

Why choose the **BYJU'S Learning Program?**



Classroom Sessions

Prepare for Prelims and Mains with India's leading IAS trainers



Student Portal

Get access to recorded sessions of the Weekly Webinar, Issues in News, Current Affairs Magazine, Gist of Yojana and Practice Sets



Stay Up To Date

Regular and in-depth current affairs updates



Mentor Support

Personalised feedback from our mentors



Study Material

In-depth coverage of syllabus which includes the following guides: Indian Polity by M Laxmikanth, India's Ancient Past by R S Sharma, History Of Modern India by Bipan Chandra, Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude by P N Roy Chowdhury and G Subba Rao
+16 more titles



Test Your Knowledge

Perfect your exam writing skills and knowledge with - Modular tests (MCQ and descriptive), question paper discussions, personalised analysis of answers and answer writing strategies



Current Affairs Webinar

Weekly live classes to discuss current affairs followed by revision notes



Ease of Accessibility

Prepare at your own convenience, anywhere and anytime with the BYJU'S IAS tablet



ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY



Q1. Consider the following regarding 'Central Water Commission':

1. Central Water Commission is a premier Technical Organization of India in the field of Water Resources.

2. It is presently functioning as an attached office of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

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

Q2. Madhav Gadgil Committee relates to which of the following:

- a) Conservation of Eastern Ghats
- b) Conservation of Western Ghats
- c) Conservation of Himalayas
- d) Conservation of rivers in India

Q3. Consider the following statements about 'Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project':

- 1. It is fully funded by Central Government.
- 2. The objectives of DRIP are to improve the safety and operational performance of selected existing dams.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q4. Which of the following statements is correct about 'National Disaster Management Authority'?

- 1. It is a Constitutional Authority
- 2. It is headed by the Home Minister.
- 3. NDMA, as the apex body, is mandated to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters.

Select the correct Answer using the codes given below:

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

Q5. Which of the following best describes 'REDD+'?

- a) It aims to achieve climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation.
- b) It aims to achieve climate change mitigation by reducing ozone depletion.
- c) It aims to clean the oceans and make them free from plastic

d) It aims to achieve climate change mitigation by reducing GHG emissions from vehicles.

Q6. For which of the following purposes, the web based application 'PARIVESH' has been launched:

- a) It has been launched to share the success stories of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- b) It has been launched to make online auction of Government Resources more transparent
- c) It has been launched to seek environment clearances from Government authorities
- d) It has been launched by Delhi Municipal Corporation for grievance redressal of the public.

Q7. Consider the following about 'Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee':

1. It functions under The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

2. It is responsible for appraisal of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.

3. It is headed by the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 2 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding 'GENETICALLY MODIFIED crops':

1. As per report of International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications, 2018, India ranks 5th in global cultivation of GM crops.

2. Bt. cotton is the only GM crop approved for commercial cultivation in the Country.

3. The approval of any new genetically modified crop is given on a case to case basis after thorough scientific evaluation of health and environment safety as per applicable guidelines made under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules, 1989.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Q9. Anupam Verma Committee, recently seen in news relates to:

- a) Technical Review of selected pesticides which are banned in other countries but continued to be registered in India.
- b) To study the impact of GM crops
- c) To suggest measures to improve farmer's income
- d) To suggest how to increase agricultural exports

Q10. Identify the following National Park:

- 1. Brahmaputra river flows through this National Park.
- 2. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 3. Located on the edge of the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot, the park combines high species diversity and visibility.
- 4. It has also been declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006.

Select the correct Answer:

- a) Manas National Park
- b) Kaziranga National Park
- c) Nameri National Park
- d) Orang National Park

Q11. Recently which state has written to National Tiger Conservation Authority to revive the plan to reintroduce cheetahs in the state's sanctuary?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Gujarat
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Orissa

Q12. 'Nauradehi Sanctuary' is located in which of the following states?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Bihar
- d) Madhya Pradesh

Q13. Consider the following statements about 'National Tiger Conservation Authority':

- 1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- 2. It has been constituted under enabling provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it under the said Act.
- 3. Prime Minister is the chairman of the authority.

Select the correct Answer using the code given below:

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

Q14. Consider the following statements

regarding 'State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index':

1. It is a nationwide Index, which is a joint effort of the NITI Aayog and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

2. It assesses state policies and programmes aimed at improving energy efficiency across various sectors.

Choose the correct Answer using the code given below:

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

Q15. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding 'Bio-jet Fuel':

1. It has been developed by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research based in Dehradun along with Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP).

2. It can be produced from animal fat, used cooking oil, waste dairy fat, sewage sludge, etc.

3. The oil needs to have a freezing point below -47 degrees so it doesn't freeze at altitudes at which planes fly.

Select the correct Answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Q16. 'C40' recently seen in news is related to:

- a) Network of world's megacities committed to address climate change
- b) Group of African nations demanding reforms in United Nation Security Council
- c) Group of island nations demanding more concrete efforts to address climate change
- d) A list released by European Union of World's top 40 Virtual currencies.

Q17. Which of the following is not a tributary of river Ganga?

- a) Yamuna
- b) Son
- c) Tons
- d) Gandak

Q18. Identify the Biosphere Reserve:

1. It is the highest biosphere reserve in India.

2. It comprises of India's first 'Mixed Heritage Sites'

3. It is one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots that has good species diversity with high levels of endemism, with many

mountains, peaks, lakes, caves, rocks, stupas (shrines) and hot springs.

Select the correct answer:

- a) Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve
- b) Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve
- c) Dehang Debang Biosphere Reserve
- d) Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve

Q19. Consider the following statements about 'Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species':

1. It is a dedicated facility of CSIR's Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad.

2. It would facilitate exchange of genetic material between the Indian zoos for maintaining genetic diversity and conservation management made accessible to scientists and wildlife managers for implementing conservation programs.

Which of the following statements is/are correct:

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

Q20. 'Neonicotinoids' recently seen in news relates to

- a) Insecticides
- b) Antibiotics
- c) Group of insect eating plants
- d) Nitrogen fixing bacteria

Q21. With reference to 'Ken-Betwa river Inter-linking Project, consider the following statements:

1. It is India's first river interlinking project.

2. This Project involves deforesting a portion of Kanha Tiger reserve.

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

Q22. With reference to 'Damanganga - Pinjal River interlinking project', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) The inter-linking project is between Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
- b) The project is planning to transfer water from the Pinjal reservoir to the Damanganga basin.
- c) The Primary aim of the project is to increase the supply of water to Mumbai
- d) None of the above

Q23. In recent time uranium contamination in the groundwater has increased. Which of the following is/are the prime factor for this?

- a) Excessive extraction of groundwater causing decline in the water table.
- b) Nitrate pollution due to overuse of fertilizers.
- c) Increasing the water table due to good monsoon
- d) Both a and b

Q24. A tiger reserve situated in the heartland of Odisha. River Mahanadi flows through the valleys in the middle of that tiger Reserve. Forest vegetation of this tiger reserve comprises of North Indian tropical moist deciduous Forests. This tiger reserve is the natural habitat of two endangered species viz. freshwater crocodile and the gharial.

Which tiger reserve has these features?

- a) Satkosia Tiger Reserve
- b) Similipal Tiger Reserve
- c) Udandi and sidandi Tiger Reserve
- d) Indravati Tiger reserve

Q25. A tiger reserve located in the northernmost part of Odisha. Tributaries of Baitarani River flowing from this Reserve. This reserve is part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves since 2009.

Which tiger reserve has these features?

- a) Satkosia Tiger Reserve
- b) Similipal Tiger Reserve
- c) Udandi and sidandi Tiger Reserve
- d) Indravati Tiger reserve

Q26. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Keibullamjao National Park: Manipur
- 2. Kanha National Park: Madhya Pradesh
- 3. Buxa Tiger reserve: West Bengal

Which of the above pairs is /are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q27. With reference to 'Transformative Carbon Asset Facility (TCAF)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is a World Bank supported initiative.
- 2. Four European countries - Italy, France, Spain, and Ireland - started this \$500 million initiative.
- 3. It creates incentives aimed at large scale cuts in greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries to combat climate change.

