whose responsibilities are increasing day by day.

- c. A mechanism of parliamentary democracy for ensuring collective responsibility of the Government to the people.
- d. A device for strengthening the hands of the head of the Government whose hold over the people is in a state of decline.

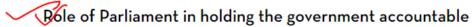
Solution: c

**Explanation:** 

No explanation needed. It's a straight- forward question.

Read a small Paragraph below.

#### PARLIAMENT



Vatsal Khullar - November 22, 2017

No comments

Parliament sessions are usually held thrice a year: once in February for the Budget Session, once around July or August for the Monsoon Session, and once in November for the Winter Session. This year, the government is yet to announce the dates for the Winter Session. While there has been uncertainty around whether Parliament will meet, ministers in the government have indicated that the Session will be held soon.[1]

The practice of allowing the government to convene Parliament differs from those followed in other countries. Some of these countries have a limited role for the government in summoning the legislature, because in a parliamentary democracy the executive is accountable to Parliament. Allowing the government to call the Parliament to meet could be in conflict with this principle. While we wait for the government to announce the dates for the Winter Session, this post looks at the relationship between Parliament and the government, recommendations made over the years on improving some parliamentary customs, and discusses certain practices followed by other countries.

## What is the role of Parliament in a democracy?

The Constitution provides for the legislature to make laws, the government to implement laws, and the courts to interpret and enforce these laws. While the judiciary is independent from the other two branches, the government is formed with the support of a majority of members in the legislature. Therefore, the government is collectively responsible to Parliament for its actions. This implies that Parliament (i.e. Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) can hold the government accountable for its decisions, and scrutinise its functioning. This may be done using various methods including, during debates on Bills or issues on the floor of Parliament, by posing questions to ministers during Question Hour, and in parliamentary committees.

## Q48. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Appointment and Promotion of district judge in any state is made by Governor in consultation with High Court of that State.
- 2. President has been authorized to extend and exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from any Union Territory.

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: A

**Explanation:** 

We will see here two articles: 230 and 233.

<sup>3</sup>[230. Extension of jurisdiction of High Courts to Union territories.—(1) Parliament may by law extend the jurisdiction of a High Court to, or exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from, any Union territory.

- (2) Where the High Court of a State exercises jurisdiction in relation to a Union territory,—
- (a) nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as empowering the Legislature of the State to increase, restrict or abolish that jurisdiction; and
- (b) the reference in article 227 to the Governor shall, in relation to any rules, forms or tables for subordinate courts in that territory, be construed as a reference to the President.

#### First statement is correct.

- 233. Appointment of district judges.—(1) Appointments of persons to be, and the posting and promotion of district judges in any State shall be made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State.
- (2) A person not already in the service of the Union or of the State shall only be eligible to be appointed a district judge if he has been for not less than seven years an advocate or a pleader and is recommended by the High Court for appointment.

Q49. Consider the following statements.

- 1. The Karkota period of Kashmir is the most significant in terms of architecture.
- 2. One of the most important temples during this period is Pandrethan, which was a Hindu Temple, dedicated to Shiva.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

**Explanation:** 

The Karkota period of Kashmir is the most significant in terms of architecture. One of the most important temples is Pandrethan, built during the eighth and ninth centuries. In keeping with the tradition of a water tank attached to the shrine, this temple is built on a plinth built in the middle of a tank. Although there are evidences of both Hindu and Buddhist followings in Kashmir, this temple is a Hindu one, possibly dedicated to Shiva. The architecture of this temple is in keeping with the age-old Kashmiri tradition of wooden buildings. Due to the snowy conditions in Kashmir, the roof is peaked and slants slowly outward. The temple is moderately ornamented, moving away from the post-Gupta aesthetics of heavy carving. A row of elephants at the base and a decorated doorway are the only embellishments on the shrine.

THE RESERVE THE TAX AND THE

Q50. "Hindola Raga"-A famous paintings belongs to:

- a. Ahmednagar
- b. Bijapur
- c. Golconda
- d. Tanjore

Solution: a

Explanation:

It Belongs to Ahmednagar.

Link: <a href="http://ccrtindia.gov.in/miniaturepainting.php">http://ccrtindia.gov.in/miniaturepainting.php</a>

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q51}}.$  Consider the following statements.

- 1. According to the current laws, only the union ministry can declare any wildlife as vermin.
- 2. The Government can declare Schedule I and II under Wildlife Act, 1972 animals as vermin.
- 3. Currently, wild boars are listed as vermin under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Now, aap dekho ki padhna kaise h...See first the news from which we have taken this.

Mongabay Series: Beyond Protected Areas

Farmer unions demand vermin status for wild boars, Centre highlights their role in forest habitat

by K.A. Shaji on 9 June 2022

f y in ⊙ M 🗇

Now, you see the Act.

Declaration of certain wild animals to be vermin.—<sup>5</sup>[The Central Government] may, by notification, declare any wild animal other than those specified in Schedule I and Part II of Schedule II to be vermin for any area and for such period as may be specified therein and so long as such notification is in force, such wild animal shall be deemed to have been included in Schedule V.

Currently, wild boars are listed under Schedule III of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The demand is to categorize them as vermin under Schedule V, which includes vermin such as the common crow, fruit bat, mice, and rats. *Inclusion of the wild boars in Schedule V will facilitate their culling by farmers without facing criminal proceedings*. Third is incorrect.

# Q52. The *Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE)* is related to:

- a. BASEL Convention
- b. Cartagena Convention
- c. Nagoya Protocol
- d. Paris Climate Convention

Solution: a

Explanation:

## 6th Meeting of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE)

#### Online from 11 April to 13 April 2022



Highlights: The Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE) was established by the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (BC-11/8). ENFORCE aims to promote parties' compliance with the provisions of the Basel Convention pertaining to preventing and combating illegal traffic in hazardous wastes and other wastes through the better implementation and enforcement of national law. ENFORCE brings together existing resources and enhancing and improving cooperation and coordination between relevant entities with a specific mandate to deliver capacity-building activities and tools on preventing and combating illegal traffic.

## Q53. Consider the following pairs.

Protocols	Associated with
-----------	-----------------

1.	Cartagena Protocol	ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs)
2.	Nagoya Protocol	advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure

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: a

## Explanation:

On 29 January 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a supplementary agreement to the Convention known as the **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety**. The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. **It establishes an advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure** for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory. **Second statement is incorrect.** 

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement which aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way.

Q54. World Investment Report is published by:

- a. WTO
- b. UNCTAD
- c. UNICEF
- d. UNEP

Solution: b

Explanation:



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Home / World Investment Report 2022

# World Investment Report 2022

Q55. Consider the following statements.

- When the Vice-President acts as President or discharges the functions of the President, he continues to perform the duties of the office of Chairman of the Council of States.
- 2. All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a Vice-President shall be decided by the Supreme Court.
- 3. A procedure to remove Vice President is provided in the Constitution.

#### Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First Statement: incorrect

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: correct** 

All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final.

(2) If the election of a person as President or Vice-President is declared void by the Supreme Court, acts done by him in the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of the office of President or Vice-President, as the case may be, on or before the date of the decision of the Supreme Court shall not be invalidated by reason of that declaration.

#### Third Statement: correct

## Removal Procedure is provided by Article 67 (2)

Provided that—

- (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.

Q56. Consider the following Committees of the Lok Sabha.

- 1. Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.
- 2. Rules Committee
- 3. General Purposes Committee

Which of the above committees does Speaker has its ex-officio chairman?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

(5) Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. -The Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions is constituted after each general election to Lok Sabha and thereafter from time to time under rule 293. It consists of 15 members nominated by the Speaker. The Deputy Speaker is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Committee. The term of the Committee is one year. The functions of the Committee are: (a) to allot time to Private Members' Bills and Resolutions; (b) to examine Private Members' Bills seeking to amend the Constitution before their introduction in Lok Sabha; (c) to categorise Private Members' Bills according to their nature, urgency and importance into two categories, namely, category-A and category-B, after they have been introduced in Lok Sabha; (d) to examine every Private Member's Bill which is opposed in the House on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House; and (e) to perform such other functions in respect of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions as may be assigned to it by the Speaker under Rule 294. The report of the

(12) Rules Committee.— (i) the Rules Committee is constituted under Rule 330. It consists of 15 members including the Speaker who is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker.

(13) General Purposes Committee.—The General Purposes Committee consists of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, Members of the Panel of Chairpersons, Chairpersons of all Standing Parliamentary Committees of Lok Sabha, Leaders of recognised parties and groups in Lok Sabha and such other Members as may be nominated by the Speaker. The Speaker is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The functions of the Committee are to consider and advise on such matters concerning the affairs of the House as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time.

Q57. Consider the following industries.

- 1. Oil Refining
- 2. Methanol Production
- 3. Ammonia Production
- 4. Steel Production

Which of the following industries is dominated by the use of Hydrogen Fuel?

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

Solution: d

**Explanation:** 

The Future of Hydrogen-Seizing today's opportunities, a report published at G-20, at Osaka, Japan by International Energy Agency. It's an important report.

# Various uses for hydrogen



Hydrogen use today is dominated by industry, namely: oil refining, ammonia production, methanol production and steel production. Virtually all of this hydrogen is supplied using fossil fuels, so there is significant potential for emissions reductions from clean hydrogen.



In transport, the competitiveness of hydrogen fuel cell cars depends on fuel cell costs and refuelling stations while for trucks the priority is to reduce the delivered price of hydrogen. Shipping and aviation have limited low-carbon fuel options available and represent an opportunity for hydrogen-based fuels



In buildings, hydrogen could be blended into existing natural gas networks, with the highest potential in multifamily and commercial buildings, particularly in dense cities while longer-term prospects could include the direct use of hydrogen in hydrogen boilers or fuel cells.



In power generation, hydrogen is one of the leading options for storing renewable energy, and hydrogen and ammonia can be used in gas turbines to increase power system flexibility. Ammonia could also be used in coal-fired power plants to reduce emissions.

Q58. What happens to human life after death" is a theme used in:

- a. Warli Paintings
- b. Madhubani Paintings.
- c. Paitkar Paintings
- d. Manjusha Paintings

Solution: c

## **Explanations:**

Practiced by the tribal **people of Jharkhand**, Paitkar paintings are considered one of the ancient paintings in the country.

The common theme of this painting is "What happens to human life after death".

Q59. Which of the following temples is dedicated to Lord Shiva?

- 1. Venkateshwara Temple, Tirupati
- 2. Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain
- 3. Jagannath Temple, Puri
- 4. Ekambareswarar Temple, Tamil Nadu

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

## Explanation:

**Venkateswara Temple** is an important Vaishnavite temple situated in the hill town of Tirumala in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh, India. **The Temple is dedicated to Lord Venkateswara, an incarnation of Vishnu.** 

**Ekambareswarar Temple** is a Hindu temple dedicated to the **deity Shiva**, located in the town of Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu, India.

**About Mahakaleshwar Temple**: Situated on the banks of the holy river Shipra in Ujjain, the Mahakaleshwar **Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva** is one of the most famous shrines in the country.

The Jagannath temple of Puri is one of the "Char Dhams" of Vaishnavism and has a special meaning for Vishnu followers. The architecture of the temple is stunning too and has many great legends associated with it. The most celebrated festival in this temple is the Ratha Yatra festival.

Q60. If the RBI decides to adopt an expansionist monetary policy, which of the following would it not do?

- 1. Cut and optimize the Statutory Liquidity Ratio
- 2. Increase the Marginal Standing Facility Rate
- 3. Cut the Bank Rate and Repo Rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:

Expansionary monetary policy involves cutting interest rates or increasing the money supply to boost economic activity. An increase in the SLR constricts the ability of the bank to inject money into the economy which affects growth. **Thus, statement (1) is not correct.** 

The MSF or Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate is the rate at which RBI lends funds overnight to scheduled banks, against government securities. RBI has introduced this borrowing scheme to regulate short-term asset liability mismatch in a more effective manner. MSF basically provides a greater liquidity cushion. Higher the MSF rate, more expensive is borrowing for banks, as well as corporate borrowers and individuals. It is used by RBI to control the money supply in the country's financial system. **Thus, statement (2) is correct.** 

The repo rate is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India lends money to commercial banks in order to help these lenders meet their short-term liquidity needs. If the repo rate is low, banks are required to pay lower interest amount towards loans. This impacts the loans taken by customers, who can also avail loans at lower interest rates. This boosts economic activity. The rate of interest charged by the central bank on the loans they have extended to commercial banks and other financial institutions is called "Bank Rate". When Bank Rate is increased by RBI, bank's borrowing costs increases which in return, reduces the supply of money in the market. **Thus, statement (3) is not correct**. **Therefore, the correct answer is (b).** 

Q61. Which of the following countries is/are part of TAPI Gas Pipeline?

- 1. India
- 2. Kazakhstan
- 3. Tajikistan
- 4. Afghanistan
- 5. Pakistan

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:



Q62. With respect to **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) scheme**, consider the following statements.

- 1. Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works to the tune of Rs.10 Crores per annum to be taken up in his/her constituency.
- 2. MPLADS funds must be used to create durable assets like physical infrastructure for health, education etc.,
- 3. A specified portion of each MP's fund must benefit SC/ST populations.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:

Second and third statement is part of UPSC Prelims exam 2020. We have asked this question to show you that how question is made difficult. **Both statements have been taken from MPLADS guidelines. See below:** 

- 2.4 All works to meet locally felt infrastructure and development needs, with an emphasis on creation of durable assets in the constituency are permissible under MPLADS except those prohibited in Annexure-II. Expenditure on specified items of non durable nature are also permitted as per list in the Annexure-IIA.
- 2.5 Development of Areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe: There is a greater need to develop areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in order to give special attention for the infrastructure development of such areas. M.Ps are to recommend every year, works costing at least 15 per cent of the MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by S.T. population. In other words, out of an amount of Rs.5 crores, a M.P. shall recommend for areas inhabited by S.C. population, Rs.75 lacs and Rs.37.5 lacs for areas

If you read less but in a comprehensive way, you will definitely clear UPSC Prelims. We are helping you out in this direction.

