

## BYJU'S UPSC Monthly Current Affairs Magazine November 2020 Answer Key

**Q1. Arrange the following from West to East:**

1. Dibru Saikhowa National Park
2. Manas National Park
3. Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park
4. Kaziranga National Park

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

National Parks in Assam West to East: Manas National Park, Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park, Kaziranga National Park, Dibru Saikhowa National Park.

**Q2. Consider the following statements:**

1. Natal Indian Ambulance Corps was created by Mahatma Gandhi for use by the British during the Second World War.
2. Mahatma Gandhi was bestowed with the 'Kaiser-i-Hind' by the British for his work in Boer war.

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:**

- Natal Indian Ambulance Corps was created by Mahatma Gandhi for use by the British as stretcher-bearers during the Second Boer War.

- Gandhi was bestowed with the 'Kaiser-i-Hind' and other medals by the British for his work in Boer war.

**Q3. Consider the following statements:**

1. Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) was signed in the third India-U.S. 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue.
2. BECA would entitle India to receive highly classified U.S. defence and sensitive geo-spatial intelligence information.
3. India is a signatory to all U.S.-related foundational military agreements.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- In the Third India-U.S. 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue that took place in Delhi (2020), the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) for Geo-Spatial Cooperation was signed.
- With this signing India is now a signatory to all U.S.-related foundational military agreements.
- Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) for Geo-Spatial Cooperation would entitle India to receive highly classified U.S. defence and sensitive geo-spatial intelligence information.

**Q4. Which of these states share their Formation Day?**

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Karnataka
3. Kerala
4. Punjab
5. Tamil Nadu

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- The states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Kerala celebrate their formation day on November 1.
- UTs Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Puducherry were also formed on November 1.
- Delhi was also formed on this date.

**Q5. Consider the following statements:**

1. Both the Supreme Court and High Courts have the jurisdiction to punish for contempt of court.
2. Criminal contempt is committed when someone wilfully disobeys a court order or wilfully breaches an undertaking given to the court.
3. Civil contempt is committed when someone interferes with or obstructs the administration of justice.

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

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- The Supreme Court and High Courts by virtue of being courts of record, have the jurisdiction to punish for contempt of court.
- The power to punish for the contempt of court is given to the Supreme Court and high courts which is defined under Article 129 and Article 215 of the Indian Constitution respectively.
- Civil contempt: It is committed when someone wilfully disobeys a court order or wilfully breaches an undertaking given to the court.
- Criminal contempt: It consists of three forms:
  - Words, written or spoken, signs and actions that “scandalise” or “tend to scandalise” or “lower” or “tends to lower” the authority of any court.
  - Prejudices or interferes with any judicial proceeding.
  - Interferes with or obstructs the administration of justice.

**Q6. Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Red Sanders’:**

1. It is a tree endemic to the Western Ghats.
2. The tree is valued for its aromatic wood.

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: c**

**Explanation:**

Red sanders or red sandalwood is a species of Pterocarpus endemic to the Eastern Ghats of South India. This tree is valued for the rich red colour of its wood. The wood is not aromatic. The tree must not be confused with the aromatic Santalum sandalwood trees that grow natively in South India.

**Q7. The Global Hunger Index is calculated using which of the following indicators?**

- 1. Undernourishment
- 2. Child Wasting
- 3. Child Stunting
- 4. Child Mortality
- 5. Infant Mortality
- 6. Mortality rate

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The GHI scores are based on a formula that captures three dimensions of hunger—insufficient caloric intake, child undernutrition, and child mortality—using four component indicators:
  - Undernourishment
  - Child Wasting
  - Child Stunting
  - Child Mortality (Under the age of 5)

**Q8. Consider the following statements with respect to Purchasing Managers' Index:**

- 1. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing sector.
- 2. It is published every month by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO).
- 3. A PMI reading at 50 indicates no change as compared to the previous month.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing sector.
- There are three principal producers of Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) namely
  1. Institute for Supply Management (ISM) – Established in 1915, Headquartered in Arizona, USA
  2. Singapore Institute of Purchasing and Materials Management (SIPMM) – Established in 1972, Located in Singapore
  3. IHS Markit Group – Located in London. IHS was established in 1959, Markit merged with IHS in 2016.
- PMI values and its components play a major role in providing useful insight into the economic activity of a business to the decision-makers, market analysts, and investors.
- It consists of a diffusion index that summarizes whether market conditions, as viewed by purchasing managers, are expanding, staying the same, or contracting.
- The headline PMI is a number from 0 to 100. A PMI above 50 represents an expansion when compared with the previous month. A PMI reading under 50 represents a contraction, and a reading at 50 indicates no change.

**Q9. Khudai Khidmatgar movement was led by:**

- a. Mohammad Ali Jinnah
- b. Abdul Ghaffar Khan
- c. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan
- d. Syed Ahmed Bareilvi

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

The Khudai Khidmatgar was a non-violent movement against the British occupation of the Indian subcontinent. It was led by Abdul Ghaffar Khan, a Pashtun freedom fighter, in the North-West Frontier Province.

**Q10. Which of the following is another term that describes "Whale Beaching"?**

- a. Cetacean Stranding
- b. Whaling
- c. Aqua Stranding

- d. None of the above

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

Whales are known to strand themselves on beaches across the world and they do so singularly or in groups. Whale beaching, also called Cetacean Stranding is the phenomenon in which cetaceans strand themselves on land (generally beaches).

**Q11. Consider the following statements with respect to Aruna Asaf Ali:**

1. She hoisted the national flag in Bombay during the Quit India Movement.
2. She was the editor of the "Inquilab" monthly magazine.
3. She is known as the Grand Old Lady of the Independence Movement.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- Aruna Asaf Ali was an Indian political activist and freedom movement activist.
- She hoisted the Indian National Flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan, Bombay during the Quit India Movement in 1942.
- She also edited Inquilab, a monthly magazine of the Congress Party, along with Ram Manohar Lohia.
- She was called the Grand Old Lady of the Independence Movement.

**Q12. Consider the following statements with respect to Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay:**

1. She became the first woman to contest for and win a legislative seat in India.
2. She is a Ramon Magsaysay Awardee.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay was an Indian social reformer and a freedom activist.
- She is most remembered for her contribution to the Indian independence movement.
- She became the first woman to run for a legislative seat in India (Madras Provincial Legislative Assembly). Though she could campaign for only a few days, she lost only by a small margin of 55 votes.
- She is a Ramon Magsaysay Awardee.

**Q13. Consider the following statements with respect to the District Development Council:**

1. The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India allows for the formation of the District Development Council (DDC).
2. The term of the DDC will be five years.
3. The members of the DDC will be selected through direct elections.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- In October 2020, the Centre amended the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, to facilitate the setting up of District Development Councils (DDC).
- Each district in the Union Territory will be divided into 14 territorial constituencies.
- The term of the DDC will be five years.
- They will be directly elected by voters in the Union Territory.
- The representatives will, in turn, elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from amongst themselves. The councils will replace District Development Boards, which when Jammu and Kashmir was a state, were chaired by a cabinet minister or a minister of state and included MLAs, MLCs and MPs.
- The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India allows for the formation of Autonomous District Councils.

