

UPSC Monthly Magazine Answer Key Jan 2021

Q1. Which of the following statements best describes Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC)?

- a) Usage and licensing fee that telecom operators are charged by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- b) Charge paid by the Telecommunication service provider (TSP) whose subscriber makes a call, to the Telecommunication Service Provider whose subscriber receives the call.
- c) The amount paid by subscribers to the distributor for distribution of TV channels subscribed by them.
- d) Fee paid to be a part of the closed user group for seamless sharing of calls and data between members associated within the group.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) is a charge paid by the Telecommunication service provider (TSP), whose subscriber makes a call, to the Telecommunication Service Provider, whose subscriber receives the call.

Q2. Which of the following statements is correct with respect to CoWIN?

- a) It is a digitalised platform to be used to effectively roll out and scale up the mechanism for COVID Vaccine Distribution System in India.
- b) It is a COVID-19 contact tracing, syndromic mapping and self-assessment digital service.
- c) It is a Vaccine Alliance for increasing access to immunisation in poor countries.
- d) It is the first vaccine candidate to be approved by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).

Answer: a

Explanation:

- COVID Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) system is a digitalised platform to be used to effectively roll out and scale up the mechanism for COVID Vaccine Distribution System, nationally. It is a repurposed version of Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN).

Q3. Consider the following statements:

- 1. It has 12 pairs of exquisitely ornamented wheels pulled by seven horses.
- 2. It was built by King Narasimhadeva I, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.
- 3. The temple is also known as 'Black Pagoda'.

The world heritage site described in the above statements is:

- a) Airavateshwara Temple, Thanjavur
- b) Hampi Stone Chariot, Hampi
- c) Sun Temple, Konark
- d) Dharamaraja Ratha, Mahabalipuram

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The world heritage site described in the above statements is Konark Sun Temple in Odisha.

Q4. Consider the following statements with respect to National Human Rights Commission:

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. The chairperson is a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.
3. Chairpersons of National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes and National Commission for Women are the ex-officio members of NHRC.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body established on 12th October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993.
- The chairperson is a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.
- Chairpersons of National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes and National Commission for Women are the ex-officio members of NHRC.

Q5. Financial Stability Report is released by which of the following organisation?

- a) International Monetary Fund
- b) World Bank
- c) Reserve Bank of India
- d) World Economic Forum

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India releases the Financial Stability Report (FSR).
- The FSR reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability, as also the resilience of the financial system.
- The Report also discusses issues relating to development and regulation of the financial sector

Q6. Consider the following:

1. Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary: Kerala

2. Deepor Beel Bird Sanctuary: Assam
3. Velavadar Bird Sanctuary: Maharashtra

Which of the above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary is in the state of Karnataka.
- Velavadar Bird Sanctuary is in the state of Gujarat

Q7. UNSC Resolution 1373 deal with which of the following

- a) Eradication of racism.
- b) Suppression of terrorism.
- c) Environmental conservation.
- d) Protection of Global Commons.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted Resolution 1373 on 28 September 2001 in response to the terrorist attacks in the United States of America on 11 September 2001.

Q8. River Tirekhtyakh is found in which of the following countries?

- a) Russia
- b) South Africa
- c) Japan
- d) Turkey

Answer: a

Explanation:

- River Tirekhtyakh flows through Russia, it is a tributary of River Indigirka.

Q9. Consider the following statements:

1. A medical condition in which the body has abnormally high levels of blood sugar or glucose is called hypoglycemia.
2. Glucagon is a peptide hormone that stimulates glycogenolysis resulting in increased blood sugar.
3. Hypoglycemia is a commonly seen sign among Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) patients.

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) 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Hypoglycaemia is a medical condition in which the body has abnormally low levels of blood sugar (glucose).
- Glucagon is a peptide hormone, and plays an important role in maintaining normal blood glucose levels. Glucagon acts mainly on the liver cells (hepatocytes) and stimulates glycogenolysis resulting in increased blood sugar (hyperglycemia).
- Hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar) is a commonly seen sign among Acute encephalitis syndrome (AES patients), and the link has been the subject of research for long.
- The combination of AES with hypoglycaemia is unique to Muzaffarpur, Vietnam and Bangladesh.
- A 2014 study in Muzaffarpur suggested that hypoglycaemia was the trigger that led to the diagnosis of encephalitis.
- So, hypoglycaemia is not a symptom but a sign of AES.

Q10. Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

- 1. Nanjangud banana – Karnataka
- 2. Virupakshi Hill banana – Kerala
- 3. Chengalikodan Nendran banana – Tamil Nadu
- 4. Jalgaon banana – Maharashtra

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Nanjangud banana – Karnataka
- Virupakshi Hill banana – Tamil Nadu
- Chengalikodan Nendran banana – Kerala
- Jalgaon banana – Maharashtra

Q11. Consider the following statements with respect to trans-fat:

1. Trans fats are a form of unsaturated fat created by converting liquid vegetable oils into semi-solid partially hydrogenated oil.
2. Trans fats are produced artificially and do not occur naturally.
3. Trans fats not only raise total cholesterol levels but also reduce good cholesterol (HDL).

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: b

Explanation:

- Trans Fatty Acids (TFAs) are a form of unsaturated fat associated with a number of negative health effects.
- Artificial trans-fat is created during hydrogenation, which converts liquid vegetable oils into semi-solid partially hydrogenated oil.
- Trans fat can also be found naturally in meat and dairy.
- While saturated fats raise total cholesterol levels; TFAs not only raise total cholesterol levels but also reduce the *Good Cholesterol (HDL- High-Density Lipoprotein)*.

Q12. Consider the following statements with respect to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):

1. CVC was created via executive resolution and was later conferred with statutory status.
2. It was created based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee.
3. The CVC is under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs and submits its reports to the Ministry.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was created via executive resolution (based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee) in 1964 but was conferred with statutory status in 2003.
- The CVC is not controlled by any Ministry/Department.
- It is an independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament. It submits its report to the President of India.

Q13. Consider the following statements with respect to Pong Dam Lake:

1. The Lake is located in Uttarakhand.

2. It is a Ramsar Site.
3. Pong Dam Lake is declared a wildlife sanctuary.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Pong Dam Sanctuary is also known as Pong Dam Reservoir or Pong Dam Lake.
- Pong Dam Sanctuary is also a national wetland.
- In 1975, it was created as a result of a dam built across Beas River.
- It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1983.
- It is also a Ramsar site.
- It is located in the Kangra district of the state of Himachal Pradesh.

Q14. Which of the following zoo/s host/s pangolin conservation and breeding centre?

1. Nandankanan zoo
2. Arignar Anna Zoological Park
3. Kurumbapatti Zoological Park

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Nandankanan zoo hosts India's only pangolin conservation breeding centre.
- It is located in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Q15. Consider the following statements with respect to Regulation S bonds:

1. Regulation S bonds are issued by foreign issuers in the U.S. debt market.
2. These bonds are denominated in U.S. dollars.
3. Resident American citizens cannot subscribe to them.

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:

- Regulation S provides a way for non-US companies to raise capital and for US companies to raise capital outside the U.S.
- A Regulation S offering can issue equity or debt securities.
- These bonds are denominated in U.S. dollars.
- Resident American citizens cannot subscribe to them.