First statement is simple as you can find this everywhere. It is incorrect. It is 5 crores.

The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Division is entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works to the tune of Rs.5 Crores per annum to be taken up in his/her constituency.

The **Rajya Sabha Members** of Parliament can recommend works in one or more districts in the State from where he/she has been elected.

The **Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha** may select any one or more Districts from any one State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme.

Q63. Arrange the following in increasing order of their pH value.

- 1. Lemon Juice
- 2. Blood
- 3. Cow's milk
- 4. Sea Water

Select the correct code.

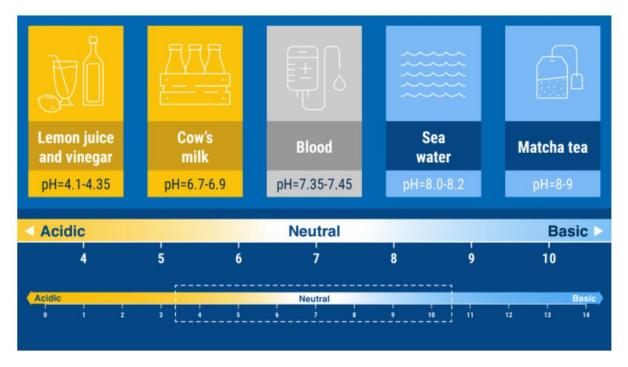
- a. 4-1-2-3
- b. 1-4-2-3
- c. 1-3-2-4
- d. 4-2-3-1

Solution: c

## Explanation:

Prior to the Industrial Revolution of the 18th to 19th centuries, the ocean's average pH was about 8.2. Today, the ocean's average pH is 8.1. This means that the ocean today is about 30 per cent more acidic then in pre-industrial times. By 2100, the pH of the ocean could decrease to about 7.8, making

the ocean 150 percent more acidic and affecting half of all marine life, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report.



Q64. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Currently, number of national parks is more than wildlife sanctuaries.
- 2. Currently, Forest + Tree Cover Percentage in India is less than 30 percent.

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:

## Protected Areas of India (As on December, 2021)

	No.	Total Area (km²)	Coverage % of Country
National Parks	<b>1</b> 06	44,372.42	1.35
Wildlife Sanctuaries	<b>√</b> 564	1,22,509.33	3.73
Conservation Reserves	99	4,726.24	0.14
Community Reserves	218	1,445.71	0.04
Protected Areas (PAs)	987	1,73,053.69	5.26

Geographical Area of India (http://knowindia.gov.in/) = 32,87,263 km<sup>2</sup>

#### Forest cover of India (FSI, 2021)

Forest + Tree Cover Area 7,13,789 + 95,748 = **8,09,537** km<sup>2</sup>

Forest + Tree Cover Percentage 21.71% + 2.91% = 24.62% of the geographical area of India

Download India State of Forest Report 2021 (Source: Forest Survery of India)

Q65. Consider the following statements regarding Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

- 1. It is a global partnership of national governments, UN agencies and private sector to promote the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks.
- 2. India is a member of this coalition.
- 3. The CDRI Secretariat is based in New Delhi, India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

#### What is the CDRI?

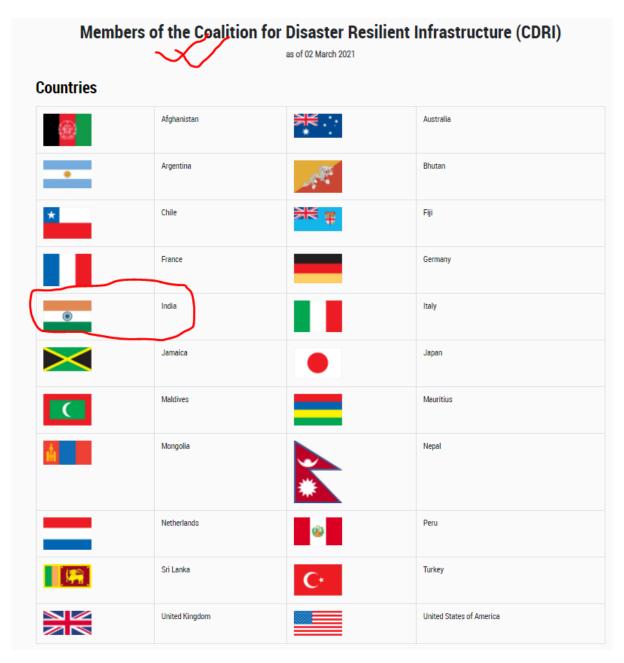
The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is a multi-stakeholder global partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programmes, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and academic and knowledge institutions. It addresses the challenges of building resilience into infrastructure systems and development associated with it.

## When was the idea for CDRI proposed?

The Prime Minister of India launched CDRI during his speech at the UN Climate Action Summit on 23 September 2019.

## 2. What is the need for the CDR!

Infrastructure systems are key drivers of economic growth. Between 2016 and 2040, the Global Infrastructure Hub pegs the global annual infrastructure investment needs at US\$3.7 trillion per year. A large part of this infrastructure will inevitably be exposed to a range of natural hazards. With the increasing demands of a growing global population and unpredictable hazard patterns, the existing infrastructure will be put under additional stress and new infrastructure will be built in hazardous areas.



Where is the Secretariat of CDRI?

The CDRI Secretariat is based in New Delhi, India.

## Is CDRI an intergovernmental organization?

CDRI is a multi-stakeholder global partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programmes, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and academic and knowledge institutions. **At present, it is not an intergovernmental organization**, which are ordinarily treaty-based organizations.

Q66. Consider the following statements Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

- 1. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall be responsible for overall monitoring the implementation of these rules in the country.
- 2. Sanitary pads, tampons, and other menstrual hygiene products are categorized as 'dry municipal waste' under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- 3. This was the first waste management rules introduced by India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

**Explanation:** 

#### First statement is correct.

5. Duties of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. (1) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall be responsible for over all monitoring the implementation of these rules in the country. It

Second statement is correct:

## How is menstrual waste classified?

Sanitary pads, tampons, and other menstrual hygiene products are categorised as 'dry municipal waste' under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. "Dry waste" means waste other than bio-degradable waste and inert street sweepings; it includes recyclable and non-recyclable waste, combustible waste, sanitary napkin and diapers, etc., states the document. The document also states that sanitary waste includes "wastes comprising of used diapers, sanitary towels or napkins, tampons, condoms,

# 2.0 Provisions of Sanitary Wastes in Solid Waste Management Rules (SWM), 2016

According to the provision of 3(46) of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, 'solid waste' was categorized as follows: solid or semi-solid domestic waste, sanitary waste, commercial waste, institutional waste, catering and market waste and other non-residential wastes, street sweepings, silt removed or collected from the surface drains, horticulture waste, agriculture and dairy waste, treated bio-medical waste excluding industrial waste, bio-medical waste and e-waste, battery waste, radio-active waste generated in the area under the local authorities. Further, as per the provision of 14(i) of

Third statement is incorrect: Such statement already asked in Prelims. So be careful!

These rules are the sixth category of waste management rules brought out by the ministry, as it has earlier notified plastic, e-waste, biomedical, hazardous and construction and demolition waste management rules.

SWMR, 2016 replaced Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000, which have been in place for the past 16 years.

Q67. Nanotechnology provides new agrochemical agents and new delivery mechanisms to improve crop productivity, and it promises to reduce pesticide applications. Nanotechnology can increase agricultural production, and its applications include:

- 1. nano formulations of agrochemicals for applying pesticides and fertilizers for crop improvement
- 2. the application of nano sensors in crop protection for the identification of diseases and residues of agrochemicals
- 3. nanodevices for the genetic engineering of plants
- 4. plant disease diagnostics
- 5. animal health, animal breeding, poultry production

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

Nanotechnology in agriculture has gained good momentum in the last decade with an abundance of public funding, but the stage of development is good, even though many methods became under the umbrella of agriculture. This might be attributed to a unique nature of farm production, which functions as an open system whereby energy and matter are exchanged freely.

Nanotechnology provides new agrochemical agents and new delivery mechanisms to improve crop productivity, and it promises to reduce pesticide applications. Nanotechnology can increase agricultural production, and its applications include: (1) nano formulations of agrochemicals for applying pesticides and fertilizers for crop improvement; (2) the application of nano sensors in crop protection for the identification of diseases and residues of agrochemicals; (3) nanodevices for the genetic engineering of plants; (4) plant disease diagnostics; (5) animal health, animal breeding, poultry production; and (6) postharvest management.

Nanotechnology applications include nanoparticle-mediated gene or DNA transfer in plants for the development of insect-resistant varieties, food processing and storage and increased product shelf life. Nanotechnology may increase the development of biomass-to-fuel production. Experts feel that the potential benefits of nanotechnology for agriculture, food, fisheries and aquaculture need to be balanced against concerns for the soil, water and environment and the occupational health of workers.

Q68. Which of the following texts contains the Sanskrit phrase "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"?

- a. Manusmriti
- b. Vishnu Puran

- c. Maha Upanishad
- d. Bhagavat Puran

Solution: c

## Explanation:

"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" is a Sanskrit Phase which means that the whole world is one single family. **The concept originates in Vedic Scripture Maha Upanishads.** 

Q69. Consider the following statements.

- 1. The Election to the office of President is conducted through secret ballot.
- 2. A president is eligible for re-election.
- 3. The President can resign by writing under his hand addressed to the Vice president.

Which of the above statements is/are correct as per the provisions mentioned in the Constitution?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All the three above statements are correct.

## Central Government Act

## Article 55(3) in The Constitution Of India 1949

(3) The election of the President shall be held 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 Explanation n this article, the expression population means the population ascertained

#### Central Government Act

#### Article 56 in The Constitution Of India 1949

- 56. Term of office of President
  - (1) The President shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office: Provided that
    - (a) the President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Vice President, resign his office;

## Central Government Act

## Article 57 in The Constitution Of India 1949

57. Eligibility for re election A person who holds, or who has held, office as President shall, subject to the other provisions of this Constitution, be eligible for re election to that office

Q70. Which of the following countries form border with both Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea?

- 1. Portugal
- 2. France
- 3. Germany
- 4. Spain

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

## Explanation:



**Q71. Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO),** a part of the security and defence policy of which of the following nations?

- a. European Union
- b. US
- c. Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- d. Gulf Council

Solution: a

## Explanation:

PESCO was discussed in first-ever India-EU Security and Defence Consultations held in Brussels held recently.

PESCO is a part of the EU's security and defence policy. Its establishment in December 2017 has raised cooperation on defence among the participating EU member states to a new level.

Q72. With respect to **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)**, consider the following statements.

- 1. National Statistical Office (NSO) launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).
- 2. In this rotational panel scheme of PLFS, each, selected household in urban areas is visited four times, in the beginning with 'First Visit Schedule' and thrice periodically later with a 'Revisit Schedule'.
- 3. One of its objectives is to estimate the key employment indicators in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status'.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

## Explanation:

There are some questions jo padhna main bhi ache ni hote, ye wo question h. But then, this is very important that you should know the objectives of survey. Results kya h survey ki wo baad ki baat h, at least survey ka mtlab toh pta hona chahye..

Considering the importance of availability of labour force data at more frequent time intervals, National Statistical Office (NSO) launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in April 2017.

The objective of PLFS is primarily twofold:

- to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS).
- to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually.

**Usual Principal Status and Subsidiary Status (PS+SS):** If a person has engaged in any economic activity for a period of 30 days or more during the preceding 365 days a person is considered as employed under this approach.

## **Sample Design of PLFS**

A rotational panel sampling design has been used in urban areas. In this rotational panel scheme, each, selected household in urban areas is visited four times, in the beginning with 'First Visit

**Schedule'** and thrice periodically later with a 'Revisit Schedule'. In urban area, samples for a panel within each stratum were drawn in the form of two independent sub-samples.

Q73. With respect to **Fast radio bursts**, consider the following statements.

- 1. They are high-energy phenomena, emitting electromagnetic energy in the form of bursts of radio pulses.
- 2. FRBs are triggered by explosive events in the universe, such as a supernova or the collision of two compact objects like a neutron star and a black hole.

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:

**News:** 

An international team of astronomers working on China's Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST) has detected a new fast radio burst (FRB) with unusual properties.

## Fast radio bursts and repeaters

Fast radio bursts were first detected in 2007, and hundreds have been observed since. They are high-energy phenomena, emitting electromagnetic energy in the form of bursts of radio pulses. These last for an interval ranging from a mere fraction of a millisecond to a few milliseconds. In each pulse, the source can emit as much energy as the sun does in a month.

FRBs are triggered by explosive events in the universe, such as a supernova or the collision of two compact objects like a neutron star and a black hole. Such bursts typically occur as a transient flash only once, never to be seen again. A majority of FRBs occur this way.

Q74. Consider the following nations.

- 1. Thailand
- 2. Laos
- 3. Cambodia
- 4. Vietnam

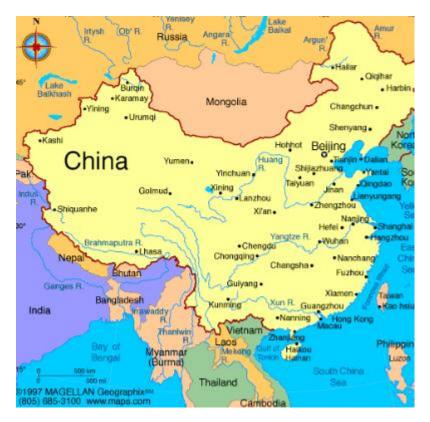
Which of the above nations share boundaries with China?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

## Thailand and Cambodia don't share boundary with China.



## Q75. Consider the following statements.

- 1. A person elected to fill the vacancy occurred due to death of President is entitled to hold office for full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.
- 2. The proposal to impeach the President shall be preferred in House only after it is signed by not less than one-fourth of total member of the House.

