

January 2020 Monthly Magazine Answer Key & Explanation

1. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency is an agency of the Government of India, under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
2. It was created under the provisions of the National Renewable Energy Act.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation: The Bureau of Energy Efficiency is an agency of the Government of India, under the Ministry of Power. It was created in March 2002 under the provisions of India's 2001 Energy Conservation Act.

2. During the Third Anglo-Maratha War, the British East India Company fought against a band of Muslim mercenaries known as –

- a. Pindaris
- b. Mappilas
- c. Santhals
- d. Bhills

Answer: a

Explanation: After the second Anglo-Maratha war, Shinde and Holkar dynasties had lost many of their territories to the British. They encouraged the Pindaris to raid the British territories. The Pindaris, who were mostly cavalry, came to be known as the Shindeshahi and the Holkarshahi after the patronage they received from the respective defeated Maratha leaders. The total strength of the Pindaris in 1814 was estimated at 33,000. The Pindaris frequently raided villages in Central India. In 1815, 25,000 Pindaris entered the Madras Presidency and destroyed over 300 villages on the Coromandel Coast. Another band swept the Nizam's kingdom while a third entered Malabar. Other Pindari raids on British territory followed in 1816 and 1817. Francis Rawdon-Hastings saw that there could not be peace or security in India until the predatory Pindaris were extinguished and launched an operation against them during the Third Anglo-Maratha War.

3. Who appoints the State Election Commissioner, for overseeing elections to the local bodies?

- a. President
- b. Ministry of Home Affairs
- c. Governor
- d. Chief Minister

Answer: c

Explanation: Article 243K which provides for elections to the panchayats states that – the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.

4. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the global code of practice on the International recruitment of health personnel?

1. It was adopted by the WHO's 63rd World Health Assembly in 2010.

2. It is the main international policy framework for addressing shortages and maldistribution of healthcare professionals.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

5. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

A cryogenic rocket engine uses a cryogenic fuel and/or oxidizer which is liquefied and stored at extremely low temperatures.

2. The upper stage of GSLV MK-III launch vehicle is powered by Cryogenic Engine (CE)-20.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

6. Consider the following statements about Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

- 1. CPCB is a statutory organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- 2. It was established under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was constituted in 1974 as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

7. Under what circumstances does an elected member be disqualified under the Anti-Defection law?

- 1. If an elected member voluntarily gives up his membership of a political party.
- 2. If the elected member votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by his political party.
- 3. If a nominated member joins a political party after 6 months of nomination.

Options:

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- A nominated member of a House becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which he takes his seat in the House.
- This means that he may join any political party within six months of taking his seat in the House without inviting this disqualification.

8. Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve- West Bengal
2. Satkosia Tiger Reserve – Odisha
3. Rajaji National Park- Uttarakhand
4. Buxa Tiger Reserve- Maharashtra

Options:

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve- Maharashtra
- Satkosia Tiger Reserve – Odisha
- Rajaji National Park- Uttarakhand
- Buxa Tiger Reserve- West Bengal

9. Arrange the following from west to east:

1. Kanchenjunga
2. Annapurna
3. Dhaulagiri
4. Mt Everest

Options:

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

Ans: c

Explanation:



10. Which of the following states have been accorded special provisions under Article 371 of the Indian Constitution?

1. Sikkim
2. Karnataka
3. Tripura
4. Maharashtra
5. Mizoram
6. Nagaland

Options

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Special provisions have been provided to some states under the Constitution of India, listed in Articles 371 and 371(A-J). While Articles 370 and 371 have been a part of the Constitution since January 26, 1950, Articles 371(A-J) were incorporated through amendments under Article 368, which lays down the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution and procedure therefor.
- Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Present Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka have provisions of special status under Article 371 of the Constitution.

11. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha nominates the members of the privileges committee of Rajya Sabha.
2. The Privileges Committee of Rajya Sabha consists of ten members.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

12. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The six zonal councils in India have been created under the States Re-Organization Act, 1956.
2. The councils function under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs' Inter-State Council Secretariat.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- India presently has councils for each of the five zones: North, Central, Eastern, Southern and Western.
- The five zonal councils created under the States Re-Organization Act, 1956, are advisory bodies.
- The North-Eastern states are not covered by any of the Zonal Councils and their special problems are addressed by another statutory body, the North Eastern Council, created by the North Eastern Council Act, 1971.

13. Arrange the following ports from north to south:

1. Krishnapatnam port
2. Vishakapatnam port
3. New Mangalore port
4. Mormugao port
5. Ennore port

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

Arranging the ports from north to south:

- Vishakapatnam port
- Mormugao port
- Krishnapatnam port
- Ennore port
- Mangalore port

14. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Eat Right India Movement is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
2. It involves providing fortified food to infants and lactating mothers at Anganwadi Centres.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Eat Right India Movement is a year-long social and mass media campaign of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). It is the new healthy eating approach which places citizens at the centre of a Health Revolution through food and fitness.
- The strength of the 'The Eat Right Movement' lies in its holistic and collaborative approach, with stakeholders on both the demand and supply-side joining to make a difference through some clearly identified steps.
 - On the demand side, the Eat Right Movement focuses on empowering citizens to make the right food choices.
 - On the supply side, it nudges food businesses to reformulate their products, provide better nutritional information to consumers and make investments in healthy food as responsible food businesses.
- 'The Eat Right Movement' brings together three ongoing initiatives of FSSAI:
 - Safe and Nutritious Food Initiative, focused on social and behavioural change around food safety and nutrition at home, school, workplace and on-the-go;
 - The Eat Healthy Campaign focused on reduction of high fat, sugar and salt foods in the diet; and
 - Food Fortification, focused on promoting five staple foods – wheat flour, rice, oil, milk and salt that are added with key vitamins and minerals to improve their nutritional content.

15. The term Miyawaki is associated with which of the following?

- a. Traditional dance of Tibet
- b. Afforestation method
- c. A musical instrument from Arunachal Pradesh
- d. Traditional silk weaving technique

Answer: b

Explanation:

- 'Miyawaki forests' is a highly successful technique, pioneered by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki.
- The concept involves raising indigenous and native trees in dense plantations mimicking forest settings. It involves the preparation of the substrate if the land involved is much degraded.
- It promotes natural vegetation on degraded land.

16. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana provides an insurance cover of Rs.5 lakh per individual.
2. The PMJAY beneficiaries get an e-card that can be used to avail services at any hospital, public or private, anywhere in the country.
3. The eligibility for the PMJAY is based on the SECC 2011 data.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The insurance cover provided under the PM-JAY health insurance scheme is ₹5 lakh per family.
- The PM Jan Arogya Yojana beneficiaries get an e-card that can be used to avail services at an empanelled hospital, public or private, anywhere in the country.
- The scheme will come to the aid of economically disadvantaged families as per data in the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011. PMJAY will benefit urban workers' families in the occupational category present as per the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011.