Q16. Consider the following statements with respect to Dal Lake:

1. It has been declared an Eco-Sensitive Zone.
2. The lake is located in the Zabarwan mountain valley.
3. It is surrounded by Shankaracharya hills on three sides.
4. Hazratbal, Bod dal, Gagribal and Nagin are four main interconnected basins of the lake.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Known as the “Jewel in the crown of Kashmir” or “Srinagar’s Jewel”, Dal lake is located in the Zabarwan mountain valley.
- It is surrounded by Shankaracharya hills on three sides.
- The lake has four main interconnected basins namely, Hazratbal, Bod dal, Gagribal and Nagin.
- In November 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir government had set up a 10-member committee that would declare Dal Lake an Eco-sensitive Zone, following the concerns over its shrinking size. However, the lake has still not been declared an Eco-Sensitive Zone.

Q17. Global Economic Prospects is released by:

- a) World Trade Organisation
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) World Bank
- d) World Economic Forum

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Global Economic Prospects (GEP) is a World Bank Group flagship report.
- It examines global economic developments and prospects, with a special focus on emerging market and developing economies.
- It is issued twice a year, in the months of January and June.
 - The January edition includes in-depth analyses of topical policy challenges.
 - The June edition contains shorter analytical pieces.

Q18. Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

1. Channapatna toys – Karnataka
2. Etikoppa toys – Tamil Nadu
3. Sawantwadi toys – Gujarat
4. Kondapalli Bommalu – Andhra Pradesh

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Channapatna toys – Karnataka
- Etikoppa Toys and Kondapalli Bommalu (Toys) – Andhra Pradesh
- Sawantwadi toys refer to handmade works of art made of wood in Sawantwadi, a town in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra.

Q19. Consider the following statements with respect to Gulf Co-operation Council:

1. It is a political and economic union of countries surrounding the Persian Gulf.
2. Its headquarters is located at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
3. Iraq is not a part of GCC

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 GCC is a regional grouping of six countries surrounding the Persian Gulf i.e, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.
- Its headquarters is located at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- It is a political and economic union consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf, except for Iraq.

Q20. What is the status of Indian Skimmer in the IUCN Red List?

- a) Critically Endangered
- b) Endangered
- c) Vulnerable
- d) Least Concern

Answer: b

Explanation:

- In mid-2020, the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List had declared the Indian Skimmer as 'Endangered', citing the continuing declining trend in the global matured population of the species, which was estimated to be between 2,450 and 2,900 as per its assessment (July 2020).
- In India, Chambal and Mahanadi river basins are the prime breeding grounds of the bird.
- In December 2020, Indian Skimmer was sighted at the creek on Kakinada coast, which falls in the Central Asian Flyway of migratory birds.

Q21. The famous Rev Stanislaus vs Madhya Pradesh, 1977 case is associated with which of the following?

- a) Right to equality
- b) Right to constitutional remedies
- c) Right to practise and propagate religion
- d) Right to privacy

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court has held that there is no fundamental right to conversion. In the case of Stanislaus vs State of Madhya Pradesh (1977), the court made a clear distinction between the right to propagate one's religion or faith and the right to convert. The former is guaranteed by Article 25 of the Constitution. Conversion enjoys no such protection.

Q22. Pong Dam wildlife sanctuary is located in

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Odisha
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Assam

Answer: c

Q23. Consider the following statements:

1. Parliamentary committees do not find a mention in the Constitution of India.
2. The consultative committees are not a part of parliamentary committees.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Parliamentary committees are mentioned in the Constitution of India.
- The consultative committees which consist of Member of Parliaments are not a part of parliamentary committees, they are distinct in nature.

Q24. Consider the following statements about the Indian Ocean Commission:

1. The Indian Ocean Commission is an initiative of India with the ASEAN nations.
2. The Commission was established immediately after the 2004 tsunami.
3. Japan and the European Union are observers on this platform.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Indian Ocean Commission is the only intergovernmental body in Africa composed of island nations alone.
- The nations belong to the African/Western Indian Ocean.
- The IOC was formed in 1982 in Port Louis in Mauritius, where its secretariat is also based.
- The chief objective of the Commission is to foster ties of friendship among the member countries and also spread solidarity among the populations of the entire island countries of the African Indian Ocean.
- The IOC defends the member-nations' interests in Africa and also in international fora.
- It has many projects in arenas such as sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem preservation, maritime security, entrepreneurship, public health, culture and renewable energies.

IOC Members

The IOC has five member countries. They are:

1. Comoros

2. Madagascar
3. Mauritius
4. Réunion (an overseas region of France)
5. Seychelles

The IOC has seven observers. They are:

1. India
2. China
3. Japan
4. European Union
5. Sovereign Order of Malta
6. International Organisation of La Francophonie
7. United Nations

Q25. The 'Section 301' report is a flagship publication of which of the following?

- a) World Bank
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) United States Trade Representative (USTR)

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The "Special 301" Report is an annual review of the global state of intellectual property (IP) rights protection and enforcement.

Q26. Which of the following Cabinet Committee is headed by the Union Minister of Home Affairs?

- a) Cabinet committee on security
- b) Cabinet committee on political affairs
- c) Cabinet committee on economic affairs
- d) Cabinet Committee on Accommodation

Answer: d

Q27. Which of the following is the best description of Fundamental Rights?

- a) All the rights an individual should have.
- b) All the rights given to citizens by law.
- c) The rights given and protected by the Constitution.
- d) The rights given by the Constitution that cannot ever be restricted.

Answer: c

Q28. Project ECHO is associated with

- a) Wildlife conservation
- b) Promotion of women rights
- c) Tribal rights
- d) Healthcare

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Project ECHO is a revolutionary guided-practice model that reduces health disparities in under-served and remote areas of the state, nation, and world.
- Through innovative tele-mentoring, the ECHO model uses a hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing approach where expert teams lead virtual clinics, amplifying the capacity for providers to deliver best-in-practice care to the underserved in their own communities.

Q29. With reference to the Gangetic River Dolphin, which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. It is recognized as the National Aquatic Animal.
2. Its IUCN status is critically endangered.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Ganges River Dolphin or also called 'Susu,' is the National Aquatic Animal of India. It is one of the National Symbols of India. Gangetic Dolphins are found in the river systems of Ganga, Brahmaputra, Meghna, and Karnaphuli- Sangu in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.
- The reason to declare Ganges River Dolphin as the National Aquatic Animal of India was to save it from extinction. Also, the Ganges Dolphin is seen as the reflector of the health of the Ganga River.
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species has given the status of 'Endangered' to the Ganges River Dolphin

Q30. Which of the following are the functions of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)?

1. Keeping a check on aircraft noise and engine emissions
2. Promoting indigenous design and manufacture of aircraft
3. Checks on the proficiency of flight crew
4. Construction, Modification and Management of passenger terminals

Options:

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The DGCA is the regulatory body for civil aviation under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- The DGCA is responsible for implementing, controlling, and supervising airworthiness standards, safety operations, crew training in India.
- This directorate investigates aviation accidents and incidents.
- Construction, Modification and Management of passenger terminals is the function of the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

Q31. Muga silk protected with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag is from the state of

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Assam

Answer: d

Explanation:

- It is a variety of wild silk geographically tagged to the state of Assam.
- The silk is known for its extreme durability and has a natural yellowish-golden tint with a shimmering, glossy texture.

Q32. Which of the following are the tiger landscapes in India?

1. Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains
2. Central Indian Landscape and Eastern Ghats
3. Western Ghats
4. North-East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains
5. The Sundarbans

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- India's tiger habitat is classified into five landscapes – Shivalik hills and Gangetic plains, Central and Eastern ghats, Western Ghats, North East hills and the Brahmaputra, and the Sundarbans.

Q33. Consider the following pairs:

Martial Arts:	State
1. Silambam:	Karnataka
2. Kalariyapattu:	Kerala
3. Sarit Sarak:	Mizoram
4. Gatka:	Punjab

Which of the above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Sarit Sarak originated in Manipur and Silambam is popular in the state of Tamil Nadu

Q34. Consider the following statements:

- Hayabusa- 2 is a mission to moon by the Japanese space agency.
- OSIRIS Rex is an asteroid sampling mission by NASA

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation

- Hayabusa2 is an asteroid sample-return mission operated by the Japanese state space agency JAXA.
- It is a successor to the Hayabusa mission, which returned asteroid samples for the first time in June 2010.
- Hayabusa2 was launched in 2014 and rendezvoused in space with near-Earth asteroid 162173 Ryugu in 2018.

OSIRIS Rex

- OSIRIS-REx is a NASA asteroid-study and sample-return mission.
- The mission's primary goal is to obtain a sample of at least 60 g from 101955 Bennu, a carbonaceous near-Earth asteroid, and return the sample to Earth for a detailed analysis.

Q35. Pangti village was recently in news for

- a) Only known habitat of Apatani tribes.
- b) Arogyapacha plant was discovered.
- c) Conservation of Amur Falcon
- d) Breakout of Avian influenza.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Pangti, a small village closest to the Doyang reservoir in Wokha district of Nagaland, took the lead in conserving the Amur falcons.
- Doyang reservoir probably hosts the single largest congregation of Amur falcons recorded anywhere in the world.

Q36. Ex EKVURIN is a bilateral exercise of India with which of the following countries?

- a) Oman
- b) Indonesia
- c) Myanmar
- d) Maldives

Answer: d

Explanation:

- India-Maldives joint military exercise.

Q37. Which of the following are the member states of Gulf Co-operation Council?

1. Bahrain
2. Kuwait
3. Oman
4. Iraq
5. Qatar

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Gulf Co-operation Council is a political and economic union consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf, except for Iraq.

- Its member states are Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Q38. Gangasagar Festival is organised in which Indian state?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) West Bengal
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Gangasagar festival is celebrated between 13th – 15th January at the Sagar Island (West Bengal) located at the confluence of River Ganga and the Bay of Bengal.
- This confluence is also called Gangasagar. The Kapil Muni Temple is located near the confluence.
- The globally acclaimed spiritual and cultural event is known as Gangasagar Mela 2020 or Ganga Sagar Yatra or Ganga Snan.
- Gangasagar Mela is famous worldwide and this mela is celebrated with great pomp and grandeur in West Bengal.

Q39. Consider the following statements with respect to Vanadium:

1. It is a malleable transition metal rarely found in nature.
2. It is used in strengthening steel and titanium.
3. The largest deposits of vanadium of the world are in India.

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: a

Explanation:

- Vanadium is a hard, silvery-grey, malleable transition metal.
- It is a high-value metal used in strengthening steel and titanium.
- The elemental metal is rarely found in nature.
- It is recovered as a by-product from the slag collected from the processing of vanadiferous magnetite ores (iron ore).
- The largest deposits of vanadium of the world are in China, followed by Russia and South Africa.
- India is a significant consumer of vanadium, but is not a primary producer of the strategic metal.

Q40. Consider the following statements with respect to the Animal Welfare Board of India:

1. The Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body.
2. It was started under the stewardship of Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale.
3. The Board is within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- As per the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, the Government of India formed the Animal Welfare Board of India in 1962.
- The Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body.
- It is an advisory body advising the Government of India on animal welfare laws, and promotes animal welfare in the country of India.
- The Animal Welfare Board of India was started under the stewardship of Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale.
- The Board is within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying).

Q41. Abraham Accords were signed between which of the following countries?

1. Israel
2. United Arab Emirates
3. Qatar
4. Iran
5. Saudi Arabia

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Israel and the United Arab Emirates announced an agreement for full normalisation of diplomatic relations between the two states, a move that reshapes the order of West Asia politics from the Palestinian issue to Iran. The agreement is known as Abraham Accords.

Q42. Which of the following category/categories of farmers is/are excluded from the list of beneficiaries of PM-Kisan?

1. Farmer families having a combined landholding of more than 2 hectares.
2. Institutional Landholders.
3. Farmer families having a combined landholding of less than 2 hectares.
4. Persons who have paid Income Tax in the last assessment year.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Under the PM-Kisan scheme, income support of 6,000/- per year in three equal instalments is provided to small and marginal farmer families having combined landholding/ownership of up to 2 hectares. (The land size criterion has been removed to include large farmers as well).

The following categories of beneficiaries of higher economic status shall not be eligible for benefit under the scheme.

1. All Institutional Landholders.
2. Farmer families which belong to one or more of the following categories:
 - Former and present holders of constitutional posts.
 - Former and present Ministers, Members of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha/ State Legislative Assemblies/ State Legislative Councils, Mayors of Municipal Corporations, Chairpersons of District Panchayats.
 - All serving or retired officers and employees of Central/ State Government Ministries Public Sector Undertakings and Attached offices /Autonomous Institutions under Government as well as regular employees of the Local Bodies.
 - All superannuated/retired pensioners whose monthly pension is Rs.10,000/-or more.
 - All Persons who paid Income Tax in the last assessment year.
 - Professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, and Architects registered with Professional bodies and carrying out profession by undertaking practices.

Q43. Consider the following statements with respect to Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF):

1. The initial purpose of the fund was to help people displaced due to the partition of India and Pakistan.
2. The resources of the PMNRF are utilized primarily to render immediate relief to families of those killed in natural calamities.
3. PMNRF has not been constituted by the Parliament.
4. Home Minister is the Chairman of PMNRF.

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

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

- c) 2 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

- PMNRF was established in 1948 by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The initial purpose of the fund was to help people displaced due to the partition of India and Pakistan.
- The resources of the PMNRF are now utilized primarily to render immediate relief to families of those killed in natural calamities like floods, cyclones and earthquakes, etc. and to the victims of major accidents and riots.
- Assistance from PMNRF is also rendered, to partially defray the expenses for medical treatment like heart surgeries, kidney transplantation, cancer treatment and acid attack, etc.
- The fund consists entirely of public contributions and does not get any budgetary support.
- The corpus of the fund is invested in various forms with scheduled commercial banks and other agencies.
- Disbursements are made with the approval of the Prime Minister.
- PMNRF has not been constituted by the Parliament.
- Prime Minister is the Chairman of PMNRF.