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:

We will refer here article number 61 and 62. Read the articles below before proceeding to next question. Both the statements are correct.

## First statement is correct.

- 62. Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of President and the term of office of person elected to fill casual vacancy.—(1) An election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.
- (2) An election to fill a vacancy in the office of President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after, and in no case later than six months from, the date of occurrence of the vacancy; and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of article 56, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he

#### Second statement is correct.

- **61. Procedure for impeachment of the President**.—(*I*) When a President is to be impeached for violation of the Constitution, the charge shall be preferred by either House of Parliament.
  - (2) No such charge shall be preferred unless-
  - (a) the proposal to prefer such charge is contained in a resolution which has been moved after at least fourteen days' notice in writing signed by not less than one-fourth of the total number of members of the House has been given of their intention to move the resolution, and
  - (b) such resolution has been passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House.

Q76. In context of Indian history, who among the following represents **Future Buddha?** 

- a. Shakyamuni
- b. Rishabhdeva
- c. Maitreya
- d. Dipankara

Solution: c Explanation:



According to Buddhist tradition, there were 24 past Buddhas before Buddha. Out of these 24 Buddhas first one is called as Dipankara.

Shakyamuni was another name of Gautama Buddha, also considered Buddha of the Present.

Rishabhdeva was first Tirthankara of Jainism.

Maitreya is future Buddha to be born as last Buddha. Hence, option (c) correct.

## Q77. Consider the following statements:

- 1. An amendment to the Constitution of India can be initiated by an introduction of a bill in the Lok Sabha only.
- 2. If such an amendment seeks to make changes in the federal character of the Constitution, the amendment also requires to be ratified by the legislature of one-third of the States of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated by introduction of a bill in either house of the Parliament.

368. <sup>5</sup> [Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and procedure therefor.]— <sup>6</sup> [(*I*) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may in exercise of its constituent power amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article.]

<sup>7</sup>[(2)] An amendment of this Constitution may be initiated only by the introduction of a Bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament, and when the Bill is passed in each House by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting, <sup>8</sup>[it shall be presented to the President who shall give his assent to the Bill and thereupon] the Constitution shall stand amended in accordance with the terms of the Bill:

If the bill seeks to amends the Federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of **half of the states by a simple majority**.

- (c) any of the Lists in the Seventh Schedule, or
- (d) the representation of States in Parliament, or
- (e) the provisions of this article,

the amendment shall also require to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States 1\*\*\* by resolutions to that effect passed by those Legislatures before the Bill making provision for such amendment is presented to the President for assent.

Q78. Consider the following statements regarding seagrasses.

- 1. They are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.
- 2. They trap fine sediments and suspended particles in the water column and increase water clarity.

- 3. Seagrass photosynthesize and manufacture their own food. 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:

Seagrasses are seed-bearing, flowering, rooted plants which grow under water, only in shallow coastal seas and coastal wetlands. Like grasses on land, they form meadows on the bed of coastal seas.

## Seagrasses are indicator species

Seagrasses are important as they die out very quickly when there are changes in the environment — for example — from pollution. Therefore, they serve to show us that there is damage to the environment. Also, many species of fish and other animals live among their leaves. Famous among the animals that live in seagrass meadows is the Dugong or Sea Cow.

Seagrasses occur all along the coastal areas of India. They are abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu.





Figure 2.10 - Seagrass - Gulf of Mannar

## **Ecosystem engineers**

Seagrasses are known for providing many ecosystem services. They are considered to be 'Ecosystem Engineers'.

- **a.** Seagrasses help maintain water quality. They trap fine sediments and suspended particles in the water column and increase water clarity.
- b. In the absence of seagrass communities, the sediments are stirred by wind and waves, decreasing water quality. This reduced water clarity affects marine animal behaviour besides decreasing the recreational quality of coastal zones. They filter nutrients released from land-based industries before they reach sensitive habitats like coral reefs.
- c. Ocean bottoms without seagrasses are prone to intense wave action from currents and storms. The extensive vertical and horizontal root systems of seagrasses stabilize the sea bottom similar to land grasses that prevent soil erosion.

#### **Characteristics:**

- a. Like terrestrial plants, seagrass also photosynthesize and manufacture their own food and release oxygen.
- b. Seagrasses **reproduce through both sexual and asexual methods**. The pollen from the flower of the male plant is transferred to the ovary of the female flower through the sexual reproduction method.
- c. This is **known as submarine pollination**. Most species undergo this process and complete their life cycle underwater.
- d. Seagrasses can also reproduce asexually by branching off at their rhizomes (modified subterranean plant stem that sends out roots and shoots from its nodes). Because of this character, they can recover after being cut by grazers like dugongs or disturbed by storms.

Q79. The objective resolution was moved in the Constituent Assembly on:

- a. December 13, 1946
- b. January 26, 1946

- c. November 26, 1946
- d. November 26,1950

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

This question has become very common everywhere, they may trick you with the date.

## FRAMING THE CONSTITUTION

2. The Vision of the Constitution

On 13 December 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the Objectives Resolution" in the Constituent Assembly. It was a momentous resolution that outlined the defining ideals of the Constitution of Independent India, and provided the framework within which the work of constitution-making was to proceed. It proclaimed India to be an "Independent Sovereign Republic", guaranteed its citizens justice, equality and freedom, and assured that "adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and Depressed and Other Backward Classes ..." After outlining these objectives, Nehru placed the Indian experiment in a broad historical perspective. As he spoke, he said, his mind went back to the historic efforts in the past to produce such documents of rights.

Q80. Consider the following Bhakti Saints.

- 1. Tyagaraja
- 2. Guru Nanak
- 3. Saint Ravidas

Who among the above was/were preaching when the Lodi dynasty fell, and Babur took over?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

Very important for Prelims. When you study Bhaktis and Sufis, whichever saint you study, keep a rough idea about it. Try to connect things. You can't prepare everything, but you can be best than others.

Guru Nanak was born in 1469 and died in 1539

Tyagaraja was born in 1767 and died in 1847

Saint Ravidas was born in 1450 and died in 1520.

Lodi Dynasty fell in 1526 in the Battle of Panipat.

Tyagaraja was not born. Saint Ravidas died before battle of Panipat. Guru Nanak is the right person here.

Q81. Consider the following countries of South America.

- 1. Bolivia
- 2. Ecuador
- 3. Uruguay
- 4. Paraguay

Which of the above countries doesn't share boundaries with Ocean?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Except **Bolivia and Paraguay**, all other countries share boundaries with Oceans.



Q82. Arrange the state in the order of their southernmost point?

- 1. Andhra Pradesh
- 2. Karnataka
- 3. Maharashtra
- 4. Chhattishgarh

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c



#### Q83. Consider the following nations.

- 1. Tajikistan
- 2. Turkmenistan
- 3. Uzbekistan
- 4. Kyrgyzstan

Which of the following Central Asian countries has/have border with Afghanistan but not with China?

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

Solution: b

#### **Explanations:**

Tajikistan shares boundary with Afghanistan as well as China.

#### Kyrgyzstan shares boundary with China but not with Afghanistan



Q84. If you travel from Himachal Pradesh to Andhra Pradesh, what is the minimum number of states you need to cross between two states?

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

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Please try to recall map before seeing explanations. Learn to draw map in mind. It will take time, but you have to practice. Its compulsory.

One needs to cross two states between Himachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

#### Himachal Pradesh- Uttar Pradesh-Chhattisgarh-Andhra Pradesh



Q85. Consider the following nations.

- 5. Thailand
- 6. Laos
- 7. Cambodia
- 8. Vietnam

Which of the above nations share boundaries with China?

- e. 1 and 2 only
- f. 2, 3 and 4 only
- g. 2 and 4 only
- h. 1, 3 and 4 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

Thailand and Cambodia don't share boundary with China.



Q86. Consider the following South East Asian Countries Capitals.

- 1. Bangkok (Thailand)
- 2. Naypyidaw (Myanmar)
- 3. Hanoi (Vietnam)
- 4. Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

Arrange the above places from North to South.

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

Now let us see the map. These South East Asian countries are very much important for exam as these countries connects North -Eastern India (India's Act East Policy).



#### Q87. Consider the following capitals.

- 1. Gandhinagar
- 2. Bhopal
- 3. Agartala
- 4. Aizawl

#### Which of the above capitals lies above Tropic of Cancer?

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

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

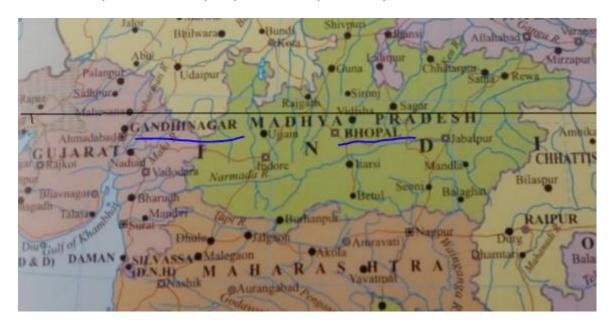
The above capitals belong to states through which Tropic of Cancer. So, first we will know through which states of India, Tropic of Cancer passes.

Tropic of Cancer passes through:

**Gujarat**, Rajasthan, **Madhya Pradesh**, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, **Tripura and Mizoram**.

#### Capitals of Rajasthan, Tripura and Mizoram lies above Tropic of cancer.

Let's see map now. Please open you Atlas Map book, if you have it.





Q88. Consider the following seas.

- 1. Aegean Sea
- 2. Black Sea
- 3. Adriatic Sea

Arrange the above seas from East to West.

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

Solution: d

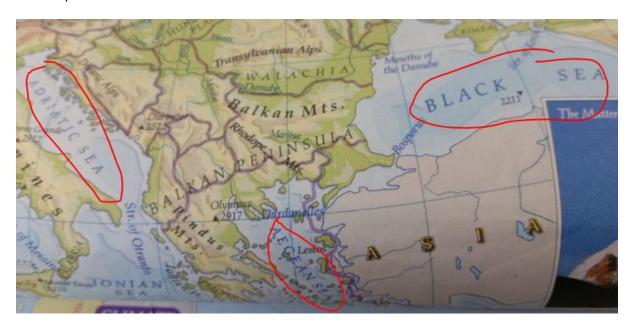
#### Explanation:

Adriatic Sea was already asked in Prelims 2019.

Correct order from West to East is:

#### Adriatic- Aegean- Black

See the map now.



Q89. Consider the following Central American Countries.

- 1. Costa Rica
- 2. Nicaragua
- 3. Panama
- 4. Guatemala

Arrange the above countries from West to East.

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

c. 4-2-1-3

d. 4-1-2-3

Solution: c

**Explanation:** 

The correct order of countries from West to East:

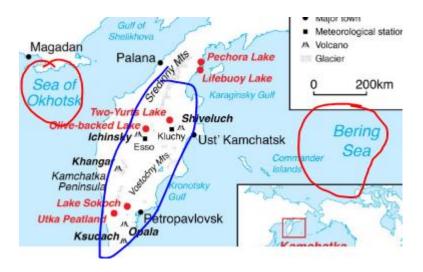
#### Guatemala- Nicaragua- Costa Rica- Panama



#### Q90. Kamchatka Peninsula divides:

- a. Sea of Okhotsk and Arctic Sea
- b. Arctic Ocean and Pacific Ocean
- c. Sea of Okhotsk and Bering sea
- d. Artic Sea and Siberian Sea

Solution: c



Q91. Consider the follow statements.

- 1. Theri is desert situated in the state of Tamil Nadu consists of red sand dunes.
- 2. The Thar or Great Indian Desert is limited only to Rajasthan.
- 3. The Thar desert is located only in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

**Explanation:** 

#### ENVIRONMENT

## There is a desert in Tamil Nadu and the dunes are red

There are a couple of theories regarding the formation of these dunes, the most plausible being the role of south we monsoonal winds



By V Sundararaju Published: Thursday 16 June 2022

Only the Thar comes to mind when we discuss deserts in India. Most of us may not know the **small** desert situated in the state of Tamil Nadu. It consists of red sand dunes and is confined to Thoothukudi district.

**The red dunes are called theri in Tamil**. They consist of sediments dating back to the Quaternary Period and are made of marine deposits. They have very low water and nutrient retention capacity.

#### Second and third statements are incorrect.

More than 60% of the desert lies in the state of Rajasthan, and extends into Gujarat, Punjab, and Haryana. It also extends to Sindh provinces of Pakistan.



Q92. With respect to **Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme**, consider the following statements.

- 1. Sovereign Bonds can be used as collateral for loans.
- 2. The interest on SGBs shall be taxable as per the provision of Income Tax Act, 1961.
- 3. The SGBs will be denominated in multiples of gram(s) of gold with a basic unit of one gram.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

#### Tax treatment

The interest on SGBs shall be taxable as per the provision of Income Tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961). The capital gains tax arising on redemption of SGB to an individual is exempted.

#### Collateral

Bonds can be used as collateral for loans.

#### **Denomination**

The SGBs will be denominated in multiples of gram(s) of gold with a basic unit of one gram.

Q93. With respect to **Group of 77 (G-77)**, consider the following statements.

- 1. It was established at World Treaty Organization (WTO) by developed nations to articulate and promote the collective economic interests of developing nations within the United Nations system.
- 2. India is a member of G-77.

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:

The Group of 77 (G-77) was established on 15 June 1964 by seventy-seven developing countries signatories of the "Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Developing Countries" issued at the end of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva.

#### Aims:

The Group of 77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations, which provides the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interests and enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promote South-South cooperation for development.

#### India is a member of G-77.

Q94. Consider the following statements regarding Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA).

- 1. It is a Private Limited Government Company established as a Non-Banking Financial Institution.
- 2. IREDA has been notified as a "Public Financial Institution" under Companies Act, 1956.
- 3. It aims to maintain its position as a leading organisation to provide efficient and effective financing in renewable energy and conservation projects.

