

UPSC Monthly Magazine Answer Key Feb 2021

Q1. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands have the highest number of National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries for any state/Union Territory in India.
2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands house the largest number of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) for any state/Union territory in India.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- While Andaman and Nicobar have the highest number of Wildlife Sanctuaries for any state/Union Territory in India, with respect to National Parks it stands second. Madhya Pradesh houses the largest number of National Parks.
- With respect to PVTGs, Andaman and Nicobar house 5 PVTGs, while Odisha is home to around 13 PVTGs.

Q2. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. The census exercise in India first began in 1872 under British Viceroy Lord Mayo.
2. The first complete census in India was undertaken in 1881 under the British Viceroy Ripon.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Census history in India:

- The census exercise first began in 1872 under British Viceroy Lord Mayo, however the first complete census was taken in 1881 under the British Viceroy Ripon.
- Since then the census is undertaken every 10 years.
- The decennial Census of India has been conducted 15 times, as of 2011.

- Post 1949, the census has been conducted by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- All the censuses since 1951 were conducted under the 1948 Census of India Act. The last census was held in 2011, whilst the next will be held in 2021. The 2021 Census of India will be the 16th Indian Census.

Q3. Periyar Tiger reserve is located in which of the following states?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Periyar National Park, also known as Periyar Tiger Reserve, is in the mountainous Western Ghats of Kerala, southern India.

Q4. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Biomethanation?

1. It involves microbiological conversion of bio-degradable material under aerobic condition.
2. The major products of Biomethanation are methane and carbon monoxide.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Biomethanation is a process by which organic material is microbiologically converted under anaerobic conditions to biogas.
- Microorganisms degrade organic matter via cascades of biochemical conversions to methane and carbon dioxide.

Q5. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport project?

1. It marks a collaboration between India and Myanmar.
2. It would connect to the state of Manipur in India.

Options:

- a) 1 only

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport project aims to connect the eastern Indian seaport of Kolkata with Sittwe seaport in Rakhine State, Myanmar by sea.
- In Myanmar, it will then link Sittwe seaport to Paletwa in Chin State via the Kaladan river boat route, and then from Paletwa by road to Mizoram state in Northeast India.

Q6. What are the possible benefits of vehicle scrappage policy?

1. Will boost the automobile sector
2. Promoting circular economy
3. Reduce the nation's dependency on critical raw materials for vehicle manufacturing
4. Reduce environmental pollution
5. Increase energy security
6. Increase employment opportunities

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Possible benefits of vehicle scrappage policy:

- The move will aid environment-friendly phasing out of polluting old vehicles and spur adoption of electric vehicles. This would play a critical role in reducing air pollution in the cities.
- With this new policy, India could emerge as a hub for automobile manufacturing as key raw material available from scrapping steel, aluminium and plastic were bound to be recycled, bringing down automobile prices by "20-30%."
- This would also help reduce Indian oil dependence and help improve the current account deficit of which oil imports form a major proportion.
- This would help reduce import of critical raw material from other countries helping improve India's trade balances with such countries.
- This policy would spur investments in the automobile sector, which would help economic revival in India and will also help generate additional employment opportunities.

Q7. Which of the following statement/s is are correct with respect to Agriculture Infrastructure Fund?

1. The scheme shall provide a medium – long term debt financing facility for investment in projects for post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets.
2. One Lakh Crore is the amount earmarked for the fund.
3. APMCs can also seek loans from the AIF.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Union Cabinet in July 2020 has approved a new pan India Central Sector Scheme called Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. The scheme shall provide a medium – long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support.
- The duration of the Scheme shall be from FY2020 to FY2029 (10 years).
- Under the scheme, Rs. One Lakh Crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Group (SHG), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups, Aggregation Infrastructure Providers and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public-Private Partnership Project.
- APMCs have been allowed to tap into the Rs.1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) as announced in the recent budget.

Q8. Which of the following are the criteria considered by the 15th Finance Commission in the devolution of funds to the states from the divisible pool of taxes?

1. Income Distance
2. Demographic performance
3. Population, 1971
4. Tax efforts
5. Area
6. Forest cover
7. Population density

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Criteria for devolution (2020-21)

Criteria	14 th FC 2015-20	15 th FC 2020-21
Income Distance	50.0	45.0
Populations 1971	17.5	-
Population 2011	10.0	15.0
Area	15.0	15.0
Forest Cover	7.5	-
Forest and Ecology	-	10.0
Demographic Performance	-	12.5
Tax Effort	-	2.5
Total	100	100

Q9. Rekhapida, Pidhadeul, Khakra are the features of which of the following temple Architectures?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) Odisha

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Three orders of architectural features of the temples of Odisha are:
 - Rekhapida (Rekha Deula): Tall straight building (looking like a shikhara) covering the garbhagriha.
 - Pidhadeul: It is the mandapa, a square building where worshippers are present and also where dancing takes place.
 - Khakra (Khakra Deula): Rectangular building with a truncated pyramid-shaped roof. Temples of Shakti are usually in this type.
- Location: Ancient Kalinga – that includes modern Puri District including Bhubaneswar (ancient Tribhuvaneshvara, Puri and Konark).
- Odisha temples are a distinct sub-style of the Nagara style called Kalinga Style.

Q10. Consider the following statements with respect to Ekamra Kshetra:

1. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site.
2. It is a series of ancient sandstone temples, heritage ponds and water tanks in Bhubaneshwar in Odisha.
3. It includes a 13th-century Sun Temple also known as the “Black Pagoda”.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Ekamra Kshetra is a series of ancient sandstone temples, heritage ponds and water tanks in Bhubaneshwar in Odisha.
- It is not a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It has been listed as a tentative site in the UNESCO World Heritage list.
- The 13th-century Sun Temple also known as the “Black Pagoda” which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site is located in Puri, Odisha.

Q11. Consider the following statements with respect ATMA Scheme:

1. “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms” is popularly known as ATMA Scheme.
2. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme.
3. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-friendly extension system in the country.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- ATMA stands for Agricultural Technology Management Agency.
- A Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms”, popularly known as ATMA Scheme, is under implementation since 2005.
- The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-friendly extension system in the country.
- Under the scheme, grants-in-aid are released to the State Governments with an objective to support State Government’s efforts to make available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas to farmers.
- Scheme objective: The scheme aims at making extension system farmer-driven and farmer accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination in the form of an Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at the district level to operationalize the extension reforms.

Q12. Consider the following statements:

1. Chauri Chaura incident led Gandhi to call off the Non-Cooperation Movement from Bardoli in February 1922.
2. Subhash Chandra Bose supported Gandhi's decision to stop the Non-Cooperation Movement after Chauri Chaura.
3. Motilal Nehru and Chittaranjan Das were against the calling off of the Non-Cooperation Movement.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Chauri Chaura incident led Gandhi to call off the Non-Cooperation Movement (NCM) from Bardoli in February 1922.
- Many Congress leaders like Motilal Nehru and Chittaranjan Das were against the calling off of the movement as they felt that success was being gained in the country.
- When Gandhi stopped the Non-Cooperation movement (NCM) after the Chauri-Chaura incident, Bose called it a "National Calamity". He was against Gandhiji's decision.

Q13. Consider the following statements with respect to Lithium:

1. It finds its use in ceramics, glass, telecommunication and aerospace industries.
2. It is a "Prescribed substance" under the Atomic Energy Act.
3. It is a high energy additive to rocket propellants.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q14. "Orobanche" recently seen in news is:

- a) A parasitic weed that causes severe yield loss in mustard.