**Q14. “Nurturing Neighborhoods Challenge” is implemented by the-**

- a. Ministry of External Affairs
- b. Ministry of Home affairs
- c. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

- d. Ministry of Tribal Affairs

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge is an open call to Indian cities to propose and pilot neighbourhood-level improvements in public space, mobility, access to services, and data management to enhance the physical and psychological health of young children and their caregivers.
- The challenge is being implemented by the Union Ministry for Housing and Urban Affairs.
- It will be open for the 100 Smart Cities, cities with a population of more than 5 lakh and State/Union Territory capitals.

**Q15. The Vohra Committee report dealt with:**

- a. Financial Inclusion
- b. Reforms in Criminal Law
- c. Centre-state relations
- d. Criminalisation of politics

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

The Vohra (Committee) Report was submitted by the former Indian Home Secretary, N. N. Vohra, in October 1993. It studied the problem of the criminalisation of politics and of the nexus among criminals, politicians and bureaucrats in India. The report contained several observations made by official agencies on the criminal network which was virtually running a parallel government.

**Q16. Which of the following states in India have a State Butterfly?**

- 1. Maharashtra
- 2. Tamil Nadu
- 3. Telangana
- 4. Kerala
- 5. Himachal Pradesh

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: a**



**Explanation:**

- Maharashtra was the first state to officially declare Blue Mormon (*Papilio polymnestor*) as its state butterfly in 2015.
- It was followed by Uttarakhand (Common peacock), Karnataka (Southern Birdwing) and Kerala (Malabar banded peacock also called *Papilio buddha*).
- In 2019, declaring Tamil Yeoman as the state butterfly, Tamil Nadu became the fifth Indian state to declare its state butterfly.

**Q17. Consider the following statements with respect to Guru Nanak Dev:**

1. He founded the holy city of Amritsar.
2. He started the institution of Guru ka Langar.
3. He was a contemporary of Mughal emperor Akbar.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Guru Nanak Dev, first of the 10 gurus, founded the Sikh faith.
- He started the institution of Guru ka Langar.
- He was a contemporary of Mughal emperor Babur.
- The Holy City of Amritsar was founded by the 4<sup>th</sup> Sikh Guru, Guru Ram Das.

**Q18. "Tigray" recently seen in news is located in:**

- a. Ethiopia
- b. Sudan
- c. Yemen
- d. Kenya

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

The Tigray Region is the northernmost of the nine regions (kililat) of Ethiopia.

**Q19. Consider the following statements with respect to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe:**

1. It is the largest security-oriented intergovernmental organization in the world.
2. Its areas of work include arms control, promotion of human rights, freedom of the press and fair elections.
3. Its decisions are legally binding on the participating states.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) is the world's largest security-oriented intergovernmental organization.
- Its mandate includes issues such as arms control, promotion of human rights, freedom of the press, and fair elections.
- It has 57 States from Europe, Central Asia and North America.
- All 57 participating States enjoy equal status, and decisions are taken by consensus on a politically, but not legally binding basis.

**Q20. Which of these countries do not border Austria?**

1. Hungary
2. Croatia
3. Serbia
4. Germany
5. Albania

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Austria is bordered by Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Italy, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic.

**Q21. Consider the following statements with respect to Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas:**

1. It is a statutory authority.
2. The Commission will supersede bodies such as the central and state pollution control boards of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, UP and Rajasthan.
3. The Commission does not have any penal powers.

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

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas is a statutory authority.
- It would supersede bodies such as the central and state pollution control boards of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, UP and Rajasthan.
- If its directions are contravened, the Commission will have the power to impose a fine of up to Rs 1 crore and imprisonment of up to 5 years.

**Q22. Pakke Tiger Reserve is located in:**

- a. Kerala
- b. Tamil Nadu
- c. Arunachal Pradesh
- d. Odisha

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Pakke Tiger Reserve lies in the foothills of the Eastern Himalaya in the East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh.

**Q23. Consider the following statements with respect to Kalapani:**

1. It borders Himachal Pradesh in India and Nepal.
2. It is controlled by India's Indo-Tibetan Border Police.

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:**

- Kalapani is a region located in the easternmost corner of Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district.
- It borders Uttarakhand in India and Sudurpashchim Pradesh in Nepal.
- It is controlled by India's Indo-Tibetan Border Police.

**Q24. Which of the following vitamins are added in fortified Rice?**

- 1. Vitamin B12
- 2. Vitamin B1
- 3. Vitamin A
- 4. Vitamin D

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- According to the World Health Organisation, Rice kernels can be fortified with several micronutrients, such as iron, folic acid and other B-complex vitamins, vitamin A and zinc.
- Generally, fortified rice contains Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B12, Folic Acid, Iron and Zinc.

**Q25. Which of the following are potential areas of application of earth observation satellites?**

- 1. Estimating agricultural crops inventory
- 2. Water resources information system
- 3. Ground water prospects
- 4. Identifying potential fishing zones
- 5. Disaster management support

Options:

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Earth observation satellites also referred to as remote Sensing Satellites have immense application potential.
- Some of the most prominent application areas are Agricultural Crops Inventory, Water Resources Information System, Ground Water Prospects, Forest Working Plans, Biodiversity and Coral Mapping, Potential Fishing Zones, Ocean State Forecasts, Rural Development, Urban Development, Inventory & Monitoring of Glacial Lakes / Water Bodies, Location based Services using NavIC constellation, Disaster Management Support Programme (Cyclone and Floods Mapping & Monitoring, Landslide Mapping & Monitoring, Agricultural Drought, Forest Fire, Earthquakes, Extreme Weather Monitoring and experimental Forecasts and so on).

**Q26. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?**

- a. Warli paintings: Maharashtra
- b. Kalamkari: Andhra Pradesh
- c. Phad: West Bengal
- d. Madhubani: Bihar

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Phad paintings are associated with the state of Rajasthan.

**Q27. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?**

1. The Central Information Commission includes one chief information commissioner and not more than ten information commissioners
2. The members of the Central Information Commission are appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
3. The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners shall hold office for a maximum term of five years and shall not be eligible for reappointment.

Options:

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- The Central Information Commission is a statutory body, set up under the Right to Information Act in 2005.
- The commission includes one chief information commissioner and not more than ten information commissioners who are appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
- Section 13 of the RTI Act 2005 provides that the Chief Information Commissioner shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office and shall not be eligible for reappointment:

**Q28. Which of the following is/are biodiversity heritage site/s in India?**

- 1. Nallur tamarind grove
- 2. Hogrekan
- 3. Dialong village
- 4. Majuli
- 5. Khlaw Kur Syiem Kmielng
- 6. Asramam

**Options:**

- a. 1 and 4 only
- b. None of the above
- c. All of the above
- d. 1, 2, 4 and 6 only

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- All the places are declared biodiversity heritage sites in India.
  - Nallur tamarind grove and Hogrekan are in Karnataka
  - Dialong village is in Manipur
  - Majuli island is in Assam
  - Khlaw Kur Syiem Kmielng is in Meghalaya
  - Asramam is in Kerala

**Q29. Consider the following statements with respect to National Air Quality Index (AQI):**

1. The AQI has five categories of air quality with a distinct colour scheme.
2. AQI considers eight pollutants for which short-term National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed.