Select the correct answer using the code

given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q28. With reference to 'National Disaster Risk Index for India', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Climate change with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

2. The Index is in line with India's commitment to the Sendai Framework.

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

Q29. With reference to Report 'South Asia's Hotspots: The Impact of Temperature and Precipitation changes on living standards', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

2. It estimates how changes in temperature and monsoon patterns will affect GDP and living standards in the South Asian region.

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

Q30. Consider the following statement about Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary

1. It is part of Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserves.

2. It is bounded by protected area network of Nagarhole and Bandipur of Karnataka in the northeast, and on the southeast by Mudumalai of Tamil Nadu.

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

Q31. Consider the following statement about Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM)

1. It was established under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change,

2. Its main function is to Support implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) activities in 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

Q32. With reference to 'Blue Flag Standards', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was established by Copenhagen-based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) in 1985 in France.

2. The Blue Flag is an environmental award for beaches, sustainable boating tourism operators, and marine.

3. Chandrabhaga beach of Odisha's Konark coast was first in Asia to get the Blue Flag certification.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q33. 'Operation Shikhar' recently seen in news, is related:

- a) To stop the illegal trade in Ivory
- b) To stop the illegal poaching of Tiger
- c) To stop the illegal trade in Sandalwood
- d) To stop the illegal poaching of one-horned rhinoceros

Q34. Consider the following statements about the Chilka Lake:

1. It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the second largest coastal lagoon in the world.

2. At present, it is included in the Montreux Record.

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

Q35. Consider the following statement about the Keibul Lamjao National Park

1. The Park is situated in the North Eastern state of Manipur.

2. Loktak Lake is under the Montreux Record.

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

Q36. Consider the following statement about the Animal Welfare Board of India:

1. It is a non-statutory advisory body on Animal welfare laws and promotes animal welfare.
2. It was established under the wildlife protection Act, 1972.

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

Q37. Consider the following statement about the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA):

1. It was established under the wildlife protection Act, 1972.
2. It is a non-statutory and Autonomous body.

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

Q38. Consider the following pairs:

1. Great Himalayan National Park : Sikkim
2. Nokrek biosphere reserve : Meghalaya
3. Nanda Devi National Park : Uttarakhand

Which of the above pairs is /are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q39. Consider the following statements about Formalin:

1. It is a water-soluble chemical used as a disinfectant and preservative.
2. It is used to artificially reduce the sensory attributes of fish.
3. It is a carcinogenic material which can cause cancer through the ingestion route.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q40. Consider the following statements about Oxytocin:

1. It is a life-saving drug under the National List of Essential Medicines.
2. In agriculture, it is misused to increase the size of pumpkins, watermelons, and brinjals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q41. Lake Titicaca where an underwater museum is being built is located in

- a. Bolivia
- b. Belgium
- c. Newzealand
- d. Finland

Q42. Consider the following statements about Pet Coke:

1. Pet Coke is a byproduct of the petroleum industry which has a calorific value higher than brown coal.
2. It contains very low carbon but has high sulfur in addition to heavy metals.
3. Its import into India is highly restricted and it needs a license to import.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q43. Consider the following statements about the Small Grants Programme:

1. It provides both financial and technical assistance for environmental conservation and restoration projects.
2. It is a part of the Global Environmental Facility implemented by UNEP.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q44. Consider the following about the Harrier Bird:

1. They are migratory birds whose major prey base lies in the grasslands, meadows and wetland region.
2. The decline in their population will reduce farm productivity.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Why choose the **BYJU'S Learning Program?**



Classroom Sessions

Prepare for Prelims and Mains with India's leading IAS trainers



Student Portal

Get access to recorded sessions of the Weekly Webinar, Issues in News, Current Affairs Magazine, Gist of Yojana and Practice Sets



Stay Up To Date

Regular and in-depth current affairs updates



Mentor Support

Personalised feedback from our mentors



Study Material

In-depth coverage of syllabus which includes the following guides: Indian Polity by M Laxmikanth, India's Ancient Past by R S Sharma, History Of Modern India by Bipan Chandra, Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude by P N Roy Chowdhury and G Subba Rao
+16 more titles



Test Your Knowledge

Perfect your exam writing skills and knowledge with - Modular tests (MCQ and descriptive), question paper discussions, personalised analysis of answers and answer writing strategies



Current Affairs Webinar

Weekly live classes to discuss current affairs followed by revision notes



Ease of Accessibility

Prepare at your own convenience, anywhere and anytime with the BYJU'S IAS tablet

Q45. Consider the following about the Red Sanders:

1. Its distribution is highly restricted to the southeastern part of the Indian Peninsula.
2. It prefers lateritic soil and can withstand water logging for a longer period of time.
3. Loss due to smuggling has resulted in its endangered status in the IUCN red list.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q46. Which of the following is the objective of Sagar Nidhi?

- a) Study of Monsoon in Arabian Sea
- b) Study of polymetallic nodules in central Indian Ocean
- c) Study of Monsoon in Bay of Bengal
- d) Polar research in the Antarctic region

Q47. Consider the following pairs?

Species	Habitat
1. Boto-	Yangtze River
3. Susu	- Ganges River
Bhulan	- Indus River

Which of the above pair is/are correctly matched?

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

Q48. Consider the following statements about Nilgiri Tahr:

1. They are stocky goats with females being larger than the male in size.
2. Adult males develop a light grey area on their back known as saddlebacks.
3. The highest number of their population is found in the Agasthyamalai biosphere reserve region.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q49. Consider the following about Salicornia plant:

1. It is a succulent flowering plant growing in freshwater lakes.
2. It is served as salads and substitute of salt with low sodium content.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

Q50. Which of the following statements about Neelakurinji is incorrect?

- a. It blossoms once in twelve years with a majority in blue color.
- b. It is endemic to Shola forests and found only on the slopes of the Western Ghats in India.
- c. Shorter varieties occur at higher altitudes and longer at lower altitudes.
- d. None of the above

Q51. Which of the following are commonly found pollutant in groundwater in the Western part of India?

1. Fluoride
2. Arsenic
3. Uranium

Codes:

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

52. Consider the following statements about World Environment Day:

1. It is conducted by the Worldwide Fund for Nature.
 2. The theme of the 2018 edition was 'Beat Plastic Pollution' which was hosted by India.
- Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q53. Which of the following state is proposed to turn into the first Zero Budget Natural Farming state in India?

- a. Karnataka
- b. Kerala
- c. Andhra Pradesh
- d. Madhya Pradesh

Q54. Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a financial mechanism for which of the following international environmental conventions?

1. Minamata Convention on Mercury
2. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
3. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
4. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q55. With reference to 'Meghalayan Age' consider the following statements:

1. The Meghalaya age runs from 4,200 years ago to the present.
2. A stalagmite which was found in the northeastern Indian state of Meghalaya has provided chemical signatures as evidence.
3. The Greenlandian and the Northgrippian are younger than Meghalayan age.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q56. Recently in which state of India, the court has ruled that all animals should enjoy the same rights as human beings, saying "they have distinct personas with corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person"?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Maharashtra

Q57. Which among the following is/are not a part of UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves list?

1. Dihang-Dibang
2. Achanakmar-Amarkantak
3. Cold Desert
4. Pachmarhi
5. Simlipal

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q58. "This Biosphere Reserve is one of the highest ecosystems in the world. It falls within the Himalaya global biodiversity hotspot and recently included in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves list. The above statements describe which among the following biosphere reserves?

- a) Achanakmar-Amarkantak
- b) Great Nicobar
- c) Agasthyamala
- d) Kanchenjunga

Q59. With reference to 'National Bamboo Mission' consider the following statements:

1. National Bamboo Mission (NBM) is being implemented as a subscheme under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF).

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

Q60. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Deep Ocean Mission' has been launched by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.