- b) A recently discovered medicinal plant in the Western Ghats that has immune-modulating properties.
- c) A bacteria used in oil spill clean-ups.
- d) A carnivorous plant that is endemic to the Eastern Ghats.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Orobanche is a serious hidden parasitic weed in mustard causing severe yield loss to the extent of up to 50%.
- There are no absolute control measures developed for it.
- Also called broomrapes, they are aggressive root parasitic weeds which attack strategic food crops, such as legumes and vegetables, and threaten the livelihood of many nations.
- Heavy Orobanche infestation does not only lead to a complete crop failure, but make field soils Orobanche-sick over a long period of time, preventing the reasonable production of legumes and vegetables in the infested fields for many years to come.

Q15. Consider the following statements with respect to Gobardhan Scheme:

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
2. It is being implemented as part of the Swachch Bharat Mission (Gramin).
3. The scheme aims to support villages in effectively managing their cattle waste and help augment farmers' incomes.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Gobardhan Scheme (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources – DHAN) was launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- It is being implemented as part of the Swachch Bharat Mission (Gramin).
- The scheme is aimed at managing cattle and biodegradable waste and also help augment farmers' incomes.
- The GOBAR-DHAN scheme, with its focus on keeping villages clean, increasing the income of rural households, and generation of energy from cattle waste, is an important element of the ODF-plus strategy of the Swachch Bharat Mission.
- The scheme aims to support villages in effectively managing their cattle and biodegradable waste.

Q16. Which of the following countries share land boundary with Myanmar?

1. Laos

2. Thailand
3. India
4. China
5. Bangladesh
6. Cambodia

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Myanmar is bordered by Bangladesh and India to its northwest, China to its northeast, Laos and Thailand to its east and southeast.

Q17. Lord's Resistance Army's activities are spread across which of these African Nations?

1. Uganda
2. Central African Republic
3. Nigeria
4. Sudan
5. Congo

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The LRA was founded three decades ago by a former Catholic altar boy and self-styled prophet Kony. The group originated in Northern Uganda as a movement to fight for the rights of the Acholi people.
- Joseph Kony waged a bloody campaign in four African nations to set up a state based on the Bible's Ten Commandments.
- The Lord's Resistance Army is a rebel group led by leader Joseph Kony.
- LRA's activities are spread across Uganda, Congo, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic.

Q18. Consider the following statements with respect to Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF):

1. The fund was set up under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).
2. It was instituted with NABARD with an initial corpus of Rs. 5000 crore.
3. The fund is to be accessed by individual farmers only.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) was set up with NABARD under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for facilitating the States to mobilize additional resources for expanding coverage of Micro Irrigation.
- The fund is to be accessed by the State Government and not by individual farmers.
- The fund was set up under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).
- It was instituted with NABARD with an initial corpus of Rs. 5000 crore.

Q19. What is the primary objective of the KAPILA campaign launched by the government?

- a) Intellectual Property Literacy and patent awareness.
- b) Promoting STEM Careers for Women.
- c) Ensuring good prices to the jute farmers.
- d) Forming SHGs and developing the skills of people in rural areas to promote self-employment.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The government has launched a campaign namely Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness Campaign (KAPILA) for Intellectual Property Literacy and creating patent awareness.

Q20. Consider the following statements with respect to National Safety Council (NSC):

1. National Safety Council (NSC) was set up by the Ministry of Health in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. It is an apex not-for-profit tripartite body.
3. The chairperson of the NSC is nominated by the government.

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:

- National Safety Council (NSC) was set up by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India (GOI) in 1966 to generate, develop and sustain a voluntary movement on Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) at the national level.
- It is an apex not-for-profit tripartite body, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950.
- The chairperson of the NSC is nominated by the government and is generally an eminent industrialist.

Q21. Consider the following statements with respect to Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS):

1. It is an early-stage funding for start-ups.
2. The implementing body of the scheme is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

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:

- Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) is an early-stage funding for start-ups.
- The Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to start-ups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization.
- It will be implemented with effect from 1st April 2021.
- The implementing body of the scheme is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Q22. Consider the following statements with respect to 'e-CHARAK':

1. It is a mobile application as well as a web portal for the promotion and marketing of medicinal plants/herbs.
2. It is a mobile application for ensuring seamless export of khadi from India.
3. It was jointly developed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

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

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

d) 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- e-CHARAK is a mobile application as well as a web portal for the promotion and marketing of medicinal plants/herbs.
- It was jointly developed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).
- It is an e-channel for herbs, aromatics and raw materials and is a platform to enable information exchange between various stakeholders mainly farmers involved in the medicinal plants sector across the country.
- The e-CHARAK application supports different local languages and it also provides the fortnightly market price of 100 Medicinal Plants from 25 herbal markets across India.

Q23. Consider the following statements with respect to Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) Yojana:

1. The scheme was introduced to facilitate technology up-gradation in the handloom sector.
2. The scheme aims at providing 90% subsidy for the purchase of looms and accessories by the weavers.
3. The scheme is under the Ministry of Textiles.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q24. Which of the following factors affect the oceans salinity?

1. Evaporation
2. Wind
3. Ocean Currents
4. Precipitation

Options:

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

Answer: d

Q25. The terms Pima and Giza are associated with which of the following?

- a) Crude oil grades
- b) Cotton varieties
- c) Wheat varieties
- d) Sugarcane varieties

Answer: b

Explanation:

- There are three different species of cotton used to make the products we know and love. The most common type is Upland cotton, comprising nearly 90% of all cotton produced around the world. The remaining 10% is made up of two higher-quality cottons — Egyptian cotton and pima cotton.
- Egyptian and pima cotton are classified as “extra-long staple cottons”, a term that refers to the length of the individual cotton fibers. These longer, silkier fibers produce a luxuriously soft fabric that is also incredibly strong.
- Pima cotton is primarily grown in the United States, and Egyptian cotton thrives in the hot, dry climate of the Nile River Valley.

Q26. Which of the following is incorrectly matched?

- a) S-400 missile system: Russia
- b) Ka-226T: Russia
- c) Heron UAVs: Israel
- d) K9 Thunder artillery guns: France

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The K9 Thunder is a South Korean self-propelled 155 mm howitzer designed and developed by the Agency for Defense Development and Samsung Aerospace Industries for the Republic of Korea Armed Forces.

Q27. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Western Disturbances?

1. It is an extra-tropical storm.
2. They are more frequent and strong in winter season.

Options:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Western disturbance is an extra-tropical storm originating in the Mediterranean region that brings winter rain to the north-western parts of the Indian subcontinent.
- Extra tropical storms are a global phenomena with moisture usually carried in the upper atmosphere, unlike their tropical counterparts where the moisture is carried in the lower atmosphere.
- It is a non-monsoonal precipitation pattern driven by the westerlies. The moisture in these storms usually originates over the Mediterranean Sea, the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.
- In the case of the Indian subcontinent, moisture is sometimes shed as rain when the storm system encounters the Himalayas. Western disturbances are more frequent and strong in winter season.
- Western disturbances are important for the development of the Rabi crop, which includes the locally important staple wheat.

Q28. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to trans-fatty acids?

1. They help increase the shelf life of foods and oils by lowering their oxidation potential.
2. They increase levels of High-Density Lipoprotein (HDL) and decrease levels of Low-Density Lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol.

