

BYJU'S UPSC Current Affairs Magazine April 2021 – Answer Key

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Personal law subjects like marriage, divorce, inheritance come under the Concurrent List.
2. The term, 'Uniform Civil Code' is not mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
3. Goa is the only Indian state to have a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the form of common family law.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Personal law subjects like marriage, divorce, inheritance come under the Concurrent List.
- The term, 'Uniform Civil Code' is explicitly mentioned in Part 4, Article 44 of the Indian Constitution. Article 44 says, "The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India."

Q2. Which of the following countries border Niger?

1. Nigeria
2. Chad
3. Ghana
4. Mali

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Niger, officially the Republic of Niger, is a landlocked country in Western Africa, named after the Niger River. It borders Nigeria and Benin to the south, Burkina Faso and Mali to the west, Algeria and Libya to the north and Chad to the east.

Q3. Consider the following statements with respect to Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status:

1. It requires a country to provide any concessions, privileges, or immunities granted to one nation in a trade agreement to all other World Trade Organization member countries.
2. MFN provides exclusive trading privileges.
3. India revoked the MFN status given to Pakistan in 2019.

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 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The title of the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) is a status or level of treatment given by one country to another with respect to international trade. This ensures that the country conferring the title must give all sorts of trade benefits to the most-favoured nation.
- Most Favoured Nation (MFN) is a non-discriminatory trade policy as it ensures equal trading among all WTO member nations rather than exclusive trading privileges.
- It requires a country to provide any concessions, privileges, or immunities granted to one nation in a trade agreement to all other World Trade Organization member countries.
- India revoked the MFN status given to Pakistan in 2019.

Q4. Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process was established to:

- a) Broker the Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire between Armenia and Azerbaijan.
- b) Address the shared challenges and interests of Afghanistan and its neighbours and regional partners.
- c) Put an end to the Kurdish-Turkish conflict.
- d) Broker a peace deal between the Houthis and Saudi Arabia.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process (HoA-IP) was founded in 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- It provides a platform for sincere and results-oriented regional cooperation by placing Afghanistan at its centre.
- It was established to address the shared challenges and interests of Afghanistan and its neighbours and regional partners.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. A recognised political party can have 40 star campaigners.
2. A registered unrecognised political party cannot have any star campaigners.
3. The Election Commission of India has defined “star campaigner” in the Model Code of Conduct.

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

- a) 1 only

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Star campaigners are the people nominated by parties to campaign in a given set of constituencies. They are usually prominent and popular faces within the party.
- A recognised (mainstream) party can field a maximum number of 40 star campaigners while unrecognised political parties can field up to 20 campaigners.
- A Star Campaigner, by standard definition, is a candidate chosen by a political party to contest in a given constituency.
- He/she is chosen usually on the basis of popularity but there is no specific definition under Indian law and the Election Commission (EC).

Q6. Consider the following statements with respect to Dadasaheb Phalke Award:

1. It is India's highest film honour conferred for outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema.
2. It is a part of the National Film Awards.
3. It is presented annually by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q7. Consider the following statements with respect to BIMSTEC:

1. It was formed through the Bangkok Declaration.
2. Nepal and Pakistan are not members of BIMSTEC.
3. The platform helps India fulfil its 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East' policies.

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: a

Explanation:

- BIMSTEC was formed in 1997, originally with Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand, and later included Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan.
- BIMSTEC now includes five countries from South Asia and two from ASEAN.
- It includes all the major countries of South Asia, except Maldives, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- For India, it is a natural platform to fulfil its key foreign policy priorities of 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East'.

Q8. Consider the following statements:

1. Vishuva Milan is celebrated annually to mark the formation of the state of Odisha.
2. Odisha was the first Indian state formed on a linguistic basis post-independence.
3. Madhusudan Das and Gopabandhu Das are credited for having played a crucial role in the unification of different Odia-speaking tracts.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- On April 1, 1936, Orissa (now Odisha) became a separate state to be formed on a linguistic basis, and the date since then is commemorated as Utkal Divas.
- This Day is also known as Vishuva Milan.
- The leaders of the movement demanding a separate state for all the Odia-speaking regions were Madhusudan Das, Gopabandhu Das, Maharaja Sri Ram Chandra Bhanj Deo and others.
- Andhra Pradesh was the first Indian state to be created on a linguistic basis post-independence.

Q9. Consider the following statements with respect to PM KUSUM Scheme:

1. The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
2. Under the scheme, the farmers have the option to sell additional power to the grid through solar power projects set up on their barren lands.
3. The first farm based solar power plant under the scheme was set up in Haryana.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evum Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM KUSUM) Scheme is a farmer-oriented scheme involving decentralised solar power production.
- Under the scheme, the farmers have the option to sell additional power to the grid through solar power projects set up on their barren lands.
- The scheme was launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- The first farm based solar power plant under the scheme has been set up in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Q10. Consider the following statements with respect to Rabha Tribe:

1. Hamja is a folk dance performed by the Rabha tribes.
2. Baikho Dera is the main festival of the Rabhas.
3. Rabha people are found in India, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

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:

- Rabha is an indigenous Tibeto-Burman community.
- They are found in Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal in India, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- Hamja is a folk dance performed by the tribes.
- The Hamja Dance is about paddy cultivation.
- Baikho Dera is the main festival of Rabhas.

Q11. Consider the following statements:

1. The United Nations has declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
2. India, Nigeria and China are the largest producers of millets in the world.
3. Millets are photo-insensitive and resilient to climate change.

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:

- India, Nigeria and China are the largest producers of millets in the world, accounting for more than 55% of the global production.
- In the 160th session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Council held in Rome in 2018, India's proposal to observe an International Year of Millets in 2023 was approved.
- The United Nations has declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- Millets are photo-insensitive & resilient to climate change.
- They are hardy, resilient crops that have a low carbon and water footprint, can withstand high temperatures and grow on poor soils with little or no external inputs.

Q12. Consider the following statements with respect to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC):

1. MCC comes into force from the date of election until the date that the results are out.
2. They are a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India.
3. MCC does not have a statutory backing.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Model code of Conduct is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India for conduct of political parties and candidates during elections mainly with respect to speeches, polling day, polling booths, election manifestos, processions and general conduct.
- The MCC comes into force from the date the election schedule is announced until the date that results are out.
- It does not have statutory backing. This means, if someone breaches the MCC, a case cannot be filed under any clause of the code itself.

Q13. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to Bose–Einstein condensate?

1. It is observed at very low temperatures very close to absolute zero (-273.15°C)
2. It is characterized by relatively higher density.
3. It is also sometimes referred to as the fifth state of matter.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Bose–Einstein condensate (BEC)—the macroscopic ground-state accumulation of particles with integer spin (bosons) at low temperature and high density—has been observed in several physical systems, including cold atomic gases and solid-state quasi particles.
- In condensed matter physics, a Bose–Einstein condensate (BEC) is a state of matter (also called the fifth state of matter) which is typically formed when a gas of bosons at low densities is cooled to temperatures very close to absolute zero (-273.15°C).
- A Bose-Einstein condensate is a group of atoms cooled to within a hair of absolute zero. When they reach that temperature the atoms are hardly moving relative to each other; they have almost no free energy to do so. At that point, the atoms begin to clump together, and enter the same energy states.

Q14. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to Diphtheria?

1. It is caused by strains of bacteria called *Corynebacterium diphtheria*.
2. It can lead to death if not treated with diphtheria antitoxin and proper antibiotics.
3. It is a vaccine preventable disease.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Diphtheria is a serious infection caused by strains of bacteria called *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* that make toxin (poison). It can lead to difficulty breathing, heart failure, paralysis, and even death.
- The diphtheria toxin causes inflammation of heart muscle (myocarditis) and this can lead to death if not treated with diphtheria antitoxin and proper antibiotics.
- Diphtheria is a vaccine preventable disease – the toxoid vaccine elicits an immune response against the toxin which is encoded by a tox gene of the pathogen.
- The increasing diversity of the bacterium species, emergence of variant toxin genes and progression of antimicrobial resistance may lead to an increase in the incidence of diphtheria.

Q15. Which of the following pairs is wrongly matched?

- a) Mojave desert: Africa
- b) Patagonian desert: South America
- c) Great Sandy: Australia
- d) Taklamakan desert: Asia

Answer: a

Explanation:

Mojave desert is in North America

Q16. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to the International Criminal Court?

1. It is based in Hague, Netherlands
2. It has the jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes
3. The Rome Statute serves as the court's foundational and governing document.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the above statements are correct.

Q17. Consider the following statements with respect to Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN):

1. The scheme provides financial assistance to poor patients living below poverty line and suffering from life-threatening diseases relating to heart, kidney, liver, etc. for their treatment at government hospitals.
2. Financial assistance to such patients is provided only through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism and no other means.
3. It is a central sector scheme.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The scheme provides financial assistance to poor patients living below poverty line and suffering from life-threatening diseases relating to heart, kidney, liver, etc. for their treatment at government hospitals.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- The financial assistance to such patients is released in the form of a 'one-time grant', which is released to the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital in which the treatment has been/is being received.

Q18. The Global Gender Gap Report is published by:

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide
- c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- d) International Monetary Fund

Answer: a

Explanation:

Global Gender Gap Report is published by the World Economic Forum.

Q19. Consider the following statements with respect to Stand-Up India Scheme:

- 1. People belonging to the scheduled caste or scheduled tribe or women are eligible to avail loans under the scheme.
- 2. Under the scheme, an amount ranging from Rs 10 lakhs to Rs.1 crore is provided as a loan, inclusive of working capital for setting up a new enterprise.
- 3. Loans under the scheme are available for only green-field projects.

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:

- Stand up India scheme was launched in April 2016, encouraging people from the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes and women across the country to become entrepreneurs by loaning them a sum of money to start a business.
- Under the scheme, an amount ranging from Rs 10 lakhs to Rs.1 crore is provided as a loan, inclusive of working capital for setting up a new enterprise.
- Loans under the scheme are available for only green-field projects. Greenfield signifies, in this context, the first time venture of the beneficiary in the manufacturing or services or trading sector.
- People belonging to the scheduled caste or scheduled tribe or women are eligible to avail loans under the scheme.

Q20. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT):

- 1. It is a statutory authority functioning under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963.
- 2. All its members except for the chairman are selected from the Indian Revenue Service (IRS).
- 3. It is administered by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance.

