

September 2019 Monthly Magazine Answer Key

1. Consider the following statements with reference to cholera:

1. Cholerae bacteria have developed resistance against most routinely used antibiotics.
 2. Cholerae is caused by eating food or drinking water contaminated with a bacterium called Vibrio cholerae
- Which of the statement/s is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) Both 1 and 2
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct

2. Which of the following statements describes the 'Build for Digital India' programme?

- a) It is a programme for educating government servants about the techniques in e-Governance.
- b) It is a scheme for building more Common Service Centres (CSCs) across rural India.
- c) It is a scholarship programme for school children who have interest towards innovations in computer science.
- d) It is a platform for engineering students to develop technology-based solutions for key social issues.

Ans: D

Explanation:

Google had signed a statement of intent with the Ministry of Electronics and IT for rolling out 'Build for Digital India' programme. The programme will offer a platform for engineering students to develop technology-based solutions that tackle key social issues.

3. Consider the following statements with reference to the Electors Verification Programme (EVP) introduced by the Election Commission:

1. Through EVP, voters can update and verify details in the electoral roll in order to remove logical errors like multiple entries and missing names among others.
2. Both online and offline modes are available for voters to participate in the EVP.
3. A voter will not be able to tag his/her family members in the same EVP account to verify and update the respective data.

Which of the statement/s is/are correct?

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

Ans: C

Explanation:

A voter can tag family members in the same EVP account to verify and update the respective data.

4. which of the following is not one of the four 'mathas' founded by shankaracharya across India?

- a) Dwaraka
- b) Puri
- c) Kanyakumari
- d) Sringeri

Ans: C

Explanation:

The four 'mathas' founded by Shankaracharya are: Puri (Odisha), Sharada Peetham (Sringeri, Karnataka), Dwaraka (Gujarat), and Jyotir Math (Uttarakhand).

5. Which of the following organizations releases the Special Report on Climate Change and Land?

- a) World Meteorological Organization
- b) Climate Action Network
- c) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- d) Global Atmosphere Watch

Ans: C

Explanation:

The Special Report on Climate Change and Land is released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

6. Consider the following statements with reference to Ajmer Dargah:

- 1. A Dargah is the tomb or shrine of an Islamic saint.
- 2. Ajmer Dargah was built as the mausoleum of Nizamuddin Auliya.
- 3. It has a square structure of the royal darbar called Mehfil Khana.

Which of the statement/s is/are correct?

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

Ans: D

Explanation:

Ajmer Dargah was built as the mausoleum of Moinuddin Chishti.

7. Which of the following historic sites has the rock cut relief sculpture known as Penance of Arjuna or the Descent of the Ganga?

- a) Halebidu
- b) Mahabalipuram
- c) Muziris
- d) Adichanellur

Ans: B

Explanation:

The rock-cut relief sculpture known as Penance of Arjuna or the Descent of the Ganga is located at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu. This is a giant open-air bas relief. It depicts Bhagiratha bringing down the Ganges to earth. It is world's largest open air bas relief.

8. Consider the following statements about the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB):

- 1. The A-WEB was founded in the year 1957.
- 2. India is a founding member
- 3. It has 115 members and 20 regional associations or organisations as associate members.

Which of the statement/s is/are correct?

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

d) 3 only

Ans: C

Explanation:

A-WEB was officially inaugurated in 2013 only.

9. Consider the following statements:

1. Ethanol can be produced from sugarcane, maize, wheat.
2. Ethanol is a flammable, colourless liquid.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Ethanol, an anhydrous ethyl alcohol having chemical formula of C_2H_5OH , can be produced from fermentation of sugarcane, maize, wheat and other plant products, which have high starch content. Ethanol is a volatile, flammable, colourless liquid with a slight characteristic odour. Anhydrous ethanol is one of the biofuels produced today and it is a subset of renewable energy. It is considered to be an excellent alternative clean-burning fuel to gasoline

10. Consider the following statements:

1. Apache is a advanced multi role heavy attack helicopter
2. India has signed a contract with Russian government for apache helicopters

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Apache is the most advanced multi-role heavy attack helicopter in the world. Apache attack helicopters are being purchased to replace the Mi-35 fleet. India is 16th nation to select the Apache and the AH-64E is the most advanced variant. India contracted 22 Apache helicopters from the U.S. government and Boeing in September 2015 and the entire fleet will be in service with the IAF by 2020. The government has also cleared the acquisition of six additional Apaches for the Indian Army which has been formally approved by the U.S.

11. Consider the following statements:

1. River Yarlung Zangbo is known as the Brahmaputra in India.
2. The River forms the world's largest and deepest canyon.
3. It originates at Angsi Glacier in western Tibet.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All three statements are correct.

12. Consider the following statements:

1. Exercise Malabar is a trilateral naval exercise.
2. It involves China, Japan and India as permanent partners.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Exercise Malabar is a trilateral naval exercise involving the United States, Japan and India as permanent partners.

13. Consider the following statements:

1. Eastern Economic Forum is an international forum always held in Vladivostok, Russia
2. It is held biannually

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Eastern Economic Forum is an international forum held each year in Vladivostok, Russia, since 2015 in September. It is held, for the purpose of encouraging foreign investment in the Russian Far East.

14. Consider the following statements:

1. Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 2019, does not allow government to designate individuals as terrorists.
2. It allows National Investigation Agency officers, of rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The recently-amended Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act allows government to designate individuals as terrorists. Previously only an organisation could be designated as a terrorist organisation. Recent amendment empowers the NIA to seize properties, which previously required permission from the Director General of Police. It allows NIA officers, of rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases. Previously, only Deputy Superintendent or Assistant Commissioner of Police or above could do so.

15. Consider the following statements:

1. Sex-sorted semen can be used to ensure that only female calves or heifers are born.
2. Artificial insemination can improve the fertility and milk production capacity of the calves they produce.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The main benefit of using sex-sorted semen is that the farmer can ensure that only female calves or heifers are born. Artificially inseminating cows using semen from genetically superior bulls would also improve the fertility and milk production capacity of the calves they produce, thus incentivising farmers to keep them longer rather than abandoning them.

16. Consider the following statements:

1. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is a statutory body.
2. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is the administrative Ministry of FSSAI.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous statutory body. It was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act). Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is the administrative Ministry of FSSAI.

17. 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' is under the aegis of

- a. NITI Aayog
- b. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- c. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- d. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Answer: A

18. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) operates under the jurisdiction of

- a. Ministry of Home affairs
- b. Ministry of Defence
- c. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- d. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Central Bureau of Investigation is the premier investigating agency of India. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

19. Consider the following statements:

1. Measles is a highly infectious illness caused by the rubeola virus.
2. Rubella causes irreversible birth defects.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Rubella, also called German measles or three-day measles, is a contagious viral infection best known by its distinctive red rash. Rubella is not the same as measles (rubeola), though the two illnesses do share some characteristics, including the red rash. Rubella virus can cause hearing impairments, eye and heart defects and brain damage in newborns. Rubella/ congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) causes irreversible birth defects.