Options:

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


Answer: a

Explanation:

What are trans-fatty acids?

- Industrially produced trans-fatty acids (TFA) are found in **baked and fried foods**, pre-packaged snacks, cooking oils
- They cost less than animal fats such as butter and increase the shelf life of foods and oils by **lowering their oxidation potential**
- TFA is said to increase risk of **coronary heart disease**
- Globally, increased TFA intake is estimated to be responsible for more than **5,00,000 deaths** per year
- TFA increases levels of LDL (bad) cholesterol and decreases levels of HDL (good) cholesterol
- A survey of street food in Delhi and Haryana found that 25% of snacks had high levels of TFA

SOURCE: WHO



- There are two main types of cholesterol: high-density lipoprotein (HDL) and low-density lipoprotein (LDL). Lipoproteins are made of fat and proteins. Cholesterol moves through your body while inside lipoproteins.
- HDL is known as “good cholesterol” because it transports cholesterol to your liver to be expelled from your body. HDL helps rid your body of excess cholesterol so it’s less likely to end up in your arteries.
- LDL is called “bad cholesterol” because it takes cholesterol to your arteries, where it may collect in artery walls. Too much cholesterol in your arteries may lead to a build up of plaque known as atherosclerosis. This can increase the risk of blood clots in your arteries. If a blood clot breaks away and blocks an artery in your heart or brain, you may have a stroke or heart attack.

Q29. Consider the following statements:

1. Only the United States, India, the former Soviet Union, and the European Space Agency have successfully sent missions to orbit Mars.
2. Al-Amal is the first Arab space mission to Mars.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Both statements are correct.

- Only the United States, India, the former Soviet Union, and the European Space Agency have successfully sent missions to orbit Mars – the fourth planet from the sun.
- Al-Amal, which mean “Hope” is the first Arab space mission to Mars.
- It is an unmanned probe to Mars.

Q30. Consider the following statements about K2 Mountain:

1. It is the highest peak in the Karakoram.
2. It is the world’s second-highest mountain.
3. It is known as ‘five treasures of snow’.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- K2 Mountain is the highest peak in the Karakoram.
- It is the world's second-highest mountain after Mount Everest.
- Kangchenjunga is known as 'five treasures of snow'.

Q31. Which of the following does the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) deal with?

1. Strategic Disinvestment
2. Asset Monetisation
3. Capital Restructuring
4. Sale of Central Government equity through offer for sale or private placement

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) deals with all matters relating to the management of Central Government investments in equity including disinvestment of equity in Central Public Sector Undertakings.
- The four major areas of its work relate to Strategic Disinvestment, Minority Stake Sales, Asset Monetisation and Capital Restructuring.
- It also deals with all matters relating to sale of Central Government equity through offer for sale or private placement or any other mode in the erstwhile Central Public Sector Undertakings.
- DIPAM works as one of the Departments under the Ministry of Finance.

Q32. The National Crisis Management Committee is chaired by:

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Cabinet Secretary
- c) Home Minister
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The National Crisis Management Committee is a committee set up by the Government of India in the wake of a natural calamity for effective coordination and implementation of relief measures and operations.

- It deals with major crises which have serious or national ramifications.
- It is chaired by Cabinet Secretary.
- Its functions are to oversee the Command, Control and Coordination of the disaster response; giving direction to the Crisis Management Group (CMG).

Q33. Consider the following statements with respect to UN Human Rights Council:

1. Its members are elected by the members of the General Assembly.
2. The members are elected for staggered three-year terms.
3. No member may occupy a seat for more than two consecutive terms.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

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

Q34 Consider the following statements:

1. Article 341 of the Constitution of India defines who would be Scheduled Castes with respect to any State or Union Territory.
2. 103rd Constitutional Amendment granted 10% reservation to the EWS category in government jobs and educational institutions.
3. 103rd Constitutional Amendment aims to fulfil the commitments of the directive principles of state policy under Article 46.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Article 341 of the Constitution of India defines who would be Scheduled Castes with respect to any State or Union Territory.
- 103rd Constitutional Amendment granted 10% reservation to the EWS category in government jobs and educational institutions.
- The amendment aims to fulfil the commitments of the directive principles of state policy under Article 46, to promote the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the society.

Q35. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Water' subject falls under the concurrent list mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
2. The Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors and prepares monthly reports on the state of glacial lakes and waterbodies measuring 10 hectares and above via satellite.
3. The CWC is headed by a Chairman, with the status of Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- In the Constitution of India, water is a matter included in Entry 17 of List-II i.e. State List.
- Central Water Commission is a premier Technical Organisation in the country in the field of water resources.
- CWC is headed by a Chairman, with the status of Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India. The work of the Commission is divided among 3 wings namely, Designs and Research (D&R) Wing, River Management (RM) Wing and Water Planning and Projects (WP&P) Wing.
- The Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors and prepares monthly reports on the state of glacial lakes and waterbodies measuring 10 hectares and above via satellite.

Q36. Consider the following statements:

1. Dhauliganga originates from Chemayungdung Glacier.
2. Dhauliganaga flows through the Nanda Devi National Park and meets Alaknanda river at Vishnu Prayag.
3. Tapovan Vishnugad power plant is a run-of-river project being constructed on Dhauliganga River.

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

- a) 1 and 3 only

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Dhauliganga originates from Vasudhara Tal.
- The Dhauliganga flows in a meandering course, which takes it through the Nanda Devi National Park.
- It meets Alaknanda river at Vishnu Prayag at the base of Joshimath Mountains.
- Tapovan Vishnugad power plant is a run-of-river project being constructed on Dhauliganga River in Chamoli District of Uttarakhand.

Q37. Consider the following statements with respect to Lokpal:

1. The Lokpal has jurisdiction over the central government to inquire into allegations of corruption against its public functionaries and for matters connected to corruption.
2. Lokpal consists of a chairperson and a maximum of eight members.
3. Selection of chairperson and members of Lokpal is through a selection committee consisting of PM, Speaker of Lok Sabha, leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, Chief Justice of India or a sitting Supreme Court judge nominated by CJI.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Lokpal has jurisdiction over the central government to inquire into allegations of corruption against its public functionaries and for matters connected to corruption.
- Lokpal consists of a chairperson and a maximum of eight members, 50% of whom are judicial members, who are or have been Judges of the Supreme Court or Chief Justices of a High Court. The other half being non-judicial members are people of impeccable integrity and outstanding ability having special knowledge and expertise of not less than twenty-five years in matters relating to anti-corruption policy, public administration, vigilance, finance including insurance and banking, law and management.
- 50% of the members of Lokpal shall be SC/ST/OBCs, minorities and women.
- Selection of chairperson and members of Lokpal would be through a selection committee consisting of PM, Speaker of Lok Sabha, leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, Chief Justice of India or a sitting Supreme Court judge nominated by CJI.

Q38. Carotene is necessary for the production of which vitamin in human body?

- a) Vitamin D
- b) Vitamin A
- c) Vitamin C
- d) Vitamin B12

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Carotene is an orange or red plant pigment found in carrots and many other plant structures.
- Carotene is necessary for the production of vitamin A in the human body. Beta-carotene is a pigment needed to produce vitamin A.

Q39. Consider the following statements with respect to Avian Influenza:

1. It is a highly contagious bacterial infection affecting birds.
2. It can infect not only birds but also humans and other animals.
3. Wild birds act as a natural reservoir of Avian Influenza viruses.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Avian Influenza (AI) is a highly contagious viral disease.
- Avian influenza is a viral infection that can infect not only birds but also humans and other animals.
- According to FAO, wild birds act as a natural reservoir of AI viruses. Their migratory movement could enable transmission of pathogens to poultry, waterfowl and other domestic birds through contact.