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

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is the authority vested with the responsibility of the administration of laws related to direct taxes through the Department of Income Tax.
- It is a statutory authority functioning under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963.
- All its members including the chairman are selected from the Indian Revenue Service (IRS).
- It is administered by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance.

Q21. Which of the following ideal/s in the Preamble to the Indian Constitution has/have been borrowed from the Russian Constitution?

1. Justice
2. Liberty
3. Equality
4. Fraternity

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- “Liberty, Equality and Fraternity” as an ideal has been borrowed from the French Revolution to the Indian Constitution.
- The ideal “justice” in the Preamble to the Indian Constitution has been borrowed from the Russian Constitution.

Q22. Consider the following statements with respect to Bogibeel Bridge:

1. The Bogibeel project was a part of the 1985 Assam Accord.
2. It is a combined road and rail bridge built over River Barak in Assam.
3. It is India’s second longest railroad bridge.

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: b

Explanation:

- The Bogibeel project was a part of the 1985 Assam Accord and was sanctioned in 1997-98.
- It is a combined road and rail bridge built over River Brahmaputra in Assam.
- It is India's longest railroad bridge.

Q23. Consider the following statements with respect to the Central Bureau of Investigation:

1. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) draws its legality from the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946.
2. CBI functions under the Department of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances.
3. CBI was established based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The CBI draws its legality from the 1946-Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (DSPE).
- It functions under the Department of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances.
- The precursor to the CBI was the Special Police Establishment, which was India's first agency to investigate corruption. It was set in 1946 by the British.
- In 1963, the Home Ministry expanded its power and changed its name to the Central Bureau of Investigation. But, it is still governed by the 1946 Act.
- At present, the CBI director is appointed by the Centre on the basis of the recommendation of a search committee comprising the Prime Minister as the chairperson, the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of Opposition.
- CBI was established based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

Q24. Consider the following statements with respect to Ordinances:

1. An ordinance is a law that is promulgated by the President of India only when the parliament is not in session.
2. An ordinance can be retrospective in nature.
3. Ordinance ceases to exist if parliament takes no action within six weeks from its reassembly.

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.

Q25. Consider the following statements with respect to none of the above (NOTA):

1. NOTA option is meant only for universal adult suffrage and direct elections.
2. The Election Commission has no power to call a fresh election even if NOTA secures highest votes.
3. NOTA option was first used in 2013 assembly elections held in Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

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 Supreme Court, in 2018, held that the NOTA option is meant only for universal adult suffrage and direct elections and not for polls held by the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote as done in the Rajya Sabha.
- The Election Commission has no power to call a fresh election even if NOTA secures highest votes.
- NOTA option was first used in 2013 assembly elections held in Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Q26. Consider the following statements with respect to Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (COBRA):

1. COBRA is a special operation unit of the National Security Guard.
2. It is proficient in guerrilla tactics and jungle warfare.
3. It was originally established to counter the Naxalite problem.

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) 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- COBRA is a special operation unit of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of India proficient in guerrilla tactics and jungle warfare.
- It's one of the few Indian Special Forces, that's exclusively trained in guerrilla warfare.
- Originally it was established to counter the Naxalite problem.
- COBRA is deployed to address insurgent groups engaging in asymmetrical warfare.

Q27. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Vigilance Commission:

1. It was established based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
2. It submits its report to the Home Ministry.
3. The members of CVC are appointed by the President of India on the recommendations of a committee consisting of Prime Minister, Union Home Minister and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- It was established based on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
- It submits its report to the President.
- The members of CVC are appointed by the President of India on the recommendations of a committee consisting of Prime Minister, Union Home Minister and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha.

Q28. Consider the following Reports and Organisations:

1. World Economic Outlook – World Economic Forum
2. Global Gender Gap Report – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
3. World Cities Report – United Nations Population Fund
4. Global Corruption Report – Transparency International

Which of the given pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- World Economic Outlook – International Monetary Fund

- Global Gender Gap Report – World Economic Forum
- World Cities Report – UN Habitat
- Global Corruption Report – Transparency International

Q29. Consider the following statements:

1. National Legal Services Authority, alongside other Legal Services Institutions, conducts Lok Adalats.
2. Lok Adalats have statutory status.
3. The decision made by the Lok Adalats is ultimate and binding on all parties.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- National Legal Services Authority, alongside other Legal Services Institutions, conducts Lok Adalats.
- Under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 Lok Adalats have been given statutory status.
- The decision made by the Lok Adalats is considered to be a verdict of a civil court and is ultimate and binding on all parties.
- The award issued by a Lok Adalat, after the filing of a joint compromise petition, has the status of a civil court decree.

Q30. GI Tagged Bhavani Jamakkalam is a GI Tagged product of which state?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Located in the heart of western Tamil Nadu, Bhavani is famous for the art of making handloom Jamakkalam.
- Bhavani Jamakkalam refers to blankets and carpets manufactured in Bhavani in Erode district, Tamil Nadu.
- It has been recognized as a Geographical Indication by the Government of India in 2005-06.

Q31. Consider the following statements with respect to IMPRINT India Initiative:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
2. It is designed to address all major engineering challenges relevant to India through an inclusive and sustainable mode of translational research.

3. The programme is a joint initiative of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- IMPacting Research, INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT) initiative is a national initiative of the Ministry of Education designed to address all major engineering challenges relevant to India through an inclusive and sustainable mode of translational research.
- IMPRINT India Programme is a joint initiative of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).
- It seeks to develop a road map for research to solve major engineering and technology challenges in 10 technology domains relevant for country.
- These domains include health care, information and communication technology, energy, sustainable habitat, nano-technology hardware, water resources and river systems, advanced materials, manufacturing, security and defence, and environment and climate.

Q32. Fast patrol vessel PS Zoroaster was gifted by India to which country?

- a) Seychelles
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Maldives
- d) Mauritius

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Fast Patrol Vessel named PS Zoroaster is the fourth ship to be gifted by India to Seychelles.
- The other vessels gifted by India include PS Topaz (2005), PS Constant (2014), and Patrol Boat Hermes (2016).

Q33. Consider the following statements with respect to African swine fever:

- 1. It is a respiratory disease that infects domestic and wild pigs.
- 2. It is caused by Type A influenza virus.
- 3. It does not affect humans and spreads from animals to other animals only.

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: d

Explanation:

- African Swine Fever (ASF) is different from swine flu. The virus does not affect people and there is no impact on human health.
- It is a respiratory disease of pigs, which is caused by Type A influenza virus.
- ASF is a severe viral disease that affects wild and domestic pigs typically resulting in an acute haemorrhagic fever.
- ASF is caused by a large DNA virus of the Asfarviridae family.

Q34. Consider the following statements:

1. G-Secs are tax-free debt instruments issued by the government to borrow money.
2. Treasury bills are short term instruments issued by the central government only.
3. Dated securities are long-term instruments having maturity between 5 years and 40 years.

Which of the given statement is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- G-Secs are debt instruments issued by the government to borrow money.
- Like bank fixed deposits, g-secs are not tax-free.
- Treasury bills are short term instruments issued by the central government only.
- Dated securities are long-term instruments having maturity between 5 years and 40 years.

Q35. Consider the following statements with respect to Project RE-HAB:

1. Project RE-HAB is a sub-mission under National Honey Mission.
2. Project RE-HAB was launched to prevent elephant-human conflict.
3. It was launched by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) had launched a unique project of creating “bee-fences” to mitigate human-elephant conflicts.
- RE-HAB is an acronym for Reducing Elephant – Human conflict using Bees.
- Project RE-HAB is a sub-mission under KVIC’s National Honey Mission.
- While the Honey Mission is a programme to increase the bee population, honey production and beekeepers’ income by setting up apiaries, Project RE-HAB uses bee boxes as a fence to prevent the attack of elephants.

Q36. Which of the following best describes SARTHAQ initiative?

- a) It is an implementation plan for school education developed by the Department of School Education.
- b) It is a set of guidelines issued by the Education Ministry to promote industry-specific need-based research in the educational institutions to keep up the competitiveness of the Indian industry in the global market.
- c) It is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development for generating awareness and also improving the efficiency of welfare services for the girl child.
- d) It is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development to provide skills and right competencies to women so that they can take up gainful employment.

Answer: a

Explanation:

SARTHAQ, developed by the Department of School Education and Literacy, is an indicative and suggestive implementation plan for school education. It will help in the implementation of the National Education Policy in the country.

Q37. Consider the following statements:

1. Neutrinos are fundamental particles belonging to the lepton family.
2. Neutrinos have a higher mass than neutrons.

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:

- In particle physics, a lepton is an elementary particle of half-integer spin that does not undergo strong interactions.
- Two main classes of leptons exist: charged leptons (also known as the electron-like leptons or muons), and neutral leptons (better known as neutrinos).
- Neutrons have a higher mass than neutrinos.

Q38. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion as the Fundamental Right of an individual.
2. The right to freedom of religion is, in general, subject to public order, morality, health and the other provisions of the Constitution.
3. Despite the right to religious freedom, the State can pass laws providing for social welfare and reform.
4. The state can regulate or restrict any secular activity associated with religious practice.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Fundamental right under Article 25 of the Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion, subject to public order, morality and health.
- It further provides that this article shall not affect any existing law and shall not prevent the state from making any law relating to:
 - Regulation or restriction of any economic, financial, political, or any secular activity associated with religious practice.
 - Providing social welfare and reform.
 - Opening of Hindu religious institutions of public character for all the classes and sections of the Hindus. (The term 'Hindus' includes individuals who profess Sikh, Jain or Buddhist religion).

Q39. Consider the following statements with respect to United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS):

1. It defines a distance of 12 nautical miles from the baseline as Territorial Sea limit and a distance of 200 nautical miles as Exclusive Economic Zone limit.
2. An Exclusive Economic Zone is an area of the sea over which a sovereign state has full sovereignty over the waters.
3. Both India and the U.S are signatories to UNCLOS.

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

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) defines the distance of 12 nautical miles from the baseline as Territorial Sea limit and a distance of 200 nautical miles as Exclusive Economic Zone limit.
- EEZ is an area of the sea in which a sovereign state has special rights regarding the exploration and use of marine resources, including energy production from water and wind.
- “Territorial Sea” confers full sovereignty over the waters, whereas “Exclusive Economic Zone” is merely a sovereign right that refers to the state’s rights below the surface of the sea.
- While India ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in 1995, the U.S. has failed to do it so far.

Q40. Consider the following statements with respect to Nano Sniffer:

1. It is the world’s first microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD).
2. It is a 100% Made in India product in terms of research, development & manufacturing.