20. Consider the following statements:

1. Great Indian bustard is classified as critically endangered as per IUCN Red data list.
2. These birds are often found in the same habitat as blackbuck.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The great Indian bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) or Indian bustard is a bustard found on the Indian subcontinent. It is a large bird with a horizontal body and long bare legs, giving it an ostrich like appearance. These birds are often found associated in the same habitat as blackbuck.

21. Consider the following statements:

1. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights is a constitutional body.
2. Its Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
3. As per the commissions' definition "Children" includes individuals of age of upto 18 years.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights is a statutory body.

22. "Craniopagus" is:

- a. A medical condition where twins are born with fused brain and skull
- b. A medical condition where a part of the brain becomes inflamed and causes symptoms that present as fever
- c. A new species of spider found in the forests of Kerala
- d. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Craniopagus is a medical condition where twins are born with fused brain and skull. Craniopagus twins are conjoined twins that are fused at the cranium.

23. Which of the following is the biggest Harappan site?

- a. Mohenjodaro
- b. Rakhigarhi
- c. Lothal
- d. Kalibangan

Answer: B

Explanation:

Rakhigarhi in Hisar district, Haryana, is the biggest Harappan civilisation site. Until now, specialists in the Harappan civilisation had argued that Mohenjo-daro in Pakistan was the largest among the 2,000 Harappan sites known to exist in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The archaeological remains at Mohenjodaro extend around 300 hectares. With new

excavations carried out leading to the discovery of two additional mounds, the total area of the Rakhigarhi site will be 350 hectares making it the largest

24. The peninsula of Crimea is located between which of the following seas?

- a) Black Sea and Sea of Azov
- b) Adriatic Sea and Ionian Sea
- c) Mediterranean Sea and Ligurian Sea
- d) North Sea and Celtic Sea

Answer: A

Explanation:

The peninsula of Crimea is located between Black Sea and the Sea of Azov

25. Consider the following statements with reference to Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act:

- 1. The Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Act was passed in 1948.
 - 2. The Act grants special powers to security forces to maintain public order in disturbed areas.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Act was passed in 1958.

26. What is the importance of 'Gram Stain' test in medical science?

- a) A test to identify different types of bacteria.
- b) A test to diagnose colour blindness.
- c) A test to assess the degree of burns.
- d) None of the above.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Gram stain test is used to identify between gram positive and gram negative types of bacteria.

27. Consider the following statements about the National Cancer Tissue Biobank (NCTB):

- 1. The NCTB is set up at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.
 - 2. It has the capacity to stock 50,000 genomic samples from cancer patients.
 - 3. It operates in collaboration with the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR).
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The NCTB is set up at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

28. Consider the following statements with respect to "Sentinelese" tribes :

- 1. Sentinelese are designated as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
- 2. They inhabit the North Sentinel Island of Andaman and Nicobar islands.

3. They are considered one of the most isolated tribes in the world.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

29. Nilgiri Tahr is the state animal of:

- a. Tamil Nadu
- b. Kerala
- c. Andhra Pradesh
- d. Karnataka

Answer: A

Explanation:

Nilgiri Tahr is endemic to the Nilgiri Hills and the southern portion of the Western Ghats in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It is the State animal of Tamil Nadu.

30. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Saharias are not classified under the category of particularly vulnerable tribal group.
- 2. Saharias are majorly found in Madhyapradesh and also in Rajasthan.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Saharias are a particularly vulnerable tribal group. The Saharia are an ethnic group in the state of Madhya Pradesh. They are also found in Baran district of Rajasthan.

31. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The keystone species of the Mukurthi National Park is the Nilgiri tahr
- 2. Mukurthi National Park is a part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Mukurthi National Park (MNP) is a protected area located in the western corner of the Nilgiris Plateau west of Ootacamund hill station in the northwest corner of Tamil Nadu state in the Western Ghats mountain range of South India. The park was created to protect its keystone species, the Nilgiri tahr. The park is a part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India's first International Biosphere Reserve.

32. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Goiter is a swelling of the neck resulting from enlargement of the thyroid gland.

2. The most common cause of goiter is an excess of iodine in the diet.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The most common cause of goiters worldwide is a lack of iodine in the diet. Deficiency of iodine can result in a range of disabilities and disorders such as goitre, hypothyroidism, cretinism, abortion, still births, mental retardation and psychomotor defects

33. Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations convention to combat desertification (UNCCD)

- 1. It stems from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21
- 2. It is the only internationally legally binding framework set up to address the problem of desertification.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is a Convention to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through national action programs that incorporate long-term strategies supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements. The Convention, being the only convention stemming from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21, was adopted in Paris, France on 17 June 1994 and entered into force in December 1996. It is the only internationally legally binding framework set up to address the problem of desertification.

34. Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India fortification of salt with iodine is mandatory, for direct human consumption.
- 2. The Supreme Court has mandated universal iodization.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Iodine is a vital micro-nutrient for the optimal mental and physical development of human beings. Deficiency of iodine can result in a range of disabilities and disorders such as goitre, hypothyroidism, cretinism, abortion, still-births, mental retardation, and psychomotor defects. In 1992, India made fortification of salt with iodine mandatory, for direct human consumption. In 2011, the Supreme Court also mandated universal iodization for the control of iodine deficiencies.

35. Consider the following statements:

- 1. When the natural gas is liquefied, its volume reduces by 600 times from its gaseous state.
- 2. Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is converted back to natural gas through a process known as Regasification.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct. Regasification is a process of converting liquefied natural gas (LNG) at -162°C (-260°F) temperature back to natural gas at atmospheric temperature. The natural gas is liquefied to facilitate its transportation as its volume reduces by 600 times from its gaseous state.

36. Consider the following statements:

1. The Smart Cities Mission is undertaken by the Urban Development Ministry.
2. The Smart Cities Mission works in partnership with the state governments in which the different cities are located.

Which of the given statement/s is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct. Smart Cities Mission, sometimes referred to as Smart City Mission, is an urban renewal and retrofitting program by the Government of India. It was launched in 2015 with the mission of developing 100 smart cities across the country making them citizen friendly and sustainable. The mission is undertaken by the Urban Development Ministry. It works in partnership with the state governments in which the different cities are located.

37. Consider the following statements with respect to Gwadar Port:

1. Gwadar Port is situated on the Arabian Sea.
2. It lies to the West of Chabahar port.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Gwadar Port is situated on the Arabian Sea. It lies to the East of Chabahar port. The port features prominently in the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) plan, and is considered to be a link between the ambitious One Belt, One Road and Maritime Silk Road projects.