2. India was the first country in the world to have been given the Pioneer Area for exploration of deep-sea mineral.

3. Research Vessel Gaveshani collected the first sample of Polymetallic nodules from the Arabian Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q61. Consider the following statements:

1. Neelakurinji flower blooms in the Anamalai hills once in 12 years.

2. Neelakurinji plant is a tropical plant species which is generally found in Asia and Australia.

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

Q62. Which of the following is/are the carriers of the Nipah virus?

- a) Fruit bat
- b) Pig
- c) Freshwater Fish
- d) Both a and b

Q1.

Answer: C

Explanation

CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION

- STATEMENT 1 is correct: Central Water Commission is a premier Technical Organization of India in the field of Water Resources.
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: It is presently functioning as an attached office of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India.
- The Commission is entrusted with the general responsibilities of initiating, coordinating and furthering in consultation of the State Governments concerned, schemes for control, conservation and utilization of water resources throughout the country, for the purpose of Flood Control, Irrigation, Navigation, Drinking Water Supply and Water Power Development.
- It also undertakes the investigations, construction and execution of any such schemes as required.
- Central Water Commission CWC is headed by a Chairman, with the status of Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India.
- The work of the Commission is divided among 3 wings namely, Designs and Research (D&R) Wing, River Management (RM) Wing and Water Planning and Projects (WP&P) Wing.

Approach: Last year there was severe flood in Kerala. The commission was in the news at that time. So we should have a basic knowledge of that.

Q2.

Answer: B

Explanation

MADHAV GADGIL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The UPA government had formed a Western Ghats ecology expert panel, which was headed by Pune-based ecologist Madhav Gadgil.

- The key recommendation is taking the villagers residing in ecologically sensitive areas into confidence, making them aware of any project coming into their localities and letting them decide whether they want the project to commence or not.
- It has recommended considering a tehsil as a unit and addressing all the villagers about the importance of ecology around them.
- It has recommended that 94-97% area of the Western Ghats should be considered eco-sensitive.
- It has focused on educating the villagers.
- It classified the Western Ghats taluks located on the boundary as Eco-Sensitive Zones 1, 2, 3.
- No new dams of large scale storage be permitted to be built in ESZ1.

Approach: The committee was in the news recently due to floods in Kerala. Although question has already been asked related to it but still it is important for us to know some basic recommendations of the committee.

Q3.

Answer: B

Explanation

DAM REHABILITATION AND IRRIGATION PROGRAM

- STATEMENT 1 is incorrect: Govt. of India has taken up the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) with the financial assistance of the World Bank.
- It has been launched for the repair and rehabilitation of initially about 225 dam projects across the seven states of India, namely Jharkhand (DVC), Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Uttarakhand (UJVNL).
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: The objectives of DRIP are to improve the safety and operational performance of selected existing dams and associated appurtenances in a sustainable manner, and to strengthen the dam safety institutional setup of participating States / Implementing Agencies.

Approach: Again the scheme was in the news as there was some allegations between Kerala and Tamil Nadu regarding the operation of Dam.

Related Topics: Other irrigation schemes and initiatives.

Q4.

Answer: B

Explanation

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

- STATEMENT 1 and 2 are incorrect: It is a statutory body .On 23 December 2005, the Government of India enacted the Disaster Management Act, which envisaged the creation of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), headed by the Prime Minister, and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) headed by respective Chief Ministers, to spearhead and implement a holistic and integrated approach to Disaster Management in India.
- STATEMENT 3 is correct: NDMA, as the apex body, is mandated to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters. Towards this, it has the following responsibilities:-
 1. Lay down policies on disaster management ;
 2. Approve the National Plan;
 3. Approve plans prepared by the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the National Plan;
 4. Lay down guidelines to be followed by the State Authorities in drawing up the State Plan;
 5. Lay down guidelines to be followed by the different Ministries or Departments of the Government of India for the Purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects;
 6. Coordinate the enforcement and implementation of the policy and plans for disaster management;
 7. Recommend provision of funds for the purpose of mitigation;
 8. Provide such support to other countries affected by major disasters as may be determined by the Central Government;
 9. Take such other measures for the prevention of disaster, or mitigation, or preparedness and capacity building for dealing with threatening disaster situations or disasters as it may consider necessary
 10. Lay down broad policies and guidelines for the functioning of the National Institute of Disaster Management.

Approach: The authority was in the news recently due to floods in Kerala.

Related Topics: salient features of Disaster Management Act

Q5.

Answer: A
Explanation

REDD+ : Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+) was first negotiated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2005, with the objective of mitigating climate change through reducing net emissions of greenhouse gases through enhanced forest management in developing countries. Most of the key REDD+ decisions were completed by 2013, with the final pieces of the rulebook finished in 2015.

India recently launched their National REDD+ Strategy

- REDD+ activities will help in sustainable livelihood of local communities and also in conservation of biodiversity.
- REDD+ strategy will help the country to fulfill its NDC commitments and will also contribute to the livelihood of the forest dependent population.
- REDD+ means “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation”, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.
- REDD+ aims to achieve climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation.
- The strategy seeks to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and also developing a roadmap for enhancement of forest carbon stocks and achieving sustainable management of forests through REDD+ actions.
- The National REDD+ Strategy will soon be communicated to the UNFCCC.

Approach: REDD+ is important for Prelims. The recent release of National REDD+ strategy makes it even more important.

Q6.

Answer: C
Explanation

PARIVESH : PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive Facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single window hub) is a web based, role based workflow application which has been developed for online submission and monitoring of the proposals submitted by the proponents for seeking Environment, Forest, Wildlife and CRZ Clearances from Central, State and district level authorities. It automates the entire tracking of proposals which includes online submission of a new proposal, editing/updating the details of proposals and displays status of the proposals at each stage of the workflow.

Approach: A new and recent approach in environment sector by the government which makes it important for us.

Q7.

Answer: B
Explanation

GENETIC ENGINEERING APPRAISAL COMMITTEE

- STATEMENT 1 is correct: The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- STATEMENT 3 is incorrect: GEAC is chaired by the Special Secretary/Additional Secretary of MoEF&CC and co-chaired by a representative from the Department of

Biotechnology (DBT).

- STATEMENT 2 is correct: As per Rules, 1989, it is responsible for appraisal of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.
- The committee is also responsible for appraisal of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered (GE) organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.

The functions of GEAC as prescribed in the Rules 1989 are as follows:

1. To appraise activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.
2. To appraise proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.
3. The committee or any persons authorized by it has powers to take punitive action under the Environment Protection Act.

Approach: Recently there was a news 'CSE study finds GM presence in infant food, packaged snacks'. Also genetic food has been in the news for some time. It is important to know about the important committee associated with it.

Related Topics: All the merits and challenges associated with GM crops.

Q8.

Answer: D

Explanation

GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS: Genetically modified crops (GM crops or biotech crops) are plants used in agriculture, the DNA of which has been modified using genetic engineering methods. In most cases, the aim is to introduce a new trait to the plant which does not occur naturally in the species.

- STATEMENT 1 is correct: As per report of International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications, 2018, India ranks 5th in global cultivation of GM crops.
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: Bt. cotton is the only GM crop approved for commercial cultivation in the Country.
- STATEMENT 3 is correct: The approval of any new genetically modified crop is given on a case to case basis after thorough scientific evaluation of health and environment safety as per applicable guidelines made under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules, 1989.

Approach: Recently there was a news 'CSE study finds GM presence in infant food, packaged snacks'. Also genetic food has been in the news for some time. It is important to know about the basic information associated with it.

Related Topics: GENETIC ENGINEERING APPRAISAL COMMITTEE

Q9.

Answer: A

Explanation

ANUPAM VERMA COMMITTEE

- An expert committee was constituted under Dr. Anupam Verma, Former Professor, Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), to carry out technical review of 66 pesticides that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India.

- The Expert Committee, inter alia, recommended 13 pesticides to be banned, 27 pesticides to be reviewed in 2018 after completion of certain technical studies and 6 pesticides to be phased out by 2020.
- The Committee further recommended continuation of ban on 1 pesticide and did not offer any assessment of a pesticide which is currently sub judice. The Verma Committee recommended continued use of 18 pesticides.