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:

- Nano Sniffer is the world’s first microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD) developed by NanoSniff Technologies, an IIT Bombay incubated startup.
- Nano Sniffer is a 100% ‘Made in India’ product in terms of research, development & manufacturing. The core technology of NanoSniffer is protected by patents in the U.S. & Europe.
- NanoSniff has passed tests conducted by DRDO’s High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune; and by the National Security Guard (NSG) as well.

Q41. The Umngot river is associated with which of the following Indian states?

- a) Nagaland
- b) Mizoram
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Sikkim

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Umngot, considered India’s clearest river is associated with the state of Meghalaya.

Q42. Which of the following is wrongly matched?

- a) Marib region: South Sudan

- b) Nagorno-Karabakh region: Azerbaijan
- c) Aleppo: Syria
- d) Kirkuk: Iraq

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Marib is in Yemen. Fighting for the key Yemeni region of Marib has intensified between the pro-government and Houthi rebel fighters. The Houthis have been trying to seize oil-rich Marib, the government's last significant pocket of territory in the north.
- Nagorno-Karabakh region is recognised as part of Azerbaijan, but it is controlled by ethnic Armenians.

Q43. The 'muon g-2' experiment is being carried out in which of the following countries?

- a) China
- b) U.S.
- c) Japan
- d) France

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Fermilab, housing the American particle accelerator, has released the first results from its 'muon g-2' experiment.
- These results spotlight the anomalous behaviour of the elementary particle called the muon.
 - The muon is considered as a heavier cousin of the electron.
- Muon g-2 is a particle physics experiment at Fermilab to measure the anomalous magnetic dipole moment of a muon to a precision of 0.14 ppm, which will be a sensitive test of the Standard Model. It might also provide evidence of the existence of entirely new particles.

Q44. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to brucellosis?

1. It is a zoonotic infection.
2. The disease is caused by a group of bacteria.
3. People are infected by eating raw or unpasteurized dairy products.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Brucellosis is a disease caused by a group of bacteria from the genus *Brucella*. These bacteria can infect both humans and animals.

- Brucellosis is a zoonotic infection. It is a bacterial infection that spreads from animals to people. It affects thousands of people worldwide.
- Most commonly, people are infected by eating raw or unpasteurized dairy products. Sometimes, the bacteria that cause brucellosis can spread through the air or through direct contact with infected animals.

Q45. Consider the following statements about the GATI initiative:

1. It aims to establish a Gender Equality framework in STEM.
2. It incorporates a system of grading institutes depending on the enrolment of women and the advancement of the careers of women faculty and scientists.

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:

- Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI) is a system of grading institutes depending on the enrolment of women and the advancement of the careers of women faculty and scientists.
- The Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI) will develop a comprehensive Charter and a framework for assessing Gender Equality in STEM.
- It is intended to create a level-playing field for meritorious girls in high schools to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in their higher education.

Q46. B. N. Srikrishna Committee was set up to:

- a) Review the ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian Private Sector Banks.
- b) Study and identify key data protection issues and recommend methods for addressing them.
- c) Develop a governance framework for Non-Personal Data.
- d) Look into revenue shortfall being faced by the states after the GST roll-out, and suggest steps for augmenting collections.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- In August 2017, B. N. Srikrishna Committee was constituted to study and identify key data protection issues and recommend methods to address them.
- Kris Gopalakrishnan Committee was formed by the Ministry of Information Technology in September 2019 to develop a governance framework for Non-Personal Data.
- P K Mohanty Committee was constituted by RBI to review the ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian Private Sector Banks.
- Sushil Modi Committee was constituted to look into revenue shortfall being faced by the states after the GST roll-out, and suggest steps for augmenting collections.

Q47. Which of the following statements best describes the 'Shaphari' scheme?

- a) A certification scheme for aquaculture products.
- b) A Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters.
- c) A Scheme for Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises.
- d) A Scheme for ensuring sustainable capture of fishery to harness marine and inland water resources.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Shapari Scheme is a certification scheme for aquaculture products. 'Shaphari' is a Sanskrit word that means superior quality of fishery products suitable for human consumption.

Q48. Which of the following cities are associated with the nuclear weapons programme of Iran?

- 1. Natanz
- 2. Arak
- 3. Fordow

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Natanz, Fordow and Arak house Iran's major nuclear facilities.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) as well as the other Election Commissioners are appointed by the President.
- 2. The Chief Election Commissioner and the two other election commissioners have equal powers and receive equal salary, allowances and other perquisites.
- 3. In case of difference of opinion amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and/or two other election commissioners, CEC's decision prevails.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Chief Election Commissioner as well as the other Election Commissioners are appointed by the President.
- The Chief Election Commissioner and the two other election commissioners have equal powers and receive equal salary, allowances and other perquisites.
- In case of difference of opinion amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and/or two other election commissioners, the matter is decided by the Commission by a majority.
- The chief election commissioner is provided with security of tenure. He cannot be removed from his office except in the same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court. In other words, he can be removed by the President on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with a special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
- Thus, he does not hold his office until the pleasure of the president, though he is appointed by him.

Q50. Consider the following statements:

1. The Central government has the power to authorise anyone to use any patents or patent applications for the “purposes of government”.
2. The Central government can issue a compulsory licence in circumstances of national emergency or extreme urgency or in case of public non-commercial use.

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:

- Under Section 100 of the Patents Act, 1970, the Central government has the power to authorise anyone to use any patents or patent applications for the “purposes of government”.
- Section 92 of the Patents Act allows the Central government to issue a compulsory licence (a licence issued to manufacture the patented product without the consent of the patent holder) in circumstances of national emergency or extreme urgency or in case of public non-commercial use.

Q51. Consider the following statements with respect to Additional Tier-1 (AT-1) bonds:

1. AT-1 bonds are unsecured, perpetual bonds that banks issue to shore up their core capital base to meet the Basel norms.
2. They carry call options that allow banks to redeem them after five or 10 years.

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:

- AT-1 bonds are unsecured, perpetual bonds that banks issue to shore up their core capital base to meet the Basel norms.
- They carry call options that allow banks to redeem them after five or 10 years.
- But banks are not obliged to use this call option and can opt to pay only interest on these bonds for eternity.

Q52. Consider the following statements:

1. Rabi crops are sown in summer and are harvested in winter.
2. Wheat, mustard and barley are Rabi crops.

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:

- Rabi crops are sown in the winter season and harvested in spring.
- Wheat, mustard, gram, rapeseed and barley are Rabi crops.

Q53. Consider the following statements with respect to Raisina Dialogue:

1. It is an inter-government security forum.
2. It is hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs and Observer Research Foundation (ORF).
3. It is designed to explore prospects and opportunities for Asian integration as well as Asia's integration with the larger world.

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

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Raisina Dialogue is an annual geo-political event.
- It is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and Observer Research Foundation (ORF).
- It is designed to explore prospects and opportunities for Asian integration as well as Asia's integration with the larger world.
- Every year, leaders in politics, business, media, and civil society converge in New Delhi to discuss the state of the world and explore opportunities for cooperation on a wide range of contemporary matters.
- The Dialogue is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion.

Q54. Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Rhino Vision 2020 aimed at attaining a population of 3,000 wild greater one-horned rhinos in seven of Assam's protected areas by the year 2020.
2. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary has the highest density of greater one-horned rhinos.
3. Kaziranga National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a tiger reserve hosting greater one-horned rhinos.

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:

- Indian Rhino Vision 2020 aimed at attaining a population of 3,000 wild greater one-horned rhinos in seven of Assam's protected areas by the year 2020.
- Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary has the highest density of greater one-horned rhinos.
- Kaziranga National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a tiger reserve hosting greater one-horned rhino.
 - It is also recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International for the conservation of avifaunal species.

Q55. Consider the following statements with respect to JallianwalaBagh Massacre:

1. The Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab at the time of the JallianwalaBagh Massacre was General Reginald Dyer.
2. Lord Chelmsford was India's Viceroy at the time of the incident.
3. The gatherers wanted to peacefully protest the arrest and deportation of two national leaders, Satyapal and Saifuddin Kitchlew.

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: a

Explanation:

- The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place on the 13th of April 1919.
- The Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab at that time was Michael O'Dwyer. Lord Chelmsford was India's Viceroy.
- The Rowlatt Act was passed by the British government to increase their grip on power over the common folk. This law was passed in March 1919 by the Imperial Legislative Council which gave them the power to arrest any person without any trial. To abolish this act, Gandhi and the other leaders called for a Hartal (suspension of work) to show Indians' objection to this rule.
- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre or the Amritsar Massacre took place when many villagers gathered in the park for the celebration of Baisakhi. The gatherers wanted to also peacefully protest the arrest and deportation of two national leaders, Satyapal and Saifuddin Kitchlew.

Q56. Which of the following magazines were started by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar?

1. Mooknayak
2. Equality Janta
3. Bahishkrit Bharat
4. Udbodhana
5. Hindoo Patriot

Choose the correct options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar started magazines like Mooknayak, Equality Janta and Bahishkrit Bharat.

Q57. Koundiya wildlife sanctuary is located in:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary and an elephant reserve situated in Andhra Pradesh.
- It is the only sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh with a population of Asian elephants, which migrated after 200 years from neighbouring regions.

Q58. Consider the following statements with respect to Uranium:

1. Natural uranium consists of nearly 99% U-238 and only around 0.7% of U-235.
2. U-235 is a fissile material that can sustain a chain reaction in a nuclear reactor.
3. Nuclear reactors require Highly Enriched Uranium with enrichment of up to 90% or more.

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

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Natural uranium consists of nearly 99% U-238 and only around 0.7% of U-235.
- U-235 is a fissile material that can sustain a chain reaction in a nuclear reactor.
- Enrichment of up to 3-4% is required for nuclear reactors, which is known as Low Enriched Uranium.
- Enrichment of up to 90% or more is required for nuclear weapons. This is known as Highly Enriched Uranium or weapons-grade uranium.

Q59. Consider the following statements with respect to public debt:

1. It is the total liabilities of the central government contracted against the Consolidated Fund of India.
2. It excludes liabilities contracted against Public Account.
3. Government securities (G-Secs) and treasury bills are sources of public debt.

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:

- The Union government classifies its liabilities into two broad categories.
- The debt contracted against the Consolidated Fund of India is defined as public debt and includes all other funds received outside Consolidated Fund of India under Article 266 (2) of the Constitution, where the government merely acts as a banker or custodian.
- The second type of liabilities is called public account.
- Public debt excludes liabilities contracted against Public Account.
- Government securities (G-Secs), treasury bills, external assistance, and short-term borrowings are sources of public debt.

