

## UPSC Monthly Current Affairs Magazine Answer Key March 2021

Q1. Consider the following statements with respect to Chilika Lake:

1. The endangered Gangetic Dolphins are found in the lake.
2. It is the largest coastal lagoon in India.
3. The lake is located at the mouth of the Daya River.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Chilika Lake is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon.
- It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the largest brackish water lagoon in the world after the New Caledonian barrier reef.
- The lake is located at the mouth of the Daya River.
- It is a designated Ramsar Site under Ramsar Convention.
- The endangered Irrawaddy Dolphins are found in the lake.

Q2. Consider the following statements with respect to the Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP):

1. It is a project of the Government of India assisted by the World Bank.
2. Under the project, graduates from elite institutions are hired to teach in rural and remote engineering colleges in poorer States.
3. It is a Rs. 3,600-crore project divided into three phases.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- TEQIP project was started by the Government of India assisted by the World Bank.
- It was launched in December 2002.
- The project is being implemented to improve the quality of education in the technical institutions of India.
- It took graduates from elite institutions to rural and remote engineering colleges in poorer States.
- It is a ₹3,600-crore project that was divided into three phases. The third phase will end in March 2021.
- Among the initiatives was a bid to recruit more than 1,500 faculty from top institutions and send them to colleges that could never have afforded them.
  - They were paid salaries in accordance with the Seventh Pay Commission.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. The Union government owns all the publicly available assets within the geographical boundaries of India, including airwaves.
2. Foreign companies are not eligible to bid for the airwaves in India.
3. A firm can bid for spectrum only as per the eligibility point allocated based on its deposit.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Devices such as cellphones and wireline telephones require signals to connect from one end to another. These signals are carried on airwave. The airwaves are called spectrum, which is subdivided into bands that have varying frequencies.
- The Union government owns all the publicly available assets within the geographical boundaries of the country including airwaves.
- A firm can bid for spectrum only as per the eligibility point allocated based on its deposit.
- Foreign companies are also eligible to bid for the airwaves. But, they will have to either set up a branch in India and register as an Indian company, or tie up with an Indian company to be able to retain the airwaves after having won the spectrum in the bid.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. Aos are one of the major Naga tribes.
2. “Shi-ki” is the tribal harvest festival unique to Aos.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Aos are one of the major Naga tribes of Nagaland.
- Some villages in Nagaland are trying to revive a traditional form of punishment using prickly cages meant for shaming offenders.
- Such itchy cages are referred to as khujlighar in Nagamese, but each Naga community has its own name.
- The Aos, one of the major tribes of Nagaland, call it Shi-ki which means flesh-house.

Q5. Consider the following statements with respect to the Aravalli Hills:

1. It is a fold mountain.
2. The mountain range spans across Gujarat, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan.
3. Dhosi Hill, an extinct volcano, is a part of the Aravalli range.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Aravalli Range, an eroded stub of ancient mountains, is the oldest range of fold mountains.
- The mountain range spans across Gujarat, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan.
- Dhosi Hill, an extinct volcano, is a part of the Aravalli range.

Q6. Consider the following statements with respect to Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA):

1. It is a central sector scheme.
2. It aims to provide strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions.

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:

- It is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2013.
- It aims to provide strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions.
- The central funding (in the ratio of 60:40 for general category states, 90:10 for special category states and 100% for union territories) is based on norms and is outcome dependent.
- Funds flow from the central ministry through the state governments/union territories to the State Higher Education Councils before reaching the identified institutions.
- It is a scheme under the Ministry of Education (formerly HRD).

Q7. Consider the following statements with respect to Janaushadhi centres:

1. These centres are run by the Indian Medical Association (IMA).
2. At these centres, generic medicines are sold at 50% to 90% lesser prices as compared to the market prices of branded medicines.
3. The centres are run as a part of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Janaushadhi centres are run as part of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- These centres are run by the Bureau of Pharma PSUs in India (BPPI).
- In these centres, generic medicines are sold at 50% to 90% lesser prices as compared to the market prices of branded medicines.

Q8. Consider the following statements with respect to the strait of Hormuz:

1. It separates Iran from the Arabian Peninsula.

2. It links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman.
3. It provides the only sea passage from the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Strait of Hormuz is a strait between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.
- It separates Iran from the Arabian Peninsula.
- It provides the only sea passage from the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea

Q9. Consider the following statements with respect to Himalayan serow:

1. It is a high- altitude dweller usually found 2,000--4,000 metres above sea level.
2. It is a goat-antelope.
3. It is classified as 'Critically Endangered' in the IUCN Red List.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Himalayan serow is a goat-antelope.
- The Himalayan mammal is a high-altitude dweller usually found 2,000-4,000 metres above sea level.
- It is classified as 'Vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List.

Q10. Which of these ports of Sri Lanka is the largest natural harbour in the country?

- a) The Port of Colombo
- b) The Port of Galle
- c) The Port of Trincomalee
- d) The Port of Hambantota

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Port of Trincomalee is the largest natural harbour in Sri Lanka.
- The Port of Colombo is the largest port of Sri Lanka with most traffic.

Q11. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Negev Light Machine Gun – U.S.A
2. SIG-716 assault rifles – Israel
3. AK-203 assault rifles – Russia

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Light Machine Guns (LMGs) are designed to be employed by an individual soldier, with or without an assistant, as an infantry support weapon.
- Negev is Israeli LMG.
- SIG-716 assault rifles are American LMG.
- AK-203 assault rifles are Russian LMG.

Q12. Consider the following statements with respect to Manas National Park:

1. It is a UNESCO Natural World Heritage site.
2. It is located in Assam.
3. It is a tiger reserve as well as an elephant reserve.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Manas National Park is a UNESCO Natural World Heritage site.
- It is located in Assam. It is a tiger reserve, an elephant reserve and a biosphere reserve.

Q13. Consider the following statements with respect to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES):

1. The CITES is administered by the United Nations under its United Nations Environment Programme.
2. CITES is legally binding on member nations.
3. India is a member of CITES.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q14. Consider the following statements with respect to Lake Natron:

1. It is a freshwater lake in Tanzania.
2. It is included in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.
3. The lake's warm water is an ideal breeding ground for the Rift Valley flamingos.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Lake Natron is a salt lake in Arusha Region in Tanzania.
- It is included in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.



- High levels of evaporation cause sodium carbonate decahydrate to be left behind in its bed.
- The lake's warm water is an ideal breeding ground for the Rift Valley flamingos.

Q15. Consider the following statements:

1. Volcanoes are generally found where tectonic plates diverge or converge.
2. India's only active volcano is in Barren Island, in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct.

Q16. Consider the following statements with respect to National Population Register:

1. It is a Register of usual residents of the country.
2. A usual resident is 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.
3. It is a part of the government's citizenship enumeration drive.

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: a

Explanation:

- The National Population Register (NPR) is not a citizenship enumeration drive, as it would record even a foreigner staying in a locality for more than six months.
- It is a Register of usual residents of the country.
- A usual resident is 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.

Q17. Who was the viceroy of India when Mahatma Gandhi's famous Salt march took place?

- a) Lord Reading



- b) Lord Irwin
- c) Lord Willingdon
- d) Lord Wavell

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Lord Irwin was the viceroy of India from 1926-1931.
- When he was the viceroy, the civil disobedience movement and Dandi march were launched. Also, the first round table conference was held.

Q18. Consider the following statements with respect to International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC):

1. Russia, India, and Iran are the founding member states of INSTC.
2. There are 13 member states of the INSTC project.
3. INSTC goes via Iran's Bandar Abbas port.

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:

All the statements are correct.