Approach: An important committee which should not be left out. UPSC usually asks one or more question related to committees. It was in the news as Government has decided to ban some of pesticides based on the recommendation of the committee

Related Topics: Any other important committee constituted by The Government of India.

Q10.

Answer: B

Explanation

MANAS NATIONAL PARK :

- It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Manas is located in the foothills of the Eastern Himalaya and is densely forested.
- The Manas river flows through the west of the park and is the main river within it. It is a major tributary of Brahmaputra river and splits into two separate rivers, the Bwrsi and Bholkaduba as it reaches the plains.
- The Manas river also serves as an international border dividing India and Bhutan.

KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK :

- Brahmaputra river flows through this National Park.
- It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Located on the edge of the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot, the park combines high species diversity and visibility.
- It has also been declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006.
- Kaziranga National Park is an outstanding example representing significant ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of natural ecosystems consisting of several communities of plants and animals.
- Kaziranga is the most important and significant natural habitat for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science and Biodiversity Conservation with Rhino as the flagship species.

NAMERI NATIONAL PARK:

- Nameri National Park is a national park in the foothills of the eastern Himalayas in the Sonitpur District of Assam, India
- Nameri shares its northern boundary with the Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The vegetation type of nameri is of semi-evergreen, moist deciduous forests with cane and bamboo brakes and narrow strips of open grassland along rivers.

ORANG NATIONAL PARK:

- The Orang National Park also known as Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park which is located on the north bank of the Brahmaputra River in the Darrang and Sonitpur districts of Assam, India.
- It was established as a sanctuary in 1985 and declared a national park on 13 April 1999.
- The park has a rich flora and fauna, including great Indian one-horned rhinoceros, pygmy hog, elephants, wild buffalo and tigers.
- It is the only stronghold of rhinoceros on the north bank of the Brahmaputra river.

Approach: If you are aware of the national parks from which river Brahmaputra passes then this question was easy for you; if not, then it might pose some problems. All the four National Parks belong to Assam.

Related Topics: UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

Q11.

Answer: C

Explanation

- The Madhya Pradesh forest department has written to the National Tiger Conservation Authority to revive the plan to reintroduce cheetahs in the State's Nauradehi sanctuary. The ambitious project, conceived in 2009, had hit a roadblock for want of funds.
- The country's last spotted feline died in Chhattisgarh in 1947. Later, the cheetah — which is the fastest land animal — was declared extinct in India in 1952.
- The Wildlife Institute of India at Dehradun had prepared a ₹260-crore cheetah reintroduction project six years ago.
- Nauradehi was found to be the most suitable area for the cheetahs as its forests are not very dense to restrict the fast movement of the spotted cat. Besides, the prey base for cheetahs is also in abundance at the sanctuary.
- According to the earlier action plan, around 20 cheetahs were to be translocated to Nauradehi from Namibia in Africa. The Namibia Cheetah Conservation Fund had then showed its willingness to donate the felines to India.

Approach: This was in the news recently. UPSC has also asked questions based on similar pattern. So always keep a track of this type of news.

Q12.

Answer: D

Explanation

Nauradehi Sanctuary:

- It is the largest wildlife sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh.
- It is located in the centre of the state covering parts of Sagar, Damoh, Narsinghpur, and Raisen Districts. It is about 90 km from Jabalpur and about 56 km from Sagar.
- The protected area sits astride two major river basins of India, namely the Narmada, flowing west to the Arabian Sea and the Ganges, flowing east to the Bay of Bengal.
- The forest is spread over the southern area of the Vindhya Range of hills in which the Bandhavgarh National Park and Panna National Park are also located.

Approach: This was in the news recently. UPSC has also asked questions based on similar pattern. So always keep a track of this type of news. Be informed about the national parks and sanctuaries in news and their respective locations.

Q13.

Answer: A

Explanation

NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

- STATEMENT 1 is correct BUT STATEMENT 2 is incorrect: The National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment,

Forests and Climate Change constituted under enabling provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it under the said Act.

- STATEMENT 3 is incorrect: Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change is the chairman of the authority.
- It has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for strengthening tiger conservation in the country by retaining an oversight through advisories/normative guidelines, based on appraisal of tiger status, ongoing conservation initiatives and recommendations of specially constituted Committees.

Approach: The Madhya Pradesh forest department has written to the National Tiger Conservation Authority to revive the plan to reintroduce cheetahs in the State's Nauradehi sanctuary. This news makes this particular authority very important.

Related Topics: Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

Q14.

Answer: C

Explanation

STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY PREPAREDNESS INDEX

- STATEMENT 1 is correct: Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), releases the 'State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index'.
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: It assesses state policies and programmes aimed at improving energy efficiency across various sectors.
- The nationwide Index, which is a joint effort of the NITI Aayog and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- The State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index has 63 indicators across Building, Industry, Municipality, Transport, Agriculture and DISCOM with 4 cross-cutting indicators.
- States are categorised based on their efforts and achievements towards energy efficiency implementation, as 'Front Runner', 'Achiever', 'Contender' and 'Aspirant'.
- The 'Front Runner' states in the inaugural edition of the Index are: Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Rajasthan based on the available data.

Approach: Indices are very important in UPSC. We have to prepare all the major indices because one or more question can be asked. Recently this index was released for the first time which makes it probable question.

Q15.

Answer: D

Explanation

- BIO-JET FUEL
- STATEMENT 1 is correct: It has been developed by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research based in Dehradun along with Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP).
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: It can be produced from animal fat, used cooking oil, waste dairy fat, sewage sludge, etc.
- STATEMENT 3 is correct: The oil needs to have a freezing point below -47 degrees so it doesn't freeze at altitudes at which planes fly, should not catch fire on the ground when being transferred into a plane, must have the same density as ATF, have a certain calorific value and should not choke the filters.

Approach: SpiceJet operates country's first bio jet fuel flight. This will have a huge impact of future air transport.

Q16.

Answer: A

Explanation

C40 :

- It is a network of world's megacities committed to addressing climate change by assisting with or creating models that other cities and governments can adopt.
- It is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks while increasing the health, well being and economic opportunities of urban citizens.

Approach: Bengaluru hosts first meeting of C40 Air Quality Network.

Related Topics: Other international organisations related to Climate Change.

Q17.

Answer: C

Explanation

GANGA RIVER SYSTEM

The Ganga originates as the Bhagirathi from the Gangotri glacier. Before it reaches Devaprayag, the Mandakini, the Pindar, the Dhauliganga and the Bishenganga rivers merge into the Alaknanda and the Bheling drain into the Bhagirathi. The Pindar River rises from East Trishul and Nanda Devi unite with the Alaknanda at Karan Prayag. The Mandakini meets at Rudra Prayag. The water from both Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda flows in the name of the Ganga at Devaprayag.

The concept of Panch Prayag

- Vishnuprayag: where the river Alaknanda meet river Dhauli Ganga
- Nandprayag: where river Alaknanda meet river Nandakini
- Karnaprayag: where river Alaknanda meet river Pinder
- Rudraprayag: where river Alaknanda meet river Mandakini
- Devprayag: where river Alaknanda meet river Bhagirathi -GANGA

The main tributaries of the Ganga are Yamuna, Damodar, Sapt Kosi, Ram Ganga, Gomati, Ghaghara, Gandak and Son. The river after traveling a distance of 2525 km from its source meets the Bay of Bengal.

Note: The Tons originating from the Himalayan range is the largest tributary of Yamuna in Himalayan region which meets it near Kalasi.

Approach: Recently there was a news 'Ganga stretches in Bengal unfit for bathing'. You can always expect a question from the tributaries of the rivers in UPSC.

Related Topics: Tributaries of other major river system in India.

Q18.

Answer: B

Explanation

- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR) of Sikkim, the highest biosphere

reserve in the country that includes the third highest mountain peak in the world, Kanchenjunga (8,586 m), has been included in the UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserve (WHBR).