17. Arrange the following cities from North to South:

1. Sydney
2. Perth
3. Brisbane
4. Melbourne
5. Canberra

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

Arranging the cities from north to south: Brisbane, Perth, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne.



Description: Political map of Australia shows national capital, state capital with international and state boundary.

18. India is a member of which of the following?

1. Belt and Road Initiative
2. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
3. The Indo-Pacific Business Forum
4. The Blue Dot Network
5. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

Options:

- a) 3, 4 and 5
- b) 2, 3 and 5
- c) 4 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- India is not part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of China citing sovereignty concerns over the passage of CPEC through PoK.
- India decided against signing onto the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership fearing that it would affect the domestic producers.
- The Indo-Pacific Business Forum (IPBF), was created by the U.S., Japan and Australia as also the Blue Dot network.
- The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), an inter-governmental forum for 21 member economies in the Pacific Rim, promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region. It includes both China and the U.S.

19. "The Blue Dot Network" is associated with:

- a) The international protocol for internet connectivity

- b) The network of countries involved in the blue flag certification of their beaches
- c) Infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific region
- d) A group of countries working towards enhancing port infrastructure

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The United States, along with Japan and Australia, have started the “Blue Dot” network, which has been described as “promoting global, multi-stakeholder sustainable infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific region and around the world.
- Officially, it is a joint project of the US Overseas Private Investment Corporation, in partnership with Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

20. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Bibi Ka Maqbara was commissioned by Mughal Emperor Jahangir.
2. It is located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Bibi ka Maqbara was commissioned by Emperor Aurangzeb in 1660 in memory of his wife Dilras Banu Begum (posthumously known as Rabia-ud-Daurani).

It is known as the ‘Taj of the Deccan’ because of its resemblance to the Taj Mahal.

21. The term Drosophila is associated with which of the following?

- a) Bacteria
- b) Fungi
- c) Flies
- d) Fish

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Drosophila is a genus of flies, belonging to the family Drosophilidae, whose members are often called “small fruit flies”.
- Drosophila is one of the most widely used and preferred model organisms in biological research. They are ideal for the study of genetics and development given the close relationship between fruit fly and human genes.

22. Consider the following statements with respect to River Beas:

1. It is one of the major tributaries of River Indus.
2. The river originates near the Rohtang Pass, on the southern end of the Pir Panjal Range.
3. The river lies entirely within the Indian Territory.

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

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

d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Beas is a major tributary of River Indus.
- It originates near the Rohtang Pass, on the southern end of the Pir Panjal Range, close to the source of the River Ravi.
- It lies entirely within the Indian Territory.

23. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Council of Agricultural Research:

1. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.
2. The Council is the apex body for coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in India.
3. The Union Minister of Agriculture is the President of ICAR.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on 16 July 1929 as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Council is the apex body for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. The Union Minister of Agriculture is the President of ICAR.

24. Consider the following statements:

1. Lysosomal Storage Diseases (LSD) are a group of rare inherited metabolic disorders.
2. LSD occurs due to mutations in genes.
3. Gaucher's Disease is a type of LSD.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Lysosomal Storage Diseases (LSD) is a group of rare inherited metabolic disorders.
- Lysosomal storage disorders are caused by lysosomal dysfunction usually as a consequence of deficiency of a single enzyme required for the metabolism of lipids, glycoproteins (sugar-containing proteins), or so-called mucopolysaccharides.
- Gaucher's Disease is a type of Lysosomal Storage Diseases (LSD). It is one of the most common rare diseases recorded in India.

25. Consider the following statements with respect to Prompt Corrective Action (PCA):

1. PCA is a framework under which banks with weak financial metrics are put under watch by the World Bank.
2. The PCA framework deems banks as risky if they slip below certain norms on three parameters namely capital ratios, asset quality and profitability.

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: a

Explanation:

Prompt Corrective Action or PCA is a framework under which banks with weak financial metrics are put under watch by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The PCA framework deems banks as risky if they slip below certain norms on three parameters namely capital ratios, asset quality and profitability. PCA is intended to intervene early and take corrective measures in a timely manner, so as to restore the financial health of banks that are at risk by limiting deterioration in their health and preserving their capital levels.

26. Consider the following statements with respect to the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA):

1. PFRDA is a statutory body having executive, legislative and judicial powers.
2. PFRDA is responsible for regulating and administering both the National Pension System (NPS) and the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
3. The President of India is the guardian of PFRDA.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), a statutory body, is the pension regulator of India and was established by the Government of India in 2003. Like other financial sector regulators such as Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), PFRDA is a government regulatory body having executive, legislative and judicial powers. PFRDA is responsible for regulating and administering the National Pension System (NPS) along with administering the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) which is a defined benefits pension scheme for the unorganized sector, guaranteed by the Government of India. PFRDA consists of a Chairperson and not more than six members, of whom at least three shall be whole-time members, to be appointed by the Central Government. The President was the guardian of PFRDA till Financial Year (FY) 2014-15 and it has become fully autonomous and functions independently from FY 2014-15.

27. Consider the following statements with respect to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC):

1. The MCC is a set of guidelines issued by the Government of India to regulate political parties and candidates prior to elections to ensure free and fair elections.
2. The MCC is operational from the date that the election schedule is announced until the date that results are announced.
3. The MCC is not enforceable by law.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

The MCC is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission to regulate political parties and candidates prior to elections, to ensure free and fair elections. The MCC is operational from the date that the election schedule is announced until the date that results are announced. The MCC is not enforceable by law. However, certain provisions of the MCC may be enforced through invoking corresponding provisions in other statutes such as the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and Representation of the People Act, 1951.

28. Which among the following is the most toxic Indian Snake?

- a) Sind Krait
- b) Spectacled cobra
- c) Russell's viper
- d) Saw-scaled viper

Answer: a

Explanation:

The venom of Sind krait from western India is over 40 times more potent than that of the spectacled cobra, making it the most toxic Indian snake.

29. "The final value of the goods and services produced within the geographic boundaries of a country during a specified period of time" is termed as:

- a) Net National Product
- b) Gross Domestic Product
- c) Gross National Product
- d) Purchasing Power Parity

Answer: b

Explanation:

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the final value of the goods and services produced within the geographic boundaries of a country during a specified period of time, normally a year. GDP growth rate is an important indicator of the economic performance of a country.

30. Consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court has the ability to review any judgment declared by it.
2. Review Petition, Curative Petition and Presidential Pardon are the resources available to those seeking relief from an Order of the Supreme Court.
3. Curative Petition is the last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in court.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

The Supreme Court does have the ability to review any judgment declared by it. Review Petition, Curative Petition and Presidential Pardon are the resources available to those seeking relief from an Order of the Supreme Court. Curative Petition is the last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in court.

31. Consider the following statements with respect to the European Council (EUCO):

- EUCO is a collective body that defines the European Union's overall political direction and priorities.
- It comprises the heads of state or government of the EU member states, along with the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.
- The European Council has legislative powers.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

European Council (EUCO) is a collective body that defines the European Union's overall political direction and priorities. It comprises the heads of state or government of the EU member states, along with the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission. The European Council has no legislative powers.

32. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Green Tribunal (NGT):

1. It is a Constitutional Body that draws inspiration from India's constitutional provision of Article 21.
2. It has Original Jurisdiction on matters of substantial question relating to environment and damage to the environment due to specific activity.

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 National Green Tribunal has been established in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. It draws inspiration from India's constitutional provision of Article 21, which assures the citizens of India the right to a healthy environment. It is a statutory body. It has Original Jurisdiction on matters of "substantial question relating to environment" and "damage to the environment due to specific activity" (such as pollution).

33. Consider the following statements:

1. National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) is under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. NCRB publishes the 'Crime in India' report.
3. NCRB is entrusted with the responsibility for monitoring, coordinating and implementing the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project.

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

- a. 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

National Crime Record Bureau is under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It compiles and publishes National Crime Statistics. NCRB brings out the annual comprehensive statistics of crime across the country ('Crime in India' report). NCRB was entrusted with the responsibility for monitoring, coordinating and implementing the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project in the year 2009.

34. Which among the following is/are not Stringed instruments?

- 1. Ghatam
- 2. Khol
- 3. Kamaicha

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Ghana Vadya (Solid instruments which does not require tuning): Ghatam
- Avanaddha Vadya (Percussion instruments): Khol
- Kamaicha belongs to the category of the chorodophones.
 - It is a string instrument constructed out of a piece of mango wood, featuring a round resonator covered in goat leather.

35. "Brickfielder" in Geography refers to:

- a. Showers that help crops grow during spring.
- b. Grasslands in Mid Africa.
- c. Hot, dry and dusty winds in Southern Australia.
- d. A rift valley lake.

Answer: c

Explanation:

Hot, dry and dusty winds in Southern Australia.



36. Which of the following are offences against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

1. Compelling a member of the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe to dispose or carry human or animal carcasses, or to dig graves.
2. Garlanding with footwear or parading naked or semi-naked, a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe.
3. Corrupting the water of any spring, reservoir or any other source ordinarily used by members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes.
4. Destroying, damaging or defiling any object generally known to be held sacred or in high esteem by members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes.

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

Answer: c

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

37. With reference to Vembanad Lake, consider the following statements:

1. It is the largest lake in Tamil Nadu.
2. The Vembanad Wetland system is included in the list of wetlands of international importance, as defined by the Ramsar Convention.

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: a

Explanation:

Vembanad Lake is the largest lake in Kerala.

38. The red line campaign is associated with:

- a) Creating awareness on HIV-AIDS among the masses.
- b) Part of government's Anti-Microbial resistance awareness campaign
- c) Creating awareness about the critically endangered species in India
- d) Campaign against sexual harassment at workplace.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Union health ministry's Anti-Microbial Resistance awareness campaign urges people not to use medicines marked with a red vertical line, including antibiotics, without a doctor's prescription.
- This campaign is aimed at discouraging unnecessary prescription and over-the-counter sale of antibiotics causing drug resistance for several critical diseases including TB, malaria, urinary tract infection and even HIV.

39. The term Candida auris is associated with:

- a) Disease causing fungi
- b) Disease causing virus
- c) Bacteria used in production of biofuels
- d) Bacteria used extensively for production of antibiotics

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Candida auris is a species of fungus which grows as yeast. It is one of the few species of the genus Candida which cause candidiasis in humans. C. auris can cause invasive candidiasis (fungemia) in which the bloodstream, the central nervous system, and internal organs are infected.
- Often, candidiasis is acquired in hospitals by patients with weakened immune systems. Healthcare facilities in several countries have reported that it is causing severe illness in hospitalized patients.
- It has recently attracted increased attention because of its multiple drug resistance.

40. The Anamalai tiger reserve is situated in which of the following states:

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Telangana

Answer: b

Explanation:

Aanaimalai Tiger Reserve, earlier known as Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park (IGWLS&NP) and previously as Aanaimalai Wildlife Sanctuary, is a protected area located in Tamil Nadu, India.

41. Which of the following is wrongly matched?

- a) Bihu: Assam
- b) Lavani: Maharashtra
- c) Dollu Kunitha: Karnataka
- d) Pulikali: Tamil Nadu

Answer: d

Explanation:

The Folk art Pulikali or Tiger dance is one of the most popular folk dance in Kerala during Onam festival in the Cultural Capital of Thrissur. Pulikali is a colorful recreational folk art form, performed on the occasion of annual harvest festival of Onam.

42. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. Petroleum And Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) comes under the Ministry of petroleum and natural gas.
2. The Headquarters of PESO is in New Delhi.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Petroleum And Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) is a department formed by Government of India under Department for the Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- PESO is a regulatory authority with autonomous status.
- It administers Explosives Act 1884, Explosive Substance Act, Petroleum Act 1934, Inflammable substance Act 1952 and Environment Protection Act 1986 to control import, export, transport, storage and usage of explosive materials, flammable materials, pressure vessels, cryogenic vessels, design and installation of all necessary and relevant infrastructure etc.
- The Department is headquartered at Nagpur in the State of Maharashtra in India.

43. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Kisan Credit Card scheme was prepared by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
2. Participating institutions under this scheme include only the commercial banks.

Options:

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

SEE

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Kisan Credit Card scheme is a credit scheme introduced in August 1998 by Indian banks. This model scheme was prepared by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on the recommendations of R.V.Gupta committee.
- Its objective is to meet the comprehensive credit requirements of the agriculture sector and by 2019 for fisheries and animal husbandry by giving financial support to farmers.
- Participating institutions include all commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks, and state co-operative banks.