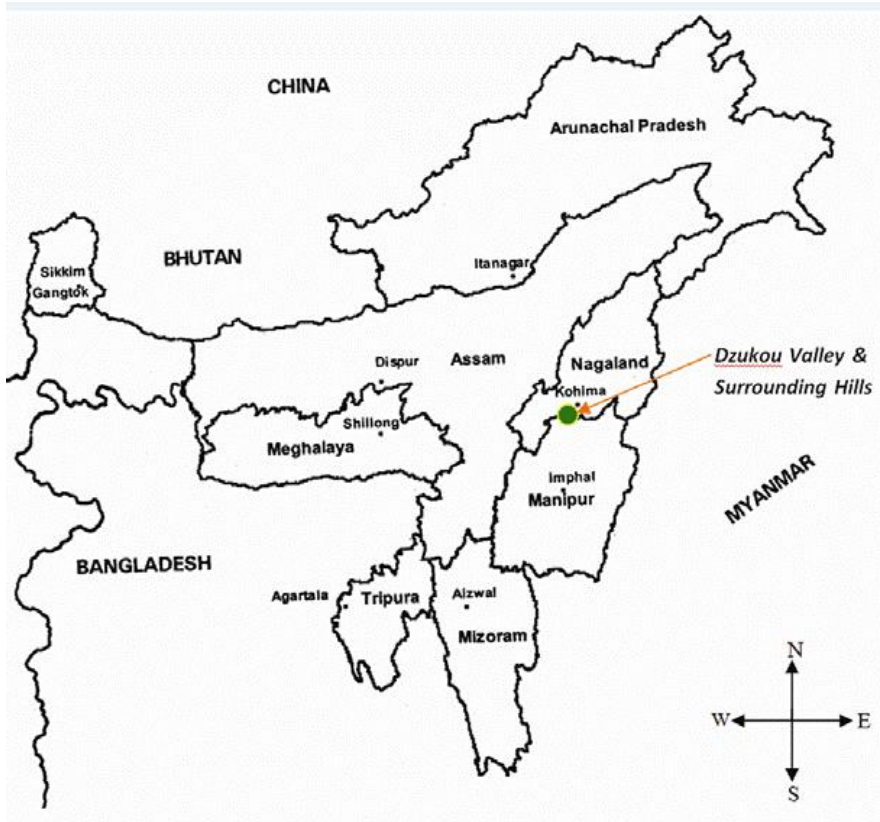
Q44. Dzukou Valley is located at the borders of which of the following states?

- a) Nagaland and Manipur
- b) Manipur and Mizoram
- c) Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Assam and Meghalaya

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Dzukou Valley, situated at an average altitude of 2,452 metres, is a popular trekking destination known for its exotic flowers.
- It is located at the borders of the states of Nagaland and Manipur in Northeast India.



Q45. Consider the following statements with respect to Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX):

1. It covers 52 countries in five continents.
2. There are 5 policy indicators on migrant integration in the MIPEX.
3. The Migrant Integration Policy Index was earlier called European Civic Citizenship and Inclusion Index.

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: b

Explanation:

- Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) is a unique tool which measures policies to integrate migrants in countries across 52 countries in five continents.
- There are 167 policy indicators on migrant integration in the MIPEX.
- The Migrant Integration Policy Index was earlier called European Civic Citizenship and Inclusion Index.
- The Index was first published in 2004.

- Policy indicators have been developed to create a rich, multi-dimensional picture of migrants' opportunities to participate in society.
- The index is a useful tool to evaluate and compare what governments are doing to promote the integration of migrants in all the countries analysed.
- The project informs and engages key policy actors about how to use indicators to improve integration governance, policy effectiveness and also to improve standards for equal treatment.
- It is produced by a group of think tanks and is funded by the European Union.

Q46. Consider the following pairs:

Festival	State
1. Maghi	Punjab
2. Saaji	Himachal Pradesh
3. Uttarayan	Rajasthan
4. Pongal	Kerala

Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Harvesting festivals are known by various names across India:

- Lohri by north Indian Hindus and Sikhs
- Maghi in Punjab
- Sukarat in central India
- Magh Bihu by Assamese
- Pongal by Tamilians
- Uttarayan in Gujarat
- Sakraat in Delhi and Haryana and many neighbouring states
- Saaji in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh, Makara Sankranti is known as Magha Saaji. It is the Pahari word for Sakranti, start of the new month.

Q47. Consider the following statements:

1. India derives the provision of criminal contempt from the English system.
2. Interfering or obstructing the administration of justice in any manner would amount to civil contempt.
3. Criminal contempt is the wilful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other processes of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court.

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: a

Explanation:

- India derives the provision of criminal contempt from the English system.
- The King of England used to deliver judgments himself and the need to uphold the authority of the King led to the provision of “respecting the authority and dignity of the court”.
- Civil Contempt: As per the Contempt of Courts Act of 1971, civil contempt has been defined as wilful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other processes of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court.
- Criminal Contempt: As per the Contempt of Courts Act of 1971, criminal contempt has been defined as the publication (whether by words, spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any other act whatsoever which:
 - Scandalises or tends to scandalise, or lowers or tends to lower the authority of, any court, or
 - Prejudices, or interferes or tends to interfere with the due course of any judicial proceeding, or
 - Interferes or tends to interfere with, or obstructs or tends to obstruct, the administration of justice in any other manner.

Q48. Consider the following statements:

1. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established by G-7.
2. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
3. All the members of FATF Asia-Pacific Group are the members of the Financial Action Task Force.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7.
- The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
- FATF Asia-Pacific Group is one of the regional affiliates of the Financial Action Task Force.
- At present, there are 41 members of APG. Of these, 11 countries are also the members of the head FATF – India, China, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand Singapore and the United States.

Q49. Global Findex report is released by

- a) World Bank
- b) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) World Economic Forum

Answer: a

Explanation:

- World Bank releases the Global Financial Inclusion Database or Global Findex Report.

Q50. Consider the following about Quadrilateral Coordination Group (QCG):

- 1. Iran
- 2. Iraq
- 3. China
- 4. Pakistan
- 5. India

Which of the above are members of the Quadrilateral Coordination Group (QCG)?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- It is a four-nation group launched in 2016 consisting of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan and the USA.
- Aims to initiate a reconciliation process between the civilian government in Afghanistan and the Taliban to preserve peace, unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

Q51. Consider the following:

- 1. Brazil
- 2. Ecuador
- 3. Guyana
- 4. Columbia

Which of the above are the neighbouring countries of Venezuela?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:



Q52. Consider the following statements about Judicial Review:

1. The concept of judicial review was borrowed from the United Kingdom.
2. The power of judicial review can be exercised only by the Supreme Court of India and not by the High Courts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The concept of judicial review was borrowed from the United States of America.
- The power of judicial review can be exercised by both the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Q53. Nagi and Nakti bird sanctuaries are located in which state?

- a) Bihar
- b) Uttar Pradesh

- c) Odisha
- d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Nagi and Nakti bird sanctuaries are two sanctuaries in Bihar
- Bihar's first state-level bird festival 'Kalrav' was held at the world-famous Nagi-Nakti bird sanctuaries.

Q54. Consider the following statements about Open Skies Treaty:

1. It is an agreement that allows countries to monitor signatories' arms development by conducting surveillance flights over each other's territories.
2. The surveillance flights can collect data on military forces and activities.
3. India is a member of this treaty.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Signed in 1992, the Open Skies Treaty permits each state-party to conduct short-notice, unarmed, reconnaissance flights over the others' entire territories to collect data on military forces and activities.
- India is not a member of this treaty.

Q55. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty covered which of the following types of missiles?

1. Intermediate-range land-based missiles carrying nuclear warheads
2. Medium-range land-based missiles carrying nuclear warheads
3. Nuclear sea-launched missiles

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was a nuclear arms-control accord reached by the United States and the Soviet Union in 1987 in which the two nations agreed to eliminate their stocks of intermediate-range and shorter-range (or “medium-range”) land-based missiles which could carry nuclear warheads.
- It also covered all land-based missiles, including those carrying nuclear warheads but did not cover sea-launched missiles.
- The United States withdrew from the Treaty on 2nd August 2019.