Q19. Consider the following statements with respect to Chabahar Port:

1. It is the only oceanic port in Iran.
2. It is located in the southeastern part of Iran on the Gulf of Oman.
3. The International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) passes through the port.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Chabahar port is the only oceanic port in Iran.
- It is located in the southeastern part of Iran on the Gulf of Oman.
- While India made a proposal to include Chabahar port in the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC), no decision has been taken yet. Therefore, the 3rd statement is wrong.

Q20. Consider the following statements with respect to “Bao-dhaan”:

1. It is the ‘red rice’ variety that is grown in the Brahmaputra valley without the use of any chemical fertilizer.
2. It is iron-rich rice and an integral part of Assamese cuisine.

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:

- First export consignments of ‘red rice’ from Assam to the USA flagged off recently. This development is a big boost to India’s rice exports potential.
- Bao-dhaan is the name of the ‘red rice’ variety that is grown in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam, without the use of any chemical fertilizer.
- It is iron-rich and is an integral part of Assamese cuisine.

Q21. Consider the following statements with respect to Simlipal National Park:

1. It is located in Maharashtra.
2. It is a part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
3. Simlipal derives its name from a silk cotton tree.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Simlipal, which derives its name from 'Simul' (silk cotton) tree, is a national park and a tiger reserve.
- It is situated in the northern part of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district.
- Simlipal and the adjoining areas, comprising 5,569 sq km, was declared a biosphere reserve by the Government of India in 1994, and lies in the eastern end of the Eastern Ghats.
- UNESCO added the national park to its list of biosphere reserves in 2009.
- It is a part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

Q22. Consider the following statements with respect to Red Sanders:

1. The tree is endemic to South India.
2. It is used in Ayurveda and Siddha medicine.
3. It is classified as endangered in IUCN Red List.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Pterocarpussantalinus or Red Sanders is a tree endemic to South India.
- They are found in the Tropical Dry Deciduous forest of the Palakonda and Seshachalam hill ranges of Andhra Pradesh and also found in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
- It is used for various purposes such as immunity medicine; it is used in Ayurveda and Siddha medicine.
- While red sanders was classified as endangered in 1997, IUCN reclassified red sanders (Pterocarpus santalinus) as 'near threatened' from the earlier 'endangered' in 2018.

Q23. Consider the following statements with respect to Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology:

1. The missiles which use such a system are also able to carry larger payloads.
2. It includes a thrust modulated ducted rocket with a reduced smoke nozzle-less missile booster.
3. This system drastically enhances the range and speed of missiles.

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

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology is a missile propulsion technology.
- It includes a thrust modulated ducted rocket with a reduced smoke nozzle-less missile booster.
- The missiles which use such a system are also able to carry a larger payload due to the absence of an oxidiser.
- The system utilises a solid fuelled air-breathing ramjet engine.
- This kind of propulsion system drastically enhances the range with a higher average speed.

Q24. Which of the following countries is/are not a part of OPEC?

1. Oman
2. Bahrain
3. Kuwait
4. Iran
5. Kazakhstan

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela are the founding members of OPEC.
- The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies as a grouping are known as OPEC+.
- OPEC+ comprises Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.

Q25. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Centaurs?

1. They are icy planetesimals located between Jupiter and Neptune.
2. They cross the orbits of one or more of the giant planets in their journey around the Sun, and interactions with the planets cause the orbits of Centaurs to be inherently unstable.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Centaurs are icy planetesimals located between Jupiter and Neptune.
- They cross the orbits of one or more of the giant planets in their journey around the Sun, and interactions with these outer planets cause the orbits of Centaurs to be inherently unstable.

Q26. Which of the following statement/s is/are incorrect with respect to Gulf Stream Ocean current system?

1. It is a warm Atlantic Ocean current.
2. It conveys warm surface water from equator to the north and the deeper cold, low-salinity water down south.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Gulf Stream, together with its northern extension the North Atlantic Drift, is a warm and swift Atlantic ocean current that originates in the Gulf of Mexico and stretches to the tip of Florida, and follows the eastern coastlines of the United States and Newfoundland before crossing the Atlantic Ocean as the North Atlantic Current.
- The Gulf Stream system conveys warm surface water from equator to the north and the deeper cold, low-salinity water down south. It works like a giant conveyor belt.

Q27. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Alzheimer's disease?

1. It is a disorder of the brain, which affects memory and thinking skills.
2. Usually, in people, the symptoms start manifesting when they are in their sixties, though the onset is much earlier.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and irreversible disorder of the brain, which affects memory and thinking skills.
- Brain cell connections and the cells themselves degenerate and die, eventually destroying memory and other important mental functions.
- Memory loss and confusion are the main symptoms.
- Usually, in people, the symptoms start manifesting when they are in their sixties, though the onset is much earlier.
- No cure exists, but medication and management strategies may temporarily improve symptoms.

Q28. The term "arribada" is associated with which of the following?

- a) Shifting cultivation practice in North-east India
- b) Mass nesting exhibited by Olive Ridley Turtles
- c) Aboriginal tribe of Australia
- d) Seasonal migration exhibited by the Siberian crane

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The olive ridley turtles turn up in millions for mass nesting along the Odisha coast every year. This phenomenon is referred to as 'arribada'.
- Gahirmatha beach in Kendrapara district is acclaimed as the world's largest-known nesting ground of these endangered marine species. Apart from Gahirmatha, these aquatic animals turn up at Rushikulya river mouth and Devi river mouth for mass nesting.

Q29. Consider the following statements with respect to Savitribai Phule:

1. She set up "Balhatya Pratibandhak Griha".
2. She is recognised as the first female teacher in India.
3. She founded the Satya shodhak Samaj.

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: c

Explanation:

- Savitribai Phule is hailed as one of the first modern feminists of India.
- Savitribai Phule's husband Jyotirao Phule established the Satya shodhak Samaj. She took on the work of Satya Shodhak Samaj after the demise of Jyotirao Phule.
- Savitribai Phule became the first female teacher in India in 1848.

Q30. Which of the following are the right bank tributaries of the River Brahmaputra?

1. Subansiri
2. Kameng
3. Manas
4. Lohit
5. Dhansiri

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

While Subansiri, Kameng and Manas are the right bank tributaries of the River Brahmaputra, Lohit and Dhansiri are its left bank tributaries.

Q31. Consider the following statements with respect to "Chenda":

1. It is classified under the avanaddha vadya category.
2. It is a cylindrical instrument widely used in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

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:

- Chenda is a cylindrical percussion instrument widely used in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- It is classified in the avannadha vadya category.
- It is an Oordhwaka drum, placed vertically before the musician.

Q32. Which of the following Indian states share a border with Myanmar?

1. Tripura
2. Manipur
3. Assam
4. Arunachal Pradesh
5. Nagaland
6. Mizoram

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland share a border with Myanmar.

Q33. Which of the following countries border the Mediterranean Sea?

1. Morocco
2. Algeria
3. Tunisia
4. Libya
5. Egypt

Options:

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

d) 1, 4 and 5 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

Mediterranean Sea



Q34. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the MQ-9 Reaper or Predator B drones?

1. These are armed drones.
2. These are manufactured by General Atomics company based in the U.S.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- India is seeking to acquire 30 MQ-9 Reaper or Predator B armed drones from the U.S., 10 each for the three services.
- MQ-9B has an endurance of 48 hours and a range of over 6,000 nautical miles. It comes with nine hard-points, capable of carrying sensors and laser-guided bombs besides air-to-ground missiles, with a maximum payload of two tonnes.

Q35. What are the advantages offered by the air-independent propulsion systems as compared to the conventional diesel operated submarines?