Q60. Consider the following statements with respect to International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESR):

1. It is part of the International Bill of Human Rights, along with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
2. India is not a signatory to ICESR.

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:

- The ICESCR is part of the International Bill of Human Rights, along with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).
- India is a signatory to ICESR.
- The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) was set up in 1985 by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.
- It was constituted with an aim to monitor on its behalf the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESR).

Q61. State of World Population Report is published by:

- a) United Nations Population Fund
- b) World Bank
- c) UN-Habitat
- d) United Nations Development Programme

Answer: a

Explanation:

- State of World Population Report is the annual flagship report of the United Nations Population Fund.
- United Nations Population Fund is a UN agency aimed at improving reproductive and maternal health worldwide.

Q62. Consider the following statements:

1. Bond yields are directly proportional to the interest rates in the economy.
2. Rising bond yields lower equity valuations.
3. A bond's price moves inversely with its yield or interest rate of such bond.

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

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- All the statements are correct.
- Bond yields are directly proportional to the interest rates in the economy.
- Rising bond yields imply a rise in the risk-free interest rate and hence lower equity valuations.
- A bond's price moves inversely with its yield or interest rate; the higher the price of a bond, the lower its yield.
- The reason for the inverse relationship between price and yield is due, in part, to bonds being fixed-rate investments.

Q63. Consider the following statements with respect to National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI):

1. It was set up for peering of internet service providers among themselves for the purpose of routing the domestic traffic within the country.
2. It is statutory body functioning under the Ministry of Communications.

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:

- NIXI is a not-for-profit organization under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, formed in 2003.
- It was set up for peering of internet service providers among themselves for the purpose of routing the domestic traffic within the country, instead of taking it all the way to US/abroad.

Q64. Consider the following statements:

1. Tangkhuls are a major ethnic group living in the Indo-Burma border area occupying the Ukhrul and Kamjong districts in Manipur.
2. Highest number of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups are found in Manipur.

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:

- Tangkhuls are a major ethnic group living in the Indo-Burma border area occupying the Ukhrul and Kamjong districts in Manipur.
- Among the 75 listed Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) the highest number are found in Odisha (13), followed by Andhra Pradesh (12).
- Maram Naga Tribe of Manipur is listed as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG).

Q65. Consider the following statements about Konyak Tribes:

1. They are one among the Naga Tribes.
2. Aoleng is the spring festival of the Konyaks.

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:

- Konyak is one of the 16 Naga tribes and people of this community live mainly in the Mon district of Nagaland. They are also found in Myanmar.
- Aoleng is a festival celebrated by the Konyak Tribes in the first week of April to welcome the spring and also to invoke the Almighty's (Kahwang) blessing upon the land before seed-sowing.
- Another festival, 'Lao Ong Mo', is the traditional harvest festival celebrated in the months of August/September.

Q66. 'Heparin' recently in news is:

- a) A blood thinner that has long been used in patients vulnerable to blood clots in their legs, lungs, heart or other body parts.
- b) A class of proteins present in the serum and cells of the immune system, which function as antibodies.
- c) An experimental antiviral made by American pharmaceutical firm Gilead Sciences that was first developed to treat Ebola.
- d) A vaccine candidate to be developed by Bharat Biotech India (BBIL) against the novel coronavirus.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Heparin is a blood thinner that has long been used in patients vulnerable to blood clots in their legs, lungs, heart or other body parts.
- It is used to reduce their risk of heart attacks, strokes and pulmonary embolism. Several patients with critical illnesses, including those requiring kidney dialysis, are given the drug.

Q67. Consider the following statements:

1. The double mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2 reported in India is scientifically named B.1.617.
2. Studies have shown reduced efficacy of vaccines against the double mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2.

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:

- The double mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2 reported in India is scientifically named B.1.617.
- The double mutant COVID variant is a concern as the Union health ministry said in its statement that “such mutations confer immune escape and increased infectivity” to the coronavirus.
- Studies have shown reduced efficacy of vaccines against the double mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2.

Q68. Consider the following statements about the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD):

1. It is an atmosphere-ocean coupled phenomenon in the Indian Ocean.
2. It is characterised by a difference in sea-surface temperatures.
3. It is the rapid upwelling of deep and shallow ocean currents near the eastern coast.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is an atmosphere-ocean coupled phenomenon in the Indian Ocean.
- It is characterised by a difference in sea-surface temperatures.
- IOD is the difference between the temperature of the eastern (Bay of Bengal) and the western Indian Ocean (Arabian Sea).

Q69. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the Great Indian Bustard?

1. It is the largest land bird in its native range.
2. It is the State bird of Rajasthan.
3. It has been designated as critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

Options:

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Great Indian Bustard:

- The Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) is found on the Indian subcontinent.
- The great Indian bustard bird is among the heaviest of the flying birds. It is also the largest land bird in its native range.
- It is the State bird of Rajasthan.

Habitat:

- It's habitat is characterized by large expanses of arid and semi-arid grasslands, open country with thorn scrub, tall grass interspersed with cultivation. It avoids irrigated areas.
- In India, the bird was historically found in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Today the bustard is restricted to isolated pockets in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
 - The Desert National Park is one of the Great Indian Bustard's last remnant wild habitat. The GIB's population of fewer than 100 in Rajasthan accounts for 95% of its total world population.
- The major areas where they are known to breed are in central and western India and eastern Pakistan.
- These birds are often found associated in the same habitat as blackbuck.

Threat:

- The GIB was once common on the dry plains of the Indian subcontinent. But, today there habitat has reduced drastically.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), a global authority on species survival, which categorised the GIBs as "endangered" in 1994, was forced to upgrade the species to the status of "critically endangered" in 2011 because of continued threats faced by this species. In fact it is considered India's most critically endangered bird.
- The main threats are hunting and habitat loss.
 - This species has been heavily hunted for their meat and for sport.
 - In some places, such as Rajasthan, increased irrigation by the Indira Gandhi canal has led to increased agriculture and the altered habitat has led to the disappearance of the species from these regions. The migrating population into Pakistan face pressure due to hunting.
 - Other critical threats to the species include the development of linear infrastructure intrusions such as roads and electric power lines in the desert that lead to collision-related mortality.

Q70. What is/are the advantages of placing the Aditya mission satellite in the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system?

1. Reduce fuel consumption

2. Provides an uninterrupted view of sun.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Lagrange points:

- Lagrange points are positions in space where objects sent there tend to stay put. At Lagrange points, the gravitational pull of two large masses precisely equals the centripetal force required for a small object to move with them.

Significance:

- These points in space can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position.
- The L1 point of the Earth-Sun system affords an uninterrupted view of the sun. The major advantage of such a placement is that it would allow the satellite to continuously view the Sun without any occultation/eclipses.

Q71. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to pharmaceutical exports from India?

1. On a continental basis, Africa remains the largest market for Indian pharmaceuticals.
2. Drug formulations and biological remained the second-largest commodity exported by India.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- India's pharmaceutical exports grew 18.7% to \$24.44 billion in the financial year ended March 31, spurred by strong demand for the country's generic drugs. The record growth was due to a surge in demand for made-in-India generics, owing to their quality and affordability.
- Drug formulations and biologicals remained the second-largest commodity exported by India.
- North America remains the largest market for Indian pharmaceuticals, accounting for a more than 34% share.

- South Africa emerged as the second-largest market for Indian pharmaceuticals.
- Europe accounts for the third-largest market for Indian pharmaceutical exports.
- There is a growing demand for Indian pharmaceutical products in non-traditional markets such as Latin America, CIS countries and Middle East.

Q72. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct with respect to cynodonts?

1. These are small rat-like animals that lived about 220 million years ago.
2. Cynodonts are important in evolutionary studies as this group ultimately gave rise to the present-day mammals.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

Cynodonts:

- The cynodonts are small rat-like animals that lived about 220 million years ago.
- Cynodonts are important in evolutionary studies as this group ultimately gave rise to the present-day mammals.
- Cynodonts and living mammals both belong to a group of egg-laying vertebrates (amniotes) called synapsids. The close relationship of cynodonts with living mammals is seen in their bones. They also have differentiated teeth, a secondary palate in their mouths, which, like humans, allowed them to breathe and eat at the same time.

Q73. Consider the following:

1. The 11th-century temple located in Odisha built in red stone is a symbol of Kalinga style architecture.
2. The temple was built by King Jajati Keshari belonging to Soma Vansh.
3. The central deity of the temple is worshipped both as Shiva and Vishnu.

The temple being talked about is:

- a) Lingaraj temple
- b) Shree Jagannath Temple
- c) Konark Sun Temple
- d) Siddheswara Mahadeva temple

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Lingaraj temple at Bhubaneswar in Odisha is an 11th-century temple.

- It is a symbol of Kalinga style architecture built in red stone.
- The temple was built by King Jajati Keshari, who belonged to Soma Vansh.
- It is dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- The central deity of the temple, Lingaraja, is worshipped both as Shiva and Vishnu.
- The harmony between the two sects of Hinduism, Shaivism, and Vaishnavism, is seen in this temple where the deity is worshipped as Harihara, a combined form of Vishnu and Shiva.

Q74. Consider the following statements with respect to the industrial applications of Oxygen:

1. It is used as a bleaching chemical in paper manufacturing.
2. It is used for decarburization in steel production.
3. It is used as a raw material in the manufacturing of urea.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Oxygen is used as a bleaching chemical in paper manufacturing (pulp bleaching).
- It is used in steel production. Oxygen is used for decarburization (the process of decreasing the level of carbon in metals) and the conversion of hot metal formed in a blast furnace to liquid steel.
- Raw materials used to manufacture urea are liquid ammonia – NH_3 and liquid carbon dioxide – CO_2 .
 - Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is prepared by the decomposition of limestone (CaCO_3). When CaCO_3 is heated, it decomposes to CaO and CO_2 .

Q75. Consider the following statements:

1. Meghalaya has the highest number of species of bats in the country.
2. The disc-footed bat is endemic to Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary in Meghalaya.

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:

- There are 130 species of bats in India. The disc-footed bat has raised the variety of bat species in Meghalaya to 66 making the state the one with the highest number of species of bats in the country.

- The disk-footed bat is a species of vesper bat in the Vespertilionidae family found in Laos and Myanmar.
- Recently, the disc-footed bat was recorded in the northeastern Indian state's Lailad area near the Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary. It is about 1000 km west of the bats' nearest known habitat in Myanmar.