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 AQI has six categories of air quality, viz Good, Satisfactory, Moderately polluted, Poor, Very Poor and Severe with a distinct colour scheme.
- Each of these categories is associated with likely health impacts.
- AQI considers eight pollutants (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and Pb) for which short-term (up to 24-hourly averaging period) National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed.

**Q30. Consider the following statements with respect to Ambedkar Social Innovation Incubation Mission:**

1. The mission was launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
2. It has been launched under the Venture Capital Fund for SCs.
3. The beneficiaries will be funded with Rs. 30 lakhs in 3 years as equity funding.

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

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM) under Venture Capital Fund for SCs with a view to promoting innovation and enterprise among SC students studying in higher educational institutions.
- Under the initiative, 1,000 SC youth will be identified in the next four years with start-up ideas through the Technology Business Incubators in various higher educational institutions.
- They will be funded 30 lakh rupees in three years as equity funding to translate their start-up ideas into commercial ventures.

**Q31. “Carbon neutrality” refers to:**

- a. The long-term removal, capture or sequestration of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- b. Achieving net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by balancing carbon dioxide emissions with carbon absorption.
- c. Achieving negative carbon dioxide emissions by increasing the carbon absorption and measures such as afforestation to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- d. Removing carbon oxide from the atmosphere and then storing it.

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Carbon neutrality refers to achieving net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by balancing carbon dioxide emissions with carbon absorption.
- Achieving carbon neutrality has two basic aims, reducing or simply eliminating carbon dioxide emissions altogether and also increasing carbon removal (through carbon absorption in carbon sinks, carbon offsetting and carbon sequestration).

**Q32. Consider the following statements with respect to Chlorpyrifos:**

- 1. It is an organophosphate pesticide used on crops to kill a number of pests and insects.
- 2. It is used to control ticks on cattle.
- 3. It has the potential for acute toxicity and neurological effects in fetuses and children.

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:**

- Chlorpyrifos (CPS) is an organophosphate pesticide used on crops, animals, and buildings, and in other settings, to kill a number of pests, including insects and worms.
- On the farm, it is used to control ticks on cattle and as a spray to control crop pests.
- It acts on the nervous systems of insects.
- However, it has the potential for both acute toxicity at larger amounts and neurological effects in fetuses and children even at very small amounts.

**Q33. Consider the following statements with respect to OPEC+:**



1. OPEC+ refers to the alliance of crude producers, who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.
2. OPEC+ countries include Oman, Russia and Malaysia.

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:**

- OPEC+ is the alliance of crude producers who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since the year 2017.
- OPEC+ countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.

**Q34. Consider the following statements:**

1. Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body established under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.
2. The Competition Appellate Tribunal (COMPAT) hears and disposes of appeals against any direction issued or decision made or order passed by the CCI.

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: c**

**Explanation:**

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) was established under the Competition Act, 2002 for the administration, implementation and enforcement of the Act, and was duly constituted in March 2009.
- The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (MRTP Act) was repealed and replaced by the Competition Act, 2002.
- The Competition Appellate Tribunal (COMPAT) has ceased to exist effective 26 May 2017.
- The appellate function under the Competition Act, 2002 would now confer to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

**Q35. Consider the following statements with respect to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):**

1. It is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.
2. The state governments have the power to withdraw the general consent for investigation accorded to the CBI.
3. Cases registered anywhere else in the country, but involving people stationed in states which have withdrawn general consent, would allow CBI's jurisdiction to extend to these states.

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. None of the above

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The CBI is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act that makes consent of a state government mandatory for conducting an investigation in that state.
- The state governments have the power to withdraw the general consent for investigation accorded to CBI.
- Cases registered anywhere else in the country, but involving people stationed in states which have withdrawn general consent, would still allow CBI's jurisdiction to extend to these states.
- Also, the CBI would still have the power to investigate old cases registered when general consent existed.

**Q36. Consider the following statements with respect to Mission Shakti:**

1. It is a joint programme of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
2. Under the mission, an anti-satellite (A-SAT) weapon was launched and it targeted an Indian satellite that had been decommissioned.
3. India is the first country to acquire the capability to defend its assets in outer space.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Mission Shakti is a joint programme of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

- ‘Mission Shakti’ was India’s first-ever Anti-Satellite (ASAT) Missile Test successfully conducted in March 2019 from Dr AP J Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha, where a fast-moving Indian orbiting target satellite in the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) was neutralised with pinpoint accuracy.
- This made India the fourth nation in the world with the capability to defend its assets in outer space. Till now, only the US, Russia and China had the capability to hit a live target in space.

**Q37. Which of these border the “West Bank” area?**

1. Lebanon
2. Jordan
3. Dead Sea
4. Israel

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

Dead Sea, Jordan and Israel border the West Bank area.

**Q38. Consider the following statements with respect to “Nagorno-Karabakh”:**

1. It is a mountainous land-locked region in the South Caucasus.
2. It is internationally recognised as a part of Azerbaijan.
3. The major ethnic group of the region is Armenian.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

All the statements are correct.

**Q39. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to mRNA Technology-based vaccine development?**

1. mRNA medicines are basically a set of instructions that direct cells in the body to make proteins to prevent or fight disease.
2. The Polio vaccine is a successful adoption of mRNA technology to vaccine development.

Options:

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Using mRNA as a medicine is a fundamentally different approach in drug therapy.
- Unlike the traditional pharmaceuticals which are small therapeutic molecules or the traditional biologics (recombinant proteins and monoclonal antibodies), mRNA medicines are sets of instructions. These instructions direct cells in the body to make proteins to prevent or fight disease.
- Despite the numerous advantages offered by mRNA technology-based vaccine development strategy, there are still no commercially available m-RNA based vaccines to accurately predict the efficacy of mRNA technology-based vaccines.

**Q40. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the National Policy on Health, 2017?**

1. It aims to increase government healthcare spending to 2.5% of the GDP by 2025.
2. It aims to reduce the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to 2.1 at the national and sub-national levels by 2025.

Options:

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Key Targets of the National Health Policy, 2017:
  - Increase the health expenditure of the Government from the existing 1.15% to 2.5% of the GDP by 2025.
  - Increase Life Expectancy at birth from 67.5 to 70 by 2025.

- Reduction of Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to 2.1 at the national and sub-national levels by 2025. In FY 2016, India had TFR at 2.3 births per woman.
- Reduction of 40% in the prevalence of stunting of Under-Five Children by 2025.
- To reduce the prevalence of blindness to 0.25/1000 by 2025 and disease burden by one third from current levels.
- Achieve and maintain the elimination status of Leprosy by 2018, Kala-Azar by 2017 and Lymphatic Filariasis in endemic pockets by 2017.
- To reduce premature mortality from cardiovascular diseases, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases and cancer by 25% by 2025.
- Increase utilization of public health facilities by 50% from current levels by 2025.
- Increase the share of State on health to more than 8% of their budget by 2020.
- Decrease in the health expenditure of the households from the current level by 25%, by 2025.