1. Will help increase the operational range
2. Better stealth character

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Project 75I-class submarine is a follow-on of the Project 75 Kalvari-class submarine for the Indian Navy. Under this project, the Indian Navy intends to acquire six diesel-electric submarines, which will also feature advanced air-independent propulsion systems.
- Air-independent propulsion (AIP), or air-independent power, is any marine propulsion technology that allows a non-nuclear submarine to operate without access to atmospheric oxygen (by surfacing or using a snorkel). AIP can augment or replace the diesel-electric propulsion system of non-nuclear vessels.
- The air-independent propulsion systems enable the submarines to stay submerged for a longer duration and substantially increase their operational range as compared to the conventional diesel operated submarines.
- Modern non-nuclear submarines are potentially stealthier than nuclear submarines; a nuclear ship's reactor must constantly pump coolant, generating some amount of detectable noise. Non-nuclear submarines running on battery power or AIP, on the other hand, can be virtually silent.
- While nuclear-powered designs still dominate in submergence times and deep-ocean performance, small, high-tech non-nuclear attack submarines are highly effective in coastal operations and pose a significant threat to less-stealthy and less-maneuvrable nuclear submarines.

Q36. Which of the following states has proposed to prepare a Gender Budget which would make it the first Indian state to do so?

- a) Andhra Pradesh

- b) Maharashtra
- c) Kerala
- d) Karnataka

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister has said that the state would become the first State to come up with a gender budget in the current financial year. This budget would clearly list out the expenditure on welfare schemes for women.
- Such a budget would be a significant step towards addressing gender inequality.

Q37. “Dustlik” is a military exercise between which of the following countries?

1. India
2. Uzbekistan
3. Afghanistan
4. Kazakhstan

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

The India-Uzbekistan joint military exercise is known as Dustlik. The first-ever exercise was held in 2019. Exercise Dustlik--II is being held between India and Uzbekistan from March 10--19, 2021.

Q38. Enabling the Business of Agriculture report is published by:

- a) World Bank
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) Food and Agriculture Organization
- d) International Institute of Agriculture

Answer: a

Explanation:

Enabling the Business of Agriculture is a World Bank Group study collecting unique data on the

regulations that affect farmers. Enabling the Business of Agriculture indicators assess whether governments make it easier or harder for farmers to operate their businesses.

Q39. Consider the following statements with respect to Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):

1. They are mentioned in Part 4 of the Indian Constitution.
2. DPSPs are borrowed from the Constitution of Ireland.
3. 'Equal pay for equal work' is a part of DPSPs of the Indian Constitution.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q40. Consider the following statements with respect to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act:

1. Cases under the UAPA are investigated by the State police and the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
2. Under the Act, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.
3. It includes the provision of designating an individual as a terrorist.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.
- It will be applicable to the offenders in the same manner, even if the crime is committed on foreign land, outside India.
- It includes the provision of designating an individual as a terrorist.

- Cases under the UAPA are investigated by the State police and the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Q41. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN)?

1. It constitutes a non-lapsable reserve fund for health.
2. It constitutes the proceeds from the Health and Education Cess.
3. It is administered by the Finance ministry.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN).
- The new fund collected from the proceeds of Health and Education Cess would function as a single non-lapsable reserve fund for health.
- In the 2018 Budget, the Central government announced the replacement of the existing 3% Education Cess by 4% Health and Education Cess.
- The administration and maintenance of the PMSSN is entrusted to the Health Ministry.
- The major benefits of PMSSN will be the enhanced access to universal and affordable health care through the availability of earmarked resources, while ensuring that the amount does not lapse at the end of the financial year.

Q42. Which of the following is incorrectly matched?

- a) Dandi March: 1930
- b) Rowlatt Satyagraha: 1920
- c) Launch of Quit India Movement: 1942
- d) Champaran Satyagraha: 1917

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Salt March, also known as the Salt Satyagraha, Dandi March and the Dandi Satyagraha, was an act of nonviolent civil disobedience in colonial India led by Mahatma Gandhi. The twenty-four-day march lasted between March and April in 1930. The march spanned almost 240 miles



from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi. It marked a direct action campaign of tax resistance and nonviolent protest against the British salt monopoly.

- On 6 April 1919, Mahatma Gandhi started a non-violent Satyagraha against the unjust Rowlatt Act passed by the British government.
- On 8 August 1942, at the All-India Congress Committee session in Bombay, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi launched the 'Quit India' movement.
- The Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 was the first Satyagraha movement led by Gandhi in India and is considered a historically important revolt in the Indian Independence Movement. It was a farmers' uprising that took place in the Champaran district of Bihar, India, during the British colonial period.

Q43. Which of the following correctly describes the recently inducted INS Karanj?

- a) Scorpene class submarine
- b) Nuclear submarine
- c) Fast Patrol vehicle
- d) Corvette

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Navy recently inducted the third Scorpene class conventional diesel-electric submarine, INS Karanj, into service.
- The Scorpene-class submarines are a class of diesel-electric attack submarines. It features diesel propulsion and an additional air-independent propulsion (AIP).

Q44. India's largest floating solar power plant till date is being set up in which of the following states?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Gujarat
- d) Telangana

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The country's biggest floating solar power plant till date, by generation capacity, is being developed by the NTPC in the reservoir of its thermal plant at Ramagundam in Peddapalli district, Telangana.
- This plant has a generation capacity of about 100 megawatts.

Q45. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to defamation?



1. In India, defamation is both a civil and a criminal offence.
2. The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of the criminal provisions of defamation in the Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India case.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Sections 499 and 500 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) deal with defamation in India.
- The Supreme Court in the Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India case has ruled that the criminal provisions of defamation are constitutionally valid and are not in conflict with the right to free speech.
- The Court held that Section 499 is not an excessive restriction under Article 19(2). It held that society is a collection of individuals, and what affects individuals also affects society as a whole. Hence, it held that it is valid to treat defamation as a public wrong. It held that criminal defamation is not a disproportionate restriction on free speech, because the protection of reputation is a fundamental right as well as a human right.
- The Court reaffirmed the right to reputation as a part of the right to life under Article 21. Using the principle of 'balancing of fundamental rights', the court held that the right to freedom and speech and expression cannot be "allowed so much room that even reputation of an individual which is a constituent of Article 21 would have no entry into that area".

Q46. The joint lunar polar exploration (LUPEX) mission is a joint collaboration between India and which other country?

- a) Japan
- b) USA
- c) Russia
- d) France

Answer: a

Explanation:

- India and Japan are working on a joint lunar polar exploration (LUPEX) mission.
- The Lunar Polar Exploration mission is a robotic lunar mission concept by the Indian Space Research Organisation and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency that would send a lunar rover and lander to explore the South Pole region of the Moon in 2024.

Q47. What are the advantages of hydrogen as a fuel?

1. Ease of storage
2. High energy density
3. Higher safety
4. Non-polluting
5. Renewable source

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Advantages of hydrogen as a fuel:

- Hydrogen has the highest energy content of any common fuel by weight.
- Its usage can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus help improve environmental quality. Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the Universe and despite the challenges associated with its extraction from water, it is a uniquely abundant and renewable source of energy, perfect for our future zero-carbon needs for combined heat and power supplies. Hydrogen can be produced from diverse domestic resources with the potential for near-zero greenhouse gas emissions.

Challenges in using hydrogen as a fuel:

- Hydrogen's energy content by volume is low. This makes storing hydrogen a challenge because it requires high pressures, low temperatures, or chemical processes to be stored compactly. Because hydrogen has a lower volumetric energy density than gasoline, storing this much hydrogen on a vehicle currently requires a larger tank at a higher pressure than other gaseous fuels.
- Hydrogen has a wide range of flammable concentrations in air and lower ignition energy than gasoline or natural gas, which means it can ignite more easily.