- The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the first reserve from the country to be included in the WNBR. India has 18 biospheres reserves, of which 11 have been included in the WNBR.
- The Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP), which comprises the core area of the KBR, was inscribed as India's first "Mixed World Heritage Site" on July 17, 2016.
- Eighty six per cent of the core lies in the Alpine zone and the remaining portions are located in the Himalayan wet temperate and subtropical moist deciduous forest.
- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve is one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots that has good species diversity with high levels of endemism, with many mountains, peaks, lakes, caves, rocks, stupas (shrines) and hot springs.

The list of other Biosphere Reserves in India are :

1. Nilgiri (Tamil Nadu)
2. Gulf of Mannar (Tamil Nadu)
3. Sunderban (West Bengal)
4. Nanda Devi (Uttarakhand)
5. Nokrek (Meghalaya)
6. Pachmarhi (Madhya Pradesh)
7. Simlipal (Odisha)
8. Achanakmar-Amarkantak (Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh)
9. Great Nicobar (Andaman and Nicobar)
10. Agasthyamala (Kerala/Tamil nadu)

Approach: Recently The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR) of Sikkim was in news.

Related Topics: Location of other biosphere reserves.

Q19.

Answer: C

Explanation

Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species

- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences & Environment, Forest & Climate Change Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan dedicated India's only facility for conservation of endangered species.
- STATEMENT 1 is correct: The Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES), a dedicated facility of CSIR's Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad uses modern biotechnologies for conservation of endangered wildlife. (CCMB-LaCONES is the only laboratory in India that has developed methods for collection and cryopreservation of semen and oocytes from wildlife and successfully reproducing endangered blackbuck, spotted deer and Nicobar pigeons.
- STATEMENT 2 is correct: It would also facilitate the exchange of genetic material between the Indian zoos for maintaining genetic diversity and conservation management made accessible to scientists and wildlife managers for implementing conservation programs.
- Through this work, it has established Genetic Resource Bank for Indian wildlife.
- So far, genetic resources from 23 species of Indian wild animals have been collected and preserved.

- This facility would increase the collection of genetic resources from wildlife through collaboration with zoos in India.

Approach: A very important progress in the field of Wildlife Protection. Do have a basic information about it.

Q20.

Answer: A

Explanation

- They are a new class of insecticides chemically related to nicotine
- The name literally means 'new nicotine-like insecticides'.
- They affect the central nervous system of insects leading to paralysis and death.

Approach: Be very careful when reading the newspaper and always make a note of these small words. They are usually asked in the exam.

Related Topics: Read about different insecticides and antibiotics which are in the news.

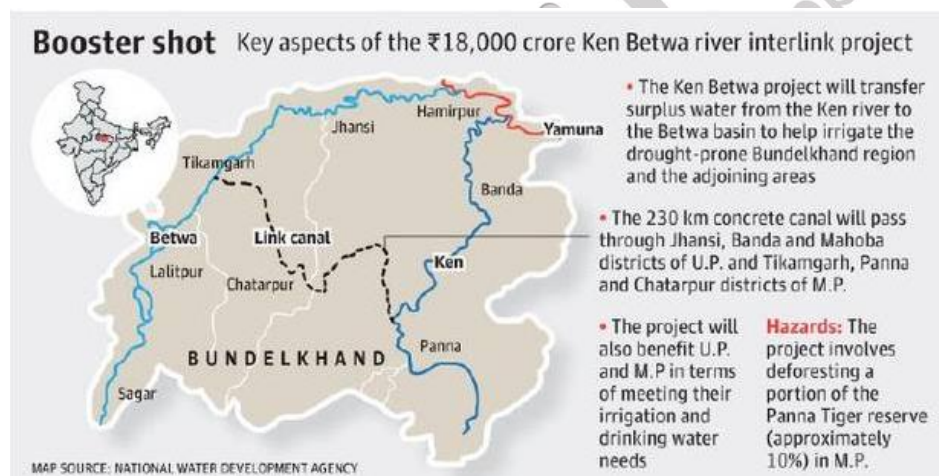
Q21.

Answer: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct. Ken-Betwa river Inter-linking Project is India's first river interlinking Project.

STATEMENT 2 is incorrect. The Project will cause deforesting a portion of Panna Tiger Reserve and not Kanha Tiger Reserve. Panna Tiger Reserve is near to ken river.



Approach: There was news regarding Ken Betwa Project. There are concerns of environmental degradation due to this project. Learn about different national park and wildlife sanctuary near these rivers.

Related Topics: Read about different tiger reserve and wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Read about different tributaries of river Yamuna

Q22.

Answer: C

Explanation:

OPTION (a) is incorrect as the Damanganga - Pinjal River interlinking project is between Maharashtra and Gujarat.

OPTION (b) is incorrect as The project is planning to transfer surplus water from Damanganga basin in Gujarat to the Pinjal reservoir in Maharashtra through Bhugad and Khargihill dam.

Option (c) is correct as the primary aim of this project to increase the supply of water to Mumbai.

Approach: There is much news regarding Damanganga - Pinjal River. There is concern regarding environmental degradation due to this project and farmers are protesting against this project.

Related Topics: Read about water basin of Damanganga and Pinjal.

1. Information about Damanganga - Pinjal Project: The proposal of Damanganga-Pinjal link envisages transfer of balance available water at the proposed Bhugad reservoir across Damanganga River and at the proposed Khargihill reservoir across Vagh river, a tributary of Damanganga river, in Damanganga basin for augmentation of water supply to Greater Mumbai to meet its domestic and industrial water requirements in the near future. The Bhugad and Khargi Hill reservoirs (proposed by NWDA) and Pinjal reservoir (proposed by Government of Maharashtra across Pinjalriver, a tributary of Vaitarna river) are proposed to be connected through pressure tunnels.

Q23.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Many of India's aquifers are composed of clay, silt and gravel carried down from Himalayan weathering by streams of uranium-rich granitic rocks. When over-pumping of these aquifers' groundwater occurs and their water levels decline, it induces oxidation conditions that, in turn, enhance uranium enrichment in the shallow groundwater that remains.

While the primary source of uranium is geogenic (naturally occurring), anthropogenic (human-caused) factors such as groundwater table decline and nitrate pollution may further enhance uranium mobilization. So both options A and option B are correct.

Increasing the water table due to good monsoon will not increase the concentration of uranium in groundwater as the oxidation process will decrease only. So option (c) is wrong.

Approach: Groundwater contamination is one of the major problems for India. So we should have a better understanding of the causes and effects of such problems.

Q24.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Out of all the given options Indravati and Udandi and sandhi Tiger Reserve are in Chhattisgarh. So these cannot be the correct option. River Mahanadi flows through Satkosia Tiger Reserve. So option A is correct. Mahanadi does not flow Through Simlipal Tiger Reserve. So Simlipal Cannot be the correct option. Forest vegetation of Satkosia tiger reserve comprises of North Indian tropical moist deciduous Forests. It is also the natural habitat of two endangered species viz. freshwater crocodile and the gharial. So option (a) is correct

Approach: Hint in the question is to know about the direction of Mahanadi. Mahanadi

flow in the lower part of Odisha. But Simlipal is in the upper part of Orissa. Similarly, Satkosia is in the lower part of Odisha. So this will be the correct option. Other tiger reserves are not in Odisha.

Q25.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Out of all the given options, Indravati and Udandi and sandhi Tiger Reserve are in Chattisgarh. So these cannot be the correct option. Satkosia Tiger Reserve is in the eastern part of Odisha or in a lower part of Odisha. It is not situated in the Northern-most part of Odisha. So it cannot be the correct option. Similipal Tiger Reserve is situated in the Northern-most part of Odisha. Tributaries of Baitarani river flowing from this Reserve. Similipal Tiger Reserve reserve is part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves since 2009. So option (b) is the correct option.

Approach: Hint in the question is Northern-most part of Odisha. One should have a good understanding of the location of these reserves on Map.

Related Topics: Read about all the tiger reserves, rivers, and hills of Orissa

Q26.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Keibullamjao National Park is in Manipur. So statement 1 is correctly matched.

Kanha National Park is in Madhya Pradesh. So statement 2 is correctly matched.

Buxa Tiger reserve is in West Bengal. So statement 3 is correctly matched.