**Q41. When travelling from Gairsain to Challakere, what is the minimum number of states that one would pass through including the two states in which the mentioned places lie in?**

- a. 5
- b. 6
- c. 7
- d. 8

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Gairsain is being developed as the summer capital of Uttarakhand.
- Challakere in Karnataka is housing premier science and research organizations such as IISc, DRDO, BARC and ISRO.
- While travelling from Gairsain to Challakere one would pass through the following states: Uttarakhand—Uttar Pradesh—Madhya Pradesh—Maharashtra—Karnataka.

**Q42. Which of the following is/are correct with respect to the Convention on International trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora?**

1. It prohibits the trade of only such species of flora and fauna which are listed as critically endangered under the IUCN Red List.
2. In States that have agreed to be bound by CITES, the Convention takes the place of national laws to ensure there is a uniform legal framework in the countries party to the CITES agreement.

**Options:**

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- The CITES has many wildlife species that are not endangered.
- CITES is an international agreement to which States and regional economic integration organizations adhere to voluntarily. States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties. Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties – in other words, they have to implement the Convention – it does not take the place of national laws. Rather it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

**Q43. Which of the following correctly explains the term viability gap funding?**

- a. It means a grant to support projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.
- b. It implies government equity in infrastructural PPP projects.
- c. It means a loan at a low rate of interest to infrastructural PPP projects.
- d. It implies private-sector owned equity in governmental projects.

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Viability Gap Finance means a grant to support projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.

**Q44. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act?**

1. As per the FCRA, members of legislatures, political parties, government officials, judges and media persons are prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution.
2. NGOs receiving foreign grants have to register with the Ministry of Home Affairs and are also required to renew their registration number every 5 years.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- As per the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, members of legislatures, political parties, government officials, judges and media persons are prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution.
- Foreign grants received by NGOs are regulated by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, or FCRA. In order to receive foreign funds, an NGO has to register with the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is assigned a unique FCRA registration number, to be renewed every five years.

**Q45. Consider the following statements with respect to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP):**

1. It is published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).
2. It is used for estimating the Gross Value Added of the manufacturing sector quarterly.
3. The base year for calculating IIP is 2011 – 12.

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:**

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index that indicates the performance of various industrial sectors of the Indian economy.
- IIP forms a crucial input for the compilation of Gross Value Added of the manufacturing sector in Gross Domestic Product of the country on a quarterly basis.
- It is published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).
- The base year for IIP is 2011 – 12.

**Q46. Consider the following statements with respect to submarine 'Vagir':**

1. It is the last one of the six Kalvari-class submarines being built in India.
2. It is a part of Indian Navy's Project 75.
3. It was built in India with technology transfer from Russia.

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

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

**Answer: c**



**Explanation:**

- Vagir is part of the Indian Navy's Project-75 that includes the building and induction of six Kalvari-class submarines designed by French naval defence outfit.
- It is the fifth of the six Kalvari-class submarines being built in India.
- It is built by the Mazagon Docks Ltd. with technology transfer from France.

**Q47. "Nyingchi", recently in news, is located in?**

- a. China
- b. Bhutan
- c. Armenia
- d. Indonesia

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Nyingchi is a city in the southeast of China's Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR).
- Nyingchi lies near the border with India's Arunachal Pradesh.
- China has begun work on a strategically significant railway line (its second major rail link to Tibet) that will link Sichuan province with Nyingchi.

**Q48. Consider the following statements with respect to "Swarna Jayanti Fellowships"**

1. The scheme was instituted by the Govt. of India to commemorate India's fiftieth year of independence.
2. It provides special assistance and support to a selected number of young scientists with a proven track record to enable them to pursue basic research in frontier areas of science and technology.
3. Under the scheme, the awardees are advanced a research grant of 5 lakh rupees for 5 years.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The Swarna Jayanti Fellowships scheme was instituted by the Govt. of India to commemorate India's fiftieth year of independence.



- It provides special assistance and support to a selected number of young scientists with a proven track record to enable them to pursue basic research in frontier areas of science and technology.
- Under the scheme, the awardees are given support by the DST, which will cover all the requirements for performing the research and will include a fellowship of Rs. 25,000/- per month for five years.
- In addition to this, DST supports the awardees by giving them a research grant of 5 lakh Rupees for 5 years. The fellowship is provided in addition to the salary they draw from their parent Institution.

**Q49. Western Disturbance originates in the:**

- a. Mediterranean Sea
- b. Arabian Sea
- c. Pacific Ocean
- d. Indian Ocean

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Western Disturbance is an extratropical storm originating in the Mediterranean region that brings sudden winter rain to the north-western parts of the Indian subcontinent.
- It is a non-monsoonal precipitation pattern driven by the westerlies.
- It originates in the Mediterranean Sea as extra-tropical cyclones.

**Q50. Which of the following gharanas of Kathak was established by Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Oudh?**

- a. Raigarh Gharana
- b. Banaras Gharana
- c. Lucknow Gharana
- d. Jaipur Gharana

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The nineteenth-century saw the golden age of Kathak under the patronage of Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Oudh.
- He established the Lucknow Gharana with its strong accent on bhava, the expression of moods and emotions.

**Q51. Consider the following statements with respect to Kuchipudi:**

1. It is known as the fire dance.
2. Dancing on the rim of a brass plate and with a pitcher full of water on the head is a feature of this dance form.

3. The dance form originated in Kerala.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Kuchipudi is originally from Andhra Pradesh.
- Dancing on the rim of a brass plate and with a pitcher full of water on the head is a feature of this dance form.
- Bharatanatyam is known as the “Fire Dance”.

**Q52. Consider the following statements with respect to Birsa Munda:**

1. Birsa Munda proclaimed his rebellion directed against the dikus.
2. He was referred to as ‘Dharti Abba’.
3. His rebellion forced the government to enact the Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act, 1908.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- Birsa Munda proclaimed his rebellion in 1894 which was directed against the British and the dikus (outsiders). This is called the Munda Ulgulan.
- He was referred to as ‘Dharti Abba’.
- His rebellion forced the government to enact the Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act, 1908.

**Q53. Which of the following are the possible causes of deflation?**

1. High Supply and Low Demand.
2. High Demand and Low Supply.
3. A decrease in the money supply in the economy.

4. Net capital outflow.

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Deflation is a decrease in the general price level of goods and services.
- High Supply and Low Demand is a major cause of Deflation.
- Other factors include a decrease in money supply, net capital outflow from the economy.

**Q54. Consider the following statements:**

- 1. The Global Gender Gap Report is an annual report published by the United Nations Development Programme.
- 2. The Global Gender Gap Index ranks countries according to the calculated gender gap between women and men in health, education, economy and politics.