Q48. Which of the following pairs of temple and associated school of architecture is incorrectly matched?

- a) Lingaraja Temple: Kalinga style
- b) KandariyaMahadeva Temple: Khajuraho school
- c) Modhera Sun Temple: Solanki school
- d) Meenakshi Temple, Madurai: Vijayanagara school

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Meenakshi temple in Madurai is based on the Nayaka School of architecture.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

1. Bureaucrats are eligible to be appointed as the State Election Commissioners.
2. The State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor.
3. The courts cannot interfere in the conduct of polls to local bodies and self-government institutions once the electoral process has been set in motion.

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: b

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court has directed that independent persons and not bureaucrats should be appointed State Election Commissioners.
- Courts cannot interfere in the conduct of polls to local bodies and self-government institutions once the electoral process has been set in motion.
- Constitution bars interference in poll matters set in motion by the SECs and EC.
- Only after the polls are over can the SECs' decisions or conduct be questioned through an election petition.
- The State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor.
- However, the State Election Commissioners can only be removed by impeachment.

Q50. Consider the following statements with respect to Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework:

1. It is a framework under which banks with weak financial metrics are put under watch by the RBI.
2. The PCA framework deems banks as risky if they slip trigger points based on the three parameters of capital ratios, asset quality and profitability.
3. The PCA framework is applicable to commercial banks, co-operative banks as well as non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework is a framework under which banks with weak financial metrics are put under watch by the RBI.
- The Reserve Bank has specified certain regulatory trigger points, as a part of prompt corrective action (PCA) framework, in terms of three parameters, i.e. capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR), net non-performing assets (NPA) and Return on Assets (RoA), for initiation of certain structured and discretionary actions in respect of banks hitting such trigger points.
- The PCA framework is applicable only to commercial banks and not extended to co-operative banks, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

Q51. Exercise “Desert Flag” is hosted by:

- a) Saudi Arabia
- b) United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- c) Bahrain
- d) Oman

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Desert flag is a multi-national exercise hosted by the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- It is an annual multi-national large force employment warfare exercise.

Q52. Consider the following statements with respect to Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal:

1. He is the founder of ‘Samathwa Samajam’.
2. He founded the Self Respect Movement and invited Periyar to lead the movement.
3. He led an agitation known as the Mel Mundu Samaram.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal (1809-1851) was a great thinker and social reformer of the 19th century.
- Being the founder of 'Samathwa Samajam', an early socio-reform movement in India (1836), Ayya Vaikundar is considered as the pioneer of such revolutionary movements in India.
- He was the first to install a mirror for worshipping in South India.
- He was the exponent of a new path of spiritual thoughts named 'Ayya Vazhi'.
- His said, 'One caste, One religion, One clan, One world, One God'.
- He led an agitation known as the Mel Mundu Samaram.
- The Self-Respect Movement was founded in 1921. It was not started by Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal.

Q53. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Mudumalai National Park?

1. It is part of the Western Ghats Nilgiri Sub-Cluster.
2. It is also a declared tiger reserve

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Mudumalai National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary also a declared tiger reserve, lies on the northwestern side of the Nilgiri Hills in Tamil Nadu, India. It shares its boundaries with the states of Karnataka and Kerala.
- The protected area is home to several endangered and vulnerable species including Indian elephant, Bengal tiger, gaur and Indian leopard. There are at least 266 species of birds in the sanctuary, including critically endangered Indian white-rumped vulture and long-billed vulture.
- The Western Ghats Nilgiri Sub-Cluster of 6,000 square kilometres including all of Mudumalai National Park, is under consideration by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for selection as a World Heritage Site.

Q54. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)?

1. It has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis.

2. It is headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.
3. India is currently a member.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world. The UNHRC has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis. The headquarters of UNHRC is in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The UNHRC was established by the UN General Assembly to replace the UN Commission on Human Rights. The UNHRC works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and engages the UN's special procedures.

Q55. Which of the following statement/s is/are correctly matched?

1. Raman effect: when light is scattered off an object, two bands are observed, with higher and lower frequency than the original light, called the Stokes and anti-Stokes bands, respectively.
2. Joule effect: Any current flowing through a conductor would cause a temperature rise.
3. Meissner effect: It is the expulsion of a magnetic field from a superconductor during its transition to the superconducting state when it is cooled below the critical temperature.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Q56. Which of the following is the largest cell in the human body?

- a) Egg cell
- b) Bone cell
- c) Nerve cell
- d) Fat cells

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Egg cells are the largest cells in the body.
- A new study deciphers how these cells grow to such sizes. 'Nurse' cells, connected to the oocyte, dump their contents into the oocyte (egg cell), thereby causing it to expand

Q57. SIG-716 assault rifles are acquired by India from which country?

- a) Russia
- b) Israel
- c) France
- d) United States of America

Answer: d

Explanation:

- SIG-716 assault rifles are American LMG.
- Light Machine Guns (LMGs) are designed to be employed by an individual soldier, with or without an assistant, as an infantry support weapon.

Q58. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Population Register (NPR):

1. It is a Register of all the citizens of India only.
2. The NPR was earlier collated in 2010 and 2015.
3. It is mandatory for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- National Population Register is a register of usual residents of the country.
- NPR is different from both the decennial census and the National Register of Citizens (NRC).



- The objective of the NPR is to create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country.
- It is mandatory for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.
- For the purpose of the NPR, a usual resident is defined as a person who has resided in a local area for six months or more or a person who intends to reside in that area for the next six months or more.
- The NPR earlier collated in 2010 and 2015 has an electronic database of more than 119 crore residents.

Q59. “Dustlik”, recently seen in the news, is a town in which country?

- a) Kazakhstan
- b) Iran
- c) Uzbekistan
- d) Afghanistan

Answer: c

Explanation:

- India-Uzbek joint exercise Dustlik-II commenced at Ranikhet (Uttarakhand).
- It is named after Dustlik, a town in the Jizzakh region of Uzbekistan.
- This is the Second Edition of the annual bilateral joint exercise of both armies.
- The first edition was held in Uzbekistan in 2019.

Q60. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest arms importer.
2. In the last five years, Russia was the largest arms supplier to India followed by the U.S.

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:

- India is the second-largest arms importer after Saudi Arabia.
- Russia was the largest arms supplier between 2011–15 and 2016–20.

- The U.S. was the second-largest arms supplier to India in 2011–15 but in 2016–20 India's arms imports from the U.S. were 46% lower than in the previous five-year period, making the U.S. the fourth-largest supplier in 2016–20.
- France and Israel were the second and third largest arms suppliers in 2016–20.
- Therefore, both statements are wrong.

Q61. Consider the following statements with respect to the Great Indian Bustard:

1. The bird is omnivorous.
2. It is classified as 'critically endangered' on the IUCN Red List.
3. It is the state bird of Gujarat.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*), is a bustard native to the Indian subcontinent.
- Bustards are large terrestrial birds found in dry grasslands and steppe regions.
- It is among the heaviest of flying birds in existence.
- It is listed as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List.
- Great Indian bustards are omnivores.
- It is the state bird of Rajasthan.

Q62. Consider the following statements with respect to Deep Ocean Mission:

1. It is a central sector scheme.
2. Its two key projects include a desalination plant powered by tidal energy and a submersible vehicle that can explore depths of at least 6,000 metres.
3. The focus of the mission would include ocean climate change advisory services and underwater robotics related technologies.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Deep Ocean Mission is a central sector scheme. The mission proposes to explore the deep ocean similar to the space exploration started by ISRO about 35 years ago.
- The focus of the mission will be on deep-sea mining, ocean climate change advisory services, underwater vehicles and underwater robotics related technologies.
- Its two key projects include a desalination plant powered by tidal energy and a submersible vehicle that can explore depths of at least 6,000 metres.