44. Arrange the following cities from east to west:

1. Muscat
2. Tehran
3. Sanaa
4. Kuwait city
5. Tripoli

Options:

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

SEE

Answer: a

Explanation:



Tripoli is in Libya (Africa)

45. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Vembanad Lake is included in the list of wetlands of international importance, as defined by the Ramsar Convention.
2. The government of India has identified the Vembanad wetland under the National Wetlands Conservation Programme.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Vembanad also referred to as the Vembanad Kol is the longest lake in India, spanning several districts in the state of Kerala.
- Vembanad Kol Wetland was included in the list of wetlands of international importance, as defined by the Ramsar Convention for the conservation and sustainable utilization of wetlands. It is the second largest Ramsar site in India only after Sunderbans in West Bengal.
- Several groups of small islands including Vypin, Mulavukad, Vallarpadam, Willingdon Island are located in the Kochi Lake portion.
- The government of India has identified the Vembanad wetland under the National Wetlands Conservation Programme.

46. Consider the following statements with respect to Volcano Taal:

1. It is one of the world's smallest active volcanoes.
2. It lies along the Pacific "Ring of Fire".

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. Taal is one of the world's smallest active volcanoes. It is the second most active volcano in the Philippines. It lies along the Pacific "Ring of Fire".

47. Consider the following statements with respect to Input Tax Credit (ITC):

1. ITC is the tax that a business pays on a purchase that can be used to reduce the tax liability when it makes a sale.
2. ITC is not available for goods or services exclusively used for personal use.
3. Only a business under composition scheme can avail ITC.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

The meaning of ITC can be easily understood with the words 'input' and 'tax credit'. Inputs are materials or services that a manufacturer purchase in order to manufacture his product or services which is his output. Tax credit means the tax a producer was able to reduce while paying his tax on output. Input tax credit means that when a manufacturer pays the tax on his output, he can deduct the tax he previously paid on the input he purchased. Here, while paying the tax on his output, he can deduct or take credit for the tax he paid while purchasing inputs.

- ITC can be claimed only for business purposes.
- ITC will not be available for goods or services exclusively used for: Personal use; Exempt supplies; Supplies for which ITC is specifically not available.
- A business under composition scheme cannot avail of input tax credit.

48. Consider the following statements with respect to Raisina Dialogue:

1. The Raisina Dialogue is a multilateral conference held bi-annually in India.
2. The conference is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

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 Raisina Dialogue is a multilateral conference committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community. Every year, global leaders in policy, business, media and civil society are hosted in New Delhi to discuss cooperation on a wide range of pertinent international policy matters. The conference is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation, an independent think tank, in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs of India. It is a multilateral conference held annually.

49. Consumer Price Index (CPI) is released by:

- a. Reserve Bank of India
- b. Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation
- c. Office of the Economic Advisor, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- d. Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), Department of Agriculture and Co-operation

Answer: b

Explanation:

Consumer Price Index (CPI) is released by the Central Statistics Office of the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation.

50. The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in:

1. Disputes between the Centre and State(s).
2. Matters regarding the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
3. Any dispute between the Indian Government and one or more States on one side and one or more States on the other side.
4. Disputes between States.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Original jurisdiction of a court refers to a matter for which the particular court is approached first. In the case of the Supreme Court in India, its original jurisdiction is covered under Article 131. It involves the following cases:

- Disputes between the Centre and State(s).
- Matters regarding the enforcement of Fundamental Rights. It is empowered to issue directions, orders or writs, including writs in the nature of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari to enforce them.
- Any dispute between the Indian Government and one or more States on one side and one or more States on the other side.
- Disputes between States.

51. Which of the following is/are Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas as per the CRZ Regulations?

1. Gulf of Khambat
2. Karwar
3. Bhaitarkanika

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Ecologically sensitive areas identified as under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 such as Sundarban region of West Bengal, Gulf of Khambat and Gulf of Kutchh in Gujarat, Achra-Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, Karwar and Coondapur in Karnataka, Vembanad in Kerala, Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu, Bhitarkanika in Odisha and Krishna in Andhra Pradesh are treated as Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas. These Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas will be managed with the involvement of coastal communities including fisher folk.

52. Consider the following statements with respect to Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

1. MPC is a committee constituted by the Government of India for fixing the benchmark policy interest rate to restrain inflation within the particular target level.
2. The MPC consists of six members.
3. The MPC is required to meet at least four times in a year.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a committee constituted by RBI (Reserve Bank of India), led by its Governor, which is assigned with the mission of fixing the benchmark policy interest rate (repo rate) to restrain inflation within the particular target level.
- The MPC consists of six members, of which three are RBI's internal members and three are external experts.
- The MPC is required to meet at least four times in a year. The quorum for the meeting of the MPC is four members. Each member of the MPC has one vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Governor has a second or casting vote.

53. Which of the following is the last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in the court?

- a. Curative petition
- b. Review Petition
- c. Presidential Pardon
- d. None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

Review Petition, Curative Petition and Presidential Pardon are the resources available to those seeking relief from an Order of the Supreme Court. Curative Petition is the last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in the court.

54 Consider the following statements with respect to Multiple myeloma:

1. It is a cancer that forms in a type of white blood cell called a plasma cell.
2. It causes cancer cells to accumulate in the bone marrow.

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:

Multiple myeloma is a cancer that forms in a type of white blood cell called a plasma cell. It causes cancer cells to accumulate in the bone marrow. It is a type of blood cancer that affects the bones.

55. Consider the following statements with respect to Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

1. SCO is a Eurasian Economic, Political and Security organization.
2. It has eight member nations.
3. India, Pakistan and Iran are among the permanent members of SCO.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a Eurasian Economic, Political and Security organization. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization was formed with the primary objective of military cooperation between its member nations. It works towards intelligence sharing and counter terrorism operations in the Central Asian Region (CAR). Currently, the organisation has eight member nations: Six founding members (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, China) the two new members, India and Pakistan. Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia currently have the observer status.

56. Consider the following statements:

1. Bru tribals inhabit parts of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura.
2. They are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).

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:

Bru (or Reang) tribals inhabit parts of North-eastern states of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura. In Mizoram, they are largely restricted to Mamit and Kolasib. They are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) in Tripura.

57. Consider the following statements with respect to Regional Antiterrorism Structure (RATS):

1. RATS was established at the Astana Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
2. RATS is a permanent organ of the SCO.
3. It is engaged in furthering cooperation between member countries on concerns of terrorism, security, drug trafficking and cyber warfare.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), headquartered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, is a permanent organ of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) which serves to promote cooperation of member states against the three evils of terrorism, separatism and extremism. The Regional Antiterrorism Structure (RATS) was established in the year 2004 at the Tashkent Summit. SCO-RATS is a permanent body established to bring about coordination and interaction between member states in ensuring security in the region. It is engaged in furthering cooperation and ties between member countries on concerns of terrorism, security, drug trafficking and cyber warfare.

58. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has been established in pursuance of Article 323A of the Indian Constitution.
2. The members of the defence forces, officers, staff of the Supreme Court and the secretarial staff of the Parliament are not covered under the jurisdiction of CAT.
3. The appeal against the orders of CAT could be made only in Supreme Court.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

The appeal against the orders of the CAT could be made in High Court and not in Supreme Court.

59. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Constitutional Amendments with respect to federal provisions will need the ratification by at least 50 per cent of the state assemblies.
2. The states are required to ratify the bill within 6 months of passage by the parliament, failing which the bill lapses.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

There is no time limit within which the states should give their consent to the bill.

60. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The GSAT-30 is a communication satellite of India which was placed in the geostationary orbit by the Ariane launch vehicle.
2. The GSLV-MkIII launch vehicle has a capacity of placing 4 tonne class satellites of the GSAT series into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbits.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

61. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. The "Blue Dot Network" (BDN) encourages private investment in infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region by offering public loans to viable infrastructural projects.
2. Currently, the U.S., Japan, Australia and India are its members.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The BDN is a "rating mechanism" that would grade infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region on different parameters like debt, environmental standards, labour standards, etc.

- Unlike the Belt and Road initiative of China, the BDN would not offer public funds or loans for the project.
- India is not a member of The “Blue Dot Network” (BDN).

62. The Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement of India is associated with which of the following?

- a. The European Union
- b. South Korea
- c. United States of America
- d. Japan

Answer: a

Explanation:

On 28th June 2007, India and the EU began negotiations on a broad-based Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) in Brussels, Belgium.

63. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. Share of natural gas in India’s energy basket is higher compared to the global average.
2. India is more dependent on LNG imports as compared to crude oil imports.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Share of natural gas in India’s energy basket is 6.2% as against 23.4% globally.
- India is heavily dependent on crude oil and LNG imports with 82.8% import dependence for crude oil and 45.3% for natural gas/LNG.

64. The term “The Blob” is associated with which of the following

- a. Cold current off the coast of Peru
- b. Marine Heat waves in northeast Pacific
- c. Heat wave in North America
- d. Depression off the coast of South America

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The unprecedented death of nearly one million birds between 2015 and 2016, whose remains washed ashore in Alaska, US, was brought on by a **severe and long-lasting marine heatwave in the northeast Pacific dubbed “The Blob”**.

65. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to the Sun temple at Konark?

1. It is attributed to King Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga dynasty.
2. It is a classic illustration of the Kalinga Architecture.

Options:

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Konark Sun Temple is a 13th-century CE Sun temple at Konark. The temple is attributed to King Narasinga Deva I of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty.
- The Sun Temple in Konark exhibits the traditional Odisha style of architecture, also known as Kalinga architecture.

66. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013?

1. The constitution of an Internal Complaints Committee is a statutory requirement under the act for all establishments.
2. The Internal Complaints Committee is always headed by a female member.
3. The Internal Complaints Committee consists of only internally selected members.

Option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 ("POSH Act") was enacted as a comprehensive legislation to provide a safe, secure and enabling environment, free from sexual harassment to every woman.
- Under the POSH Act, an employer is legally required to comply with certain statutory requirements. One of these is the constitution of an Internal Complaints Committee ("ICC"), a body envisaged to receive complaints on sexual harassment at the workplace from an aggrieved woman, as well as to inquire into and make recommendations to the employer on the action required pursuant to its inquiry of such complaint made.
- Any establishment employing ten or more employees is required to constitute an ICC by an order in writing by the employer.

- In this regard, it must be noted that the definition of employee under the POSH Act is broad, and encompasses persons employed on a temporary, ad hoc or daily wage basis, and includes apprentices, trainees, volunteers and persons employed at a workplace through an agent or contractor.
- The chairperson of an ICC, referred to by the nomenclature Presiding Officer, shall be a senior level female employee.
- The ICC should include an external member being a person familiar with issues relating to sexual harassment, or from a non-governmental organization or association committed to the cause of women.

67. The term euryhaline implies

- a. Can tolerate only low salinity environments
- b. Needs high salinity environments
- c. Can tolerate a wide range of salinity
- d. Salinity observed at high depths of the oceans

Answer: c

Explanation:

A euryhaline species is able to tolerate a wide range of salinity. They are found in both oceans as well as in rivers. Predominantly found near sea coasts and in estuaries where the salinity is intermediate. They adopt Osmoregulation to adapt to the changed salinities. Ex: Irrawaddy dolphins, Salmon, Sturgeons and Trouts.

68. The successfully tested K-4 is

- a. Submarine-launched ballistic missile
- b. Supersonic cruise missile
- c. Air to air beyond visual range missile
- d. Anti-tank missile

Answer: a

Explanation:

- India successfully test-fired the 3,500-km range submarine-launched ballistic missile, K-4.

69. The recently released MANI app has been developed by

- a. Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment
- b. Ministry of Finance
- c. National Payments council of India
- d. Reserve Bank of India

Answer: d

Explanation:

- RBI has launched the MANI (Mobile Aided Note Identifier) app to enable the visually impaired person to identify the denomination of a currency note. It will empower the visually impaired.

70. Consider the following statements with respect to the UDAN Scheme:

1. It is a part of the National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP).
2. The Scheme is funded jointly by the Centre and the State governments.
3. The primary objective of the Scheme is to facilitate regional air connectivity.

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

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

SEE

Answer: d

Explanation:

Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) is under the regional connectivity scheme that aims at regional airport development with the objective to let the common citizens of the country fly, by making air travel affordable and widespread. The scheme is funded jointly by the Centre and the State governments.

71. World Economic Outlook report is published by:

- a. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- b. World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- c. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- d. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Answer: a

Explanation:

The World Economic Outlook is a biennial report published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

72. Consider the following statements with respect to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

1. It was founded on the initiative of G 20.
2. It is responsible for setting global standards on anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT).
3. India is a full-time member of FATF.

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: c

Explanation:

Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was founded on the initiative of G7 to develop policies to combat money laundering. It is responsible for setting global standards on anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT). India is a full-time member of FATF.

73. Consider the following statements with respect to BrahMos:

1. It is a long-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile.
2. It can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land.
3. It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world.

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

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

SEE

Answer: c

Explanation:

The BrahMos is a medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land. It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world. It is a joint venture between Russia and India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

74. Consider the following statements with respect to Coronaviruses:

1. Coronavirus has regularly arranged protrusions on its surface.
2. SARS Coronavirus and MERS Coronavirus, both cause severe respiratory diseases.
3. All Coronaviruses are zoonotic.