Which of the following statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- The Global Gender Gap Report is an annual report published by the World Economic Forum.
- The Global Gender Gap Index ranks countries according to the calculated gender gap between women and men in health, education, economy and politics.

**Q55. Wholesale Price Index is released by:**

- a. Office of Economic Advisor
- b. National Statistical Office
- c. Reserve Bank of India
- d. National Sample Survey Office

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

The Wholesale Price Index is released by the Office of Economic Advisor under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

**Q56. Which of the following is/are the mandate(s) of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)?**

1. Advise the government in matters of financial restructuring of Central Public Sector Undertakings.
2. Advise on matters relating to the sale of Central Government equity through private placement.
3. Decisions in matters relating to Central Public Sector Undertakings for purposes of Government investment in equity-like capital restructuring, bonus, dividends.

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Mandates of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management or 'DIPAM' include:

- Advise the government in matters of financial restructuring of Central Public Sector Undertakings.
- Decisions in matters relating to Central Public Sector Undertakings for purposes of Government investment in equity-like capital restructuring, bonus, dividends.
- All matters relating to the management of Central Government investments in equity including disinvestment of equity in Central Public Sector Undertakings.
- All matters relating to the sale of Central Government equity through an offer for sale or private placement or any other mode in the erstwhile Central Public Sector Undertakings.

**Q57. Sri Lanka has handed a 99-year lease to China for which of these ports?**

- a. Trincomalee Harbour
- b. Hambantota Port
- c. Colombo Port
- d. Port of Point Pedro

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

Sri Lanka handed a 99-year lease to China for its Hambantota deep-sea port because it could not repay loans to Beijing for the harbour in the island's south.

**Q58. Brus/Reangs are recognised as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in which of these state/s?**

1. Manipur
2. Tripura
3. Mizoram
4. Nagaland

Choose the correct option:

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- The Brus are spread across the northeastern states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.
- In Tripura, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
- 75 tribal groups have been categorized by the Ministry of Home Affairs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- PVTGs reside in 18 States and the UT of A&N Islands.
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements the Scheme of "Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)" exclusively for them.

**Q59. Consider the following statements with respect to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):**

1. It is an international organisation that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
2. It has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize twice.
3. It reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
4. Program of Action for Cancer Therapy is one of its key programmes.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The International Atomic Energy Agency is an international organisation that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, headquartered in Vienna, Austria.
- It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.
- It reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
- Program of Action for Cancer Therapy is one of its key programmes. It was launched in 2004 to build upon its experience in radiation medicine and technology, and enable developing countries to introduce, expand or improve their cancer care capacity and services in a sustainable manner by integrating radiotherapy into a comprehensive cancer control programme that maximizes its therapeutic effectiveness and impact.

**Q60. Consider the following statements:**

1. Minsk Group was established to envisage a peaceful, negotiated resolution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.
2. Nagorno-Karabakh is internationally recognised as a part of Armenia.
3. The major ethnic group in the Nagorno-Karabakh region is Armenian.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Nagorno-Karabakh is internationally recognised as a part of Azerbaijan.
- The major ethnic group of the region is Armenian.
- The Minsk Group or the OSCE Minsk Group was established in 1992 by the Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSCE, now Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)) to envisage a peaceful, negotiated resolution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.
- It is co-chaired by France, Russia and the USA.

**Q61. Consider the following statements:**

1. DNA sequencing is the process of determining the order of nucleotides in DNA.
2. Human Genome is made up of 23 chromosome pairs.
3. Genomics involves the sequencing and analysis of genomes through the use of high throughput DNA sequencing.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- DNA sequencing is the process of determining the nucleic acid sequence – the order of nucleotides in DNA.
- Human Genome is made up of 23 chromosome pairs.
- A genome is an organism's complete set of DNA, including all of its genes. Genomics is an interdisciplinary field of science focusing on the structure, function, evolution, mapping, and editing of genomes. Genomics involves the sequencing and analysis of genomes through the use of high throughput DNA sequencing.

**Q62. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Population Register (NPR):**

1. The NPR is a register of usual residents of the country.
2. For the purpose of NPR, a person who has resided in a local area for the past 7 years or more or a person who intends to reside in that area for the next 7 years or more is a usual resident.
3. The NPR database would contain demographic as well as biometric particulars.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The National Population Register (NPR) is a register of usual residents of the country.
- It will be prepared at the local (Village/sub-Town), sub-District, District, State and National levels under provisions of the Citizenship Act 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.
- It is mandatory for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.
- A usual resident is defined for the purposes of NPR as a person who has resided in a local area for the past 6 months or more or a person who intends to reside in that area for the next 6 months or more.
- The database would contain demographic as well as biometric particulars.

**Q63. Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention is under the aegis of:**

- a. United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- b. World Health Organisation (WHO)
- c. International Health Organisation (IHO)
- d. International HIV/AIDS Alliance (IHAA)

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

The Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention comes under the aegis of the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

**Q64. Consider the following statements:**

1. Sex ratio is the number of men per thousand women in a given population.
2. Child sex ratio takes into account children in the age group of 0-6 years.

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:**

- Sex ratio is the number of women per thousand men in a given population.
- Child sex ratio takes into account children in the age group of 0-6 years.

**Q65. Consider the following statements with respect to the Office of Profit:**

1. The Constitution of India states that an MP or MLA is not allowed to hold any office of profit.
2. The office of profit comprises any place or position that carries or offers some remuneration, financial advantage, benefit, etc.
3. The office of profit concept has been adopted from the British parliamentary model.

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

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



- d. None of the above

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

All the statements are correct.

**Q66. Consider the following statements with respect to “Five Eyes”:**

1. It is an anglophone intelligence alliance.
2. It comprises Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.
3. The “Five Eyes” are parties to the multilateral UKUSA Agreement.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- The Five Eyes, often abbreviated as FVEY, is an anglophone intelligence alliance between Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The United Kingdom – United States of America (UKUSA) Agreement is a multilateral agreement for cooperation in signals intelligence between Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The alliance of intelligence operations is also known as the Five Eyes.

**Q67. Consider the following statements with respect to Vellayani-Punchakkari wetlands:**

1. Vellayani-Punchakkari wetlands is located in Tamil Nadu.
2. It is included in the list of Ramsar wetlands of international importance.

**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: c**

**Explanation:**

- Vellayani-Punchakkari wetlands is located in Kerala.
- It is not a Ramsar site, i.e, it is not included in the list of Ramsar wetlands of international importance.

**Q68. Consider the following statements with respect to Global Depository Receipt (GDR):**

1. It is a depository receipt which is issued by the international depository bank, representing the foreign company's stock.
2. GDR is denominated in any foreign currency but the underlying shares would be denominated in the local currency of the issuer.
3. GDRs enable a company to access investors in capital markets outside of its home country.

**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: d**

**Explanation:**

- Global Depository Receipt (GDR) is a negotiable instrument that is denominated in some freely convertible currency.
- GDR is denominated in any foreign currency but the underlying shares would be denominated in the local currency of the issuer.
- GDRs enable a company, the issuer, to access investors in capital markets outside of its home country. Several international banks issue GDRs, such as JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, Deutsche Bank, The Bank of New York Mellon.