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: b

#### **Explanation:**

**Read complete details.** Kuch bhi ab easy ni h..They are not asking simple statements. Wo kuch bhi puche, aap apni taiyari best rakho.

First statement is incorrect. It is Public, not Private.

#### Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) is a Mini Ratna (Category I) Government of
  India Enterprise under the administrative control of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). IREDA is
  a Public Limited Government Company established as a Non-Banking Financial Institution in 1987 engaged
  in promoting, developing and extending financial assistance for setting up projects relating to new and
  renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency/conservation with the motto: "ENERGY FOR EVER"
- IREDA has been notified as a "Public Financial Institution" under section 4 'A' of the Companies Act, 1956 and registered as Non-Banking Financial Company (NFBC) with Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- IREDA's mission is "Be a pioneering, participant friendly and competitive institution for financing and promoting self-sustaining investment in energy generation from Renewable Sources, Energy Efficiency and Environmental Technologies for sustainable development."
- IREDA's Motto is "Energy for Ever."

#### The main objectives of IREDA are :

- To give financial support to specific projects and schemes for generating electricity and / or energy through new and renewable sources and conserving energy through energy efficiency.
- To maintain its position as a leading organisation to provide efficient and effective financing in renewable energy and energy efficiency / conservation projects.
- 3. To increase IREDA's share in the renewable energy sector by way of innovative financing.
- Improvement in the efficiency of services provided to customers through continual improvement of systems, processes and resources.
- 5. To strive to be competitive institution through customer satisfaction.

#### Q95. Which of the following can enhance the "Precision Farming" in India?

- 1. Use artificial intelligence (AI), Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), and Big Data.
- 2. Use of colour chart and GreenSeeker (a handheld sensor) to determine the nitrogen requirement for rice and maize crops
- 3. Liberalised geospatial sector

4. Increasing subsidies on Fertilizers

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Precision farming is an approach where inputs are utilized in precise amounts to get increased average yields, compared to traditional cultivation techniques.

#### First and second statement are correct.

Precision farming combines the power of artificial intelligence (AI), Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), and Big Data. It is efficient, climate-smart, and nutrition-sensitive.

Citing an ongoing project by the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Raj Singh, head of the institute's agronomy division, said, "Using readily available devices in the market like colour chart and GreenSeeker (a handheld sensor), we are trying to determine the nitrogen requirement for rice and maize crops. This precision nitrogen management will help save the fertilizer costs, prevent environmental harm and lead to efficient use of the huge nitrogen imports by the Centre.

#### Third statement is correct:

# Liberalised geospatial sector offers a wider canvas for experimentation

The government, on February 15, 2021 opened access to its geospatial data and mapping services for all Indian entities. Until now, individuals and companies willing to use mapping data had to seek approval under the Geospatial Information Regulation Act, 2016. The Department of Science and Technology has rendered obsolete all policies that regulated information on data in restricted zones. It also released a draft National Geospatial Policy, 2021 in May that further discusses the methods to create, access, and use geospatial data under the new guidelines.

Following this move, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "India's farmers will be benefited by leveraging the potential of geospatial and remote sensing data. Democratising data will enable the rise of rew technologies & platforms that will drive efficiencies in agriculture and allied sectors."

#### Fourth is incorrect:

More subsidies, more misuse of fertilizers, that is not the objective of Precision farming.

Q96. Consider the following statements.

- 1. As per the Constitution, advice tendered by Ministers to the President shall not be inquired into in any court.
- 2. As per the Constitution, the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President elected unanimously by Council of Ministers.
- 3. India had women representation in the union council of ministers from the very first government.

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: b

**Explanation:** 

#### First statement is correct.

74. Council of Ministers to aid and advise President.—<sup>3</sup>[(1) There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice:]

<sup>4</sup>[Provided that the President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice, either generally or otherwise, and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.]

(2) The question whether any, and if so what, advice was tendered by Ministers to the President shall not be inquired into in any court.

#### Second statement is incorrect: Elected unanimously part is not mentioned.

75. Other provisions as to Ministers.—(1) The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.

 $^{1}[(IA)]$  The total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed fifteen per cent. of the total number of members of the House of the People.

#### Third statement is correct:

The first woman cabinet minister was Rajkumari Amrit Kaur of Indian National Congress. She became the cabinet minister for Health.

•	COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	
	Members of the Cabinet.	
	1. Jawaharlal Nehru - Prime Minister.	
	2. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.	
	3. Shri Narasimha Gopalaswami Ayyangar.	
	4. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.	
	5. Dr. Kailas Noth Katju.	
	6. Shri Rafi Ahmed Kidwai.	
	7. Shri Chintomon Dunt 14 D	

#### Q97. Currently, Constitution of India running into:

- a. 448 articles, 12 Schedules, 123 Amendments
- b. 543 articles, 12 Schedules, 123 Amendments
- c. 448 articles, 12 Schedules, 105 Amendments
- d. 375 articles, 12 Schedules, 105 Amendments

#### Solution: c

#### **Explanation:**

Aise hi simple question aayge exam me kbhi kbhi (such questions are important for Prelims), don't look here and there. Pta hona chahye (you should know).

Currently, Constitution of India-running into 448 articles, 12 Schedules, 105 Amendments.

Q98. In the context of the Reserve Bank of India, what is the meaning of **Ways and Means** Advances (WMA)?

- a. Financial aid to debt-ridden banks
- b. Loan facility to both the Central and the State governments to meet their cash requirements
- c. Advanced payments to entrepreneurs under Make in India
- d. Loans which are given to foreign governments

#### Solution: b

#### Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India acts as the banker to both the Central and State Governments. The government used to borrow money from the RBI through treasury bills, but **Ways and Means Advances** replaced it in 1997. It acts as a loan facility to both Central and State

**governments to meet their cash requirements**. The loans taken by the government through Ways and Means Advances need to be returned in 90 days. The interest rate of WMA is currently the repo rate, and its limits are decided mutually by the RBI and the Government of India.

Q99. Consider the following Harrapan sites.

- 1. Mehrgarh
- 2. Kot Diji
- 3. Chanhudaro
- 4. Dholavira
- 5. Surkotada
- 6. Alamgirpur

#### Which of the above sites are located in today's India?

- a. 4, 5 and 6 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only
- c. 1, 3, 4 and 6 only
- d. 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

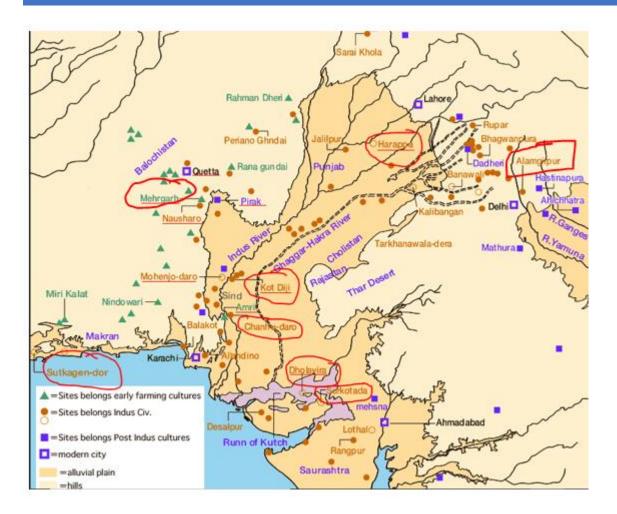
Solution: a

#### Explanation:

Very important topic for UPSC. At least remember sites. Today, you will learn that.

Below is the list of all sites. Please look at all sites at once carefully. Just have a look. You will remember in exam.

From the below given image, we can say only **Dholavira**, **Alamgirpur and Surkotada are located in India**.



Q100. The provision coverage ratio (PCR) of all Banks increased sharply from 50 per cent in September 2019 to 60 per cent in 2020. **What does it mean?** 

- 1. It will increase the availability of money to the banks to give loans.
- 2. It means there was good recovery of bad loans in banks.

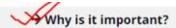
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Read the image given below.



- Under the RBI's provisioning norms, the banks are required to set aside certain percentage of their
  profits in order to cover risk arising from NPAs. It is referred to as "Provisioning Coverage ratio"
  (PCR). It is defined in terms of percentage of loan amount and depends upon the asset quality.
- As the asset quality deteriorates, the PCR increases. The PCR for different categories of assets is as shown below:
- o Standard Assets (No Default): 0.40%
- o Sub-standard Assets (> 90 days and less than 1 year): 15%
- o Doubtful Assets (greater than 1 year): 25%-40%
- Loss Assets (Identified by Bank or RBI): 100%
- As seen, as the recovery of the bad loan gets delayed, the bank would be required to set aside higher percentage of their profits as PCR. Hence, stretching the repayment period would adversely affect the banks in two ways: -
- Firstly, it leads to increase in PCR and hence reduces the availability of money to the banks to give loans.
- Secondly, further delays may lead to complete default on the repayment on loans.
- Thus, the banks would find it ideal to go for compromise since it would be able to recover at least some amount of loan amount and also reduce its liability on the PCR.

Q101. With respect to 'Narmada Bachao Andolan', consider the following statements.

- 1. It started against the construction of huge dam on the Narmada River soon after August 15th, 1947 against bill passed by British government to construct a dam in river.
- 2. Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal formed in 1969 gave verdict against the construction of dams and increasing height of Sardar Sarovar dam.
- 3. Narmada flows through three states Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujrat.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

#### Full UPSC based question.

Narmada Bachao Andolan is part of NCERT too. Aapko at least basics pta hona chahiye ki iski origin kya h (you must know the origin and history of this Andolan).

#### HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF NARMADA BACHAO ANDOLAN: Read like a story. Don't run.

We all know that India got independence on August 15th, 1947. After getting independence India saw a new era emerging under the guidance and control of Jawaharlal Nehru who was decided to be

the then Prime minister of India. Various investigations were carried out to get a conclusion on how to manage water from the Narmada River that flowed through the states of Gujrat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra and finally into the Arabian Sea. Disputes were going on between the states regarding the sharing of water.

On October 6th, 1969 Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal was formed to adjudicate on the disputes that were going on. As per the orders of the Government of India, the tribunal investigated on the issues and after a long time of ten years responded back to the government with their valuable findings. As per the tribunal's decision, approval was given for the construction of 30 major, 135 medium, and 3000 small dams which also included the increase of the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam. Second statement is incorrect.

In 1985 (first statement is incorrect), after hearing about the Sardar Sarovar dam, Medha Patkar, and her colleagues, visited the construction area of the dam. After the visiting Medha Patkar and her colleagues got a clear picture of what was happening in the name of construction of the Sardar Sarovar Dam. And thus, on April 2nd, 1992 all these protests were formulized, and people together started to protest in Manibeli village, 8 kilometers away from the Sardar Sarovar Dam and they took an oath that even if the waters come after us, we are ready to battle even against the water.

Third statement is correct: The river Narmada flows through states, which includes Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat states.

Q102. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Reserve Bank of India.
- 2. All the four branches of Armed force (Army, Navy, Airforce & Coast Guard)
- 3. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- 4. Enforcement Directorate in all cases

Which of the above comes under purview of RTI?

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India is a public authority as defined in the Right to Information Act, 2005. As such, the Reserve Bank of India is obliged to provide information to members of public. **Similar with SEBI.** 

Presently, all the four branches of Armed force (Army, Navy, Airforce & Coast Guard) are under complete purview of RTI like any other civil government agency.

#### Fourth is incorrect:

Section 24 of RTI Act exempts certain intelligence and security organisations from ambit of this transparency law except for information "pertaining to allegations of corruption and human right violations" This list of exempted organisations is provided in schedule 2 of Act. It has 26

organisations including Intelligence Bureau, RAW, DRI, CBI, NCB, DRDO, **ED** and CAPFs, among others.

ED is exempted from the purview of the Act except when the information pertains to allegation of corruption and human rights violation.

Q103. With respect to National Initiative for Promotion of Upskilling of Nirman workers (NIPUN) scheme, consider the following statements.

- 1. The project NIPUN is an initiative of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- 2. It is under its flagship scheme of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).
- 3. It aims to train construction workers and provides them with work opportunities in foreign countries also.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

Shri Hardeep S. Puri launches National Initiative for Promotion of Upskilling of Nirman workers (NIPUN)

Over 1 lakh construction workers will be trained in partnership with the NSDC under DAY-NULM

NIPUN will enable Nirman workers to seek better job opportunities, increase their wages, and even pursue overseas placements – Shri Puri

Posted On: 20 JUN 2022 4:27PM by PIB Delhi

The project NIPUN is an initiative of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) under its flagship scheme of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to train over 1 lakh construction workers, through fresh skilling and upskilling programmes and provides them with work opportunities in foreign countries also.

DAY-NULM is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, being implemented since 2014-15, with the aim to reduce poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households in the country by enabling them to access self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities, resulting in an appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on a sustainable basis.

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), the nodal agency under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, will be the Implementation Partner for the project NIPUN.

Q104. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the tenth schedule, political parties can issue any whip to their MPs and MLAs in the matter of voting in the Presidential election

- 2. Members of the Legislative Councils are also not electors for the Presidential election.
- 3. If we use the population census of 2001 instead of 1971, value of MLA in presidential election will change.

Which o the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

**Explanation:** 

Solution:

#### First statement is incorrect:

Political parties cannot issue any direction or whip to members to vote or not in Presidential poll as it would be an offence and MPs and MLAs will not risk disqualification under Anti-Defection law in the process.

#### Second statement is correct:

The nominated members of either Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha or Legislative Assemblies of the States are not eligible to be included in the Electoral College and therefore, they are not entitled to participate in the election. Similarly, members of the Legislative Councils are also not electors for the Presidential election.

#### Third statement is correct:

There is a general formula that is used to determine the value of a vote- the total population of the state is divided by 1,000 times the strength of its Legislative Assembly. Although, as per the 84th Amendment of the Indian Constitution any change in the boundaries of the constituency is forbidden until the national census of 2026 is published. This implies that the population which is undertaken for this process is based on the 1971 census.