Q27.

Answer: C

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct. As Four European countries Germany, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland launched the Transformative Carbon Asset Facility (TCAF) to boost large scale climate action in developing countries in Paris. The World Bank Group worked with these countries to develop the initiative. So statement 1 is correct

STATEMENT 2 is incorrect. As the name of four European countries who started this initiative are Germany, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland and not Italy, France, Spain, and Ireland.

STATEMENT 3 is correct. As Transformative Carbon Asset Facility (TCAF) creates incentives aimed at large scale cuts in greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries to combat climate change.

Q28.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect. As 'National disaster risk index for India' is prepared by the ministry of home affairs with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It is not prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Climate change. The

disaster risk index would map hazards and vulnerabilities including economic vulnerabilities across 640 districts and all states including UTs.

STATEMENT 2 is correct as the index is in line with India's commitment to the Sendai Framework.

The Sendai Framework is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector, and other stakeholders.

Approach: The index has been prepared for the first time in India. It was in the news also. Learn about Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction.

Related Topics: Read about the different report published by different organizations like the Environmental Performance Index.

Q29.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect. As this report is released by the World Bank and not by UNDP.

STATEMENT 2 is correct. As this report estimates how changes in temperature and monsoon patterns will affect GDP and living standards in the South Asian region. The report highlights the hotspots region in the South Asian region. Climate change could cost India 2.8 percent of GDP, and lower living standards of nearly half of its population by 2050, as average annual temperatures are expected to rise by 1-2 percent over three decades, warns this new report released by the World Bank. South Asia is highly vulnerable to climate change.

Approach: This is the first report by the World Bank to estimate the effect of climate change on poor regions of South Asia. So necessary to prepare some basics of this report.

Related Topics: Read about the different report published by different organizations like the Environmental Performance Index.

Q30.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect. As Established in 1973, the Wayanad Wildlife sanctuary is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and not part of Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserves. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is an International Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats and Nilgiri Hills ranges of South India. The Nilgiri Sub-Cluster is a part of the Western Ghats, which was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2012. It includes the Aralam, Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Silent Valley national parks, as well as the Wayanad and Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuary.

STATEMENT 2 is correct as Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is bounded by protected area network of Nagarhole and Bandipur of Karnataka in the northeast, and on the southeast by Mudumalai of Tamil Nadu. So STATEMENT 2 is correct

Approach: There was news that a rare species of spider was rediscovered from Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. So we should prepare about the location, biosphere reserves surrounding these areas.

Related Topics: Read about Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserves.

Q31.

Answer: C

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct As It was established under the aegis of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change, Government of India.

STATEMENT 2 is correct As SICOM main function is to support the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) activities in India. To implement the World Bank assisted India ICZM Project. To provide Research Development (R&D) and stakeholder participation in the management of the Coastal areas in India. To undertake any additional work or function as may be assigned by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change from time to time in the area of Coastal Management and other related activities.

Approach: There was news regarding Chandrabhaga beach of Odisha's Konark coast got Blue Flag certification. These beaches are developed by SICOM. So read about SICOM.

Q32.

Answer: D

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct. As it was established by Copenhagen-based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) in 1985 in France. The Blue Flag was created in France in 1985, as a pilot scheme from the Office of the Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe where French coastal municipalities were awarded the Blue Flag on the basis of criteria covering sewage treatment and bathing water quality. 11 French municipalities got the award in 1985

STATEMENT 2 is correct As the Blue Flag is an environmental award for beaches, sustainable boating tourism operators, and marine.

STATEMENT 3 is correct As Chandrabhaga beach of Odisha's Konark coast was first in Asia to get the Blue Flag certification.

Approach: There was news regarding Chandrabhaga beach which has got Blue Flag certification. So we should learn about the Blue flag certification.

Q33.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Operation Shikkar is related to stop the illegal trade in Ivory. Operation Shikar' was initiated soon after the discovery of organized elephant poaching in Kerala The operation that unfolded across the country revealed how poachers shot elephants dead on order, hacked their tusks with axes and sell to a middleman.

Approach: There was news regarding operation shikkar to stop the illegal trade in Ivory.

Related Topics: Read about poaching issue of one-horned rhinoceros.

Q34.

Answer: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct as Chilka Lake is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the second largest coastal lagoon in the world. Chilika Lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda, and Ganjam districts of Odisha state on the east coast of India, at the mouth of the Daya River, flowing into the Bay of Bengal, covering an area of over 1,100 km.

STATEMENT 2 is incorrect as Chilika Lake was removed from the Montreux Record register in 2002 in light of the improved conditions of the lake. In fact, Chilika lake is the first Ramsar site in Asia to be removed from the Montreux Record. At present, it is not included in the Montreux Record.

Approach: There was a news regarding the building of water aerodrome in Chilka Lake and there is the protest against it. So read about location, features, and importance of Chilka Lake.

Related Topics: Read about Montreux record, Ramsar convention, and Wetlands of International Importance.

Q35.

Answer: C

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is correct as KeibulLamjao National Park is situated in the North Eastern state of Manipur. The Park is said to be the only floating national park in the world. Brow-antlered deer is found only in KeibulLamjao National Park. Brow-antlered deer is also known as dancing deer and Sangai.

STATEMENT 2 is correct as Loktak Lake is under the Montreux Record. Marshland located on the southern end of the Loktak Lake was marked and named KeibulLamjao National Park.

Approach: There was a news regarding the decreasing area of KeibulLamjao National Park due to anthropogenic factors. So read about the features of KeibulLamjao National Park, Loktak Lake, and Montreux Record.

Related Topics: Read about Montreux record, Ramsar convention, and a Wetland of International Importance.

Q36.

Answer: D

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect as it is a statutory body under section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Acts 1960. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted in 1960 to prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals and to amend the laws relating to the prevention of cruelty to animals. As per the provisions of the law, the government of India formed the Animal Welfare Board of India.

STATEMENT 2 is also incorrect as it was established under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Acts 1960. It was not established under the wildlife protection Act, 1972.

Approach: Animal Welfare Board of India was in the news regarding raising voice against

animal cruelty.

Related Topics: Read about Central Pollution Control Board, National Green Tribunal, and Central Zoo Authority.

Q37.

Answer: D

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect as it was established under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. This act is for the preservation of biological diversity in India and provides a mechanism for equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of traditional biological resources and knowledge. The Act was enacted to meet the obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to which India is a party.

STATEMENT 2 is incorrect as it is a statutory body established under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. So statement 2 is wrong.

Approach: National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was in the news regarding genetic resource sharing. So read about the NBA.

Q38.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1 is incorrect as Great Himalayan National Park is in Himachal Pradesh. Great Himalayan National Park was constituted in 1984 and was formally notified as a national park in 1999. It is located in Banjar Sub-Division of Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh, India, in the far Western Himalayas. GHNP is one of the most recent additions to a huge network of wildlife reserves found in the Himalayan region in India and adjoining countries.

STATEMENT 2 is correct as Nokrek biosphere reserve is in Meghalaya. Nokrek National Park, the core area of Nokrek Biosphere Reserve, is a national park located approximately 2 km from Tura Peak in West Garo Hills district of Meghalaya, India. UNESCO added this National park to its list of Biosphere Reserves in May 2009. Along with Balphakram national park, Nokrek is a hotspot of biodiversity in Meghalaya.

STATEMENT 3 is correct as Nanda Devi National Park is in Uttarakhand. The Nanda Devi National Park or Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, established in 1982, is a national park situated around the peak of Nanda Devi (7816 m) in the state of Uttarakhand in northern India. The entire park lies at an elevation of more than 3,500 m (11,500 ft) above mean sea level.

Q39.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 2: It is used to increase the sensory attribute or freshness of the fish artificially. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.

Formalin is a common adulterant in fish. Traders and suppliers use it to extend the storage life of fresh or chilled fish and artificially improve the sensory attributes. It is soluble in water and produced by mixing the formaldehyde with water.