38. Consider the following statements:

1. Motihari-Amlekhganj oil pipeline is a project between India and Bangladesh.
2. It is South Asia's first cross-border oil product pipeline.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Motihari-Amlekhganj oil pipeline project is a project between India and Nepal. It is South Asia's First Cross-border Oil Pipeline. The 69-km pipeline, having a capacity of 2 million metric ton per annum, will provide cleaner petroleum

products at affordable costs to the people of Nepal. The project is being led by the Indian Oil Corporation and the Nepal Oil Corporation which has built infrastructure in Amlekhgunj for distribution of energy in Nepal.

39. Consider the following statements:

1. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional intergovernmental organization comprising six countries in Southeast Asia.
2. India is a Member of ASEAN
3. ASEAN is headquartered at Jakarta in Indonesia

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a regional intergovernmental organization comprising ten countries in Southeast Asia. The 10 ASEAN members are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos and Vietnam. ASEAN is headquartered at Jakarta, Indonesia.

40. Consider the following statements with respect to National Commission for Scheduled Tribes:

1. National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is a constitutional body.
2. It is the central authority for declaring an area as a tribal area.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Home Ministry is the central authority for declaring an area as a tribal area.

41. Consider the following statements with respect to the Sixth Schedule of Indian Constitution:

1. Sixth Schedule is related to the administration of the North Eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura and Mizoram.
2. The Sixth Schedule provides for District Councils and Regional Councils.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Sixth Schedule is related to the administration of the North Eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. It gives tribal communities considerable autonomy.

6th schedule provides for District Councils and Regional Councils with certain legislative and judicial powers. The District Council and the Regional Council under the Sixth Schedule have real power to make laws, possibility on the various legislative subjects, receiving grants-in-aids from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the costs of schemes for development, health care, education, roads and regulatory powers to state control.

42. Consider the following statements:

1. Brucellosis is a zoonotic disease.

2. Brucellosis causes early abortions in animals, and prevents the addition of new calves to the animal population.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Brucellosis is a disease caused by the bacteria of the genus *Brucella*. These bacteria are primarily passed among animals, and they cause disease in many different vertebrates. Brucellosis causes early abortions in animals, and prevents the addition of new calves to the animal population. Brucellosis is a widespread zoonosis mainly transmitted from cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and camels through direct contact with blood, placenta, fetuses or uterine secretions, or through consumption of contaminated raw animal products (especially unpasteurized milk and soft cheese). Zoonoses or Zoonotic diseases are infectious diseases that can naturally be transmitted / spread between animals (usually vertebrates) and humans. These diseases can be caused by viruses, fungi, parasites and bacteria.

43. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Namami Gange is an integrated Ganga Conservation Programme that comprehensively addresses pollution issues in River Ganga.
- 2. Cleaning of River Yamuna is also part of the Namami Gange Mission.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

'Namami Gange Programme', is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government in June 2014 to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga. It was launched with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore. It is an integrated Ganga Conservation Programme that comprehensively addresses pollution issues in Ganga main stream as well as its tributaries.

44. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Pangong Tso is an endorheic lake.
- 2. It is a brackish water lake.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Pangong Tso is a long narrow, deep, endorheic (landlocked) lake situated in the Ladakh Himalayas. It is a brackish water lake, that freezes over in winter, and becomes ideal for ice skating and polo.

45. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Earth's mass is 8 times the mass of the exoplanet K2-18b.
- 2. K2-18b planet orbits the cool dwarf star K2-18.
- 3. K2-18b was discovered by NASA's Kepler spacecraft.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Exoplanet K2-18b is eight times the mass of Earth. The planet orbits the cool dwarf star K2-18, which is about 110 light years from Earth in the Leo constellation. K2-18b was discovered in 2015 by NASA's Kepler telescope.

46. Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is:

- a. An index which shows the growth rates in different industry groups of the economy in a stipulated period of time.
- b. An index which shows the price of a representative basket of wholesale goods.
- c. An index which shows the inflation rate at retail level.
- d. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index which shows the growth rates in different industry groups of the economy in a stipulated period of time. The IIP index is computed and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

47. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) is a demarcation line that separates

- a. Indian-controlled territory from Pakistan-controlled
- b. Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory
- c. Indian-controlled territory from Bangladesh-controlled territory
- d. None of the above

Answer: b

48. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 43 of the Indian constitution directs the states to provide for its citizens a uniform civil code (UCC).
- 2. Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is defined in the Indian Constitution.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Ans. D

Article 44 of the Indian constitution directs the states to provide for its citizens a uniform civil code (UCC). Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is NOT defined in the Indian Constitution. Article 44 of the Directive Principles in the Constitution says the "State shall endeavour to provide for its citizens a uniform civil code (UCC) throughout the territory of India."

49. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) has been taken from the constitution of:

- a. Ireland
- b. The U.S.A
- c. Britain
- d. Russia

Ans. A

India has adopted the following from the constitution of Ireland:

- Directive Principles of State Policy
- Method of Election of the president

- Members nomination to the Rajya Sabha by the President

50. Which of the following countries do not have a Shore based Test Facility?

- a. India
- b. China
- c. United States of America
- d. Pakistan

Ans. D

A Shore Based Test Facility or the SBTF (also known as Land Based Test Facility) is used for the flight testing of aircraft that operate from aircraft carriers. They are also used for the training of the pilots who will operate the aircraft from the aircraft carriers. Only four countries in the world have SBTF or LBTF; they are China, India, Ukraine / Russia and the United States.

51. The Chairman of the Defence Acquisition Council is:

- a. Prime Minister
- b. Home Minister
- c. Defence Minister
- d. National Security Advisor

Ans. C

The Defence Acquisition Council is chaired by the Defence Minister. The objective of the Defence Acquisition Council is to ensure expeditious procurement of the approved requirements of the Armed Forces in terms of capabilities sought, and time frame prescribed, by optimally utilizing the allocated budgetary resources.

52. Which of the following festivals is associated with the performance of 'Pulikali', a folk art form of Kerala?

- a) Pongal
- b) Onam
- c) Bihu
- d) Dussehra

Answer: B

Explanation:

Pulikali is performed on the fourth day of Onam festival.

53. Consider the following statements with reference to 'Mangu Mutt' located in Puri, Odisha.

- 1. It is an important shrine revered by the followers of Sikhism.
- 2. It is believed that the shrine was visited by Guru Nanak.

Which of the statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Both the statements are correct.

54. What are the applications of Carbon Nanotubes?

- a) Optical blinders that reduce unwanted glare.
- b) Space telescopes for spotting exo-planets.
- c) Supply of power to wearable devices.
- d) All of the above.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are cylinders of one or more layers of graphene (lattice). Due to their electrical, chemical, mechanical and thermal properties, carbon nanotubes are one of the most promising materials for the electronics, computer and aerospace industries. Carbon Nanotubes can be used in optical blinders as well as in space telescopes. Another application of Carbon Nanotubes is the supply of power to wearable devices, when used as a coating on cotton yarns.