Q76. Consider the following statements:

1. Panchayati Raj was constitutionalized through the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. Rajasthan was the first state to introduce the panchayat system in India after independence.
3. Ashok Mehta Committee recommended the establishment of a 3-tier structure Panchayati Raj system.

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:

- Panchayati Raj was constitutionalized through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992
- The scheme of Panchayati Raj was first established in Rajasthan and inaugurated on October 2, 1959.
- Rajasthan was followed by Andhra Pradesh and other states.
- Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended the establishment of a 3-tier structure Panchayati Raj system.
- Ashok Mehta Committee recommended that the three-tier Panchayati Raj system should be replaced with a two-tier system.

Q77. Consider the following statements with respect to Ingenuity helicopter:

1. It made the first powered flight on a planet other than Earth.
2. It is a solar-powered helicopter.
3. Its objective is to assist Perseverance in its mission to search for signs of extra-terrestrial life.

Which of the given statement is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Ingenuity's flight is the first powered flight on another planet.
- Ingenuity travelled to Mars attached to the underside of NASA's Perseverance.

- Perseverance is on a mission to search for signs of extra-terrestrial life. However, the helicopter's mission is experimental in nature and completely independent of the rover's science mission.
- Ingenuity's goal is to demonstrate its technology works, and it won't contribute to Perseverance's science goals.
- Ingenuity is solar-powered, able to charge on its own.

Q78. In which of the following states are Bru (Reangs) recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group?

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

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Brus also known as the Reangs, are spread across Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.
- They are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group in Tripura.

Q79. Consider the following statements with respect to Khajuraho Group of Monuments:

1. It is a group of Hindu and Jain temples and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
2. They are known for their nagara-style architectural symbolism.
3. All the temples are made of sandstone.

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) 2 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Khajuraho Group of Monuments are a group of Hindu and Jain Temples in Madhya Pradesh patronised by Chandela Kings.
- The Khajuraho Group of Monuments are famous for their nagara-style architectural symbolism and their erotic sculptures.
- The temples at Khajuraho are all made of Sandstone.
- It is a UNESCO World heritage Site.

Q80. Consider the following statements with respect to Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARC):

1. SARFAESI Act provides the legal basis for setting up ARCs in India.
2. There is no specific limit on the extent of debt an ARC can take over from banks.
3. The ARC can take over only secured debts which have been classified as a non-performing asset.

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:

- Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, provides the legal basis for setting up ARCs in India.
- There are no specific ceilings or flooring limits on the extent of debt an ARC can take over from banks.
- The ARC can take over only secured debts which have been classified as a non-performing asset (NPA).

Q81. Which of the following measures can help increase the value of Rupee vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar in the Forex market?

1. Lowering the RBI's U.S. dollar Forex reserves
2. Increasing the RBI's U.S. dollar Forex reserves
3. Open market operations to inject more rupee liquidity into the financial market
4. Open market operations to suck out rupee liquidity from the financial market
5. Restrictions on the import of gold
6. Encouraging Foreign capital inflows

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The rupee value depends on two factors, DEMAND and SUPPLY. In very simple terms if the supply of rupee is more in the economy, then its value decreases and if the supply is less and demand is more, then the value increases.
- The supply and demand are affected by the Imports and Exports of the country including some other factors.

- When there is a need to increase the value of the Rupee, what RBI does is pump foreign currency into the market and take away the Indian rupee from the market. This results in an increase in the foreign currency supply and a decrease in the Indian currency supply. This results in appreciating the rupee value.
- When there is a need to depreciate the rupee value, RBI just buys foreign currencies from the market pumping more rupees into the market. This results in an increase in rupee supply and a decrease in foreign currency in the market. This results in the depreciation of the rupee value.

Q82. What are the possible implications of rupee appreciation in the short term?

1. Lower import cost of crude oil
2. Favourable impact on inflation
3. Adverse impact on export-oriented sectors
4. Adverse impact on inbound investment

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- A stronger rupee will help India cut its crude import bill which will have a favourable impact on inflation in India.
- Exports will be expensive if the value of the Indian rupee appreciates because Indian products will be expensive compared to other competing nations. This will adversely impact India's export competitiveness and impact price-sensitive foreign trade-oriented sectors in India.
- The appreciation in rupee value may also adversely impact foreign investment into India. The primary reason for foreign investment in India is the cheap labour cost. Appreciating rupee value may not augur well for this scenario.

Q83. Which of the following correctly describes the RESPOND programme of ISRO?

- a) Addressing the socio-economic needs of the deprived sections through scholarship support
- b) Establishing links with premier academic institutions to carry out research and developmental projects
- c) Establishing collaborations with third world countries to support their development process
- d) Addressing the needs of the agricultural sector through the use of space technology

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The main objective of the RESPOND Programme is to establish strong links with premier academic institutions in the country to carry out research and developmental projects which are of relevance to space and derive useful outputs of such R&D to support ISRO programmes.
- RESPOND programme aims to enhance the academic base, generate quality human resources and infrastructure at the academic institutes to support the Indian space programme.

- Under RESPOND, projects in the advanced areas of relevance to the space programme are encouraged to be taken up by premier universities/academic institutions.

Q84. The proposed Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) is an economic agreement between India and which of the following?

- a) European Union
- b) Japan
- c) Russia
- d) U.S.

Answer: a

Explanation:

Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) is a proposed economic engagement agreement between India and the EU.

Q85. Consider the following statements:

1. U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) recommends to the US State Department, the names of countries as well as non-state actors engaging in or tolerating violation of religious freedom.
2. USCIRF recommendations are non-binding.

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:

- USCIRF is an independent bi-partisan commission.
- It was created by the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) of 1998.
- USCIRF's principal responsibilities are to review the facts and circumstances of violations of religious freedom internationally and to make policy recommendations to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Congress.
- In its Annual Report, USCIRF describes threats to religious freedom around the world and recommends to the State Department countries for designation as "countries of particular concern" (CPCs) for engaging in or tolerating "systematic, ongoing, egregious violations."
- USCIRF also recommends to the State Department that non-state actors cited for similarly severe violations be designated as "entities of particular concern" (EPCs).
- The USCIRF recommendations are non-binding.

Q86. Arrange the following from West to East:

1. Hambantota Port
2. Trincomalee Port
3. Colombo Port
4. Galle Port

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

Arrangement of the major ports of Sri Lanka from West to East: Colombo Port, Galle Port, Hambantota Port, Trincomalee Port.

Q87. Consider the following statements about the World Press Freedom Index:

1. It is published annually by Reporters without Borders (RSF).
2. It is an indicator of the quality of journalism in each country or region.
3. It does not rank public policies.

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

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- World Press Freedom Index is published every year since 2002 by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), a French non-governmental organisation.
- The Index ranks 180 countries and regions according to the level of freedom available to journalists.
- It is a snapshot of the media freedom situation based on an evaluation of pluralism, independence of the media, quality of legislative framework and safety of journalists in each country and region.
- It does not rank public policies even if governments obviously have a major impact on their country's ranking.
- It is not an indicator of the quality of journalism in each country or region.

Q88. Consider the following statements with respect to Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA):

1. It is a technology used to separate some gas species from a mixture of gases under pressure.
2. It makes use of cryogenic distillation techniques of gas separation.
3. The process takes place at very low temperatures.

Which of the given statement is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Pressure swing adsorption (PSA) is a technology used to separate some gas species from a mixture of gases under pressure.
- PSA operates at near-ambient temperatures (temperature relating to the immediate surroundings) and differs significantly from cryogenic distillation techniques of gas separation.
- Cryogenic separation is a commercial process that takes place at very low temperature.

Q89. The Sabang Port signifies India's close defence relations with which country?

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Sabang is a city consisting of a main island and several smaller islands off the northern tip of Sumatra.
- The Sabang port is located near the Strait of Malacca, a strategic shipping channel.
- Sabang lies at the northern entrance to the Strait of Malacca. It is also known as the northernmost and westernmost city of Indonesia.

India's Ports Abroad



Q90. Which of the following is NOT the mandate of the Competition Commission of India?

1. Eliminate practices having an adverse effect on competition.
2. Promote and sustain competition.
3. Protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade.
4. Intervene in the foreign exchange market to deal with currency fluctuation.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Competition Commission of India is a statutory body responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002.
- The mandate of the Commission is to:
 - Eliminate practices having an adverse effect on competition.
 - Promote and sustain competition.
 - Protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade carried on by other participants, in markets in India.

Q91. Solar dehydration helps in:

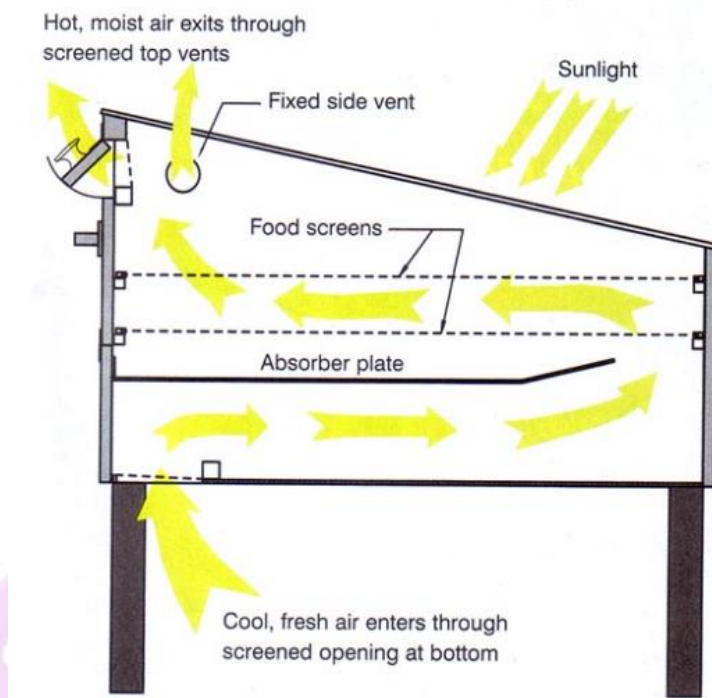
- a) Preserving natural produce and reducing food wastage.
- b) Stabilising electricity grids during voltage fluctuations.
- c) Restricting the impact of solar radiation on satellites and other space assets.