Q63. Consider the following statements with respect to Bara-lacha La:

1. It is a high mountain pass in Zaskar range.
2. The pass connects Kargil and Srinagar.

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: b

Explanation:

- Bara-lacha La is a high mountain pass in Zaskar range.
- It connects Lahaul district in Himachal Pradesh to Leh district in Ladakh, situated along the Leh–Manali Highway.

Q64. Mullaperiyar Dam dispute is between which of the following states?

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

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Mullaperiyar Dam is a masonry gravity dam on the Periyar River in the Indian state of Kerala.
- The dam is located in Kerala on the river Periyar, but is operated and maintained by Tamil Nadu state.
- The dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu states is because of the control and safety of the dam and the validity and fairness of the lease agreement. The dispute began in 1998 when Tamil Nadu wanted to raise the height of the water level and Kerala opposed it.

Q65. Consider the following statements with respect to Development Finance Institutions:

1. Industrial Finance Corporation of India was the first DFI in India.
2. The Budget 2021-22 has provided for an initial amount of ₹20,000 crore for the DFIs.
3. DFIs do not accept deposits.

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 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- IFCI – 1st DFI in India. Industrial Finance Corporation of India was established in 1948.
- The Budget 2021-22 has provided for an initial amount of ₹20,000 crore for the DFIs.
- DFIs do not accept deposits.
- The development finance institutions or development finance companies are organizations owned by the government or charitable institutions to provide funds for low-capital projects or where their borrowers are unable to get it from commercial lenders.

Q66. Consider the following statements with respect to River Chenab:

1. Chenab river is formed by the confluence of the Chandra and Bhaga rivers at Tandi.
2. The world's highest railway bridge is being constructed on the Chenab.
3. Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project is a run-of-the-river power project on River Chenab.

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

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

d) 3 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q67. The World Energy Transitions Outlook is brought out by:

- a) International Atomic Energy Agency
- b) International Renewable Energy Agency
- c) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- d) Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Organization

Answer: b

Explanation:

The World Energy Transitions Outlook is brought out by the International Renewable Energy Agency.

Q68. Consider the following statements with respect to Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI):

- 1. CDRI was launched at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019.
- 2. Its Secretariat is in New Delhi.
- 3. The decisions, policies and standards of the coalition are binding on the members.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure is a partnership between national governments, United Nations programmes and agencies, development banks, academic institutions and the private sector.
- The objective of the coalition is to address challenges related to building resilience into infrastructure systems and associated developments.
- The CDRI was launched by Prime Minister Modi in September 2019 at the UN Climate Action Summit.

- The CDRI is a partnership between national governments and other agencies and not based on rights and obligations. It may be noted that the decisions, policies and standards of the coalition are not binding on the members.
- Its Secretariat is in New Delhi. The Secretariat functions under the direction of the international Governing Council and implements the programs of CDRI.

Q69. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Consortia (INSACOG):

1. It is formed under the leadership of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).
2. It is a consortium of 10 national research institutions, set up by the central government.
3. It was set up with a goal of increasing access to COVID-19 immunisation in rural areas and urban slums.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The government launched the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Consortia (INSACOG), comprising 10 labs spread across India.
- It is formed under the leadership of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).
- INSACOG was launched to ascertain the status of new variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the country.
- Its goal is to regularly monitor the genomic variation in SARS-CoV-2.
- It would monitor the genomic variations in the SARS-CoV-2 on a regular basis through a multi-laboratory network.
- It has a high level Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee. Also, it has a Scientific Advisory Group for scientific and technical guidance.

Q70. Consider the following statements:

1. Appropriation Bill is a money bill that allows the government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet its expenses during the course of a financial year.
2. The government can withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund only after receiving approval from Parliament.
3. The Appropriation bill is introduced in the lower house of the parliament after discussions on Budget proposals and Voting on Demand for Grants.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

- Appropriation Bill is a money bill that allows the government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet its expenses during the course of a financial year.
- The government can withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund only after receiving approval from Parliament.
- The Appropriation bill is introduced in the lower house of the parliament after discussions on Budget proposals and Voting on Demand for Grants.
- The Appropriation Bill is first passed by the Lok Sabha and then sent to the Rajya Sabha.
- Since India subscribes to the Westminster system of parliamentary democracy, the defeat of an Appropriation Bill in a parliamentary vote would necessitate resignation of a government.

Q71. Consider the following statements with respect to Mission POSHAN 2.0:

1. It is an umbrella scheme covering the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Anganwadi Services, Scheme For Adolescent Girls and National Creche Scheme.
2. Under the Mission, Supplementary Nutrition Programme and Poshan Abhiyan have been merged.
3. It will also include One-Stop Centre, Mahila Police Volunteer, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Women's helpline and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The supplementary nutrition programme and the Poshan Abhiyaan under the Women and Child Development Ministry have been merged to launch Mission Poshan 2.0 to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and outcome, according to the Union Budget 2021-22.



- POSHAN 2.0 is an umbrella scheme covering the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Anganwadi Services, Scheme For Adolescent Girls and National Creche Scheme.
- It does not include One-Stop Centre, Mahila Police Volunteer, BetiBachaoBetiPadhao, Women's helpline and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. These come under Mission Shakti.

Q72. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Naval Landing Craft Utility L58:

1. It is the last ship of the Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mark IV Class.
2. The ship was indigenously designed and built.
3. It would be deployed for surveillance operations along the Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands, Bay of Bengal and in the Indian Ocean.

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: d

Explanation:

- LCU L58 is the eighth and last ship of the Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mark IV Class.
- The ship was indigenously designed and built by GRSE, Kolkata.
- The LCU 58 would be based at Port Blair and will be deployed in a variety of roles such as Beaching, Search and Rescue, Disaster Relief, Coastal Patrol and Surveillance operations along the Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands, Bay of Bengal and in the Indian Ocean.

Q73. Consider the following statements about the Jal Jeevan Mission:

1. It is envisioned to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.
2. It aims to create local infrastructure for rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household wastewater for reuse in agriculture.

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:

- Jal Jeevan Mission is envisioned to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.
- The programme will also implement source sustainability measures as mandatory elements, such as recharge and reuse through grey water management, water conservation, rainwater harvesting.

Q74. Consider the following statements:

1. Alternative dispute resolution mechanism is a wide range of dispute resolution processes and techniques that act as a means for disagreeing parties to come to an agreement through negotiations and discussions.
2. Lok Adalat system was set up to ensure that the disputes in the pre-litigation stage could be settled amicably.
3. Arbitration, negotiation, mediation and conciliation are types of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms.

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:

- Alternative dispute resolution mechanism is a wide range of dispute resolution processes and techniques that act as a means for disagreeing parties to come to an agreement through negotiations and discussions.
- ADR is generally classified into – arbitration, negotiation, mediation and conciliation.
- Lok Adalat system was set up through the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 to ensure that the disputes in the pre-litigation stage could be settled amicably.

Q75. Consider the following statements:

1. Supplementary, additional or excess grants are not mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. Supplementary grants are presented and passed by the Parliament before the end of the financial year.
3. The Demand for Excess Grants must be presented to the Parliament before the end of the financial year in which the expenses were made.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Supplementary, additional or excess grants and votes on account, votes of credit and exceptional grants are mentioned in the Constitution of India.
- Supplementary grants are presented and passed by the Parliament before the end of the financial year.
- The Demand for Excess Grants is made after the actual expenditure is incurred and is presented to the Parliament after the end of the financial year in which the expenses were made.