Q56. Consider the following statements:

1. Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a statutory body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
2. CARA monitors and regulates both in-country and inter-country adoptions.
3. India has ratified the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q57. Consider the following

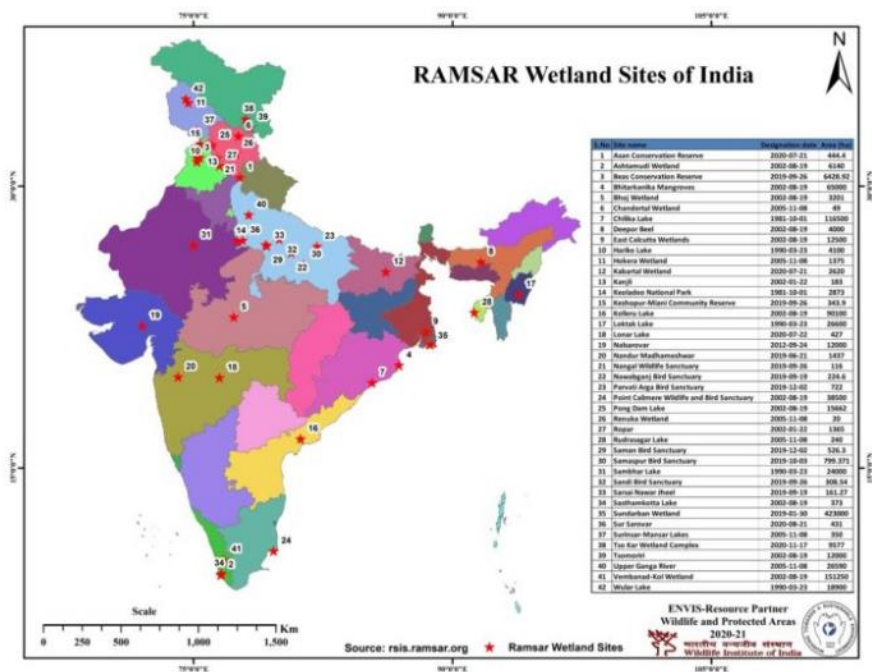
1. Hokera wetland: Punjab
2. Harike wetland: Assam
3. Kanjili wetland: Kerala
4. Rudrasagar wetland: Chattisgarh

Which of the following are correctly matched?

- a) 1, 3 and 4 only.
- b) 2 and 3 only.
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) None

Answer: d

Explanation:



Q58. Consider the following statements about Central Pollution Control Board:

1. It is a statutory organisation which was constituted under the Environment Protection Act 1986.
2. It advises the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution and improvement of the quality of air.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- Functions of the Central Board at the National Level
 - Advise the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution and improvement of the quality of air.
 - Plan and cause to be executed a nation-wide programme for the prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
 - Co-ordinate the activities of the State Board and resolve disputes among them;
 - Provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards, carry out and sponsor investigation and research relating to problems of water and air pollution, and for their prevention, control or abatement;

- Plan and organise training of persons engaged in programme on the prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
- Organise through mass media, a comprehensive mass awareness programme on the prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
- Collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to water and air pollution and the measures devised for their effective prevention, control or abatement;
- Prepare manuals, codes and guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of sewage and trade effluents as well as for stack gas cleaning devices, stacks and ducts;
- Disseminate information in respect of matters relating to water and air pollution and their prevention and control.

Q59. Consider the following statements

1. The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO.
2. The Director-General of WHO is appointed by nations on a rotational basis.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board.
- The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget.
 - The Director-General is appointed by the Health Assembly on nomination by the WHO Executive Board.
- The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.

Q60. Gadwall, little cormorant and common teal, belong to

- a) Reptiles
- b) Birds
- c) Primates
- d) Amphibians

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Gadwall, little cormorant and common teal were spotted recently at the Harike wetlands.

Q61. “Manju Virattu” or “Eru Thazhuvuthal” are associated with which of the following sports?

- a) Kambala
- b) Jallikattu
- c) Vallam Kali
- d) Sangai festival

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Jallikattu is a sport conducted as a part of Mattu Pongal.
 - Mattu Pongal is the 3rd day of the four-day-long festival Pongal.
- The sport involves a natively reared stud that is set free inside an arena filled with young participants.
- The challenge lies in taming the bull with bare hands.
- It is also known as Manju Virattu or Eru Thazhuvuthal.

Q62. Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

Place	Event
1. Kapilavastu	Birthplace of Buddha
2. Sarnath	Buddha gave his first sermon after attaining enlightenment
3. Rajgir	Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana
4. Kushinagar	First Buddhist council was held

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Lumbini was the birthplace of Buddha.
- Kapilavastu was the capital of the Shakyas where Siddhartha lived with his parents until he renounced his family life and left the palace at the age of 29.
- Sarnath is the place where Buddha gave his first sermon after attaining enlightenment.
- Rajgir is the place where the first Buddhist council was held.
- Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana at Kushinagar.

Q63. Consider the following statements with respect to Swadesh Darshan Scheme:

- 1. It is a Central Sector scheme.
- 2. The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Culture.
- 3. Under the scheme, theme-based tourist circuits in the country are identified and developed.

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: c

Explanation:

- Swadesh Darshan is a Central Sector Scheme. It is 100% centrally funded.
- Under the scheme, theme-based tourist circuits in the country are identified and developed. These tourist circuits will be developed on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner.
- The Tourism Ministry launched the scheme in 2015.

Q64. Consider the following statements about the National Investigation Agency (NIA):

1. It is the Central Counter-Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency in the country.
2. It is a statutory body headquartered in New Delhi.
3. It does not have the authority to investigate offences that are committed outside Indian Territory.
4. The NIA can investigate terror cases across the country without having to get permission from the states.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008. It is a statutory body.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- It is the Central Counter-Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency in the country.
- The NIA can investigate terror cases across the country without having to get permission from the states.
- It has the authority to investigate offences that are committed outside Indian Territory subject to international treaties and domestic laws of other nations.

Q65. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Star Tortoise:

1. It is placed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Appendix-I.
2. It is classified as Near Threatened in the IUCN Red List.
3. It is found in dry areas and scrub forests of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

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: b

Explanation:

- Indian Star Tortoise is a threatened species that is found in dry areas and scrub forests of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- It is classified as “Vulnerable” in the IUCN Red List.
- The Indian star tortoise was upgraded to CITES Appendix I in 2019 (threatened with extinction) giving it the highest level of international protection from commercial trade.

Q66. The Char Dham as defined by Adi Shankaracharya comprises which of these pilgrimage sites?

1. Yamunotri
2. Dwaraka
3. Kedarnath
4. Badrinath
5. Puri
6. Gangotri
7. Rameshwaram

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Char Dham as defined by Adi Shankaracharya consists of – Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri and Rameshwaram.
- Another small circuit in Uttarakhand of four pilgrimage sites – Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath is referred to as Chota Char Dham.

Q67. Which of the following are considered the Great Trilogy of Ayurvedic Medicine?

1. Sushruta Samhita
2. Charaka Samhita
3. Brihat Samhita
4. Ashtanga Hridaya
5. Panchasiddhantika

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Ashtanga Hridaya by Vagbhata, Sushruta Samhita by Sushruta and Charaka Samhita by Charaka are considered the Great Trilogy of Ayurvedic Medicine.