- d) Reducing water evaporation from irrigation canals and dams.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Solar dehydration is used as a way to preserve natural produce, thereby reducing food wastage.
- Equipment such as Solar Conduction Dryer (SCD), a portable solar-powered machine that dries vegetables and spices while retaining nutrients are used for dehydrating the natural produce.
- Solar dehydration



Q92. A Non-Fungible Token (NFT) is associated with which technology?

- a) Internet of Things (IoT)
- b) 5G Communication
- c) Blockchain
- d) AI-driven Automation

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Non-fungible tokens (NFTs) are cryptographic assets on block chain with unique identification codes and metadata that distinguish them from each other.
- They cannot be traded or exchanged at equivalency like crypto currencies.

Q93. “Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now” is an initiative launched by:

- a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- b) The UNEP Secretariat
- c) The UNFCCC Secretariat
- d) The World Meteorological Organization

Answer: c

Explanation:

“Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now” is an initiative spearheaded by the UNFCCC Secretariat.

Note: This question is from Civil Services Prelims (2018) Question Paper.

Q94. Uttarakhand is vulnerable to which of the following disasters?

- 1. Earthquakes
- 2. Landslides
- 3. Cloud bursts
- 4. Glacial bursts
- 5. Forest fires

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Uttarakhand is geologically unstable and ecologically sensitive.
- Due to anthropological factors, the frequency and intensity of natural hazards have increased in the fragile state over the last few decades.
- Due to its topography and geology, the state faces the risk of calamitous events like flash floods/floods, cloudbursts, earthquakes, landslides, mudflows, and forest fires among others.

Q95. India draws its human rights obligations from:

- 1. Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- 2. Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the UN
- 3. Rights guaranteed by the Constitution

Choose the correct option:

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

d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: d

Explanation:

- There is an apparent impact of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on drafting Part III (Fundamental Rights) of the Indian Constitution.
- Every citizen is guaranteed basic human rights under the Indian Constitution.
- India has acceded to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the UN.
- As per the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act of 1993, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established in 1993 as an independent statutory body as a watchdog of human rights in the country.

Q96. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. ASEAN grouping is open for membership to all countries in the Asia-Pacific region.
2. No ASEAN country shares a land border with India.
3. India is one of the founding members of ASEAN.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- ASEAN was founded in 1967 with five members: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. India is not a founding member.
- It is headquartered in Jakarta.
- Myanmar which is a member of ASEAN shares its land border with India.
- ASEAN grouping is not open for membership to all countries in the Asia-Pacific region. ASEAN is an organisation of South-East Asian Nations only.

Q97. Which country is known for having 'self-defence forces' in the place of regular armed forces?

- a) Switzerland
- b) Norway
- c) Japan
- d) Finland

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Japan Self-Defence Forces also referred to as the Self-Defence Forces (SDF), is the unified military forces of Japan that were established in 1954, and are controlled by the Ministry of Defence.

Q98. With reference to the British colonial rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. Mahatma Gandhi was instrumental in the abolition of the system of 'indentured labour'.
2. In Lord Chelmsford's 'War Conference', Mahatma Gandhi did not support the resolution on recruiting Indians for World War.
3. Consequent to the breaking of the Salt Law by the Indian people, the Indian National Congress was declared illegal by the colonial rulers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The indentured labour system soon died after Gandhi left South Africa. Mahatma Gandhi was instrumental in the abolition of the system of 'indentured labour'.
- Gandhi did support the resolution on recruiting Indians for World War.
- Consequent to the breaking of the Salt Law by the Indian people, the Indian National Congress was declared illegal by the colonial rulers.

Q99. Which of the following is/are In situ bioremediation techniques?

1. Bioventing
2. Biopiles
3. Biosparging
4. Bioreactors
5. Bioaugmentation

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

Biopiles and Bioreactors represent ex situ bioremediation techniques

Q100. With reference to Detritus Food Chain (DFC), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is made up of decomposers which are heterotrophic organisms, mainly fungi and bacteria.
2. In a terrestrial ecosystem, a much larger fraction of energy flows through the detritus food chain than through the Grazing Food Chain (GFC)

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Detritus food chain is the type of food chain that starts with dead organic materials. The dead organic substances are decomposed by microorganisms. The organisms that feed on dead organic matter or detritus, are known as detritivores or decomposers. These detritivores are later eaten by predators. In the detritus food chain, the excreted products by one organism is utilized by another organism.
- The detritus food chain helps in solving inorganic nutrients.
- Compared to other kinds of food chains, the detritus food chain has much larger energy flow in a terrestrial ecosystem.

Q101. Consider the following statements with respect to Eutrophication:

1. As the lake's fertility increases, plant and animal life burgeons
2. As silt and organic debris pile up, there is reduction in lake's temperature

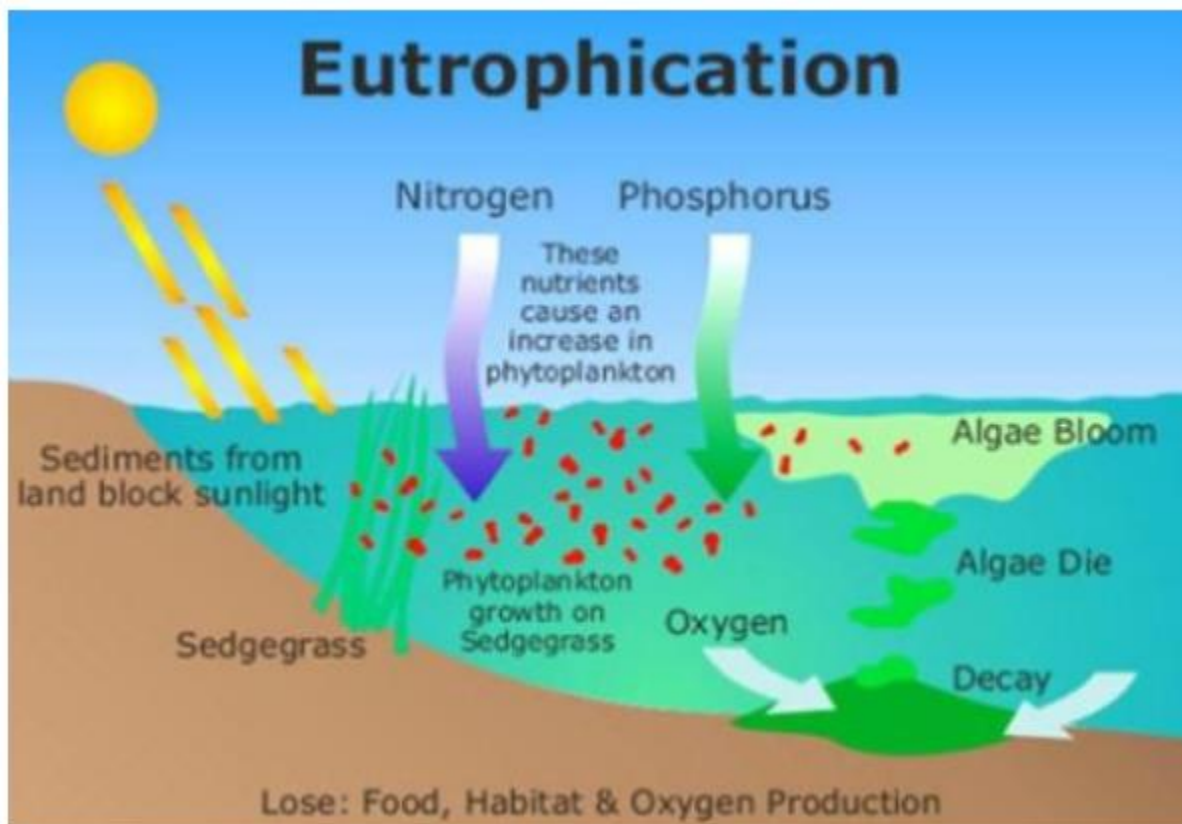
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Eutrophication is the process in which a water body becomes overly enriched with nutrients, leading to plentiful growth of simple plant life. The excessive growth (or bloom) of algae and plankton in a water body are indicators of this process.
- As silt and organic debris pile up, there is increased warming observed in the lake.
- As silt and organic debris pile up, the lake grows shallower and warmer, with warm-water organisms supplanting those that thrive in a cold environment



Q102. 'Evil Quartet' is related to

- Ozone layer depletion
- Industrial revolution and its impact on environment
- Loss of biodiversity
- Oil exploration risks for the marine life

Answer: c

Explanation:

The four major causes of loss of biodiversity are

- Habitat Loss and Fragmentation
- Over Exploitation
- Alien species invasions
- Co-extinctions

Q103. With reference to Ecological Succession, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Primary succession is faster than secondary succession.
2. At any time during primary or secondary succession, a particular seral stage of succession cannot be converted to an earlier stage.

3. Lichens, fungus are examples of Pioneer species

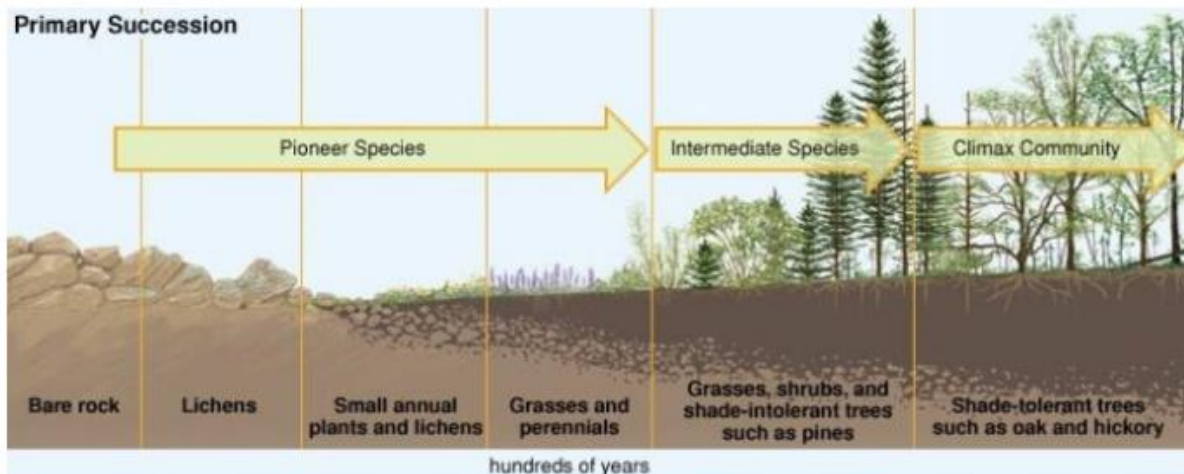
Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Secondary succession is faster than primary succession.
- A particular seral stage of succession can be converted to an earlier stage, either naturally or by human intervention.