Q40. Salma Dam and Shatoot Dam are built by India as a part of the development Cooperation with which country?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Nepal
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Myanmar

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Shatoot dam is the second major dam being built by India in Afghanistan, after the India – Afghanistan Friendship Dam Salma Dam, which was inaugurated in June 2016.

Q41. World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship event of:

- a) The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
- b) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- c) United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)
- d) UN Economic and Social Council

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
- Started in 2001, the Summit has become a focal point for leaders and stakeholders across the world to bridge thought and action for sustainable development.

Q42. Which was the first-ever aircraft carrier warship of India?

- a) INS Viraat
- b) INS Vikrant
- c) INS Vikramaditya
- d) INS Varun

Answer: b

Explanation

- The first-ever aircraft carrier warship of India was INS Vikrant.
- It was decommissioned in 1997.
- INS Vikrant aircraft carrier was bought from the UK, it was first named HMS Hercules and renamed after its sale to India.

Q43. Consider the following statements:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Tianwen-1 | China National Space Administration |
| 2. Mars Orbiter Mission | Indian Space Research Organisation |
| 3. Mars Express Mission | Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities |
| 4. Al-Amal | United Arab Emirates Space Agency |

Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Mars Express is a space exploration mission being conducted by the European Space Agency.

Q44. Consider the following statements with respect to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA):

1. Under UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.
2. Organisations as well as individuals can be designated as terrorists under the act.
3. It empowers the officers of the NIA, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases of terrorism.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q45. Consider the following statements with respect to Unani system of medicine:

1. The Unani system of medicine originated in Greece.
2. Unani was introduced in India by the Arabs and Persians.
3. It assumes the four main elements – Fire, Water, Air and Earth.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Unani system of medicine originated in Greece, however, its present form was saved by the Arabs.
- Unani medicine is also known as Unani Tibb, Arabian medicine, or Islamic medicine.
- It is a healing philosophy that takes from ancient Greek medicine. In Arab, Unani means 'Greek.'

- It assumes the four main elements – Fire, Water, Air and Earth which corresponds to four humours – Phlegm, Black bile, Blood, and Yellow bile respectively.
- Unani was introduced in India by the Arabs and Persians.
- World Unani day is celebrated on 11th February, the birth anniversary of great Unani scholar and social reformer Hakim Ajmal Khan (1868 – 1927). He was a Unani medical educationist and founder of scientific research in the Unani system of medicine.

Q46. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Coal Index (NCI):

1. It is a price index which reflects the change of price level of coal on a particular year relative to the fixed base year.
2. It was rolled out by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
3. The indices are separate for Non-Coking and Coking Coal.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The National Coal Index (NCI) is a price index which reflects the change of price level of coal on a particular month relative to the fixed base year.
- NCI was rolled out by the Ministry of Coal in June 2020.
- The coal ministry has rolled out the National Coal Index to be used for the purpose of auction of coal mines for commercial mining on a revenue share basis.
- NCI is composed of a set of five sub-indices: three for Non-Coking Coal and two for Coking Coal.
- The three sub-indices for Non-Coking Coal are combined to arrive at the Index for Non-Coking Coal and the two sub-indices for Coking Coal are combined to arrive at the Index for Coking Coal.
- Thus, indices are separate for Non-coking and Coking Coal.

Q47. Consider the following statements with respect to Swadhar Greh Scheme:

1. It is a social welfare flagship programme, created by the Central Government, to provide housing for the rural poor in India.
2. It aims at providing housing for all in rural areas by the year 2022.
3. The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.

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: d

Explanation:

- Swadhar Greh Scheme was launched for Women in Difficult Circumstances. It was launched by the Department of Women and Child Development in 2001- 02. The scheme aims to rehabilitate such women in difficult circumstances by providing shelter, food, clothing, counseling, training, and clinical and legal aid.
- Swadhar Greh Scheme envisages providing shelter, food, clothing and health as well as economic and social security for women in distress.
- Under this scheme, Swadhar Greh will be set up in every district with a capacity of 30 women.
- The scheme also envisages offering legal aid and guidance to these women for their readjustment in family/society.
- It also offers vocational training and economic rehabilitation so that they can start their life afresh with dignity.

Q48. Consider the following statements with respect to the Hindu Kush – Himalayan region:

1. The Hindu Kush – Himalayan region spans across 8 countries.
2. The region stores more snow and ice than anywhere else in the world outside the Polar Regions.
3. The region hosts four biodiversity hotspots.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Hindu Kush – Himalayan region spans across eight countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Myanmar and Pakistan.
- The region stores more snow and ice than anywhere else in the world outside the polar regions.
- The HKH region hosts four biodiversity hotspots – the Himalaya, the Indo-Burma, the mountains of southeast China and the mountains of Central Asia.

Q49. Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

1. Tholu Bommalata – Karnataka
2. Ravanachhaya – Tamil Nadu
3. Tolpavakoothu – Kerala
4. Chamadyache Bahulya – Maharashtra

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Different types of shadow puppet forms in India are:

- Tholu Bommalata – Andhra Pradesh
- Togalu Gombeyata – Karnataka
- Tolpavakoothu – Kerala
- Chamadyache Bahulya – Maharashtra
- Ravanachhaya – Odisha
- Thol Bommalattam – Tamil Nadu

Q50. Consider the following statements with respect to Saubhagya scheme:

1. Under the scheme, free electricity connections to all households to both APL and poor families in rural areas and poor families in urban areas are provided.
2. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been designated as the nodal agency for the scheme.

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:

- Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – 'Saubhagya' scheme aims to achieve universal household electrification in all parts of the country.
- Under the scheme, free electricity connections to all households to both APL and poor families in rural areas and poor families in urban areas are provided.
- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been designated as the nodal agency for the scheme.

Q51. Consider the following statements:

1. While the 'Basic Structure of the constitution' was not defined in the original Constitution, subsequent amendments defined the term in the Indian Constitution.
2. The Constitution of India defines its 'basic structure' in terms of federalism, secularism, fundamental rights and democracy.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Even though the Supreme Court gave the Basic Structure Doctrine, the term has not been defined in the Indian Constitution.
- Understanding of the basic structure comes from various judgements of the Supreme Court.
- Both the statements are wrong.

Q52. Consider the following statements with respect to Kalaripayattu:

1. Kalaripayattu is a traditional martial art form originating from Andhra Pradesh.
2. The word kalari appears in Sangam literature to describe a battlefield and combat arena.
3. The art form is restricted only to men.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Kalaripayattu is a traditional martial art form originating from Kerala.
- The word kalari first appears in Sangam literature to describe a battlefield and combat arena.
- Unlike other parts of India, warriors in Kerala belonged to all castes. Women in Keralite society also underwent training in Kalaripayattu, and still do so to this day.

Q53. Which of the following are the potential advantages offered by Nanophotonics?