Q76. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Monsoon Mission:

1. It was launched with an aim to develop state-of-the-art monsoon prediction systems for short, medium and long-range monsoon forecasts.
2. It is linked to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- It was launched in 2012 with an aim to develop state-of-the-art monsoon prediction systems for short, medium and long-range monsoon forecasts.
- It is linked to the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Q77. Consider the following statements:

1. Mining of both major and minor minerals come under the purview of the central governments.
2. River sand is considered a minor mineral.
3. Hydrocarbons, atomic minerals and metallic minerals are specified under the first schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- While the mining of major minerals come under the purview of the central governments, mining of minor minerals comes under the purview of state governments.
- River sand is considered a minor mineral.
- For minerals specified in the first schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, central government approval is necessary before granting the mineral concession.
- Minerals specified under the first schedule include hydrocarbons, atomic minerals and metallic minerals such as iron ore, bauxite copper ore, lead precious stones, zinc and gold.

Q78. Consider the following statements with respect to Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS):

1. It is led by the Union Health Ministry, in collaboration with UNICEF.
2. CNNS encompasses overall health indicators in addition to nutrition data.
3. The first CNNS was conducted between 2016-18.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The first-ever Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS) was commissioned by the government in 2016 and was conducted from 2016-18, led by the Union Health Ministry, in collaboration with UNICEF. The findings were published in 2019.
- CNNS includes only nutrition data, whereas the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) encompasses overall health indicators.

Q79. Consider the following statements with respect to Ventilation Index:

1. The ventilation index is the product of wind speed and mixing height.

2. It indicates how efficiently pollutants are dispersed in the atmosphere.
3. Risks to air quality and visibility occur when ventilation index values are low.
4. It is used as a tool for pollution management.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Ventilation index is a measure of the volume rate of horizontal transport of air within the mixing layer, per unit distance, normal to the wind. Units are measured in square meters per second or knot-feet.
- It is a metric that indicates how efficiently pollutants are dispersed in the atmosphere.
- The ventilation index is the product of wind speed and mixing height.
- Risks to air quality occur when ventilation index values are low and harmful pollutants are held close to the ground.
- Risks to visibility also occur when ventilation index values are low.
- It is a useful tool for air pollution management.

Q80. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Galathea National park?

1. It is located in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.
2. It is located on the island of Great Nicobar.
3. It is home to Nicobarese megapode and pigeon.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Galathea National Park is a National Park located in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. It is located on the island of Great Nicobar in the Nicobar Islands, which lie in the eastern Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal).

- The total area of this park is some 110 square kilometers, and it was gazetted as a National Park of India in 1992. Galathea forms part of what has been designated as the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve, which also includes the larger Campbell Bay National Park, separated from Galathea by a 12-km forest buffer zone.
- Many unique and rare species of plants and animals are found in the park, a number of which are endemic to the islands including the Nicobarese Megapode and the Nicobar Pigeon.

Q81. The Asola-Bhati wildlife sanctuary is located on the border of which of the following?

- a) Delhi and Haryana
- b) Haryana and Punjab
- c) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
- d) Bihar and West Bengal

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Asola-Bhati Wildlife Sanctuary on the Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli hill range on Delhi-Haryana border lies in Southern Delhi as well as northern parts of Faridabad and Gurugram districts of Haryana state.

Q82. Which of the following of NASA's mission is aiming to study the interior structure of planet mars?

- a) Insights mission
- b) MAVEN
- c) Phoenix
- d) Perseverance

Answer: a

Explanation:

- InSight (Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport) is a NASA Discovery Program mission that will place a single geophysical lander on Mars to study its deep interior.

Q83. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the 'Ease of Doing Business' reforms?

1. It is stipulated by the Department of Expenditure, Finance ministry.
2. States completing the reforms are eligible for additional borrowing of 0.25% of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

Options:



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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Finance ministry has recently stated that as many as 20 States having successfully completed ease of doing business reforms. Recently, five more States namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Meghalaya and Tripura have completed the 'Ease of Doing Business' reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure.
  - The ease of doing business is an important indicator of the investment friendly business climate in the country. Improvements in the ease of doing business will enable faster future growth of the state economy.
- States completing the reforms are eligible for additional borrowing of 0.25% of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) through Open Market Borrowings.

Q84. Consider the following statements:

1. United Nations Refugee Convention sets out the rights of individuals who are granted asylum and the responsibilities of nations that grant asylum.
2. The United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 includes refugees from Europe only.
3. India is not a signatory of both the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- United Nations Refugee Convention is a United Nations multilateral treaty that defines who is a refugee, and sets out the rights of individuals who are granted asylum and the responsibilities of nations that grant asylum.
- While the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 includes refugees from Europe only, the 1967 Protocol included refugees from all countries.
- India is not a signatory of both the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol.

Q85. LachitBorphukan is associated with which of the following?



- a) Battle of Itakhuli
- b) Battle of Saraighat
- c) Battle of Khongjom
- d) Gorkha War

Answer: b

Explanation:

- 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.

Q86. Muria tribe belongs to which state?

- a) Mizoram
- b) Assam
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) West Bengal

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Muria are scheduled tribes of the Bastar district of Chhattisgarh.

Q87. Consider the following statements with respect to Whitsun Reef:

1. It is a reef in the Spratly Islands of the South China Sea.
2. It is a V-shaped reef.
3. It is a part of the ongoing maritime dispute between China and the Philippines.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Whitsun Reef is a reef in the Spratly Islands of the South China Sea. It is a V-shaped reef.
- It is a part of the ongoing maritime dispute between China and the Philippines.

Q88. Consider the following statements with respect to Gandhi Peace Prize:

1. It is an annual award given to individuals only, regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed or sex.
2. The jury for Gandhi Peace Prize comprises of the Prime Minister of India, the chief justice of India and leader of the single largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha.
3. The Award is given for Social, Economic and Political transformation through Non-violence.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Gandhi Peace Prize is an annual award instituted by the Government of India since 1995, the 125th Birth Anniversary commemoration year of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The Award is given for Social, Economic and Political transformation through Non-violence.
- This annual award will be given to individuals, associations, institutions or organizations who have worked selflessly for peace, non-violence and amelioration of human sufferings particularly for the less-privileged sections of society contributing towards social justice and harmony.
- The award is open to all persons regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed or sex.

Q89. Consider the following statements with respect to Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991:

1. The Act freezes the status of places of worship as it was on January 01, 1991.
2. The Act does not apply to Ram JanmaBhumi-Babri Masjid situated in Ayodhya in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

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 law was passed in 1991 by the P V Narasimha Rao-led government, the law seeks to maintain the “religious character” of places of worship as it was in 1947.
- The Act freezes the status of places of worship as it was on August 15, 1947.
- Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to the place or place of worship commonly known as Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid situated in Ayodhya in the State of Uttar Pradesh and to any suit, appeal or other proceeding relating to the said place or place of worship.

Q90. Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is a permanent organ of which of the following groupings?

- a) Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- b) Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
- c) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- d) BRICS

Answer: b

Explanation:

The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), headquartered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, is a permanent organ of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) which serves to promote cooperation of member states against the three evils of terrorism, separatism and extremism.

Q91. Consider the following statements:

1. Display of National Flag is governed by the provisions of Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 and Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
2. The Flag Code of India serves as a single reference point about how to properly hoist flag of India with due honour.
3. Flag Code of India is an act of parliament.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The display of National Flag is governed by the provisions of two acts viz. Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 and Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- Further, the government issues non-statutory instructions from time to time.

- The Flag Code of India serves as a single reference point about how to properly hoist flag of India with due honour.
- The Flag Code of India itself is not an act of parliament. It is a set of laws, practices and conventions that apply to the display of the national flag of India.