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: c

Explanation:

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). A coronavirus has many "regularly arranged" protrusions on its surface, because of which the entire virus particle looks like an emperor's crown, hence the name "coronavirus". Including the newly identified form of the virus, there are a total of seven coronaviruses that can infect humans (zoonotic). Rarely, animal coronaviruses can also evolve and infect people. Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

75. Consider the following statements:

1. Citizenship is listed in the Union List and is under the exclusive jurisdiction of Parliament.
2. "Deprivation" is the compulsory termination of the Citizenship of India obtained by Registration or Naturalisation.
3. A person registered as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cannot acquire the citizenship of India.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

Citizenship is listed in the Union List and is under the exclusive jurisdiction of Parliament. "Deprivation" is a compulsory termination of the citizenship of India obtained by registration or Naturalisation. A person registered as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) can acquire the citizenship of India.

76. India and Nepal have territorial disputes over which of the following region/s?

- 1. Kalapani
- 2. Susta
- 3. Aksai Chin

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

77. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Anti-defection law was inserted via the 42nd Amendment Act and is contained in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution.
- 2. The decision on disqualification on grounds of defection is referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of the House of the Parliament, and his/her decision is final.
- 3. Anti-defection law is not applicable to an independent member who joins a political party within 6 months of his/her election.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Anti-defection law was inserted via the 52nd Amendment Act. Anti-Defection Law is contained in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution. The decision on the question as to disqualification on grounds of defection is referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of the House of the Parliament, and his/her decision is final.

If an MP/MLA who belongs to a political party voluntarily resigns from his party or, disobeys the party “whip” he is disqualified under the Anti-defection law. The party may, however, condone the MP/MLA within 15 days. An independent MP/MLA cannot join a political party after the election. An MP/MLA who is nominated (to the Rajya Sabha or upper houses in state legislatures) can only join a party within 6 months of his/her election. Mergers of well-defined groups of individuals or political parties are exempted from disqualification if certain conditions are met.

78. Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners have equal powers to take all decisions relating to the elections.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner is appointed by the President; however, he cannot be removed from office by the President.

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 Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and the two Election Commissioners have equal powers to take all decisions relating to elections as a collective body. They are appointed by the President of India. The Chief Election Commissioner cannot be removed from his post easily on account of any political reasons. This is necessary so as to preserve the independence of the Election Commission. The Chief Election Commissioner of India can be removed from his office by the Parliament with a two-thirds majority in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on the grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. Other Election Commissioners can be removed by the President of India on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

79. “Tallinn Manual” relates to:

- a. Artificial Intelligence
- b. Zoonotic Diseases
- c. Outer space treaty
- d. Cyber conflicts and cyber-warfare

Answer: d

Explanation:

Tallinn Manual is an academic, non-binding study on how international law (in particular the jus ad bellum and international humanitarian law) applies to cyber conflicts and cyber warfare.

80. Consider the following statements with respect to the World Health Organization (WHO):

1. WHO is a member of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG).
2. The annual publication of the WHO – World Health Report (WHR) began with the inception of the organisation in 1948.

- World Health Assembly is the forum through which the WHO is governed by its member states.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health. It was established on 7 April 1948, and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The WHO is a member of the United Nations Development Group. The World Health Report (WHR) is a series of annual reports produced by the World Health Organization (WHO). First published in 1995, the World Health Report is WHO's leading publication. World Health Assembly is the supreme governing body of the WHO. It is this forum through which the WHO is governed by its member states. It is the world's highest health policy-setting body and is composed of health ministers from member states.

81. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):

- CBI comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It is a statutory body.
- The CBI acts as the "National Central Bureau" of Interpol in India.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is the premier investigating agency of India. CBI operates under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962 -1964). The CBI is not a statutory body. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. The CBI acts as the "National Central Bureau" of Interpol in India.

82. Which of the following is/are the publication/s of Transparency International?

- Corruption Perceptions Index
- Democracy Index
- Global Corruption Barometer

Choose the correct option:

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

SEE

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Transparency International publishes Global Corruption Barometer and the Corruption Perceptions Index.
- The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) is an index published annually by Transparency International since 1995 which ranks countries by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, as determined by expert assessments and opinion surveys.
- The Global Corruption Barometer published by Transparency International is the largest survey in the world tracking public opinion on corruption.
- The Democracy Index is an index compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), a UK-based company. It intends to measure the state of democracy in various countries.

83. Consider the following statements with respect to International Court of Justice (ICJ):

1. It has the jurisdiction to deal with applications only from states, non-governmental organizations, corporations or any other private entity but not individuals.
2. It can Suo Motto take up disputes between states.
3. Judgments delivered by the Court are binding upon the parties concerned.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Only States are eligible to appear before the Court in contentious cases.
- The Court has no jurisdiction to deal with applications from individuals, non-governmental organizations, corporations or any other private entity. It cannot provide them with legal advice or help them in their dealings with national authorities.
- The Court can only hear a dispute when requested to do so by one or more States. It cannot deal with a dispute on its own initiative. Neither is it permitted, under its Statute, to investigate and rule on acts of sovereign States as it chooses.
- The States involved in the dispute must also have access to the Court and have accepted its jurisdiction, in other words, they must consent to the Court's considering the dispute in question. This is a fundamental principle governing the settlement of international disputes, since States are sovereign and free to choose how to resolve their disputes.
- Judgments delivered by the Court (or by one of its Chambers) in disputes between States are binding upon the parties concerned. Article 94 of the United Nations Charter provides that "each

Member of the United Nations undertakes to comply with the decision of [the Court] in any case to which it is a party”.

84. “Ophichthus kailashchandrai” is:

- A new snake eel species discovered in Odisha
- A new species of ginger found in the Western Ghats
- A new species of snake discovered in the Western Ghats
- None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Zoological Survey of India has documented another new snake eel species in Odisha and named it “Ophichthus kailashchandrai”.
- This is the eighth species of the Ophichthus genus found on the Indian coast, and the fifth new species discovered by the Gopalpur-on-Sea centre.
- The Ophichthus kailashchandrai lives at a depth of around 50 metres in the sea. According to the studied specimens, individuals of this species are around 420 mm to 462 mm in length. They are light brown in colour, with white fins.
- They have a well-developed pectoral fin and also have a dorsal fin. Their posterior nostril is a hole covered by a flap on the upper lip opening towards the mouth. There are 180-182 total vertebrae in this new species. Their teeth are moderately elongated, conical and sharp.
- Ophichthus kailashchandrai feeds on small fish and crabs. The outer surface of their bodies is slimy but they are not poisonous.