**For example,** if we intend to calculate the value of vote that an MLA from Karnataka will have, we use Karnataka's population data from the 1971 census which was 29,299,014, and the strength of the Karnataka Assembly which stands at 224. Therefore, the value would be 29,299,014 divided (224 x 100), which equals 130.7, rounding it off to 131. Hence, a Karnataka MLA's vote will have a value of 131.

Q105. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Right to be Forgotten is recognized as part of the right to life under Article 21.
- 2. Personal Data Protection Bill 2019 recognised this right.

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:

#### First statement is correct:

In its landmark judgment in the case of Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India (AIR 2017 SC 4161) the Supreme Court granted definitive recognition to the right to be forgotten as part of the right to life under Article 21.

#### Second statement is correct:

In India, there is no law that specifically provides for the right to be forgotten. However, the Personal Data Protection Bill 2019 recognised this right.

Section 20 of the Bill gave an individual the right to restrict or prevent the continuing disclosure of their personal data when such data (1) has served the purpose for which It was collected, or is no longer necessary for said purpose; (2) was made with the consent of individual, which consent has since been withdrawn; or (3) was made contrary to the PDP Bill or any law in force.



20. (1) The data principal shall have the right to restrict or prevent the continuing disclosure of his personal data by a data fiduciary where such disclosure—

- (a) has served the purpose for which it was collected or is no longer necessary for the purpose;
- (b) was made with the consent of the data principal under section 11 and such 5 consent has since been withdrawn; or
- (c) was made contrary to the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force.

Q106. Which of the following state/UTs doesn't share boundary with China?

- 1. Ladakh
- 2. Jammu and Kashmir
- 3. Punjab
- 4. Uttarakhand

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

See map clearly.



Q107. Samyakdarshana, Samyakjnana, Samyakcharita" are doctrines related to which religion?

- a. Hinduism
- b. Buddhism
- c. Sikhism
- d. Jainism

Solution: d

#### Three Jewels of Jainism

The aim of Jain life is to achieve liberation of the soul.

This is done by following the Jain ethical code, or to put it simply, living rightly by following the three jewels of Jain ethics.

There are three parts to this: right faith, right knowledge and right conduct. The first two are very closely connected.

#### Right faith - Samyak darshana

This doesn't mean believing what you're told, but means seeing (hearing, feeling, etc.) things properly, and avoiding preconceptions and superstitions that get in the way of seeing clearly.

Some books call samyak darshana "right perception". You can't achieve this unless you are determined to find the truth, and distinguish it from untruth.

#### Right knowledge - Samyak jpana

This means having an accurace and sufficient knowledge of the real universe - this requires a true knowledge of the five (or six) substances and nine truths of the universe - and having that knowledge with the right mental attitude.

One writer puts it like this: "if our character is flawed and our conscience is not clear, knowledge alone will not help us achieve composure and happiness".

Today this means having a proper knowledge of the Jain scriptures.

Some writers describe right knowledge as meaning having a pure **soul**; a soul that is free from attachment and desire... others say that a person who has right knowledge will naturally free themselves from attachment and desire, and so achieve peace of mind.

### Right conduct - Samyak charitra

This means living your life according to Jain ethical rules, to avoid doing harm to living things and freeing yourself from attachment and other impure attitudes and thoughts.

Q108. Which among the following are the possible outcomes of printing more money to monetize government debt?

- 1. Increase in inflation
- 2. Increase in economic output
- 3. Devaluation of currency

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Solution: b

Printing more money does not increase economic output – it only increases the amount of cash circulating in the economy. If more money is printed, consumers can demand more goods, but if firms have still the same amount of goods, they will respond by putting up prices. In such a scenario, printing money just causes inflation. **So, statement 1 is correct while statement 2 is not correct.** 

By printing money, they devalue the currency in three ways.

- a. Firstly, printing money tends to be inflationary. Higher inflation makes a country less competitive, leading to relatively lower demand for the country's exports and hence its currency.
- b. Secondly, increasing the money supply enables the Central Bank to buy more foreign currency, which drives down the value of the domestic currency.
- **c.** Thirdly, by promising to print money and keep currency low, it discourages speculators from buying that currency as it is less likely to be a good bet. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

Q109. Which of the following statements best describes the term 'Bio-prospecting'?

- 1. Exploring an area to measure its diversity richness
- 2. Conservation of biodiversity using cryo methods
- 3. Extinction of a species due to the extinction of its prey
- 4. Exploring molecular, genetic and species-level diversity for products of economic importance Solution: d

#### Explanation:

Bioprospecting is the process of discovery and commercialization of new products based on biological resources. These resources or compounds can be important for and useful in many fields, including pharmaceuticals, agriculture, bioremediation, and nanotechnology, among others.

Bioprospecting may involve bio-piracy, the exploitative appropriation of indigenous forms of knowledge by commercial actors and can include the patenting of already widely used natural resources, such as plant varieties, by commercial entities.

#### Therefore, the correct answer is (d).

Q110. Proper design and effective implementation of UN-REDD+ Programme can significantly contribute to:

- 1. protection of biodiversity
- 2. resilience of forest ecosystems
- 3. poverty reduction

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Solution: d

First two statements, you should have no doubt.

**Poverty reduction is nowhere mentioned in the REDD+**. But the question is not asking for specific details. It is like, "UN-REDD+ Programme can significantly contribute to?"

Conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries will certainly contribute to employment opportunities and **help in poverty reduction.** 

FAO also says the same "REDD+ can also contribute to achieving other SDGs – including those which address poverty reduction, health and well-being, hunger alleviation, and improving institutions".

#### Q111. 'Purple revolution' is related to:

- a. revolution in the technologies used in the poultry and meat processing sector in the country
- b. Horticulture crops production in North East region
- c. Aroma/lavender cultivation in hilly region
- d. Saffron production in Jammu and Kashmir

Solution: c

Explanation:

News from PIB.

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh says, success of "Purple Revolution" has shifted focus to Agri-tech Start-ups

Says, farmers in J&K are switching from traditional farming to aroma crops like lavender in a big way due to high monetary returns

CSIR plans to introduce the aroma crops in other hilly states like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and in North-Eastern States: Dr Jitendra Singh

Posted On: 22 JUN 2022 5:07PM by PIB Delhi

Q112. Consider the following statements regarding 'Critical Information Infrastructure'.

- 1. It is defined under Information Technology Act of 2000.
- 2. As per the Act, central government is empowered to designate any organization of the Government as the national nodal agency in respect to Critical Information Infrastructure protection.
- 3. The Central government as per the law prescribes the information security practices and procedures for protected systems.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

#### What is Critical Information Infrastructure'?

The Information Technology Act of 2000 defines "Critical Information Infrastructure" as a "computer resource, the incapacitation or destruction of which shall have debilitating impact on national security, economy, public health or safety".

Protected system.—<sup>1</sup>[(1) The appropriate Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare any computer resource which directly or indirectly affects the facility of Critical Information Infrastructure, to be a protected system.

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of this section, "Critical Information Infrastructure" means the computer resource, the incapacitation or destruction of which, shall have debilitating impact on national security, economy, public health or safety.]

- (2) The appropriate Government may, by order in writing, authorise the persons who are authorised to access protected systems notified under sub-section (1).
- (3) Any person who secures access or attempts to secure access to a protected system in contravention of the provisions of this section shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.
- <sup>2</sup>[(4) The Central Government shall prescribe the information security practices and procedures for such protected system.]

<sup>3</sup>[70A. National nodal agency.—(1) The Central Government may, by notification published in the Official Gazette, designate any organisation of the Government as the national nodal agency in respect of Critical Information Infrastructure Protection.

The national nodal agency designated under sub-section (1) shall be responsible for all measures including Research and Development relating to protection of Critical Information Infrastructure.

Q113. The first ever 'Resolution on Sustainable Lake Management' was recently adopted by:

- a. United Nations Environment Assembly
- b. World Economic Forum
- c. UNICEF Secretariat
- d. UNDP Secretariat

#### Solution: a

#### **Explanation:**

These are very important questions. Please follow regularly and solve our entire Test series of Prelims 2023. No one will provide you this. Rest decision is yours.

#### **Resolution on Sustainable Lake Management**

Recognizing these threats, in March 2022 the **United Nations Environment Assembly adopted a resolution on Sustainable Lake Management.** It calls on countries to protect, restore, and sustainably use lakes, while integrating them into national and regional development plans.

# Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022

#### 5/4. Sustainable lake management

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the commitments made in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The Future We Want",

This is the first ever United Nations resolution specifically focusing on the sustainable management of lakes, without distinguishing between freshwater, alkaline, saltwater or soda lakes.

Q114. Consider the following statements regarding International Energy Agency.

- 1. The IEA was formed soon after second world war to handle oil crisis in regions.
- 2. A candidate country to the IEA must be a member country of the OECD.
- 3. Each IEA country has an obligation to hold emergency oil stocks equivalent to at least 90 days of net oil imports.
- 4. India and China, both are not members of IEA.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect:

# Creation

The IEA was born with the 1973-1974 oil crisis, when industrialised countries found they were not adequately equipped to deal with the oil embargo imposed by major producers that pushed prices to historically high levels.

This first oil shock led to the creation of the IEA in November 1974 with a broad mandate on energy security and energy policy co-operation. This included setting up a collective action mechanism to respond effectively to potential disruptions in oil supply. The framework was anchored in the IEA treaty called the "Agreement on an International Energy Program," with newly created autonomous Agency hosted at the OECD in Paris.

#### Second and third statements are correct:

# Criteria for membership

A candidate country to the IEA must be a member country of the OECD. In addition, it must demonstrate several requirements. These are:

- Crude oil and/or product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year's net imports, to which the government has immediate access (even if it does not own them directly) and could be used to address disruptions to global oil supply;
- A demand restraint programme to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%;
- Legislation and organisation to operate the Co-ordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM) on a national basis;
- Legislation and measures to ensure that all oil companies under its jurisdiction report information upon request;
- Measures in place to ensure the capability of contributing its share of an IEA collective action. An IEA collective action would be initiated in response to a significant global oil supply disruption and would involve IEA Member Countries making additional volumes of crude and/or product available to the global market (either through increasing supply or reducing demand), with each country's share based on national consumption as part of the IEA total oil consumption.

#### Fourth statement is correct: Both are associate members.

# Association countries Brazil O India O Indonesia O Morocco O Singapore O South Africa O Inailand O

#### Q115. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Article 30 of the Constitution provides for the protection of citizens having distinct language.
- 2. There are currently 24 official languages to be listed in the Eight schedule of Indian Constitution.
- 3. As per the provision mentioned in the Constitution, all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English Language.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

d. None.

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Its article 29, NOT 30**. Those who have done wrong in this statement, today don't sleep unless you take Constitution of India and read from Article 19 to 30.

- 29. Protection of interests of minorities.—(1) Any section of the citizens residing in the territory of India or any part thereof having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same.
- (2) No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them.
- 30. Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.—(1) All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

There are currently **22 official languages** to be listed in the sixth schedule of Indian Constitution.

YES, it is mentioned in Constitution, all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English Language.

Article 348. Language to be used in the Supreme Court and in the High Courts and for Acts, Bills, etc.-

- 1. Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Part, until Parliament by law otherwise provides
  - a. All proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court,
  - b. the authoritative texts-
  - i. of all Bills to be introduced or amendments thereto to be moved in either House of Parliament or in the House or either House of the Legislature of a State.
  - ii. Of all Acts passed by Parliament or the Legislature of a State and of all Ordinances promulgated by the President or the Governor of a State, and
  - iii. Of all orders, rules, regulations and bye-laws issued under this Constitution or under any law made by Parliament or the Legislature of a State, shall be in the English language.

Q116. Consider the following Seas.

- 1. Aral Sea.
- 2. Red Sea
- 3. Caspian Sea.

Arrange the above seas from west to east.

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

Solution: b





Q117. Which of the following is the fastest way to decrease money supply in economy?

- a. Increase in SLR
- b. Increase in CRR
- c. Increase in MSF
- d. None of these

Solution: b

You have already studied these terms several times. Just try to recall the definitions and current value of SLR, CRR and MSF.

Coming back to questions.

MSF (Marginal Standing Facility) is a demand driven tool.

Suppose there is mismatch between asset and liability of bank. Then bank can borrow money from RBI for overnight (MSF). So, it is a tool to help banks to balance their asset and liability **not to decrease money supply in economy.** 

**SLR (Statutory Liquid Ratio)**: It means that banks have to maintain certain percentage of deposits with themselves in form of cash, government securities, gold, excess reserves, etc. So here RBI cannot dictate the banks in which form (cash, gold, Securities) you can maintain SLR. Therefore, this is not the fastest way to decrease money supply (as banks can maintain SLR in form of gold or Securities).

**CRR (Cash Reserve Ratio):** Under CRR a certain percentage of the total bank deposits has to be kept in the current account with RBI which means banks do not have access to that much amount for any economic activity or commercial activity. Here cash is deposited with RBI. So, if RBI increases the CRR, it means more amount of money to be deposited with RBI and thus **can be used as a fastest means to decrease money supply in economy.** 

Q118. Consider the following statements regarding 1951 Refugee Convention.

- 1. The core principle of Convention is non-refoulement, which asserts that a refugee should not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life or freedom.
- 2. India is a signatory to it.
- 3. Nor does India have a refugee policy or a refugee law of its own.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

**Explanation:** 

First statement is correct:

The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol are the key legal documents that form the basis of our work. With 149 State parties to either or both, they define the term 'refugee' and outlines the rights of refugees, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them.

The core principle is non-refoulement, which asserts that a refugee should not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life or freedom. This is now considered a rule of customary international law.

Second statement is incorrect:

India Did Not Sign the 1951 Refugee Convention.