**Q69. Consider the following statements with respect to Doklam:**

1. Doklam trijunction is the point where the borders of Arunachal Pradesh in India, Bhutan and China meet.
2. It is surrounded by China's Chumbi Valley to the north, Bhutan's Ha Valley to the east and India's Nathang Valley to the west.
3. India claims it is at Batang La, China claims it at Gyomo chen.

**Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?**

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Doklam trijunction is the point where the borders of Sikkim in India, Bhutan and China meet.
- It is surrounded by China's Chumbi Valley to the north, Bhutan's Ha Valley to the east and India's Sikkim state's Nathang Valley to the west.
- India claims it is at Batang La, China claims it at Gyomo chen.

**Q70. Consider the following statements with respect to the Arria Formula meeting:**

1. It is an informal meeting of members of the United Nations Security Council.
2. It requires the presence of all 15 members of the council.
3. Arria formula meetings are presided over by a member of the UNSC.

**Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?**

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- An "Arria formula" meeting is an informal meeting of members of the United Nations Security Council, which must be convened by a member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in order for the meeting to take place.
- Holding an Arria formula meeting does not require the consensus of all 15 members of the Security Council, thus allowing the council member who convened the meeting flexibility and discretion.
- Arria formula meetings are presided over by a member of the UNSC, who acts as a facilitator of discussion, rather than the President of the Security Council. Sometimes, the meetings are also held in collaboration with states not on the council who think it would be beneficial to hear from specific individuals, organisations or institutions.

**Q71. Consider the following statements with respect to Inner Line Permit (ILP):**

1. It is a document that allows an Indian citizen to visit or stay in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland.

2. Its origin dates back to the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulations, 1873.

**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 statements are correct.

**Q72. Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan is an initiative of which of the following ministries?**

- a. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- b. Ministry of Human Resource and Development
- c. Ministry of External Affairs
- d. Ministry of Tourism

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) is an initiative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (now renamed Ministry of Education).
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) launched UBA with an aim to connect institutions of higher education, including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs), etc. with local communities to address the development challenges through appropriate technologies.

**Q73. Which of the following are potential advantages of the 'Pusa decomposer' usage as against the other strategies for stubble management?**

1. Step towards organic farming practices
2. Makes use of naturally occurring processes
3. Helps increase soil carbon content
4. Helps improve soil's water retention potential
5. Improves soil fertility
6. Cheaper method
7. Easily scalable model

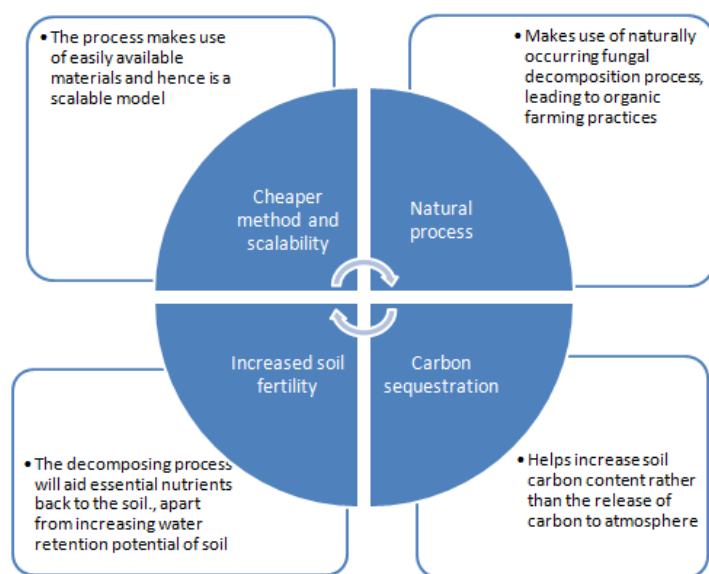
**Options:**

- a. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- b. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 only
- c. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
- d. 3, 4 and 5 only

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Pusa decomposer offers some notable advantages over other methods being used as discussed in the following figure.



**Q74. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Kala Azar?**

1. Kala-azar also known as visceral leishmaniasis (VL) is a tropical disease.
2. It is caused by a protozoan Leishmania parasite and is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected female sandflies.
3. India accounts for about two-thirds of the total global cases.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Kala-azar or visceral leishmaniasis (VL) is a tropical disease characterised by irregular fever, weight loss, anaemia and swelling of the spleen and liver. It is caused by a protozoan Leishmania parasite and is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected female sandflies.
- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), India accounts for about two-thirds of the total 7 to 10 lakh new global cases annually, and the disease is endemic to Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. An initiative was launched by WHO to eliminate VL as a public health problem from the South East Asia region by 2020, which has since been extended to 2023.

**Q75. Which of the following statement/s is/ are correct?**

1. India is the world's largest oil refiner and a net exporter of refined products.
2. Gas based fuels account for about 25% of the energy consumed in India.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- India is the world's third-largest consumer of oil, the fourth-largest oil refiner and a net exporter of refined products.
- The cleaner-burning natural gas fuel currently accounts for about 6% of the energy consumed in the country. India is aiming to raise the share of natural gas in its energy-consumption mix by up to four times. This would allow India to improve the environmental sustainability and flexibility of its energy system.

**Q76. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to tropical cyclones?**

1. Tropical cyclones, form when water gets 37 °C or hotter.
2. The tropical cyclones do not form very close to the equator due to the absence of coriolis force near the equator.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Tropical cyclones, hurricanes or typhoons form when convection causes warm, moist air above the ocean to rise. They begin as a group of storms when the water gets as hot as 80 °F (27 °C) or hotter.
- The Coriolis Effect made by the Earth's rotation causes the winds to rotate. Coriolis forces are virtually absent very close to the equator.

**Q77. "SITMEX" is a maritime exercise between the navies of which of the following countries?**

- 1. India
- 2. Singapore
- 3. Thailand
- 4. Malaysia
- 5. Maldives

**Choose the correct option:**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- SITMEX is a trilateral maritime exercise between the navies of India, Singapore and Thailand.
- Commenced in 2019, the first exercise was hosted by India.
- The 2020 exercise is being hosted by the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).

**Q78. Consider the following pairs:**

- 1. INS Kamorta – Anti-Submarine Warfare stealth corvette
- 2. INS Karmuk – Missile corvette
- 3. INS Kalvari – Scorpene-class submarine

**Which of these is/are correctly matched?**

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- INS Kamorta is the first of four anti-submarine Kamorta-class stealth corvettes which have been built for the Indian Navy.
- INS Karmuk is a missile corvette of the Kora class.
- INS Kalvari is a Scorpène-class submarine in service with the Indian Navy. It is a diesel-electric attack submarine.

All the pairs are correctly matched.