85. Which of the following countries have been declared Measles free by the World Health Organisation (WHO)?

- Maldives
- Sri Lanka
- Brazil
- Greece

Choose the correct option:

- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: Option b

Explanation:

In 2019, the WHO said based on the 2018 data that measles is no longer considered eradicated in the UK, Greece, the Czech Republic and Albania.

86. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the National Security Act?

- It is applicable to the citizens of India only.

2. The maximum period for which any person may be detained shall be six months from the date of detention.

Options:

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

Answer: Option d

Explanation:

- The NSA also gives power to the governments to detain a foreigner in a view to regulate his presence or expel from the country.
- The maximum period for which any person may be detained shall be twelve months from the date of detention.

87. Which of the following is not covered under the Integrated Child Development Scheme?

- a. Immunization
- b. Formal pre-school education
- c. Supplementary nutrition
- d. Health check-up

Answer: Option b

Explanation:

ICDS provides for Anganwadis or day-care centres that deliver a package of six services for the children, including supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition and health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services to hospitals.

88. Which of the following countries is the largest sugar producer in the world?

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

Option b

Explanation:

- In 2018-19, India overtook Brazil to become the world's largest sugar producer.
- Brazil holds a 35% share of the global exports market, in comparison with a mere 5% share for India, according to Food and Agriculture Organisation data. Most of the sugar produced in India is consumed domestically

89. Arrange the following in increasing order of their contribution to the tax revenues of the government.

- 1. Corporation tax
- 2. Income tax
- 3. Goods and Services Tax

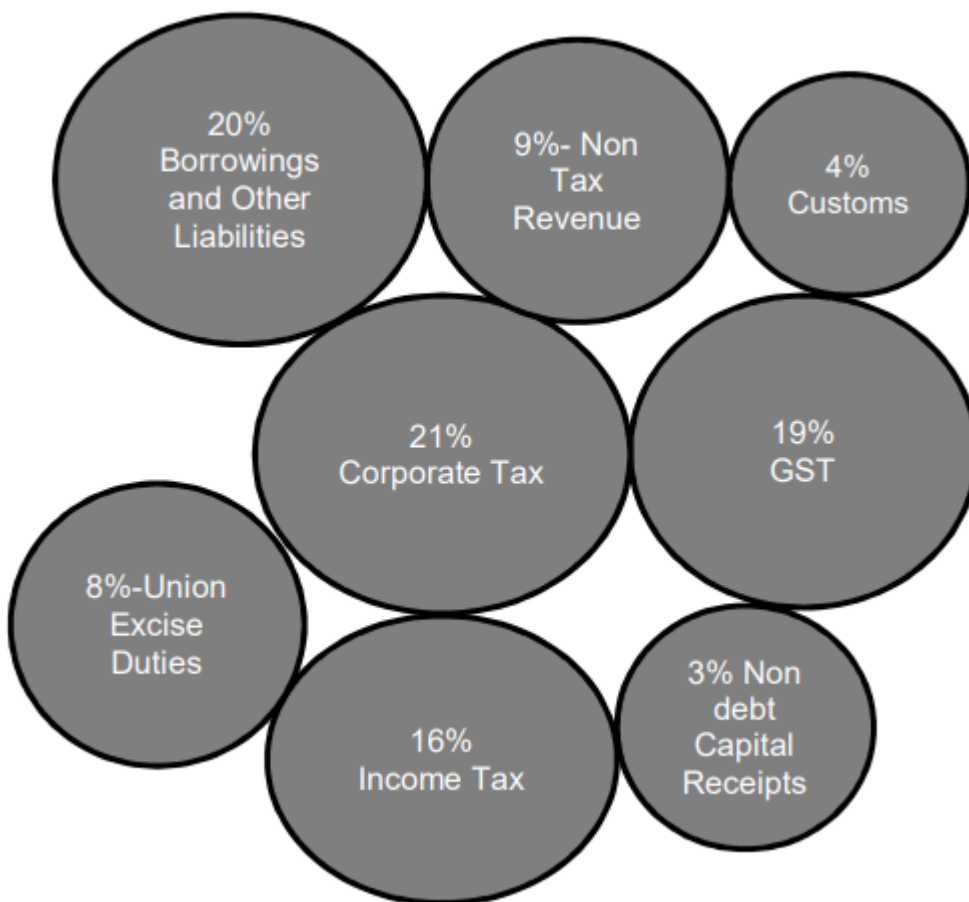
4. Custom duties

Options:

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

Answer: Option a

Explanation:



Data from Budget 2019.

90. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. The Dhanush is a self-propelled artillery gun with the Indian Army.
- 2. The Dhanush howitzer has been designed and developed by DRDO.

Options:

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

d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Dhanush is a 155 mm towed howitzer designed and developed by Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), an industrial organization, working under the Department of Defence Production of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- K9-Vajra is a self-propelled artillery gun with the army.

91. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rani ki Vav is situated in the state of Rajasthan.
2. It is listed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites.
3. Rani Ki Vav was constructed during the rule of the Chalukya dynasty.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Rani ki Vav is a stepwell situated in the town of Patan in the Gujarat state of India. Its construction is attributed to Udayamati, queen of the 11th-century Chaulukya dynasty.
- It has been listed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites since 2014.
- It is the finest and one of the largest examples of its kind and is designed as an inverted temple highlighting the sanctity of water.

92. Which of the following is wrongly matched?

- a. Taal Volcano: Philippines
- b. Mount Merapi: Indonesia
- c. Kilauea: Malaysia
- d. Mount Erbus: Antarctica

Answer: c

Explanation:

Kilauea: Hawaii

93. Which of the following statements is/are wrong?

1. Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a statutory body of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. CARA monitors and regulates both in-country and inter-country adoptions.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a statutory body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions.
- CARA is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993, ratified by the Government of India in 2003.

94. The Lily Thomas v. Union of India case of 2013 is associated with:

- a. The Supreme Court (SC) directing the political parties to publicize pending criminal cases faced by their candidates.
- b. SC asking the Centre to appoint special courts to exclusively try cases against politicians.
- c. The removal of the statutory protection offered to convicted legislators from immediate disqualification.
- d. SC directing the completion of trials involving elected representatives within a year.

Answer: C

Explanation:

- SC removed the statutory protection available for convicted legislators from immediate disqualification via the Lily Thomas v. Union of India case in 2013.
- The SC ruled that any Member of Parliament (MP), Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) or Member of a Legislative Council (MLC) who is convicted of a crime and given a minimum of two-year imprisonment, loses membership of the House with immediate effect.
- This is in contrast to the earlier position, wherein convicted members held on to their seats until they exhausted all judicial remedies.
- Further, Section 8(4) of the Representation of the People Act, which allowed elected representatives three months to appeal their conviction, was declared unconstitutional.

95. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. India is the largest cotton producer in the world.
- 2. India is the largest cotton exporter in the world.

Options:

- a. 1 only

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

The U.S. is the largest exporter of cotton in the world. A large proportion of India's cotton production caters to India's domestic demands.

96. India is not a signatory of which of the following conventions?

- a. World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- b. The International Criminal Court's Rome statute.
- c. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention of the International Labour Organization
- d. Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- India has neither signed nor ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

97. Gatka, a form of martial art is associated with which of the following state?

- a. Haryana
- b. Punjab
- c. Himachal Pradesh
- d. Uttar Pradesh

Answer: b

Explanation:

Gatka is the name of an Indian martial art associated with the Sikhs of the Punjab region, and with the Tanoli and Gujjar communities residing in mountainous regions of northern Pakistan. It is a style of stick fighting, with wooden sticks intended to simulate swords. The Punjabi name gatka refers to the wooden stick used.

98. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to Kuno National Park?

1. It is in Madhya Pradesh.
2. It is part of the Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Kuno National Park is also known as Kuno-Palpur and Palpur-Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests are a mostly arid ecoregion in northwestern India that stretches across Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The dry deciduous forests in the region are dominated by teak, and thorny trees and shrubs in drier areas.

99. Which of the following pairs of wetland and state is wrongly matched?

- a. Harike Wetlands: Punjab
- b. Pong Dam lake: Himachal Pradesh
- c. Nandur Madhameshwar: Maharashtra
- d. Sarsai Nawar: Madhya Pradesh

Answer: d

Explanation:

Sarsai Nawar is in Uttar Pradesh.

100. Arrange the following cities from north to south:

1. Beirut
2. Tel Aviv
3. Damascus
4. Jerusalem

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation: Self-Explanatory

101. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to Plastic Waste Management Rules?

1. It stipulates a minimum thickness of 50 microns for plastic sheets.
2. The Rules lay down the phasing out of all Multi-layered Plastics.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 aim to increase the minimum thickness of plastic carry bags from 40 to 50 microns and stipulate a minimum thickness of 50 microns for plastic sheets to facilitate the collection and recycling of plastic waste.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules 2018.
- The amended Rules lay down that the phasing out of Multi-layered Plastic (MLP) is now applicable to MLP which are “non-recyclable, or non-energy recoverable, or with no alternate use.”

102. “Yellow Rust Disease” is:

- a. A fungal disease that stops photosynthetic activity.
- b. A viral disease that develops due to the lack of photosynthetic activity.
- c. A bacterial disease particularly affecting the root.
- d. None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

Yellow rust is a fungal disease that turns the crop’s leaves into a yellowish colour and stops photosynthetic activity, which eventually could result in a drop of wheat crop productivity. Wheat yellow rust, also known as wheat stripe rust, is one of the three major wheat rust diseases, along with stem rust of wheat and leaf rust.

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

1. It is a tribal carnival held in the state of Chattisgarh.
2. Gusadi Dance performance by the Gond tribe is a major attraction of the event.
3. The event includes a ceremony called ‘bheting’, which incorporates new brides into the clan.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Nagoba Jatara is a tribal festival held in Keslapur village in Telangana. It is the second biggest tribal carnival and celebrated by Mesram clan of Gond tribes for 10 days.
- Tribal people from Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh belonging to the Mesram clan offer prayers at the festival.
- The event also includes a ceremony called ‘bheting’, which incorporates new brides into the clan.
- Adivasis celebrate with music and more than 15 types of dances.

- The Gusadi Dance performance by dancers from the Gond tribe is a major special attraction of the event.

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

1. The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for two hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of rural households at a statutory minimum wage.
2. The Central Government bears the 100 percent wage cost of unskilled manual labour, under the scheme.
3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), also known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) is an Indian legislation enacted on August 25, 2005. The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments. The Central Government bears the 100 percent wage cost of unskilled manual labour, under the scheme.

105. Consider the following statements with respect to the Gaza Strip:

1. It is a territory on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea.
2. It borders Egypt on the South-West and Israel on the East and North.

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 statements are correct.



106. Which of the following statement/s about calcium carbide is/are correct?

1. It is used as a deoxidizer during the manufacture of steel.
2. It is used as a ripening agent.
3. It is used in the removal of sulphur from iron.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All three statements are correct. Calcium carbide is a chemical compound widely used to ripen fruits such as mangoes. Calcium carbide is also known as calcium acetylide. Its main use industrially is in the production of acetylene and calcium cyanamide. It is used in the removal of sulphur from iron. The removal of sulphur from any material is called desulfurization. It is used as a deoxidizer during the manufacture of steel. The Delhi High Court has observed that the use of pesticides and chemicals to ripen fruits amounts to poisoning the consumer, while noting that invoking penal provisions against the culprits would have a deterrent effect.

107. Madhav National Park recently seen in news is in which state?

- a. Madhya Pradesh
- b. Rajasthan
- c. Uttarakhand
- d. Maharashtra

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The **Madhav National Park** is situated in the Shivpuri district of Gwalior division, Madhya Pradesh.

- The Sakhya and Madhav Sagar Lake, located in the centre of the forest, support a rich variety of migratory birds.
- It was named after Madho Rao Scindia, the Maharaja of Gwalior belonging to the Scindia dynasty of the Marathas.

108. Which of the given pair/s is/are correctly matched?

1. Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric project: River Alaknanda
2. Maneri Bhali Hydro-electric project: River Yamuna
3. Pashulok Hydro-electric project: River Bhagirathi

Which of the given pair/s is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

The Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric project is on the Alaknanda River, the Maneri Bhali on the Bhagirathi and the Pashulok is on the Ganga River mainstream.

109. The World Health Organization (WHO) has in the past, declared Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) for the outbreak/s of which of the following diseases?

1. Polio
2. Ebola
3. H1N1 Swine Flu

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) is declared in the event of some “serious public health events” that may endanger international public health. Under the International Health Regulations (IHR), a public health emergency is defined as “an extraordinary event which is determined, as provided in these Regulations: to constitute a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease; and to potentially require a coordinated international response”. The responsibility of declaring an event as an emergency lies with the Director-General of the WHO and requires the convening of a committee of members. The last time WHO declared a global health emergency was in 2019 for the Ebola outbreak in eastern Congo that killed more than 2,000 people. The agency also declared global emergencies for the 2016 Zika virus, the 2009 H1N1 swine flu, and the 2014 polio and Ebola outbreaks.