1. Faster processing speeds
2. Higher degree of miniaturisation of Integrated circuits
3. Higher power efficiency

Options:

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

d) 2 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Nanophotonics or nano-optics is the study of the behaviour of light on the nanometer scale, and of the interaction of nanometer-scale objects with light.
- Small lasers have various desirable properties for optical communication including low threshold current (which helps power efficiency) and fast modulation (which means more data transmission). Small photodetectors tend to have a variety of desirable properties including low noise, high speed, and low voltage and power.
- Nanophotonics has immense potential in fields ranging from biochemistry to electrical engineering. Nanophotonics would make it possible to go beyond current electronics and build up circuits driven entirely by photons (light).
- With the right technology it would help achieve an unprecedented level of miniaturisation.

Q54. What are the benefits that could accrue due to the Human Genome Project?

1. Understand vulnerability to certain diseases
2. Diagnosis of diseases
3. Application in forensic applied sciences
4. Development of new drugs
5. Better understanding of human evolution

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The sequencing of the human genome holds benefits for many fields, from molecular medicine to human evolution.
- The Human Genome Project, through its sequencing of the DNA, can help us understand diseases including: genotyping of specific viruses to direct appropriate treatment; identification of mutations linked to different forms of cancer; the design of medication and more accurate prediction of their effects; advancement in forensic applied sciences; bioarcheology, anthropology and evolution.
- Another proposed benefit is the commercial development of genomics research related to DNA based products, a multibillion-dollar industry.

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

1. Malaria is caused by Plasmodium parasites.
2. Malaria parasites are spread to people mostly through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Malaria is caused by Plasmodium parasites. There are 5 parasite species that cause malaria in humans, and 2 of these species – *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* – pose the greatest threat.
- The parasites are spread to people through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes, called “malaria vectors.” In most cases, malaria is transmitted through the bites of female *Anopheles*. There are more than 400 different species of *Anopheles* mosquito; around 30 are malaria vectors of major importance. All of the important vector species bite between dusk and dawn.

Q56. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. Humboldt penguin is endemic to South America.
2. In South America the Humboldt penguin is found only along the Pacific coast.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Humboldt penguin is a South American penguin living mainly in the Humboldt National Reserve in the North of Chile, although its habitat comprises most of coastal Peru.
- In South America the Humboldt penguin is found only along the Pacific coast. Humboldt penguins are medium-sized penguins. They nest on islands and rocky coasts.
- The Humboldt penguin is a top predator endemic to the west coast of South America.
- The Humboldt penguin's breeding distribution ranges from southern Chile along the dry and arid coastal regions of the Atacama Desert to subtropical Isla Foca in north Peru. Its range is restricted to the coast and offshore islands affected by the Humboldt current, which provides a continuous supply of nutrients and food, thus supporting huge populations of seabird.

Q57. Consider the following statements:

1. The largest volcano in the solar system is on Mars.
2. Martian year is longer than the Earth year.
3. Phobos and Deimos are martian moons.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Mars' Olympus Mons is the largest volcano in the solar system. It's approximately 374 miles across, 16 miles tall, and has a 50-mile-wide crater at its summit.
- Martian year is longer than the Earth year. Mars revolves or orbits around the Sun once every 1.88 Earth years, or once every 686.93 Earth days.
- Phobos and Deimos are martian moons.

Q58. Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary is located in:

- a) Karnataka
- b) West Bengal
- c) Odisha
- d) Assam

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary located in Kalahandi district in Odisha.

Q59. Consider the following statements with respect to exercise Jidar-ul-Hadeed:

1. It is a multinational naval exercise with participation from the U.S., Russia, China and Turkey.
2. The exercise is hosted by Pakistan.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Only statement 1 is incorrect.
- The Pakistan Army is holding a month-long exercise in the Thar Desert, located in the Sindh province, to prepare for conflict in extreme desert environments. The exercise is code-named 'Jidar-ul-Hadeed'.
- Aman-2021 is the multinational naval exercise hosted by Pakistan. As many as 45 countries, including the U.S., Russia, China and Turkey, are participating in the exercise.

Q60. Consider the following statements with respect to the Arctic Council:

1. The Arctic Council was established by the Ottawa Declaration.
2. Its decisions, recommendations or guidelines are non-enforceable and strictly the prerogative of the individual state.
3. Its mandate includes military security.

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:

- The Arctic Council was established by the Ottawa Declaration.
- The decisions, recommendations or guidelines of the Arctic Council are non-enforceable and strictly the prerogative of the individual state.
- Its mandate explicitly excludes military security.

Q61. Consider the following statements with respect to Giant Leatherback turtle:

1. It is the largest of all living turtles.
2. Most of these turtles are found in the Arctic and the Antarctic.
3. They are also listed in Schedule II of India's Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Giant Leatherback turtle is the largest of all living turtles.
- They are listed in Schedule I of India's Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, according it the highest legal protection.
- The most long-ranging, Leatherbacks are found in all oceans except the Arctic and the Antarctic.
- It is the only living species in the genus Dermochelys and family Dermochelyidae.

Q62. Consider the following statements with respect to Bhashan Char Island:

1. Bhashan Char Island is located in the Bay of Bengal.
2. The Island was formed by Himalayan silt.
3. Myanmar has built a relocation camp for the Rohingyas at the Bhashan Char Islands.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Bhashan Char Island is located in the Bay of Bengal.
- The Island was formed by Himalayan silt.
- Bangladesh has built a relocation camp for the Rohingyas at the Bhashan Char Islands.

Q63. Galathea Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is located in:

- a) Gujarat
- b) Odisha
- c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- d) West Bengal

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Galathea Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Q64. Consider the following statements with respect to Pangong Tso:

1. It is the first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia identified as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
2. It is a brackish water, endorheic lake.
3. The Karakoram Mountain range ends at the north bank of Pangong Tso.

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: c

Explanation:

- The lake is not a Ramsar site yet.
- The lake is in the process of being identified under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance. This will be the first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia under the convention.
- The lake's water, while crystal clear, is brackish, making it undrinkable.
- It is an endorheic lake spanning eastern Ladakh and West Tibet.
- The Karakoram Mountain range, which crosses Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and India, with heights of over 6,000 metres including K2, the world's second-highest peak, ends at the north bank of Pangong Tso.

Q65. Consider the following statements with respect to Lieutenant Governor (LG):

1. The LG is appointed by the President of India for a term of five years.
2. The LG holds office at the pleasure of the President.

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

- a) 1 only

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Both the statements are correct.

Q66. Nainativu and Neduntheevu are located in:

- a) Palk Bay
- b) Persian Gulf
- c) Gulf of Cambay
- d) Gulf of Oman

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Nainativu, Delft or Neduntheevu, and Analaitivu are located in Palk Bay, some 50 km off Tamil Nadu.

Q67. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Leopard:

1. The Indian leopard is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
2. It is listed on a par with Tigers in Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972.
3. A melanistic leopard is called Black Panther or jaguar.
4. The rosettes of each leopard are unique in shape and size, making the species identifiable individually.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Indian leopard is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
- It is listed on a par with Tigers under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972.
- A melanistic leopard is called Black Panther or jaguar.
- The rosettes of each leopard are unique in shape and size, making the species identifiable individually.

Q68. Which of the following Commissions recommended that Governors must not be removed before completion of their five year tenure, except in rare and compelling circumstances?