WHO classifies formaldehyde as carcinogenic to humans, with sufficient evidence for

causing nasopharyngeal cancer in humans with occupational exposure, although no carcinogenicity is so far established through ingestion route.

Approach: Be aware of reports of the presence of formalin in the fish in the interstate trade in South India.

Related Topics: Adulteration in common foods and their details.

Q40.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Oxytocin is prescribed for the initiation of uterine contractions and induction of labor in women as well as stimulation of contractions during labor. It is also included in the list of the life-saving drug under the National List of Essential Medicines.

Its misuse is widespread in the dairy industry where livestock is injected with oxytocin to make them release milk at a time convenient to farmers. The hormone is also used to increase the size of vegetables such as pumpkins, watermelons, brinjals, gourds, and cucumbers.

Approach: Appeared in the news as the government has banned private manufacturers to produce Oxytocin.

Related Topics: National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and Antimicrobial Resistance.

Q41.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Lake Titicaca is located on the border between Bolivia and Peru. Bolivia had planned to build an underwater archeological museum in the lake. It is also the highest navigable lake in the world. It contains a rich resource of the Hispanic civilization. The project will be taken up by the government of Bolivia with the help of Belgium.

Related Topics: Political unrest in Venezuela and its impact on the Latin American Countries.

Q42.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 2: It contains higher levels of carbon and sulfur content than coal. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.

Pet coke is a byproduct created when bitumen found in tar sands is refined into crude oil. Bitumen contains a higher number of carbon atoms than regular oil and it's these atoms, extracted from large hydrocarbon molecules using heat, that go on to form petcoke. It has a high calorific value (34.8 MegaJoules/kg) but also contains a high amount of sulfur and vanadium.

Import of pet coke into India is allowed for only cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide, and gasification industries when used as the feedstock or in the manufacturing process. The importer requires a license and needs periodic submission to the government about the stock available and their usage.

Approach: Pet coke and furnace oil had appeared in the news, as the Supreme Court

ruled its ban in India due to its greater polluting nature. Hence a good follow up of current affairs will help to make this question correct.

Related Topics: Usage of furnace oil in India, Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA)

Q43.

Answer: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 2: GEF is implemented by UNDP. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.

Small Grants Programme was established in 1992 during the year of Rio Earth Summit. This forms the Part of the Global Environment Facility implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

It provides financial and technical support to projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods.

The programme provides grants of up to \$50,000 directly to local communities including indigenous people, community-based organizations and other non-governmental groups for projects in Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Land Degradation and Sustainable Forest Management, International Waters and Chemicals.

Approach: The Global Environment Facility has conducted its sixth summit in July 2018 at Vietnam. It forms an important part of the global environment funding and conservation framework. Hence be aware of the programmes relating to environmental conservation.

Related Topics: Global Environmental Facility and the Green Climate Fund.

Q44.

Answer: c

Explanation:

Harrier birds are plain-looking, long-legged, and long-tailed birds of slender build that cruise low over meadows and marshes looking for mice, snakes, frogs, small birds, and insects. They have around eleven sub-species.

Hen, Pallid, Montagu's, Western marsh and Pied are five species of harriers that come to spend the winter in India from Central Asia and Russia. The number migrating into India is decreasing which represents a vulnerability to the population.

They are affected by the use of pesticides and reducing grasslands and wetlands. The bird occupies the top position in the food web which makes it inevitable in controlling the prey population. This makes its reducing population affecting the agricultural productivity as an increase of rodents will affect standing crops.

Approach: A survey has been conducted on the population of the bird and it has shown its declining population. Good knowledge of the food web and inference about the role of the top predator will help to answer this question correctly.

Related Topics: The vulnerability of vulture to Diclofenac.

Q45.

Answer: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 2: It can tolerate waterlogging. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.

STATEMENT 3: It is nearly threatened. Hence statement 3 is incorrect.

Red Sanders is generally found at altitudes of 150 - 900 m. It grows on dry, hilly, often rocky ground, and occasionally found on precipitous hillsides also. It prefers lateritic and gravelly soil and cannot tolerate waterlogging. In the natural habitat, the tree experiences hot, dry climate with normal rainfall of 88-105 cm received from north-east and south-west monsoons.

They have highly restrictive distribution in the South Eastern portion of Indian peninsula to which it is endemic. The Palakonda and Seshachalam hill ranges of Cuddapah-Chittoor districts of the State of Andhra Pradesh are its principal geographical range which extends slightly into the neighboring Anantapur, Kurnool, Prakasam and Nellore Districts of Andhra Pradesh. Sporadic wild populations occur in the adjoining districts of the neighboring states of Tamil Nadu & Karnataka. They are highly wanted timber for furniture & Musical instruments and finds application in traditional medicine of China. They are reclassified as nearly threatened by IUCN from their previous status of endangered due to conservation efforts taken by law enforcement authorities.

Approach: Red Sanders appears frequently in the news due to smuggling activities. Note down the highly smuggled items from India and list down their characteristics and economic importance. This helps to answer this question correctly.

Related Topics: Smuggling of Rhino horns, Ivory and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

Q46.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Indian Ocean Research Vessel (ORV), Sagar Nidhi as a part of Indo-US expedition, studies about the vagaries of the Bay of Bengal-fed southwest monsoon, which accounts for 70% of India's annual rainfall.

Sagar Nidhi will sail through the Bay of Bengal for collecting data on ocean conditions at different depths and locations and study the underlying principles of interaction of the uppermost layer of the ocean with the atmosphere.

The project seeks to cast light on the complex mechanics of the monsoon, which have confounded researchers for a long time. The biggest challenge is the unpredictability of the weather phenomenon like breaks in the June-September rainy season.

The research project, which began in 2013, is funded by the ministry of earth sciences, under the national monsoon mission, and the US Office of Naval Research, which has been working with institutions such as Sri Lanka's National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency.

Related Topics: International Deep Ocean Drilling Mission and Deep Ocean Mission.

Q47.

Answer: C

Explanation:

PAIR 1: Boto belongs to the Amazon river. Hence the pair 1 is incorrect.

All the above species are river dolphins belonging to different river system across Asia and

South America. Boto belonging to the Amazon river system, Tucuxi belonging to the Amazon and Orinoco river system, Susu is the local name of Gangetic Dolphin, Bhulan belongs to downstream of Indus river system, Irrawaddy dolphins in Irrawaddy and Mekong river system.

Approach: Gangetic river dolphin is the national aquatic animal of India, hence be aware of the similar species in the other parts of the world.

Related Topics: Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary

Q48.

Answer: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1: Males are larger than Females. Hence statement 1 is incorrect.

STATEMENT 3: The Highest population is found at Eravikulam National Park. Hence the statement 3 is incorrect.

Nilgiri tahrs are stocky goats with short, coarse fur and a bristly mane. Males are larger than females and have a darker color when mature. Adult males develop a light grey area or "saddle" on their backs and are hence called "saddlebacks".

They inhabit the open montane grassland habitats at elevations from 1200 to 2600 m of the South Western Ghats. Their range extends over 400 km from north to south, and Eravikulam National Park is home to the largest population. The other significant concentration is in the Nilgiri Hills, with smaller populations in the Anamalai Hills, Periyar National Park, Palni Hills and other pockets in the Western Ghats south of Eravikulam, almost to India's southern tip.

Approach: Be aware of important endemic species of India. It is also the state animal of Tamil Nadu.

Related Topics: Climatic change and Nilgiri Tahr.

Q49.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1: It grows in salt marshes and mangroves. Hence statement 1 is incorrect.

Salicornia plant is a succulent flowering plant occurring in the salt marshes and mangroves ecosystem. It is served as a salad in western countries and the trend is also catching up in Indian cities. Salt is also extracted from it which contains a low amount of sodium which is helpful for people with hypertension. Andhra Pradesh Government has proposed to utilize the plant for salt extraction as it occurs abundantly in the state.

Approach: These kinds of questions can be answered by reading current affairs magazines or regular reading of newspapers.

Q50.

Answer: B

Explanation:

OPTION B: It is also found in the Eastern Ghats. Hence option b is incorrect.