Q68. Consider the following statements with respect to United Nations Human Rights Council:

1. Its members are elected by the members of the General Assembly.
2. A member is not allowed to occupy a seat for two consecutive terms.
3. The members to the council are elected for five-year terms.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe.
- It has the ability to discuss all thematic human rights issues and situations that require its attention throughout the year. It meets at the UN Office at Geneva.
- Its members are elected by the members of the General Assembly.
- The UNHRC has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis.
- No member may occupy a seat for more than two consecutive terms.

Q69. Consider the following statements with respect to Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA):

1. It is a United States federal law.
2. CAATSA includes sanctions against countries that engage in significant transactions with the Russian defence and intelligence sectors.
3. Sanctions have been imposed under the act on Iran, North Korea and Turkey.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q70. Global Food Policy Report is published by:

- a) Food and Agriculture Organisation
- b) International Food Policy Research Institute
- c) United Nations Population Fund
- d) World Health Organization

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Global Food Policy Report is the International Food Policy Research Institute's flagship report.

Q71. Consider the following statements with respect to Subhas Chandra Bose:

1. He authored the book 'The Indian Struggle'.
2. The newspaper named 'Swaraj' was started by him.
3. He founded the Naujawan Bharat Sabha to promote revolution against British rule.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose authored the book 'The Indian Struggle' which covers the Indian independence movement from 1920 to 1942. The book was banned by the British government.
- He also started a newspaper called 'Swaraj'.
- Naujawan Bharat Sabha was founded in 1926 by Bhagat Singh.

Q72. Exercise Desert Knight-21 and Garuda are air exercises between which of the following countries?

1. India

2. France
3. Australia
4. Saudi Arabia

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Exercise Desert King-21 is a bilateral air exercise between India and France.
- As part of Indo-French defence cooperation, Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force have held six editions of Air Exercises named 'Garuda', the latest being in 2019 at Air Force Base Mont-de-Marsan, France.

Q73. Consider the following statements with respect to International Labour Organization:

1. It was founded in 1919 under the League of Nations.
2. The organisation has won the Nobel Peace Prize.
3. Its annual flagship publication is called "The World Employment and Social Outlook".

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- International Labour Organization is a United Nations specialized agency whose mandate is to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards.
- It was founded in 1919 under the League of Nations, it is the first and oldest specialised agency of the UN.
- It has 187 member states and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- In 1969, the ILO received the Nobel Peace Prize for improving fraternity and peace among nations, pursuing decent work and justice for workers, and providing technical assistance to other developing nations.
- Its annual flagship publication is called "The World Employment and Social Outlook". It is an annual report that summarizes the labour market performance around the world.

Q74. "Sanaa" recently in news is located in:

- a) Yemen
- b) Saudi Arabia

- c) Azerbaijan
- d) Iran

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Sanaa is the largest city in Yemen and the centre of Sanaa Governorate.
- The city is not part of the Governorate, but forms the separate administrative district of “Amanat Al-Asemah”.
- Under the Yemeni constitution, Sanaa is the capital of the country, although the seat of the Yemeni government moved to Aden, the former capital of South Yemen in the aftermath of the Houthi occupation.
- Aden was declared as the temporary capital by President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi in March 2015.
- Aden, the temporary capital of Yemen, is near the eastern approach to the Red Sea.

Q75. Which of the following is correct with respect to Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)?

1. It is a benchmark interest rate for dollar-denominated derivatives and loans.
2. SOFR is based on transactions in the Treasury repurchase market.
3. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York began publishing the SOFR as part of an effort to replace LIBOR.

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:

- Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) is a benchmark interest rate for dollar-denominated derivatives and loans.
- It is based on transactions in the Treasury repurchase market. The daily secured overnight financing rate (SOFR) is based on transactions in the Treasury repurchase market, where investors offer banks overnight loans backed by their bond assets.
- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York began publishing the secured overnight financing rate (SOFR) in April 2018 as part of an effort to replace LIBOR, a long-standing benchmark rate used around the world.
- It is a replacement for USD LIBOR that may be phased out by end-2021.
 - The US Dollar LIBOR interest rate is the average interbank interest rate at which a large number of banks on the London money market are prepared to lend one another unsecured funds denominated in US Dollars.

Q76. Which of the following is/are classified under the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)?

1. Toda
2. Kattunayakan
3. Onges

4. Reangs

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Particularly vulnerable tribal group is a government of India classification created with the purpose of enabling improvement in the conditions of certain communities with particularly low development indices.
- Kattunayakan is a designated Scheduled Tribe in the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. They are classified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- Todas are classified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in Tamil Nadu.
- Reangs are the only Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group in Tripura.
- Great Andamanese, Jarawas, Onges, Sentinelese and Shom Pens are PVTGs in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Q77. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

Instance

- 1. Election of the Speaker to Lok Sabha
- 2. Removal of the Speaker
- 3. Removal of Rajya Sabha Chairman

Majority

- Simple Majority
- Special Majority
- Effective Majority

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Instances where a simple majority is needed:
 - To elect the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 - To declare a financial emergency
 - To declare President's Rule (state emergency)
 - Constitution Amendment Bill under Article 368 which needs to be ratified by the states needs only a simple majority at the State Legislatures.
- Instances where an effective majority is needed:
 - Removal of the Chairman (Vice President of India), Deputy Chairman in the Rajya Sabha (Article 67(b)).
 - Removal of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the State Legislatures.

Q78. Consider the following statements with respect to the Question Hour:

1. Questions cannot be directed at the private members during this hour.
2. There is no Question Hour on the day the President addresses MPs from both Houses in the Central Hall.
3. It is not mentioned in the parliamentary rules book.
4. Question Hour is not scheduled on the day the Finance Minister presents the Budget.

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

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- During the Question hour, Members of Parliament ask questions to ministers and hold them accountable for the functioning of their ministries.
- The questions can also be asked to the private members (MPs who are not ministers).
- There is no Question Hour on the day the President addresses MPs from both Houses in the Central Hall.
- Question Hour is not scheduled on the day the Finance Minister presents the Budget.
- Question Hour is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House.

Q79. Consider the following pairs:

Martial Art forms	State
1. Kalaripayattu	Kerala
2. Gatka	Rajasthan
3. Thang Ta	Arunachal Pradesh

Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Kalaripayattu, also known simply as Kalari, is an Indian martial art that originated in modern-day Kerala.
- Gatka is the name of an Indian martial art associated with the Sikhs of Punjab who practise an early variant of the martial art.
- Thang Ta is the popular term for the ancient Manipuri Martial Art.

Q80. Consider the following statements with respect to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):

1. It was drafted and passed by the European Union (EU).
2. It imposes obligations onto organizations anywhere, so long as they target or collect data related to people in the EU.
3. The GDPR provides for the 'right to be forgotten'.

Which of the given statements/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 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a tough privacy and security law in the world though it was drafted and passed by the European Union (EU).
- It imposes obligations onto organizations anywhere, so long as they target or collect data related to people in the EU.
- 'Right to be forgotten' is provided by the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Q81. "Operation Trident" and "Operation Python" were a part of which of the following?

- a) Indo-Pakistani War of 1971
- b) Sino-Indian War of 1962
- c) Kargil War of 1999
- d) Indo-Pakistani War of 1965

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Operation Trident was an offensive operation launched by the Indian Navy on Pakistan's port city of Karachi during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971.
- Operation Python, a follow-up to Operation Trident, was the code name of a naval attack launched on West Pakistan's port city of Karachi by the Indian Navy during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971.