- a) 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission
- b) Punchi Commission
- c) Sarkaria Commission
- d) Rajmannar Commission

Answer: c

Explanation

- The Sarkaria Commission had recommended that Governors must not be removed before completion of their five-year tenure, except in rare and compelling circumstances.
- It also suggested that the Governor should be an eminent person from outside the State and should be a detached figure without intense political links or should not have taken part in politics in the recent past

Q69. Consider the following statements:

1. Both money bills and financial bills can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only.
2. There is no provision for a joint sitting, in case of a deadlock over the provisions in a money bill.
3. A money bill is defined by Article 110 of the Constitution.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- While a money bill can be introduced in Lok Sabha only, financial bills under Article 117 (1) can be introduced in Lok Sabha only and financial bills under Article 117 (3) can be introduced in both the houses.
- There is no provision for a joint sitting, in case of a deadlock over the provisions in a money bill.
- A money bill is defined by Article 110 of the Constitution.

Q70. Consider the following statements:

1. The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) is a global partnership launched in 2020 in the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic to develop vaccines to stop future epidemics.
2. It was launched at the World Economic Forum.
3. India is one of the founders of CEPI.
4. It is headquartered in Oslo, Norway.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) is a global partnership launched in 2017 to develop vaccines to stop future epidemics.
- CEPI was conceived in 2015 and formally launched in 2017 at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland.
- Founders: India, Norway, Wellcome Trust, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, World Economic Forum.
- It is headquartered in Oslo, Norway.

Q71. Consider the following statements with respect to Trincomalee Harbour:

1. Trincomalee Harbour is in the northeastern coast of Sri Lanka.
2. It is a natural deep-sea harbour.
3. It was formerly a British naval base.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Trincomalee Harbour, formerly a British naval base, was taken over by the Ceylonese government in 1956 to be developed as a commercial port.
- It is in the northeastern coast of Sri Lanka.

Q72. Consider the following statements:

1. It is a very significant pronouncement of the Supreme Court on the question of reservation of posts for backward classes.
2. It set a 50% limit on quota for reservations.
3. The concept of a creamy layer was laid down and it was directed that such a creamy layer be excluded while identifying backward classes.

The judgment being talked about is of:

- a) Puttaswamy Case
- b) Maneka Gandhi Case
- c) Indra Sawhney Case
- d) Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala Case

Answer: c

Explanation:

- A nine-judge Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court had in the Indira Sawhney case capped the reservation at 50%.

- It is a very significant pronouncement of the Supreme Court on the question of reservation of posts for backward classes.
- The concept of a creamy layer was laid down and it was directed that such a creamy layer be excluded while identifying backward classes.

Q73. Consider the following statements:

1. Hyderabad has been bestowed with the 'Tree Cities of the World' title.
2. Haritha Haram is a large-scale tree-planting program implemented by the Government of Telangana to increase the amount of tree cover in the state.

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:

- Hyderabad has been bestowed with the 'Tree Cities of the World' title.
- The southern city is the only one from India to get recognition for its commitment to growing and maintaining the urban forest.
- Haritha Haram is a large-scale tree-planting program implemented by the Government of Telangana to increase the amount of tree cover in the state.

Q74. Consider the following statements with respect to Arunachal Pradesh:

1. It is the largest of the Seven Sister States of Northeast India by area.
2. It shares the longest border with Myanmar.
3. Indian Grey Hornbill is its state bird.

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: c

Explanation:

- Arunachal Pradesh is the largest of the Seven Sister States of Northeast India by area.
- Arunachal shares its longest border with China, followed by Myanmar and Bhutan.
- The Great Hornbill is the state bird of Arunachal Pradesh.

Q75. Consider the following statements:

1. The first delimitation exercise was conducted by the Indian President in 1950-51.
2. The Delimitation Commission is a high-level body appointed by the President.
3. The present delimitation of constituencies has been done on the basis of the 2001 census under the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.

Q76. Consider the following statements:

1. The QUAD is an informal strategic forum between the United States, Japan, Australia and India.
2. The idea of QUAD was first mooted by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2017.
3. Exercise Malabar originally began as an exercise between the QUAD members.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The QUAD is an informal strategic forum between the United States, Japan, Australia and India.
- The idea was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007.
- Exercise Malabar originally began in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between India and the United States, Japan became a permanent partner in 2015. With Australia's participation in the exercise in 2020, it was the first time in 13 years that all members of the regional grouping known as the Quad engaged militarily

Q77. "Aoleng" and "Lao Ong Mo" are the festivals of which of the following tribes?

- a) Konyak Nagas
- b) Khasi
- c) Bodo
- d) Kuki

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Aoleng is the biggest festival of the Konyak Nagas. It is the festival celebrated to welcome the spring (in April).
- Lao Ong Mo is the traditional harvest festival celebrated in the months of August/September.

Q78. Which of the following is/are the component/s of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT):

1. Water supply systems, water treatment plants and universal metering.

2. Sewerage connections.
3. Urban transport, constructing facilities for non-motorized transport.
4. Development of green space and parks.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

The purpose of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) is to:

- Ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection,
- Increase the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well maintained open spaces (e.g. parks) and
- Reduce pollution by switching to public transport or constructing facilities for non-motorized transport.
- Water supply systems, water treatment plants and universal metering; Sewerage connections; Urban transport, constructing facilities for non-motorized transport; Development of green space and parks are all among its program components.

Q79. Consider the following statements with respect to District Development Councils (DDC):

1. The Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 was amended to facilitate the setting up of District Development Councils (DDC).
2. DDCs will prepare and approve district plans and capital expenditure.
3. The term of the DDC is three years.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Centre amended the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, to facilitate the setting up of District Development Councils (DDC).
- DDCs are tasked with the preparation and approval of district plans and capital expenditure.
- This system effectively replaces the District Planning and Development Boards in all districts.
- The term of the DDC is five years.

Q80. Consider the following statements with respect to Perseverance rover:

1. It is a rover designed as part of NASA's Mars 2020 mission.

2. It is fuelled by electrical power by using the heat of plutonium's radioactive decay.
3. It carries a technology test to produce oxygen (O₂) from atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂).

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Perseverance is an SUV-sized Mars rover designed to explore the Jezero crater on Mars as part of NASA's Mars 2020 mission.
- It is fuelled by electrical power by using the heat of plutonium's radioactive decay.
- It carries the Mars Oxygen ISRU Experiment (MOXIE): Technology test to produce oxygen (O₂) from atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- It will, for the first time, manufacture molecular oxygen on Mars using carbon dioxide from the carbon-dioxide-rich atmosphere.

Q81. Which of the following is wrongly matched?

- a) Jhum: India
- b) Roca: Brazil
- c) Ladang: Myanmar
- d) Milpa: Mexico

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Shifting Cultivation is known as Ladang in Indonesia, Caingin in Philippines, Milpa in central America & Mexico, Ray in Vietnam, Taungya In Myanmar, Tamrai in Thailand, Chena in Sri Lanka, Conuco in Venezuela, Roca in Brazil, Masole in central Africa.
- In India, it is known by various local names. Most common among these is 'Jhum' cultivation.

Q82. The News Media and Digital Platforms Mandatory Bargaining Code Bill 2020 is associated with which of the following country?

- a) Australia
- b) Canada
- c) France
- d) U.S.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Under Australia's News Media and Digital Platforms Mandatory Bargaining Code Bill 2020, tech and social media giants such as Facebook and Google will have to pay local news outlets for using their content.
- The Australian law would force Facebook and Alphabet Inc's Google to reach commercial deals with Australian publishers or face compulsory arbitration.

Q83. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Einsteinium?

1. It was discovered as a component of the debris of the first hydrogen bomb explosion in 1952.
2. It is exceptionally radioactive.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Einsteinium is an element with the symbol Es and atomic number 99.
- Einsteinium is a member of the actinide series. Einsteinium was discovered as a component of the debris of the first hydrogen bomb explosion in 1952.
- It is exceptionally radioactive.
- Recently, chemists have studied and characterised its properties in the lab.