55. Consider the following statements with reference to the scheme of 'Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Product' (RoDTEP):

1. The objective of the scheme is to provide incentives to exporters.
2. The scheme will not result in any decline of revenue for the government
3. The scheme will replace the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS).

Which of the statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The revenue forgone by the government for the scheme will be Rs. 50000 Cr. per year.

56. Consider the following statements:

1. The primary reason behind the vulture population getting nearly wiped out in India was the drug Diclofenac.
2. The drug Diclofenac was commonly administered to cattle to treat inflammation.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The major reason behind the vulture population getting nearly wiped out was the drug Diclofenac. Diclofenac was found in the carcass of cattle the vultures fed on. The drug, whose veterinary use was banned in 2008, was commonly administered to cattle to treat inflammation. The veterinary drug diclofenac, which is a wonder drug for pain relief in cattle, was found to be extremely toxic to vultures and was implicated in the population crash of the species.

57. Nandankanan Zoological Park is located in:

- a. Madhya Pradesh
- b. Assam
- c. Tamil Nadu
- d. Odisha

Answer: D

58. "Vallam Kali" is

- a. An annual Hindu mela held at Kamakhya Temple Assam
- b. A traditional boat race held in the state of Kerala
- c. A traditional performing art form the state of Kerala
- d. A type of hand-painted or block-printed cotton textile produced in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Answer: B

Explanation:

Vallam Kali is a traditional boat race in Kerala, India. It is a form of canoe racing and uses paddled war canoes. It is mainly conducted during the season of the harvest festival Onam in autumn.

59. The IUCN Red List classifies White-backed vulture as:

- a. Extinct in the Wild
- b. Critically Endangered
- c. Endangered
- d. Vulnerable

Answer: B

60. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Rohingya Muslims are an ethnic minority that live mainly in the Myanmar's Rakhine State.
- 2. They have been facing persecution in the Buddhist-majority Myanmar.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct. The Rohingya are an ethnic group, largely comprising Muslims, who predominantly live in the Western Myanmar province of Rakhine. They speak a dialect of Bengali, as opposed to the commonly spoken Burmese language.

61. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 32 provides the right to Constitutional remedies.
- 2. Article 32 in the Indian constitution describes the power of High Courts to issue writs.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Article 32 provides the right to Constitutional remedies which means that a person has right to move the Supreme Court (and high courts also) for getting his fundamental rights protected. While Supreme Court has power to issue writs under article 32, High Courts have been given same powers under article 226. The Article 226 empowers High Courts to issue directions, orders or writs in the nature of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari.

62. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Habeas corpus is a judicial mandate to a prison official ordering that an inmate be brought to the court.
- 2. It is a procedure for challenging why a person has been imprisoned.
- 3. This writ can be issued against a public authority only.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The writ "Habeas corpus" can be issued against a public authority or any particular individual.

63. Consider the following statements:

1. Solomon Islands is a sovereign state.
 2. It lies to the east of Papua New Guinea.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?
- a. 1 only
 - b. 2 only
 - c. Both 1 and 2
 - d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Both the statements are correct.

64. Consider the following statements with respect to the exceptions under the Anti-defection law:

1. When 2/3rd of the legislators of a party decide to merge into another party, neither the members who decide to merge, nor the ones who stay with the original party will face disqualification.
 2. A split in a political party won't be considered a defection if a complete political party merges with another political party.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?
- a. 1 only
 - b. 2 only
 - c. Both 1 and 2
 - d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Exceptions under the Anti-defection law:

- Under the circumstance where 2/3rd of the legislators of a party decide to merge into another party, neither the members who decide to merge, nor the ones who stay with the original party will face disqualification.
- A split in a political party won't be considered a defection if a complete political party merges with another political party.
- Any person elected as speaker or chairman could resign from his party, and rejoin the party if he demitted that post.

65. Consider the following statements:

1. INS Khanderi is the second of the Indian Navy's six Kalvari-class submarines.
 2. It is a diesel-electric attack submarine.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?
- a. 1 only
 - b. 2 only
 - c. Both 1 and 2
 - d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct.

66. Consider the following statements:

1. All the NBFCs are regulated by Reserve Bank of India.
2. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
3. Deposit insurance facility of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation is not available to depositors of NBFCs.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Non-Banking Financial Companies are regulated by different regulators such as RBI, SEBI, National Housing Bank etc. NBFC cannot accept demand deposits. It does not form part of the payment and settlement system and cannot issue cheques drawn on itself; deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation is not available to depositors of NBFCs, unlike in case of banks.

67. Which of the following diseases is/are transmitted by Aedes aegypti mosquitoes?

- 1. Yellow fever
- 2. Dengue
- 3. Chikungunya
- 4. Malaria

Choose the correct answer.

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Aedes aegypti mosquitoes are responsible for transmitting dengue, chikungunya and Zika virus. It is a genus of mosquitoes originally found in tropical and subtropical zones, but now found on all continents except Antarctica. Malaria is caused by a one-celled parasite called a Plasmodium. Female Anopheles mosquitoes pick up the parasite from infected people when they bite to obtain blood needed to nurture their eggs.

68. Consider the following statements:

- 1. "Aran" is an important festival of the Adi community of Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. Rodent trapping is the main activity of the festival.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

All the statements are correct. Adi tribe is one of the prominent communities that cover the central part of Arunachal Pradesh. The prime festivals of the tribe are Aran, Solung and Etor. The Aran festival is celebrated during March of every year and rodent trapping is the main activity of the festival. It helps in controlling the rodents before growing the main crop of rice, side by side they have got ethnical importance being the exchangeable gift item during the engagement of bride and groom. The rodent meat is used during the worship of various benevolent god, goddess, deities and spirits for the well-being of human kind.

69. Consider the following statements with respect to marginal cost of fund based lending rate (MCLR):

- 1. Banks are not allowed to lend at a rate below MCLR.
- 2. MCLR is an internal benchmark.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a. 1 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The marginal cost of fund based lending rate (MCLR) is the minimum interest rate that a bank can lend at. MCLR is a tenor-linked internal benchmark which means that the rate is determined internally by the bank.

70. Consider the following statements with respect to Ayushman Bharat–PM Jan Arogya Yojana:

1. The scheme provides a defined benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per individual per year.
2. Pre and post-hospitalisation expenses are not covered under the scheme.
3. Beneficiary will be allowed to take cashless benefits from any public or private empanelled hospitals across India.