Q104. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. National parks are given a greater degree of protection, with human activity greatly restricted as compared to wildlife sanctuaries
- 2. National Park can be created for a particular species, whereas the Wildlife sanctuary is not primarily focused on a particular species

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Wildlife Sanctuaries can be created for a particular species, whereas the National Parks are not primarily focused on a particular species

Q105. Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate is released by

- a) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- b) Climate Action Network (CAN)
- c) German watch
- d) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate was approved at the IPCC's 51st Session in September 2019 in Monaco.
- This report assessed the latest scientific knowledge about the physical science basis and impacts of climate change on ocean, coastal, polar and mountain ecosystems, and the human communities that depend on them. It also evaluated their vulnerabilities and adaptation capacity and determined that the ocean and cryosphere play a critical role in sustaining life.
- In particular, it shows that the ocean has taken up more than 90% of the heat generated by greenhouse gas emissions and is reducing warming on land. Ocean warming, together with ocean acidification (from carbon dioxide uptake), loss of oxygen, and changes in nutrient supplies is affecting the distribution and abundance of marine life in coastal areas, including in the open ocean and at the seafloor.
- Glaciers and ice sheets all around the world are losing mass at an increasing rate.
- This shows that climate change is rapidly changing these two systems which has larger implications for humanity if remains unchecked.

Q106. Consider the following pairs

Disease	Pollutant
1. Itai-itai	Cadmium
2. Minamata	Mercury
3. Pneumoconiosis	Coal

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

Q107. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Grasslands rarely receive enough rain to support trees. They do not possess soil nutrients to feed large, grassy expanses.
2. Taiga is a region of subarctic forest south of the Arctic Circle.
3. Tundra is the treeless environment of the Arctic Circle.

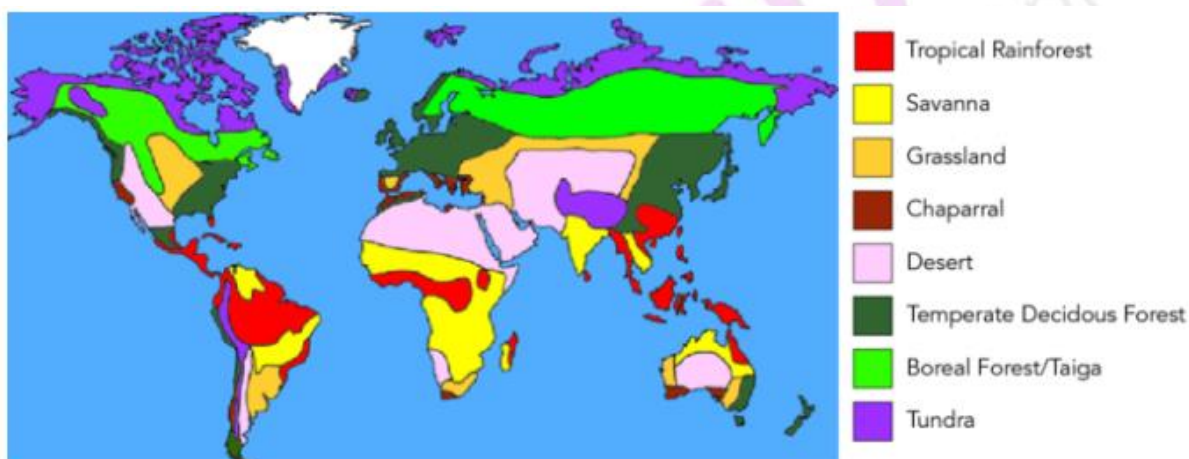
Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Grasslands rarely receive enough rain to support trees, however they do possess enough soil nutrients to feed large, grassy expanses.



Q108. Which of the following can be found as pollutants in the drinking water in some parts of India? (2013)

1. Arsenic
2. Sorbitol
3. Fluoride
4. Formaldehyde
5. Uranium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Sorbitol tends to be commonly found in fruits like apples, apricots, avocado, blackberries, cherries, lychee, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, and prunes. Sorbitol is also manufactured and used as an artificial sweetener. Consuming sorbitol or other sugar alcohols in large amounts can cause bloating and diarrhea in some people, especially if you're not used to regularly consuming them.
- Formaldehyde is a simple chemical compound made of hydrogen, oxygen and carbon. All life forms – bacteria, plants, fish, animals and humans – naturally produce formaldehyde as part of cell metabolism. Formaldehyde is formed primarily by the combustion of organic materials and several natural and anthropogenic actions. Secondary formation of formaldehyde happens in the atmosphere through oxidation of natural and anthropogenic volatile organic compounds. Formaldehyde's production and use in the manufacture of resins, preservatives, disinfectants, and a variety of other chemicals may cause its release into the environment through various waste streams.

Q109. How did the Defense Production Act of the USA affect India during the pandemic?

- a) US violated India's EEZ under its provisions.
- b) US raised the prices of defence exports to India.
- c) US placed export controls on raw materials for COVID-19 vaccines.
- d) US withdrew from joint defence production projects with India.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Defense Production Act of USA was passed in 1950 in response to the Korean War.
- The act grants emergency powers that allow the U.S. government to control private-sector production decisions.
- As a consequence of the U.S.'s Defense Production Act, federal government purchase orders have to be prioritised over foreign orders.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the US placed export controls on raw materials for COVID-19 vaccines.
- Exports of critical raw materials used in the production of some Covid-19 vaccines were blocked by the US as a result of Biden's decision to invoke the US Defense Production Act.
- The US restrictions hit the output of major suppliers for the world. This includes vaccines like Covishield and Covovax, which the Serum Institute of India was expected to supply.

Q110. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Compulsory licensing (CL) is when a government allows someone else to produce a patented product or process without the consent of the patent owner or plans to use the patent-protected invention itself.
2. It is one of the flexibilities in the field of patent protection included in the WTO's agreement on intellectual property — the TRIPS.
3. When a CL is issued, the patent owner loses rights over the patent and need not be compensated for copies of the products made under the compulsory licence.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Compulsory licensing (CL) is when a government allows someone else to produce a patented product or process without the consent of the patent owner or plans to use the patent-protected invention itself.
- It is one of the flexibilities in the field of patent protection included in the WTO's agreement on intellectual property — the TRIPS.
- When a CL is issued, the patent owner would still continue to have rights over the patent, including a right to be paid compensation for copies of the products made under the compulsory licence.

Q111. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal has been set up under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to allow reporting of cybercrimes.
2. Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has been established under the Ministry of Home Affairs to act as a nodal point in the fight against cybercrime.
3. I4C has envisaged the Cyber Crime Volunteers Program to bring together citizen volunteers on a single platform to help them contribute to the fight against cybercrime by flagging any unlawful content for facilitating law enforcement agencies.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal has been set up under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has been established under the Ministry of Home Affairs to act as a nodal point in the fight against cybercrime.
- I4C has envisaged the Cyber Crime Volunteers Program to bring together citizen volunteers on a single platform to help them contribute to the fight against cybercrime by flagging any unlawful content for facilitating law enforcement agencies.

Q112. Which of the following statements is/are INCORRECT?

1. India has procured the C-17 Globe master from the USA.
2. It is manufactured by Boeing.
3. It is a large military transport aircraft used for tactical and strategic airlift missions to transport troops, cargo including heavy weaponry, medical evacuation and airdrop duties.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- India has procured the C-17 Globemaster from the USA.
- C-17 Globemaster is manufactured by Boeing.
- It is a large military transport aircraft used for tactical and strategic airlift missions to transport troops, cargo including heavy weaponry, medical evacuation and airdrop duties.

Q113. The 'Deep Time' project that aimed at studying how people adapt to extreme changes in living conditions and environment caused by isolation and darkness was held recently in which country?

- a) Switzerland
- b) France
- c) USA
- d) Germany

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Deep Time project was held in the Lombrives Cave in France.
- Deep Time project investigated how a lack of external contact would affect the sense of time.
- It aimed at studying how people adapt to drastic changes in living conditions, environments.

Q114. Siachen Glacier is situated to the – [UPSC 2020]

- a) East of Aksai Chin
- b) East of Leh
- c) North of Gilgit
- d) North of Nubra Valley

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Siachen Glacier is a glacier located in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayas.
- It is situated to the North of Nubra Valley.

Q115. 'Bambi Bucket', often seen in news, is used for/as

- a) Collecting and analysing neutrinos in underground particle detectors

- b) A virtual bucket that filters suspicious content on the internet
- c) Aerial fire fighting with the bucket fitted to helicopters
- d) Holding nuclear warheads that are mounted on fighter jets

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Forest fires have continued to rage across Mizoram even 48 hours after its breakout.
- The Assam Rifles had deployed personnel and fire fighting equipment to the district, while the Indian Air Force had deployed two Mi-17V5 helicopters, equipped with Bambi Buckets, to douse the fire.

Q116. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. India has been ranked 49th in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) that was launched in 2021.
2. Finland takes the top spot on the CGGI list and European nations feature prominently in the top twenty.
3. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions has launched its own Good Governance Index (GGI) to determine the status of governance in the country.

Options:

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- India has been ranked 49th in the 2021 edition of the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI). Finland takes the top spot on the CGGI list.
- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions has launched the Good Governance Index (GGI). The purpose behind developing a comprehensive index, termed as Good Governance Index (GGI), is to create a tool that can be used uniformly across the state, and eventually district level, to assess the status of governance and the impact of various interventions taken up by Central and State Governments.

Q117. Which of the following statement/s is/are incorrect?

1. Helicopters need compact and powerful aero-engines for operating at extreme conditions.
2. To achieve this, single-crystal blades having complex shape and geometry manufactured out of nickel-based super alloys capable of withstanding high temperatures of operation are used.
3. Recently, DRDO achieved this major technological breakthrough and India joined an elite list of a few countries such as the U.S., the U.K., France and Russia which have the capability to design and manufacture such single crystal component.

Options:

- a) 1 only

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q118. Japan is funding which of the following projects in India?

1. Dedicated Freight Corridor project
2. Metro rail projects
3. Mumbai-Ahmedabad high -speed rail link
4. Kundankulam nuclear power plant

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Kundankulam nuclear power plant involves collaboration with Russia.

Q119. Project DANTAK of Bhutan, involving Indian support, deals with?