Q84. In which of the following multilateral organizations are both India and Maldives both members?

1. SAARC
2. Commonwealth of Nations
3. Indian Ocean Regional Association

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Maldives is a part of the Indian Ocean Regional Association and also the SAARC.
- The Maldives also rejoined the Commonwealth in February 2020, three years after it quit the organisation

Q85. Consider the following statements with respect to Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR):

1. It is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen, including a virus.
2. It helps to measure the amount of a specific RNA in a sample.
3. It combines reverse transcription of RNA into DNA and amplification of specific DNA targets using polymerase chain reaction.

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

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- RT-PCR (reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction) is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen, including a virus.
- RT-PCR is a laboratory technique combining reverse transcription of RNA into DNA and amplification of specific DNA targets using polymerase chain reaction.
- It is primarily used to measure the amount of a specific RNA.

Q86. Consider the following with respect to Sant Ravidasji:

1. He was a poet-saint of the Bhakti movement in northern India.
2. Some of the devotional verses composed by him are included in the Guru Granth Sahib.
3. He was the founder of the Ravidassia sect.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Guru Ravidas/Sant Ravidasji was a North Indian mystic poet of the bhakti movement.
- The saint chose to focus on spiritual pursuits and also penned several devotional songs which made a huge impact on the Bhakti movement during the 14th to 16th century CE.
- Some of the devotional verses composed by him are included in the Guru Granth Sahib.
- He was the founder of the Ravidassia sect.
- Guru Ravidas spoke against the caste divisions and spoke of removing them to promote unity. His teachings resonated with the people, leading to a religion being born called the Ravidassia religion.

Q87. Consider the following statements with respect to International Atomic Energy Agency:

1. It is a specialised agency of the United Nations.
2. The organisation's first name when it was formally established was 'Atoms for peace'.
3. India is a founding member of the IAEA.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- 'Atoms for Peace' was the organisation's first name when it was formally established in 1957.
- It is an autonomous organisation within the United Nations system and not a specialised agency of the UN.
- India became a member in 1957 itself. It is a founding member.

Q88. Consider the following statements with respect to International Mother Language Day:

1. It is part of the initiative to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world.
2. The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of India.
3. First announced by UNESCO in 1999, it was formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in 2002.

Which of the given statement/s is are correct?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- International Mother Language Day is observed on 21 February every year.
- It is part of the initiative to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world.
- The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh.
- It was announced by UNESCO in 1999 and was formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in 2002.
- The theme for IMLD 2021 is "Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society".

Q89. Consider the following statements with respect to Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF):

1. It has been set up with an outlay of Rs. 15,000 crore.
2. Individual entrepreneurs are not eligible for loans from the fund.
3. Beneficiaries will have to contribute 10 per cent margin towards the proposed infra project and the rest 90 per cent would be a loan component by scheduled banks.

Which of the given statement/s is are correct?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) has been set up with an outlay of Rs. 15,000 crore as a part of the 20 lakh crore stimulus package under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

- The AHIDF would promote infrastructure investments in dairy, meat processing and animal feed plants.
- Farmer producer organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 companies, private companies and individual entrepreneurs would be eligible to benefit from the fund.
- Beneficiaries will have to contribute a 10 per cent margin towards the proposed infra project and the rest 90 per cent would be a loan component by scheduled banks.

Q90. Consider the following statements with respect to Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA):

1. It provides for an institutional mechanism to encourage and improve trade between two countries.
2. India has signed the CECPA with Mauritius.
3. It is India's first such free trade agreement with an African country.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) provides for an institutional mechanism to encourage and improve trade between two countries.
- India recently signed the CECPA with Mauritius.
- It is India's first such free trade agreement with an African country.

Q91. Consider the following statements:

1. A motion of "No Confidence" against the Government can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
2. No prior reason needs to be stated for its adoption in the Lok Sabha.
3. The Constitution of India does not mention the No Confidence Motion.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- A "No Confidence Motion" against the Government can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha under rule 198.
- No prior reason needs to be stated for its adoption in the Lok Sabha.
- While Article 75 specifies that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha, the Constitution of India does not mention either a Confidence or a No Confidence Motion.

Q92. Consider the following statements:

1. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established by a Group of Seven (G-7) countries
2. Countries in FATF Grey List are "High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action".
3. The first FATF blacklist was issued in 2000.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established in July 1989 by a Group of Seven (G-7) countries in a Summit held in Paris.
- FATF issues a grey list, officially referred to as Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring. The countries in FATF Black List are "High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action".
- The first FATF blacklist was issued in 2000 with an initial list of 15 countries

Q93. Consider the following statements:

1. The UN has declared the period between 2022 and 2032 as the decade of indigenous languages.
2. Ahom, Andro, Rangkas, Sengmai, Tolcha are among the extinct languages of India.
3. In India, there are 22 scheduled languages.

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:

- 197 languages in India are either vulnerable, endangered or extinct.
- Among the extinct languages are Ahom, Andro, Rangkas, Sengmai, Tolcha — all spoken in the Himalayan belt.
- 8th Schedule of the Constitution consists of 22 languages & these 22 languages are called Scheduled languages.
- The UN has declared the 10 year period between 2022 and 2032 as the decade of indigenous languages.

Q94. Consider the following statements with respect to Black-necked crane:

1. It has a key role in Buddhist culture.
2. It is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red-List.
3. It is listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Black-necked Crane is central to Buddhist mythology and culture. Locals in Assam call this bird “Deu Korchon”, signifying its key role in Buddhist culture.
- In 2020, a re-assessment of the crane’s population led its status to change from Vulnerable to Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List.
- It is listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.

Q95. Consider the following statements:

1. Mission Indradhanush aims to immunize all children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women.
2. Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0 is a campaign to reach the children and pregnant women who were left out of the Routine Immunisation Programme during the pandemic.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Both the statements are correct.

Q96. Blue Mormon is the state butterfly of:

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Blue Mormon is the state butterfly of Maharashtra.
- By declaring Blue Mormon as its state butterfly, in 2015, Maharashtra became the first state in India to have a ‘State butterfly’

Q97. Consider the following statements with respect to Assamese Gamosa:

1. Uka and phulam are its two types.
2. It is also known as Bihuwaan.
3. They are made of cotton or Pat silk.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Gamosa is a symbol of Assamese culture, an important marker of cultural identity for the Assamese.
- This small piece of cloth has high esteem and wide usage in Assamese culture.
- It is also known as 'Bihuwaan', as it is an essential part of the Bihu festival of Assam.
- It is generally a white rectangular piece of cloth with primarily a red border on three sides and red woven motifs on the fourth.
- Although cotton yarn is the most common material for making/weaving gamosas, there are special occasion ones made from Pat silk.
- Assam has traditionally had two types of gamosas – the uka and the phulam.
- The uka or plain kind is used to wipe sweat or dry the body after a bath.
- The phulam is decorated with floral motifs to be gifted as a memento or during festivals such as Bihu.

Q98. Senkaku Islands or Diaoyu Islands are located in:

- a) South China Sea
- b) East China Sea
- c) Pacific Ocean
- d) Indian Ocean

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Senkaku Islands dispute, or Diaoyu Islands dispute, concerns a territorial dispute over a group of uninhabited islands known as the Senkaku Islands in Japan, the Diaoyu Islands in the People's Republic of China (PRC), and Tiaoyutai Islands in the Republic of China (ROC or Taiwan).
- They are a group of uninhabited islands in the East China Sea.
- It concerns a territorial dispute between Japan and China.