**Q79. Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):**

1. It sets a framework for limiting the emissions of greenhouse gases by individual countries.
2. It is legally binding.
3. Nagoya Protocol is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
4. Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change sets a framework for limiting the emissions of greenhouse gases by individual countries. It is not legally binding.
- Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



**Q80. Consider the following statements with respect to River Brahmaputra:**

1. It originates in Tibet and is known as the Yarlung Tsangpo there.
2. The river flows eastwards through southern Tibet and makes a U-turn at the Shuomatan Point before it enters Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The river also flows through Bangladesh.

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

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- The Brahmaputra is a perennial river which originates in Tibet, where it is known as the Yarlung Tsangpo.
- It flows eastwards through southern Tibet for a distance of 1,625 kilometers and at its easternmost point, it swings around to make a spectacular U-turn at the Shuomatan Point or Great Bend before it enters India's easternmost state, Arunachal Pradesh. Here it is known as the Siang River.

**Q81. Arrange the following capitals from North to South:**

1. Astana
2. Tashkent
3. Bishkek
4. Dushanbe

**Choose the correct option:**

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**



**Q82. Which of the following describes the aim of the KUSUM scheme introduced by the Government of India?**

- Providing irrigation facilities to every village in the country
- Promoting decentralized solar power production
- Ensuring that the farmers growing oilseeds, pulses and copra get the minimum support prices
- Providing outcome-based skill training to unemployed youth in rural areas

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan or KUSUM scheme aims at furthering the production of solar power in India and also give the benefits of solar farming to farmers.
- KUSUM Scheme is a scheme for promoting decentralized solar power production.

**Q83. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?**

Islands	Country
1. Assumption Island	Seychelles
2. Agalega Islands	Maldives
3. Gaadhoo Island	Mauritius

**Choose the correct option:**

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Assumption Island is a small island in the Outer Islands of Seychelles north of Madagascar.
- Agaléga Islands are two outer islands of Mauritius located in the Indian Ocean.
- Gaadhoo Island is one of the inhabited islands of Laamu Atoll, an administrative division of the Maldives.

**Q84. Consider the following statements with respect to Chang'e 5:**

1. It is a Navigation Satellite of China to support its global navigation and positioning network.
2. It is being developed as an alternative to the Global Positioning System of the United States.

**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: d**

**Explanation:**

- Chang'e 5 is an ongoing robotic Chinese lunar exploration mission consisting of a service module, lunar lander, ascender, and a sample-return vehicle.
- Like its predecessors, the spacecraft is named after the Chinese Moon goddess, Chang'e.
- The program aims to facilitate a crewed lunar landing.

**Q85. Consider the following statements with respect to tropical cyclones:**

1. More cyclones are formed in the Bay of Bengal than the Arabian Sea.
2. Cyclones gain their energy from the heat and moisture generated from warm ocean surfaces.
3. From the centre of a cyclonic storm, pressure increases outwards.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- More cyclones are formed in the Bay of Bengal than the Arabian Sea due to wind patterns (that keep oceans cooler on the western side).
- Cyclones gain their energy from the heat and moisture generated from warm ocean surfaces.
- From the centre of a cyclonic storm, pressure increases outwards.
- The amount of the pressure drop in the centre and the rate at which it increases outwards give the intensity of the cyclones and the strength of winds.

**Q86. Consider the following statements with respect to POSHAN Abhiyaan:**

1. The scheme aims at improving the nutritional outcomes of adolescents, children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
2. The programme has specific targets for reducing stunting, anaemia, under-nutrition and low birth weight.
3. The chairman of NITI Aayog is the chairperson of the National Council on Nutrition set up under the mission.

**Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Poshan Abhiyaan is India's flagship scheme to improve the nutritional outcomes of adolescents, children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- The term 'Poshan' in the name of the programme stands for 'Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition'.
- The programme has specific targets for reducing stunting, anaemia, under-nutrition and low birth weight.
- The National Council on India's Nutritional Challenges, which has been set up under the Poshan Abhiyaan, has the Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog as its Chairperson. The council is also called the National Council on Nutrition or NCN.

**Q87. Consider the following statements:**

1. National Stock Exchange is Asia's first stock exchange.
2. Sensex is India's benchmark stock index that represents 30 of the largest and most well-capitalized stocks on the National Stock Exchange.

**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: d**

**Explanation:**

- The Bombay Stock Exchange was founded on July 9, 1875. It is Asia's first stock exchange.
- The National Stock Exchange was founded in 1992. It was recognized as a stock exchange by SEBI under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the operation commenced in 1994.
- Sensex refers to India's benchmark stock index, which was created in 1986 and represents 30 of the largest and most well-capitalized stocks on the BSE.

**Q88. "Lachit Borphukan" is associated with which of the following?**

- a. Battle of Saraighat
- b. Gorkha War
- c. First Anglo-Burmese War
- d. Moplah Rebellion

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- 24th November is observed as Lachit Diwas in Assam in honour of Lachit Borphukan to commemorate his heroism and the victory of the Assamese army at the Battle of Saraighat.
- Lachit Borphukan was a commander in the Ahom dynasty, located in present-day Assam.
- He showed exemplary leadership in the Battle of Saraighat (1671).
- The Battle of Saraighat was a naval battle fought between the Mughal Empire and the Ahom Kingdom.

**Q89. Consider the following pairs:**

1. SITMEX: India, Thailand, Singapore
2. AUSINDEX: Australia, India, Japan
3. Malabar: India, USA, Japan
4. SLINEX: India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh

**Which of the pairs is/are correctly matched?**

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- SITMEX: India, Thailand, Singapore
- AUSINDEX: Australia, India
- Malabar: India, USA, Japan
- SLINEX: India, Sri Lanka

**Q90. Which of the following statements best describes the UMANG App?**

- a. It provides an account in cloud to every Aadhaar holder to access authentic documents/certificates in digital format from the original issuers of these certificates.
- b. It provides a single platform for all Indian citizens to access pan India e-government services ranging from Central to local bodies and other citizen-centric services.
- c. It is an innovative web and mobile-phone-based application to improve service delivery and programme management of Integrated Child Development Services.
- d. It is an application designed to help women and children travelling in taxis and autorickshaws to raise an alarm in case of any emergency.

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- UMANG App provides a single platform for all Indian citizens to access pan India e-government services ranging from Central to local bodies and other citizen-centric services.
- DigiLocker provides an account in cloud to every Aadhaar holder to access authentic documents/certificates in digital format from the original issuers of these certificates.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan's Integrated Child Development Services Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS) is an innovative web and mobile-phone-based application to improve service delivery and programme management.
- Recently, the Andhra Pradesh government launched the Abhayam App. It helps women and children travelling in taxis and autorickshaws to raise an alarm in case of any emergency.

**Q91. Consider the following statements with respect to Jallikattu:**

1. Jallikattu is a traditional bull-taming sport organised in Tamil Nadu during Pongal.

2. It is also known as Eruthazhuvuthal or Manju virattu.
3. Silappatikaram has mentions of Jallikattu.

**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. 1 only

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- Jallikattu is a traditional bull-taming sport organised in Tamil Nadu during Pongal.
- It is also known as Eruthazhuvuthal or Manju virattu.
- There are references to people enjoying, observing and partaking in Jallikattu in Silappatikaram, the great epic of the Tamil classical period and two other ancient literary works like Malaipadukadaam and Kalithogai.