India 'not signatory' to 1951 <u>UN Convention</u>: MHA on asylum to Myanmar refugees

ANI / Updated: Mar 16, 2021, 21:11 IST

#### Third statement is correct:

Nor does India have a refugee policy or a refugee law of its own. This has allowed India to keep its options open on the question of refugees. The government can declare any set of refugees as illegal immigrants.

Q119. Arrange the following events of National Freedom Movement in their order of sequence.

- 1. Formation of Independence of India League
- 2. Dandi March
- 3. Nehru Report

4. Lahore Congress session

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

- Nehru Report came in 1928.
- It was rejected by Jawahar Lal Nehru and other leaders which led to **formation of Independence of India League**.
- Then in 1929 **Lahore session** was held where complete Independence was adopted as a goal.
- **Dandi March** started from March 21, 1930.

#### Q120. Consider the following pairs.

Paintings	Belongs to
1. Angika Paintings	Bihar
2. Thangka Paintings	Manipur
3. Paitkar Paintings	Odisha

Which of the above is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

Paintings	Belongs to
Angika (Manjusha)	Bihar
Paintings	
Thangka Paintings	Sikkim
Paitkar (scroll) Paintings	Jharkhand

Q121. Consider the following statements regarding **Black Carbon**.

- 1. Black carbon is a short-lived climate pollutant with a lifetime of only days to weeks after release in the atmosphere.
- 2. Black carbon is an important contributor to warming because it is very effective at absorbing light and heating its surroundings.
- 3. When deposited on ice and snow, black carbon and co-emitted particles increase surface albedo (the ability to reflect sunlight) and heat the surface.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: A

Explanation:

First and second statement is correct.

Black carbon is a short-lived climate pollutant with a lifetime of only days to weeks after release in the atmosphere. During this short period of time, black carbon can have significant direct and indirect impacts on the climate, the cryosphere (snow and ice), agriculture and human health.

Black carbon is an important contributor to warming because it is very effective at absorbing light and heating its surroundings. Per unit of mass, black carbon has a warming impact on climate that is 460-1,500 times stronger than CO2.

When suspended in the atmosphere, black carbon contributes to warming by converting incoming solar radiation to heat. It also influences cloud formation and impacts regional circulation and rainfall patterns.

#### Third statement is incorrect.

When deposited on ice and snow, black carbon and co-emitted particles **reduce surface albedo (the ability to reflect sunlight)** and heat the surface. The Arctic and glaciated regions such as the Himalayas are particularly vulnerable to melting as a result.

Q122. Consider the following statements regarding Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).

- 1. It is led by UNEP in India for the conservation of nature through action based on research, education and public awareness.
- 2. It has been part of conducting Asian Waterbird Census-2021.
- 3. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

First statement is incorrect: No role of UNEP in India.

**The Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)**, a pan-India wildlife research organization, has been promoting the cause of nature conservation since 1883.

**BNHS Mission:** Conservation of nature, primarily biological diversity through action based on research, education and public awareness

**BNHS Vision:** Premier independent scientific organization with a broad based constituency, excelling in the conservation of threatened species and habitats.

#### Second statement is correct:

It has been part of Asian Waterbird Census-2021.

#### Third statement is incorrect:

BNHS has been designated as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and is the Partner of BirdLife International in India.

#### About BNHS

BNHS was started by eight amateur naturalists of Mumbai, of which two were Indians. The guiding principle of BNHS has been that conservation should be based on scientific research - a tradition exemplified by its former president, Dr Sálim Ali - world renowned ornithologist and receiver of Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awards by Government of India. Other past stalwarts at BNHS included Mr B G Deshmukh, former president, who was Cabinet Secretary, Government of India and Mr J C Daniel, former vice-president and director, who was an internationally known wildlife biologist and conservationist.

Today, BNHS has a vibrant presence at dozens of places across India covering diverse habitats such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, mountains, deserts and marine areas. This includes work in the Global Biodiversity Hotspots such as Western Ghats and eastern Himalaya. Over 150 scientists and professionals work on and off the field to further the tasks of research, conservation and nature education BNHS has been designated as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and is the Partner of Birg Life International in India.

Q123. Consider the following statements regarding GST Council.

- 1. The weightage of votes of State Government is more than Central government in GST Council.
- 2. One-half of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall constitute the quorum at its meetings.
- 3. Secretary (Expenditure) as the Ex-Officio Secretary to the GST Council.

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: a

#### **Explanation:**

The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Second Amendment) Act, 2016 came into force on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016. As per Article 279A (1) of the amended Constitution, the GST Council has to be constituted by the President within 60 days of the commencement of Article 279A.

As per Article 279A of the amended Constitution, the GST Council which will be a joint forum of the Centre and the States, shall consist of the following members:

(2) Goods and Services Tax Council shall consist of the namely:	following members,
(a) the Union Finance Minister	Chairperson;
(b) the Union Minister of State in charge of Revenue	or
Finance	Member;
(c) the Minister in charge of Finance or Taxation or nominated by each State GovernmentMembers.	•

On 12th September 2016 cabinet approved setting-up of **GST Council and setting up its Secretariat:** 

- Creation of the GST Council as per Article 279A of the amended Constitution
- Creation of the GST Council Secretariat, with its office at New Delhi
- Appointment of the Secretary (Revenue) as the Ex-Officio Secretary to the GST Council. Third statement is incorrect.
- Inclusion of the Chairperson, Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), as a permanent invitee (non-voting) to all proceedings of the GST Council

Every decision of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall be taken at a meeting, by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting, in accordance with the following principles, namely: —

- the vote of the Central Government shall have a weightage of one third of the total votes cast, and
- the votes of all the State Governments taken together shall have a weightage of **two-thirds** of the total votes cast, in that meeting. **FIRST STATEMENT IS CORRECT.**

**One-half** of the total number of Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council shall constitute the **quorum** at its meetings. **Statement 2 is correct.** 

Q124. Consider the following rivers.

- 1. Chenab
- 2. Jhelum

- 3. Indus
- 4. Satluj

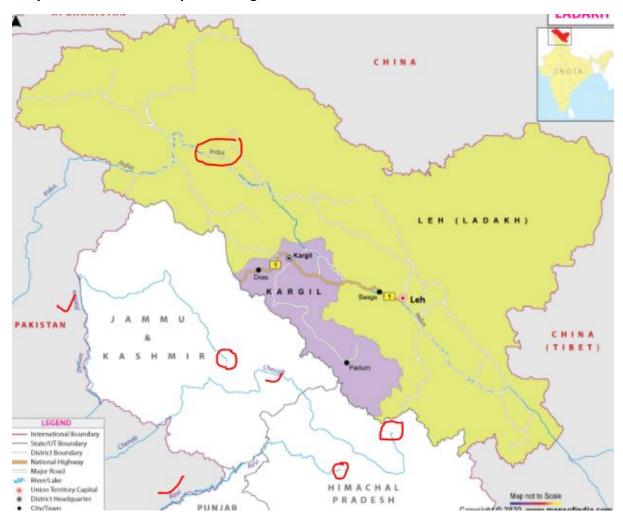
Which of the above rivers flow through newly formed Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir?

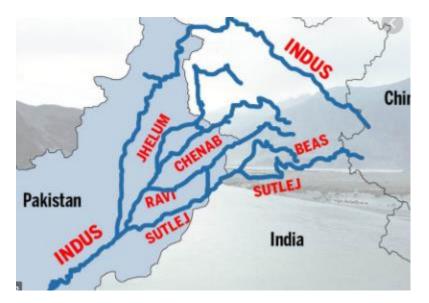
- a. 1 and 4 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

#### Only Chenab and Jhelum pass through Jammu and Kashmir UT.





Satluj, you can see in above maps, flows below Ravi, so it far away from Jammu and Kashmir. Satluj river doesn't cross Jammu and Kashmir. It enters India in Himachal Pradesh.

Satluj rises from beyond Indian borders in the Southern slopes of the Kailash mountain near Mansarover lake from Rakas lake, as Longcchen Khabab river (in Tibet).

Flowing northwestward and then west southwestward through Himalayan gorges, **it enters and crosses the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh** before beginning its flow through the Punjab plain near Nangal, Punjab state. Continuing southwestward in a broad channel, it receives the Beas River and forms 65 miles (105 km) of the India-Pakistan border before entering Pakistan.

Hope, now you are clear with rivers now. These are small things but great learning.

Q125. The appointment of District judges in a State are made by

- a. The governor in consultation with the High Court of the State
- b. Chief Minister in consultation with the High Court of the State
- c. Chief Minister in consultation with the Chief Justice of India
- d. Governor in consultation with the President

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

Article 233 of the Constitution states that:

Appointments and promotion of district judges in any state shall be made by the Governor of the state in consultation with the high court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such state. So, option (a) is correct.

#### CHAPTER VI.—SUBORDINATE COURTS

- 233. Appointment of district judges.—(1) Appointments of persons to be, and the posting and promotion of, district judges in any State shall be made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State.
- (2) A person not already in the service of the Union or of the State shall only be eligible to be appointed a district judge if he has been for not less than seven years an advocate or a pleader and is recommended by the High Court for appointment.

#### Q126. Consider the following Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

- 1. It is established by BRICS nations where each country has equal voting share.
- 2. AIIB is headquartered in Beijing, China.
- 3. AllB was granted Permanent Observer status in the United Nations.

Which of the above statements isa/re correct?

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

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

The bank was proposed by China in 2013 and the initiative was launched at a ceremony in Beijing in October 2014.

MEMBERS	MEMBERSHIP DATE	TOTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS		VOTING POWER	
China	Dec 25, 2015	Amount (million USD): Percent of Total:	29,780.4 30.7728%	Number of Votes: Percent of Total:	299,944 26.5650%
India	Jan 11, 2016	Amount (million USD): Percent of Total:	8,367.3 8.6461%	Number of Votes: Percent of Total:	85,813 7.6002%

#### Where is AIIB headquartered?

AIIB is headquartered in Beijing, China.

# Permanent Observer Status in the United Nations

In 2018, AIIB was granted Permanent Observer status in the deliberations of both the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the two development-focused principal organs of the global body.

#### Q127. Which of the above is not the member of BASIC and BRICS group both?

- a. South Africa
- b. India
- c. China
- d. Russia

Solution: d

**Explanation:** 

BRICS- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

BASIC- Brazil, South Africa, India and China

Q128. In the context of **Oath and Affirmation mentioned in Indian Constitution**, consider the following statements.

- 1. Every Governor before entering upon his office, subscribe in the presence of the Chief Justice of High Court.
- 2. Every person appointed to be a Judge of a High Court shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the Governor of the State.

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:**

159. Oath or affirmation by the Governor.—Every Governor and every person discharging the functions of the Governor shall, before entering upon his office, make and subscribe in the presence of the Chief Justice of the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to the State, or, in his absence, the senior most Judge of that Court available, an oath or affirmation in the following form, that is to say—

"I, A.B., do swear in the name of God that I will faithfully execute the solemnly affirm

office of Governor (or discharge the functions of the Governor) of ........(name of the State) and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of .......(name of the State)."

219. Oath or affirmation by Judges of High Courts.—Every person appointed to be a Judge of a High Court <sup>7</sup>\*\*\* shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the Governor of the State, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

Q129. Consider the following.

- 1. National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- 2. Animal Welfare Board of India
- 3. National Board of Wildlife

Which of the above consists of Union Minister of Environment as Chairman?

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

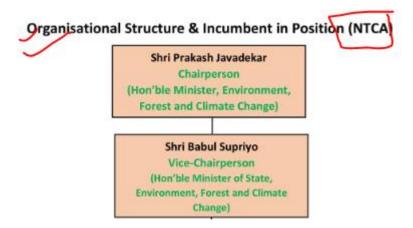
Solution: a

#### **Explanation:**

**Animal Welfare Board of India**- chairman is neither Prime Minister nor Union Environment Minister. Chairman of board is appointed by government.

<sup>1</sup>[5A. Constitution of the National Board for Wild Life.—(1) The Central Government shall, within three months from the date of commencement of the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002 (16 of 2003), constitute the National Board for Wild Life consisting of the following members, namely:—

- (a) the Prime Minister as Chairperson;
- (b) the Minister in-charge of Forests and Wild Life as Vice-Chairperson;



#### Q130. Consider the following.

traditions	Belongs to
1. Ravanachhaya Puppetry	Gujarat
2. Dorsegata Dance	Meghalaya

# 3. Barpeta's Bhortal Nritya Odisha

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

traditions	State
Ravanachhaya Puppetry	Odisha
Dorsegata Dance	Meghalaya
Barpeta's Bhortal Nritya	Assam

Q131. With respect to Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), consider the following statements.

- 1. It is a voluntary partnership of intergovernmental organizations, civil society to protect the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants.
- 2. India is a member of this CCAC.
- 3. Tropospheric ozone and hydrofluorocarbons are major short lived climate pollutants.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

#### First statement is correct:

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition is a **voluntary partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society** organizations committed to protecting the climate and improving air quality **through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants.** 

#### **Second statement is correct:**



## CCAC partner since 2019

#### Third statement is correct:

The short-lived climate pollutants black **carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone, and hydrofluorocarbons** are the most important contributors to the man-made global greenhouse effect after carbon dioxide, responsible for up to 45% of current global warming.

Q132. Consider the following statements regarding Sundarbans.

- 1. The Sundarbans mangrove ecosystem in India is classified as endangered in the IUCN's Red List of Ecosystems framework.
- 2. Sundarban lies north of Tropic of Cancer.
- 3. Majority of Sundarban forest lies in Bangladesh.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Few factual important points regarding Sundarban. Do remember.

The Sundarbans mangrove ecosystem in India is classified as endangered in the IUCN's Red List of Ecosystems framework.

It is located little south of the **Tropic of Cancer between the latitudes 21'51' and 22'31'N**, and longitudes 88'10' and 89'51'E.

Because of the partition of India, Bangladesh received about 2/3 of the forest; the rest is on the Indian side.