Q99. Consider the following statements with respect to President's Rule in a state:

1. President's Rule is valid initially for a period of six months. Later, it can be extended for a period of five years with parliamentary approval annually.
2. When President's rule is imposed, the governor carries on with the administration of the state on behalf of the President.
3. Revocation of the President's rule in a state does not require approval by the Parliament.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- President's Rule is initially valid for a period of six months. Later, it can be extended for a period of three years with parliamentary approval, every six months.
- When President's rule is imposed, the governor carries on with the administration of the state on behalf of the President.
- President's Rule can be revoked anytime after such a proclamation has been made by a subsequent proclamation by the President. A proclamation of revocation does not require approval by the Parliament.

Q100. Consider the following statements with respect to the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme:

1. It aims to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.
2. It offers incentives to boost domestic manufacturing and cut down on import bills.
3. The scheme has been extended to the pharmaceuticals sector and IT hardware.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- In March 2020, the central government introduced a scheme that aims to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.
- The scheme was introduced to boost domestic manufacturing and cut down on import bills.
- Apart from inviting foreign companies to set shop in India, the scheme also aims to encourage local companies to set up or expand existing manufacturing units.
- The objective is to make India more compliant with WTO (World Trade Organisation) commitments and also make it non-discriminatory and neutral with respect to domestic sales and exports.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for the pharmaceuticals and IT hardware sectors, among others.

Q101. Consider the following statements with respect to Krishnadevaraya of the Vijayanagara Empire:

1. He belonged to the Tuluva dynasty.
2. He is the author of Amuktamalyada and Jambavati Kalyan.
3. He founded Vijayanagar City on the southern banks of River Tungabhadra.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Krishnadeva Raya of the Tuluva dynasty was the most famous king of the Vijayanagar Empire.
- Krishnadevaraya published several works – Amuktamalyada, Madalsa Charitra, Jambavati Kalyan, etc. He is said to have been a master of several languages.
- Harihara and Bukka founded Vijayanagar City in 1336 CE on the southern banks of the Tungabhadra.
- They made Hampi the capital city.
- They served under Vira Ballala III, the Hoysala King.

Q102. Consider the following statements with respect to Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

1. It is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.
2. FATF works to stop funding for weapons of mass destruction.
3. The FATF Secretariat is located at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Headquarters in Paris.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established in July 1989 by a Group of Seven (G-7) Summit in Paris, initially to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.
- In October 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing, in addition to money laundering.
- In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Q103. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS):

1. It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
2. It has an in-house Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre to provide round-the-clock monitoring and warning services for the coastal population on tsunamis.
3. It is tasked with providing Potential Fishing Zone Advisories.

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:

- All the statements are correct.

Q104. Consider the following statements with respect to Liquefied Petroleum Gas:

1. It contains propane and butane.
2. It is used as an aerosol propellant and a refrigerant.
3. It is a colourless odourless flammable mixture of hydrocarbon gases.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG or LP gas) is a flammable mixture of hydrocarbon gases used as fuel in heating appliances, cooking equipment, and vehicles.
- It is completely odourless and is made from refining petroleum or natural gas.
- Varieties of LPG bought and sold include mixes that are mostly propane (C_3H_8), mostly butane (C_4H_{10}), and, most commonly, mixes including both propane and butane.

Q105. Consider the following statements:

1. Brazil is the world's largest coffee producer, immediately followed by India.
2. India exports both Robusta and Arabica varieties of coffee.
3. India is the only country in the world where the entire coffee cultivation is grown under shade, hand-picked and sun-dried.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- While Brazil is the world's largest coffee producer, India is the sixth-largest producer of coffee in the world, accounting for about 5% of world coffee production.
- India exports both Robusta and Arabica varieties of coffee.
- India is the only country in the world where the entire coffee cultivation is grown under shade, hand-picked and sun-dried.

Q106. Which of the following pollutant/s is/are NOT included in the measurement of Air Quality Index (AQI)?

1. Ammonia
2. Carbon Monoxide
3. Carbon Dioxide

4. Ozone
5. Sulphur Dioxide

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Air Quality Index (AQI) has six categories of air quality. They are: Good, Satisfactory, Moderately Polluted, Poor, Very Poor and Severe.
- The measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants.
- Following pollutants are included in the measurement of Air Quality Index (AQI): Particulate Matter (PM10), Particulate Matter (PM2.5), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Ozone (O₃), Ammonia (NH₃), and Lead (Pb).

Q107. Consider the following statements:

1. Sri Lankan Tamils are a minority population in the Northern Province and in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka.
2. Sri Lanka has been facing diplomatic challenges with the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in connection with its civil war.

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:

- Sri Lankan Tamils constitute an overwhelming majority of the population in the Northern Province and are the largest ethnic group in the Eastern Province.
- They are members of the Tamil ethnic group native to Sri Lanka.
- They constitute a majority in the Northern Province, live in significant numbers in the Eastern Province and are in the minority throughout the rest of the country. 70% of Sri Lankan Tamils in Sri Lanka live in the Northern and Eastern provinces.
- Sri Lanka has been facing diplomatic challenges with the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in connection with its civil war.

Q108. Consider the following statements:

1. Index of Eight Core Industries is prepared and released by the Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
2. Index of Eight Core Industries is released quarterly.
3. Crude oil has the highest weight among the core industries included in arriving at the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Index of Eight Core Industries is prepared and released by the Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Index of Eight Core Industries is released every month. The index is calculated by using the Laspeyres formula of weighted arithmetic mean of quantity relatives.
- The core sectors of the Indian economy are coal, crude oil, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, natural gas, electricity and cement.
- Refinery products category has the highest weight in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

Q109. Consider the following statements:

1. Channapatna toys are made of ivory wood and are coloured with vegetable dyes.
2. Channapatna toys have been given the Geographical Indication Tag under the World Trade Organization.
3. Channapatna is known as the Toy-City of Andhra Pradesh.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Channapattana is a city and taluk headquarter in Ramanagara District in Karnataka.
- It is noted for its famous handmade lacquer wooden toys all over the world and hence popularly known as "Gombegala Ooru" or the "Toy-City" of Karnataka
- Channapatna toys are made of ivory wood and are coloured with vegetable dyes.
- Channapatna toys have been given the Geographical Indication Tag under the World Trade Organization.

Q110. Under which of the following categories is the Snow Leopard listed in the IUCN Red List?

- a) Near Threatened
- b) Vulnerable
- c) Endangered
- d) Critically Endangered

Answer: b

Explanation:

- According to the latest assessment, Snow Leopard is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List.

Q111. Consider the following statements:

1. National Bamboo Mission is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It is a sub-scheme under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).
3. The bamboo grown outside forest areas has been excluded from the definition of tree.

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:

- National Bamboo Mission is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- It is a sub-scheme under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).
- The bamboo grown outside forest areas has been excluded from the definition of tree by amending Section 2 (7) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 in 2017. This would help in exempting it from trees that need permits for felling or transportation.

Q112. Consider the following statements:

1. Earth is in the Sun's Goldilocks zone.
2. Goldilocks Zone refers to a habitable zone around a star, where it is not too hot and not too cold for liquid water to exist on the surface of surrounding planets.

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.