Q92. Consider the following statements:

1. The anniversary of the day on which freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar were hanged is observed as Sarvodaya Day.
2. All three of them were members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.
3. Sukhdev Thapar was involved in the killing of John Saunders, an Assistant Superintendent of Police of Lahore.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The anniversary of the day on which freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar were hanged is observed as Sarvodaya Day, Martyrs' Day or Shaheedi Diwas.
- All three of them were members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association, an organisation involved in revolutionary activities.
- When national leader Lala Lajpat Rai died of a heart attack in November 1928 after he was brutally lathi-charged on the orders of the Superintendent of Police James A. Scott, Bhagat Singh and his associates vowed to avenge his death.
- Singh and Rajguru shot and killed an Assistant Superintendent of Police of Lahore, John Saunders in a case of mistaken identity.
- The trio was ordered to be hanged on 24 March 1931 but the sentence was carried out a day earlier at the Lahore Jail. After the hanging, their mortal remains were cremated in secret.
- March 23rd is observed as 'Martyrs' Day' or 'Shaheed Diwas' or 'Sarvodaya Day' in India in their honour.

Q93. SAANS and the SUMAN initiative have been launched under which of the following?

- a) National Health Mission (NHM)
- b) National Nutrition Mission (NNM)
- c) Ayushman Bharat Abhiyan
- d) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

Answer: a

Explanation:

The new initiatives under NHM that were introduced in 2019-20 are:

- SAANS initiative: Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) initiative was launched to accelerate action to reduce deaths due to childhood pneumonia.
- SUMAN initiative: Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN) initiative was launched to provide assured, dignified, respectful and quality healthcare at no cost and zero tolerance for denial of services; and all existing schemes for maternal and neonatal health have been brought under one umbrella.

Q94. Consider the following statements with respect to Project Mausam:

1. The project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean world.
2. It aims to rebuild maritime and economic connections with the 39 countries bordering the Indian Ocean.
3. The project is an initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Project Mausam is a cultural and economic project by the Indian Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts which aims to connect countries on the Indian Ocean.
- This project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world' – collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean.

Q95. Which of the following treatises on music are correctly matched with their authors?

Treatise	Author
Brihaddesi	: Matanga
Sangeeta Ratnakara	: Purandhara Dasa
Sangeet Sudhakara	: Haripala
Swaramelakalanidhi	: Bharata

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

1. In Haripala's "SangeetaSudhakara", written in the 14th century A.D., the terms Carnatic and Hindustani are found for the first time.

2. Treatise	Author
Brihaddesi	: Matanga
Sangeeta Ratnakara	: Sharangadeva
Sangeet Sudhakara	: Haripala
Swaramelakalanidhi	: Ramamatya

Q96. Consider the following statements:

1. It is a sub-mountain range between Pir Panjal and the Great Himalayan Range. It is situated in the central part of the Kashmir Valley.
2. At the foothills of the range is Asia's Largest Tulip garden.

**The mountain range that is being described is:**

- a) Zabarwan Range
- b) Zaskar Range
- c) Kunlun Range
- d) Nun Kun Range

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Zabarwan Mountain Range is a short 32 km long sub-mountain range between Pir Panjal Range and the Great Himalayan Range in the central part of the Kashmir Valley.
- At the foothills of the range is Asia's Largest Tulip garden.
- Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden in the lap of the Zabarwan Mountain Range is considered the largest tulip garden of Asia spread over 12 hectares of land.

Q97. Consider the following statements with respect to the Human Rights Council:

1. It comprises 47 Member States elected by the UN General Assembly through direct and secret ballot.
2. Latin American and Caribbean States have the largest share of seats in the council.

3. The members serve for a period of three years and are not eligible for immediate re-election after a term.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Human Rights Council is the principal United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for human rights.
- The Council is made of 47 Member States, which are elected by the majority of members of the General Assembly of the United Nations through direct and secret ballot.
- The Council's Membership is based on equitable geographical distribution. Seats are distributed as follows:
  - African States: 13 seats
  - Asia-Pacific States: 13 seats
  - Latin American and Caribbean States: 8 seats
  - Western European and other States: 7 seats
  - Eastern European States: 6 seats
- Members of the council serve for a period of three years and are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

Q98. Consider the following statements with respect to Champion Services Sector (CSS) Scheme:

1. It is a central sector scheme of the Department of Commerce.
2. It is an umbrella scheme for the period 2019-20 to 2023-24.
3. Under the scheme, 12 services sectors have been identified for promoting their development and realising their potential.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:



- The Union Cabinet, in 2018, approved the proposal of the Department of Commerce to give focused attention to 12 identified champion services sectors for promoting their development and realising their potential.
- The 12 sectors are IT & ITES, tourism and hospitality services, medical value travel, transport and logistics services, accounting and finance services, audio visual services, legal services, communication services, construction and related engineering services, environmental services, financial services and education services.
- It is an umbrella scheme for the period 2019-20 to 2023-24.
- It is a central sector scheme of the Dept. of Commerce.

Q99. Consider the following statements about the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID):

1. It is a global science initiative and primary source established in 2008 that provides open-access to genomic data of influenza viruses.
2. It also provides genomic data on the coronavirus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. It is a public platform started by the WHO for countries to share genome sequences.

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:

All the statements are correct.

- The GISAID platform was launched on the occasion of the Sixty-first World Health Assembly in May 2008.
- World Health Assembly is the forum through which the World Health Organization is governed by its 194 member states.
  - Since its launch GISAID plays an essential role in the sharing of data among the WHO Collaborating Centers and National Influenza Centers for the bi-annual influenza vaccine virus recommendations by the WHO Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS).
- GISAID is a global science initiative and primary source established in 2008 that provides open-access to genomic data of influenza viruses and the coronavirus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q100. Consider the following statements with respect to Development Finance Institution (DFI):

1. They source funds from the market, government, as well as multi-lateral institutions.
2. DFIs do not accept deposits from people.
3. DFIs are set up for providing long-term finance for the segments of the economy where the risks involved are beyond the acceptable limits of commercial banks and ordinary financial institutions.

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: c

Explanation:

- Development Finance Institutions are set up for providing long-term finance for such segments of the economy where the risks involved are beyond the acceptable limits of commercial banks and other ordinary financial institutions.
- Unlike banks, DFIs do not accept deposits from people.
- They source funds from the market, government, as well as multi-lateral institutions.

Q101. Consider the following statements with respect to National Creche Scheme:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to provide day care facilities to children of working mothers.
2. The facility is made available to children of the age group of 6 months to 6 years.
3. The scheme also provides supplementary nutrition, health care inputs like immunization, polio drops, basic health monitoring.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- National Creche Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to provide daycare facilities to children of working mothers.
- It is an intervention towards the protection and development of children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years.

- Provides supplementary nutrition, health care inputs like immunization, polio drops, basic health monitoring, sleeping facilities, early stimulation (for children below 3 years), pre-school education for children aged between 3-6 yrs.

Q102. Consider the following statements with respect to adjournment sine die:

1. The power of adjournment, as well as adjournment sine die, lies with the presiding officer of the House.
2. To adjourn an assembly sine die is to adjourn it for an indefinite period.
3. It indicates the final adjournment of an annual session or meeting of a legislative house.

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) 1 and 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period.
- The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House.
- It indicates the final adjournment of an annual session or meeting of a legislative house.

Q103. Arrange the following from North to South:

1. Spratly Islands
2. Paracel Islands
3. Scarborough Shoal
4. Riau Islands

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

North to South: Paracel Islands – Scarborough Shoal – Spratly Islands – Riau Islands

Q104. Arrange the following from West to East:

1. Cape Agulhas
2. Cape Hangklip
3. Cape of Good Hope
4. Cape Point

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

West to East: Cape of Good Hope, Cape Point, Cape Hangklip, Cape Agulhas.