Neelakurinji is a unique plant. It blooms only at an altitude above 1000 meters. It can

vary anywhere from 1000 m to 2300 m. But the greater the altitude, shorter is the shrub. It blooms once in twelve years in blue to purple color. They usually occur in the Western Ghats but also found in the Shevroys in the Eastern Ghats, some parts of Idukki in Kerala and of course, the Sandur hills of Ballari district.

Approach: Neelakurinji is a unique plant and related to the fragile western ghats, hence be aware of it.

Related Topics: Shola Forest and Nilgiri Tahr

Q51.

Answer: B

Explanation:

ENTRY 2: Arsenic is found in the eastern part of India. Hence it is incorrect.

Fluoride contamination happens due to overexploitation of the groundwater which is the case of the western states of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. A recent study by Duke University has found that Uranium contamination in more than 16 states in Western India.

Arsenic contamination is more prevalent in the eastern part of India in West Bengal, Assam, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh among others.

Approach: A number of Kidney related problems are due to these contaminations. Hence make a visualization of the area affected by contamination and their details.

Related Topics: Arsenic metal removal by Indian Technology (AMRIT) developed in IIT Madras.

Q52.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 1: It is conducted by UNEP. Hence statement 1 is incorrect.

World Environment Day is the UN's most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment. It is conducted by the UNEP. In 2018 the celebrations are hosted by India with the theme of Beat Plastic Pollution.

It is the Earth hour that is conducted by the Worldwide Fund For Nature.

Approach: It is one of the major international events hosted in India, hence be aware of the details.

Related Topics: The plastic ban in various states of India.

Q53.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has launched a scale-out plan to transition 6 million farms/farmers cultivating 8 million hectares of land from conventional synthetic chemical agriculture to Zero-Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) by 2024, making Andhra Pradesh India's first 100 percent natural farming state. Hence option C is correct.

Approach: It is one of the agricultural practices from India studied worldwide for

sustainable development.

Related Topics: Role of Subash Palekar in ZBNF, Organic farming, precision farming, GM crops

Q54.

Answer: D

Explanation:

All the given international environmental conventions are financed through GEF.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, is a catalyst for action on the environment — and much more.

The GEF is A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP of 18 agencies — including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, national entities, and international NGOs — working with 183 countries to address 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).

Approach: All these organizations are very important. If you read about all the important organizations then you can easily solve the question.

Related topics: Rotterdam convention, Diclofenac, Endosulfan

Q55.

Answer: B

Explanation:

STATEMENT 3 is incorrect

We currently live in what is called the Holocene, which reflects everything that has happened over the past 11,700 years. Further, the Holocene is subdivided into three parts, the Greenlandian, the Northgrippian, and the youngest addition, the Meghalayan. The Greenlandian runs from 11,700 to 8,200 years ago; the Northgrippian runs from 8,200 to 4,200 years ago, and finally, the Meghalayan runs from 4,200 years ago to present.

Geologists divide up the Earth's existence into slices of time and have classified a distinct age in Earth's history, and they're calling it the Meghalayan Age. The Meghalayan runs from 4,200 years ago to the present. A stalagmite which was found in the northeastern Indian state of Meghalaya has provided chemical signatures as evidence. For those who do not know, a stalagmite is a type of a rock formation that forms on the floor of a cave due to the accumulation from ceiling drippings.

Approach: Basic geography concepts should be updated with recent developments

Related topics: Geological time scale and their significance, Holocene Epoch

Q56.

Answer: C

Explanation:

In a landmark ruling, the Uttarakhand High Court accorded the status of “legal person or entity” to animals. Court has ruled that all animals should enjoy the same rights as human beings, saying “they have distinct personas with corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person.

Approach: Such a question can be solved only if you follow daily current affairs.

Related topics: Judgment regarding river as a living entity

Q57.

Answer: C

Explanation:

There are a total of eleven Indian biosphere reserves that are included in the list of UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere: Gulf of Mannar, Sunderban, Nanda Devi, Nokrek, Pachmarhi, Simlipal, Achanakmar-Amarkantak, Great Nicobar and Agasthyamala. Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve.

Approach: Do not confuse in biosphere reserve notified by India (TOTAL18) and those which are included in the UNESCO list (TOTAL 11)

Related topics: Read about all 18 biospheres of India (state, flora and fauna, tiger reserves, bird sanctuary etc), Ramsar sites

Q58.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve has become the 11th Biosphere Reserve from India that has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

The decision to include Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve in WNBR was taken at the 30th Session of the International Coordinating Council (ICC) of the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme of UNESCO held at Palembang, Indonesia.

Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve in Sikkim is one of the highest ecosystems in the world, reaching elevations of 1, 220 meters above sea-level. It includes a range of eco lines, varying from subtropical to the Arctic, as well as natural forests in different biomes, that support an immensely rich diversity of forest types and habitats.

Approach: such a question can be solved if you read in detail about such reserves, their location, their special feature, climate and any news related with it.

Related topics: Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme of UNESCO

Q59.

Ans: A

Explanation:

STATEMENT 2 is incorrect:

With a view to harnessing the potential of the bamboo crop, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing a 100%

Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) in which National Bamboo Mission (NBM) is being implemented as a subscheme.

The Mission envisages promoting holistic growth of the bamboo sector by adopting an area-based, regionally differentiated strategy and to increase the area under bamboo cultivation and marketing.

Approach: for any questions related to schemes/programmes, ministry, objective and funding, sub schemes becomes important.

Related topics: Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Indian Forest Act, 1927

Q60.

Answer: D

Explanation:

'Deep Ocean Mission' is launched by Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India which aims to explore the depths of the Ocean for the possibilities of deep-sea mining. Its focus will be on technologies for deep-sea mining, underwater vehicles, underwater robotics and ocean climate change advisory services, among others.

The program on Polymetallic nodules was initiated at CSIR-NIO with the collection of the first nodule sample from the Arabian Sea on board the first Research Vessel Gaveshani on 26 January 1981. India was the first country in the world to have been given the Pioneer Area for exploration of deep-sea mineral viz. Polymetallic nodules in the Central Indian Ocean Basin in 1987.

Approach: Polymetallic nodules economical significance growing day by day and India has its unique position in the deep sea mining so it is essential to keep a track of the developments in this field.

Related topics: Oceanic resources, Polymetallic nodules, Oceanic ecological disturbance due to mining

Q61.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The neelakurinji blooms in the Anamalai hills near Munnar, a phenomenon that occurs once in 12 years.

Neelakurinji plant is a tropical plant species which is generally found in Asia and Australia. It belongs to the genus Strobilanthes which has around 450 species of which 146 are found in India and of them, about 43, in Kerala. Also the Government in 2006 had formed the Kurinjimala sanctuary for the protection of the plants and the ecosystem.

Approach: Such questions can be solved only if you follow Current Affairs regularly. Due to its unique feature it becomes important for the exam.

Related Topic: Kurinjimala sanctuary, tropical plant species, Anamalai hills etc

Q62.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Nipah virus is a zoonotic virus and can also be transmitted through contaminated food or directly between people. In infected people, it causes a range of illnesses from asymptomatic (subclinical) infection to acute respiratory illness and fatal encephalitis. The virus can also cause severe disease in animals such as pigs, resulting in significant economic losses for farmers.

Although the Nipah virus has caused only a few known outbreaks in Asia, it infects a wide range of animals and causes severe disease and death in people, making it a public health concern.

Related Topics: Nipah outbreak in India and Kysannur Forest disease.

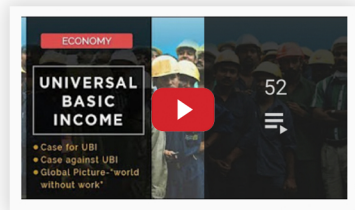




Our **YouTube channel** is a one stop destination for CSE preparation. Join us for:



Daily '**The Hindu**' newspaper analysis.



Weekly '**Economy This Week**' video lectures.



Weekly '**Geography This Week**' video lectures.



Explained Series: Detailed and simple explanations of complex issues like Articles 35A & 370, MFN Status, Section 377 of IPC and much more.