Q82. Consider the following statements with respect to Mohiniyattam:

1. It is the classical solo dance form of Kerala.
2. Vyavaharamala written by Mazhamangalam Narayanan Namputiri has references of the art form.
3. In this the dancer usually stands on a brass plate locking the feet and moves the plate rhythmically with great dexterity.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Mohiniyattam is the classical solo dance form of Kerala.
- Vyavaharamala written by Mazhamangalam Narayanan Namputiri in 1709 has references to the art form.
- Ghoshayatra, written later by great poet Kunjan Nambiar also has its mentions.
- The dancer standing on a brass plate locking the feet and moving the plate rhythmically with great dexterity is a feature of Kuchipudi of Andhra Pradesh.

Q83. Which of the following is/are Indian Arctic Research Base/s?

1. Maitri
2. Himadri
3. Bharati

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- “Maitri” and “Bharati” are Indian Antarctic Research Bases.
- “Himadri” is an Indian Arctic Research Base.
- India launched its first scientific expedition to the Arctic Ocean in 2007 and opened a research base named “Himadri” at the International Arctic Research Base at Ny-Alesund, Svalbard, Norway in July 2008 for carrying out studies in disciplines like Glaciology, Atmospheric sciences & Biological sciences.

Q84. Consider the following statements with respect to Charminar:

1. Charminar was built by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah of the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
2. Each of the four minarets stands on a lotus-leaf base.
3. It was used as a madrasa during the Qutb Shahi period.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Charminar was built by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah, the fifth ruler of the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- It was built in 1591 to commemorate the end of the plague in the city.
- Four (char) minarets (minar) give the building its name 'Charminar'.
- Each minar/minaret stands on a lotus-leaf base, a special recurrent motif in Qutub Shahi buildings.
- The first floor was used as a madrasa (college) during the Qutub Shahi period. The second floor has a mosque on the western side.

Q85. The National Security directive deals with which of the following?

- a) Defence manufacturing
- b) Telecom sector
- c) Border protection
- d) Money laundering

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister gave its approval for a National Security Directive on the Telecommunication Sector (NSDTS) that will impact the digital and telecom ecosystem in the country.
- The NSDTS is aimed at preserving the integrity of the supply chain under which the government will declare a list of trusted sources and trusted products for installation in the country's telecom networks.
- There will also be a list of designated sources from where no procurement is to be made.
- The methodology to designate trusted products will be devised by the designated authority, the National Cyber Security Coordinator of India, and the list of the trusted source and product decided on the basis of approval by a committee headed by the Deputy National Security Adviser and having representation from the relevant ministries, industry bodies and independent experts.
- The directive will apply to new deployment and does not compel the telecom providers to mandatorily replace the existing equipment or alter the annual maintenance contracts.

Q86. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the Poona pact of 1932?

1. It was signed in the Yerawada jail.
2. It sought to provide separate electorate for the depressed classes.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Poona Pact was an agreement between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on behalf of depressed classes and upper caste Hindu leaders on the reservation of electoral seats for the depressed classes in the legislature of British India government.
- The Poona Pact was signed in the backdrop of the communal award which sought to provide separate electorate for the depressed classes. This was opposed by the nationalists as this was viewed as a move by the British to divide the Indians on caste lines.

Q87. Which of the following is the correct explanation of 'SPICe+'?

- a) Promotion of export of spices from India
- b) The long endurance UAV developed by DRDO
- c) Electronic form for incorporation of companies
- d) Platform for global co-operation on vaccine development.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- SPICe+ stands for Simplified Proforma for Incorporating Company electronically Plus.
- SPICe+ aims to offer 11 services by three Central Government Ministries and Departments (Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Labour and the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance) and two State Governments (Maharashtra and Karnataka). The form is an integrated web form with a single-window for multiple services.

Q88. Which of the following is the name of the recently concluded India-France air exercise?

- a) Desert Knight
- b) Blue Flag
- c) Red Flag
- d) Dark Pitch

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The India-France air exercise Desert Knight 2021 concluded recently.
- A first-of-its-kind bilateral exercise, Rafale aircraft from both sides along with Su-30 MKI and Mirage 2000 aircraft of the IAF undertook joint missions.

Q89. Consider the following statements about the Congress-Khilafat Swarajya Party:

1. The party was formed by C. R. Das and Motilal Nehru.
2. It won 42 out of 104 seats to the Central Legislature in 1923.
3. The party merged with the Congress in 1930.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the given statements are correct.

Q90. Consider the following statements with respect to Bal Kalyan Puraskar:

1. This award was instituted in 1979 as “National Child Welfare Awards”.
2. This is given to individuals only.
3. The scheme is under the Ministry of Education.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Bal Kalyan Puraskar was instituted in 1979 as “National Child Welfare Awards”.
- It was renamed in 2018 to “Bal Kalyan Puraskar”.
- This is given to individuals and/or organisations working in the field of child development, child protection and child welfare.
- This award is given in two categories – Individual and Institution. Three awards are given in each of these two categories along with cash prizes.
- The scheme is under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Q91. Consider the following statements with respect to PRAGATI:

1. It is an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) platform that reviews and monitors various Government Projects across the country.
2. It is a three-tier system that comprises the Prime Minister’s Office, Union Government Secretaries, and Chief Secretaries of the States.
3. The platform uses digital data management, video-conferencing and geo-spatial technologies.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- All the given statements are correct.

Q92. Consider the following statements with respect to the Montreal Protocol:

1. It is a protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.
2. It is a treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances that are responsible for ozone depletion.
3. The Kigali amendment is the first amendment to this protocol.

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 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (a protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer) is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances that are responsible for ozone depletion.
- The Montreal Protocol came into force in 1989. It has 197 member parties to the protocol and become the first international treaty with complete ratification.
- It has undergone several amendments.
- Kigali amendment is the eighth amendment to this protocol.

Q93. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Pangolin:

1. It is classified as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List.
2. Meat and scales of pangolins are used for medicinal purposes in several parts of the world.
3. It is an insectivorous mammal.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Indian Pangolin is native to the Indian subcontinent.
- It is an insectivorous mammal. It feeds on ants and termites.
- The meat and scales of pangolins are used for medicinal purposes in several parts of the world.
- In the IUCN Red List, Indian Pangolin is classified as Endangered and the Chinese Pangolin is classified as Critically Endangered.

Q94. Consider the following statements with respect to Border Security Force (BSF):

1. BSF is the designated border guarding force for India's borders with Pakistan and Myanmar.
2. It is one of the Central Armed Police Forces under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. It has its own air wing, marine wing, an artillery regiment, and commando units.
4. It is the world's largest border guarding force.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Border Security Force is one of the Central Armed Police Forces under the Ministry of Home Affairs and was raised in the wake of the 1965 War.
- As per the 'One Border One Force' policy, BSF is the designated border guarding force for India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- It currently stands as the world's largest border guarding force.
- It has its own air wing, marine wing, an artillery regiment, and commando units.
- Its fleet of watercraft guards the Sunderbans Delta in the Bay of Bengal and Sir Creek in the Arabian Sea.