Q105. The Tigray region, recently in news, is located in which country?

- a) Ethiopia
- b) Eritrea
- c) Sudan
- d) Somalia

Answer: a

Explanation:

The Tigray Region is the northernmost region of Ethiopia.

Q106. Consider the following statements with respect to the SVEEP Program:

1. It is the flagship program of the Election Commission of India.
2. The program has been launched to tackle the menace of paid news and fake news during elections.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation program, better known as SVEEP, is the flagship program of the Election Commission of India for voter education, spreading voter awareness and promoting voter literacy in India.
- SVEEP's primary goal is to build a truly participative democracy in India by encouraging all eligible citizens to vote and make an informed decision during the elections.

Q107. Consider the following statements with respect to Electoral Bonds:

1. While the buyer of the Electoral bonds must fulfil KYC norms, electoral bonds don't carry the name of the buyer.
2. Electoral bond can be received only by a registered political party that has secured at least 1 per cent vote in the last general election to an Assembly or Parliament.
3. They do not carry interest rate and cannot be traded in the secondary market.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

- While the buyer of the Electoral bonds must fulfil KYC norms, electoral bonds don't carry the name of the buyer.
- The bonds are issued by the SBI in denominations of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore.
- Political parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which have secured not less than 1% of the votes in the last general election to an Assembly or Parliament, are eligible to open current accounts for the redemption of electoral bonds.
- They do not carry interest rate and can't be traded in the secondary market.

Q108. The World Sustainable Development Summit is organised by which of the following?

- a) UNDP
- b) UNEP
- c) TERI
- d) UNFCC

Answer: c

Explanation:

The World Sustainable Development Summit is organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Q109. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the newly discovered *Hypnea indica* and *Hypnea bullata* species?

- 1. The genus *Hypnea* consists of calcareous, erect, branched red seaweeds.
- 2. They grow in the intertidal regions of the coast

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Two new species of seaweed named *Hypnea indica* and *Hypnea bullata* have been discovered by a group of marine biologists.
- While *Hypnea indica* was discovered Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu, and Somnath, Pathan and Sivrajpur in Gujarat, *Hypnea bullata* was discovered from Kanyakumari and Diu island of Daman and Diu.
- The seaweeds are part of the genus *Hypnea* or red seaweeds. The genus *Hypnea* consists of calcareous, erect, branched red seaweeds.
- They grow in the intertidal regions of the coast, namely the area that is submerged during the high tide and exposed during low tides.

Q110. The Bhagoriya festival is associated with which of the following states?

- a) Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh
- b) Odisha and West Bengal

- c) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
- d) Rajasthan and Gujarat

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Bhagoriya festival is celebrated by the tribal people of the Indian states Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra. The Bhangoriya Festival is celebrated by the local tribes includes Bhil, Bhilala, Pateliya etc.
- Bhagoriya Festival has an agricultural significance attached to it, it coincides with the end of harvesting of crops. People celebrate it to mark the completion of harvesting.

Q111. Enceladus is a natural satellite of which of the following planets?

- a) Jupiter
- b) Saturn
- c) Mars
- d) Uranus

Answer: b

Explanation:

Enceladus is one of Saturn's moon.

Q112. Consider the following statement with respect to Lord Louis Mountbatten:

1. He oversaw the appointment of two boundary commissions under Sir Cyril Radcliffe for the partition of Bengal and Punjab.
2. He served as the first Governor-General of India until June 1948.
3. He is associated with the August Offer.

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: a

Explanation:



- Lord Louis Mountbatten was appointed as the Viceroy of India in 1947 to oversee the Partition of British India into India and Pakistan.
- He oversaw the appointment of two boundary commissions under Sir Cyril Radcliffe for the partition of Bengal and Punjab.
- He served as the first Governor-General of India until June 1948.
- Lord Linlithgow is associated with the August Offer in 1940.
  - The August Offer was an offer made by Viceroy Linlithgow in 1940 promising the expansion of the Executive Council of the Viceroy of India to include more Indians, the establishment of an advisory war council, giving full weight to minority opinion, and the recognition of Indians' right to frame their own constitution

Q113. Consider the following statements with respect to Pong Dam Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is located in Sikkim.
2. It is a Ramsar Site of International Importance.
3. Pong Dam is constructed across the Beas river.

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: b

Explanation:

- The Pong Dam also called the Beas dam is an artificial embankment Dam constructed across the Beas river in Himachal Pradesh.
- It is a Ramsar Site of International Importance.

Q114. Consider the following statements:

1. H5N1 and H5N8 are categorized as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).
2. Humans are not immune from H5N1.
3. Avian influenza can infect birds only.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- H5N1 and H5N8 are categorized as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), which is of major concern to those keeping birds because it often results in disease and death of fowl and causes economic havoc.
- Humans are not immune from H5N1.
- Avian Influenza is a viral infection that can infect not only birds, but also humans and other animals.

Q115. Which of the following are a part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve:

1. Mudumalai National Park
2. Bandipur National Park
3. Silent Valley National Park
4. Nagarhole National Park

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is an International Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats and Nilgiri Hills ranges of South India.
- Mudumalai National Park, Bandipur National Park, Silent Valley National Park, Nagarhole National Park are all a part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

Q116. Who among the following were the members of the State Reorganization Commission of 1953?

1. Pandit Hridayanath Kunzru
2. Fazal Ali
3. K M Panikkar
4. Pattabhi Sitaramayya
5. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
6. S.K Dhar

Choose the correct option:

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

- c) 3, 4 and 5 only
- d) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) was constituted by the Central Government of India on 22 December 1953 to recommend the reorganisation of state boundaries.
- In 1955, after nearly two years of study, the Commission recommended that India's state boundaries should be reorganised to form 14 states and 6 territories.
- States Reorganisation Commission consisted of Fazal Ali, K. M. Panikkar and H. N. Kunzru.
- Some of its recommendations were implemented in the States Reorganisation Act of 1956.

Q117. Consider the following statements with respect to Vajra Prahar:

1. It is a bilateral exercise between the special forces of India and the US.
2. Vajra Prahar started off in 2010 and has been held every year ever since.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Vajra Prahar is a bilateral exercise between the special forces of India and the US.
- The joint military exercise Vajra Prahar between India and the US started off in 2010. Between 2012 and 2015, the exercise Vajra Prahar did not take place.
- Exercise Vajra Prahar takes place alternately between the two countries – India and the US.
- Its aim is to promote military relations between the two countries by enhancing interoperability and mutual exchange of tactics between Special Forces.

Q118. Consider the following statements with respect to the TAPI gas pipeline:

1. It starts at the Galkynysh gas field in Turkmenistan.
2. It passes through Herat, Kandahar, Quetta and Multan.
3. Asian Development Bank participated in the development of the gas pipeline.

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 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q119. Which of the following banks was established through the Fortaleza Declaration of 2014?

- a) Asian Development Bank
- b) New Development Bank
- c) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- d) African Development Bank

Answer: b

Explanation:

- NDB was set up by the BRICS nations in 2014 at the 6th BRICS Summit at Fortaleza, Brazil through the Fortaleza Declaration of 2014.
- In the Fortaleza Declaration, the leaders stressed that the NDB will strengthen cooperation among BRICS and will supplement the efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global development.
- It is a multilateral development bank headquartered in Shanghai, China.
- The bank is set up to foster greater financial and development cooperation among the five emerging markets.

Q120. Consider the following statements with respect to Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is located in Uttarakhand.
2. Project Tiger was launched in Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary.

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:

- Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Madhya Pradesh.
- Project Tiger was launched in Jim Corbett National Park of Uttarakhand in 1973.