Q133. Consider the following statements regarding Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- 1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to help tackle environment problems.
- 2. GEF funds are available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.
- 3. India has formed a permanent Constituency in the Executive Council of the GEF together with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives.

4. GEF is a financial mechanism for UNCCD and Minamata Convention.

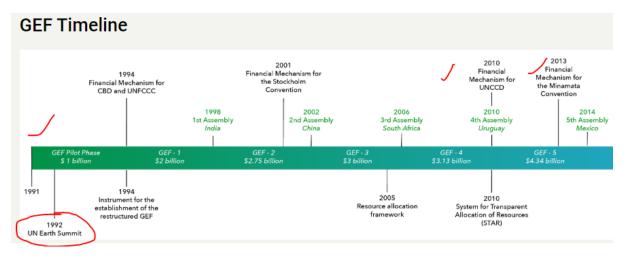
Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

From below image it is clear that statement 1 and 4 are correct.



**Fourth option is correct**. If **only** is there in statement, then problem.

the world's most challenging environmental issues. The GEF has a large network of civil society organizations, works closely with the private sector around the world, and receives continuous inputs from an independent evaluation office and a world-class scientific panel. It is a **FINANCIAL**MECHANISM for five major international environmental conventions: the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the United Nations

Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). GEF is also

Third statement is also correct.

## India and Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a financial mechanism that provides grants to developing countries for projects that benefit the global environment and promote sustainable livelihoods in local communities. GEF projects address six designated focal areas: Biodiversity, Climate Change, International Waters, Ozone Depletion, Land Degradation and Persistent Organic Pollutants.

India has formed a permanent Constituency in the Executive Council of the GEF together with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives. The Council Meetings are held semi-annually or as frequently necessary. At each meeting, the Council elects a Chairperson from among its members for the duration of that meeting. India's Executive Director in the World Bank represents the GEF Council from our Constituency.

India is both a donor and a recipient of GEF. It has been a leading developing country

#### Second statement is also correct.

GEF funds are available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.

Q134. Consider the following Nations.

- 1. Norway
- 2. Sweden
- 3. North Korea

Which of the above nations share boundaries with Russia?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

The countries with whom Russia shares its land border include **North Korea**, China, **Norway, Finland**, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Poland, Georgia, Mongolia, Latvia, Estonia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Lithuania.





#### Q135. Consider the following statements.

- 1. As per the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, the chairperson of the F. Commission shall be member of State Finance Commission for at least 5 years.
- 2. The Commission in the performance of their functions shall have all the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.
- 3. The matters that are referred to the finance Commission are all excluded from the Purview of Original Jurisdiction of SC.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

First Statement is incorrect.

3. Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the Commission.—The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs, and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who—

- (a) are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
- (b) have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
- (c) have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
- (d) have special knowledge of economies.

#### Second statement is correct:

- 8. Procedure and powers of the Commission.—(1) The Commission shall determine their procedure and in the performance of their functions shall have all the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), while trying a suit in respect of the following matters, namely:—
  - (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of witnesses;
  - (b) requiring the production of any document;
  - (c) requisitioning any public record from any court or office.

#### Third Statement is correct:

The matters that are referred to the finance Commission (Article 280) and the accommodation and adjustments of expenses and other related financial engagements between the Central Government and the States (Article 290) are all excluded from the Purview of Article 131.

131. Original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.—Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Supreme Court shall, to the exclusion of any other court, have original jurisdiction in any dispute—

- (a) between the Government of India and one or more States; or
- (b) between the Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other States on the other; or
  - (c) between two or more States,

Q136. With reference to Agroforestry in India, consider the following statements.

- 1. Agroforestry practices also enhance soil organic carbon
- 2. Coastal and Humid climatic zones are not suitable for Agroforestry.
- 3. India has launched National Agroforestry Policy to increase area under Agroforestry.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

#### First statement is correct.

Agroforestry systems, which integrate trees in agricultural landscapes, have been recognised by scientists for their role in mitigating climate change by acting as a carbon sink: trees sequester atmospheric carbon in their biomass. Agroforestry practices can also enhance soil organic carbon,

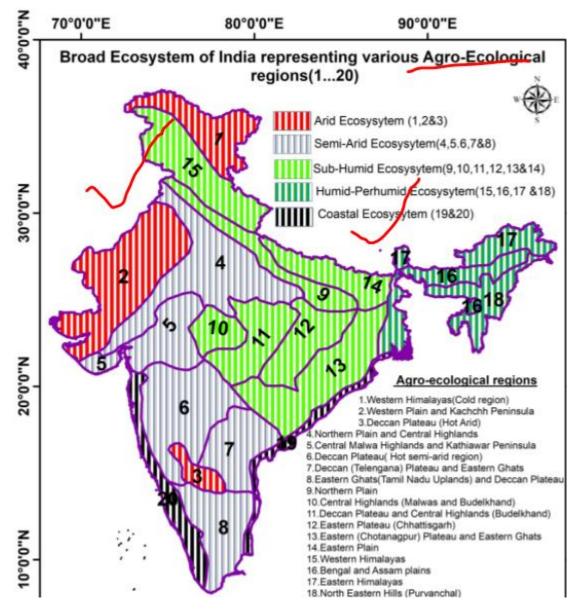
which is a component of soil organic matter and is the largest carbon stock in terrestrial ecosystems.

#### Third statement is correct.

Recognising the potential of agroforestry in meeting various developmental and environmental goals, **India launched a National Agroforestry Policy in 2014.** By increasing the area under agroforestry, the policy aims to address the increasing demand for timber, food, fuel, fodder, fertiliser and fibre whilst creating employment and generating income.

#### Second statement is incorrect.

As pe the study conducted in 2019, 60 percent of coastal, 40 percent of humid, 56 percent of sub-humid, 31 percent of semi-arid and 2.8 percent of the land in arid areas are highly suitable for agroforestry.



Q137. How does National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) help in protecting the Indian agriculture?

- 1. NBA advise the State Governments in the selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be notified as heritage sites and measures for the management of Q8. such heritage sites.
- 2. NBA directly monitors and supervises the scientific research on genetic modification of crop plants.
- 3. Application for intellectual Property Rights related to genetic / biological resources cannot be made without the approval of NBA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

The National Biodiversity Authority may, on behalf of the Central Government, take any measures necessary to oppose the grant of intellectual property rights in any country outside India on any biological resource obtained from India or knowledge associated with such biological resource which is derived from India.

#### (3) The National Biodiversity Authority may-

 (a) advise the Central Government on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources;

(b) advise the State Governments in the selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be notified under sub-section (1) of section 37 as heritage sites and measures for the management of such heritage sites;

#### Second is wrong.

The top biotech regulator in India for Genetically Modified Organisms is Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC).

Q138. Consider the following bodies.

- 1. Co-operative societies
- 2. Election Commissioners
- 3. Solicitor General

Which of the above is/are Constitutional bodies?

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

Solution: b

#### Explanation:

Right to form Co-operative societies is Constitutional Right. Co-operative societies are not Constitutional bodies.

**Election Commissioner is Constitutional.** 

Solicitor General is not a Constitutional Body.

Q139. Consider the following Committees of the Lok Sabha.

- 4. Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.
- 5. Rules Committee
- 6. General Purposes Committee

Which of the above committees does Speaker has its ex-officio chairman?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1.2 and 3

Solution: c

#### Explanation:

(5) Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. -The Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions is constituted after each general election to Lok Sabha and thereafter from time to time under rule 293. It consists of 15 members nominated by the Speaker. The Deputy Speaker is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Committee. The term of the Committee is one year. The functions of the Committee are: (a) to allot time to Private Members' Bills and Resolutions; (b) to examine Private Members' Bills seeking to amend the Constitution before their introduction in Lok Sabha; (c) to categorise Private Members' Bills according to their nature, urgency and importance into two categories, namely, category-A and category-B, after they have been introduced in Lok Sabha; (d) to examine every Private Member's Bill which is opposed in the House on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House; and (e) to perform such other functions in respect of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions as may be assigned to it by the Speaker under Rule 294. The report of the

(12) Rules Committee.— (i) the Rules Committee is constituted under Rule 330. It consists of 15 members including the Speaker who is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Committee. The members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker.

(13) General Purposes Committee.—The General Purposes Committee consists of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, Members of the Panel of Chairpersons, Chairpersons of all Standing Parliamentary Committees of Lok Sabha, Leaders of recognised parties and groups in Lok Sabha and such other Members as may be nominated by the Speaker. The Speaker is the *ex-officio* Chairperson of the Committee. The functions of the Committee are to consider and advise on such matters concerning the affairs of the House as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time.

#### Q140. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Bamboos are the fast-growing perennial plants.
- 2. Bamboo culms grow from dense root rhizome system.
- 3. In India, Bamboos are found only in north eastern region.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

#### Below images are form the latest Forest Survey of Indi Report 2021.

Bamboo culms grow from the dense root rhizome system. There are two types of rhizomes i.e. monopodial and sympodial. The monopodial rhizome grows horizontally and the buds develop either upward, generating a culm, or horizontally, with a new tract of the rhizomal net. Some bamboos are non-clump forming with culms distant from each other and can be invasive. They are generally found in temperate regions and include the genera Phyllostachys and Pleiot lastus. In other species, the sympodial rhizomes are short and thick, and the culms, which are above the ground are close together in a compact clump, which expands evenly around its circumference. Their natural habitat is tropical regions and they are not invasive. The main genera are Arundinaria, Bambusa & Dendrocalamus.

Bambusoidae of the family *Poaceae* (*Gramineae*). Bamboos are fast growing perennial plants and are found in the tropical, sub-tropical and mild temperate regions of the world.

Geographical distribution of Bamboo largely depends on climatic factors such as precipitation, temperature, altitude and soil conditions. Large tracts of natural bamboo forest are found in tropical Asian countries between 15° and 25° North latitudes. In India, bamboo is found naturally almost throughout the country except in Kashmir region.

#### Q141. 'Living Lands Charter' was recently adopted by:

- a. G-7 members
- b. Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)
- c. Convention of Biological Diversity Secretariat
- d. CITES Secretariat

Solution: b

Explanation:

#### Commonwealth leaders have officially adopted the Living Lands Charter:

A Commonwealth Call to action on Living Lands (CALL), which commits all 54 member countries to safeguarding global land resources while taking coordinated action on climate change, biodiversity loss and sustainable land management.

#### Q52. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Tokenization can be used to secure sensitive data by replacing the original data with an unrelated value of the same length and format.
- 2. The purpose of tokenization is to swap out sensitive data where a number is mathematically changed, but its original pattern is still stored within the new code—known as format-preserving encryption.

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: a

Explanation:

Tokenization is the process of turning sensitive data into non-sensitive data called "tokens" that can be used in a database or internal system without bringing it into scope. Tokenization can be used to secure sensitive data by replacing the original data with an unrelated value of the same length and format. The tokens are then sent to an organization's internal systems for use, and the original data is stored in a secure token vault.

The **purpose of tokenization is to swap out sensitive data**—typically payment card or bank account numbers—with a randomized number in the same format but with no intrinsic value of its own. This differs from encryption, where a number is mathematically changed, but its original pattern is still stored within the new code—known as format-preserving encryption.

Earlier when we used to make payments through cards (debit/credit) from a PoS machine or any merchant website (amazon/flipkart) then these merchants used to store our card information for further processing of data. But now with tokenization allowed by RBI, when we will submit our card details on the merchant website then a token will be generated by the card networks (VISA/MASTERCARD) and it will be sent to our mobile and this token then we will enter on the merchant website and the merchant website will not be allowed to store our exact card details.

Card Issuers (Banks), Card Networks (Mastercard/Visa) can now offer tokenization services and they will be called Token Service Providers (TSPs). Tokenisation of card data shall be done with explicit customer consent.

RBI has extended the deadline to implement tokenization to 30th Sept. 2022.

Q143. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding G-7 countries?

- 1. Due to the G7's informal structures, decisions made by the G7 are not legally binding.
- 2. The G20 was formed in 1999, in the wake of the Asian financial crisis.
- 3. None of G-7 members are part of G-4 (support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council) members.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

#### Second statement is incorrect.

#### Why was G7 created?

The G7 was created more than four decades ago as an annual gathering of political leaders to discuss and exchange ideas on a broad range of issues, including global economy, security and energy.

France, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States and West Germany formed the Group of Six in **1975** so that the non-communist powers could come together to discuss economic concerns, which at the time included inflation and **recession following an OPEC oil embargo**. Canada joined the following year. Russia eventually joined in 1998 — and its inclusion was meant as a signal of cooperation between East and West after the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991.

**Second statement is about G-20:** The G20 was formed in 1999, in the wake of the Asian financial crisis, to unite finance ministers and central bankers from twenty of the world's largest established and emerging economies.

#### Third statement is incorrect.

The G4 nations, comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan.

The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum of Germany, Canada, France, Italy, **Japan**, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and the European Union.

#### First statement is correct:

The G7 – like the G20 – is not an international organisation. It does not have its own administrative apparatus, nor are its members permanently represented in any way. Due to the G7's informal structures, the country that holds the Presidency has a particularly important role to play.

Although the decisions made by the **G7 are not legally binding, they do have a tangible political impact.** 

Q144. Consider the following pairs.

New	developments	Launched by
1.	Commonwealth	India-US
	Diplomatic Academy	
	programme	
2.	Partnership for Global	G-7
	Infrastructure and	
	Investment (PGII)	

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:** 

NATIONAL

India, U.K. to set joint Commonwealth Diplomatic Academy



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI JUNE 25, 2022 23:13 IST UPDATED: JUNE 26, 2022 07:36 IST

# What G7's \$600-bn infra alliance focussing on healthcare, climate security means for India

Digital connectivity & gender equality are also core areas of Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment, launched by G7\_Sunday in bid to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative.