Which of the given statement/s is/are NOT correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

AB-PMJAY provides a defined benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year. To ensure that nobody is left out (especially women, children and elderly) there will be no cap on family size and age in the scheme. The benefit cover will also include pre and post-hospitalisation expenses. A defined transport allowance per hospitalization will also be paid to the beneficiary. Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country and a beneficiary covered under the scheme will be allowed to take cashless benefits from any public/private empanelled hospitals across the country.

71. Consider the following statements with respect to “Astra Missile”:

1. It is a beyond visual range missile.
3. It is the first air-to-air missile developed by India.
4. It has a strike range of 700 km.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

India has successfully flight-tested the indigenously developed air-to-air missile Astra. It is the first air-to-air missile developed by India. The state-of-the-art missile was launched from Sukhoi-30 MKI. The missile is designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The Astra missile is a beyond visual range missile of both short-range targets (up to 20 km) and long-range targets (up to 80 km) using alternative propulsion modes. Astra missile has a strike range of 70km

72. Which of the following is/are the objectives of Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY):

1. Reducing Maternal Mortality
2. Reducing Infant Mortality
3. Promoting Institutional delivery among pregnant women

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is an intervention under the National Health Mission. It is a centrally sponsored scheme. It was launched with the objective of reducing maternal and infant mortality by promoting institutional delivery among pregnant women. Under the JSY, eligible pregnant women are entitled for cash assistance irrespective of the age of mother and number of children for giving birth in a government or accredited private health facility.

73. Consider the following statements with respect to LCA Tejas:

1. LCA Tejas is an indigenous multirole combat aircraft.
2. It can carry air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided and standoff weaponry.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The HAL Tejas is an Indian single-engine, delta wing, multirole light fighter designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy. It came from the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) programme, which began in the 1980s to replace India's ageing MiG-21 fighters. In 2003, the LCA was officially named "Tejas". It can carry air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided and standoff weaponry. A multirole combat aircraft (MRCA) is a combat aircraft intended to perform different roles in combat.

74. Consider the following statements:

1. POSHAN Abhiyaan targets to reduce stunting among children in the age group 0-6 years to 25% by 2022.
2. National Council on India's Nutrition set up under the POSHAN Abhiyaan, is chaired by the Chairman of the NITI Aayog.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

National Nutrition Mission/ POSHAN Abhiyaan targets to reduce stunting, undernutrition, anemia (among young children, women and adolescent girls) and reduce low birth weight by 2%, 2%, 3% and 2% per annum respectively. Although the target to reduce Stunting is at least 2% p.a., Mission would strive to achieve reduction in Stunting from 38.4% (NFHS-4) to 25% by 2022. As per the mandate of Government of India, Ministry of Women and Child Development has constituted the National Council on India's Nutritional Challenges also known as National Council on India's Nutrition, under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog.

75. Consider the following statements:

1. Bharat Net Project is the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programme using Optical fiber.
2. The project is being funded by NITI Aayog.

Which of the given statement/s is/are NOT correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Bharat Net Project is the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programme using Optical fiber. It is implemented by Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) – a special purpose vehicle under the Telecom Ministry and is Government of India's ambitious rural internet connectivity programme. It has subsumed all the ongoing and proposed broadband network projects. The project is being funded by Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF). The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) was established with the primary objective of providing access to 'Basic' telecom services to people in the remote and rural areas at reasonable and affordable prices. Subsequently, the scope was widened to provide subsidy support for enabling access to all types of telegraph services including mobile services, broadband connectivity and creation of infrastructure like Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) in rural and remote areas.

76. Which of the following DO NOT amount to disqualification under the Anti-defection law?

1. An independent member joining a political party within 6 months of being elected.
2. A nominated member joining a political party within 6 months of his/her nomination to the house.
3. A member abstaining from voting, contrary to the directions of the party he/she belongs to.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

As per the Anti-defection law, a Member of Parliament or State Legislature is deemed to have defected if he/she being an independent member joins a political party.

When a member abstains from voting in the House, contrary to any direction of the party he/she belongs to, it amounts to disqualification.

Nominated members can choose to join a party within six months of being nominated to the house. After 6 months, they are treated as an independent member or a party member, as the case may be.

77. Consider the following statements with respect to RBI guidelines on Concurrent Audit System:

1. RBI mandates that the concurrent audit of banks be done by external auditors only.
2. The age limit for retired staff engaged as concurrent auditors has been capped at 60 years.
3. The head of internal audit in the bank should participate in the selection of concurrent auditors.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised the guidelines on concurrent audit system. The guidelines have been revised following the recommendations by an expert committee under Y.H. Malegam. It has been left to banks whether concurrent audit should be done by the bank's own staff or external auditors. The head of internal audit in the bank should participate in the selection of concurrent auditors where such function is outsourced and should be responsible for the quality review of the work of the concurrent auditors reporting to her/him. The age limit for retired staff engaged as concurrent auditors has been capped at 70 years.

78. With reference to National Investigation Agency:

1. It deals with offenses of terrorism only
2. it does not extend to citizens of India outside India
3. It extends to persons on ships and aircrafts registered in India wherever they may be

Which of above statements is/ are incorrect?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Other than offenses of terrorism, it also deals with counterfeit currency, human trafficking, narcotics or drugs, organized crime (extortion mobs and gangs), plane hijacking and violations of atomic energy act and weapons of mass destruction act.

It extends to citizens of India outside India

79. Yellow Vest movement recently seen in news was a protest in which country?

- a) United Kingdom
- b) USA
- c) France
- d) Germany

Answer: C

Explanation:

- It Started as a movement among a few people in lower middle-class rural France protesting a new eco-tax on fuel they felt would push their budgets over the edge.
- The movement was Galvanized by rising fuel prices, the high cost of living and claims that a disproportionate burden of the government's tax reforms were falling on the working and middle classes (especially those in rural and peri-urban areas)
- So protesters have called for reductions in fuel taxes, the reintroduction of the solidarity tax on wealth, the raising of the minimum wage, and the resignation of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron.
- It is named after the yellow high-visibility jackets French motorists must carry in their vehicles.

80. Consider the following statements about IMMSAREX

1. It is the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise
2. It is hosted and administered by the United States Navy

Which of above statements is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both
- d) None

Answer: D

Explanation:

- IMMSAREX:- IONS Multilateral Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise (IMMSAREX),
- It comes under the aegis of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

81. Which of the following islands is part of the Pacific Ocean?

1. Comoro Islands
2. Nauru Island
3. Solomon Islands
4. Agalega Islands
5. Assumption Islands

Choose the correct option:

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

d) 1, 4, and 5 only

Answer: C

82. Consider the following statements:

1. "Khan Quest" is a bilateral exercise between India and Mongolia.
 2. It is an annual exercise organised for sharing of practices for multinational peacekeeping operations.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are not correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

"Khaan Quest" originally began as a joint exercise between the Mongolian Armed Forces and the U.S. Pacific Command. It became an international military exercise in 2006. The international exercise "Khaan Quest" was initially started in 2003 by the United States and Mongolia. At present, India also participates in "Khaan Quest", besides "Nomadic Elephant" which is a bilateral exercise between the two countries. It brings together over a dozen foreign militaries to engage in the sharing of practices for multinational peacekeeping operations. In the exercise, personnel gain United Nations peacekeeper training as well as certification for support of peacekeeping operations. India and Mongolia at carry out regular bilateral military exercise named "Nomadic Elephant" since the year 2004.