**Q92. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is a free trade agreement between which of these countries?**

1. United States of America
2. Mexico
3. Cuba
4. Canada

**Choose the correct option:**

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

The North American Free Trade Agreement, known usually as NAFTA, is a free trade agreement among Canada, the United States, and Mexico. NAFTA went into effect on January 1, 1994. NAFTA is also used to refer to the tripartite trading bloc of North American countries.

**Q93. Which of the following is the nodal agency to implement price stabilization Measures under Operation Greens :**

- a. Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)



- b. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED)
- c. Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO)
- d. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- NAFED is an agricultural cooperative organisation established with the objective of promoting cooperative marketing of agricultural produce to benefit farmers.
- It was established in 1958 to promote the trade of agricultural products and forest resources.
- With its headquarters in New Delhi, it is today one of the largest procurement as well as marketing agencies for agricultural products in India.
- It is the nodal agency to implement price stabilization measures under Operation Greens.

**Q94. Consider the following statements:**

1. India is among the world's top five honey producers.
2. Nosema disease is a fungal disease that affects honey bees.
3. A Beekeeping Development Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Bibek Debroy for identifying ways of advancing beekeeping in India.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

All the statements are correct.

**Q95. Consider the following statements:**

1. The treaty of Sugauli was signed between the British East India Company and the Gurkha rulers of Kathmandu.
2. It was signed at the end of the Anglo-Nepal War.
3. Under the treaty, one-third of the Nepalese territory was lost to the British.

**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: d**

**Explanation:**

- The treaty of Sugauli was signed between the British East India Company and the Gurkha rulers of Kathmandu.
- It was signed at the end of the Anglo-Nepal War.
- Under the treaty, one-third of the Nepalese territory was lost to the British.

**Q96. "Pichvai Paintings" is a traditional art form that has its origin in which of these states?**

- a. Odisha
- b. Maharashtra
- c. Bihar
- d. Rajasthan

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Pichwai paintings also known as "Pichvai" is a traditional Indian art having its origins in Rajasthan. Pichwai art features intricate paintings portraying Lord Krishna (Sreenath Ji) which is done on fabric using dark rich hues.

**Q97. Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) is located in:**

- a. Devasthal, Nainital, Uttarakhand
- b. Narayangaon, near Pune, Maharashtra
- c. Indian Astronomical Observatory, Ladakh
- d. North Rhine-Westphalia region of Germany

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) is an array of thirty fully steerable parabolic radio telescopes.
- It is located in Narayangaon, near Pune in India.
- It is operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

**Q98. Consider the following statements:**

1. Gross Value Added (GVA) provides for the value of the amount of goods and services that have been produced in a country, minus the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production.
2. Gross domestic product (GDP) is the monetary measure of the market value of all the final goods and services produced in a specific time period in a country.
3. Gross national product (GNP) is the value of all goods and services made by a country's residents and businesses, regardless of production location.

**Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?**

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

All the statements are correct.

**Q99. Consider the following statements with respect to *Noctiluca scintillans*:**

1. They accumulate toxic levels of ammonia, which is then excreted into the surrounding waters.
2. They produce a toxin that acts as a killing agent in algal blooms.
3. They are commonly known as "sea sparkle".

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The bioluminescent *Noctiluca scintillans* also brightens the seawater at night.
- *Noctiluca scintillans* are commonly known as "sea sparkle".
- Though the species does not produce a toxin, it is found to accumulate toxic levels of ammonia, which is then excreted into the surrounding waters, possibly acting as the killing agent in blooms.

**Q100. Consider the following statements with respect to exceptions under the Anti-defection Law:**

1. The law allows a nominated member to join a party within six months after he becomes a member of the legislature.
2. The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least one-third of its legislators are in favour of the merger.
3. The law allows an independent candidate to join a political party within six months after the election.

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

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- The anti-defection law seeks to provide a stable government by ensuring the legislators do not switch parties.
- The law allows a nominated member to join a party within six months after he becomes a member of the legislature.
- The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favour of the merger.
- An independent candidate cannot join a political party after the election. In such a case he/she shall be disqualified under the anti-defection law.

**Q101. Which among the following is not a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, **Kyrgyzstan**, Russia, Pakistan, **Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**).

**Q102. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Bureau of Investigation:**

1. CBI is a statutory body
2. CBI Director shall be appointed by the Central Government on the recommendations of a selection committee headed by the Home minister

**Which of the following statements are correct?**

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- CBI is not a statutory body as it is not established by an Act of the Parliament, it is an executive body.
- As per the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Acts 1946, as amended by Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, the CBI Director shall be appointed by the Central Government on the recommendations of a selection committee comprising –
  - The Prime Minister (Chairperson),
  - The Chief Justice of India or any Judge of Supreme Court nominated by him and
  - The Leader of Opposition. The DSPE Act was further amended in 2014 to include the Leader of the single largest Opposition party in the selection committee when there is no recognised Leader of Opposition

**Q103. Which of the following places are correctly matched:**

1. Neom : Qatar
2. Natanz : Iran
3. Mosul : Iraq
4. Absard: Saudi Arabia.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Neom- A futuristic city, a brainchild of Saudi Arabian prince Mohammed Bin Salman.
- Natanz- A city in Iran, houses Iran's nuclear facility.
- Mosul- considered the last major stronghold of Islamic State in Iraq.

- Absard- Iranian city

**Q104. Arrange the following hills of Eastern Ghats from north to south.**

1. Shevroy hills.
2. Nagari hills.
3. Nallamalla hills.
4. Palani hills.

**Options:**

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

**Answer: b**

**Q105. Which of the following are left-bank tributaries of River Brahmaputra?**

1. River Dhansiri
2. River Lohit
3. River Subansiri
4. River Dibang
5. River Kameng

**Choose the correct option:**

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

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

Rivers Dhansiri, Lohit and Dibang are the left bank tributaries of River Brahmaputra, while Rivers Subansiri and Kameng are right bank tributaries.

**Q106. Which of the following rightly describes Mission SAMPARK?**

- a. The mission is aimed at tracing patients with HIV/AIDS, who are left to follow up and are to be brought under Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) services.
- b. The mission is aimed at formulating developmental policies for accelerating growth of the telecommunication services.
- c. The mission launched in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic to have a safe arrangement to fly passengers between two countries.
- d. The mission is aimed at assisting the needy disabled persons in procuring standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation.

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

- Mission Sampark is an initiative of the Government of India to reach out to all the Lost to Follow up Patients Living with HIV/AIDS.
- The mission is aimed at tracing those who are left to follow up and are to be brought under Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) services.

**Q107. Consider the following statements with respect to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC):**

1. It is the second-largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations.
2. Its Permanent Secretariat is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
3. The OIC has permanent delegations to the European Union.

**Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?**

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

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

All the statements are correct.

**Q108. Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary is located in:**

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

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the bank of Spiti River in Himachal Pradesh.
- It is India's only cold desert wildlife sanctuary.