PIA KRISHNANKUTTY 27 June, 2022 04:39 pm IST

New developments	Launched by
Commonwealth	India-UK
Diplomatic Academy	
programme	
Partnership for Global	G-7
Infrastructure and	
Investment (PGII)	

Q145. Consider the following Seas.

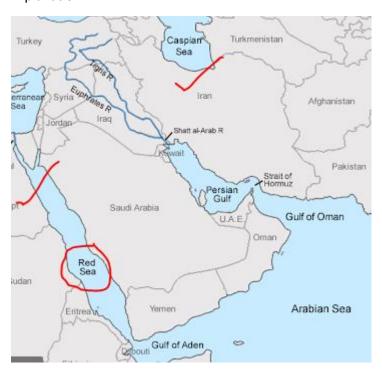
- 4. Aral Sea.
- 5. Red Sea
- 6. Caspian Sea.

Arrange the above seas from west to east.

- e. 3-2-1
- f. 2-3-1
- g. 2-1-3
- h. 3-1-2

Solution: b

#### Explanation:





Q146. Consider the following statements.

1. In case of depreciation of the Rupee, the borrower under the ECB benefits the most.

2. Government borrowings under External Commercial Borrowings has consistently increased for last three years.

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: d

Explanation:

Simple question just needs your attention. Don't be in hurry.

An external commercial borrowing (ECB) is an instrument used in India to facilitate Indian companies to raise money outside the country in foreign currency. The government of India permits Indian corporates to raise money via ECB for expansion of existing capacity as well as for fresh investments.

It's a commercial borrowing. Government has nothing to do with Commercial entity. Second statement is incorrect. No need to know anything more.

Under ECB, Indian entities borrow in dollar and pay in dollar. Suppose an entity borrowed 100 dollars at 1\$ = 60. Now, as per the question, rupee depreciates.

Suppose rupee depreciates to 1\$ = 70 Rs. Now, borrower has to give 7000 Rs instead of 6000 (when it borrowed at 1\$- 60 Rs). So, borrower doesn't benefit when rupee depreciates.

Q147. Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

- 1. It provides for the qualification and disqualification of the Finance Commission.
- 2. Along with composition of Finance Commission, it also provides for the term of office of the Finance Commission.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Judicial Enquiry Act, 1968 already a part of UPSC in 2019. So, this is important to know.

**280. Finance Commission.**—(I) The President shall, within two years from the commencement of this Constitution and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year or at such earlier time as the President considers necessary, by order constitute a Finance Commission which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President.

(2) Parliament may by law determine the qualifications which shall be requisite for appointment as members of the Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected.

As per the provisions (see above), we can see that Constitution only talks about Composition. The Qualifications of Finance Commission is provided by the law enacted by the Parliament, i.e., THE FINANCE COMMISSION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1951. It also provides for Disqualification. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

#### Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission

- Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection
  of, members of the commission. The Chairman of the Commission shall be
  selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs,
  and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who---
  - (a) are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
  - (b) have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
  - (c) have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
  - (d) have special knowledge of economics.

Disqualifications for being a member of the Commission.—A person shall be disqualified for being appointed as, or for being, a member of the Commission,—

- (a) if he is of unsound mind;
- (b) if he is an undischarged insolvent;
- (c) if he has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (d) if he has such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as a member of the Commission.

#### Second statement is incorrect:

As it doesn't provide Composition. It provides term of Office.

**6. Term of office of members and eligibility for reappointment.**—Every member of the Commission shall hold office for such period as may be specified in the order of the President appointing him, but shall be eligible for reappointment:

Provided that he may, by letter addressed to the President, resign his office.

#### Q148. Consider the following pairs.

Temples	Situated On the banks of
1. Srirangam Ranganathaswamy Temple	Kaveri River
2. Kashi Vishwanath Temple	Yamuna River

## 3. Omkareshwar Temple Narmada

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

Very important. Such questions are very important for Prelims. Please follow regularly. We will cover everything.

Temples	Situated On the banks of
1. Srirangam Ranganathaswamy Temple	Kaveri River
2. Kashi Vishwanath Temple	GANGA River
3. Omkareshwar Temple	Narmada

Q149. Which of the following groups is most likely to benefit from an appreciation of the Rupee?

- 1. Importers in India
- 2. Exporters in India
- 3. Borrowers through ECB
- 4. Exporters to India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Solution: d

#### Explanation:

**Currency appreciation** is an **increase in the value of one currency** in relation to another currency.

Currencies appreciate against each other for a variety of reasons, including the government policy, interest rates, trade balances and business cycles. A Rupee appreciation takes place when its value increases in relation to other currency, say US Dollar. For instance, there would be an appreciation in the Rupee if the dollar/rupee exchange rate moves from ₹70/\$ to ₹65/\$.

Importers in India would be benefitted as they would have to pay less in Rupee terms for the same amount of (say dollar) imports in case of Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 1 is correct.** 

Exporters in India would stand to lose as they would receive less in Rupee terms for the same amount of (say dollar) exports in case of Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 2 is not correct.** 

In the case of Rupee appreciation, entities in India borrowing under the ECB route would have their borrowing costs reduced as they would have to pay less in Rupee terms. They would benefit from the Rupee appreciation. **So, statement 3 is correct.** 

Exporters to India would gain in case of the Rupee appreciation. For instance, a person exporting Rs. 10,000 worth of goods to India from, say, the US will receive more in terms of the US dollar if the Rupee appreciates from Rs. 70/\$ to Rs. 65/\$. **So, statement 4 is correct.** 

Q150. The objective resolution was moved in the Constituent Assembly on:

- e. December 13, 1946
- f. January 26, 1946
- g. November 26, 1946
- h. November 26,1950

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

This question has become very common everywhere, they may trick you with the date.

### FRAMING THE CONSTITUTION

#### 2. The Vision of the Constitution

On 13 December 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the Objectives Resolution" in the Constituent Assembly. It was a momentous resolution that outlined the defining ideals of the Constitution of Independent India, and provided the framework within which the work of constitution-making was to proceed. It proclaimed India to be an "Independent Sovereign Republic", guaranteed its citizens justice, equality and freedom, and assured that "adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and Depressed and Other Backward Classes ..." After outlining these objectives, Nehru placed the Indian experiment in a broad historical perspective. As he spoke, he said, his mind went back to the historic efforts in the past to produce such documents of rights.

#### Q151. Consider the following pairs.

Mountains/Seas	location
Pyrenees Mountains	France and Spain
2. Kamchatka peninsula	Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea
3. Dead Sea	Israel and Syria

Which of the above locations is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Mountains/Seas	location
Pyrenees Mountains	France and Spain
Kamchatka peninsula	Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea
Dead Sea	Israel and Jordan







#### Q152. Consider the following.

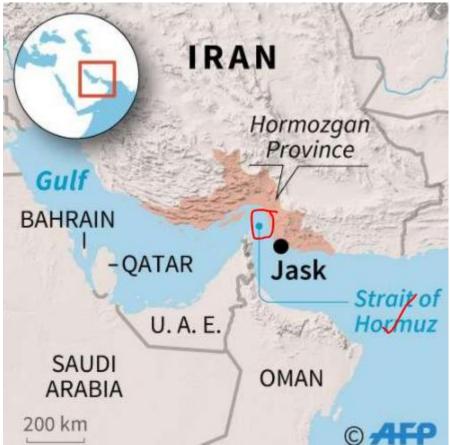
- 1. Strait of Hormuz
- 2. Gulf of Aqaba
- 3. Gulf of Aden
- 4. Gulf of Oman

#### Saudi Arabia forms border with:

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

Solution: d







Q153. Consider the following Pairs.

- 1. Lake Titicaca: Southern Africa
- 2. Mt Aconcagua: Africa Region
- 3. Llanos Grassland: East of Andes

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: b







Q154. Consider the following Pairs.

- 1. Abyssinian Plateau: Arabia
- 2. Ivory Coast: Coastal region of Africa
- 3. Okavango Basin: Kalahari, Africa

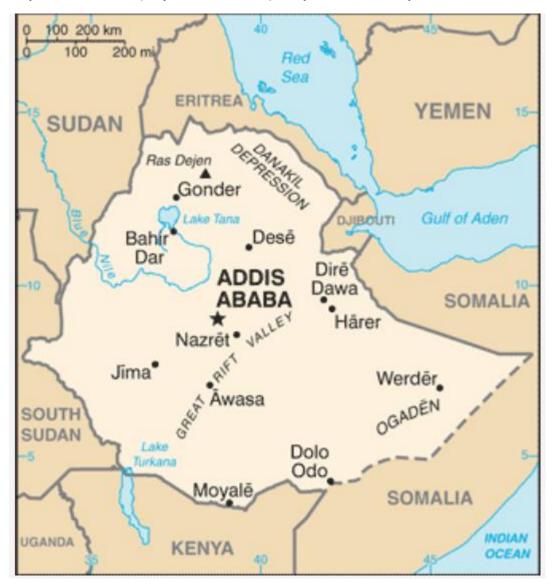
Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: a



#### Abyssinian Plateau (Abyssinian Plateau) is a plateau in Ethiopia.



Q155. Consider the following Pairs.

- 1. Katanga Plateau: Sothern America, Brazil
- 2. Hoggar Mountains (Ahaggar Mountains): Africa Region
- 3. Colorado Plateau: Congo Basin

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

#### Hoggar Mountains (Ahaggar Mountains): Northern Africa



**Katanga Plateau: Southern Africa** 



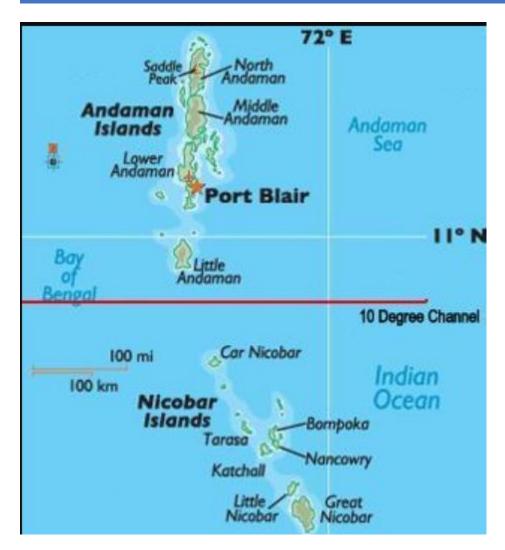
Q156. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- a. Andaman and Nicobar
- b. Nicobar and Sumatra
- c. Maldives and Lakshadweep
- d. Sumatra and Java

Solution: a

#### Explanation:

The Ten Degree Channel is a channel that separates the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands from each other in the Bay of Bengal.



Q157. Consider the following.

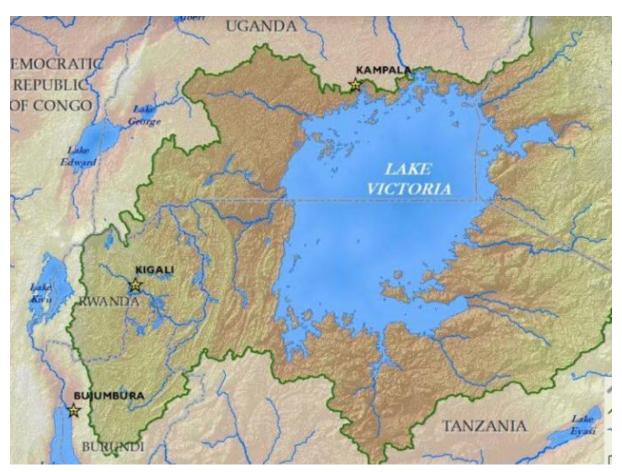
- 1. Mt Toubkal: Africa region
- 2. Lake Victoria: Between Brazil and Chile
- 3. Altas Mountains: North-Western Africa

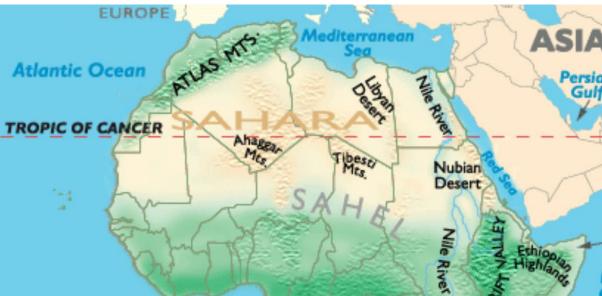
Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: d







Q158. Consider the following.

- 1. Mount Kilimanjaro: Western Sahara Region of Africa
- 2. Guiana Highlands: South-western Africa
- 3. Lake Nyasa: Africa

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

a. 1 and 3 only

b. 3 only

c. 2 and 3 only

d. 1 and 2 only

Solution: b





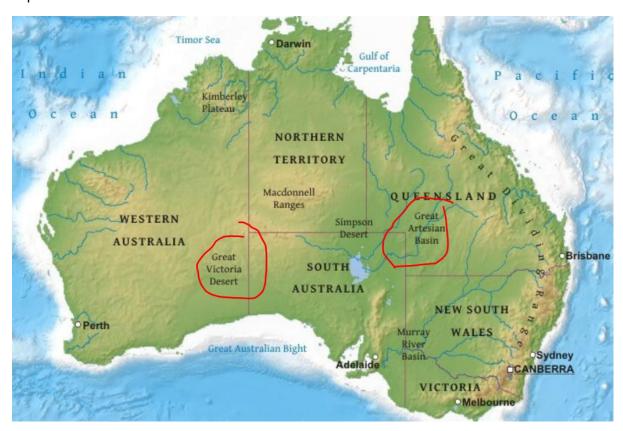


#### Q159. Consider the following Pairs.

Great Victorian Desert: Western Africa
 Great Artesian Basin: North America
 Yucatan Peninsula: Central America
 Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

Solution: c





#### Q160. Consider the following Pairs.

- 1. Kimberly Plateau: Australia
- 2. Balearic Island: Mediterranean.
- 3. English Channel: separates Western England from Ireland

#### Select the correct pairs.

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

Solution: a