83. Consider the following statements:

1. The fiscal deficit is the difference between the government's total expenditure and its total receipts (excluding borrowing)
 2. It is an indication of the total borrowings needed by the government.
 3. Fiscal responsibility and Budget Management Act concerns both Fiscal and Revenue deficit.
- Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Fiscal Deficit = Budgetary Deficit + Borrowings and Other Liabilities of the government. The difference between total revenue and total expenditure of the government is termed as fiscal deficit. It is an indication of the total borrowings needed by the government. The fiscal deficit is the primary deficit plus interest payments on the debt. Fiscal responsibility and Budget Management Act concerns both Fiscal and Revenue deficit.

84. Which of the following countries border the Caspian Sea?

1. Iran
2. Azerbaijan
3. Russia
4. Kazakhstan
5. Uzbekistan

Options:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Caspian Sea is bordered in the northeast by Kazakhstan, in the southeast by Turkmenistan, in the south by Iran, in the southwest by Azerbaijan, and in the northwest by Russia.

85. Consider the following statements:

1. GST Council is a statutory body for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to Goods and Service Tax.

2. The GST Council will suo moto notify the rate of tax to be levied under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act.

Which of the given statement/s is/are not correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is governed by the GST Council – a constitutional body. Article 279 (1) of the amended Indian Constitution states that the GST Council has to be constituted by the President within 60 days of the commencement of the Article 279A. In the GST Council, the Centre would have 1/3rd of the voting strength and the remaining 2/3rd voting strength vests with the states. Central Government will notify the rate of tax to be levied under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act as per the recommendations of the GST Council.

86. Consider the following statements with respect to Biomining:

1. It is the process of using microorganisms to extract metals from rock ores or mine waste.

2. Bioleaching, bio oxidation and bioremediation are biomining processes.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Biomining is the process of using microorganisms 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. 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 “bio oxidation”. Both processes involve microbial reactions that can happen anywhere the microbes, rocks, and necessary nutrients, like oxygen, occur together.

Bioremediation is the use of either naturally occurring or deliberately introduced microorganisms to consume and break down environmental pollutants, in order to clean a polluted site.

87. Consider the following pairs:

1. Garba – Rajasthan

2. Changu – Odisha

3. Dhimsa – Assam

Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Garba is a dance form that originated in the Gujarat region. Traditionally it is performed during the nine-day Hindu festival Navaratri.
- Changu Dance, also known as Juang Dance, is a popular dance form native to Orissa. It derives its name from a kind of drum called Changu (Tambourine), which invariably accompanies the dance.
- Dhimsa Dance is popular among the tribes inhabiting the Araku Valley region of Vishakhapatnam, in Andhra Pradesh. It is a tribal dance form that is performed primarily by Porja caste women.

88. Consider the following statements with respect to The Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC):

1. It is the world's first public health treaty enacted under the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. India has ratified FCTC.
3. The treaty is legally binding on the parties to the convention.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) is the first international public health treaty negotiated under the auspices of the WHO. The objective of FCTC is to provide a framework for supply and demand reduction measures for tobacco control at the national, regional and global levels. The WHO FCTC is an evidence based, legally binding multilateral treaty with 181 parties, and one of the most widely ratified treaties in the UN system. Govt. of India ratified the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) in 2004.

89. "Bhut Jolokia" recently seen in news is:

- a. A tribal dance performed by the Itho tribesmen.
- b. The Naga Chilli which is one of the hottest chillies in the world.
- c. India's first dragon blood oozing tree.
- d. An instrument made out of dried gourd and a thin rubber drum associated with Bengali folk music.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Naga Chilli (*Capsicum chinense*) also known as King Chilli, is more popular as Bhut/Bhoot Jolokia. It derives its name from the popular belief that it originated in the hills of Bhutan. The Guinness Book of World Records had in 2007 named it as the hottest chilli but lost its position first to a U.K. variety called Infinity and then the U.S.-developed Carolina Reaper. The chilli has now been used by a Naga panchakarma specialist in India for an acupuncture theory.

90. Consider the following statements:

1. Aadhaar Cards are issued by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) only.
2. UIDAI functions under NITI Aayog.
3. Foreign Nationals residing in India are eligible to apply for Aadhaar Card.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Unique Identification Authority of India or UIDAI is an agency under the central government of India mandated to collect demographic and biometric information of the country's residents, store the data in a central database, and issue to each resident of the country a 12-digit unique identity number called Aadhaar. The Aadhaar Act, 2016 states that every resident shall be entitled to obtain an aadhaar number. The Act further defines residency as an individual

who has resided in India for a period or periods amounting in all to 182 days or more in the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application for enrolment. UIDAI functions under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

91. Consider the following statements with respect to “Nirbhaya Fund”:

1. It was created with a Rs. 100 crore corpus, aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country.
2. It is a non-lapsable corpus fund.
3. The Fund is administered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Nirbhaya Fund was created by the Ministry of Finance in 2013 with a corpus of Rs 1000 crore. It is aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country. It is a non-lapsable corpus fund. The Fund is administered by the Department of Economic Affairs of the finance ministry.

92. Which of the following are classified as Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas?

1. Sundarban region of West Bengal
2. Vembanad in Kerala
3. Bhitarkanika in Odisha

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Sundarban region of West Bengal and other ecologically sensitive areas identified are as under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 such as Gulf of Khambat and Gulf of Kutchh in Gujarat, Malvan, Achra-Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, Karwar and Coondapur in Karnataka, Vembanad in Kerala, Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu, Bhitarkanika in Odisha, Coringa, East Godavari and Krishna in AP are treated as Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA) and managed with the involvement of coastal communities including fisher folk who depend on coastal resources for their sustainable livelihood.

93. Consider the following statements:

1. The Sustainable Development Goal 3 dealing with consolidated goal on health explicitly mentions Tuberculosis.
2. The Government is committed to achieving the target of TB elimination by 2030 in line with the WHO targets for TB elimination.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The consolidated goal on health is SDG 3. One of these targets, (Target 3.3), explicitly mentions TB. SDG 3 also includes a target (Target 3.8) related to universal health coverage (UHC) in which TB is explicitly mentioned. This includes an indicator on the coverage of essential prevention, treatment and care interventions. WHO's End TB strategy serves as

a blueprint to countries to reduce TB incidence by 80%, TB deaths by 90% and to eliminate catastrophic costs for TB affected households by 2030. The Government of India is committed to achieving the target of TB elimination by 2025, 5 years ahead of the WHO targets.