- a) Carbon sequestration for reducing greenhouse gases
- b) Border security along Bhutan-China border
- c) Creating critical road and essential infrastructure
- d) Conservation of snow leopard and tiger population

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Project DANTAK was established on April 24, 1961, as a result of the visionary leadership of His Majesty the Third King and then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. Identifying the utmost importance of connectivity in spurring the socio-economic development and growth of Bhutan, DANTAK was tasked with constructing the pioneering motorable roads in the Kingdom.
- Over the years, DANTAK has met the myriad infrastructure requirements in Bhutan.
- Project DANTAK is commemorating its Diamond Jubilee in Bhutan. Over 1,200 DANTAK personnel laid down their lives while constructing important infrastructure in Bhutan.

Q120. In India, which of the following can be considered as public investment in agriculture?

1. Fixing Minimum Support Price for agricultural produce of all crops.
2. Computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies.
3. Social Capital Development.
4. Free electricity supply to farmers.
5. Waiver of agricultural loans by the banking system.
6. Setting up of cold storage facilities by the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- While fixing the Minimum Support Price for agricultural produce of all crops, providing free electricity supply to farmers and waiver of agricultural loans by the banking system do not result in any form of capital formation and constitute revenue expenditure for the state, the measures such as Computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies, Social Capital Development and Setting up of cold storage facilities by the government amount to public investment in agriculture.

Q121. Consider the following statements:

1. Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited (TISCO) was the very first iron and steel company in India.
2. Steel is a regulated sector, the Government sets annual targets for steel production.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited (TISCO) was the very first iron and steel company in India.
- Steel sector is not regulated by the government.

Steel producers

Top 5 Crude steel producers in the world: 2018, 2019*					
2018			2019*		
Rank	Country	Qty (mt)	Rank	Country	Qty (mt)
1	China	920.0	1	China	996.3
2	India	109.3	2	India	111.2
3	Japan	104.3	3	Japan	99.3
4	USA	86.6	4	USA	87.9
5	South Korea	72.5	5	Russia	71.6

Q122. With reference to Asian Development Bank (ADB), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a regional development bank which is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan.
2. ADB is modeled closely on the World Bank, and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with members' capital subscriptions.
3. South Asia Economic Focus Report released by ADB analyzes economic and development issues in developing countries in Asia.

Options:

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

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank headquartered in Mandaluyong, Philippines.
- ADB is modeled closely on the World Bank, and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with members' capital subscriptions.
- South Asia Economic Focus Report is released by World Bank.

Q123. Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Meghdoot App warn people about lightning
2. Damini App provide forecast to farmers
3. Mausam App communicate the weather information and forecasts in a lucid manner

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Meghdoot App was launched to provide the location, and crop and livestock-specific weather-based agro advisories to farmers in local languages.
- Damini Lightning Alert app is designed for giving warning to the user about lightning on the basis of user location.
- Mausam App is designed to communicate the weather information and forecasts in a lucid manner.

Q124. Jaivik Kheti Portal is a unique initiative by the Government of India:

- a) to assist corporates and farmers for contract farming
- b) to create awareness about the latest technological developments in the agriculture and allied sectors
- c) to promote organic farming
- d) to integrate regulated markets in the country through a common e-platform

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Jaivik kheti portal is a unique initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Department of Agriculture (DAC) to promote organic farming globally.

Q125. What is the use of Biochar in farming? [UPSC 2020]

1. Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in the vertical farming
2. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen fixing microorganisms.
3. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it enables the medium to retain water for a longer time.

Which of the above-given statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Biochar is charcoal that is produced by pyrolysis of biomass, in the absence of oxygen and is used as a soil ameliorant for both carbon sequestration and soil health benefits.
- Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in vertical farming.
- When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms.
- When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it enables the growing medium to retain water for a longer time.

Q126. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

1. Election Commission of India forbids publishing results of opinion polls from the date of notification of elections until the end of polling.
2. In the case of a multi-phase election, results of exit polls can be published only after the voting is over in each phase.

Select the option from below:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- There are no restrictions on publishing the results of opinion polls.
- However, it cannot be published during the period of Election silence, i.e, 48 hours before the close of voting.
- In the case of a multi-phase election, results of exit polls can be published only after the voting is over in the last phase.

Q127. 'Tianhe', recently seen in the news, is related to:

- a) A nasal spray viewed as a potential cure against Covid-19 infection
- b) Chinese Space program
- c) Naval Exercise between India & Singapore
- d) A computer malware

Answer: b

Explanation:

- China has launched the main module of its first permanent space station that will host astronauts for the long term. It is called Tianhe, or the "Heavenly Harmony".

Q128. Which of the following is/are statutory bodies?

1. Competition Commission of India
2. NITI Aayog
3. National Human Rights Commission
4. Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities

Select the correct option from below:

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

d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Competition Commission of India and the National Human Rights Commission are both statutory bodies.
- Competition Commission of India is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 and promoting competition throughout India and preventing activities that have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.
- The National Human Rights Commission of India is a Statutory public body responsible for the protection and promotion of human rights.
- The NITI Aayog is a public policy think tank of the Government of India. It is not a statutory body.
- Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities is a constitutional office entrusted with the responsibility of safeguarding the various provisions related to linguistic minorities in India. Article 350 B of the Constitution provides for the appointment of a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities by the President.

Q129. Which of the following is the duty of the Competition Commission of India?

1. Eliminate practices having an adverse effect on competition
2. Promote and sustain competition
3. Protect the interests of consumers
4. Ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.

Select the correct option from below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Competition Commission of India is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 and promoting competition throughout India and preventing activities that have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.
- It is noted that the mandate of the Commission is to eliminate practices having an adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade carried on by other participants, in markets in India.

Q130. Amnesty International is: [UPSC 2015]

- a) an agency of the United Nations to help refugees of civil wars
- b) a global Human Rights Movement
- c) a non-governmental voluntary organization to help very poor people
- d) an inter-governmental agency to cater to medical emergencies in war-ravaged regions

Answer: b

Explanation:

Amnesty International is a global Human Rights Movement.

Q131. Which of the following regions fall under seismic zone 5?

1. Entire northeastern India
2. Parts of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh
3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
4. Rann of Kutch in Gujarat
5. Delhi-NCR region

Options:

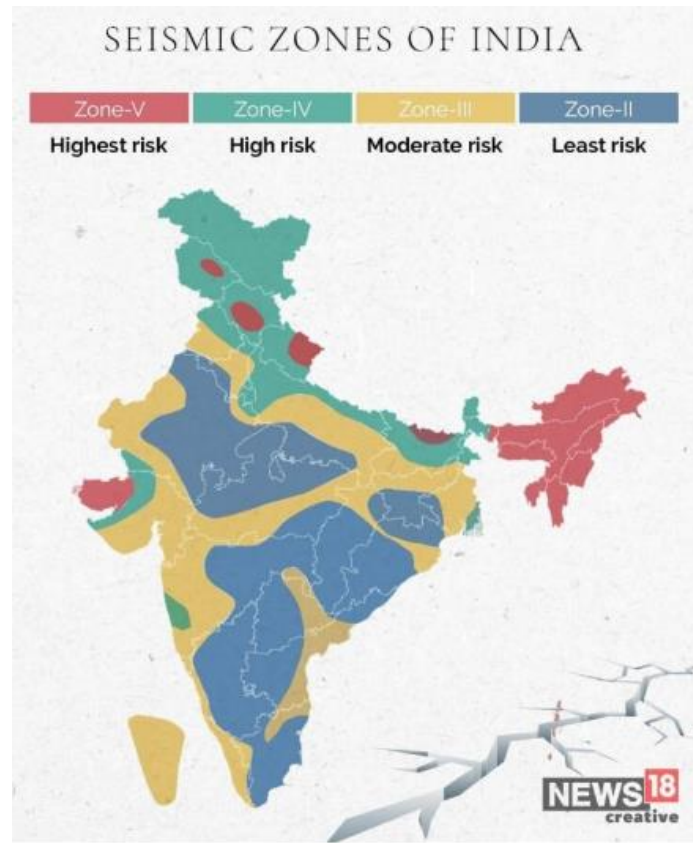
- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Entire northeastern India, parts of the UTs Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rann of Kutch, parts of North Bihar and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are classified as Zone-V.

Seismic Zones of India



Zone-V

Entire northeastern India, parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, part of North Bihar and Andaman & Nicobar islands

Zone-IV

The remaining parts of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Sikkim, northern parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, parts of Gujarat and small portions of Maharashtra near the west coast and Rajasthan

Zone-III

Comprises Kerala, Goa, Lakshadweep, remaining parts of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and West Bengal, parts of Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamilnadu and Karnataka

Zone-II

Covers remaining parts of the country



Q132. Which of the following statements about remdesivir is/are correct?

1. The drug prevents the virus from producing a particular enzyme RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) that is necessary for the virus to replicate itself.
2. The drug has also been shown to shorten the duration of patient hospital stays.

Options:

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

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Remdesivir drug prevents the virus from producing a particular enzyme RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) that is necessary for the virus to replicate itself.
- The drug has also been shown to shorten the duration of patient hospital stays.

Q133. With reference to Red Herring Prospectus, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is the preliminary registration document prepared by merchant bankers for prospective IPO-making companies in the case of book building issues.
2. It contains details of either price or number of shares being offered or the amount of issue.

Options:

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Red Herring Prospectus is the preliminary registration document prepared by merchant bankers for prospective IPO-making companies in the case of book building issues.
- It does not disclose the details of price, the number of shares being offered, the coupon of the issue, or the size of the issue.
- It has the details regarding the company's operation and financial position and standing.

Q134. Python-5 recently seen in news is a

- a) Anti-Tank Guided Missile
- b) Air-to-Air Missile
- c) Surface to Air Missile
- d) Surface to Surface Missile

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Python is a family of air-to-air missiles (AAMs) built by the Israeli weapons manufacturer Rafael Advanced Defense Systems.
- Now, India's indigenous Light Combat Aircraft Tejas has added the 5th generation Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile in its air-to-air weapons capability.
- Python 5 is the newest member in the range of Python AAMs.

Q135. With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements: [UPSC 2018]

1. IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.
2. IRNSS covers the entire India and about 5500 sq. km beyond its borders.
3. India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) system consists of a constellation of seven satellites and a supporting ground segment.
- Out of the seven satellites of the space segment; four satellites are in geosynchronous orbit and three satellites are in geostationary orbit.
- IRNSS covers an area of about 1,500 km around India.