Q95. Consider the following statements with respect to M-sand:

1. It is produced from hard granite stone by crushing.
2. M-Sand is a substitute for river sand in construction.
3. Usage of M-sand may lead to environmental disasters like groundwater depletion, water scarcity.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Manufactured sand (M-sand) is an alternative for river sand. Due to the depletion of good quality river sand for the use of construction, the use of manufactured sand has been increased.
- It is produced from hard granite stone by crushing.
- Usage of M-sand prevents dredging of river beds to get river sand which may lead to environmental disasters like groundwater depletion, water scarcity.
- It will reduce over-exploitation of river beds, it can be dust-free, etc.

Q96. Consider the following statements with respect to Asian Giant Softshell Turtle:

1. It is a freshwater turtle occurring in eastern and southern India.
2. It is classified as endangered in the IUCN Red List.
3. It is also called the frog-faced softshell turtle.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Asian Giant Softshell Turtle is also known as Cantor's Giant Softshell Turtle and the frog-faced softshell turtle.
- It is a species of freshwater turtle and is native to Southeast Asia.
- It is classified as endangered in the IUCN Red List.
- It has been considered to be among the largest extant freshwater turtles.
- It occurs in southern and eastern India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Philippines and Indonesia.

Q97. Consider the following statements with respect to Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve:

1. It spans across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.
2. It is a part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
3. It includes the Mudumalai, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Silent Valley national parks.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the given statements are correct.

- Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is the largest protected forest area in India, spreading across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.
- It is a part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
- It includes the Aralam, Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Silent Valley national parks, as well as the Wayanad, Karimpuzha, and Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuaries.

Q98. "World Energy Outlook" is published by:

- a) U.S. Energy Information Administration
- b) International Energy Agency
- c) International Atomic Energy Agency
- d) International Renewable Energy Agency

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The World Energy Outlook is the International Energy Agency's (IEA) flagship publication. It provides a comprehensive view of how the global energy system could develop in the coming decades.

Q99. What is the primary purpose of Elephant Corridors?

- a) Facilitating the stress-free migration of elephants from one habitat to another
- b) Promoting the breeding of elephants
- c) Promotion of elephant-centric eco-tourism
- d) Protection of elephants from poachers and wildfires

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Elephant corridors are set up between two protected areas in order to provide for stress-free migration of elephants from one habitat to another.
- These corridors also reduce the scope of human-animal conflict.

Q100. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest exporter of Textiles and Apparel.
2. The Textiles Committee in India ensures the quality of all textiles and textile products for domestic and export markets.
3. India and Japan have signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which facilitates the import of garments from India to Japan at zero duty.

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) 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- India and Japan have signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in 2011, which facilitates the import of garments from India to Japan at zero duty.
- Japan is the third-largest importer of T&A in the world and India is the 6th largest exporter.
- The Textiles Committee in India ensures the quality of all textiles and textile products for domestic and export markets.
- The Textiles Committee is the only body providing for all the quality-related needs of the entire Textiles Value Chain (TVC) in an integrated format on a pan-India basis through its network of 28 offices across the country including 19 state-of-the-art laboratories accredited under relevant national and international standards.

Q101. Consider the following statements with respect to Lala Lajpat Rai:

1. He founded the “Arya Gazette”.
2. He co-founded the Punjab National Bank.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Lala Lajpat Rai Born was in 1865 in Moga district, Punjab.
- He was a lawyer by profession and is called ‘Punjab Kesari’.
- He was the editor of the Arya Gazette, which he had founded.
- He founded the Servants of People Society in 1921.
- He co-founded the Punjab National Bank in 1894.

Q102. Which of the following schemes are subsumed under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan?

1. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)
2. Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)
3. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)
4. Teacher Education (TE)

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class 12.
- The scheme has been prepared with the broader goal of improving school effectiveness measured in terms of equal opportunities for schooling and equitable learning outcomes.
- It subsumes the three Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).
- Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), launched in 2013 aiming at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions.

Q103. Consider the following statements with respect to Ethanol:

1. Ethanol is alcohol of 99% plus purity that can be used for blending with petrol.
2. Ethanol is mainly produced from molasses.
3. Ethanol blending with fossil fuels will cut down carbon emissions.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q104. Consider the following statements with respect to Uniting for Consensus (UFC) group:

1. It is an informal club that developed at the United Nations.
2. It began as a movement nicknamed the Coffee Club that called for expansion of permanent seats in the United Nations Security Council.
3. It supports the extension of UNSC permanent membership to G4 nations.
4. The group opines that any increase in permanent seats would further accentuate the disparity between the member countries.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Uniting for Consensus (UFC) group is an informal club that developed at the UN in the 1990s.
- It began as a movement nicknamed the Coffee Club. The group developed in opposition to the possible expansion of permanent seats in the United Nations Security Council.
- The group opines that any increase in permanent seats would further accentuate the disparity between the member countries.

Q105. The journal 'Prabuddha Bharata' was started by:

- a) Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- c) Sister Nivedita
- d) Swami Vivekananda

Answer: d

Explanation:

- 'Prabuddha Bharata' is a monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, started by Swami Vivekananda in 1896.
- The journal 'Prabuddha Bharata' has been an important medium for spreading the message of India's ancient spiritual wisdom.
- Its publication was started from Chennai (erstwhile Madras), where it continued to be published for two years, after which it was published from Almora.
- Later, in April 1899, the place of publication of the Journal was shifted to Advaita Ashrama and it has been continuously published from there since then.

Q106. Consider the following statements with respect to Economic Survey of India:

1. It is compiled and presented by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
2. It is submitted to both houses of Parliament during the Budget Session.
3. The Economic Survey is presented as a part of the Budget.

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:

- The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance presents the Economic Survey of India in Parliament every year, just before the Union Budget.
- This document is submitted to both houses of Parliament during the Budget Session.
- The first Economic Survey of India was presented in 1950-51 as part of the Union Budget. After 1964 it was separated from the Budget and presented each year during the Budget Session before the presentation of the budget.

Q107. Which among these tribes rear Changthangi and are the traditional producers of the Pashmina wool in the Ladakh region?

- a) Balti Tribe
- b) Dogra Tribe
- c) Changpa Tribe
- d) Bakarwal Tribe

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Changpa tribes are nomadic high-altitude pastoralists rearing the prized Pashmina goat in Ladakh for Cashmere wool. These tribes rear Changthangi and are the traditional producers of the Pashmina wool in the Ladakh region

Q108. Consider the following statements with respect to STARS project:

1. It is an education reform initiative in India which is financially aided by the World Bank.
2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme under the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL).
3. This project will be implemented through the Samagra Shiksha Scheme.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the given statements are correct.

Q109. Consider the following statements:

1. "Ekamra Kshetra" comprises the temples of Varnasi
2. Ekamra Kshetra has the unique cultural heritage of having Buddhist sites, Jain sites and Hindu temples.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Ekamra Kshetra has the unique cultural heritage of having Buddhist sites at Dhauli, Jain sites at Khandagiri-Udayagiri and Hindu temples in and around the Old Bhubaneswar area.

Q110. Which of the following factors aid the formation of a tropical cyclone:

1. Coriolis force
2. Availability of latent heat
3. Temperature contrast between air masses
4. Wind shear

Which of the following statements are correct?

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q111. Damara is a town located in:

- a) Algeria
- b) Morocco
- c) Ethiopia
- d) Central African Republic

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Damara is a town located in the Central African Republic.

Q112. Consider the following statements:

1. Neutrinos are the most abundant particles in the universe.
2. India-based Neutrino Observatory is located in Hanle, Ladakh.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- India-based Neutrino Observatory is located in Theni, Tamil Nadu
- Neutrinos are the most abundant particles in the universe after Photons.