94. Consider the following statements:

1. The Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fibre Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST) aims at conducting a 5-year spectroscopic survey of 10 million Milky Way stars.
2. It is a Schmidt telescope operated by NASA.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The National Astronomical Observatories of Chinese Academy of Sciences (NAOC) was officially founded in April 2001 through the merger of observatories, stations and research center under Chinese Academy of Sciences. It is headquartered in Beijing. NAOC conducts cutting-edge astronomical studies, and operates major national facilities including The Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopy Telescope (LAMOST), the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST) etc. The Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fibre Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST), also known as the Guo Shoujing Telescope after the 13th-century Chinese astronomer, is a meridian reflecting Schmidt telescope, located in Xinglong Station, Hebei Province, China.

95. "Operation Meghdoot" refers to:

- a. The code name of an operation of the Indian Armed Forces to capture the Siachen Glacier in the Kashmir region
- b. The Cloud seeding operation undertaken by the government of Delhi to tackle the unprecedented smog choking it.
- c. The code name of an operation where experimental solar-powered drone was used as atmospheric satellite, intended to act as relay stations for providing internet access to remote areas.
- d. The initiative taken up by the Ministry of Culture to restore the literary works of Kalidasa.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Operation Meghdoot was a code-name for the Indian Armed Forces operation to capture the Siachen Glacier in the Kashmir region, precipitating the Siachen Conflict. It was launched on 13 April 1984. This military operation was the first assault launched in the highest battlefield in the world. The military action resulted in Indian troops gaining control of the entire Siachen Glacier.

96. Consider the following statements with respect to Co-operative banks:

1. State Co-operative banks can seek refinance facility from RBI.
2. Co-operative banks can open their branches in foreign countries.
3. The administration and supervision of the co-operative banks completely fall under the purview of the state government.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

The supervision and administration of co-operative banks fall within the purview of both state governments and RBI. Banking Regulation Act, 1949 is partially applicable to co-operative banks. Thus RBI has partial control on co-operative banks. Co-operative banks cannot open their branches in foreign countries. Co-operative bank organisation has three-

tier structures. State co-operative bank is the apex institution in the state. Central or district co-operative banks work at the district level. Only state Co-operative banks can seek refinance facility from RBI.

97. Consider the following statements with respect to Insurance Regulatory Development

Authority of India:

1. It is an autonomous, statutory body.
2. IRDAI was established after the recommendations of the Malhotra Committee report of 1994.
3. The members and the chairman of IRDAI are appointed by the Government of India.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA) is a statutory body set up by the IRDA Act, 1999. It is an autonomous and apex body which has the responsibility to regulate and control the Insurance sector in India. Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA) was established after the recommendations of the Malhotra Committee report of 1994. The Government of India appoints the Chairman and other members of the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA). It is headquartered in Hyderabad, Telangana.

98. Consider the following statements:

1. Anaemia is a condition in which a person has a lower-than-normal number of platelets and white blood cells.
2. Worm infestation and deficiency of vitamin b12 are among the causes of Anaemia.
3. The reduction of anemia is one of the important objectives of the POSHAN Abhiyaan.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Anaemia is a condition in which a person has a lower-than-normal number of red blood cells or quantity of haemoglobin, which reduces the capacity of their blood to carry oxygen and can lead to a number of health problems, and even death. A parasitic infestation can cause malabsorption of essential nutrients, which, in turn, can cause anaemia, which is why de-worming tablets are also distributed under the existing iron and folic acid supplementation programmes. The reduction of anemia is one of the important objectives of the POSHAN Abhiyaan. Complying with the targets of POSHAN Abhiyaan and National Nutrition Strategy set by NITI Aayog, the Anemia Mukh Bharat strategy has been designed to reduce prevalence of anemia by 3 percentage points per year among children, adolescents and women in the reproductive age group (15–49 years), between the year 2018 and 2022.

99. Consider the following statements:

1. Economic Advisory Council is an independent body constituted to advice the government on economic and related issue.
2. It is a non-constitutional and non-statutory body.
3. It can provide policy advice only on the reference from the Prime Minister.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Economic Advisory Council is a non-constitutional and non-statutory, non-permanent and independent body. It is constituted to provide sound policy advice in key areas such as reviving economic growth and creating enabling conditions for gainful employment. The body comprises of economists of high repute and eminence. The body is constituted to provide advice on economic issues to the government, specifically to the Prime Minister. The advice of the EAC-PM would be either on reference from the PM or suo-motu. It submits periodic reports to PM related to macroeconomic developments and issues which will have implications of the economic policy.

100. Consider the following statement with respect to Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change:

1. IPCC functions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
2. It was formed by the World Meteorological Organisation and United Nations Environment Programme
3. IPCC has received the Nobel Prize for Peace.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

IPCC is a scientific body formed in 1988 by WMO (World Meteorological Organisation) and UNEP. It functions under UNFCCC. The 2007 Nobel Peace Prize was shared, in two equal parts, between the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Al Gore – an American politician and environmentalist “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change”.

101. Consider the following statements with respect to Ajanta Caves:

1. The themes of paintings in Ajanta caves include life of Buddha, Jatakas and Avadanas.
2. Ajanta caves are recognised as World Heritage Site by UNESCO.
3. In the Ajanta cave complex, there are more number of “Vihara” than “Chaitya”.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Ajanta Caves are recognised by UNESCO as a world heritage site and is considered masterpieces of Buddhist religious art. It is located in Aurangabad district, Maharashtra. The themes of paintings in Ajanta caves include life of Buddha, Jatakas and Avadanas. There are 29 caves in Ajanta. The cave complex comprises of five chaityas (prayer hall with a stupa at the far end) and the rest are vihara (monastery).

102. Consider the following statements with respect to “Chabahar Port”:

1. Chabahar Port lies in the Gulf of Aden.
2. It is located on the Makran Coast.
3. It is the only Iranian port with direct access to the ocean.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Chabahar port lies in the Gulf of Oman. It is located on the Makran coast, Chabahar in south-eastern Iran. It is the only Iranian port with direct access to the ocean

103. Consider the following statements:

1. Call money, notice money and term money are long term funds.
2. A fall in call money rate indicates a rise in the liquidity.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Call money, notice money and term money are very short term funds. Call Money refers to the borrowing or lending of funds for 1 day. Notice Money refers to the borrowing and lending of funds for 2-14 days. Term money refers to borrowing and lending of funds for a period of more than 14 days. Call Money / Notice Money market is most liquid money market and is an indicator of the day to day interest rates. If the call money rates fall, this means there is a rise in the liquidity and vice versa.

104. Consider the following statements with respect to Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC):

1. The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations.
2. It is the second-largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations.
3. It works to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation is among the largest international organizations in the world. It was founded in 1969. It consists of 57 member states and declares that it is "the collective voice of the Muslim world" and works to "safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony". Its Permanent Secretariat is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. It is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations. The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations and the European Union.

105. Consider the following statements:

1. Nandankanan Zoological Park is the only conservation breeding centre of Indian Pangolins in the world.
2. It is the only zoological park in India to become an institutional member of World Association of Zoos and Aquarium (WAZA).

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Nandankanan is located near Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It is the first zoo in the World to breed White tiger and Melanistic tiger. Nandankanan is the only conservation breeding centre of Indian Pangolins in the world. It is the only zoological park in India to become an institutional member of World Association of Zoos and Aquarium (WAZA). It is the first zoo in India where endangered Ratel was born in captivity. It is the second-largest heronry for Open Billed Storks in Odisha.

106. Consider the following statements about the Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. The objectives of the IRDAI include promotion of competition while ensuring the financial security of the Insurance market.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority is a statutory body and not a constitutional body. The key objectives of the IRDAI include promotion of competition so as to enhance customer satisfaction through increased consumer choice and fair premiums while ensuring the financial security of the Insurance market.

107. With reference to RBI, Which of the following best describes 'Prompt Corrective Action'?

- a. It is a facility in which banks borrow the money from RBI to correct its mismatches in liquidity.
- b. It refers to the actions taken by RBI under Open Market Operations.
- c. Under this, certain restrictions are imposed on the banks like they are restricted from opening new branches and paying dividends.
- d. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Prompt Corrective Action

To ensure that banks don't go bust, RBI has put in place some trigger points to assess, monitor, control and take corrective actions on banks which are weak and troubled. The process or mechanism under which such actions are taken is known as Prompt Corrective Action or PCA.

Banks are not allowed to renew or access costly deposits or take steps to increase their fee-based income. Banks will also have to launch a special drive to reduce the stock of NPAs and contain the generation of fresh NPAs. They will also not be allowed to enter into new lines of business. RBI will also impose restrictions on the bank on borrowings from interbank market.

108. Which of the following is correctly matched?

1. Bandipur National Park : Karnataka
2. Corbett National Park : Himachal Pradesh
3. The Great Himalayan National Park: Uttarakhand

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Bandipur National Park in Karnataka
- Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand
- Great Himalayan National Park in Himachal Pradesh

109. 'Allocation of seats in the Council of States' under the Indian Constitution is related to which schedule?

- a. 5th schedule
- b. 6th schedule
- c. 10th schedule
- d. 4th schedule

Answer: D

Explanation:

- 4th schedule deals with the allocation of seats in the Council of States.
- 5th schedule deals with Provisions as to the Administration and Control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes.
- 6th Schedule deals with Provisions as to the Administration of Tribal Areas in [the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram]
- 10th schedule deals with Provisions as to disqualification on ground of defection.

110. Which of the following help in bringing about fiscal consolidation?

- 1. Rationalising taxes
- 2. Reducing subsidies
- 3. Introduction of GST
- 4. Raising interest-free loans

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. Only 2 and 3
- b. Only 1 and 2
- c. Only 1, 2 and 3
- d. All of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Rationalising taxes, reducing subsidies and GST will improve the revenue of the government while raising interest-free loans mean that the government borrowing will increase and hence fiscal deficit will increase in that case.

111. Which of these pollutants are NOT included in measurement of air quality under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards?

- 1. Carbon dioxide
- 2. Carbon monoxide
- 3. Ammonia
- 4. Lead
- 5. Ozone

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

National Ambient Air Quality Standards are the standards for ambient air quality set by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) that is applicable nationwide. The CPCB has been conferred this power by the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. The measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants, namely, PM₅, sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), PM₁₀, lead (Pb), carbon monoxide (CO), Ozone, Ammonia (NH₃).

112. Consider the following statements:

1. Finance Commission is a Constitutional Body.
2. It gives recommendations on the distribution of tax proceeds between the Centre and the States
3. The Chairman and the members of the Finance Commission are appointed by the Prime Minister.

WHICH OF THE GIVEN STATEMENT/S IS/ARE INCORRECT?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Finance Commission is a constitutional body under Article 280 created every five years to recommend the transfer of financial resources from the Centre to the States. The Commission also decides the principles on which grants-in-aid will be given to the States. It is the duty of the Commission to make recommendations to the President as to the distribution of the net proceeds of taxes which are to be, or may be divided between the Centre and the states and the allocation between the States of the respective shares of such proceeds. It is also the responsibility of the Finance Commission to describe the financial relations between the Centre and the States. It also caters to the purpose of devolution of non-plan revenue resources. It is constituted by the President and all appointments to the commission are made by him as well. The Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members, appointed by the President.

113. Consider the following statements with respect to Sendai Framework:

1. It is a voluntary, non-binding agreement on disaster risk reduction.
2. It is the successor of Hyogo Framework for Action.
3. India is a signatory to Sendai Framework.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 or "Sendai Framework" is an international accord on disaster risk reduction, adopted at the Third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan, on March 18, 2015 as the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. It is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement. India is a signatory. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is tasked with the implementation and follows up of the Sendai Framework.

114. The Dasara festival in Mysore was first initiated by

- a. Krishnaraja Wodeyar
- b. Chamaraja Wodeyar IV
- c. Jayachamarajendra Wodeyar
- d. Raja Wodeyar I

Answer: D

Explanation:

Dasara is a 10-day festival, starting with Navaratri (Nava-ratri means nine-nights) and the last day being Vijayadashami. The Dasara festivities began with the Vijayanagar kings as early as the 15th century. The festival played a historical role in the 14th-century Vijayanagara Empire, where it was called Mahanavami and the festivities are shown in the relief artwork of the outer wall of the Hazara Rama temple of Hampi. The Mahanavaratri Dasara

Festival was initially started in Mysore by Raja Wodeyar I. Mysore is one of the major cities in the South Indian state of Karnataka. Till independence, it was the capital city of Wodeyars, the erstwhile Maharajas of Mysore.

115. Consider the following statements:

1. Darbar Sahib Kartarpur shrine was established by Sikh faith founder Guru Nanak Dev.
2. Kartarpur gurdwara is on the banks of River Ravi

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Kartarpur shrine in Pakistan's Narowal district across the river Ravi is where Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, spent his final days. The shrine is highly revered by the Sikh community. It was established in 1522 by Sikh faith founder Guru Nanak Dev. The Kartarpur shrine has one of the last copies of the original Guru Granth Sahib; there are some who believe that it contains not only the wisdom of the 10 Gurus but is itself the 11th and last Guru.